



# Surrey Faith Links Newsletter

January 2015



*"The greatest comforts and lasting peace are obtained, when one eradicates selfishness from within."* (Guru Gobind Singh)

Happy New Year!

Thank you for your contributions; there are plenty of interfaith events to come this year so stay tuned! If you are organising any events I would love to hear from you.

*Kauser Akhtar*  
Faith Links Adviser

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**Peace Vigil for Peshawar Victims and their Families**

The Peace Vigil was very well attended by Muslims from both Sunni and Shia communities, as well as many people from Woking's churches and other faith communities.



Dr Naqvi, Imam Hashmi and Rev. Jonny Blair all spoke and prayed for peace - their words and prayers were made especially significant in that this time is important for both Muslims and Christians. Emphasis was placed upon the innocent children and their teachers and the terrible loss, by all speakers including the Mayor (who initially led the minute of silence) and M. Ilyas Varqa, as well as the importance of remembering that Islam is a religion of peace and such hatred from those who misuse the name of God for violent ends, can only be overcome through being united against it as everyone in the Vigil was. For me, most moving were the words of

Rev Phil Simpson who actually lived in Peshawar for many years and clearly felt the loss, deeply.

Many people were in tears during the Vigil, clearly touched by the words, the passion and the prayers of the speakers as their thoughts went to the children of Peshawar, cruelly taken before they could fulfil their potential in this world. There was also great warmth generated amongst the people who attended from all backgrounds that was a joy to see.

Reported by Simon Trick (Vice Chair, Woking People of Faith)

**Main Faith Festivals in January 2015**

- ◆ 5th - Birth of Guru Gobind Singh
- ◆ 6th - Epiphany
- ◆ 24th - Vasant Panchami - Saraswati Puja

### How the community can take the pressure off local hospitals

As NHS hospitals and A&E departments come under increasing pressure across the country, NHS leaders in Surrey Heath say you (local communities and voluntary groups) can play an important role over the next week or two.

The key is 'preventing visits to A&E' said Nicola Airey, Director of Planning & Delivery for NHS Surrey Heath Clinical Commissioning Group, and local people have a vital role.

The CCG is asking local communities and voluntary groups to mobilise people to support their neighbours:

- Please visit elderly or infirm neighbours in your local community, to check they are well and have everything they need.
- Make sure people can get to their local pharmacy or GP if they feel under the weather and need advice or treatment.
- If you normally visit someone once a week or every fortnight – visit them once or twice more than normal.
- If someone is in urgent need of medical treatment you must seek help either from their GP or by calling 111.

For more information visit the NHS Choices website where there is more information about self care and treatment [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

**NHS**  
Surrey Heath  
Clinical Commissioning Group

### Find Me Help

Every minute someone in Britain dies, and there are hundreds of services offering support around death and dying, but finding the right one has not always been easy. Find Me Help, run by Dying Matters, offers a user-friendly search function to help people find local services as well as those available nationally. Voluntary and public sector organisations are being encouraged to add their details to the directory.



They can also host the site as a set of pages within their own websites, if they wish.

Search the directory: <http://help.dyingmatters.org/>

Find out more about the website: <http://get.findmehelp.org.uk/>

For more information contact Mary McColgan: [m.mccolgan@ncpc.org.uk](mailto:m.mccolgan@ncpc.org.uk) or 020 7697 1520

### Media coverage of the Interfaith Week

Inter Faith Week gained very good publicity, being picked up widely in everything from blogs to local radio interviews to pieces in the Times and on the BBC website. A new section of the Inter Faith Week website has been added which brings together media coverage, and you can find this at

<http://www.interfaithweek.org/media/2014-media-coverage>.

There are over fifty items up already, and we will be adding to it. If your events or activities received coverage, please do send us details to [interfaithweek@interfaith.org.uk](mailto:interfaithweek@interfaith.org.uk)

### Charities: audit and independent examination

The Cabinet Office has launched a consultation on increasing the financial thresholds at which charity accounts must be audited or examined.

These proposals would make up to 4,000 charities exempt from the expensive requirement for a full audit but still keep an appropriate amount of scrutiny. The consultation runs until 27 January 2015.

Read more: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/charities-audit-and-independent-examination>



**CabinetOffice**

### Library Direct – How Surrey Libraries are building services for those who can't get to their library

Surrey Libraries want every resident to have access to their library, including those who have difficulty getting to a library due to ill health, disability, mobility problems or caring responsibilities no matter what their age. Over the last two years they have been working hard to build the Library Direct service for both our clients and volunteers.

The success of Library Direct is largely due to the work of their amazing volunteers, some of whom have been with them for more than 30 years.

Their current range of services available are:

- Library Direct Friends & Family – where a relative, neighbour or friend can borrow books on behalf of a reader.
- Library Direct Home Service – where Surrey Libraries provides a DBS checked volunteer to select and deliver books for a registered client.
- Library Direct Community Transport\* – they have contracts with community transport providers available in Woking and Guildford to pick up registered clients and bring them to and from their Surrey Library, allowing them to select their own books.
- Library Direct Care Home Service – they are currently running a small pilot scheme to provide the Library Direct service to residents of care homes, nursing homes and sheltered housing with extra care.

For more information Email: [librarydirect@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:librarydirect@surreycc.gov.uk) or phone 01483 541518

### Survey on voluntary sector engagement with health and wellbeing boards

Regional Voices is a partnership of over 25,000 voluntary and community organisations working to improve health, well-being and care across England. It is running a survey that asks the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector about engagement with health and wellbeing boards – what is working well, what could work better and what support would help. It also asks how the sector is able to influence the joint strategic needs assessment.

Results are being used to influence policy makers, develop support mechanisms and share interesting practice. The survey takes 10-15 minutes to fill in and runs until midday on 23 January.

Take the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HWBengagementsurvey3>

Find out more about this project: <http://www.regionalvoices.org/hwb-reps>

**regional  
voices**  for better  
health

### Introduction to Mental Health issues in Pastoral and Spiritual Care

1 in 4 people will suffer an adverse mental health issue in any given year.  
Do you know where to start to help these people you know?

SABP Department of Pastoral and Spiritual Care will be running a Free 10 week Programme exploring mental health issues in Pastoral & Spiritual Care at the  
EDUCATION CENTRE, FARNHAM ROAD HOSPITAL, GUILDFORD GU2 7LX

From April 15th to June 17th and From September 9th to November 18th

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.

Surrey and Borders Partnership   
NHS Foundation Trust

For more information please email: [Richard.adams@sabp.nhs.uk](mailto:Richard.adams@sabp.nhs.uk) or 01932 872000 x 6463

### Free Courses for Volunteers Spring 2015 programme

#### Stress Management (Booking Ref: C3737457)

Tuesday 13th January 10am – 1pm, Venue: Ebbisham Centre, Epsom

This practical workshop is designed to help you to identify and manage everyday and workplace stress.

#### Encouraging Increased Mobility (Booking Ref: C3737453)

Thursday 22nd January 1pm - 3.30pm, Venue: Longmead Centre, Epsom

This workshop, taught by a former Osteopath, will equip volunteers with the skills needed to encourage increased flexibility and mobility in frail, elderly and disabled people.

#### Time Management (Booking Ref: C3737445)

Wednesday 11th March 10am – 1pm, Venue: Ebbisham Centre, Epsom

This workshop will guide you through a series of exercises designed to help you to manage your time more effectively

#### Customer Service Skills (Booking Ref: C3737447)

Wednesday 18th March 10 am- 1pm, Venue: Ebbisham Centre, Epsom

This practical workshop introduces you to the importance of good customer service and gives tips on how to deal with customers in a range of situations.

To book your free place on any of these courses visit [www.southern.wea.org.uk](http://www.southern.wea.org.uk) or Freephone 0800 328 1060 quoting the appropriate reference number. We are able to offer similar courses and workshops across Epsom and Ewell and Mole Valley in a wide variety of topics including Computing (various topics/levels), Personal Development ( e.g. confidence building, assertiveness, goal setting), Health and Social Care (e.g. exercise and nutrition), Running Effective Training sessions, Dealing with Difficult Situations & Conversations, Time Management/Event Management, How to Run a Successful Arts and Crafts Group and more.

If you would like to discuss the possibility of the WEA running a course for your group of volunteers or want to discuss other course options please contact:

For Epsom & Ewell courses: [Samanthajohnson@wea.org.uk](mailto:Samanthajohnson@wea.org.uk) Tel: 07825 112798

For Mole Valley courses: [aandrews@wea.org.uk](mailto:aandrews@wea.org.uk) Tel: 07825 862037

or contact: [eastsurrey@wea.org.uk](mailto:eastsurrey@wea.org.uk)



Some interesting articles from the Three Faiths Forum:

- ⇒ [#illridewithyou: hashtag offers solidarity with Sydney's Muslims after siege](#)
- ⇒ [First female bishop named as the Reverend Libby Lane](#)
- ⇒ [Pope and Welby joined by imams and rabbis for anti-slavery declaration](#)
- ⇒ [What The Huffington Post UK's Beyond Belief Series Taught Us About Faith](#)
- ⇒ [Sadiq Khan MP: Jewish and Muslim communities must break down barriers](#)
- ⇒ [Is talk of privilege 'lunacy'? On Richard Dawkins, skepticism, and certainty](#)
- ⇒ [OPINION: The lessons taught from Hackney schools working together](#)
- ⇒ [Sydney teen who shouted 'kill the Jews' at Jewish children sentenced to Shabbat dinner and visit to Jewish museum](#)
- ⇒ [Responding to Anti-Semitism With Diversity](#)



### Jewish News launches interfaith channel

Jewish News, together with Pears Foundation, have created a new online channel for interfaith news. The section highlights a lot of the great work people and organisations are doing to build good relations between people of different faiths and beliefs.

To view: <http://www.jewishnews.co.uk/category/interfaith-2/>



Surrey County Council have launched a Roving Bus Event as part of the Local Transport Review. They are reviewing the local bus service in Surrey and would like to hear your views. The bus will be located at various locations around Surrey in January 2015, where you are encouraged to go along and have your say.

Thursday 8 January 9.30-11.30am: Addlestone - Station Road by Lloyds Bank

1.30-3.30pm: Walton on Thames - Hepworth Way near the library

Friday 9 January 9.30-11.30am: Oxted - Station Road East opposite Sainsbury's

1.30-3.30pm: Dorking - High Street by the White Horse pub

Saturday 10 January 9.30-11.30am: Godalming - High Street by the Wetherspoon's pub

1.30-3.30pm: Woking - Causeway near the Toys R Us

You can also have your say by completing the questionnaire at [surreycc.gov.uk/transportreview](http://surreycc.gov.uk/transportreview), picking up a copy from libraries and local council offices or calling 0300 200 1003.



## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### Get funding and support

Are you a member of a community group with a great idea for a project? If so there are a number of different funding pots you can apply to as well as ways you can get advice and support for your project:

[Community Improvements Fund](#) - This new fund offers money for community based projects that will improve the local area and make a real difference to people in that area.

[Council member allocation](#) - Each county councillor has a budget allocation so organisations and groups can apply for funds for projects that promote the social, economic and environmental well-being of the local community. Contact your local councillor to find out more.

[Keep Britain Tidy](#) - Order a free Big Tidy Up kit for a local litter pick or clean up event.

[Community Covenant Grant Scheme](#) - Funds local projects which strengthen the ties or the mutual understanding between members of the Armed Forces Community and the wider community in which they live.

[Councils for Voluntary Service in Surrey](#) - Support for voluntary and community groups in Surrey including funding advice, training and information on areas like human resources and finance.

[Community Foundation for Surrey](#) - A charitable trust that offers grant funding to local groups who make a real difference to the well-being of people in their communities

[Surrey Hills Sustainable Development Fund](#) - Grants for organisations, businesses, community groups and individuals whose projects bring social, environmental and economic benefits to the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

[The London Marathon Charitable Trust](#) - As a result of our involvement in hosting the Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100 and Classic, grants are available to local projects that get more people participating in sport and encourage local community engagement.

### The Church and Community Fund

The Church and Community Fund will support projects that:

- Significantly expand the Church's engagement with neighbourhood renewal;
- Seek innovative ways of developing established community projects so that they either a) grow existing or b) evolve into new communities of Christian Faith, and;
- Replicate models of successful community engagement across the wider church.

If you feel that your project meets the aims of the funding themes and match the criteria detailed previously, please complete the eligibility quiz and online application at: [www.ccfund.org.uk/apply/new-applicants](http://www.ccfund.org.uk/apply/new-applicants)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ASK Topical Lunches

#### Spring 2015

Every Third Thursday of the month - All Saints Parish Church, Kingston Market Place  
Enjoy lunch – Discuss Kingston’s Topical Issues

Thursday 15 January: Robert O’Dowd – Rose Theatre Chief Executive  
The Rose - Its place in Kingston life - Its vision

Thursday 19 February: Kingston Citizens Advice Bureau pensions specialist - TBA  
Pension change coming – What everyone needs to know

Thursday 16 April: Cllr Kevin Davis, Leader of the Royal Borough of Kingston  
Kingston is getting bigger - The challenge of keeping it better

Lunch from 12:15 pm – Special £4.50 meal deal at the new ASK East End Cafe; or bring your own sandwiches.  
Introduction by speaker 1:00 – 1:15 pm Questions, comments, discussion. Finish 1:45 pm

For further information, contact Leslie Packer E: [leslie@packerhome.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:leslie@packerhome.fsnet.co.uk) or 020 8549 1960

### MARRIAGE AND PARTNERSHIP

The next bimonthly meeting of the Guildford & Godalming InterFaith Forum (GGIFF) will commence with a discussion on “Marriage and Partnership” held at The Unitarian Chapel (in Meadow A3100 Farncombe) on Thursday 15 January 2015 at 19:30. Refreshments might be available subject to confirmation. Forum member Trevor Jones of the Guildford United Reformed Church has agreed to chair this Forum meeting and will kick off the discussion with just a few brief thoughts, but there will be no outside speaker, so as to allow more time for discussion and exchange of opinions. The discussion is planned to last only about an hour so as to allow time for other GGIFF business for another hour afterwards if needed.

This is one of a series of smaller bi-monthly more business-like meetings, typically on a Thursday evening in odd months. Likely other dates are 19 March, 16 July and 19 November at Guildford Council Offices Millmead and 21 May and 17 September at faith venues still to be arranged.

The Forum usually also holds two or three bigger more widely advertised public meetings a year with formal speakers, the next being provisionally set for 14 April 2015 on the combined subject of diet, health, environment, religion, and peace.

Guildford & Godalming Interfaith Forum is an informal group of people interested in interfaith. It exists to promote understanding and friendship among people of all Faiths and none.

For more information contact : tel 01483 424257 or 01483 415773, [www.spanglefish.com/gginterfaithforum](http://www.spanglefish.com/gginterfaithforum)

### WOKING DEBATES 2015

#### European Union – In or Out? Saturday 17th January

Our 2015 season starts with UKIP MEP Roger Helmer and leading local LibDem Philip Goldenberg opening the discussion on one of the major issues in the lead up to the next General Election.

As usual, there will be ample opportunity for local residents to share their views on this important topic.

Other topics: Education; Media—Could the media inspire us?; and Future of the Heath Service.

Dates: Saturday 14th February, Saturday 28th March and Saturday 11th April

Time: 11.00 am—12.30 pm, Venue: Christ Church, Jubilee Square, Woking

Entrance is Free

The Woking Debates are organised by Woking Action for Peace, Churches Together in Woking, Friends of the Earth, LA21, Quakers, Surrey Faith Links, Transition Towns, Woking People of Faith.

For more information please contact Keith Scott: [keithsc\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:keithsc_2000@yahoo.com) or 01483 824980

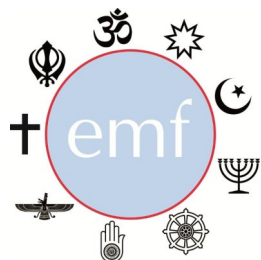
### 'Common Ground: Listening and Engagement'

#### The Church and Current Issues in Sexuality

Saturday 31st January 2015 09.15-13.30, Guildford Cathedral

Organised by Revd Canon Dr Hazel Whitehead, Director of Discipleship, Vocation and Ministry in conjunction with the Very Revd Dianna Gwilliams, Dean of Guildford Cathedral and the Rt Revd Ian Brackley, Bishop of Dorking.

Please register your interest with [louise.redfern@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:louise.redfern@cofeguildford.org.uk), citing 'CATHEDRAL 31ST JAN' in the subject box. No joining papers will be sent.



The Elmbridge Multi Faith Forum are organising the following:

A visit to the Church of the Latter Day Saints on Tuesday 27 January.

"ACT OF UNITY" Date: 21st February, Time: 7.30 pm

Venue: Thames Ditton Village Hall, Mercer Close.

For more information please contact: [geoffreymorris@emas-bc.co.uk](mailto:geoffreymorris@emas-bc.co.uk)

### Justice & Peace Assembly

Annual Justice & Peace Assembly on 31 January 2015 from 10am-4pm

at the Christian Education Centre, 4 Southgate Drive, Crawley RH10 6RP on

'Taking Action in solidarity with immigrants, migrants, refugees and people on the move'

with Louise Zanre, Director of the Jesuit Refugee Service.

To book and for more information contact Ruth Gerun on 01293 651164 or email [ruth.gerun@dabnet.org](mailto:ruth.gerun@dabnet.org)



## Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

### ADHD - myth or reality?

A talk by Dr Sethu Wariyar; Consultant Paediatrician, St Peters Hospital

Come along and hear about ADHD – what it is and where you can go for advice and help and strategies to use. Suitable for teachers: other professionals, parents and for anyone else who wants to know a little bit more on this topic!

Friday 6th February at 4.30pm until 6pm

Parkview Centre for the Community

Blackmore Crescent, Woking, GU21 5NZ

To book and for further information contact Bob Morgan,  
[bob.morgan@woking.gov.uk](mailto:bob.morgan@woking.gov.uk) 01483743340



## Living with dementia

Wednesday 11 February 2015

10 am—1pm

Bourne Hall, Spring St, Ewell, Surrey, KT17 1UF

Come along to our event dedicated to people with dementia, their carers and families. We will be providing practical help and advice for people living and working with dementia.

Book your place today! Call 01372 216 158 , [engage@sabp.nhs.uk](mailto:engage@sabp.nhs.uk), Text 07775 220 205

Please let us know in advance if you have any special requirements.

Everyone is welcome, do bring a friend!

Surrey and Borders Partnership   
 NHS Foundation Trust

## STRESS

Feeling stressed at home and/or work? Not enough hours in the day? Come to this free; talk to learn about stress an techniques to help reduce stress and improve wellbeing .

Wednesday 4th February, 1.45 pm for a 2.00 pm start, until 3.30 pm

Parkview Centre, Sheerwater, Woking, GU21 5NZ

To book your place or for more information

[jenny@cornerhousewoking.org.uk](mailto:jenny@cornerhousewoking.org.uk)

or 01483 757461





Council of Christians and Jews in Staines  
We are Jews and Christians Meeting Together  
[ccj.org.uk/staines](http://ccj.org.uk/staines)

Protecting Children Online is the theme at the February meeting of a local Jewish-Christian interfaith group. The Staines and District branch of the Council of Christians and Jews (CCJ) has invited Miranda Suit of the Safer Media for a Safer Society charity to speak on Wednesday 25th February at Staines Synagogue. Safer Media campaigns, lobbies, educates and raises awareness about potentially harmful and offensive material on the internet and print media.

Its recent campaign SafetyNet, run in conjunction with Premier Christian Media, has called for internet service providers to block pornography at network level, so adults have to opt-in to view it.

Everyone is welcome at CCJ's meetings which start at 8pm. There is no entry charge but donations are invited towards CCJ's work.

Staines Synagogue is at Westbrook Road, Staines, TW18 4PR.

Another date to note is April 23 when distinguished American academic and author Rabbi David Zucker, currently serving North West Surrey Synagogue at Weybridge as interim rabbi, will speak on a Jewish understanding of Isaiah's Suffering Servant Songs.

To find out more call us on 01252 622978 or email [ccjstaines@gmail.com](mailto:ccjstaines@gmail.com).

More information: [www.ccj.org.uk/staines](http://www.ccj.org.uk/staines)

### Interfaith Calendar

I am in the process of putting together a calendar of interfaith type events; if you are organising any events please do let me know.

E: [Kausar.Akhtar@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:Kausar.Akhtar@cofeguildford.org.uk)

T: 01483 790334



**Surrey Faith Links c/o CET, Diocese of Guildford**

Diocesan House, Quarry Street, Guildford, GU1 3XG

T: 01483 790334, E: [Kausar.Akhtar@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:Kausar.Akhtar@cofeguildford.org.uk)



Designed & Edited by:  
Kausar Akhtar