

The Man Who Built Peace

UK PREMIERE - FINAL REPORT - OXFORD

Dear friends,

The award-winning documentary on Frank Buchman, *The Man Who Built Peace*, was screened in November in the Old Library of the University Church in Oxford's High Street.



In the 1920s and 1930s this room was a regular venue for meetings of the Oxford Group, as Buchman's followers were known at that time. Reports of those meetings show that they were lively events. And the discussion after the screening was equally lively.

'What is Initiatives of Change doing today?' 'Can you say more about the practice of quiet time?'
'Why isn't Buchman's approach known more widely?'

On the day of the screening *The Oxford Times* carried an interview with Jim Baynard-Smith, an Oxford University graduate who was Buchman's personal assistant for five years. In the article Baynard-Smith describes those years as 'a steep learning curve alongside a person of immense vision and energy, who helped me to find a personal faith and calling'. He has since worked with Initiatives of Change in the Horn of Africa and elsewhere, and now lives in Oxford.

Following the show a student who is doing a research project on 'civic courage and engagement for the greater good' emailed an event organiser, inviting him to collaborate on the project.

by John Bond

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UK PREMIERE - FINAL REPORT - COVENTRY



On the 10th of November, The Man Who Built Peace – The Frank Buchman Story was screened in Coventry at St Michaels House, a space for hope to flourish which is dedicated to the practice of reconciliation, at the edge of the beautiful and historic Coventry Cathedral ruins.

The screening was organised by Philip Brown, Chair of the Coventry Lord Mayor's Committee for Peace and Reconciliation and Secretary of the United Nations Association Coventry Branch, as a part of the Coventry Peace Festival, 2018. Kelly Burks, co-producer, was on hand to introduce the film and with him from IofC were Jacqui Daukes and Amina Khalid who were there to participate in a Q&A and conversation with the audience afterwards.

There were around 30 people in attendance - Jacqui had invited new colleagues from the Global Peace Forum in Coventry in September and from two interfaith organisations and Amina invited people from the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations at Coventry University. The audience was a good mix of others as well; students, teachers, NGOs, all ages. DVDs of the film were sold afterwards with the Head of an NGO saying she wanted to share it with their women's groups and a teacher saying he wanted to show it to his students.

Here is a link to the write up of the event by Philip Brown in Coventry.

<http://coventrycityofpeace.uk/the-man-who-built-peace/>

by Kelly Burks

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UK PREMIERE - FINAL REPORT - UPCOMING EVENTS AND NEXT STEPS



Initiatives of Change
United Kingdom

In addition to the screenings in Oxford and Coventry, there was also a small screening in Carshalton.

The next regional screening is planned in Sheffield on 19 February and both Imad Karam and Kelly Burks are scheduled to attend and speak there. More details can be found here:

<https://uk.iofc.org/man-who-built-peace-sheffield>

There are still discussions going on about having screenings in Bradford, Edinburgh and Belfast.

Both Imad and Kelly were invited to the Spirit of Humanity Forum in Reykjavik, Iceland in May, 2019 - Imad by a partner in the Buchman film premiere who are also partners in the SOH forum (Guerrand Hermes Peace Foundation), while Kelly was invited by the Brahma Kumaris who was invited to the London premiere and who are also partners in the SOH forum. One can read about the forum here: <https://www.sohforum.org/reykjavik-2019-4th-spirit-of-humanity-forum/>

We would like to thank from our hearts all the people who kindly gave towards the GlobalGiving campaign and who helped to make it possible for the film to be seen and lofC to be known better through the London Premiere, the screening in Parliament and regional screenings. This has resulted in new contacts like the SOH forum and in keen interest from many individuals and quarters in lofC, and the work they do today.

Kelly Burks, January 2019

19 February 2018 | 6pm
Free event with light refreshments

The Bamforth Building, The Burton Street
Foundation, 57 Burton Street, Hillsborough,
Sheffield, S6 2HH
Register: buff.ly/2CqduiQ