

## KINGSTON CARNIVAL

### Organisations Involved & Contact Details

**Organisation:** Kingston Racial Equality Council  
**Email:** [enquiries@kingstonrec.org](mailto:enquiries@kingstonrec.org)  
**Web:** <http://www.kingstonrec.org/>

### Aims & Target Group

**Aims:** The intention of the carnival is to communicate with all sections of Kingston's communities through attempting to involve members in merry making, dancing and eating. Food and music which are the mainstay of most communities played a crucial role in bringing people together.

**Target Group:** The main aim of the day is to bring together diverse communities across Richmond and Kingston.

### Project Description & Components

The Kingston Carnival is a vibrant and energetic event designed to bring people from various ethnicities, nationalities, origins, heritage and backgrounds together to celebrate the diversity of the community.

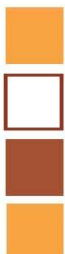
It uses the "Bikes Across Cultures" event to bring communities together. The event which coincides with the 'National Bike Week', hopes to promote cycling as a form of exercise and also its health benefits to Black and Ethnic Minority communities in a bid to encourage a healthier lifestyle as well as the use of local parks.

This is an annual event and last year, over 150 people participated in the event. It was very much a family orientated day out in which raffles, games and various other activities including henna and face painting, were all part of the agenda.

This year the event is going to be much bigger as it will also include 'Health Walks'. This is for those individuals who wish to take part in the event but are unable to cycle, for example mothers with young children.

### Process

Initially, the carnival was established as a series of cultural fairs that demonstrated the importance of cultural diversity and community well-being. As interest in the fairs grew organisers were able to establish a greater representation of cultural excellence within its activities. Eventually, support became so overwhelming that the organisers decided to convert the fair into a street wide carnival.





Kinston Carnival produces the following events:

- A Cycling Picnic event,
- Health Walks ,
- A fun day for all ages and abilities,
- Young Children's Play area,
- Fun and games on the day,
- Raffle,
- Henna Tattoos, and
- Face Painting

## Outcomes

## Challenges & Obstacles

The main challenge is putting a permanent festival in Kingston which brings people from different communities and background to have fun through a social event.

## Funding

The project was supported by the following groups:

- Royal Borough of Kingston,
- Surrey Comet and Guardian Newspapers,
- Radio Jackie,
- Kingston Town Centre Management Group,
- Milaap Centre,
- African Families Support Services, and
- Voluntary organisations.

## Images

