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## UK Community News

### Brent Bahá'í honoured by local Citizenship Award

ON THE evening of May 22, nineteen Brent residents were honoured for their outstanding service to the community. Among them was Hassan Afnan of the Brent Bahá'í community, who received his Citizenship Award from the outgoing Mayor, Councillor Ramesh Patel.

The Chief Executive of Brent Council, Mr Garret Daniel said, "Mr Hassan Afnan has been nominated for thirty years of service. He has been involved with the Brent Bahá'í community, Brent Interfaith and SACRE. He has made valuable and pioneering contributions to the development of a multi-faith Brent."

The weekly local newspaper wrote: "Hassan Afnan is the treasurer of the Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Brent, which he has served for thirty years, and a representative on the multi-faith committee that devises Brent's religious education curriculum."

"Our aim is that children coming from various backgrounds feel able to communicate with each other," said Mr Afnan, aged 76.

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### Leamington Spa

The following article appeared in the Leamington Spa Courier in May.

*MEMBERS of Leamington's Bahá'í community met Prince Charles recently at a national inter-faith conference.*

*Fariba Appleton of Dudley Green, Lillington, and her father, Dr Badiullah Furughi, went to Birmingham International Conference Centre for the launch of the Gift of Time project.*

*The scheme is based around the idea that religious communities can offer their time to another faith group in a meaningful and practical way. Baha'is believe in the unity of all people and religions.*

*Ms Appleton, secretary of assembly of the Baha'is in Leamington, said: "It was very good to meet Prince Charles, but I was even more excited about the project.*

*"The purpose is to encourage tolerance and promote understanding and harmony among the various faith groups at the time when we are seeing too many examples of intolerance and violence towards others. I have therefore great admiration for Prince Charles and the positive ideas he is working to promote."*

*One of the ways in which the Baha'is in Leamington have been working towards interfaith relationships in recent months has been through 'unity feasts', which take place on the first Sunday of every month and are open to all faith groups and people.*

*Anyone interested in these projects should e-mail [fariba@furughi.freeseerve.co.uk](mailto:fariba@furughi.freeseerve.co.uk) [or go to] <http://www.timebank.org.uk/respect/>*



