

FUN DAY

HOPE not hate's annual Bradford Family Fun Day brought over 2,000 people together from across communities, as our Bradford organiser PAUL MESZAROS outlines.

OVER 2,000 people flocked to Bradford's Horsfall stadium at the end of July, to join HOPE not hate's annual summer fun day in the city.

Taking place at the home of Bradford Park Avenue AFC, this was the latest of our summer events designed to bring communities together, as well as providing a free fun day for families in the area.

We were delighted with how well it all went off.

Families came from across Bradford South and further afield. As well as enjoying food from around the world and taking part in a wide variety of activities, it was a relaxed way for people to come together and hopefully to forge new friendships.

As well as food, there was rugby and football on the pitch courtesy of Park Avenue and the Bulls. There was also rollerblading provided by Bradford Youth Service and much more besides – it was a packed day!

Perhaps the best attraction for youngsters was the huge climbing wall – it proved extremely popular, so a special thanks to Unison for sponsoring this brilliant attraction.

Our gratitude particularly goes out to three great organisations – our main partners this year – Bradford Park Avenue, Bradford Bulls and, as always, Sandale Community Hub.

We must also thank all the wonderful people and organisations

from across Bradford who came and helped.

Special shout-outs (from among many) to New Choices, a disability advocacy group who all had a fabulous day, and to our friends from the Bradford Ukrainian Society, who brought us delicious Varenyky that happened to go really well with our Hungarian Goulash.

Bradford South MP Judith Cummins, who is a fantastic advocate of community events, said the event was “brilliant and a really good way to bring people together.”

Thomas McStravick from Bradford Park Avenue was also really pleased, praising the event for being so inclusive and looking ahead to next year's follow up.

CEO of Sandale Trust and local councillor Andy Walsh added that this year's event bested even previous years, saying “HOPE not hate's support has been long-welcome by the local communities here in Bradford South.”

Ash Sharma from Bradford Hindu Council said that his community was also delighted to have taken part in this year's festivities and praised the work being done by HOPE not hate: “Bringing people together at this time of crisis is really difficult, but HOPE not hate are showing how it can be done.”

● For more info, contact: paul@hopenothate.org.uk

