

Catherine Bird



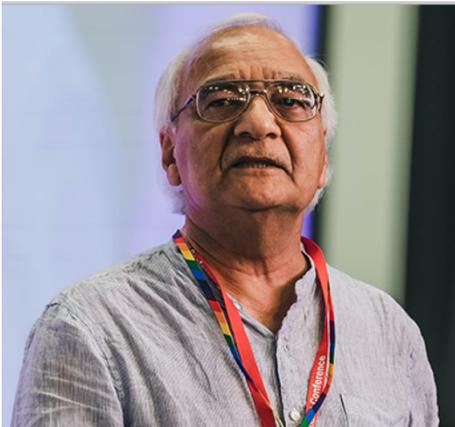
Having previously worked in social policy and research in the voluntary sector, Cathy was ordained as a Presbyterian in the Methodist Church in 1997. A Londoner to the core, she has worked in Tottenham, Kings Cross, and Marylebone (where she also served as part of the ecumenical Chaplaincy Team at the University of Westminster.) She is currently Superintendent of the Methodist Church in the London Borough of Hackney, where, among many things, she co-ordinates the

movement to have Hackney accredited as a 'Borough of Sanctuary' as part of the national 'City of Sanctuary' campaign.

Cathy served for 15 years as part of the World Methodist Council during which she Chaired its Committee for Social and International Affairs and is an experienced Spiritual Director and leader of retreats, including in 2013, for Embrace (formerly Biblelands). Cathy is an experienced writer of liturgy and hymns and her work has been used widely in various forms of worship and published in 'The Preacher' (Journal of the College of Preachers), 'Magnet' and the Methodist Recorder. She is currently the writer of study material for the story telling initiative 'Applecourt'.

Cathy is an avid West Ham supporter and regularly presents in the new London Stadium. She also enjoys cooking, jazz music, film and theatre.

Inderjit Bhogal



One common misconception about the Rev Inderjit Bhogal: is that he is a "Sikh Methodist" minister. The former President of the Methodist Conference is keen to put the record straight. "I'm a minister in the Church, with roots in the Sikh faith," he sighs, anxious not to dwell too long on a subject that obviously grates. "The idea that I could be both a Sikh and a Methodist at the same time is a nonsense. The way I would describe myself is as a follower of Jesus Christ with roots in the Sikh faith."

Inderjit's parents were forced to leave Punjab after the partition of British India into India and Pakistan in 1947. Inderjit was born in Nairobi, Kenya, four years later. After Kenya became independent, the family had to leave once again, arriving in England in 1964. That early immigrant experience, his decision to start going to church because there was no Sikh temple available and his embrace of the story of Christ led him to become a Methodist minister and to focus on interfaith peace-making through Christ's vision of the open table.

His address to the British Methodist Conference, when elected president for 2000-2001, was about the 'table for all', inspired by Jesus Christ. 'The genius of Jesus was to put food, a meal, at the centre of his community', he said during the speech.