



PRESTON CITY MELA

Celebrating South Asian Arts, Music, Dance, Culture and Heritage

Saturday 4 September 2021

11am - 4.30pm on Preston Flag Market, PR1 2PP
and 12 noon - 2.30pm at The New Seasonal Market

Come and join us for free activities for all the family!

Welcome to Preston Mela 2021



Preston City Mela Celebrating Multi Cultural Arts & Heritage

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the 2020 planned programme of events for Preston City Mela [PCM] had to be postponed as the nation adhered to governmental guidance and restrictions imposed on social gatherings and public events.

A special thanks to our key sponsors, the Arts Council of England and Preston City Council who supported us over the past year, allowing the programme to roll over into 2021. We have been able to secure artist inputs, commissions, partnership agreements and future relationships within the South Asian cultural sector.

Mela has its roots in the Indian subcontinent, the word Mela signifies 'Fair / gathering'. Its tradition is to connect communities. In its modern usage, it is not only a South Asian, but also an intercultural festival, which incorporates art, culture, music, dance, food, and heritage. The Mela provides the backdrop for bringing together communities and individuals from all walks of life sharing traditions and cultural experiences.

Preston City Mela aims to provide Northwest up and coming artists a platform to showcase their skills and talents and perform alongside international artists; engage with the public at the event and in the care home setting. Year on year we have increased our ambition to promote multi-cultural arts and heritage developed locally, regionally, and nationally.

Our focus has always been to provide a rich family-oriented event, full of fun and experiences. It provides an opportunity to share rich cultural heritage with the mainstream population and showcase traditional music, dance, art, crafts and food. Furthermore, it provides an opportunity for both public sector and voluntary organisations in Preston to promote their services.

This year, extra safety measures have been introduced to ensure that the event adheres to Covid safety guidelines.

In 2020, Preston City Mela embarked on a joint project with UCLan School of Art Design & Fashion. Julie Mosley Tutor BA (Hons) Textiles, MA Surface Pattern and Textiles has been instrumental in keeping this project live for two years even with the challenges of Covid and students working from home on their designs. Students have explored a variety of techniques for the brief including digital embroidery and print. The theme of the Mela has offered UCLan students so much inspiration in terms of the design ideas which they have explored. The finished artwork will be used to decorate the Mela site including the Harris balcony, gazebo and surrounding areas. We believe and hope these colourful displays and vibrant images will lift the spirits of everyone attending.

We are grateful to all our dignitaries for their support. I would also like to thank our artists, volunteers, community organisations and stall holders for their valuable contributions.

After the most difficult year which has impacted on all our lives, its pleasing to see a level of normality returning and we welcome you, your family and your friends to attend and enjoy what Preston Mela has to offer.

Finally, I hope you all have a wonderful experience and enjoy the Mela.

Gulab Singh MBE DL

Preston City Mela Production Manager



“ I much admire the persistence of the organisers of Preston City Mela in rearranging the 2021 event and I hope it will be well supported. I know from my previous visits how much it will be enjoyed by all participants. It is a wonderful opportunity to experience many different cultural aspects of our diverse Lancashire community.”

Lord Shuttleworth KG KCVO

Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire



Why is multi-cultural arts important for Preston and Lancashire?

“ The provision of multi-cultural arts within communities both recognises and celebrates cultural diversity. Preston and Lancashire’s populations are increasingly diverse and our arts and cultural celebrations reflect this diversity in fantastic community events including the Preston City Mela, Lancashire Encounter, Windrush, Caribbean Carnival, Preston Pulse to name but a few.

These events bring all our communities together and create opportunities for people to come together.”



Councillor Javed Iqbal

Mayor of Preston

“Arts Council England is proud to be supporting Mela in Preston City Mela in 2021 and we recognise that the Mela is an important date in Lancashire’s cultural diary. Mela is an opportunity to celebrate the city’s diversity via South Asian arts, crafts and cuisine and a variety of performing arts on stage. Audiences can take part in activities or enjoying watching and everyone’s welcome - it’s a great example of community cohesion in Preston.”



Supported using public funding by

**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Angela Chappell

Relationship Manager Combined Arts, Arts Council England

"I am delighted that Preston Mela is once again back in our city calendar, particularly after the terrible year that we have all suffered due to the pandemic. It is so important for us all to come together to celebrate the positives in life during this time and the Mela is definitely a positive force for our City."

Preston Mela is the embodiment of the harmony that runs throughout Preston and a celebration of our multi-cultural home. It is always so heartening to attend the Mela and see the mixture of different cultures all there to celebrate South Asian heritage and to enjoy the rich tapestry of performance, music, food, stories and entertainment in such a positive and enlightening environment and all in front of one of the architectural and cultural gems of our City, the Harris.

As always, a huge thank you and congratulations to all of the organisers, volunteers, sponsors and Mela-goers for making Preston Mela so wonderful."

Sir Mark Hendrick

Member of Parliament for Preston



"Having taken up my role as Chief Constable for Lancashire Constabulary in April 2021, I am delighted to support this year's Preston City Mela event."

It is so important to celebrate the diversity of the city and Lancashire as a county. Wishing you every success for the event."

Chris Rowley

Chief Constable of Lancashire Constabulary



"The University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) is delighted to be supporting the Preston City Mela. UCLan is one of the UK's largest universities and we believe that the diversity of our student and staff population is a strength for us, especially in the context of our civic commitment. As a university, we have a strong civic focus and aim to develop new graduate talent that reflects the social, cultural and economic priorities locally, in the UK and across the globe."

UCLan values and celebrates equality, diversity and inclusion and this is our commitment for those who work and study with us at all our campuses.

As part of the University's civic duty, we work collaboratively with a range of community organisations and service providers to create an environment where everyone can feel safe, valued and supported. I am sure it will be an event to remember."

Graham Baldwin

Vice-Chancellor



“We were so delighted when we heard that Preston City MELA would once again take place this September. At Community Gateway, we are always more than happy to support this incredible annual extravaganza of colour, music and South Asian arts that fills the centre of Preston for the day. Following the last 18 months, the occasion for us all to come together and celebrate as one will be all the more poignant. It will be just the tonic we all need, and I am in no doubt that it will be a truly joyful day.



At Gateway, we recognise and value the richness of our diverse communities and the work the City MELA team do through their outreach programmes to take the arts and culture of South Asia out to communities across the city. By sharing our life stories, religious and cultural traditions one with another, we can learn so much and become all the richer for it.

In a time of uncertainty, community cohesion can really be strengthened through initiatives like this which bring people together and create connections between people of different backgrounds – whilst having a great time at the same time!

We really salute the work you are doing and look forward to having an enjoyable day with the sun shining.”

David Yates

Chair, Community Gateway

.....

“The Asian Mela is a fantastic celebration of South Asian music, arts and culture in our County. This shows the positive contribution of faith and art to our daily lives. It helps to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour by building respect and understanding. I am honoured to be invited and hope to meet many new people as we tackle crime together.”



Andrew Snowden

Lancashire's Police and Crime Commissioner

.....

“The sights and sounds of this unique event make it a great occasion, and one which I’m really looking forward to attending. This is also an opportunity for us to bring people together to celebrate one of the communities that makes up our diverse county.”



Cllr Barrie Yates

Chairman of Lancashire County Council

Jay Acharya – Compere

Performance Time:
11am - 4.30pm

MAIN STAGE

Coming from the land of Bollywood Jazzy J exploded on the UK scene with humble beginnings. He started off with his own dance troupe call DesiBeats, little did he know that the name would resonate down the

future. Being a multi-talented persona he has hosted many events and runs his own Bollywood Radio Show called The Desi Beats show with Jazzy J in Manchester on UKs No 1 Asian Radio Station – Asian Sound Radio Network. He continues to fill in the audiences with his passion and love for Bollywood Tadka and he is coming together to keep you on your toes.



 /jazzyjacharya (artist page)

Chinese Dragon Dance – UCLan Confucius

Performance Time:
11.15am

MAIN STAGE

Chinese Dragon dance will be performed by artists from Uclan Confucius institute. The dragon dancing troupe brings to life this vibrant, colourful, and dynamic Chinese Traditional Performance. Dragons and Lions are auspicious creatures that are believed to bring good luck, health and prosperity. These dances are usually performed during important Chinese festivals like Chinese New Year.



This act will include audience participation where children and adults can be a part of handling and manoeuvring some large and small Chinese dragons.

Bollywood Divaz – Popular Bollywood dances

Performance Time: 11.30am

MAIN STAGE

Bollywood Divaz, is a group of Bollywood dancers from Manchester, who enjoy and truly depict the Bollywood culture in its true essence. Known for their energetic and dynamic performances, Bollywood Divaz have danced at various events across Manchester such as; Diwali Mela, Manchester Mela, Flavours of Holi, Digital Vaisakhi, Thankyou Manchester, and were also featured in a Punjabi Feature film – Fikar Karo Na recently. The lead Choreographer Sharmista has been trained and certified by renowned Bollywood choreographer – Shiamak Davar in Mumbai.



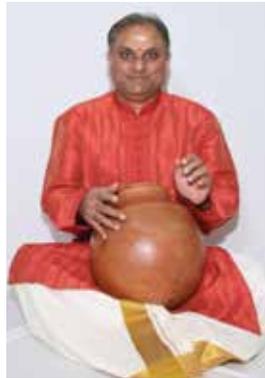
Prakash Ramachandra – International Artist

Performance Time: 11.50am

MAIN STAGE

Prakash Ramachandra is a versatile artist from Bangalore South India who specialises in South Indian Percussion instruments like Mridangam, Ghatam, and Khanjira. Prakash started learning Mridangam at the age of 6 from Bangalore Vidwan K.N.KrishnaMurthy.

He has a highly adaptable and anticipative style of accompaniment which is reason enough for him to have accompanied most of the leading artists of India and abroad. This includes Dr.Balamuralikrishna, Sudha Raghunathan, Nityasree Mahadevan, Rajkumar Bharathi, Mandolin U.Srinivas, K.J.Yesudas. He also plays regularly for Fusion bands like “ShivaNova”, “RagaNova” and also played for the band called “Massive Attack”.



Annapurna Indian Dance Kathakars – Stories from the Distant Land

Performance Time: 12.10pm

MAIN STAGE

Annapurna Indian dance proudly presents a stunningly colourful folk dance theatre called “Yakshagana” which originates from the coastal districts of Karnataka State, India. Yakshagana dance is well known for its rich splendour of costumes, vibrant drumming rhythms and highly stylised storytelling.



www.annapurnadance.com

Balu Raguraman – International Artist

Performance Time: 12.25Pm

MAIN STAGE

Balu Raguraman, a sought-after violinist in the field of carnatic music here in the UK, has established himself as multi-faceted artist, teacher, and an educator. As an A Grade artiste of All India Radio, His experiences as a performer with many senior artistes of the past and the present makes him a popular and a sought after musician. As the resident teacher at The Bhavan Centre in London, Balu Raguraman takes pride in continuing the tradition of Indian classical music and training a number of students to an exceptional level.



Apna Beat Manchester Dhol Players

Performance Time:

12.45pm **MAIN STAGE**

1.30pm **SEASONAL MARKET**

Dhol Playing has its roots in Punjab and is one of the most used instruments played at celebrations and at festivals. Dhol Players in the art of Bhangra Dhol playing, will do three short performances, on the stage, in front of the market hall and 1:1 sessions* with audiences.



**1:1 sessions around the site.*

Abhinandana Dance Academy – International Artist

Performance Time: 1.05pm

MAIN STAGE

Abhinandana Dance Academy is a Preston based Indian dance school. The students are trained in Classical, Folk & Bollywood dances and have given scintillating performances across the UK at various prestigious platforms like the London International Arts festival, Tour De France Festival(Halifax), Olympic torch procession, Preston Guild, Bradford festival, Kendal street festival Manchester Diwali Mela, Preston City Mela, Penwortham gala, Harris Museum flights Inauguration, to name a few.



Colourful costumes, vibrant props and foot tapping music complements their dance performances. The dance feature includes audience participation where the audience can dance along with the professionals.

www.abhinandana.synthasite.com

Punjabi Roots Bhangra Performance

Performance Time: 1.25pm

MAIN STAGE

Bhangra is a very lively form of folk music and dance that originated in the Punjab region situated in the North of India. Although Bhangra was a part of the Harvest Festival it has now become a part of occasions such as weddings and other celebrations. Bhangra has surged in popularity worldwide, both in traditional form and as a fusion with genres such as hip-hop, house and reggae. This Bradford based mixed gender Bhangra dance group has performed at a number of high-profile events. Performed on stage and will include audience participation.



Navin Kundra – Celebrity Singer

Performance Time: 2pm

MAIN STAGE

Navin Kundra is a British singer/songwriter, who writes, composes and performs songs in Hindi, Punjabi and English.

Navin has achieved six number one singles in the Asian Charts, and won the 2013 'Entertainer of the Year' Award in the Houses of Parliament. In 2011, he became an ambassador for the British Asian Trust, and used his music to break a Guinness World Record raising £10,000 for the Trust. In 2012, Navin was appointed ambassador of the diabetes charity, Silver Star. Since becoming one of their ambassadors, Navin has helped the charity raise in excess of £10,000 by performing at fundraising events across the UK. Navin has delivered talks at youth conferences across the UK. In October 2013, Navin became the first British Asian singer to be invited to St James's Palace to perform for TRH Charles, Prince of Wales and Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall along with other guests. In November 2015, Navin was a headline performer at Wembley Stadium in London, for the visit of the PM of India, Shri Narendra Modi.



www.navinkundra.com

Nritya Rammohan – Fusion Dances

Performance Time:
2.40pm

MAIN STAGE

Nritya Rammohan dance school is based in Manchester and has presented many mainstream as well as experimental choreographies and performances for various events.

The performances include fusion dances, classical performances and Bollywood medley presentations.



The Worldwide Samba Drummers & Dancers

Performance Time:
3pm

MAIN STAGE

The Worldwide Samba Drummers are a community music group supported by the UCLan Something for Everyone project having been set up by the UCLan Worldwide Learning Centre. They meet each week to play lively drumming patterns based on or inspired by Afro-Brazilian music, and regularly perform around Lancashire alongside their sister group, the Preston Samba Dancers. The group is always looking out for new members so, if you like what you hear, speak to someone in the group about joining.



 /worldwisesamba

Young Preston – Bollyfusion Performance

Performance Time: 3.20pm

MAIN STAGE

Young Preston is a next generation dancers group from with artists mainly from Preston. These budding artists aim to connect to their roots through south Asian dance. A group of 20 young girls and boys will present a medley of energetic, upbeat and quirky dance numbers to show off their love for Bollywood dance and also to make a mark for themselves as young and promising Preston Talent.



Diana Bayliss Black Cat Theatre Puppetry – Kathputli

Performance Time:

11.30am, 1pm and 2pm

PERFORMANCE IN GAZEBO

In the rich setting of an Indian Palace, the guests arrive for the Maharaja's birthday and the entertainment begins. With beautiful hand carved puppets, colourful cloths and dynamic music. Kathputli is an ancient and popular form of folk entertainment still performed in the desert land of Rajasthan in North India. In this variety performance traditional Indian string puppets imitate the court entertainment once given in the courts of the Maharaja's of Rajasthan. There is a snake charmer with his deadly cobra, camels, horses, gorgeous dancers, a juggler, acrobat and more.



www.blackcat-theatre.co.uk/kathputli

Punjabi Mascots

Performance Time: 12.15pm to 3.15pm

AROUND MAIN STAGE TO SEASONAL MARKET

This will be a unique act where two people will be dressed up as Punjabi man and woman mascots. These mascots can dance, play Dhol, pose for pictures and entertain the audience with their comedy acts.

The Punjabi mascots will appeal to all audiences especially children and young people.





EVENT SITE MAP



Preston Town Hall

Sessions House

Harris Street

Birley Street

Catering

Cenotaph

Environment Agency Projects

DOL 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

25 26 1 2 3 4 5

Diana Byliss Puppetry

19 18 17 16

Preston Flag Market

Cheapside

Harris Museum, Library
& Art Gallery

6 7 8 9 10 11

on
arket

Stage

15 14 13 12 Community
Gateway

KEY

1	Henna Artist - <i>Yogini Patel</i>
2	Gold Thread Bobbins - <i>Kim Graham</i>
3	Disability Equality (NW) Ltd
4	Artee Craft - <i>Shreya Ghodke</i>
5	Rangoli Under Water - <i>Viraj Gandhi</i>
6	ArtFull - <i>Bernie Velvick</i>
7	Arts 2 Heal - <i>Banu Adam</i>
8	Henna Artist - <i>Bhaggy Reddy</i>
9	Dragonfly Holistic & Beauty
10	Artee Craft - <i>Rakesh Ghodke</i>
11	Henna Artist - <i>Manisha Chauhan</i>
12	Henna Artist - <i>Zainab Ali</i>
13	Sahara in Preston
14	Artee Craft - <i>Sonal Diwan</i>
15	Artee Craft - <i>Tapasvi Trivedi</i>
16	Chatting Chimers - <i>Farhana Patel</i>
17	Calligraphy - <i>Brian Whitmore</i>
18	Henna Artist - <i>Pooja Parekh</i>
19	The Nest Children's Holiday Club and Pre-School - <i>Anna Baily</i>
20	Lancashire Constabulary, Hate Crime & Diversity Unit
21	Lancashire Police & Crime Commissioner Office
22	Preston Domestic Violence Services
23	Silk Painting - <i>Jane Blackburn</i>
24	Henna Artist - <i>Farzama Patel</i>
25	Cancer Help
26	Macmillan Cancer Support

Henna Artists

Yogini Patel, Bhagya Reddy, Manisha Chauhan, Pooja Parekh, Farzana Patel and Zainab.

Stall Numbers **1, 8, 11, 12, 18 & 24**

Henna is an ancient form of body art that has been practiced in the Middle East, India and parts of Africa for thousands of years.

Henna (also called Mehandi) is the traditional art of painting the hands, feet or body with a paste made from the powdered, dried leaves of the henna plant. It stains a usually cherry-red to brown colour but this can vary with time left on and a range of other factors. It's becoming popular for a pain free, temporary body art all over the world.



Gold Thread Bobbins – Screen Printing

Kim Graham

Stall Number **2**

Gold-Thread-Bobbins will create a beautiful new design especially for Mela.

You'll be able to screen print this design onto a cotton bag, using our gorgeous gold inks. Once the design is dry you'll be able to keep your cotton bag and take it home on the day.

Just drop in, no experience needed as we'll be there to help. We use easy access screens, safe water-based inks and we'll have previous designs to show how the process works.

You'll get to wear one of our gorgeous gold aprons and you'll get a bobbin badge!

www.gold-thread-bobbins.com

 /GoldThreadBobbins



Arteef Craft – Lippan Kaam

Shreya Ghodke

Stall Number **4**

Lippan Kaam or Lippan work is a traditional art form from Kutch-Gujrat, India. This mud relief work is done on walls of huts. LIPPAN means Mud-washing and KAAM means work.

Apart from the wall decoration this traditional art is used over wooden panel to create beautiful murals. Each pattern is embellished with small mirrors of various sizes and shapes. In addition to geometric patterns and Kutch motifs, it is common to see birds, trees, animals, and human figures in Lippan Kaam.

In this workshop you can create your own little Mud and mirror work mural or help us to make a commemorative plank for Mela.

www.artecraft.co.uk

 /Arteecraft



Rangoli Under Water

Viraj Gandhi

Stall Number **5**

Rangoli is an art form, originating in the Indian subcontinent, in which patterns are created on the floor or the ground using materials such as coloured rice, dry flour, coloured sand or flower petals. It is usually made during Hindu festivals. Designs are passed from one generation to the next, keeping both the art form and the tradition alive.

To make the workshop more interesting we are adding a little twist, we will be doing under water Rangoli.



/Get-Creative-238806953726068

ArtFull – Birds of Paradise

Bernie Velvick

Stall Number **6**

ArtFull is a collective of skilled artists based in Preston; Becky Atherton, Bernie Velvick and Teresa East. Our workshops will have either 2 or 3 artists working at the same time.

Our birds are made from brightly coloured paper and strung with glittering beads to create a little paradise. We deliver an engaging workshop for visitors to the Mela and encourage all ages to make a bird or two to take home.

Origami is a technique that appeals across ages and genders. We teach a range of models of different complexity, so we can cater to a wide range of ages, abilities and aspirations and we can adjust our models to fit different themes.



www.artfullcomarts.org



/ArtFull-180864115431070

Arts 2 Heal – Be Enchanted by Ebru Marbling

Banu Adam

Stall Number **7**

Arts 2 Heal specialise in a range of therapeutic art forms which focus on improving mental health and wellbeing. Ebru Marbling is one of our specialisms; it is believed to have originated in Turkey in the 13th century and is the art of painting on water using special tools including brushes made of horsehair bound to straight rose twigs. While the end result is beautiful, Ebru is one of a few art forms which is more mesmerising while being created. Hence, Ebru is perfect for this type of an arts festival. The audience can expect to enjoy watching delicate patterns created on water then charmingly captured onto paper. We hope to inspire individuals to take part and perhaps even develop a new interest in this therapeutic art.



www.arts2heal.org



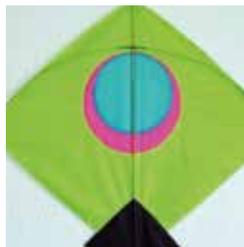
/arts2heal.org

ArteCraft – Traditional Kite Making

Rakesh Ghodke

Stall Number 10

Kites are great fun to make and fly outside on a pleasant, slightly windy day. Making a traditional Indian diamond kite is an easy and enjoyable craft activity. Our expert artist will show you how you to make the frame for the kite. Then, measure and cut the sail for the kite in the shape of a diamond. Finish up the kite by adding the flying line and the tail to ensure it flies properly. You can also decorate the kite when it is done so it looks extra pretty as it rises in the air.



www.artecraft.co.uk



ArteCraft – Bandhani Indian Tie & Dye

Sonal Diwan

Stall Number 14

Bandhani is a popular type of tie and dye method in India. The word “Bandhani” comes from the Hindi word “Bandhan” means tying. Bandhani work is mostly done in the Indian states of Rajasthan and Gujarat.

Bandhani is a type of tie-dye fabric decorated by plucking the cloth into many tiny bindings that form a design. Earliest evidence of Bandhani dates back to Indus Valley Civilization where dyeing was done as early as 4000 B.C.

The art of Bandhani is a highly skilled process. The technique involves dyeing cotton or silk fabric which is tied tightly with a thread at several points, to produce a variety of patterns. Explore this age-old technique to create



www.artecraft.co.uk



ArteCraft – Warli Painting

Tapasvi Trivedi

Stall Number 15

Warli is a style of ethnic art mostly created by the tribal people from the Maharashtra, India. This tribal art was originated in Maharashtra, where it is still practiced today. The Warli culture is centred on the formations of Mother Nature and elements of nature are often focal points depicted in Warli painting.

The Warli paintings are made with only white pigment made from a mixture of rice paste and water, with gum as a binder. Walls are painted only to mark special occasions such as weddings or harvests. Since the 1970s, Warli painting has moved onto paper and canvas. It looks best on natural terracotta coloured base or dark backgrounds.

Why not pick up the finest brushes available and try this mesmerising art form to create something as unique as you are.



www.artecraft.co.uk



Chatting Chimers – Chain Stitch Embroidery

Farhana Patel

Stall Number 16

Chain stitch is an ancient craft and its variations are traditionally used in many cultures. The earliest evidence is Chinese chain stitch worked in silk thread and dates back to 5th to 3rd century BC. Jacobean crewel work, in England was very popular in the 17th and 18th centuries. Chain stitch is widely used in India, including Gujarati Aari, which was traded to the West through the East India Company in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries. The enchanting and world famous Kashmiri embroidery dates back to the 3rd century. Handicrafts, including shawls created using Zalakdozi and Kashida chain stitch embroidery, became popular during the Moghul era around the 16th century. Experience this beautiful stitch at the mela.



 /chatting.chimers

Calligraphy

Brian Whitmore

Stall Number 17

The word calligraphy derives from the Greek words Calli (beautiful) and Graphics (writing), beautiful writing.

Brian has been a calligrapher for over thirty five years and teaches calligraphy to lots of different groups. He will be demonstrating this ancient art, alongside this you will be able to try having a go at calligraphy yourself, starting with learning how to hold the pen correctly then onto making marks of different shapes then progressing to the construction of letters of the alphabet and creating a word/sentence. Come. Try. Enjoy.



 @BrianTheScriber

The Nest Children's Holiday Club and Pre-school – Mandala Art Creations

Anna Baily

Stall Number 19

The Nest is an Ofsted registered holiday club based in Penwortham providing art, craft, sport, and games for children 4-11years. It's a creative, happy, fun, and safe place for children to play, learn and most importantly have fun when school is out!

We are delighted to be part of the Mela in 2020 and we will be bringing a taster of the fabulous activities we offer. Come and join us explore colour, shapes, and pattern to make your very own Mandala creation, ideal as a gift from the children to family member or as a keepsake. Mandalay is Sanskrit for "circle" and is used as a meditative practice with an underlying belief that everything is connected. Come and connect with us, we'll have a blast of colours and materials which to use with all the family. Where possible we use recycled art equipment from a local supplier.



Thenesthc@gmail.com

 @Thenesthc

Silk Painting

Jane Blackburn

Stall Number 23

A workshop for all ages and abilities using silk painting as its main focus. The workshop will offer the opportunity for visitors to Preston City Mela to help paint large piece/s of silk that has already been prepared and outlined. No experience is needed as you will be shown what to do, and all materials and equipment shall be provided. The resulting jointly produced piece of fabric/s will be used to create a banner/ flag/umbrella/ lantern or other artwork to be decided by the Artists and displayed at future Mela Celebrations. A workshop for all ages and abilities using silk painting as its main focus. The workshop will offer the opportunity for visitors to Preston Mela 2021 to help paint large piece/s of silk that has already been prepared and outlined.



Cycling Project – Rickshaw

Mobile Unit

Cycling Projects is a national UK cycling charity which promotes inclusive cycling through a range of successful community engagement programmes that give people the opportunity to cycle on a regular basis, through help, support, and guidance. Most noticeably this is all achieved through its two nationally acclaimed initiatives Wheels for All and Pedal Away.

Cycling Projects will bring 2 cycle rickshaws, which will be dressed and used to give the public short rides to get that traditional Asian experience. Volunteers will be available to cycle the rickshaw at the Mela event.

Cycling Projects will also bring a gazebo with some of our Wheels for All cycles to show people what we do in the Preston community and what would like to do as a project in the near future.



Making cycling accessible to all.

www.cycling.org.uk

Disability Equality (nw) Ltd

Stall Number 3



Disability Equality (nw) Ltd is a registered charity/disabled people's organisation (DPO) i.e. run and controlled by disabled people, which works to remove the disabling barriers in society, and achieve full and equal human rights for disabled people. The organisation offers a number of user led services and actively promotes the 'Social Model of Disability', which identifies systemic barriers, negative attitudes and exclusion by society (purposely or inadvertently) as the main contributory factors in disabling people, rather than any impairment(s) they may have. The work is supported by a board of trustees and a team of volunteers and staff. The organisation are looking forward to meeting disabled people at the Mela and discussing topics important to them.

www.disability-equality.org.uk

Dragonfly Holistic and Beauty

Stall Number 9



A local therapist and owner of Dragonfly Holistic's And Beauty based on New Hall Lane Preston. Fully qualified level 3 Beauty and holistic therapist. Also qualified in non-surgical skin cosmetic treatments. My passion is to provide quality treatments aiming to help you feel and look the best you can. I offer an extensive range of therapies both beauty and holistic catering for different treatments and ailments for both men and women. I also mix and blend natural Aromatherapy products catered for specific needs and skin types, these will be available at the Mela as well as free taster sessions of hand, foot, and scalp massage.

www.dragonflyhb.co.uk

Sahara in Preston

Stall Number 13



Sahara in Preston is a voluntary women's organisation for black and ethnic minority women (BME), providing a free, confidential service in a comfortable and caring environment. Their approach is holistic with an understanding of the needs of women and providing a culturally sensitive service. Staff are multi-lingual, speaking a range of languages such as Urdu, Gujarati and Punjabi. The organisation supports victims of domestic violence and provides counselling and advocacy services for women. Sahara also offers a range of classes and courses. Please visit our stall for details.

Lancashire Constabulary, Hate Crime and Diversity Unit

Stall Number 20



Lancashire Volunteer Partnership www.lancsvp.org.uk aims to make volunteering for public services rewarding and provide one gateway to opportunities for people to make a real difference in their local communities. The organisation is passionate about supporting people in need of help and building stronger, more resilient communities that can flourish; and at the heart of this are our volunteers. From visiting people who may be feeling lonely or supporting those who are struggling to be independent. From volunteering alongside the neighbourhood policing teams as a Special Constable, or as a Police or Fire Cadet or leader; the LVP volunteers are truly amazing.

Preston Domestic Violence Services

Stall Number 22



**PRESTON DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE SERVICES**

Preston Domestic Violence Services is the first organisation in Preston which exists solely to support adults and children experiencing (or having experienced) Domestic Violence. It is a sad fact; that in the past year over 4000 women and girls aged between 16 and 59 have suffered from Domestic Violence in Preston alone!

Source: *The Government's violence against women and girls ready reckoner.*

www.pdvs.org.uk

CancerHelp

Stall Number 25



Your independent local cancer charity

A local independent cancer charity providing support for people affected by cancer. Usually this includes group activities but currently this is through 1-2-1 support. A cancer diagnosis and its treatment can be difficult to cope with and as well as supporting the patient, the charity's support extends to family members and carers.

CancerHelp's Stride Children and Young People's Service offers support for those aged between 5 and 18 who have been affected by a bereavement or who have a cancer diagnosis.

A Complementary Therapy demonstration (likely hand massage) using oils to improve mood.

www.cancerhelppreston.co.uk



@Thenesthc



/cancerhelpprestonLtd

Macmillan Cancer Support

Stall Number 26



At Macmillan Cancer Support, we give people with cancer everything we've got. If you're diagnosed, your worries are our worries. We will move mountains to help you live life as fully as you can. We're going all out to find ever better ways to help people with cancer, helping to bring forward the day when everyone gets life-transforming support from day one.

Services include: Emotional and practical information, clinical information, financial guidance, welfare rights and grants, energy advice, work and career support and Coronavirus guidance.

The Macmillan Cancer Support team will be on hand all day with information and resources and interactive ways to feedback on cancer and your community.

Macmillan Support Line: **0808 808 0000** (7 days a week, 8am – 8pm)

Macmillan Cancer Information & Support Service, Preston: **01772 523709**

www.mcmillan.org.uk



@MacmillanNW



/MacmillanNorthWest

Community Gateway

Mobile Unit



Community cohesion is central to the values and ethos of Community Gateway on and we work hard with our tenants and wider community members to create neighbourhoods where everyone is welcome and valued. We cannot do this on our own however, and we really value working with organisations. Community Gateway will showcase all its services and opportunities at the Mela event.

www.communitygateway.co.uk

Environment Agency

Mobile Unit



Environment Agency is a public body that protects and improves the environment. We help people and wildlife adapt to climate change and reduce its impacts. We improve the quality of our water, land and air and we regulate industry for environmental pollution and protect wildlife habitats so people can enjoy the outdoors in a responsible way. We also deal with incidents that affect the environment and work closely with other organisations to keep neighbourhoods safe and clean. Call our incident hotline 0800 807060 to report pollution damage to the natural environment.

Environment Agency will bring a response vehicle for people to view.

www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency

The Duke of Lancaster's Regiment

Mobile Unit



Is the Infantry Regiment of the North West of England, based at Fulwood Barracks, Preston. Our Soldiers have the unique rank of "kingsman" and are known as the Lions of England. We recruit in the North West, and also from Commonwealth countries offering a unique range of Regular and Reservist roles, and excellent career progression for soldiers and officers. The regimental support team will be attending the Mela with a gazebo and or a mobile unit. Equipment will include; Infantry Weapons stand consisting of rifles, general purpose machine guns, under slung grenade launchers and other equipment we use in the field, for example ration packs, burgen and other military kit. The mobile unit will have facility to show videos of military like and visitors will be able to enquire and look at all equipment on show.

www.army.mod.uk/lancs

Preston Ladies Group – Catering

Mobile Unit

We are a group of Indian Women with diverse cultural background. We always try to let people explore our culture and develop a taste for Indian food as its interlinked. The basic purpose of this stall is to give people taste of the street food, which they normally don't eat here in England. Through our stall we will be providing cuisine from North and South India. The food items will be on sale.



PRESTON CITY MELA



MAIN STAGE PROGRAMME

TIME	PERFORMANCE
11am	Jay Acharya Compere - Music Tracks
11.15am	Chinese Dragon Dance
11.30am	Bollywood Divas
11.50am	Prakash Ramachandra - South Asian Drumming
12.10pm	Annapurna Indian Dance – Musical Street Play
12.25pm	Balu Raghuram – Violin Recital
12.45pm	Apna Beat Dhol
1.05pm	Abhinandana Dance Academy – Indian Classical & Contemporary Dances
1.25pm	Punjabi Roots – Bhangra performance
2pm	Navin Kundra – Celebrity Singer – Bollywood Music
2.40pm	Nritya Rammohan Dance company – Indian Fusion Dances
3pm	The Worldwide Samba Drummers & Dancers
3.20pm	Young Preston Dancers – Bollyfusion
3.50pm	Music

FLAG MARKET

TIME	PERFORMANCE
11.30am, 1pm & 2pm	Diana Bayliss – Puppetry <i>(stall on Flag Market)</i>
12.15pm to 3.15pm	Punjabi Mascots <i>(strolling around the Flag Market)</i>

SEASONAL MARKET

TIME	PERFORMANCE
12 noon	Chinese Dragon Dance
1.30pm	Apna Beat Dhol Players
2.30pm	World Wise Samba Drummers



Preston City Mela

Community Interest Company Board Members

Preston City Mela welcomes everyone to this great cultural event. Due to Covid, the delivery of our event programme in 2020 was delayed – we are excited to be back on track and hope you enjoy the programme.

Preston Mela has been in place for more than 18 years and made a major contribution to the City's cultural programme and during the Guild 2012 celebrations.

Preston City Mela is a collaborative between Preston City Council, Community Gateway Association, UCLan and Arts Council of England (Northwest) and has successfully grown year on year.

In September 2018, a formal governance structure was established and we registered as a Community Interest Company (Reg No.11620054) in order to take Mela to the next level.



Chris Davis
Director



Kim Graham
Director



Jay Acharya
Director



**Abhinandana
Kodanda**
*Director of
Performance*



Shreya Ghodke
*Director of
Workshops*



Jenny Paul
*Business
Administrator*

Co-opted Members:

Richard Baxter *Preston City Council Events Manager*

Gulab Singh *MBE DL Mela Production Manager*



Mela Objectives:

1. To Promote and develop South Asian art forms in Preston and across Lancashire.
2. To showcase local artist talent and retain traditional South Asian art forms in the city.
3. To use South Asian arts, as a key enabler to promoting community cohesion, breaking down cultural differences and engaging people from all walks of life.
4. To contribute towards a vibrant and diverse city offer connecting into the city's main cultural programme.
5. To establish a quality cultural offer for Preston and Lancashire.
6. To contribute towards the positive health and wellbeing of Preston's residents and visitors.

Preston City Mela is a member of the national network of 'Future Melas' to ensure we can tap into new artistic forms. The Mela Board is grateful to our anchor partners for their ongoing support.

We are grateful to Sally Turnbull for undertaking a review of our governance structure and has made recommendations for the future direction of the organisation.



 PrestonCityMela

 @prestoncitymela

 prestoncitymela

www.prestoncitymela.co.uk

