

JOIN BASINGSTOKE UNITES AGAINST RACISM CELEBRATE THE UNITED NATIONS WEEK OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE STRUGGLING AGAINST RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

March brings a larger focus for the fight against all forms of discrimination. If recent events are anything to go by, from the Black Lives Matter Movement to the impact of COVID19 on the BAME community, the Hampshire 'racist and sexist' Police gross misconduct and the much-debated Harry and Meghan interview with Oprah, we all have much to accept, learn and embrace.

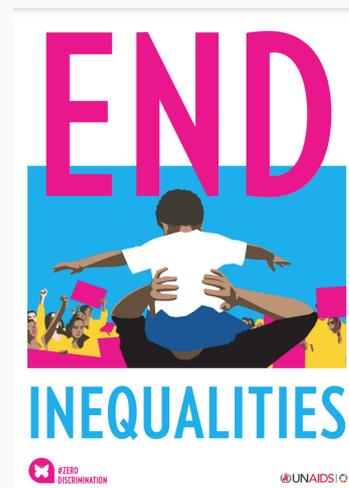
1st March was Zero Discrimination Day and this year UNAIDS highlighted "the urgent need to take action to end the inequalities surrounding income, sex, age, health status, occupation, disability, sexual orientation, drug use, gender identity, race, class, ethnicity and religion that continue to persist around the world."

On 8th March we acknowledged and celebrated some of our excelling local women with a 'cover girl' style poster for International Women's Day and in the coming days, we will be looking to celebrate the United Nations Week of Solidarity with the People Struggling Against Racism and Racial Discrimination.

21st March marks the International Day of The Elimination of Racial Discrimination (also called UN Anti-Racism Day) observed annually on the day the police in Sharpeville, South Africa, opened fire and killed 69 people at a peaceful demonstration against apartheid "pass laws" in 1960.

25th March marks the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade to honour and remember those

who suffered and died at the hands of the brutal slavery system. The International Day also aims to raise awareness about the dangers of racism and prejudice today.



This year events to mark these observances include a virtual event by Stand Up To Racism on 20th March and people can join in online. However, here in Basingstoke we are keen to keep a stronger focus on what our community needs. This leans heavily on analysing the report of our local inquiry and ensuring its findings are put into action. It includes engaging and partnering with our schools, police, healthcare service, council, organisations, community groups and leaders and over the last few months we have been doing so.

BUAR is privileged to be supported by the Borough Council and working with key community groups like the Hindu Society, Basingstoke Caribbean Society and Friends, Bambui UK Development Association, Black Success Initiative and Basingstoke African Caribbean Catholic Association in delivering on issues. The week will be used to highlight what's been happening, our expectations as well as a call to join us in fostering community cohesion. We can expect to hear from our MP and other community leaders on key issues and actions in education, leadership, fostering and adoption, policing and healthcare.

2021, is dubbed the international year of peace and trust and we believe much can be achieved for our town. We have great expectations with events in the coming months like Windrush Day, BUAR's 1st anniversary, Black History Month, Diwali and Africa Day. Join us in these celebrations to learn and grow together. Find us online to join in and find great resources on our website and social media handles @4buar (IG & Facebook).