



L I N Ks

Your voice on local health and social care

A-Cross Torbay

A TOUR OF FIVE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES IN TORBAY

Torbay Interfaith Forum 4 Youth



'A-Cross Torbay' aimed to introduce TIFFY members to Torbay's diverse Christian community and fascinating Christian heritage. It was the last event in TIFFY's five year series, under its present Leaders. It is hoped TIFFY will continue in the near future, under the Leadership of a Devon Inter-Faith Youth Worker. Here are some of the comments by the young people.

"I had never seen a church which included the community so greatly and I thought it was amazing."

"Very traditional but warm, welcoming atmosphere"

"Traditional. Very welcoming and creative with the fish theme."

"I learned the meaning of many of the decorations and of the religious painting at the altar."

"The minister was very progressive in his thinking about one God and everyone's path to God."

"I was impressed by how the art within the church was significant to Brixham e.g. a painting of a farmer and a fisherman."

"The active involvement of young people in the church was very appealing and I liked their exchange with Hameln – the German Town twinned with Torbay."

"It was interesting to know the story behind the stained glass window and how it can convey the story of Eden and the life of Jesus as well as the Trinity."

"The modernity of the church provided a great contrast to my first experience of a Catholic church."

"I admired the metal sculptures of Jesus showing the journey of suffering."



"It was conservative but cosy and we had an open discussion of catholic history"

"Baptism and stations of the cross are an important part of belief and rituals."



"I liked the talks from younger members as well as senior members."

"Peaceful, modern – reminded me of a synagogue."

"I discovered that they focus on ministering to the poor, and also historically – why they broke away from the Anglican church. I learned the meaning of Methodism."



Churches we visited were

- All Saints Anglican Church, Brixham
- Our Lady, Star of the Sea R.C. Church, Brixham
- Palace Ave Methodist Church, Paignton
- Upton Vale Baptist Church, Torquay
- St Matthias Anglican Church Torquay

“Amazing, absolutely loved it, an amazing day of learning about Christianity and also meeting new people.”

“Food was really nice and well presented.”



Lunch was arranged by TIFFY in Palace Ave Methodist Church where Tayyib Mubashar took the opportunity to present a token of appreciation for Mrs Heather Savini for all her planning and hard work over the last 5 years

“I had an amazing time. The only other times I’ve had so much fun were in a foreign country.”

“It looked more fun and exciting but still a holy place.”



“I learnt that not all churches have to be the same.”

“I may go to the youth club at some point as there was a very welcome atmosphere.”

“Love everyone. There was openness of members of the churches and their willingness to accept new members”.

“They have a singing and dancing group, interacting with youngsters which was fun to participate in.”



“It seemed like a traditional church; however the youthful members took me by surprise.”

“Eventful, euphoric and excellent - a day not to miss and really to enjoy!”

“It helped me understand Christianity a lot more and gave me knowledge that I will be able to use for the rest of my life.”

Further Information
Mrs. Heather Savini
01803 690079 or
savini@ukgateway.net

“The different and unique events that are arranged for youth all year round were very appealing.”

“I discovered the huge impact a baptism ceremony can have on someone’s life.”



“I discovered different paths to God and slight differences in beliefs.”

“One of the first things I noticed was the red walls and the band which suggests that it carries out its ceremonies in a different way.”



“Great – superbly organized. Thank you.”

“What really surprised me was that they focus on prayer, music, teaching, service and youth.”

“Even though there are schisms, the churches do work on things together. There are more similarities than differences.”

“I’ve learnt more about the different churches and their beliefs, which are all very interesting.”

“The desire to be understood and accepted is common among both Christianity and my religion.”

“Even though there are so many denominations, each church has their own way of interpreting the Bible.”

