

RAISING THE GAME

EDI CALENDAR 2025



WELCOME TO THE ECB'S 2025 EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION CALENDAR

The England and Wales Cricket Board is committed to making cricket the most inclusive team sport. This EDI Calendar is designed as a practical resource for clubs, volunteers and organisations across the cricket network to highlight key dates that celebrate diversity and promote inclusion. While the list of dates included is not exhaustive, it serves as a helpful starting point to inspire shared action and encourage greater inclusivity within the game.

The calendar aligns with the ECB's overarching [EDI Action Plan](#) and contains information about which dates the ECB will be placing additional focus on this year. These priorities will be updated quarterly by the ECB Raising The Game team to reflect further plans and resources as they are developed and finalised throughout the year. Alongside key dates, you will find case studies of inspiring work from across the cricket network and resources to help clubs make a meaningful impact in their communities.

There's no expectation to mark every date, but we hope this calendar sparks ideas for how you can contribute to a more inclusive cricketing environment in your region. Together, we can create a game that welcomes and celebrates everyone.

A template document to help plan your own activity is available to download [here](#). If you have any questions on this calendar or want to share your plans with us to amplify via ECB channels, please get in touch with us at: raisingthegame@ecb.co.uk

JANUARY / FEBRUARY

ECB 2025 PRIORITIES

LGBTQ+ History Month

The ECB Comms team will be amplifying network stories and initiatives.

Ramadan

The ECB and MCC will host a community Iftar event at Lord's in partnership with Islamic charity, [Ramadan Tent Project](#). We will also be highlighting best practice initiatives from the network, including lived experience stories from players to volunteers. For example, Edgbaston will be hosting a Midnight Cricket League during Ramadan.

Case study

In 2022, Glamorgan CCC and Cricket Wales organised a Ramadan Tapeball League, offering midnight cricket matches to accommodate fasting players and hosting a women-only Iftar event. Ismail Chowdhury, who took up the opportunity to play in the league, said, "seeing people enjoying themselves and playing our game with a smile on their faces, has truly been a blessing." This initiative emphasised cultural inclusivity and showed how adapting match timing and creating safe spaces for the community helps foster engagement. Read more [here](#).



KEY DATES

January

4th – World Braille Day
27th – Holocaust Memorial Day

February

LGBTQ+ History Month
1st – World Hijab Day
3rd – Race Equality Week (3rd - 9th Feb)
6th – Time To Talk Day
28th – Ramadan begins (28th Feb – 30th March)

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?

- Hosting your own educational session on LGBTQ+ history in cricket?
- Hosting an Iftar during Ramadan?
- Highlighting clubs in your area who offer evening facilities for those fasting?
- Sharing resources on the importance of the hijab in Islam?
- Hosting mental wellbeing sessions to encourage open conversations for Time To Talk Day? Or running a 'walk and talk' session at lunchtime for employees?

MORE RESOURCES

- What is the hijab? – EDI Content Hub [\[LINK\]](#)
- World Hijab Day reading on CBeebies Bedtime Stories with Abtaha Maqsood [\[LINK\]](#)
- LGBTQ+ History Month Game Live 2024 [\[LINK\]](#)
- Nujum Sports Ramadan webinar [\[LINK\]](#)
- Example of a Ramadan Midnight League run by Edgbaston [\[LINK\]](#)

MARCH

ECB 2025 PRIORITIES

International Women's Day

The Women In Cricket Employee Network will be hosting a series of breakfast events. There is also lots of England Women digital content planned for the month, including a roundtable with four England Women's players from different generations. We also plan to launch the vision and venues for the 2026 Women's World Cup later in March. We are supporting PCA's Accelerate Action event bringing together people across sport for insightful discussions and networking with industry experts at Lords on 6 March.

Muslim Heritage Month

The ECB will support the launch of the inaugural Muslim Heritage Month, celebrating Muslim figures from within the game, including the community Iftar event taking place at Lord's.

Neurodiversity Week

The Cricketability Employee Network is planning an engaging hybrid event, featuring speakers reflecting on their own lived experiences with neurodiversity as well as representatives from a relevant charity.

Case study

To mark International Women's Day 2024, the Women in Cricket network supported 33 counties to host events marking the day, including four large-scale panels held at iconic venues. Clubs can take inspiration from this by engaging with network-based activities, like Women in Cricket, to foster discussions on equity and amplify opportunities for women at every level of the game.



KEY DATES

Women's History Month / Muslim Heritage Month

1st – International Wheelchair Day

1st – St. David's Day

4th – Shrove Tuesday (Christianity)

5th – Ash Wednesday (Christianity)

8th – International Women's Day

13th – Purim (Judaism) (13th – 14th)

14th – Holi (Hinduism)

17th – 23rd – Neurodiversity Week

21st – World Down Syndrome Day

21st – Day for Elimination of Racial Discrimination

30th – Eid-al-Fitr (Islam)

31st – International Transgender Day of Visibility

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?

- Contacting the Women in Cricket Employee Network Group about opportunities to work together?
- Hosting an event to mark International Women's Day?
- Sharing educational resources during Neurodiversity Week to promote inclusion for neurodivergent individuals? Consider bringing a charity/training provider in to educate around neurodiversity in the workplace.
- Marking Eid-al-Fitr by collaborating with your local Muslim community or sharing stories from Muslim players in your club?

MORE RESOURCES

- Understanding Islam – EDI Content [Hub](#) [\[LINK\]](#)
- Inclusive Communications Guide for Welsh audiences [\[LINK\]](#)
- Neurodiversity in the workplace webinar [\[LINK\]](#)
- International Women's Day Game Live 2024 [\[LINK\]](#)
- Women in Cricket – EDI Content [Hub](#) [\[LINK\]](#)
- Tickets for the PCA Accelerate Action event [\[LINK\]](#)
- Contact the Women in Cricket Employee Network Group at: WomenInCricket@ecb.co.uk

APRIL / MAY

ECB 2025 PRIORITIES

Mental Health Awareness Month

Exact plans for 2025 to follow.

Case study

In a remarkable show of solidarity for mental health awareness, Budleigh Salterton Cricket Club rallied its community for a sunrise walk, raising over £1,400 for the Samaritans.

Fifty walkers set off in the early hours on a 5km route starting and ending at the clubhouse. The initiative aimed to break the stigma surrounding mental health struggles, particularly among men, and create an open dialogue about these issues.

Following the walk, participants gathered for breakfast, continuing the conversation in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. This event was part of a broader effort by the club, which also hosted its first "Comrade's Curry Club" on World Mental Health Day, providing a men's-only evening for companionship and conversation.

These activities aimed to highlight the importance of mental health advocacy in cricket. Budleigh Salterton's commitment to spreading awareness is an inspiring example for clubs everywhere.



KEY DATES

April

Autism Awareness Month

2nd – World Autism Awareness Day

7th – World Health Day

12th – Passover (Judaism) (12th – 20th)

14th – Vaisakhi (Hinduism / Sikhism)

18th – Good Friday (Christianity)

20th – Easter Sunday (Christianity)

21st – Easter Monday (Christianity)

21st – Lesbian Visibility Week

22nd – Earth Day

23rd – St. George's Day

May

Mental Health Awareness Month

5th – African World Heritage Day

5th – Deaf Awareness Week (5th – 11th)

12th – Mental Health Awareness Week (12th – 18th May)

12th – Buddha Day / Vesak (Buddhism)

17th – International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?

- Raising awareness about autism with an educational session or inclusive activities for Autism Awareness Month?
- Hosting a Vaisakhi celebration or sharing stories from Sikh members of your community?
- Supporting Mental Health Awareness Month by organizing a wellbeing workshop or sharing mental health resources?
- Enhancing accessibility for Deaf Awareness Week by learning basic sign language or using the ECB's fingerspelling guide?

MORE RESOURCES

- What is Vaisakhi? – EDI Content Hub [\[LINK\]](#)
- Watch highlights from the ECB's 2024 Vaisakhi Celebration at Lord's [\[LINK\]](#)
- Significance of Easter – EDI Content Hub [\[LINK\]](#)
- Watch players open up about their mental health – England Cricket Instagram [\[LINK\]](#)
- Visit Mind UK for more mental health resources and support [\[LINK\]](#)
- Find out more about Umesh Valjee, England Deaf player [\[LINK\]](#)

JUNE

ECB 2025 PRIORITIES

LGBTQ+ Pride Month

The ECB was the first NGB to march at Pride and has done so for many years in London, with plans to do the same this year. Other specific plans for Pride and Rainbow Laces in 2025 will follow.

Case study

In a landmark celebration of Pride Month, Trent Bridge hosted a successful LGBTQ+ inclusion conference, bringing together players, fans and community leaders to champion diversity and equality in cricket. The event featured engaging panel discussions, workshops and networking opportunities aimed at addressing barriers faced by the LGBTQ+ community within the sport.

The conference provided a platform to share personal experiences, explore best practices for inclusion and highlight the positive impact of embracing diversity in cricket.

Clubs across the cricket network could take inspiration from this by involving LGBTQ+ supporters and other members of their local community. Consider hosting events that foster open conversations, creating safe spaces for discussion or connecting with LGBTQ+ organisations to demonstrate commitment to inclusivity and celebrate Pride Month meaningfully.



KEY DATES

LGBTQ+ Pride Month

2nd – Volunteers' Week

6th – Eid-al-Adha (Islam) (6th – 10th)

8th – Race Unity Day

12th – Social Mobility Day

16th – Learning Disability Week (16th – 22nd)

19th – World Refugee Week (19th – 25th)

22nd – National Windrush Day

26th – Al Hijrah / Muharram (Islamic New Year)

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?

- Celebrating Pride Month by flying the Pride flag or hosting an inclusive cricket event for LGBTQ+ players and supporters?
- Using Volunteers' Week to spotlight the contributions of your club's volunteers? Could you bring volunteers together to celebrate a cricket tea with foods from different cultures?
- Reflecting on your club's role in promoting inclusivity for World Refugee Week or hosting an event to welcome members of your community seeking asylum?
- Honouring National Windrush Day by sharing stories of Caribbean heritage in your club/area and its contributions to cricket in the UK?

MORE RESOURCES

- Learn more about the Rainbow Laces campaign and watch out for how you can get involved in 2025 [\[LINK\]](#)
- Find out more about Social Mobility Day [\[LINK\]](#)
- Read Devon Malcolm's blog about the Windrush generation [\[LINK\]](#)
- Read how a little Yorkshire club grew after welcoming Afghan refugees [\[LINK\]](#)
- Club guide to LGBTQ+ inclusivity [\[LINK\]](#)

JULY / AUGUST

ECB 2025 PRIORITIES

South Asian Heritage Month

The ECB will mark the month with a variety of activity, coinciding with both the men's, women's and pan-disability India national teams playing here during June and July. Exact plans to follow, but there will be an emphasis on celebrating the British-Indian cricket community around the matches as well initiatives to bring communities together to learn about and celebrate South Asian heritage.

Case study

To mark South Asian Heritage Month, Middlesex Cricket worked with Hounslow Jamia Masjid to host a showcase during the mosque's Eid al-Adha Mela. The event attracted over 1,000 visitors, offering cricket activities for children and adults. A matchday ticket giveaway provided winners with the opportunity to attend a Middlesex game at Lord's, many for the first time.

This initiative exemplifies the power of community work and partnering with relevant organisations to drive participation in cricket. Consider organizing cricket sessions at local cultural or religious festivals, partnering with community centres or offering introductory programs in non-traditional venues to make the sport welcoming to all. Find more details [here](#).



KEY DATES

July

5th – Pride in London

14th – International Non-Binary People's

Day

18th – South Asian Heritage Month (18th Jul – 17th Aug)

August

South Asian Heritage Month continued

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?

- Promoting LGBTQ+ inclusion in your club or joining a local parade, like Pride in London or Pride in Manchester, as a team.
- Celebrating the start of South Asian Heritage Month by collaborating with local South Asian communities to host cricket events or spotlighting players of South Asian heritage in your local area.
- Seeing how you could get involved in local events around South Asian heritage month, for example, the [Birmingham Mela](#).

MORE RESOURCES

- Find a local Pride event [\[LINK\]](#)
- Understanding gender identity – EDI Content Hub [\[LINK\]](#)
- Join the Race in Cricket LinkedIn Group [\[LINK\]](#)
- Find out more about South Asian Heritage Month [\[LINK\]](#)
- Watch 2024 interview with Samit Patel about South Asian Heritage Month [\[LINK\]](#)

SEPTEMBER

ECB 2025 PRIORITIES

National Inclusion Week

In previous years, the ECB has marked National Inclusion Week with in-person events and content aimed at inspiring greater inclusive behaviours across the network, with plans to do the same in 2025.

Case study

With International Week of the Deaf and International Day of Sign Languages falling in this month, it is an opportunity to celebrate the contributions of Deaf players, like Jake Oakes and Umesh Valjee, who inspire the cricketing community both on and off the pitch. Their stories, shared in [this blog](#), highlight the challenges and triumphs of Deaf cricketers and practical steps clubs can make in creating a more inclusive match day experience for Deaf fans and players alike.

Clubs are encouraged to explore small but impactful steps to become more inclusive for deaf individuals. These could include learning basic sign language, utilising resources such as the ECB's [British Sign Language fingerspelling guide](#) or considering adjustments to improve accessibility for Deaf attendees.



KEY DATES

- 10th – World Suicide Prevention Day
- 15th – National Inclusion Week (15th – 21st)
- 22nd – International Week of the Deaf (20th – 28th)
- 22nd – Rosh Hashanah / Shana Tova (Jewish New Year) (22nd – 24th)
- 23rd – International Day of Sign Languages
- 23rd – Bi-visibility Day

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?

- Using National Inclusion Week to review and enhance your club's inclusivity practices, ensuring everyone feels welcome? Consider running an [interfaith cricket event](#) like Little Baddow Cricket Club.
- Acknowledging Rosh Hashanah by wishing a “Shana Tova” to Jewish members and sharing information about its significance?
- Booking a signing language interpreter for virtual and in-person events?

MORE RESOURCES

- More mental health resources are available via [Mind UK](#) or [Samaritans](#)
- What is Rosh Hashanah and how to mark it [\[LINK\]](#)
- The ECB's British Sign Language guide [\[LINK\]](#)
- Get to know the England Men's Deaf Team [\[LINK\]](#)

OCTOBER

ECB 2025 PRIORITIES

Black History Month

Exact plans for 2025 to follow.

Case study

In honour of Black History Month, Lord's unveiled a portrait of Dr. Guy Bailey OBE, a prominent civil rights activist known for his instrumental role in the 1963 Bristol Bus Boycott, which significantly contributed to the enactment of the 1965 Race Relations Act. The portrait, created by artist Helen Wilson Roe, was revealed in the MCC Museum at Lord's, with Dr. Bailey and notable figures like former England bowler Devon Malcolm in attendance.

Dr. Bailey's enduring contributions extend beyond civil rights; he co-founded the Bristol West Indian Cricket Club in 1963 to combat discrimination in sports, fostering community cohesion through cricket. His efforts have provided generations of Black Bristolians with opportunities to engage in the sport.

This initiative highlights the importance of acknowledging history, celebrating changemakers, and sharing their stories. Clubs can take inspiration from this by honouring individuals who have made significant contributions to equality and inclusion, creating events or exhibitions to educate and inspire and work with their communities to celebrate their heritage.



KEY DATES

Black History Month

ADHD Awareness Month

1st – Yom Kippur (Judaism) (1st – 2nd Oct)

6th – Sukkot (Judaism) (6th – 13th)

9th – World Sight Day

10th – World Mental Health Day

18th – World Menopause Day

20th – Diwali (Hinduism, Sikhism, Jainism)

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?

- Using your channels to mark Black History Month, highlighting the contributions of Black players, volunteers or coaches in your local cricket team?
- Marking World Mental Health Day with a wellbeing session or encouraging open conversations about mental health in your club?
- Acknowledging Diwali by hosting a celebratory event or sharing stories about its significance from members of your community?
- Using World Menopause Day to start open conversations around women's health?

MORE RESOURCES

- Watch the ECB's Changemaker content series released to mark Black History Month and beyond [\[LINK\]](#)
- What is Yom Kippur? – EDI Content Hub [\[LINK\]](#)
- Learn about James' mental health journey, shared to mark World Mental Health Day [\[LINK\]](#)
- What is Diwali? – EDI Content Hub [\[LINK\]](#)

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER

ECB 2025 PRIORITIES

Disability History Month

Exact plans for 2025 to follow, in collaboration with the Cricketability Employee Network.

Case study

Somerset Disabled Cricket Club (SDCC) has been a pioneer in offering inclusive cricket opportunities since its formation in 1997. Supported by Somerset County Cricket Club and the Somerset Cricket Board, SDCC has grown into one of the country's leading disabled cricket teams, providing access to cricket for individuals with a range of physical and learning disabilities.

By sharing this inspiring history and showcasing their achievements on their platforms, Somerset has highlighted the power of cricket to foster inclusion and community. Clubs can follow this example by identifying their own disability champions and sharing their stories through club networks. These efforts can inspire local participation, celebrate achievements, and encourage others to create welcoming environments for players of all abilities.

Read more about the journey the club has been on [here](#).



KEY DATES

November

3rd – Stress Awareness Week (3rd – 7th)

5th – Gurupurab / Guru Nanak's Birthday (Sikhism)

12th – Trans Awareness Week (12th – 18th)

13th – World Kindness Day

15th – Disability History Month (15th Nov – 15th Dec TBC)

19th – International Men's Day

December

Disability Month continued

1st – National Grief Awareness Week (1st – 7th)

3rd – International Day of People with Disabilities

14th – Hannukah (Judaism) (14th – 22nd)

25th – Christmas Day (Christianity)

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED?

- Contacting the Cricketability Employee Network Group about opportunities to work together?
- Becoming a Disability Cricket Champion Club?
- Marking Disability History Month by celebrating the achievements of disabled players or reviewing how your club can be more accessible?
- Acknowledging International Men's Day with an event focused on men's mental health and wellbeing?
- Celebrating Hanukkah by sharing its significance and wishing "Chag Sameach" to Jewish members of your community?

MORE RESOURCES

- Find out about how to apply to become a Disability Cricket Champion Club [\[LINK\]](#)
- Watch the 2024 Disability History Month Game Live [\[LINK\]](#)
- Hear Emma's story about grief [\[LINK\]](#)
- Learn more about stress management [\[LINK\]](#)
- Find out about the ECB's Men's Wellbeing Group to mark International Men's Day [\[LINK\]](#)
- Contact the Cricketability Network at: cricketability@ecb.co.uk