

# Newsletter 9 Sept 2011

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I hope you are continuing to enjoy and benefit from the Surrey Faith Links Newsletter. Included in this months edition are a number of articles as well as many upcoming events that may be of interest to you or members of your organisation / congregation. Please do send me through anything that you would like included in future editions. Best wishes,  
Haallah (Surrey Faith Links Adviser)  
[haallah.shams@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:haallah.shams@cofeguildford.org.uk) / 07502 460 / 01483 790 327

## Epsom Football Festival

By: Bob Lamont

Seven teams from diverse backgrounds met in a football tournament on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2011. The tournament was arranged by Epsom and Ewell Borough Council, Surrey FA and Surrey Police.

Representatives from Brazilian, Muslim, Portuguese and homeless communities joined with local teams representing Epsom estates for an afternoon of fun. Everyone enjoyed themselves in close competition in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

Not surprisingly, given the culture, it was the team from Brazil who finally triumphed and the FA have generously provided them with a trophy and a football club start up kit. The runners up from the homeless community were also given a bag of footballs.

The tournament was part of Epsom's "Culture Vulture" weekend which celebrates the countdown to the London Olympics. In true Olympian style the emphasis was on taking part.

We are keen to run other similar events elsewhere in the county and would be pleased to hear from any interested groups. Please email me for more information: (Bob Lamont) [lamont11519@surrey.pnn.police.uk](mailto:lamont11519@surrey.pnn.police.uk) {



Pictures: Top right hand corner: Bob Lamont, Community Engagement Officer for Reigate & Banstead & the Eastern Cluster. Bottom of page: The winning Brazilian team!

## International Conference Report

By: Canon Richard Cook (Interfaith Adviser to the Bishop of Guildford)

*Special thanks to Revd Richard Cook for writing this report about The Power of Religion Conference which he recently attended.*

London Metropolitan University's Centre for the Study of Religion, Conflict and Cooperation arranged a 3 day conference with the challenging title, 'The Power of Religion: Towards Peace and Moderation or Violence and Extremism?'

The speakers, giving 8 keynote addresses and sitting on 4 Plenary Panels, were almost all highly qualified and capable communicators from Universities around the UK, and from overseas. The speakers were a wonderfully varied group, both male and female, from Jewish, Christian, Muslim, and secular backgrounds.

International Conference

### **THE POWER OF RELIGION: Towards Peace and Moderation or Violence and Extremism?**

My four snapshots of the conference come from very different speakers.

**Professor Baroness Haleh Afshar** from York University described herself as a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation Muslim Feminist. She explored the crisis of identity felt by many Muslim women, and she wondered whether those Muslims who are dissidents or extremists are those who feel excluded.

**Fabio Petito**, from Sussex University, continued to focus on identity issues. Since the fall of the Berlin Wall, a new politics of identity has developed, in which religion, culture, ethnicity and civilization are all used to justify irrationality in international relations. Following the end of the European Wars of Religion, the only safe religion was a privatised religion. But in the modern era, politicised religions have emerged, often leading to violence. Paradoxically, this violence emerges from communities that are often weak doctrinally, and shallow in their understanding of the traditions of the faith.

**Tariq Ramadan**, from Oxford University, like several other speakers, observed the rise of 'DIY versions' of particular faith traditions. By definition, these are not rooted in a deep understanding of their texts and teaching. Nonetheless, authentic jihad is the proper route towards peace, when facing oppression and injustice. But this jihad may have to resist oppressive violence with violence, in order to introduce reform.

**Rabbi Dr. Marc Gopin**, from George Mason University, USA, spoke movingly of his involvement with conflict resolution in the Middle East and beyond. Working in Syria with a remarkable Christian woman, he had been able to encourage a culture of debate, when few other options seemed possible. He encouraged us to look for the vision of a new reality in which change is possible.

This was an inspiring conference, stretching our minds and raising our expectations for what our faith traditions could lead us to expect in our troubled world {

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**Marking the 10th Anniversary of 9/11** Woking People of Faith (WPOF) is marking the 10th anniversary of 9/11 on **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2011** at **1.30pm** in **Woking Town Square**. WPOF hope that you and your friends will attend in order to stand together as people of all-faiths to affirm peace. Woking's Mayor, MP, Counsellors, the Bishop of Guildford and local Imams will be joining the gathering. For further details contact **Revd Pippa: [p.rossmccabe@btinternet.com](mailto:p.rossmccabe@btinternet.com) / 07986342355 / 01932 342374**

**Circle Dancing Session** Elmbridge Multifaith Forum invite you to join them for their 1st Circle Dancing Session, on **Tuesday 13th September 2011** at **7pm** at **Thames Ditton Centre, Mercer Close, KT7 0BS**. Experience dancing with others; anyone of any age or ability can circle dance (each dance will be taught). A small contribution towards the hall hire will be asked. Contact **Rushna: 01932248751 / [rushna@master11.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:rushna@master11.wanadoo.co.uk)**

**God In My Faith** Elmbridge Multi-faith Forum are hosting a discussion on **Thursday 15th September 2011** at **6pm** about 'God in my faith'. Representatives of various faiths will give their perspectives on God, followed by questions and discussion at **Baitul Futuh Mosque, 181 London Road, Morden, Surrey SM4 5HF**. Free event and dinner will be provided. Contact **Rushna: 01932248751 / [rushna@master11.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:rushna@master11.wanadoo.co.uk)**

**Youth Work - The Basics** Surrey Youth Focus offer this free course 'Youth Work - The Basics' to those interested in working with young people. **Saturday 24th September 2011** and **8th October 2011**. To book a place contact Marie [marie.silvester@surreyyouthfocus.org.uk](mailto:marie.silvester@surreyyouthfocus.org.uk)

**Celebration of the Centenary of the visit of Abdu'l-Baha** The Bahá'í Community of Woking invites you to attend a celebration of the centenary of the visit of Abdu'l-Baha (the eldest son of Bahá'u'lláh the Founder of the Bahá'í faith) to Byfleet. The event will take place at **Byfleet Village Hall** on **Saturday 1st October 2011** at **7.30pm**. RSVP **Simon Trick [bahaicommunity\\_woking@yahoo.com](mailto:bahaicommunity_woking@yahoo.com) / 07956-336965**

**Getting Support Right for people with autistic spectrum disorders** This conference is for parents / carers, people with autistic spectrum disorders (ASDs), professionals and others interested in autism and Asperger Syndrome. **Saturday 1st October 2011, 10am - 4.30pm, University of Surrey, Guildford**. For prices, more information and a booking form please contact **Sara Truman [nas@mugsy.org](mailto:nas@mugsy.org) / 01483 822 630** *Go to pg.7 for further details*

**Carers Service at Guildford Cathedral** Reception with speakers and tea, followed by a dedicated Evensong to give thanks for all carers throughout the Diocese will take place again this year. **Thursday 6th October 2011** at **Guildford Cathedral**. To book a place please contact **Suzette Jones [suzette.jones@cofequildford.org.uk](mailto:suzette.jones@cofequildford.org.uk) / 01483 790 335**

**Stop the Traffik** On **Saturday 15th October 2011, 2pm-5pm, Epsom Methodist Church, Ashley Road, Epsom. Surrey. KT18 5AQ** (*event venue*), will be hosting a "Stop the Traffik" event. An opportunity to find out more about the campaigns they lead and other initiatives of community groups from different parts of the country. Tickets are available from **Epsom Methodist Church** or by contacting **Sandra Oborski 01372 720 521** *Go to pg.8 for further details*

**Evening at Watts Gallery** The Bishop of Guildford's Foundation invites you to a fund raising evening on **12th October 2011**. A private guided tour of the galleries, exhibitions of community projects supported by the foundation, an opportunity to talk to the Bishop of Guildford, performances, as well as canapés and refreshments (all included in the ticket price). Please contact **Jane Schofield** for more info [jane.schofield@cofequildford.org.uk](mailto:jane.schofield@cofequildford.org.uk) / **07771 591 457** *Go to pg.9 for further details*

**Living for One World** Guildford & Godalming Interfaith Forum are hosting an event on **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2011**, addressing this year's One World Week Theme. Dr. Richard Boeke will be the main speaker; he is a Unitarian Minister and Vice President of the World Congress of faiths. He is also a writer, traveller and a founder of the U.S. Chapter of the International Association for Religious Freedom. Refreshments from **7pm, St. Nicholas Church, The Burys, Guildford. GU2 4AW**. For more details or to book a place please contact: **Carolyn Neogi 01483415773 [interfaithfriend@aol.com](mailto:interfaithfriend@aol.com) / Bernard Jones 01484424257** *Go to pg.10 for further details*

**World Congress of Faiths Annual Youngusband Lecture** Karen Armstrong will be talking on 'The Core of Religion'. **Wednesday 7th December 2011** at **6.30pm** at **The Liberal Jewish Synagogue, 28 St. John's Wood Road, London. NW8 7HA**. To book a place go to: [www.worldfaiths.org/events.php](http://www.worldfaiths.org/events.php) *Go to pg.11 for further details*

## Mental Health Strategy

By: Suzette Jones (Open to All Adviser - Department for Social Responsibility)

I am at present working on a community engagement profile with Surrey County Council and the voluntary sector looking at Mental Health support services throughout Surrey. We are mapping out where support is already in place, such as lunch clubs, support groups, drop in centres, employment clubs, art and social groups etc. for those with mental health problems. The outcome is to identify what is already in place, what works and areas which are in need and require support.

In addition we will be holding workshop type events inviting all who have, cares for or are involved with mental health issues to ask them what they think would help. For those who cannot or who do not want to attend, a simple questionnaire will be available.

**Please could you take just a few minutes** to let us know if your church or faith community is running or accommodates any project for those who have, or supports, those with mental health problems?

We hope to complete the project by October/November; putting in place a realistic strategy for the future. We will also be able to communicate what services are established in your area and those which could be a project for the future which may include funding.

Please get in touch with **Suzette Jones:**

[suzette.jones@cofequildford.org.uk](mailto:suzette.jones@cofequildford.org.uk)

Department for Social Responsibility. Diocesan House, Quarry Street, Guildford. GU13XG  
Tel: 01483 790335 / Fax:01483 790333

## How-To Guides Now Available!

**J**ust a quick note to remind you that the CSV Make A Difference Day is fast approaching!

**Saturday 29 October 2011**

To help you with ideas of what you could be doing, six How-to Guides are now available electronically!:

**How-to Combat Community Isolation:** 10 ideas to make your community a happier, safer, more welcoming place.

**How-to Write a Difference:** write to children in hospital, to your neighbours or to a school in another country!

**How-to Make a Chocolatey Difference:** make and donate this delicious chocolate fridge cake from chef Sam Stern (right).

**How-to Get Online:** more than 9 million people across the UK are still not online - inspire them to use the internet with this guide.

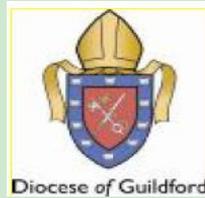
**How-to Knit an Animal Blanket:** knit a blanket for a homeless cat or dog in an RSPCA shelter.

**How-to End Loneliness:** ideas and advice for how you can reach out to others and combat loneliness.

To request the set, call Freephone 0800 284 533 or email: [difference@csv.org.uk](mailto:difference@csv.org.uk)



# Job Vacancies



Diocese of Guildford

The Department for Social Responsibility is seeking to recruit three posts:

## Faith Co-ordinator and Police Chaplain

In partnership with Surrey Police we are seeking someone to continue to link communities of faith and local police in practical ways and co-ordinate pastoral care within the Service including a multi faith volunteer chaplaincy. This full-time post is funded for 2 years with the possibility of being extended.

Salary £28,000 + 15% benefits package  
Based Godalming and/or Guildford

The closing date for this position will be 2nd September  
Interviews to be held on 13th September



## Deaf & Inclusion Co-ordinator

This post aims to develop spiritual support, communication and training; sharing resources, knowledge and experience with the common goal of including Deaf, deafened, hard of hearing and other people with sensory deprivation in a more inclusive Church through the setting up of church 'hubs'.

Salary of £15,000 + 15% benefits package  
3 days (21hrs) per week, covering the Diocese of Guildford

The closing date for applications will be: 16th September  
Interviews to be held on: 28th September



Diocese of Guildford

## Volunteer Support Partnership Co-ordinator

This part-time post works with a partnership of Surrey organisations focussed on young people and their families in their experience of and vulnerability to crime. The Co-ordinator will support the recruitment, selection, training and support of volunteers.

Salary £10,000 + 15% benefits package  
2 days (14hrs) per week initially until March 2013

The closing date for this position will be 14th September  
Interviews to be held on: 29th September

Applications packs are available from Gerardine Brown:  
Tel: 01483 790302 or email: [recruitment.diocese@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:recruitment.diocese@cofeguildford.org.uk)



# Epsom & Ewell Business Excellence Awards



Do you have something to shout about in business?

Has your company come up with an innovative idea or an impactful marketing campaign?

Do you feel that an individual in the business community should be recognised?

Epsom & Ewell Business Awards have been introduced this year to recognise the good work carried out by businesses, individuals and charities in the Epsom & Ewell Area.

**Epsom & Ewell**  
BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

## ENTRY OR NOMINATION FORM (until 30th September 2011)

### AWARDS CATEGORIES:

- Natwest Best New Business (trading for less than 1 year) • Natwest Best Independent/Small Business (turnover less than £2m)
  - The Ashley Centre Best Retail Outlet • Epsom Coaches Best Business Personality
  - TWM Solicitors Innovation Award • Vax Pops Int. Best Marketing & Communication Campaign
- National Counties Best Young Entrepreneur • Ashlead Hospital Best for Commitment to the Community
  - Toyota Best Green Business • The Best of Epsom and Ewell Best Restaurant or Pub
  - Epsom Guardian Best Overall Business

NAME:

CATEGORY:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE NO:

EMAIL:

Please also submit not more than 500 words, demonstrating why you or your nomination deserves the award. Also support the application with any information, press cuttings, reports. And send everything to **Epsom & Ewell Business Awards, 212 Barnet Wood Lane, Ashlead, Surrey KT21 2DB.**

Not only will you get the chance to showcase your business, charity or personal contribution, but you will also have the chance to win great prizes and an all important PR during these current tough trading conditions. All the winners will be profiled in the Epsom Guardian with the overall winner will be invited for a guided tour of the House of Commons and tea with Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP.

Entries or nominations can also be made online at [www.epsombusinessawards.co.uk](http://www.epsombusinessawards.co.uk)

*Finalists will be invited to attend an awards drinks reception on November 4th 2011.*

### SPONSORED BY:



# Getting Support Right For People With Autistic Spectrum Disorders The National Autistic Society



## GETTING SUPPORT RIGHT for people with AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDERS

How schools and adult services can meet individual needs. How parents can help.

*Speakers:*

**Prof. RITA JORDAN**  
**Dr WENDY LAWSON**  
**SIMON LAKER**  
**TOM MOORE**

**SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011**

**University of Surrey, Guildford.**  
**10.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.**

This conference is for parents/carers, people with autistic spectrum disorders (ASDs), professionals and others interested in autism and Asperger Syndrome. It will look at how parents and professionals can ensure that people with autistic spectrum disorders are given the right support to meet their individual needs:

- How to judge if a school or adult service is right for the person with ASD.
- How staff can adapt how they work to the different needs of individuals.
- How professionals and families can work together to help people with ASDs achieve their potential.

In the morning our speaker is **Prof Rita Jordan**, Emeritus Professor in Autism Studies. Her talk will include how parents can assess which schools can meet their child's needs, and how schools can cater for the individual needs of pupils within a mainstream or special school classroom.

In the afternoon **Dr Wendy Lawson** will talk about tailoring support to the needs of individual adults across the autism spectrum. Dr Lawson is a psychologist and writer who was diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome in her 40s, having previously been mis-diagnosed as schizophrenic and learning disabled.

Following this, two speakers from Surrey County Council will talk about the services that Surrey provides for adults with ASDs, how individual needs are taken into account and catered for, and how the Autism Partnership Board in Surrey will improve the lives of adults with ASDs. **Simon Laker** is Surrey's Senior Manager for Learning Disabilities Commissioning, and **Tom Moore** is Surrey's Autism Lead and Accommodation Project Manager.

To reserve your place, send back the completed booking form with a cheque, to the address given, by **9<sup>th</sup> September**. For further information contact Sara Truman, email: [nas@mugsy.org](mailto:nas@mugsy.org). Tel: 01483-822630.

Cancellations refunded up to 9<sup>th</sup> Sept, less £5 administration charge. We reserve the right to change the speakers or content due to unforeseen circumstances.

www.surreyfaithlinks.org



**Stop The Traffik**  
**Epsom Methodist Church**

**Come and Find Out More**

**Place:-Epsom Methodist Church**

**Date:-15<sup>th</sup>. October 2011**

**Time:- 2.00p.m-5.00p.m**

**Free Tickets from Sandra Oborski 01372 720521  
or Epsom Church Office 01372 728535**

**STOP THE TRAFFIK**  
**PEOPLE SHOULDN'T BE BOUGHT & SOLD**

Sign the STOP THE TRAFFIK Declaration.  
Visit the website:  
**[www.stopthetraffik.org](http://www.stopthetraffik.org)**

**[www.surreyfaithlinks.org](http://www.surreyfaithlinks.org)**



# Evening at Watts Gallery The Bishop of Guildford's Foundation



## The Bishop of Guildford's Foundation Evening at Watts Gallery

We would like to invite you to a very special fund raising evening  
on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011

a private guided tour of the newly refurbished galleries,  
with exhibitions of the community projects that the foundation has supported

performances from Lucy Burrows, a young soprano singer,  
training at Glyndebourne

and the String Quartet from Farnborough 6<sup>th</sup> Form college

There will be the opportunity to chat with Bishop Christopher, Bishop of Guildford with canapés  
and refreshments included in the ticket price.

If you have any further queries please contact

Please contact Jane Schofield on 07771591457 or [jane.schofield@cofeguildford.org.uk](mailto:jane.schofield@cofeguildford.org.uk)

### *Ticket Request Form:*

Name : .....

Address: .....

.....

Email: .....

Telephone: .....

If you have concerns about the accessibility of the venue please tick the box below, and we will contact you to discuss your needs to make sure your evening is enjoyable

Number of tickets to be purchased (£40 per ticket): .....

Please return this form along with your cheque payable to: The Bishop of Guildford's Foundation

And send to:

*Bishop of Guildford's Foundation, Diocesan House, Quarry Street, Guildford, GU1 3XG*

www.surreyfaithlinks.org



**Living For One World**  
**Guildford & Godalming Interfaith Forum**

**Guildford and Godalming Interfaith Forum**

invites you to a free talk given by

**Rev. Dr Richard Boeke**

exploring how people from different faiths can  
work together to help create a better world.



# Living For One World

Living for the planet ~ Living for its people ~ Living & acting for change

**Date: 24<sup>th</sup> October 2011**  
**(United Nations day)**

**7 pm - light refreshments**

**7.30pm - talk followed by questions**

**At**

**St Nicolas Church**

**Bury Street, Guildford GU2 4AW**

**Entrance via Bury Street and car parking nearby**

**About our Speaker:** Richard Boeke grew up in Atlanta, Georgia and took part in the Martin Luther King Jr. March on Washington in 1963. He served 3 years as a Chaplain in the U.S. Air Force, and has ministered to Unitarian Universalist churches in the U.S and England. Dr Boeke studied World Religions at Harvard, has travelled around the world twice on interfaith visits and is the author of two books. He is Vice President of the 'World Congress of Faiths' [www.worldfaiths.org](http://www.worldfaiths.org) He was founding President of the U.S Chapter of the 'International Association for Religious Freedom' [www.iarf.net](http://www.iarf.net) He is current Chairman of the British Chapter. The IARF seeks to promote the principles laid down in the UN's Declaration of Human Rights "... Freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief..."



**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 :

**Bernard Jones (Secretary)** Tel: 01483 424257. Email: [bernard.jones10@btinternet.com](mailto:bernard.jones10@btinternet.com)

[www.surreyfaithlinks.org](http://www.surreyfaithlinks.org)



Getting Support Right  
World Congress of Faiths  
Annual Young Husbands Lecture



**World Congress of Faiths**  
**Annual Younghusband Lecture**

# The Core of Religion



**KAREN ARMSTRONG**

Karen Armstrong is the well known author of many books, including 'Twelve Steps to a Compassionate Life' & 'The Case for God.'

**Wednesday 7 December 2011 at 6.30pm**  
**The Liberal Jewish Synagogue,**  
**28 St John's Wood Road, London NW8 7HA**

Entry will be by ticket only, available from  
WCF at 125 Salisbury Road, London NW6 6RG

tel: 01935 864055

or online at [www.worldfaiths.org](http://www.worldfaiths.org)

£5 for members of WCF or LJS, £10 for non-members.

[www.surreyfaithlinks.org](http://www.surreyfaithlinks.org)

