# Pilgrimage with the Coat of Hopes

#### I want to make you a coat.

A coat to warm you. To warm you; with a sense of what to do, and of being a part of the story, with the knowledge that you are not alone, alone; a coat that will not be still, a coat to carry your voice and to comfort your uncertainty. A comforter, a carrier of sorrows, remembrances and a carrier of hopes. Stitched from the ragged past into a gentle armour against a sharp future. So you can wear the promise that we all belong together.







The Coat of Hopes is a patchwork, pilgrim coat on an ongoing walk through Britain. It featured at the UN climate summit COP 26 (Glasgow 2021). Now it's on its way to York, and will stop overnight at Great Lumley Methodist Church.

This amazing coat is made of patches of blanket into which people have worked their griefs, remembrances, prayers and hopes. You can come and see it, wear it and meet the pilgrims: Monday 19 February: 7.30pm to 8.30pm Tuesday 20 February: 10.00am to 11.45am Join in as the Coat of Hopes leaves for Durham outside glmc at 11.45am

# Welcoming

Pilgrimage is about hospitality – accepting hospitality from and offering hospitality to everyone we meet.











Pilgrimage leads us to sacred places – here Gurdwara Siri Guru Singh Sabha in Newcastle, and St Cuthbert's tomb at Durham Cathedral. And pilgrimage makes sacred the places we go to. The sacred destination for the Coat of Hopes is each person that it meets.





## Walking

Pilgrims walk. It's surprising how far you can travel on foot. The Coat of Hopes has walked more than 1500 kilometres, through field, village and city. Walking gives time for rambling conversation, for observation, for relaxation, and for contemplation.











Sharing warmth, sharing comfort, sharing food, sharing space, sharing ideas and inspiration, sharing strength, sharing hope, sharing struggles, sharing stories. Sharing ourselves.





Hope is not in the future. Hope is in what we do in this moment. Every patch in the Coat of Hopes expresses someone's hopes, and their griefs, their remembrances and their prayers for their local landscape. And as it walks, the Coat embodies hope, creating a living template for how we might survive th climate and ecological emergency. By living simply and moving slowly. By sharing **all** our resources, inner and outer. By being honest about our needs and our vulnerabilities. By being open to the other. By weaving a web of connection across the land.





Learn more about the work of the Coat of Hopes here

Get involved walking with, hosting or supporting the Coat of Hopes <u>here</u>

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