

Resources for Food Partnerships interested in building bridges across social, cultural and political differences

This is a compilation of resources from Food Partnerships across the country to be added over time with anything you find useful that others may also be able to learn from. The aim of these resources is to support social cohesion action throughout our food justice work, in this time of increased polarisation, othering, far-right violence, outright racism, and hostility towards migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers especially.

Please feel free to add to this, and offer your thoughts as to why what you are adding is useful to keep this document live.

Toolkits for action!

Title	Link	Why you may want to use this
Organisation for Identity and Cultural Development: Resource page	Organization for Identity & Cultural Development - OICD resources	Resources including practical guides and toolkits about reclaiming narratives about identity, and more.
Light April Issue IBD Analysis	Light April Issue IBD Analysis: - Google Docs	This has been used by local farmers and growers to develop comms that counters some of the divisive messaging that we are faced with.
In The Shadows Of Hate: Trends And Strategies Of Fascist Fundamentalisms Across Regions November 21, 2024	https://wearenoor.org/in-the-shadows-of-hate/	By examining FFs (fascist and fundamentalist) through a non-binary, non-reductionist lens, the report seeks to uncover nuanced insights into their operations and inspire new forms of resistance.

Read...

Title	Link	Why you may want to read this
Riots to Resilience: Five Ways to turn Lessons into Action	https://www.vcsep.org.uk/news-views/report-riots-to-resilience-five-ways-to-turn-lessons-into-action-stories-and-experiences-from-the-racist-and-is-lamophobic-riots-of-august-2024	Some of the contributors to the report are community food actors and recognised the role of food support and how this is fractured in times of division, disruption and violence.
Amahra Spence's writing	Amahra Spence Substack	Writings about anti-racism, collective liberation, and more
Make America Dinner Again	Make America Dinner Again	There's a great history – and body of evidence – that can demonstrate how shared food can be a bridge across divided communities - it's hard to throw rocks at someone you just had lunch with... Small dinners (6ish people) opposing views - lightly facilitated
'How do we stay emotionally afloat when the systems we are trying to change are actively worsening?' - by Zarina Ahmad	HOW DO WE STAY EMOTIONALLY AFLOAT WHEN THE VERY STRUCTURES WE'RE TRYING TO CHANGE ARE ACTIVELY WORSENING? - Wen	This was written by food justice organiser and feminist leader Zarina Ahmad, in response to the ongoing genocide in Gaza, but is super pertinent in response to the surge in far-right violence too

Power of Food project - theory of change	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1oSn8g-b-GIVku9g9TOKoV00GvxSRSuCy/view?usp=sharing	This project aims to build social cohesion by drawing on the togetherness experienced by people eating, cooking, preparing and growing food together.
Building an Anti-Racist Food Movement	https://www.resilience.org/stories/2020-06-24/building-an-anti-racist-food-movement/	Land In Our Names is an amazing Black and People of Colour led land reparations group and everything Sam Siva (who wrote this piece and is part of LION) writes is incredible. They are amazing at grounding us in history, bringing this to life in the present, and energizing people to action.
Bridges for Communities	https://www.bridgesforcommunities.com/programmes/peace-feast/	Peace Feasts by Bridges for Communities in Bristol - bringing people together from different cultures over food for building connections.
<i>Managing Hunger Trauma in Community Food Support: Systemic Betrayal, Moral Injury, and Distress in Staff and Volunteers</i>	https://shefffood.org.uk/blog/the-hidden-cost-of-feeding-a-nation/	Stress of working on the frontline recognised here
Anti-racism companion journal, ACEVO	https://www.acevo.org.uk/reports/an-anti-racism-companion-journal/	Designed to help develop your own practice on anti-racism and race equity, as well as that of your organisation and those you work with.

Examples of work taking place across 4 nations to bridge divides	ACRE - Reading https://www.acre-reading.org/about-us/ ROC - Northern Ireland https://roc.uk.com/roc-northern-ireland/ Together for Change - Wales https://tfc.cymru/en_gb/ Interfaith Scotland - https://interfaithscotland.org/	
--	---	--

Watch...

A beautiful short film on Luton – featuring community members that reject Tommy Robinson’s claims that Luton is a deeply divided and dangerous area

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/video/2025/sep/11/luton-v-tommy-robinson-the-myth-of-a-town-divided-video> some of the projects featured are part of Luton’s community food map, looked after by the council and food partnership.

Title	Link	Why you may want to watch this
Luton vs. Tommy Robinson: The Myth of a Town Divided	https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/video/2025/sep/11/luton-v-tommy-robinson-the-myth-of-a-town-divided-video	A beautiful short film on Luton – featuring community members that reject Tommy Robinson’s claims that Luton is a deeply divided and dangerous area. Some of the projects featured are part of Luton’s community food map, looked after by the council and food partnership.
Recorded Webinar: Movement Building through festivals and	https://www.sustainablefoodplaces.org/events/move	Some of these themes were also discussed in our webinar on movement-building

Title	Link	Why you may want to watch this
cultural events	ment-building-through-festivals-and-cultural-events/	through cultural events and festivals.
Bridging Divides: video series from British Red Cross	https://www.bridgingdivides.org.uk/	Through this free five-week video series, Bridging Divides, explore how we became so polarised - and what we can actually do about it.
Unearthing Empire: food, land & colonial legacies in the UK	https://www.rootstowork.org/blog/sep25-unearthing-empire/	Themes included rural racism, structural barriers to land access, and the need for reparative justice through land redistribution, health equity and education.

Twinning brings together pairs of UK food projects that are socially separate. They are funded to do whatever they like over five years, as long as they do it on both sites with both groups of participants. Eg a refugee group and a rural CSA. Info [here](#) . There are front-line organisations involved and people from both 'sides' are making relationships. jade@realfarming.org