



Surrey Faith Links Newsletter

September 2019



“Faith is not the clinging to a shrine but an endless pilgrimage of the heart.”
Abraham Joshua Heschel

Not long to go for International Day of Peace, read more about it on page 2 of the newsletter and celebrate the day with Working People of Faith on 21st September 12.00 pm at Mercia Walk, Woking; where there will be a play from a local school, live entertainment and much more.
 More upcoming events on page 7 onwards; if you are organising an interfaith event please do get in touch.

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Inside this issue:

Multi Faith Last Post Service	2
20 years of Peace One Day	2
Mental Health in Spiritual and Pastoral Care—Training	3
Greta Get Togethers	3
One World Week—Climate	4
Interfaith Week 2019	4
Prisons Week 2019	5
Faith Based Bigotry and sport	5
Faith & Cultural Awareness Training	5
Funding Opportunities	6
Upcoming Event	7

Walk & Talk at the University of Surrey

Nearly 40 members of Guildford & Godalming Interfaith Forum were the guests of the University Chaplaincy on Thursday 18th July for the Forum's annual 'walk & talk'. The group took a casual stroll around the campus, beginning at the Alan Turing statue with a talk about Humanism and ending as the sun set over the Round House - formerly known as the Quiet Centre, with a talk from Rabbi Goldberg, the senior Chaplain. The diverse group were very appreciative of this taste of campus life, with many families also walking around in the sunshine after the day's graduation ceremonies at Guildford Cathedral



Along the route they visited the Islamic Prayer Centre, welcomed by Dr. Husni Hammuda, the Lakeside where Dr. Bahadur Singh spoke about the beliefs and practices of Sikhism; then The Hive, the new students' hub, for an informative talk from the Methodist Chaplain; the performing Arts Technology Studio where

- Main Faith Festivals in September 2019**
- 1st: Islamic New Year
 - 1st: Installation of Guru Granth Sahib (Sikh)
 - 2nd: Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu)
 - 3rd: Samvatsari (Jain)
 - 4th: Fravardin Mah Parab (Zoroastrian)
 - 10th: Ashura (Islam)
 - 29th: Navaratri begins (Hindu)
 - 30 Sep—1st Oct.: Rosh Hashannah (Jewish)
- For description of festivals please visit: [Religious Festivals](#)

Any views and comments expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Diocese of Guildford or the Communities Engagement Team (CET).

Dr. Lisa Mohabeti spoke about the Bahá'í Faith, and finally a talk on Hinduism from Meeta Joshi. Along the route Surrey's first PhD Engineering graduate Dr. Bibhas Neogi spoke of the early days when they came down from Battersea and the site had just two blocks, surrounded by open fields...

The forum meets bi-monthly throughout the year, with additional public meetings and an annual Multi-faith Service during Interfaith Week in November. More information from Carolyn Neogi on 01483 415773



Second Ever Last Post Multi Faith Service

25 people attended the Multi Faith Last Post service on Sunday, 4th August 2019. We heard prayers from Baha'i, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish and Christian faiths. Before the service, we enjoyed a very informative tour of the American Military Cemetery hosted by the Cemetery Associate, Gail Anderson. We learned that WWI soldiers were exhumed and reburied with full military honours in 1922 according to their families wishes. Two civilians and five ladies are also buried here.

Omaha sand is used in the headstone lettering, which has a deep meaning for the family, when they visit. The US and host nation flag is placed in front of the headstone. The Latin Cross is used, unless it is known that the soldier is of Jewish faith and then the Star of David is used. The chapel was built in 1922 and was used in WWII as it is non-denominational and around 12 funerals per week took place there.

All agreed the tour was exceptional and extremely poignant. Woking's Mayor attended and inspected the flag bearers after the service. Everyone joined the Trench Experience for refreshments afterwards and chatted over tea and coffee.

Kerry Barry, Woking People of Faith

W: www.wpof.org.uk



20 Years of Peace One Day



Peace Day 21 September 2019 is fast approaching and we would love to know your plans. There are so many ways to recognise the day and how you celebrate is up to you. If you would like inspiration why not check out Peace One Day's Pocket Book of Peace. If you'd like to make a video to tell us about what you'll be up to, we can share it with our followers! Videos can be sent to campaigns@peaceoneday.org

This Peace Day, why not take the Peace Day Pledge and speak peace in the cyber world. This Peace Day 21 September we want to introduce the Peace Day message to the online world, helping safe-guard vulnerable people from online bullying, harassment and harmful interaction. We want to see a decrease in harmful language and an increase in peaceful communication this Peace Day 21 September 2019.

Share your pledge using #CyberNonViolence and #PeaceDay

INTRODUCTION TO MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES IN SPIRITUAL & PASTORAL CARE

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

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

Time: 6:30 for 6.45 – 9.00 pm

Wednesday evenings

October 2nd — December 11th 2019

(no training in October half term by arrangement)

The venue is fully accessible.



**Surrey and Borders
Partnership**
NHS Foundation Trust

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.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The Course will enable you to:

- Increase your knowledge of mental health conditions.
- Understand the role of religion and spirituality in mental health.
- Identify spiritual resources that are supportive of the person's mental health, and spiritual experiences that can be indicative of mental illness.
- Increase your understanding of psychological processes.
- Demonstrate an ability to self-reflect and listen to others.
- Understand the theory and practice of The Compassionate Approach.

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

Great Get Togethers

This summer, nearly one million people took part in an estimated 11,000 Great Get Togethers across the country all sharing in Jo Cox's belief that we have more in common than that which divides us. That's more than double from last year!

Even better, 71% of those surveyed at events told us that The Great Get Together helped unite their communities and more than half of people told us that they met someone new.

Many of you have told us that you're ready to do it all over again and we're excited to announce our 2020 campaign weekend: June 19 - 21!

Help us celebrate by watching this year's wrap up video and pledging to take part in 2020:

<http://www.greatgettogether.org/save-the-date-2020/>



One World Week leaflet – Climate Changes Everything

One World Week has published its new leaflet for 2019, inspired by climate activist Greta Thunberg's emphasis on the urgency for action in tackling climate change.

The leaflet contains a graphic outlining the likely impacts of climate change, and is available to download at:

<https://www.oneworldweek.org/uploads/resources/OWW2019-WEB.pdf>.

For printed copies, contact Ingrid at oww@oneworldweek.org.

For more information about One World Week: www.oneworldweek.org



Interfaith Week 2019

The Inter Faith Network for the UK held its annual National Meeting, bringing together member organisations as well as special guests to explore together the changing face of local inter faith dialogue and cooperation in the UK. At this, the Inter Faith Week 2019 programme was launched, including the booklet Inter Faith Week: Stories from 2018, Inspiration for 2019.

Inter Faith Week: Stories from 2018, Inspiration for 2019 is an illustrated report on Inter Faith Week 2018, which was the tenth Week in England and Wales. It gives a flavour of the huge variety of activities which took place to mark the Week and it also aims to inspire and encourage participation in the 2019 Week which runs from Sunday 10 – Sunday 17 November.

In a special video message for the National Meeting, Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth, Minister for Faith, Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government, said:

"I'd encourage everybody to get involved in Inter Faith Week this year in November. It provides a tremendous opportunity to highlight the contribution of faith groups to society, and to encourage bridging beliefs and backgrounds in our local communities."

You can download a copy of the report at: <https://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/inter-faith-week-stories-from-2018-inspiration-for-2019>. We will also be sending a hard copy plus a poster for the 2019 Week to each member body next week. If you would not like either or both of those, please would you let Hannah Cassidy know by 10am on Tuesday 9 July.

Taking part in Inter Faith Week

If you are interested in taking part in Inter Faith Week, the website www.interfaithweek.org contains a number of other useful planning resources, including:

- The Inter Faith Week Toolkit
- Activity Ideas for different types of organisation
- Publicity and branding pages, including badges for sale
- Guides, including media tips, social media starter points and key messages

If you are considering taking part in Inter Faith Week 2019 and would like to discuss your ideas with one of the Inter Faith Network team, please call 020 7730 0410 or email ashley.beck@interfaith.org.uk

If you would like to use the Inter Faith Week branding on materials promoting the Week, you can find these on the website's branding page.



Prisons Week 2019 | 13–19 October

What does freedom mean to you?

For forty years now, Prisons Week has prepared prayer literature to enable the Christian community, through individuals and churches, to pray for the needs of all those affected by prisons: prisoners and their families, victims of crime and their communities, those working in the criminal justice system and the many people who are involved in caring for those affected by crime on the inside and outside of our prisons.

Prisons Week raises awareness and generates prayer. It motivates volunteers to step forward and give their time and gifts, in prisons and in their own communities. It provides an annual focus and reason for Christians to work together, building capacity and motivation to make a difference for people who are out of sight and often out of mind.

Prisons Sunday – the second Sunday in October – marks the beginning of the week of prayer each year, running through until the following Saturday

For more information, posters or prayers, please visit: <https://prisonweek.org/>

The work of the prison's within the Diocese of Guildford:

[https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/about/communities-engagement/chaplaincy-\(hospital-hospice-prison-police\)/prisons](https://www.cofeguildford.org.uk/about/communities-engagement/chaplaincy-(hospital-hospice-prison-police)/prisons)



'Faith-based bigotry' and sport and inter faith understanding

According to a report in The Telegraph reports of Antisemitism, Islamophobia and other faith-based bigotry in professional and grassroots football increased by 75 per cent from the previous year, according to the latest Kick it Out statistics.

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/football/2019/07/24/incidents-racism-football-double-just-five-years-kick-chief/>

At the same time, there is an increasing focus on the power of sport to encourage understanding and cooperation between people of different backgrounds. This was illustrated in coverage of the Cricket World Cup and the diversity and team spirit of the England team -

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2019/jul/15/diversity-strength-england-win-cricket-world-cup> - as it has been in events such as those of Spirit of 2012's Breaking Boundaries programme, exemplified by events such as a festival on 31 July in Slough opened by Monty Panessar - <https://twitter.com/aiksaath?lang=en>.

Faith and Cultural Awareness Training for Staff & Volunteers

It has become evident in today's increasingly multicultural society that constructing and developing relations between people of all faiths and none is important for work life as well as social cohesion.

Employers should have a basic level of knowledge of different faiths to get a better understanding of staff/customer needs and requirements.

It is also good for staff to have some level of knowledge and awareness of faiths and cultures for a better experience with the people they work with.

For more information or to organize a training session please contact:

Kauser Akhtar, Faith Links Adviser, T: 01483 790334,

E: Kauser.Akhtar@cofeguildford.org.uk



FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Polden-Puckham Charitable Foundation

The Polden-Puckham Charitable Foundation (PPCF) is a grant-giving trust with Quaker family roots in the United Kingdom. They aim to contribute to the development of a just society based on a commitment to non-violence and environmental sustainability.

They fund organisations in the UK that are working to influence policy, attitudes and values at a national or international level. These may be single issue groups working to achieve a particular change, or organisations with a broader remit. They give particular consideration to small pioneering headquarters organisations.

They only support practical projects when they are clearly of a pioneering nature, with potential for influencing UK national policy.

For more information and how to apply, please visit www.polden-puckham.org.uk

Grants to address intolerance

The St Ethelburga's Centre is planning to deploy £60,000 of its resources towards projects which address different forms of intolerance in society. It is specifically seeking Jewish-Christian collaborations to deliver the project.

Deadline for expressions of interest: 31 Sept 2019

Deadline for more detailed proposal: 30 Oct 2019

Final decision by: 1st Nov 2019

Project to start: January 2020 or soon thereafter

For more information, visit <https://stethelburgas.org/event/transforming-intolerance-apply-for-a-grant/>

Other Sources of Funding

The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) offers advice on fundraising and grants on its Knowhow Non profit site at <https://knowhownonprofit.org/funding>.

Funding Central - <http://www.fundingcentral.org.uk> - is a free website for charities, voluntary organisations and social enterprises in England that provides access to thousands of funding and finance opportunities, together with tools and resources for supporting organisations to develop sustainable income strategies appropriate to their needs.

Website and Facebook grants

The Transform Foundation is offering funding to charities to help with new website builds. Grants of £18,000 are available. It is also offering grants towards Facebook advertising of £5,000. For further information and to apply, visit www.transformfoundation.org.uk.

Google and charities

Google is offering a service to registered charities which brings: Google Ad Grants: Free AdWords advertising to promote their websites on Google through keyword targeting; YouTube Nonprofit Programme: Access exclusive resources, features and programs designed to maximise their organisations' impact on YouTube; and Google Apps for Non-profit: Free version of the Google Apps business productivity suite, including Gmail, Docs, Calendar and more. For further information, visit www.google.co.uk/intl/en/nonprofits/join

Surrey Heath Faith Forum

'Let's Talk Rubbish' - a workshop for young people aged 11-16 to look at climate change and what we can do to bring positive change.

Saturday 28th September, 5.30 pm—7.30 pm at the Al Kharafi Mosque, Camberley

The Sultan and The Saint

It is the 800th anniversary of the meeting between Saint Francis of Assisi and Sultan Al Kamil—both met to make peace during the crusades.

The film will be screened on Thursday 14th November at St Michael's Church, London Rd, Camberley during Interfaith Week.

All welcome



For more information please contact Jayne Boitout

E: Jayne.Boitout@surreyheath.gov.uk



2019 marks 20 years of Peace One Day. To celebrate, we have organised an exciting programme of events culminating in an inspirational concert at Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, the venue where Peace One Day began 20 years ago. The line-up includes Emeli Sandé, Jack Savoretti, Will Young, Basement Jaxx and the Citizens of

The World Choir...

For more information or buy tickets, [please click here](#)

"A humanist case for the abolition of ageing"

Speaker : David Wood | Tuesday, 8th October at 7.30pm

David Wood has been researching for many years into the reversing of biological ageing. It may sound like science fiction, but the possibilities of this are increasingly being recognised by mainstream scientists. David is a very experienced speaker and has written many books about this and related subjects. He is also the chair at London Futurists.

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

Tea/coffee and biscuits break at about 8.40

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

For further information, please phone David Simmonds (01483 800397) or Mike Adams (01483 233324), or see our website <http://guildfordwoking.humanist.org.uk>

Debating Skills Workshop

Join us for a free one day workshop to equip young people with key debating skills to engage in discussion in an informed manner. Debating brings the art of reading, thinking and speaking together in one space.

This workshop on Friday 20th September will cover the following areas;

Understanding the differences between dialogue and debating

Formal vs informal debates

The etiquette of debating

Proposition vs Opposition

Key principles and effective skills

For more information and/or to register [please click here](#)



Festival of Cultures – SMEF One World

September 22 @ 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum will celebrate their 10th anniversary this year and we would be delighted for your community organisation to take part in this celebratory event called 'Festival of Cultures' with the aim to showcase the colourful membership of SMEF and help them to promote their own culture and organisation to the wider public. More details and program to be followed.

For more information please visit:

<https://smef.org.uk/event/festival-of-cultures-smef-one-world/>



"Why Tech Matters"

26 September 10am to 12.30pm | St Mark's Hall, Tadworth, KT18 5RD

What is tech and why it is important for the voluntary sector

Case studies from local organisations

Discuss the technology challenges you are facing and share solutions

Find free/low-cost resources to support the use of tech in your organisation

Please register your attendance in advance via info@varb.org.uk

Woking Debates: Film Screenings

The Woking Debates committee have decided to put on three film showings on peace and social issues this .

After each film there will be a discussion on the film. They will be held at the Woking Quaker meeting house in Park Road

From Balfour to Banksy: Thursday 19th September 7.30 pm. It examines the situation of the Palestinian people following the Balfour declaration in 1917 up to the present day. On this occasion we are delighted that the producer will be present to introduce the film and lead the discussion afterwards.

As with the debates the showing will be free and there will be an opportunity to contribute to costs as you leave. As the films are public showings they incur costs that a private viewing in your home do not have.

Other dates: 10th October and 14th November

See www.wokingdebates.com for more details

or contact Keith on 01483 824908 or email: keithsc_2000@yahoo.com

Prophet Sharing: uniting people of every faith and none for an evening of comedy

10 October 7.30pm

Two great religions. Two great comedians. The descendants of Abraham may have gone their separate ways but now stand-up comedian friends Ashley Blaker and Imran Yusuf – both stars of their own BBC shows – are joining forces in the most-unlikely double-act since Kermit and Miss Piggy (who neither Ashley nor Imran can eat!). Originally brought together by a passion for the same football team, the pair are visiting the Woolf Institute for the first time.



Tickets £20/£10. More information or to book [please click here](#)

Guildford and Godalming Interfaith Forum

Interfaith Service to mark Interfaith Week

Sunday 17th November, 3 pm—5pm, St Nicholas Church, Bury St, Guildford GU2 4AW

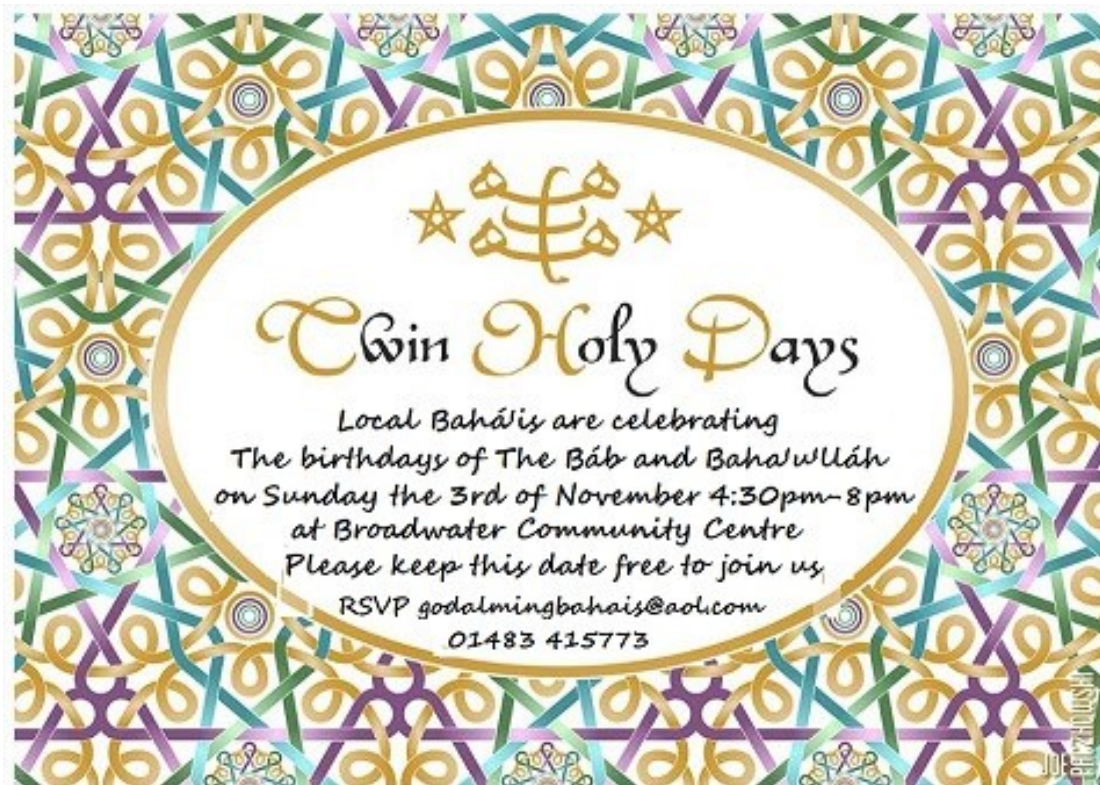
For more information please contact: Bernard Jones (Secretary)

T: 01483 424257 E: bernard.jones10@btinternet.com

Or Carolyn Neogi: E: carolynneogi@aol.com | T: 01483 415773



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Diocese of **Guildford** 
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