



Surrey Faith Links Newsletter

July 2018

"See the truth in all religions, for truth is in all & truth is one!"
(Abdul Baha)

Plenty of events and activities to enjoy this summer and some guidance on staying well and safe in hot weather on page 5.

An opportunity to give your views on shaping Surrey's vision for 2030, please complete the survey (link on page 5).

Thank you

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Different Pasts, Shared Future

Woking held its annual refugee week event on Tuesday 19th June at the HG Wells Centre to celebrate the contribution of refugees in the UK and encourage a better understanding between communities.



Refugee Week started in 1998 as a direct reaction to hostility in the media and society in general towards refugees and asylum seekers. An established part of the UK's cultural calendar, Refugee Week is now one of the leading national initiatives working to counter this negative climate, defending the importance of sanctuary and the benefits it can bring to

both the refugees and host communities.

This year's event in Woking was organised by Woking Borough Council in

Main Faith Festivals in July 2018

- 1st—Jashn-e-Tirgan (Zoroastrian)
- 10th—Martyrdom of the Bab (Bahai)
- 14th—Ratha Yatra (Hindu)
- 15/16—Chokor (Buddhist)
- 22nd—Tisha B'av (Jewish)
- 23rd—Birth of Haile Selassie (Rastafarian)
- 27th – Dhamma Day (Buddhist)

partnership with Woking People of Faith, Dance Woking and Surrey County Council. The event was opened and presented by Simon Trick, Chair, Woking People of Faith. Surrey Arts performed an amazing Orchestral Piece, 'I Speak Music' followed by a dance from Amina Khayyam from the Dance Company. Local groups and individuals also participated in the celebration including a dance from Maybury Infants School, art from Liaise Women's group, dance from The DeVyne Dancers and Poetry from Salim Azeez and Subhan Mozzam, Shah Jahan Mosque.



The event was concluded by the Mayor of Woking who talked about how welcoming Woking has always been to people of all backgrounds and has a history of accepting refugees and asylum seekers. All attendees enjoyed some delicious food in good company.



Recordings of the event are available on:

I Speak Music Community Orchestra - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPT48TkAkzk>

Celebrating Refugees in Woking - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tY9ymozbhnA>

For more information about Refugee Week: <http://refugeeweek.org.uk/>

For information about Woking People of Faith: wpof.org.uk

The True Face of Islam

On Tuesday 26th June, Elmbridge Multi Faith Forum held its AGM followed by a talk from Kauser Akhtar, committee member of Elmbridge Multi Faith Forum and Faith Links Adviser.

Kauser aimed her talk at dispelling some of the misconceptions about Islam, and presenting the authentic variations, accepting the fact that tradition and cultures often combined to create some misunderstanding. She explained that "Sharia" in Islam is the jurisprudence, that is the laws and ordinances, regulating aspects of behaviour and the daily life of a Muslim.



Kauser then spoke of the freedoms in Islam, and she stressed that there is no compulsion in Islam. Forcing someone to take up Islam or any other belief is not what Islam accepts.

The topic of women and Islam is greatly misunderstood partly due to the misapplication of Islam by Muslims themselves and partly how it is portrayed in mainstream media. Kauser talked about pre-Islamic Arabia and how women had no rights; Islam gave these rights to women, which women in UK didn't have at that time. For example, married women were given the right to keep their own property, this right was only given to women in the UK in the 1860's known as 'Married Women Property Act', this right was given to women in Islam approximately 1500 years ago. Other aspects of human rights are similarly safeguarded by Islam.

During question time Kauser explained the difference between Sunni and Shi'a in Islam.

The event was concluded by the Mayor of Elmbridge, Cllr. Shweta Kapadia who stressed the importance of interfaith dialogue.

Don't Be A Victim To The Door-To-Door Scammer

Many legitimate businesses sell products door-to-door, however, scammers do this to part you from your money, gain entry to your home to steal, or profit by posing as charities in order to collect donations.

- If an uninvited person knocks at your door claiming to be from a company always check their ID. Do not let persons into your home unless they are from a legitimate company and have a pre-arranged appointment. If you're not... happy, do not let them in.
- If you have a visitor to your door claiming you need repairs to your home, do not take their word for it. Talk to a registered trader – you can contact Trading Standards.
<https://www.tradingstandards.uk/consumers/support-advice>
- Never give out personal details to anyone on your door step.
- Never ring a telephone number on an ID card. Tell them to wait outside, shut the door, and ring the genuine number from the telephone book or website.
- Never let anyone roam around your house unattended.
- Uninvited visitors to your door MUST leave if you ask them to.
- If in doubt keep them out. Call the Police if you are concerned.

If you know an elderly or vulnerable person, please warn them that they may receive such callers to their door and advise them of the steps to take.

Please report suspicions to ActionFraud on 0300 123 2040.

For more information, visit www.surrey.police.uk/fraud

#CommunityMatters #HelpYourself



Hearing Champions Scheme wins Faith and Health Award

A scheme that trains volunteers to carry out repairs and maintenance on hearing aids has won the [FaithAction Faith and Health Award 2018](#).

'Hear Here! – Hearing Champions' is a partnership between four hospital audiology departments and churches in the Surrey and North East Hampshire area. Local NHS audiology staff train church volunteers in understanding hearing impairment and basic hearing aid maintenance. Supplied with batteries and tubes, these champions then offer drop-in 'clinics' in their local communities.

Over 7,400 people have attended sessions since the scheme's launch in 2013, with over 220 volunteers trained so far. Every month there are over 70 events taking place – on church premises, in care homes and even at local pharmacies and hairdressers.

Chosen for its cross-sector impact and community-driven approach, Hear Here! is the winner of the inaugural Faith and Health Award. FaithAction launched the award to celebrate the 70th birthday of the NHS and to shine a light on the role that faith-based organisations are playing in supporting health and wellbeing in their communities.

Tracey Wade, Sensory Inclusion Adviser at the Diocese of Guildford and Hear Here! coordinator, said, "Without aftercare for hearing aids, this wonderful tool that can help people stay engaged with life is useless. Some people are also struggling with the emotional side of hearing loss – for people to stay truly well, they often need extra support, and that doesn't have to come from the hospital. Hear Here! shows how a partnership with other organisations like churches can work in practice to improve wellbeing."

This is only the beginning for Hear Here! Later in 2018 the project will start lip-reading training within parishes as a further way of helping people with hearing loss to stay connected to those around them.

[More about Hearing Champions](#)

The Diocese of Guildford seeks to recruit: Bridges Youth Mentoring Project Coordinator

for the Diocesan Communities Engagement Team

Salary: £26,000, per annum (fte) £20,800 per annum (actual) +Generous Pension Contribution Part-time (28 hours). Fixed term contract to 30th April 2020. There may be the opportunity to increase the number of hours subject to funding.

Responsible for managing and developing The Bridges Mentoring Project for vulnerable disadvantaged children and young people (13 – 19 years) through the identification, recruitment and development of adult volunteer mentors.

Location: Principally Waverley Borough area (Godalming and surrounding area) but also Surrey wide. The appointment will be initially until 30th April 2020; then will be subject to securing further funding.

The closing date for applications will be: Friday 20th July 2018

Interviews will be held on: Monday 30th July 2018

Please apply by CV with supporting statement to: recruitment@cofeguildford.org.uk

Further information: Jo.cookes@cofeguildford.org.uk | T: 01483 790324

Faith and Belief News

- [Bishop of London relishes diversity in the city at interfaith Iftar](#)
- [Diversity and culture are top of the agenda for Kingston's new mayor](#)
- [Ethnicity vs religious identity: What does being a Muslim actually mean?](#)
- [Group holds intercultural dialogue for peace development](#)
- [Education of Muslim women is limited by economic conditions, not religion](#)
- [UK Christian women don hijab in solidarity with Muslims](#)
- [Faith groups stepped up in post-Grenfell confusion, says report](#)
- [Faith-based groups 'increasingly stepping in to plug gaps in NHS'](#)



Faith and Cultural Awareness training for Staff & Volunteers

Do you have staff that would benefit from some training or awareness of religious and cultural practices and beliefs? Or perhaps you would like to know more about the faith communities in Surrey?

If you are a group who meet informally and would like to hear from different faith perspectives, Surrey Faith Links is a one stop shop.

Please get in touch: Kausar Akhtar, Faith Links Adviser

T: 01483 790334, E: Kausar.Akhtar@cofeguildford.org.uk



Safe and Well This Summer for Surrey residents

The [Heatwave Plan for England](#) and any subsequent updates can be found on the government website. A range of resources have been developed, including a - 'Beat the Heat: care home checklist' - a checklist to help care home staff identify situations where overheating may cause harm to health, actions to take, and where to get help and support. A copy of the plan and associated supporting resources are available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/heatwave-plan-for-england>

There are three key areas of focus in the local Surrey public awareness campaign:

- Hydration – Targeting vulnerable groups, such as over 65s and their carers, particularly care homes (Surrey has a large older adult population with a high incidence of hospital admission for Urinary Tract Infections UTIs) and the very young.
- Skin cancer prevention - Cover Up Mate (NHS England initiative) a campaign targeting men and outdoor workers – In Surrey, we are an outlier for the incidence of skin cancer and therefore we would look to build on this campaign and extend the messaging wider. Currently, the intention is to run this campaign again.
- Safe Day Out – Covering water safety, food safety, bites, and allergies. There have been a number of deaths and near misses in water in the county and local authorities are planning water safety campaigns.

Safe and Well This Summer pages can be found under seasonal advice on [Healthy Surrey](#).

Shaping a Vision for Surrey's Future 2030

Residents across Surrey are being asked to feed back on the draft vision for Surrey for 2030 developed by Surrey County Council and to share what matters to them.

The campaign started on 6 June 2018 and the closing date for the online survey is

3 September 2018. You can call 03456 009 009 for a printed copy of the questionnaire or text 07527 182 861.

For more information please visit: <https://www.surreysays.co.uk/deputy-ceo/2030vision/>

The Church's Impact on Health and Care

The Cinnamon Network has released research into the effectiveness of church-led programmes to alleviate pressures on the health system.

Cinnamon highlights that there are over 3,500 churches and 200,000 volunteers working to support health and social care in their communities, at a time when the health service is facing budget cuts and limited resources.



The research follows on from previous work into police and church partnerships, and looked at both the impact of church-led work, and how projects can be scaled up and replicated. It studied 32 church-led initiatives and identified how they tackle issues including mental health, obesity and social isolation. The final report builds on the findings of [FaithAction's work on faith and health](#).

The Church's Impact on Health and Social Care is available to download from the [Cinnamon Network's website](#). The research was also covered in the [Guardian](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Near Neighbours grants programme re-opening in June

The Near Neighbours programme offers small grants between £250 and £5,000, as seed funding for local groups and organisations working in a number of areas of England to bring together neighbours, and to develop relationships across diverse faiths and ethnicities to improve their communities.

As part of the criteria, projects should:

- Bring together people of two or more different faiths and/or ethnicities, to build friendships and develop relationships of trust
- Work locally—the programme wants to see people who are living very locally (i.e. in the same street, estate or neighbourhood) come together
- Work sustainably—the programme wants to see long term and natural relationships grow, that will last beyond the period of funding
- Work to improve the community—the programme wants to see people working to make their communities a better place to live
- Involve diverse people in planning and implementation. People from more than one faith group and/or ethnicity are involved in the planning and implementation of the proposal.

For more information: <https://www.cuf.org.uk/near-neighbours-small-grants>

Building a Stronger Britain Together programme

The Home Office programme closed its latest call for grants on 16 February. However, the programme is continuing to offer in-kind support such as social media training, technical assistance to help a group improve their website, or capacity building work to help a group protect more vulnerable individuals. Applications for in-kind support can be submitted at any time.

For more information: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/building-a-stronger-britain-together>

Supermarket grant schemes

Bags of Help is Tesco's local community grant scheme where the money raised from the 5p bag levy in Tesco stores is being used to fund community projects across the UK

<https://www.groundwork.org.uk/Sites/tescocommunityscheme/pages/Category/the-tesco-bags-of-help-programme-tes2>

Waitrose supports charities through its Community Matters scheme

<http://www.waitrose.com/branches/index.aspx>.

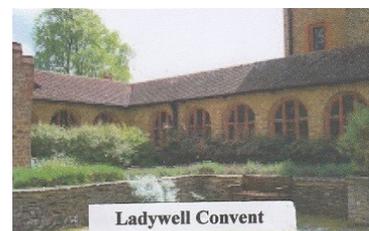
Sainsbury's stores each partner with a Local Charity of the Year voted on by the local people. More information <https://www.sainsburyslocalcharity.co.uk/>.

The Asda Foundation offers grants for local community projects which will "make a real long term difference, benefitting the wider community with [its] vision to 'Transform Communities, improving lives locally.'" Further details: www.asdafoundation.org/applying-for-funding/significant-local-community-projects.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Walk and Talk

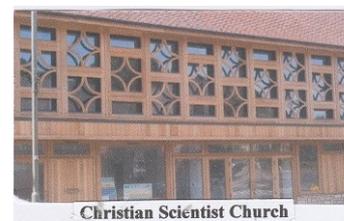
Guildford and Godalming Interfaith Forum Invite you to join them in a ‘walk & talk’ around places of worship and historic interest in Godalming on Thursday 19th July.



We will be starting our journey at Ladywell Convent in Ashstead Lane at 6.30 p.m. learning about their work, and a visit to the Shrine which is built on the site of an Anglo-Saxon temple nearby.

(Please arrange car-shares if possible but let us know if you require transport up to the Convent)

We will then re-group at the Pepperpot at 7.30p.m. and progress on foot, visiting the Friends’ Meeting House and St. Peter & St. Paul’s, with an informative short talk at each place, before a riverside stroll through the Jack Phillips Memorial Park, re-joining the High Street via Crown Court where we will see a few historic buildings including the King’s Arms Royal Hotel and if there is time look at St. Edmunds R.C. Church, passing the Baptist Centre on the way .



At 9.00p.m. we will finish up at the new Christian Scientist Church for a final talk. For refreshments it would be useful to know if you definitely plan to attend but Everyone is very welcome.

Please contact Bernard Jones at Bernard.jones.10@btinternet.com tel 01483 424257 or CarolynNeogi@aol.com tel 01483 415773

Title: Should Humanists Eat Meat?

Tuesday 10th July 7.30pm

Speaker: Phil Walder

“There’s a schizoid quality to our relationship with animals, in which sentiment and brutality exist side by side. Half the dogs in America will receive Christmas presents this year, yet few of us pause to consider the miserable life of the pig – an animal easily as intelligent as a dog – that becomes the Christmas ham” (Professor Michael Pollan). Or have we humans simply evolved, like our cousins the chimps, to be natural meat-eaters?

Phil has been a member of Humanists UK for 16 years and has been a vegetarian for 30 years. He has a BSc in Environmental Science, Phil will argue the case for vegetarianism. As always, constructive debate is welcome, so come along and put your view.

Where: The Guildford Institute in Ward Street, Guildford, GU1 4LH.

Tea/coffee and biscuits break at about 8.40

There is no charge, but a small donation is requested to cover expenses (but not from students).

For more information, Email: david.simmonds40@gmail.com



Surrey Fire and Rescue Service open day – Saturday 14 July 2018

Surrey Fire and Rescue Service will open its doors to the public on Saturday 14 July 2018 at its headquarters in Reigate.

The popular event is a fun and informative day for children and adults alike, and was attended by over 3,000 people last year. The 2018 open day will celebrate 70 years of Surrey Fire and Rescue Service and mark 100 years since the end of WW1 to remember those that gave their lives including 50 Surrey firefighters.

Also on the day:

- Meet firefighters and see vehicles and equipment including old and new fire engines, boats, water carriers and a horse!
- Activities for children including fire engine rides, hose squirting, bouncy castles, mini fire engines, face painting, colouring and giveaways
- Live entertainment from music band and radio broadcast
- Refreshments including hot food stands, a sweet stall and ice creams
- Picnic area with Orchestra
- Demonstrations including firefighting through the ages, road traffic collisions, fire service dogs, CPR and rescues at height
- Experience what it's like to be a firefighter in our smoke filled room
- Visit Reigate fire station, workshops and museum
- Learn vital fire safety advice
- Visit information stands from other emergency services and exhibitors
- Opportunity to buy fire service merchandise, books and balloons.

The open day runs from 10am to 4pm at SFRS HQ, Croydon Road, Reigate, RH2 0EJ. Please note for safety reasons there won't be any parking on site except for exhibitors and blue badge parking.

See www.surrey-fire.gov.uk for alternative parking options.

Southern Region Order of Franciscans Secular

Welcome ALL those with a `Franciscan Heart` are warmly invited to a Celebration

Loving God`s Creation

Invited Speakers: Dr Martin & Rev Margot Hodson

Climate Change: A Christian Response

at Holly Barn, Wintershall Estate, Bramley, Guildford, Surrey GU5 0LR

Saturday August 11th 2018, 10.30 am - 4.00 pm

Please let us know if you are able to join us in this celebration and for directions to Holly Barn.

Bring a packed lunch. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be provided.

Contact: Jennie McManus E: sjenniemcmanus@gmail.com Telephone: 01483 20 3642

Spelthorne Summer Events Leaflet: The events highlighted in colours are Spelthorne run events and the events with white background are community events many of which are free or very low cost. For more information on the art days and sports week events in August for vulnerable young people please contact Lisa Stonehouse on 01784 446433

Woking People of Faith Events 2018

The Last Post: Sunday 5th August, 2.00 pm. A Multi faith service and tour around the Brookwood Military Cemetery. CWGC Brookwood Military Cemetery, Dawney Hill, Brookwood, GU24 0JB

Brookwood Last Post Association (BLPA) is a legacy of WW1 and Manning Gate Memorial in Ypres Belgium, the theatre in which the Indian Army played a crucial role in holding back the Germans. BLPA hold this service on the first Sunday of every month of the year and this is the first ever multi-faith service being held at the site. For more information on BPLA: www.brookwoodlastpost.org

2.00pm Meet at main entrance via A324 (next to Canada Building)

2.00pm – 2.45pm Guided tour of the Military Cemetery by Commonwealth War Grave Commission (CWGC).

3.00pm – 3.30pm Congregate at Air Force Memorial to participate in a Multi-faith Service by BLPA

3.30pm – 4.15pm Walk to Commonwealth Story Exhibition by CWGC (Canada Building)

Peace Day event: Saturday 22nd September, the annual peace day event, 12.00 pm—1.00 pm, Mercia Walk. Woking.

For more information please contact Kerry Barry: administrator@wpof.org.uk
www.wpof.org.uk



Woking People of Faith

INTRODUCTION TO MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES IN SPIRITUAL & PASTORAL CARE

A 10 week Programme exploring Mental Health issues within Spiritual & Pastoral Care

GUILDFORD COURSE VENUE & DATES

Venue: Education Centre, Farnham Road Hospital, GU2 7LX

Time: 6:30 for 6.45 – 9.00 pm

Wednesday evenings, September 12th — November 28th 2018

(no training on 24th and 31st October 2018)

The venue is fully accessible.

AIM:

To equip participants with the relevant skills, knowledge and awareness of mental health issues to be able to provide appropriate pastoral care within a community/faith setting and/or to support people who are under the care of Surrey & Borders Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

PROGRAMME CONTENT:

- Pastoral psychology
- Religion and mental health
- Pastoral skills workshop
- A Mental Health Field Project; each participant undertakes to research mental health issues within their church, community or faith setting.

For more information or to register please email:
Richard.adams@sabp.nhs.uk

Surrey and Borders Partnership 
NHS Foundation Trust

Surrey County Council is engaging with citizens to support the development of social prescribing pathways across Surrey. Social prescribing is a way of helping people with social, emotional and everyday needs with sources of relevant support in their local community.

We have made a short video about social prescribing, click here; <https://vimeo.com/275803319/cec70fcdd1>

After watching the video, have your say by completing the 5-10 minutes survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SOCIALPRESCRIBINGinSURREY>

The workshop planned for your area is:

Area	Date/ Time	Venue	Address
District Workshops			
Elmbridge	4 th July 6.30 -8.00pm	Cecil Hepworth Play-house	Bridge Street, Hurst Grove, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, KT12 1AU
Epsom and Ewell	4 th July 1.30-3pm	St Joseph's Church	St Margaret Drive Epsom KT18 7JQ
Guildford	9 th July 6.30-8.00pm	Guildford Baptist Church	Guildford Baptist Church, Millmead, Guildford GU2 4BE
Mole Valley	5 th Sept 6.30-8.00pm	Dorking Hall	
Reigate and Banstead	5 th Sept 1.30-3 pm	Banstead Community Centre	
Runnymede	18 th July 6.30-8:00pm	Chertsey Hall	Heriot Rd, Chertsey KT16 9DR
Spelthorne	16 th July 1.30-3pm	Staines Methodist Church Hall	Thames Street, Staines-upon-Thames, TW18 4SD
Waverley	9 th July 1.30-3pm	Godalming Baptist Church	15 Queen St, Godalming GU7 1BA
Woking	18 th July 1.30-3pm	Maybury Centre	Board School Rd, Woking GU21 5HD
Targeted Workshops			
Older People	19 th Sept 1.30-3pm TBC	Guildford Baptist Church	Guildford Baptist Church, Millmead, Guildford GU2 4BE
Disabled People	18 th Sept 1.30-3pm TBC	Leatherhead Leisure Centre	
BME Communities	18 th Sept 6.30-8.00pm TBC	Maybury Centre Woking	Board School Rd, Woking GU21 5HD

If you would like to attend a workshop either:

email SocialPrescribingSurrey@ottawaystrategic.co.uk

ring or text with your name and contact details (07985 441304)

This way we can then confirm your attendance and identify any additional needs that we can support in the workshop.

If you have any queries or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Martin King on 07985 441304 or email martin@ottawaystrategic.co.uk. Alternatively, please contact Charlotte Pavitt (Public Health Surrey County Council) on email charlotte.pavitt@surreycc.gov.uk