



“All of our humanity is dependent upon recognising the humanity in others.”

(Archbishop Desmond Tutu)

As the lockdown eases we all have a duty to continue to take care of and protect our communities by adhering to the guidance given by the Government and preventing the Coronavirus from spreading further. We must not forget, it has been a very difficult time and continues to be that way for many. Faith plays a vital role in many lives; people of faith and faith groups have been instrumental during these unprecedented times and this is apparent in articles presented in this newsletter.

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Cohesive Societies: Faith and Belief

Faith and non-religious belief groups’ positive contribution to social cohesion deserves greater recognition and should have more influence on cohesion policy in the United Kingdom, finds a new report commissioned by the [British Academy](#) and the [Faith & Belief Forum](#).

‘[Cohesive Societies: Faith and Belief](#)’, by the thinktank [Theos](#), charts social cohesion policy in the UK and examines the practical impact of the faith and belief sector on our communities.

The report draws on practical case studies from across the UK, including an interfaith programme initiated by the West London Synagogue to promote positive Jewish-Muslim relations locally, a mosque that is currently facilitating English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) learning, a Catholic homelessness charity, and a Christian initiative set up to tackle knife crime in the capital.

Main Faith Festivals in July 2020

- 1: Jashn-e Tirgan (Zoroastrian)
- 5: Dhamma day (Buddhist)
- 7-16: Fravarigan (Zoroastrian)
- 17: No Ruz (Zoroastrian)
- 19: Martyrdom of the Bab (Baha’i)
- 22: Khordad Sal (Zoroastrian)
- 24: Chokor (Buddhist)
- 28-2 Aug: Hajj (Muslim)
- 30: Tisha B’av (Jewish)
- 31-4 Aug: Eid ul Adha (Muslim)

For a description of the 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).

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The authors argue:

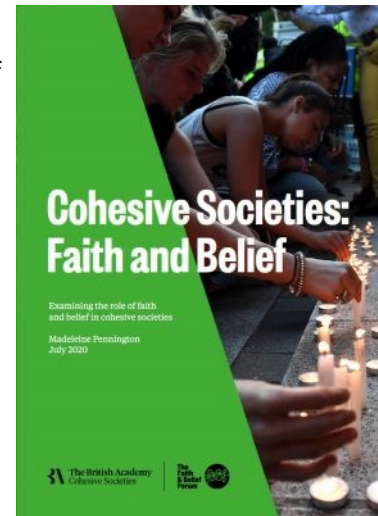
Social cohesion policy in the United Kingdom has developed in the context of four main factors: demographic shifts accompanying migration, the growth of the 'non-religious' affiliation, significant changes to the welfare state, and crises such as the 'race riots' in summer 2001

Consequently, cohesion policy has been disproportionately dominated by concerns for national identity, security and loyalty, rather than by a desire to pursue social cohesion as an end in itself

Faith is too often thought of as a concerning 'other' and a risk to social cohesion; it has also often been subtly racialised as the preserve of ethnic minorities in a broadly secular mainstream

While faith and belief can be a source of division, many faith groups play a key role in social cohesion and their contributions need to be considered in the formation of cohesion policy.

The report is part of the British Academy's ongoing [Cohesive Societies programme](#), launched in 2017, which explores how societies remain cohesive in the face of rapid political, social, economic and technological change.



FACE COVERINGS MANDATORY IN SHOPS, SUPERMARKETS, SHOPPING CENTRES AND ENCLOSED TRANSPORT HUBS

Face coverings are now mandatory in additional enclosed public spaces - including shops, supermarkets, shopping centres and transport hubs

New measure an important step in lifting lockdown, as the public are encouraged to play their part. Venues such as restaurants, pubs and gyms are exempt

Face coverings must be worn in shops, supermarkets, indoor shopping centres and transport hubs - such as train stations and airports - as the government takes further steps to help curb the spread of the virus.

Under the new regulations, members of the public will need to wear face coverings - for example, a fabric covering, scarf or bandana - that covers the nose and mouth in additional enclosed public spaces, as well as frequent hand washing and careful social distancing.

It will be compulsory to wear a face covering when buying food and drink to takeaway from cafes and shops. If you are in a premises where you are able to sit down and consume food or drink that you have bought, then you can remove your face covering in order to eat and drink on site.

Face coverings will not be mandatory for anyone under the age of 11, those with disabilities or certain health conditions, such as respiratory or cognitive impairments that make it difficult for them to wear a face covering.

There is evidence to suggest that, when used correctly, face coverings may reduce the likelihood of someone with the infection passing it on to others, particularly if they are asymptomatic.

Peace Award Nominations Wanted

Do you know a person or an organisation that has done something to promote reconciliation or peace this year? Nominations are now sought for the 2020 Wilson Hinkes Peace Award. The Award is part of the Week of Prayer for World Peace (WPWP), which encourages people of all faiths to pray for peace.

The Award was established by the WPWP to recognise significant contributions by individuals, organisations or projects in furthering peace, justice and reconciliation at local levels. Focused on recognising grassroots initiatives, the Award enables otherwise untold stories to be told and honoured and seeks to inspire others to work for peace. Recent awards have been made to a woman who helps organise an annual peace walk, someone promoting peace education, two community groups supporting refugees, and someone in Burundi helping returning refugees. The Award carries a value of £500.

Named in honour of Revd. Gordon Wilson and Revd. Sidney Hinkes, both former Chairs of the WPWP, the Award is made annually.

Nominations can come from any individual or group. Submissions in the form of a letter describing the nominee's contribution to peace and justice issues should be sent to the WPWP Committee members: Sue Gale billandsuegale@blueyonder.co.uk and Sue Claydon chair@anglicanpeacemaker.org.uk

The closing date for nominations is 30 August 2020.

Feedback for Healthwatch Surrey

Healthwatch Surrey is supporting the NHS and social care in helping them to understand what is working well and not so well for local people in health and social care services during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We would like to hear about all your health and care experiences during this time whether it is COVID-19 related or non-related.

Have you had a GP consultation via telephone or video. What did you think about this?

Have you experienced any changes to your care and or/ support services? i.e. dentistry, opticians, mental health, outpatients, physio, social care, A&E etc.

Have you felt reluctant to seek help due to the crisis? How has this impacted you?

*These are just some examples, please share other experiences with us too.

Ways you can provide feedback:

You can send us your experience freepost at: Freepost RSYX-ETRE-GXBY, Healthwatch Surrey, Room GF2, Astolat, Coniers Way, Guildford, GU4 7HL

Telephone: 0303 303 0023 (local rate number)

Text (SMS): 07592 787533

WhatsApp: 07508 715719

Visit: www.healthwatchesurrey.co.uk/your-views/share-your-experiences/

healthwatch
Surrey

How to wear and make a cloth face covering

Public Health England has issued guidance on how to wear and even make a face mask. It emphasises that your face mask should cover both your nose and your mouth plus you should refrain from touching your mask whilst you wear it.

[Full guidance can be found here](#)

'Engaging Locally': New Toolkit for Church Leaders



FaithAction are partnering with YourNeighbour.org to launch Engaging Locally — a new toolkit designed to help church leaders engage with their local authorities in service of their local communities.

Communities benefit when local authorities and churches have strong working relationships. However, many churches find the world of local government difficult to navigate and get alongside.

This toolkit shines some light on this world in simple terms, and offers practical advice to churches to enable them to strengthen their relationships with their local councils. It also includes case studies of where churches are working well locally – often in partnership with charity partners.

Click here for the Toolkit: <https://yourneighbour.org/engaging-locally>

Citizens Advice: What are the nation's Covid-19 concerns?

Citizens Advice has produced a report based on activity on their website. It looks at what advice people were searching for over a period of three months.

For instance, the most searched word on their website during March 2020 was 'Covid-19'. In April it was 'furlough' and then in May it was 'redundancy'

Read report here: <https://files.constantcontact.com/ca3da02a001/866092fa-3d41-4658-bb2b-d9fb3899619d.pdf>

Keeping our Networks Alive Engagement Survey Results

Last month Surrey County Council and the Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care System launched a survey looking at the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on engagement and consultation activities, and the management of networks and groups.

A report has now published: <https://www.surreysays.co.uk/adult-social-care-and-public-health/keeping-our-networks-alive/> covering the findings along with Insights and Next Steps.

Tipping Point: Domestic Abuse in Lockdown and What Faith Groups Can do to Help

Kathy Coe, Founder of Pathway Project, speaks about the rise in domestic abuse cases during the pandemic and what we, as members of faith groups, can do to help.

'I can only imagine how those living in domestic abuse situations would feel. Every survivor will identify with the phrase 'walking on eggshells', and the fear of doing or saying something that will cause the abuser to lose their temper. When there is some respite such circumstances may be manageable, but when there is no let up and no way out then the psychological impact can be huge. This is likely to lead to mental health issues such as post-traumatic stress, depression, and anxiety for months or years to come.

Faith groups have a role to play, both now, and when people are free to return to work, children return to school and people return to their places of worship... '

[Click here to read the blog](#)

Adolescent to Parent Abuse

Stop Domestic Abuse are running a 6-session educational/therapeutic 'APA' programme

This is aimed at the parents or carers of young people aged 8 to 16 years old, who are displaying challenging and potentially abusive behaviour.

The main goal is to empower parents, reducing stress and guilt and giving them concrete strategies.

To make a referral, fill in a referral form here: <https://stopdomesticabuse.uk/>

Please state in your email header "Referral for APA Group Work" and email: advice@stopdomesticabuse.uk

The logo for Stop Domestic Abuse features the word "STOP" in orange, "DOMESTIC" in black, and "ABUSE" in black, all in a bold, sans-serif font.

MANAGING YOUR EMOTIONAL HEALTH POST-COVID IN A LANGUAGE FAMILIAR TO YOU

Are you feeling overwhelmed or isolated? Are you struggling with worry or low mood? Are you finding things difficult to manage during this time of social distancing? Come and join our support workshop on Zoom to learn and share information in Bengali, Urdu and Hindi.

Monday 31 August at 2pm

MFT supports adults in Surrey to improve and maintain their mental wellbeing through one-to-one support, courses, groups and activities.

To book your place, you need to register with MFT first and then contact:

01372 375400, text 07929 024722,

email info@maryfrancestrust.org.uk or visit www.maryfrancestrust.org.uk

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Magic Little Grants 2020

The Magic Little Grants 2020 programme launched earlier this year. Together with Postcode Community Trust, a grant giving charity funded by players of People's Postcode Lottery, Local giving is offering charitable organisations the opportunity to apply for grants of £500.

The fund will be awarding over 900 grants to community projects across Great Britain. Successful projects will support and inspire people to participate in sports or exercise with the primary aim of improving the physical health of participants.

Applications will receive a decision on their application and, if successful, the funding within two months of submitting a complete application.

For more information: <https://localgiving.org/magic-little-grants/>

The Tree Council – Branching Out Fund

Schools and Community groups within the UK can apply for grants of between £300 and £1,500 to get communities and young people up to the age of 21 involved in tree and hedge planting and care during National Tree Week – 28 November to 6 December 2020. Applications will be considered as they are received and applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application within four weeks.

In addition, free tree packs are available for schools supported by the Tree Angel Orchards Fund. Schools can register to hear when applications open.

For details of both opportunities see: <https://treecouncil.org.uk/take-action/grants-for-trees/>

BAME Infrastructure Fund

The UK Community Foundation has made a new infrastructure fund available for organisations that can help even more BAME-led organisations to apply for NET grants through their local Community Foundations. An initial £250,000 has been allocated for this purpose, with more funds anticipated on a rolling basis.

UKCF is seeking applications from BAME-led infrastructure organisations to access the new fund. Grants between £5,000 – £20,000 over a maximum of three months are available

For more information: <https://www.ukcommunityfoundations.org/news-article/bame-infra-fund>

Coronavirus Mental Health Response Fund

To help VCS organisations based in England continue to provide mental health services – or provide additional support – organisations can apply for a Coronavirus Mental Health Response Fund (CMHRF) grant.

Thanks to £5m support from government (the Department of Health and Social Care), grants of £20,000 or £50,000 are available for projects lasting up to 12 months.

For more information please visit:

<https://www.faithaction.net/news/2020/04/23/coronavirus-mental-health-response-fund/>

Surrey Coalition of Disabled People

Surrey virtual café - Join us every Monday for a good catch-up! 11.00 am – 12.00 noon

Who can join? Anyone over 18 can join for free, you just come along when you want to for some light-hearted discussion over a cup of tea or coffee.

Surrey virtual walk & talk - Join us for our virtual walk and talk. Every weekday 2.30 pm – 3.00 pm from Monday 30 March 2020 onwards!

How do I join?

Join by Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/3106670662> | Join by Skype for Business: <https://zoom.us/skype/3106670662>

Join by phone: 0800 358 2817 United Kingdom Toll-free | Meeting ID: 310 667 0662

Join by SMS text: 07780 933 053

If you are joining by zoom for the first time, please download the (free) app here: <https://zoom.us/download>

Join Wat Phra Dhammakaya Buddhist Temple in daily meditation

Daily meditation and talks on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMCtvLondon/>

For more information please email: dhammakayawoking@gmail.com | T: 01483 475757

Live Streaming of Religious Services:

A Church Near you: https://www.achurchnearyou.com/live-stream/?tags=Live_stream

Diocese of Arundel and Brighton: <https://www.dabnet.org/>

Surrey Muslim Association: <http://www.surreymuslims.org/Resources/>

Free Online Learning

How to teach online, free course: <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/teach-online>

National Emergency Library: <https://archive.org/details/nationalemergencylibrary>

Free online courses from top Universities: <https://www.classcentral.com/>

Free learning from the Open University: <https://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue>

Harvard University currently have 64 courses free online: <https://online-learning.harvard.edu/catalog>

Please click on 'price' and then 'free' to find all free courses.

Free Online Courses With The Guildford Institute

The Guildford Institute is hosting a variety of online courses encouraging people to try something new whilst at home. The courses vary from learning languages such as Italian or Spanish to Yoga for Everybody, 'Discover your Inner Cartoonist' and Tai Chi, plus much more.

For more information and details about how to see the full listing of fantastic courses, please see the flyer and follow this link to the website - <https://www.guildford-institute.org.uk/events/category/online-courses/>

Healthy Surrey Virtual Wellbeing Hub

Focus on your wellbeing with the Surrey Virtual Wellbeing Hub. Join a coffee morning from your kitchen, or a Zumba class from your living room!

Here's the link for you to find a session - <https://www.healthysurrey.org.uk/mental-wellbeing/adults/virtual>

New Surrey Museums & Galleries website

Enjoy a bright and colourful exploration of Surrey's many museums, galleries and heritage sites all in one place. Get a glimpse of the collections they hold, and a flavour of the types of activities and programmes they offer. Each of the museums has its own page where you can get an idea of what to expect on a visit when they reopen to the public. There is also plenty of useful and fascinating information about what a museum is and does, links for families, schools and communities, and highlights of latest museum news.

The website has been developed by the Surrey Museums Partnership, a unique organisation working on behalf of all Surrey museums for 25 years, funded jointly by Surrey's district, borough and County councils. You can find out how we work together in a true partnership to support Surrey museum services for you. Have fun!

surreymuseums.org.uk

Online educational and fun activities for all ages

If you're looking for something fun and creative for the kids – or yourself – to do then take a look at the list of online resources the Surrey History centre have put together to help beat the boredom during the Coronavirus lockdown. From archives and archaeology to palaces and museums there's something for everyone!

<https://www.exploringsurreypast.org.uk/on-line-educational-and-fun-activities-for-all-ages/>

Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel

Surrey Minority Ethnic Forum invite you to join the Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel run by Surrey Police.

Are you interested in social justice issues?

Do you have the time, commitment and skills to act as a critical friend of Surrey Police?

Are you interested in sitting on a Race Hate Crime panel?

Can you help to review cases and identify good practice and gaps in the service?

Can you commit to attending 6 panel meetings/year?

From 7pm to 9pm held across Surrey and the Police Headquarters in Guildford.

Dates: 23rd September, 25th November 2020, 17th March and 16th June 2021 — 2 further dates to be confirmed for 2021

If you are interested, please register or get in touch for further information via email to admin@smef.org.uk.



Woking Debate on Zoom

Is the UK Being Fair to Immigrants? Do immigrants get a fair chance to start a new

life in our country? Councillor Ayesha Azad, deputy leader of Woking Borough Council and a Surrey County Councillor, Donovan Blair, originally from the Caribbean, Kayte Cable, co-founder of the Big Leaf Foundation, and Waleed Hassan, a specialist immigration solicitor, will open the discussion.

There will also be ample opportunity for everyone who attends to share their views and concerns about this important topic.

Saturday 1st August 2020, 11.00 am—12.30 pm.

For joining details, please contact Keith Scott: keithsc_2000@yahoo.com or 01483 824980

Useful Information and Contact Information

Information on Coronavirus in different languages:

<https://www.doctorsoftheworld.org.uk/news/coronavirus-information/>

Big Leaf Foundation has made translations of the NHS guidance on COVID-19 available for download directly from: <https://www.bigleaffoundation.org.uk/covid-19-advice.html>

(These are languages specifically common to the refugee community)

People escaping domestic violence:

National Domestic Violence Helpline: 0808 200 0247 (24hr) or Your Sanctuary: 01483 776822

Citizen's Advice: Benefits, Emergency Aid, Food Vouchers, Housing, Debt, Consumer and Legal Issues

Surrey Heath: 03444 111 444 or e: client@camberley.cabnet.org.uk

Mole Valley: 03444 111 444 or online form: <https://citizensadvicemolevalley.org.uk/get-advice/forms/>

Dorking, email: dorking@camv.org.uk

Leatherhead, email: leatherhead@camv.org.uk

Esher: 01372 464770 or send a message via online form: www.eshercab.org.uk.

Elmbridge: 0300 330 1179 or e: advice@caew.org.uk

Guildford: 0300 330 9013 or message using online form: <https://www.guildfordcab.org.uk/get-advice/forms/>

Reigate & Banstead: 03444 111 444 or online form: <https://www.carbs.org.uk/get-advice/forms/>

Epsom & Ewell, 0300 330 1164 or email: office@caee.org.uk

Oxted, 03444 111 444 or e: advisers@oxted.cabnet.org.uk

Waverley: 0344 848 7969 or please visit: <https://waverleycab.org.uk/> to send an email via the online form.

Woking: 03444 111 444 or send a message online: <https://www.wokingcab.org/get-advice/>

Caterham: 03444 111 444 or email: office@caterham.cabnet.org.uk

Runnymede and Spelthorne: 01932 827187 or e: adviser@randscab.org.uk

Health and well-being - how libraries can help

Libraries can be a great source of help and support to individuals and families. To find out how, please visit:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries/health-and-well-being-how-libraries-can-help>

HELPLINE FOR FAITH INSTITUTIONS

0333 772 1989

EVERY DAY OF THE WEEK, 1PM-7PM



Call our team of expert consultants for up-to-date support during this critical time.

**CALL US ON
0333 772 1989 OR SEND
US AN EMAIL AT
INFO@SFITOGETHER.ORG**

www.sfitogether.org

SFI | Strengthening
Faith Institutions

WE CAN HELP WITH:

- Local and National Government economic support schemes
- Charity Registration
- Gift Aid
- Legal matters
- counseling support
- Safeguarding children online
- Health and well-being
- Volunteer opportunities
- technical and financial support for online engagement

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