



Surrey Faith Links Newsletter

September 2017



Inside this issue:

Archiving the Heritage of Britain's First Purpose Built Mosque	2
International day of Peace	2
Interfaith Week 2017	3
New Guidance on Hate Crime	3
Week of Prayer for World Peace	4
Faith and Belief News	4
Learning to Fly	4
Epsom Mental Health Week	5
Children's Safeguarding Survey	5
Funding Opportunities	6
Upcoming Events	7

Main Faith Festivals in September 2017

- 1st—Eid ul Adha (Muslim)
- 4th—Fravardin Mah Parab (Zoroastrian)
- 21st-22nd—Rosh Hashannah (Jewish)
- 22nd—Islamic New Year (Muslim)
- 26th-30th—Durga Puja (Hindu)
- 30th—Vijaya Dashami (Hindu)
- 30th—Yom Kippur (Jewish)

www.surreyfaithlinks.org.uk

“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”
(Bible, Old Testament, Micah 6:8)

Not long for International Day of Peace; are you doing anything to mark the day? Read more about it on Page 2 of this newsletter and Page 7 for Upcoming Events in Surrey.

In Peace,
 Kauser Akhtar
 Faith Links Adviser
 E: Kauser.Akhtar@cofeguildford.org.uk

Religious and Cultural training for Staff & Volunteers

It has become evident in today’s increasingly pluralist society that constructing and developing relations between people of faith and none is important for social cohesion. A positive attitude towards dialogue is essential for creating an environment in which different religions can relate to one another in a spirit of mutual respect .

It is equally important for professionals to understand different faiths for better working relationships between colleagues and staff with clients.

If you would like to learn about different religions and beliefs, please get in touch.

If you are a business or voluntary group and you would like to know more about ‘faiths and cultures’ or you would like some training for your staff, please contact me.

Kauser Akhtar
 Faith Links Adviser
 T: 01483 790334
 E: Kauser.Akhtar@cofeguildford.org.uk
www.surreyfaithlinks.org.uk



Archiving the Heritage of Britain's First Purpose Built Mosque

The Everyday Muslim team are delighted to announce our latest heritage project: Archiving the Heritage of Britain's First Purpose Built Mosque. The Shah Jahan Mosque, also known as Woking mosque was built in 1889 and was the first purpose built mosque in the UK and Northern Europe. The building is Grade II listed and the mosque in its past boasted possibly the oldest mosque archive.

Our project will look to reinstate the mosque's archiving tradition by identifying, conserving, digitising and cataloguing around 200 documents. We will also catalogue the 300 books in the mosque library and will make them available to researchers. The documents include postcards, a mosque publication, photographs of previous renovations, mosque events and marriage certificates. To support our desire to capture the earliest possible community and social history narrative, we will also record and transcribe oral history interviews from the community and congregation. We also intend to begin research into the Muslim 'residents' of Brookwood cemetery, develop a website, exhibition, educational resources and a commemorative 'homage' issue of the mosque's publication; 'The Islamic Review.'



You can also join us to learn more about the project and how you can participate on, **Saturday 9th September 1pm- 4pm** at, the Shah Jahan Mosque, Woking.

For more information or if you would like to contribute in any way, please do not hesitate in getting touch E: sadiya@khizrafoundation.org, W: www.everydaymuslim.org

International day of Peace—15th Anniversary



Schools, NGOs, corporations, individuals, and communities around the world will be coming together to mark Peace Day 21st September; a day of ceasefire and nonviolence. Very exciting!

This year marks the 15th anniversary of the first celebration of Peace Day as a fixed calendar day. To celebrate, we've been highlighting some of the brilliant work that has been achieved in newly released videos on our [Facebook](#) page, [Twitter](#) account, and [YouTube](#) channel. These films showcase pivotal moments in the journey to institutionalise Peace Day. We hope they inspire you to generate action yourself, and to raise awareness for Peace Day 21st September 2017 amongst your family, friends, and community.

Please tell us about your plans for Peace Day 2017 here, so we can share your wonderful experiences of Peace Day to as many people as possible. By working together we can make a difference. By working together we can create Peace One Day.

For more information please visit: www.peaceoneday.org

Please look at page 7 onwards under 'Upcoming Events' for Peace Day events in Surrey.

Interfaith Week 2017

Inter Faith Week was established as a way to highlight the positive contributions that faith communities make to society and to strengthen inter faith engagement, as well as dialogue with those of non-religious beliefs. All these aims remain crucially important. Bringing people of different backgrounds together for positive interaction and cooperation has never been more vital.



Inter Faith Week offers a great platform for local inter faith bodies to showcase the important work that they do year round, to increase understanding and to engage new people in dialogue and cooperation for the common good.

If you are thinking about whether to hold an activity and what that might be, the [Inter Faith Week Toolkit](#) has lots of ideas for marking the Week complete with helpful checklists for organisers. IFN has also published a short, illustrated report on Inter Faith Week 2016: [Stories from 2016, Inspiration for 2017](#). This is full of the interesting and exciting ways that people chose to mark the Week last year. The report concludes with a short section looking forward to the Week in 2017. We hope that it inspires you to take part!

Just a few ways of marking the Week include:

- ⇒ Launching a new project or initiative - or using the Week to give prominence to one that you have already planned
- ⇒ An inter faith dimension to a Remembrance Sunday event - the Week begins on that day
- ⇒ A faith trail, open door day or an exchange visit with a local congregation from a different faith community
- ⇒ A discussion or debate on a particular issue
- ⇒ A one off social action project such as volunteering to support a local project working with and for the homeless, refugees or others
- ⇒ Putting on a learning activity or small exhibition - perhaps at your place of worship
- ⇒ An inter faith sporting event of some kind
- ⇒ A series of Facebook posts, blogs or articles for the local press about faith communities in your area and local inter faith activity - perhaps with a different author each day
- ⇒ A faith-linked music or dance event

Sunday 19 November will be [Mitzvah Day](#) - a Jewish-led day of social action involving people of all faiths and none working together in their local communities. Many events are being jointly held to mark both Inter Faith Week and Mitzvah Day.

For more information about Interfaith Week, please visit: <https://www.interfaithweek.org/>

New guidance to support those affected by Hate Crime

A new guide published by the Community Security Trust and co-authored by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), Tell MAMA and the Department of Communities and Local Government, gives guidance and advice for victims and witnesses of hate crimes. It highlights the processes and procedures for reporting in hate crimes and outlines the routes by which statutory bodies such as the police and the CPS work with victims. The CPS will seek to bring parity to the seriousness of online hate crimes as abuse committed on the street with new guidance for prosecutors in England and Wales.

The report can be downloaded here: <https://tellmamauk.org/launch-of-guide-on-hate-crimes-demonstrating-strong-partnership-working/>

Week of Prayer for World Peace (8th to 16th October 2017)

The things we agree on are many and precious. What we disagree on is precious too. We give our interior assent to all who stand and pray for peace with us. When that is challenging, we withhold our interior assent, yet stand with that person, as a friend and as a partner for peace.

Each year, the committee produces a leaflet of prayers and inspirational quotations for peace drawn from the major religious traditions of the world. At the present time, the committee and the sponsoring body include adherents of the Baha'i, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh and Zoroastrian religions, and prayers and readings from all these faiths are included in the prayer leaflet for the year.

For this year's leaflet, for which we would ask you to make a donation and/or order hard copies:

<http://www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.com/orders.html>

Online version:

http://www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.com/download/wpwp.leaflet_2017.pdf

For more information about Week of Prayer for World Peace and how you can get involved:

<http://www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.com/>

Faith and belief news from Three Faiths Forum

- [Jewish and Muslim women in Yorkshire hold interfaith picnic](#)
- [8 things to know about Lughnasadh, This Month's Pagan Harvest Festival](#)
- [Over 67,000 Londoners Showed Up For A Halal Food Festival This Weekend](#)
- [Trump's Silence On Minnesota Mosque Attack Speaks Volumes](#)
- [The Croydon interfaith bike ride 2017](#)
- [Without Fear, Without Hatred: Five Years After Oak Creek](#)



Learning to Fly

This project is a poetic response from communities across Surrey to the collected archive of materials relating to Surrey Heritage's 'Surrey in the Great War: A County Remembers' project. Family photos, letters and personal items from WW1 have been lovingly handed over to us. These treasures will inspire creative writing workshops across venues in Surrey including Museums, Arts Centres, Schools and Libraries, led by the poet and artist Talia Randall.

There are two ways that you can get involved in the project:

1. Learning to Fly is creating a crowd-poem to celebrate invisible heroes in Surrey today, and we want you to get involved! www.artspartnershipsurrey.org.uk/projects/l2f/
2. If you're interested in booking your own workshop with Talia, we can offer you a subsidised rate. Workshops will be available to book between now and June 2018. Please visit the website to watch our videos and to find out more about the creative writing workshops already taking place across the County. Please contact Tara Stevenson E: tara.stevenson@woking.gov.uk or 01483 743696 if you're interested in hosting a workshop.

For more information please visit: www.artspartnershipsurrey.org.uk/projects/l2f/

10th Anniversary event of Epsom Mental Health and Well-Being

Festival to be held 7 - 15 October at St Barnabas Church, Temple Road, Epsom, KT19 8HA.

Mental health and well-being affects us all and we will be reaching out to the local community so as many people can take part and attend some of the 70 free events during the festival. Final details of the programme will be posted on our website and social media in the coming weeks

For more information please contact: Allen Price, Trustee, Love Me Love My Mind
T: 01372 721518, W: www.lovemelovemymind.org.uk

'What happiness means to me' portrayal competition: essay | poem | art | film | pottery | any media

Entries must be submitted by: Friday 29th September 2017

Entries will be on display during EMHW | Open to everyone and any age. £150 Prize

All entries should be submitted to: 'What happiness means to me'

St Barnabas Church, Temple Road, Epsom, KT19 8HA.

Please include your contact details.

In memory of Daun Morris a passionate supporter of Epsom Mental Health Week



The Surrey Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) would like to invite you to take part in an online Children's Safeguarding Survey as part of our Section 11 process. We ask you to complete this simple survey in order to help us have a better understanding of the services provided by your organisation and about the good work you do within your organisation. It is also an opportunity to identify good practice, share learning and provide support to any organisations.



We would really appreciate if you could complete the survey by **Friday 13th October 2017**. Please feel to contact either Ameena Tabassum at: ameena.tabassum@surreycc.gov.uk or Hayley Cheesman at: hayley.cheesman@surreycc.gov.uk if you have any problems answering any questions or if you need further assistance.

Why are we doing this?

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015) highlights that voluntary organisations and private sector providers play an important role in delivering services to children. They should have the arrangements in place in the same way as organisations in the public sector, and need to work effectively with the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). Paid and volunteer staff need to be aware of their responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, how they should respond to child protection concerns and make a referral to local authority children's social care or the police if necessary.

What will happen next?

Summary findings from the survey will be presented in a report to show what's working well, what are we worried about and what needs to happen. Individual organisations will not be identified in the report.

A further action plan will be developed by SSCB with specific actions, leads and timescales to address any issues raised in the report.

A SSCB learning event will be arranged inviting organisations who complete the survey to share the findings, raise awareness of policies, procedures and training. **[access the survey here via Surrey Says:](https://www.surreysays.co.uk/surrey-safeguarding-children-board/a0985714/)**

<https://www.surreysays.co.uk/surrey-safeguarding-children-board/a0985714/>

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Vulnerable Faith Institutions Scheme

The scheme will provide funding for security measures to places of worship and associated community centres that are vulnerable to attack on racial, religious or ideological grounds. We will consider bids from places of worship in England and Wales. Below are some examples of places of worship eligible to apply for the funding (please note this is not an exhaustive list):

Mosques, Gurdwaras, Temples, Churches, associated faith community centres (for example a community centre run by a place of worship or near a place of worship that is faith based).

For more information about the Scheme and how to bid, please visit:

www.gov.uk/guidance/vulnerable-faith-institutions-scheme

Inter Faith Week grants

As in previous years, the Inter Faith Youth Trust will be making available a special programme of grants for Inter Faith Week 2017. The Trust will be awarding grants of up to £500 for organisations running events or projects.

Grants are awarded to successful “proposals for inter-faith activities by children and young people from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh and other faiths and those of no formal faith in understanding and co-operation”. The age range for young people is 11-25 years. Priority will be given to projects which:

- actively involve young people in planning, running, and evaluation of the project;
- promote positive action i.e. young people from different backgrounds coming together to address shared problems like improving green spaces; and
- are run by non-statutory organisations, such as youth clubs, scout/guide groups, local voluntary and community organisations.

The application form can be downloaded at www.ifyouthtrust.org.uk/. The deadline for the submission of forms is 15 September.

Building a Stronger Britain Together programme

The Home Office programme Building a Stronger Britain Together is continuing to offer in-kind support such as social media training, technical assistance to help a group improve their website, or capacity building work to help a group protect more vulnerable individuals. It is open to bodies in England and Wales. Further information can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/building-a-stronger-britain-together>.

GSK IMPACT Awards provides funding and training

The GSK IMPACT Awards provide funding and training and development for charities doing excellent work to improve people's health. They are funded by GSK and managed in partnership with The King's Fund.

The awards are open to registered charities that are at least three years old, working in a health-related field in the UK. Up to 20 awards will be made, ranging from £3,000 up to £40,000.

Closing date for applications: 22 September 2017

For more information please visit: www.kingsfund.org.uk/projects/gsk-impact-awards#inbrief

UPCOMING EVENTS

“Where do our morals come from?”

Tuesday 12th September, 7.30pm | Speaker: Oliver Curry

The Guildford Institute in Ward Street, Guildford, GU1 4LH

Tea/coffee and biscuits break at about 8.30.

[There is no charge, but a small donation is requested of £2 or £3 (but not from students) to cover the speaker’s expenses and the hire of the hall.] If anyone would like further information, please telephone Mike Adams (01483 233324) or David Simmonds (01483 800397). We are also on Meetup, Facebook and Twitter.



Epsom and Ewell Inter Faith Forum – September programme

Guided visit to the Hindu temple in Stoneleigh: Sunday 17th September, 3.00 pm (gather outside at 2.45pm). The Raja Rajeswary Amman Temple is at 4, Dell Lane, Stoneleigh, KT17 2NE You will need to take off your shoes and leave them in the racks provided. The visit will last about an hour.

Interfaith Lunch: Thursday 28th September, 12.00 pm—1.30 pm, Webber Hall at All Saints Church, 7 Church Road, West Ewell KT19 9QY. Meet and talk with people of different faiths and share vegetarian food brought by attendees.

For both events please confirm attendance to Lynne Schofield: lynnescholefield@gmail.com

GUILDFORD & GODALMING INTERFAITH FORUM

warmly invite you to a **PEACE VIGIL to mark the INTERNATIONAL DAY of PEACE**

Please join us for a time of silence, prayers and music. There will be the chance to light candles and offer short prayers and reflections on peace, from different faith traditions.

THURSDAY 21st September @ 7.30pm at Meadow Unitarian Chapel, Godalming, GU7 3JB

(Limited on site parking, public car-park across the road at Wey Court).

ALL WELCOME

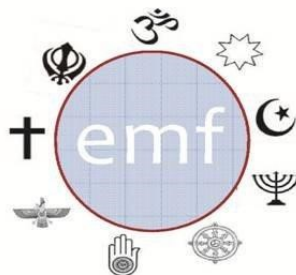
Guildford & Godalming Faith Forum exists to promote understanding & friendship among people of all Faiths and none. For more info contact Bernard Jones (secretary) 01483 424257 /

Bernardjones10@btinternet.com)



Elmbridge Multi Faith Forum

Upcoming Events



⇒ Saying Goodbye, Tuesday 26th September, 7.00 pm
The last part of a three part event looking at faith perspectives of death and services after death.

⇒ Visit to Winchester Cathedral and Christmas Market, Monday 27th November, 9.30 am—3.30 pm

For more information please contact Geoffrey Morris: geoffreymorris@emas-bc.co.uk

The Surrey Bahá'í community, along with Bahá'ís all over the world, are celebrating the bicentenary of the Birth of Bahá'u'lláh, the Founder of their Faith. Each Messenger brings social teachings designed for that particular age and the coming of Bahá'u'lláh was the beginning of a new age in the history of mankind. Much information about His life and teachings can be found at www.bahullah.org & www.bahullah.com.



A number of events and receptions will be taking place around the area in September and October, including Camberley, Epsom, Godalming and Guildford, and on September 16th a gathering specifically for friends from local Interfaith groups will take place in Cobham. Please contact salimrahmani9@hotmail.com if you would like an Invitation to this.

Godalming Bahá'ís cordially invite you to join them in celebrating the 200th Anniversary of the Birth of Bahá'u'lláh. Please join us at 7.30p.m. on Sunday 24th September at the Wilfrid Noyce Centre, Crown Court, Godalming GU7 1DY

More information from Bibhas & Carolyn Neogi: GodalmingBaha'is@aol.com, 01483 415773

Black Poppies - Britain's Black Community and the Great War

Saturday 16 September, 2pm - 3.30pm, Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking, GU21 6ND
Talk and book signing with Stephen Bourne.

Stephen Bourne presents an illustrated talk about his book Black Poppies which has been published by The History Press to coincide with the centenary of the First World War. Entertaining and informative, Black Poppies explores the military and civilian wartime experiences of black Britons, from the trenches to the music halls. For Black Poppies Stephen received the 2015 Southwark Arts Forum Award for Literature.

Tickets are free but booking is essential. Please book a place online at www.surreycc.gov.uk/heritageevents

Peace Day Celebration



Saturday 23rd September,
Mercia Walk, 12.00 pm—1.00 pm



Woking People of Faith and Surrey Faith Links invite you to their 5th annual Peace Day celebration!

Children have taken part in a Peace Day competition; winners will be awarded prizes by the Mayor of Woking, faith leaders will share words of peace from their faith, singing by different faith groups, FREE henna and face painting with Peace designs. Free public event, all welcome!

For more information please contact:

Simon Trick, E: nstricks@yahoo.com or Kauser Akhtar, E: Kauser.Akhtar@cofeguildford.org.uk



For the First time in History Royal Holloway Hindu Society Presents....

Navratri on Campus

Date: 28th September 2017, Time: 7:30pm - 11:30pm

Location: Jane Holloway Hall, Royal Holloway, University of London

Music By: DJ JXYDED | Entry Fee: £2 Members and £3 Non-Members | Dress Code: Traditional Wear

For More Information Contact: Nishall - 07890842053

Dandiya available to buy for £1 a pair (Limited Stock)

#RHULNavratri

We look forward to seeing you there!!!

Facebook Event Link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/101847947105680/?ti=icl>

Diwali Community lantern parade 2017

Thursday 12 October 2017, 6pm, Woking Town Centre

FREE opportunities to take part...

Dance and Educational workshops: Thursday 12 October 2017, 9.30am



The Diwali parade organisers will be presenting a short evening of Indian music, song and dance immediately after the parade. The event at the H.G. Wells Centre will feature performances such as Kerala drumming and traditional Indian dance.

The party is FREE to attend and will be hosted by the Woking Malayalee Association, The Art of Living, Surrey Hindu Cultural Association and the Woking Nepalese community. For more information please contact: Tara Stevenson, Arts Development Officer, E: tara.stevenson@woking.gov.uk

Environmental Working Party

7th October 2017, 10am to 12.30pm, Sandy Track Carpark, Shores Road

Come and help the environment !
Bring Boots and Gloves



Woking People of Faith

For more information email John West on john.west63@ntlworld.com

An Evening of New Sacred Jewish Music

with singer, teacher and celebrant Alexander Massey

Monday 9th October, 7.45 pm, Staines Synagogue, Westbrook Road, Staines TW18 4PR



Find out more about his inspirational work at alexandermassey.com

RSVP to Cedric Dowe on 01252 622978 or email ccjstaines@gmail.com

Please do mention this event to friends and colleagues. They would be most welcome.

Another date for your diary is Tuesday 21st November when we will welcome Rabbi and Rebbetzen Meir and Rina Shindler from Richmond United Synagogue to speak about the work of a rabbinic couple today.

Hearing Champions – community based volunteers trained in basic hearing aid maintenance

[Tuesday 12th September](#) – Diocesan House, Quarry Street, Guildford GU1 3XG (limited spaces)

[Wednesday 11th October](#) – Godstone Baptist Church, Godstone Hill, Godstone, RH9 8AJ

[Tuesday 14th November](#) – St Saviour's Church, 205 Vicarage Road, Sunbury-on-Thames, Middlesex TW16 7TP

Follow the links to download the flyers.

For further information about hearing aid maintenance and also lip reading classes, please contact Tracey Wade, Sensory Inclusion Adviser

E: tracey.wade@cofeguildford.org.uk

Tel: 01483 790327

SMS: 07531 268476



SEEFF ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AGM

Chaplaincy in a Plural Society: Faiths in Service

Tuesday 17th October, 9:30 am—5:00 pm

WORTH ABBEY, Turners Hill, Crawley, RH10 4SB

Performance Arts Centre (Building Opposite the Church)



Speakers and workshops will cover chaplaincy work

Conference Registration Fee: £12 (Lunch Included)

To register please contact Rabbi Wallach, E: rabiwallach@gmail.com , M: 07909 506506

www.se-faithforum.net | Email: contact@se-faithforum.net

Woking Debates 2018

Woking Action for Peace, LA21, Friends of the Earth, Quakers, Churches Together, Woking People of Faith and Surrey Faith Links work in partnership to bring you some thought provoking and topical debates.

1. Is privacy a luxury or necessity? Saturday 20th January 2018
2. Is our democracy breaking down? Saturday 17th February 2018
3. Why are people living in poverty in 21st century Britain? Saturday 17th March 2018
4. What is the future of work? Saturday 14th April 2018

The debates are held at Christ Church, Jubilee Square, Woking GU21 6YG
11.00 am till 12.30 pm

For more information please contact Keith Scott: keithsc_2000@yahoo.com



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, W: www.surreyfaithlinks.org.uk