

KINGS HEATH UNITED AGAINST RACISM

NO PLACE FOR HATE

UNITY WEEKENDER FESTIVAL: FRI 12 - SUN 14 MAY



CONTACTS

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"The physical scars will heal much faster than the emotional trauma. For the last 40 years, my father has always walked to the Mosque, and we never imagined this could happen in our area. The local community's love, support and solidarity have helped us to heal the wounds and speak volumes of our unity and shared humanity".

Daughter of the 73-year-old man

"As a racist Islamophobic attack it could have been anyone of our parents on that fateful evening, as such, this is an issue not just for every Muslim but all justice-loving people irrespective of race, religion and ethnicity. Kings Heath is a wonderfully diverse inclusive neighbourhood in which hate has no place".

Mukhtar Dar – local resident



WEEKENDER QR CODE

UNITED WE STAND

On Wednesday 29 March, at around 11 pm, a 73-year-old man was brutally attacked and subjected to Islamophobic abuse by three racist thugs while walking along York Rd, Kings Heath on his way home from a local mosque after Ramadan prayers. His head was smashed against a display board, and he was rushed to the hospital with cuts and bruises to his face and a broken hand. Two 16-year-olds have been arrested by West Midlands Police on suspicion of assault in connection with the attack.

This attack follows an attack on another elderly Muslim man who was set on fire while walking home from another Birmingham Mosque on March 20. These attacks stem from the demonisation of Muslims, migrants, refugees and other minority groups by much of the media and many politicians, of whom the constant racist vitriol poured out by Home Secretary, Suella Braverman is just one example.

Members of Kings Heath's diverse community, including anti-racist activists and local venue owners have come together under the banner of Kings Heath United Against Racism to ensure racist Islamophobic attacks don't go unchallenged and to celebrate the rich cultural diversity of the area and raise awareness of Islamophobia and racism.

A weekender festival is planned to take place from Friday 12 to Sunday 14 May across a number of venues in Kings Heath which include The Fletchers Bar, Kitchen Garden Cafe, Hare & Hounds, The Juke, The Station and the How Brave Is The Wren Bookshop. The Weekender programme consists of live music, DJs, spoken word, storytelling, arts and crafts workshops, mural painting and discussions.

UNITY WEEKENDER 12-14 MAY

Please join us in taking a stand against racism and Islamophobia and supporting the Weekender by attending the events and bringing your friends and families. Please see the full Weekender programme of events and activities overleaf.

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"You can't brush this under the carpet when it happens on your doorstep. As one of the participating venues, the diverse programme of curated music and spoken word events across the different venues is a wonderful act of solidarity which will entertain, challenge and celebrate our diversity and shared values".

Brett Rehing – Owner of Fletchers & Kitchen Garden Café

"This Islamophobic attack took place in a hostile toxic racist environment which is being ramped up by the Tory government to divide communities and blames all society's ills including the cost of living crisis on minority groups and refugees. SUTR supports the Weekender Against Racism to celebrate our diverse communities and stand up to state and street racism and fascism".

Tracey Abrahams – Stand Up To Racism

"In a cynical divide-and-conquer strategy, while ordinary working people struggle to feed their families, the government repeatedly scapegoat Muslim men, migrants and the LGBTQ+ community. Racism and fascism offer no solutions to the threats facing our communities and must be opposed. There is no place for fascism, or for racist street violence, in 21st century Britain".

Dave – Birmingham Antifascist



Supported by Birmingham Trades Council

WEEKENDER PROGRAMME:

FRIDAY 12 MAY

Neighborhood Sounds

The Juke: 16 York Rd, B14 7RZ

4 – 11:30 pm: Free entry (Donations Welcome)

Local DJs come together to present an eclectic uplifting unity mix.

Family Storytelling Celebrating Community

How Brave Is The Wren Bookshop: 4 York Rd, B14 7RZ

6 -7 pm: Free entr

Storytelling from Graham Langley & friends for a family audience.

The Specials Ltd

Hare & Hounds: 106 High St, B14 7JZ

8 – 2 am: £15 adv MOTD

Tribute to the 2-tone punk, ska and reggae anti-racist legends.

Friendly Fire Band & Friends

Fletchers Bar: 7 York Rd, B14 7SA

9 – 1 am: Free Entry

Birmingham's reggae warriors in peace, love & unity party vibe.

SATURDAY 13 MAY

Blues Club Special

Hare & Hounds: 106 High St, B14 7JZ

3 – 7 pm: Free entry

South Birmingham guitarist Steve Ajao & friends.

DJs United Against Racism

Fletchers Bar: 7 York Rd, B14 7SA

9 – 1 am: Free Entry

Hip-hop, soul, funk, disco and reggae party vibes with DJs & live percussion.

Birmingham United Sounds

The Station: 7 High St, B14 7BB

2 - 9 pm: Outside garden, 9 - 2 am: Free Entry + Donations welcome

DJs Jonnie Greaves, Dani Dub-Dub, Comrade T, and Robidon (Jam Jah).

SUNDAY 14 May

The Joe Masterton Trio with Tilley Clark

The Station: 7 High St, B14 7BB

2 – 4 pm: Free Entry

Poetic Justice Against Racism

Kitchen Garden Café: 17 York Rd, B14 7SA

5 – 7 pm: Free Entry:

Outspoken words from guest poets and open mic.

Musicians Against Racism

Fletchers Bar: 7 York Rd, B14 7SA

7 – 11 pm: Free Entry

Banner Theatre, Basil Gabiddon, Dalbir Singh (tabla) Khaliq Hameed.

Drop in Arts Activity

Artisan Market York Rd, B14 7SA

12 – 4 pm: Free

Join artists from Artivistas to create mini banners – materials provided.