

Newsletter

Dear Reader,

We don't know about you but we can't believe it's already December! Doesn't time fly when you're having fun?

Before we go any further, we would like to wish you all a 'Happy Holiday'. Whether you're celebrating Hanukkah, Mawlid el-Nabi, Christmas, or any other seasonal festivity at this time of year, we wish you peace, health, and happiness.

We would like to suggest you go and grab a cup of something warm, put your feet up and enjoy the second edition, Winter newsletter!

PRESS RELEASES

The OLF have now published three press releases.

1. The Onyx Link Foundation (OLF) Launches its Open Resource on Challenging Islamist/Jihadist Radical Ideologies.
2. The Onyx Link Foundation Official Response to the Parson Green Attack, and subsequent arrests in Newport, South Wales.
3. The Onyx Link Foundation Challenges the Claim that Islam is both Religion and State.

For full information on the above, please visit www.onyxlinkfoudation.org.

Please remember, future press releases are planned, so please keep visiting the website for updates.



What are other organisations saying about the work we do?

Over the last few months, we have been working closely with GAVO (Gwent Association of Voluntary

Organisations). Jane Shatford, GAVO's Third Sector Development Manager – Newport has been a great help with our projects. We asked Jane to let us know what she thought about the work that the OLF is doing.

Q. Hi Jane, we'd like to thank you for your time today. We know you're a very busy lady. We'd just like to ask...What are your thoughts about the projects that the OLF are working to achieve?

A. As a development officer I get to work with lots of different charities and community groups. Helping organisations like The Onyx Link Foundation is always a pleasure. It's clear that its directors and staff provide a solid foundation for its work based on skills, experience and an in-depth knowledge of what communities need.

The inter-faith projects that Onyx delivers, promote understanding across cultures and religions and helps to promote stronger, cohesive communities that are much needed in these often-troubled times – Jane Shatford.



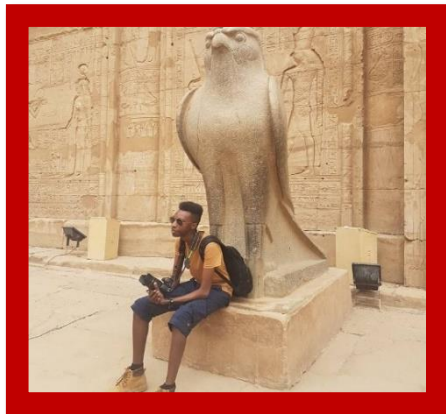
The Onyx team would like to thank Jane for her hard work and contributions.



Under the spotlight this month is... Ibrahim Yassin, the OLF's IT Advisor



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Q. As OLF's IT Advisor, what is the best thing about your job?
A. Because I designed and configured the entirety of the OLF's IT infrastructure and networks, I have a huge

responsibility to make sure everything runs smoothly. The best part about this job is seeing it all come together, working harmoniously and without hiccups. It makes me proud, and pushes me to expand my IT knowledge to do better.

Q. If you could offer one piece of IT advice to others, what would it be?

A. I think that people vastly underestimate the dangers posed by hackers and malicious software. Passwords, are a major failing of almost every person I've ever come across. Using the same password everywhere is akin to using your bank PIN as your phones unlock code. The potential for damage is enormous.

Q. If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would it be and why?

A. Japan! I've been interested in its culture and history (particularly Edo Period up to the Meiji Restoration) for a number of years, and its current fashion outlook appeals to me. Additionally, it's a place of incredible natural and geological beauty and diversity.



Onyx Link Foundation – Reforming Worldviews

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The OLF have some **fantastic news to share**. Thanks to the Big Lottery Fund, we will be hosting a Wales Interfaith Conference, titled 'Getting Together Upon Our Shared Values'. In May 2018, we will be inviting faith leaders to discuss shared values. The event will be held in Cardiff and we invite you to watch the conference via live streaming.

We agree that May 2018 seems like an awful long time away. However, with an event this big, there is a lot of preparations and arrangements to be made. Look out for the next edition of our newsletter in March 2018 for further details!



At the OLF, we understand how important it is to look after our environment, as well as each other. Here are our top 3 tips on being 'earth friendly' during the winter months.

- Recycle! From Christmas cards to clothes, there's so much we can recycle
- Save energy and turn down the heating! Pop on your favorite Christmas jumper instead
- Save your old Christmas cards – They will make great Christmas present tags for next year
- If you're lucky enough to have left over food – Don't bin it! Bag it! And freeze it!

And finally...

Please note that our offices will be closed from Monday 25th December 2017. We'll be back on Tuesday 2nd January 2018. But remember, you can email us at info@onyxlinkfoundation.org