

Surrey Faith Links Newsletter

March 2012



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Main Festivals in April 2012

- 1st - Palm Sunday
- 1st - Rama Navami
- 6th - Good Friday
- 6th - Theravada New Year
- 7th - Passover (1st Day)
- 8th - Easter Sunday
- 14th - Birthday of Guru Nanak
- 21st - Ridvan (1st Day)
- 23rd - St George's Day

Some words of wisdom kindly sent in by Rod Boreham (Guildford Town Centre Chaplain): *Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery that it is. In the boredom and pain of it no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it, because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace.* Frederick Buechner – Author and Minister.

Thank you Rod for the thought provoking words of wisdom.

Would you like to share some words of wisdom for the next SFL newsletter? If so, please email me: Kausar.Akhtar@cofeguildford.org.uk. Hope you find this issue informative.

Thank you
Kauser (Faith Links Adviser)



Migrant Workers - Your health, your safety: A guide for workers by Amarjeet Ghale

Having worked with the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) as an Outreach Officer for some eighteen months, I am very clear on the importance HSE attaches to the need for all migrant workers, irrespective of their residency status, they are entitled to exactly the same health and safety protection at work as anyone else. HSE is a Government body and we aim to assist and provide information to migrant workers to reduce workplace vulnerability and risks. One way we do this is through provision of information on our website, as provided below.

You should:

- Take care of your own health and safety and that of people who may be affected by what you do (or fail to do).

- Co-operate with others on health and safety, and not interfere with, or misuse, anything provided for your health, safety or welfare.

Your employer should tell you:

- About risks to your health and safety from current or proposed working practices.
 - About conditions or practices at work, or changes to them, that may harm or affect your health and safety.
 - How to do your job safely.
 - What action he has taken to protect your health and safety.
- How to get first-aid treatment and what to do in an emergency;

And should: Provide you with up-to-date Employers' Liability (Compulsory Insurance).

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Migrant Workers: Your health, your safety continued...

Your employer should provide, free of charge:

- Training to do your job safely.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) for you at work when necessary (such as clothing, shoes or boots, eye and ear protection, gloves, masks etc), and where risks can't be removed or adequately controlled by other means.
- Toilets, washing facilities, drinking water and first aid provision.
- Health checks, if there is a danger of ill health because of your work, for example from exposure to lead or substances in the paint used for spraying cars that may cause asthma.
- Regular health checks if you work nights and a check before you start.

What to do if you are concerned about your health and safety:

You can also obtain further information from our website: www.hse.gov.uk/migrantworkers

- If you have lost your job because of a health

and safety matter, you may be able to complain to an Employment Tribunal. Ask your Trade Union or local Citizens Advice Bureau for advice.

In addition, I would be pleased to arrange training sessions and offer further advice on raising Health & Safety awareness in work places, community centres etc as and when required. The training provided is free and geared to suit the needs for the organisation or group. I am able to communicate in Punjabi, Hindi and Urdu. Please contact me if you would like to take this worthwhile opportunity.

My contact details:

Amarjeet Ghale, Outreach Officer
Health & Safety Executive, Priestley House, Priestley Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire. RG24 9NW

Website: www.hse.gov.uk

Email: amarjeet.ghale@hse.gsi.gov.uk

Mobile: 07826 404100

Helping young people build a future

Guildford

YMCA

James signs up to run for Guildford YMCA

Guildford YMCA has innovative plans to remodel and extend the basement level of its Bridge Street building to provide new and better facilities for its work with young people. Needing to raise around £500,000 is a major task, but James Slater, whose father is a YMCA Board member, has set himself the target of running the London Marathon on 22 April, hoping to raise £2000 along the way. Half of this will be for Guildford YMCA's Capital Appeal.

James ran the Paris Marathon in 2009 in a time of 3 hours 31 minutes and his training is currently pointing towards a very respectable time. James has been aware of the YMCA's work for some time through his father's involvement. He says, "I have seen at first hand the impact the YMCA is having in



James Slater

Guildford where young people without much hope have been cared for and trained up with the skills they need to live and work in society. I am pleased to be able to support this organisation and its fundraising programme."

Up to 40 16-25 year olds live at the Bridge Street hostel who would otherwise be homeless,

but currently there is limited space for staff to work with them. Often staff meet with residents in the public restaurant, which offers no privacy when sensitive issues are being discussed. A dedicated space available to residents during the day would open up further possibilities for online training and group sessions.

A good deal of preventative youth work is carried out at Plantation, the YMCA's youth venue off Market Street. Redeveloping the basement level will also include a flexible space to be used as a youth cafe and for other project work. CEO Pete Brayne said, "For some time we have been conscious that our building needs updating. It isn't the best fit for the evolving needs of our residents. We need space where residents can relate to and relax with their peers and key workers, and private interview rooms. And we want to create a space where we can support those looking for employment and training with accessible computer facilities. We wish James every success in the Marathon – please support him!" Visit www.guildfordymca.org.uk/capital_appeal_marathon.htm to follow James' progress.

Launch of New Premises for 'Croydon Faith Education Resources' Library

The Mayor of Croydon, Councillor Graham Bass officially opened the new premises for the 'Croydon Faith Education Resources' library based at the Oasis Academy Shirley Park in January. The resources library is now in a more pleasant, central & accessible location since it has moved from its previous location at Selhurst. The Mayor acknowledged the importance of this multi-faith resources centre and the valuable services it offers the local schools & community. He encouraged and hoped that people would visit the new Centre with its wonderful twenty thousand faith resources including artefacts, posters, DVDs & books and make use of the excellent facilities provided.

A variety of guests representing Croydon and the wider community from churches, faith groups, schools, Croydon Council and the general public attended throughout the day and for the Opening. The Centre was full of displays, including presentations from 'Stop the Traffic' and 'McCrimmons Resources' alongside many free resources for the visitors to take away. After the speeches, Mayura Patel, a member of the Management Committee, invited everyone to join in a Hindu dance to celebrate the day.

Amongst the key guests was Alan Potter the Director of Education for Croydon, who thanked the CFER Management Committee and Staff for their hard work, enduring the journey which eventually

brought them to the new Centre. He stated that he and Croydon Council recognise the benefits of the thousands of resources the Centre holds in providing the opportunity to deliver good quality RE and will continue to support the Centre in its future developments.

The Bishop of Southwark, the Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, kindly sent his apologies for regrettably not being able to attend on this occasion, but requested that the following message be read out on his behalf..... *" please pass on my very best wishes for the work of CFER, particularly as it seeks to build strong and positive relationships between faith communities. Increased knowledge of each other can only lead to greater understanding and the finding of common ground to work for the well being of the wider society. I hope that CFER will prosper in this work in its new home"*.

The CFER Management Committee and staff are delighted with the new location & premises and are looking forward to welcoming old friends and many more new visitors. There are exciting prospects for developing additional services & faith experiences in the future, as CFER continue to network closely with all the faith communities, as well as expanding the variety of resources available.

Fauzia Ali (Resources Manager)



Volunteer Treasurer/ Fund Raiser: required to join us one morning/afternoon per week.

The centre is currently funded by Croydon Council and needs to start raising revenue to secure the future of the centre in our new premises attached to Ashburton Library, Shirley Park Road, Croydon.

Ideally suited to a recently retired person, with previous experience of finance and marketing.

A Retainer/Honorarium will be offered for the post.

For further information please

Email: resources@cferinfo.org or call 020 8656 6535

Design a Mosaic Competition

Your chance to create design which will be turned into a temporary mosaic in Guildford Cathedral

Art Beyond Limitations With the kind permission of the Dean and Chapter, a major art exhibition will be held this August in Guildford Cathedral highlighting the Paralympics, featuring the works of local artists who themselves have overcome limitations in life. The mosaic will be recreated piece by piece, by visitors to the exhibition



How can I Enter ?

It's easy! Draw a picture or create a design that uses the theme of sport and captures the spirit of the games. The winning entry will be adapted to become a mosaic.

Other Bits The competition is open to all and must be all your own work. Entries can be posted to the address below, please note that we cannot take responsibility for lost entries and we are unable to return any work. Please make sure you enter all your contact details below.

The competition will be judged by representatives from Surrey County Council, Surrey & Borders NHS Trust and the Diocese of Guildford. The judge's decision is final. There is no monetary or prize reward for any entry.

The winner will be notified on or before the 15th June.



Name.....

Address.....

Telephone number Email address.....

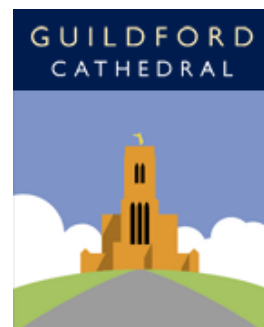
I agree to terms & conditions signature.....

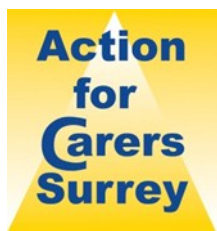
If under 16 years old; signature of parent /guardian.....

Please make sure you read and complete the details above

Return to: Suzette Jones, Diocesan House, Quarry St, Guildford, GU1 3XG

The closing date is the 19th May 2012.





Are you looking after someone or do you know someone who is caring?

Action for Carers Surrey Services:

We provide free confidential advice to carers by signposting them to our own or other services which may help them in their caring role, including links to local carers support services available across Surrey. You can contact us on our main Telephone number 01483 302748 or ring our services direct.

Action for Carers (Surrey)'s main aim is to raise awareness of carers' needs and concerns and to work in partnership with statutory services, such as health and social care teams, and the voluntary sector to promote how they can best serve Carers in Surrey through our 'Giving Carers a Voice' service.

We also provide direct carer services:

Action for Carers and Employment (ACE) provides specialist support, information and advocacy to carers and former carers in relation to employment, training and leisure activities.

Tel: 01483 565874

Email: ace@actionforcarers.org.uk
www.acesurrey.org.uk

Moving and Handling Back Care (BCA) provides information, advice, training and support for carers experiencing moving and handling as part of their caring role. Our services are provided in the Guildford, Waverley, Reigate, Redhill and Tandridge boroughs in Surrey.

Tel: 01483 533645

Email: bca@actionforcarers.org.uk

Surrey Young Carers advocates for young carers under the age of 18 to achieve their full potential by providing support and time out from their caring role. We promote the needs of young carers within Surrey and offer training to Health, Social and Education professionals. Surrey Young Carers covers the county of Surrey.

Tel: 01483 568269

Email: syc@actionforcarers.org.uk
www.surrey-youngcarers.org.uk

GP Carer Recognition work with GP surgeries in Surrey to assist them to recognise carers and keep them informed of carers' rights and issues. We help to ensure that carers are registered so that they can gain access to the services they really need.

www.gpcarersinfo.co.uk

North Surrey Domestic Abuse Outreach Service invites you to: A New Support Group in Epsom for women affected by domestic abuse

At: Epsom Sure Start Children's Centre, Pound Lane, Epsom, KT19 8SD

On: Every last Thursday of the month, starting on **Thursday 26th April**

Time: 12.30 to 2pm

Come along for a cup of tea or coffee to talk informally and provide support to each other.

It is a drop-in group, so just turn up. Crèche spaces may be available, please ring the Children's Centre on 01372 749834 in advance to book a place.

Diane, Gill & Ruth

Domestic Abuse Outreach Workers

Tel: 01932 260690



UPCOMING EVENTS

Job Search Network—Staines

Facing career change? Lots still to offer? Lacking motivation or confidence? **We can help you!**

Join our free job search sessions and discover the opportunities ahead!

Tuesdays from 6 March 10am-12pm, Staines Library (1st Floor, VAIS)

No need to book - just turn up.

Contact Elizabeth for more information on 01483 476632 or email ew@surreyllp.org.uk

Disability Awareness - a free morning workshop

Thursday 24th May 2012, 10am to 1.30pm

Emmanuel Church, Shepherds Lane, Stoughton, Guildford, GU2 9SJ

- ⇒ Confused about disability access?
- ⇒ Alterations to Churches and parish property?
- ⇒ How to make a more inclusive building for those with sensory loss?
- ⇒ What and how can we provide for children with special needs?

This free workshop will introduce the Assistant Diocesan Secretary and Parish Property Adviser; who will discuss their role and answer questions. We will explore the practical facilities and hardware available on the market to help those with sensory loss and gives tips on ways to make a more accessible church. Hear how children with special needs can be provided for in a very special way to become an integral part of our communities.

If you would like to attend please email your interest to:

E: emma.beswick@cofeguildford.org.uk, Tel: 01483 790335

Donations welcome on the day, to cover refreshments

PAIN **SURVIVED**

Based on 'Mindfulness' these six two hour monthly sessions finds the resilience within us to live with disabling pain regardless of how or why it occurs. Pain Survived is an interactive group which builds on movement, nutrition, creativity, communication and moving on to empower ourselves to go forward with life. Attendance is free, but a donation of £2 per meeting towards refreshments and costs would be gratefully received. All are welcome.

If you live with pain why not give this a try!

Venue: St Nicolas Church Hall, Bury Street, Guildford, GU2 4AW

Time: 7.00pm to 9pm

Dates: 10th May, 14th June, 12th July, 9th August, 13th September, 11th October

For further information contact: E: suzette.jones@cofeguildford.org.uk, T: 01483 790335

LIVING CHURCHYARDS

A conference on managing churchyards and cemeteries for wildlife

Friday 11th May 2012, 10.00 am—4.00 pm

St Peter and St Paul's Church, Godalming, GU7 1ET

Cost £10 for tea/coffee and lunch

Please contact Frances Halstead for a booking form:

E: frances.halstead@surreywt.org.uk, T: 07891 514574

"THE BIG SOCIETY" - What is it? How can we play a part?

An open discussion with Jeremy Hunt MP Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport

Friday May 11th 2012 at 7.30pm.

South Farnham School, Menin Way, Farnham GU9 8DY

Admission free, all welcome, just turn up. Plenty of parking



Farnham HUMANISTS

Enquiries: 01252 794021

www.farnham-humanists.org.uk

Getting ready to welcome the Olympic Flame

The Olympic Torch Relay will be travelling to within 10 miles of over 95% of the UK population this summer. Visit: www.london2012.com/olympic-torch-relay-map to see an interactive map showing each of the 1,019 communities the Flame will be carried through and also locations of evening celebrations near you!

Olympic Torch Celebration—Stoke Park in Guildford:

The Torch will pass through Surrey, including Shere and Guildford on Friday 20 July. The journey will finish with a free ticketed celebration event at Stoke Park, Guildford. The afternoon and evening Olympic Torch celebration is the only one in the county and is open to all Surrey residents. It will start at approximately 2pm and finish about 10pm. **Family fun, stage show and cauldron-lighting from the Olympic Flame.**



The Olympic Flame will be carried along Gomshall Lane and Upper Street in Shere, The Chase, High Street and London Road in Guildford - just some of the streets where local residents can cheer on the Olympic Flame on **Friday 20 July**.

For more information please visit: <http://www.guildford.gov.uk/article/9566/Olympic-Torch-Celebration---Stoke-Park-in-Guildford>. Also visit: www.cofeguildford.org.uk/resources/olympics

Are you organising an Olympic event? If so, please do share details with us, you can email me: kauser.akhtar@cofeguildford.org.uk and I will include it in this newsletter.

Byfleet Church and community Hall



Part of the vision of St Mary's church in Byfleet is to serve Byfleet's thriving community. It is well known that Byfleet Village lacks amenities for the people who live there and after wide consultation with members of the community, church members have come up with a design for a church and community Hall which will provide a number of flexible spaces for community use. Central to the scheme has been the inclusion of a safe sporting area (basketball, five-a-side football), two large halls, plenty of storage space, a number of smaller meeting rooms and a state-of-the-art kitchen. Local councillors, current hall users, members of the community and the planning committee met on Saturday 24th with Ray Morgan (chief executive of Woking Borough Council) and local MP Jonathan Lord to launch the project. The Rector, Revd. John McCabe, told the gathering that the current church hall already delivers an outside-church-family footfall of 23 328 visits per annum. This equates across the portfolio of lettings to a total of 117 784 community contact hours of constructive leisure and community activity. Of these hours 40% are accounted for by children and teenagers and fewer than 25% are lettings to private companies. It is anticipated that the new facility will deliver 130% increase in community contact hours thanks to the 10 new refurbished rooms, storage and large kitchen. It will also deliver a forecasted 300% uplift in the number of visits by users with disability (thanks to new lift and toilet facilities). The new rooms upstairs will provide office and conference spaces for social welfare groups and charities at way below market cost.

St Mary's church is delighted to be the catalyst in the development of this much-needed community facility for people of all faiths and none in Byfleet.

Do you know of a group or project in Surrey who needs volunteers?

The Diocese has teamed up with Eagle FM to part fund their 'Big Community' project. It will run along the lines of a dating site matching: those who want to volunteer with; companies who want to volunteer, or that have services to offer with projects.

To place an 'advert' (which is refreshingly easy):
<http://www.964eagle.co.uk/big-community/>

Visit the Surrey Faith Links website:

www.surreyfaithlinks.org

If you would like to include anything on the website or the next issue of the SFL newsletter please contact me on the details below.

Special Thanks to Emma & David for kindly proof reading this issue

Surrey Faith Links

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