



Surrey Faith Links Newsletter

September 2013



An Interfaith Prayer: Let me be willing to see the big picture in all things, act in accordance with my best, most ethical self, and grant the benefit of the doubt to all those I meet.

Thank you to everyone for your contribution this month, it's all happening in the next few months!

I will be on maternity leave from December onwards, if you would like to publicise anything for next year please email me the material beforehand so it is included in the November issue.

Kauser Akhtar
 Faith Links Adviser,
 Surrey Faith Links. (Contact info on back page)

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Inter Faith Week 2013
Inter Faith Week 2013 begins on Sunday 17 November.

 The Inter Faith Week website: www.interfaithweek.org has been given a facelift!

Inter Faith Week flyer: A new flyer has been produced to encourage participation in Inter Faith Week 2013. <http://www.interfaithweek.org/images/IFW2013flyer.jpg>

2013 event registration: Take time to register and put your event on the map! The event registration forms for Inter Faith Week 2013 have just gone live on the Inter Faith Week website at <http://www.interfaithweek.co.uk/events/submit-an-event>.

"How people of different faiths and beliefs interact and cooperate is of enormous importance in our society. Inter Faith Week is an opportunity for people to come together for inter faith dialogue, learning and action. It's a time for extending existing bonds of cooperation and friendship and creating new ones. We hope that this year sees even wider circles of involvement and wish all taking part success in their events and projects." Rev Bob Fyfe and Vivian Wineman, IFN Co-Chairs

- Main Faith Festivals in September 2013**
- ◆ 5th - Rosh Hashanah ✪
 - ◆ 7th - Fast of Gedalliah ✪
 - ◆ 8th - Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary ✪
 - ◆ 14th - Yom Kippur ✪
 - ◆ 18th - Samvatsari ✪
 - ◆ 19th - Sukkot ✪
 - ◆ 25th - Hoshana Rabbah ✪
 - ◆ 26th - Shemini Atzeret ✪
 - ◆ 27th - Simchat Torah ✪
 - ◆ 29th - Michaelmas ✪

Supported Lodgings Scheme



East to west is an independent Christian registered charity, established in 1996 and is committed to bringing Hope to young lives through pastorally responsive youth work. east to west has a passion to see young people impacted by hope, that young people may know their worth and be given opportunities to be the people they were created to become. For more information about the trust please refer to www.easttowest.org.uk

Background

In the last 4 months 115 young people aged between 16-17 years old have presented themselves as homeless in Surrey. The reasons for becoming homeless can vary greatly and these young people in this situation or in insecure accommodation (i.e.: B&B's) often struggle to cope, have low confidence and lack basic skills to live independently. Without the right support, this can be a traumatic time in their lives and it is into this season of vulnerability that east to west seeks to address through its Supported Lodgings Scheme. The end goal of Supported Lodgings is to bridge this vulnerable season of transition from homelessness into supported housing, safe independent living or reconciliation back into the excluded home.

What is Supported Lodgings?

Supported Lodgings places a young person into a family or individual's (host) home for up to a year. This gift of Christian hospitality provides security, stability and confidence in order to cope with the move towards independence. The host does not have parental responsibility for the young person, but are asked to help nurture skills such as cooking, budgeting, or shopping economically. All hosts are

trained and supported by East to West's Supported Lodgings Team who also work alongside the young person to bring about positive outcomes in their lives.

Lucy's Story: Lucy was living in Runnymede but was no longer able to live at home with her mum due to family breakdown and she became homeless. She was 17 and moving round friends' houses night to night sofa surfing until she had nowhere else to go. Lucy was referred by social services and placed with a host family and as a result of the stability of a home environment and the care and support of the host Lucy was able to re-engage in education and move onto independent living 9 months later.

Who can be a Supported Lodgings Host?

East to West need people from all walks of life, married or single, with or without children, young or not so young. All that they ask is that people are in good health have a spare room and willing to share their home with a young person. They will ensure that they only ask them to host young people who will fit in with their life-style.

What support do Hosts receive?

Supporting young people in this way is an exciting and rewarding experience in itself, but you will be paid for your services. In addition you will receive training and have an allocated support worker whilst a young person is with you to provide support and advice.

Video link: <http://youtu.be/J3gxvbjBDj8>

For more information please contact Nick Hill, Supporting Lodging Manager

Mobile: 07402 725462, Office : 01784 438 007, Email nick@easttowest.org.uk

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/NickHill1966>,

Website: www.easttowest.org.uk

I AM ME

Surrey and Borders have launched their Learning Disability Anti Stigma Campaign 'I am me'.

Please take some time out to complete the survey and make a pledge by visiting: www.sabp.nhs.uk/iamme

HAJJ: Pilgrimage to Mecca

Many Muslims from Surrey will have planned to go for Hajj this year or planning. Please read this brochure, essential information about Hajj Fraud:

http://surreyfaithlinks.org.uk/fileadmin/content/Resources/hajj_leaflet.pdf

New Youth Counselling Service in Farnham



Open House Counselling Service (part of Guildford YMCA) is now offering a drop in counselling service for young people at the 40 Degreez youth centre in the centre of Farnham. A recent needs assessment conducted by the young people who use the centre identified a need for a counselling service. This coincided with an approach by a local counsellor who was concerned about the lack of accessible counselling for young people in the area. Life can seem difficult and confusing for young people with issues such as family break up, parent’s redundancy, family financial difficulties, exam stress, relationships, drugs, sexuality and bereavement among the factors affecting them. Thanks to the support of Guildford YMCA, Surrey County Council and the 40 Degreez charity, a drop in service is now being offered on Tuesday evenings from 7pm to 9pm during term time. For more information DROP IN or call 07817 280117.

4G and How it May Affect You

Do the people you support watch Freeview TV? If yes, please read on.....

The arrival of new 4G mobile phone services in the Gu21/22/23 and GU24 (Woking and surrounding) postcode areas and RH1/2/4 and RH5 (Dorking and Reigate & Banstead) postcode areas may cause problems with Freeview TV services; and the people you support may turn to you for help and advice. This information sheet explains the problem and how it can be resolved, as well as how you can help.

The issue

The new 4G services may cause problems with Freeview such as loss of sound, blocky images or loss of some or all channels.

Surrey Community Action is working with at800, the organisation created to make sure UK viewers can still watch Freeview when 4G services are launched.

The solution

Before 4G is switched on in an area, at800 will write to households that may be affected. Some households will also receive an at800 filter - free of charge. This connects between the TV aerial and the TV, set-top box or signal booster. It is smaller than a pack of cards and in most cases will enable viewers to continue watching Freeview as normal.

In many cases, viewers will be able to connect the filters themselves. However, at800 will provide extra

support to those aged 75 or older, registered disabled, registered blind or partially sighted and those who have lived in a care home for six months or more. This includes a home visit scheme when a professional and CRB-checked engineer or volunteer will install the at800 filter free of charge.

In a few cases, further work may be needed to fully restore Freeview services. This work will be carried out by at800 and the viewer will not have to pay.

How you can help

Do’s and Don’ts :

Do encourage viewers to call at800 on 0333 31 31 800 - if they need help fitting their filter, or would like further advice or support.

Do remind viewers you support to look out for a postcard from at800.

Do help raise awareness of this issue where appropriate.

Don’t advise your members/communities to buy a new TV, aerial or retune their TV - this will not solve the issue.

Don’t suggest your members/communities purchase a filter themselves - there’s no need as it’s likely they will receive one free of charge.

For more information, please visit www.at800.tv



Young East Surrey—YES! gives young people places to go and things to do!

Escape

The summer holidays are here and that means our Escape summer programme is back!

Escape targets young people at risk of becoming NEET to build a relationship to raise their participation. We assess the needs of each young person to deliver programmes aimed at either meeting those needs or helping them to access the right service via a referral.

Active Living

Active Living and VBuddies have teamed up this summer to offer three free multi sports sessions. These sessions are open to young people with a disability aged 11-28. If the sessions are successful, we will look at running them weekly from September.

Youth Centres:

- The Malthouse & Express Yourself - Dorking
- Ashted Youth Centre - Ashted
- The Street Youth Centre - Caterham

We are always looking for new volunteers for our youth centres and other projects. If you can offer some time to support young people in East Surrey we would be thrilled to hear from you. Just drop an email to yes@ymcaredhill.com.

Zahra Dhaimish



Interfaith Related Dates

European Days of Jewish Culture and Heritage: This year's EDJCH, organised by B'nai B'rith UK, takes place from 15 to 29 September with the theme of 'Judaism and the Natural World'. This year, Heritage Days fall over Succot. The week is also associated with the National Heritage Open Days, which runs from 12 to 15 September. For more information, visit www.jewishheritage.org.

Peace Day 21 September: Further information <http://www.internationaldayofpeace.org/>. The organisation Peace One Day is inviting faith and inter faith bodies to become part of a coalition <http://peaceoneday.org/faith-coalition-membership-form/> linked to this Day.

Sewa Day: Sewa Day will be taking place on 6 October. The Sanskrit word 'Sewa' means 'selfless service'. The aim of Sewa Day is to provide people a chance to give back to the local community through volunteering on a single day to make a difference. For more information and to get involved visit: www.sewaday.org

One World Week: this year will take place from 20 to 27 October. The theme is 'More Than Enough?', For more information, visit <http://www.oneworldweek.org>.

Mitzvah Day: will be taking place on Sunday 17 November. Mitzvah Day is a Jewish led day of social action – around the world thousands of people take part in hands on projects to support existing charities and to build stronger communities. The goal is to reduce hardship and poverty and to help the environment. People are encouraged to volunteer for projects in their communities and anyone can take part regardless of their background. See www.mitzvahday.org.uk

Other Dates:

Alcohol Awareness Week: takes place between 19-25th November 2013. It's time to talk about drinking: <http://www.alcoholpolicy.net/2012/11/alcohol-awareness-week-2012-in-review.html>

National Youth Work Week: The National Youth Agency (NYA) is pleased to announce that National Youth Work Week 2013 will be held from 4 - 10 November. Youth Work Week is an annual celebration of youth work and 2013 sees the 20th year of this profile raising event. For more information: <http://www.nya.org.uk/youth-work-week-2013>

Urban Dialogues Exhibition 2013

Our annual exhibition at Red Gallery in London will be held 1 - 14 October. The two week exhibition will showcase two specially commissioned collaborations and work by 20 individual artists, and we also have four special events planned:

- Festival Night Thu 3 Oct
- Day of Play Sun 6 Oct
- Female Voices Thu 10 Oct
- Shoreditch Singathon Sun 13 Oct



We have just updated our website with details on the events, so head over to find out more: <http://www.3ff.org.uk/arts/>

Gain new interfaith skills with 3FF Training

Curious about interfaith? Want to boost your intercultural skills? We offer a range of interfaith and intercultural training sessions for both individuals and organisations. Find out more: <http://www.3ff.org.uk/training/>

Experiencing Anti-Muslim Hate Crime?
Don't Suffer TELL MAMA

Report It

IN AN EMERGENCY, PLEASE CALL 999. MAMA IS NOT AN EMERGENCY SERVICE.
 Tel: 0800 456 1226
 SMS: 0115 707 00 07
 Facebook: tellmamauk
 Twitter: #tellmamauk
 Email: info@tellmamauk.org
 Download Tell MAMA app on the App Store

Tell MAMA FAITH MATTERS
 Working Globally, Impacting Locally
www.fairfaithmatters.org

Logos for various partner organizations including Neighbourhood Watch, Metropolitan Police, Stonewall, Victim Support, and various local police forces.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES IN SPELTHORNE

Surrey Fire and Rescue are consulting on changes in the Spelthorne area, and will be attending the North Surrey Empowerment Board on Tuesday 17th September, to discuss the proposals. Contact Yasmin if you would like to attend the meeting. Tel: 01483 517294, Text: 07812104490 or Email: yasmin.broome@surreycc.gov.uk, The proposed changes are part of their "Public Safety Plan for 2011 – 2020", and follow consultations which have already been undertaken in mid and east Surrey. Currently there are 2 fire stations in Spelthorne – Staines and Sunbury, both providing 24 hour emergency cover with one fire engine each. The Service is now considering the provision of one modern fire station located more centrally in the Borough. Consultation started on 5th August 2013, for 13 weeks. If you cannot attend the meeting on 17th September, then you can find out more and give your views by email: psp@surreycc.gov.uk or tel: 03456 009 009, or SMS text: 07527 182 861.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Community Enterprise Fund

Would you like your Post Office to support a community scheme?

Post Office branches in England (excluding Crown branches) can now apply to receive up to £10,000 to support a new scheme or service for their local community. These could include:

- Classes in key skills such as reading, languages or the Internet
- Mentoring and advice service for local small businesses, or display space for local producers
- Partnership with a local charity to provide a meeting space, notice board and other forms of support
- A hub or meeting space for community groups involved in local issues, such as neighbourhood planning

If you have an idea you'd like your Post Office to support, download and print the PDF, write down your idea, take it into your Post Office and have a conversation with the sub-postmaster or branch manager about what you could do together to benefit the local community.

Sub-postmasters can find out more including how to apply on subspaceonline.co.uk. Deadline for applications is Friday 18 October 2013.

The Fund is a result of a partnership between the Department for Communities and Local Government and Post Office Ltd. It is limited to supporting a maximum of 20 schemes across the country (England only) in 2013/14.

Winning bids will be selected by a panel comprising Post Office Ltd, Department for Communities and Local Government, and others. Judging will take place in autumn with the successful schemes announced shortly after. If you have any questions, email communities@postoffice.co.uk

Inter Faith Youth Trust grant programme for Inter Faith Week

The Inter Faith Youth Trust is running a grant programme for events linked to Inter Faith Week. This programme is specifically for events organised by and for young people (11-25) focussed around Inter Faith Week 17-23 November. The Deadline for applications is Sunday 8 September. For further information about the programme, visit <http://www.ifyouthtrust.org.uk/>.

My Community Rights

The website <http://mycommunityrights.org.uk> is an online hub and advice service, run by Locality, which helps communities to use the community rights which came into effect with the Localism Act (such as the Community Right to Challenge and the Community Right to Bid). These rights are designed to give local communities more control over what happens locally, and have been used by communities wishing to take ownership of an asset which is being sold, take over a service they feel could be run better, or build new facilities. For information on ways to fund projects initiated using the community rights, visit <http://www.communityshares.org.uk/>

The Big Lottery Fund

The Big Lottery Fund give grants from £300 to over £500,000 to organisations ranging from small local groups to major national charities. Information about their various grant schemes can be found at:

<http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/Home/Funding/Funding%20finder>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Shariah Law on Human Rights

Speaker: Kauser Akhtar (Faith Links Adviser), Hosted by Amnesty International, Woking
 Date: Monday 2nd September 2013; Time: 8.00 pm – 9.30 pm
 Venue: Trinity Church (Music Room), Brewery Road, Woking.

Amnesty International was created over 50 years ago & there's been a group in Woking for at least 30 years. The group meets once a month and works on human rights issues all around the world. Recent meetings have been on election violence in Zimbabwe, women's rights in Afghanistan & the Peace Community of San Jose in Colombia. To find out more visit: <http://www2.amnesty.org.uk/groups/woking>
 Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/WokingAmnesty?fref=ts>

AANOUNCEMENT: High Commission of Pakistan NADRA'S MRT visit to Woking



Shah Jahan Mosque, Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th September 2013.
 More information to follow and will be advertised at the Mosque ASAP or please contact Woking Asian Business Forum on s.patel@wabf.co.uk

Round the Borough Walk

Back by popular demand Epsom and Ewell's Round the Borough Walk is set to take place on Saturday 7 September 2013. The walk will set off from Horton Country Park Local Nature Reserve (KT19 8PL) with a staggered start between 8:30-9:30am.



The Round the Borough Walk is a long distance route that joins up the beautiful open spaces in Epsom & Ewell including Epsom Downs, Epsom Common, Nonsuch Park, the Hogsmill and Horton Country Park.

The walk aims to inspire local people to get active and challenge themselves to achieve a milestone. It also encourages the local community to get out and about and see the Borough's plentiful and stunning open spaces.

If you fancy setting yourself a challenge and raising some money for your favourite charity, then visit <http://www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/rbw> to register for the Round the Borough Walk 2013.

Elmbridge Multi Faith Forum invites you to: "Moses and Jesus in the Qur'an"

Speaker: Professor Alan Jones (Oxford University); Date: Tuesday 10th September 2013
 Time: Attendees to arrive at 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start
 Venue: EMF Centre, Mercer Close, Thames Ditton, KT7 0BS

Alan Jones is an Arabic Scholar of international repute. His translation into English of the Qur'an has been acclaimed by leading Muslim and non-Muslim scholars and is very readable. He has a wide and intimate knowledge of Arab thinking.

Light refreshments will be provided. Donations will be welcomed towards the costs of the food and the hall. To help estimate numbers for refreshments please let Geoff Morris know if you are able to come:
 Tel. 01932 868454 or email: geoffreymorris@emas-bc.co.uk.

HUB EPSOM SUMMER BALL

To celebrate their third anniversary, the Epsom Hub volunteers have arranged a Summer Ball in conjunction with SILC and Surrey Police.

This is on Thursday 5th September at Elements nightclub from 7pm to midnight

Pop in to the Hub Epsom for tickets costing £5 each, and see further information on their website –

www.thehubepsom.org.uk.

SURREY FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE COMMUNITY OPEN DAY



Saturday 14th September 10.30 to 4.30pm at Surrey Fire & Rescue HQ, Croydon Road, Reigate RH2 0JE

A FREE event with lots of fun activities for all. Limited blue badge parking only. For more info, visit: www.surrey-fire.gov.uk, or call 01737 242444, text 07812 104490

International Day of Peace—21st September

A Day of working towards world peace with tomorrow's peace-makers: the children of Woking. Children from 4 Schools in Woking have taken part in a Peace Day competition, entries include posters, poems or stories about Peace. Prizes for winners will be awarded at the event.

Celebrated with the Mayor of Woking in Mercia Walk on Saturday 21st September 11.00 am – 12.00 pm. There will be live singing by Bahai Inspired singer Brina.

Organised by Woking People of Faith and Surrey Faith Links.



Woking People of Faith



Can We Talk About Israel?



Israel and Palestine will be in the spotlight when Dr Jane Clements, an Anglican with long experience in interfaith dialogue, speaks to a mixed audience of Jews and Christians at Staines Synagogue on Wednesday 9th October at 8.00 pm.

The speaker offers an exceptionally well-informed perspective on the issue as the founder and director of the Forum for Discussion of Israel and Palestine. The Forum is engaging Jews, Christians and Muslims in sensitive dialogue about the Israel-Palestine conflict... “conversations about Israel/Palestine which don’t end in fist fights – or the verbal equivalent,” is how Dr Clements puts it.

The evening is organised by the Staines and District branch of the Council of Christians and Jews (CCJ), a 70-year-old interfaith organisation, bringing together people of both faiths.

Staines Synagogue is at Westbrook Road, South Street in the centre of Staines. For more information, see www.ccj.org.uk/staines, call 01252 622978 or email ccjstaines@gmail.com. The synagogue itself has a small car parking area with disabled spaces, but ample parking is available immediately next door in a private commercial car park. Refreshments will be served at the end. Donations are invited towards expenses and the work of CCJ.

Part Two of the two **Study Days on Christianity and Islam Christian Reflection on Islam**

Led by Dr Chris Hewer on Saturday, 19 October from 10.00-16.00 at the Diocesan Education Centre (Stag Hill, Guildford, GU2 7UP)

About the course leader: www.chrishewer.org

This day will be devoted to reflecting on the challenges for Christian theology and belief that arise from encounter with Islam and will cover:

- Two communities believing in one God
- What can we say about Muhammad?
- How can we understand the Qur'an as a message from God?
- What is it to be human in Christian and Muslim understanding?
- To what extent can we pray together?
- Practical issues: marriage, education, pastoral support
- What is the Christian mission with regard to Islam and Muslims?

Booking Information

Places are limited to 40 participants. To book, please contact Cathy Mansell, Dean's PA – cathy@guildford-cathedral.org or telephone 01483 547862. Tea and coffee will be provided, please bring your own lunch. There is no fee, but a donation on the day would be appreciated.



The BANSTEAD FIVE CHURCHES

invite you to an

ALL DAY CONFERENCE

on Saturday **12th October** from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm
at the United Reformed Church, Woodmansterne Lane

We are delighted to welcome some very distinguished speakers -

the theologian Dr **PETER VARDY**: 'Good and Evil/Good and Bad Religion'
Rt Revd KIERAN CONRY (Bishop of Arundel & Brighton): "Are there key ethical issues
which the church should defend?"

and **Rev. JOHN PROCTOR**: 'Breaking Bread - Mending Fences'

Lunch is included.

*Tickets £10 - ask Susan Major (01737 373281- susan.major3@btinternet.com)
or Diana Parsk (01737 351368 - djparsky32@hotmail.co.uk)*

Interfaith Vision Retreat

Open to anyone seeking new ways of working in interfaith and inter-spiritual encounter.

Monday 28th (4.00 pm) till Wednesday 30th October (2.30pm).

At Glastonbury Abbey House, Retreat Centre

Cost: £230 or Early bird: £210 (before 30 September). Non-residential rates available.

For more information and booking please contact Annie Blampied:

Annie@annieblampied.co.uk or 01342 825511



WOMEN & FAITH

Who is the oppressor? Religion or men?

Free Entry
Exhibition opens at 2.30
Children's Entertainer
(3-10 year olds)
Face Painting

An Opportunity for men and women of all faiths
to hear Local Perspectives from
Judaism, Christianity, Islam.

Tea, Coffee, Cold Drinks, cakes
and sandwiches served

Presentations, questions and time for discussion



Woking People of Faith

In partnership with

Sunday 17th November 2013

2.30—5pm

Parkview Community Centre

Blackmore Crescent, Sheerwater

GU21 5NZ

For further information contact
Pippa Ross-McCabe: coordinator@wpof.org.uk,
07986 342355

Zafar Iqbal: secretary@wpof.org.uk,
07882 131 215



A PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

with Revd John Kronenberg and Revd Caroline Mullins
19-28 November 2013

A comprehensive 10-day pilgrimage based in Jerusalem and the Galilee

For more information Tel: 020 8398 9095

Email: office@stchristophershinchleywood.org.uk

Food glorious food!

The first Woking Food and Drink Festival, from Friday 13 to Sunday 15 September 2013, is set to be a free mouth-watering 'festival' for all of the family, featuring an assortment of over 40 high quality food and drink stalls, three days of live culinary demonstrations from TV and local prestigious chefs, cookery-related workshops for children and all topped off with a healthy portion of live entertainment. Hosted in newly refurbished Jubilee Square in Woking Town Centre. For more information please visit:

www.wokingfoodanddrinkfestival.co.uk



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