

YORK INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK 2009



The diversity of the 2009 York International Women's Week was fascinating, informative and inspiring. There was concern over peace, Palestine, Africa, climate change and transition town principles, developing countries and fair trade. The women of York care and they act on their concerns, working towards a better future for us all, be it here, in Guyana, Bolivia, India, or wherever our passion and commitment can do the most good.

Festival week offered creative outlets through poetry, song and drama (Sunny Side Up), music (CoMA), circle dancing, drumming/thrumming, and historical monologues (Friends of King Richard III). We were also soothed by meditation at St Bede's, experienced a voice workshop and touch for health, did yoga for pregnancy, shared a cuppa with the Dunnington WI, and 170 women gained life skills from the Global Women's conference.

There was insight into the poetry of U A Fanthorpe with 80 in the audience while "green goddesses" dug the gardens of the Brunswick Nurseries. 227 people attended a fashion show and raised £500 for IDAS while YorkWalk recounted tales of the outstanding women of the city. The Fair Trade Market attracted 7,000 people over the weekend our 2 festivals co-incided and we were also pleased to be able to work with the Grand Opera House once more.

All in all a week of great pleasure and inspiration. For the full programme and to be involved next year browse this website.

Sue Lister
YIWW Coordinator