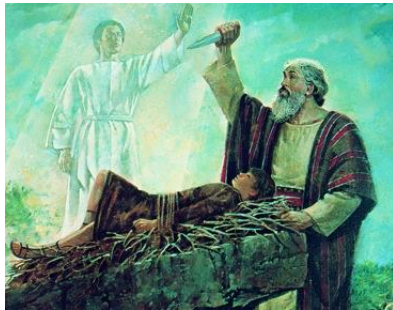


GUILDFORD ...SIALKOT Link



Our visit to Pakistan started and finished with communion at the Sialkot Convention and at the cantonment Cathedral. In between these 'bookends' we had interfaith encounters in Sikh gurdwaras and a Muslim madrasa. We visited the Christian community in Youngsonabad and churches, schools and hospitals around Sialkot. We went into the belly of the Salt in the Khewra mines and into the heart of Lahore. We ate far too much food. We were overwhelmed with hospitality. We spent hours in the car being driven the length and breadth of the diocese. We rejoiced with those who rejoiced and mourned with those who mourn. Bishop gave numerous greetings, and talks on many occasions including 2 days of teaching on leadership: 'Come, Follow, Wait, Go.' We prayed with many people in need, including a group of addicts & TEE students. And we visited Mirpur where 80% of Pakistanis in Britain come from. We had a vision of a church being built in Mirpur for the Christian there (supported by Muslim Mirpuris in Britain). It was but the beginning of the link between Sialkot and Guildford Dioceses .Rev Phil Simpson



PROPHET STORIES

Part of the Across ministry is to equip ordinary Christians to engage with ordinary Muslims and Jan Pike is coming to Woking to train on how we can use the commonality in both faiths to do that. By looking at the 'common prophets' to both religions, this can be a starting point and excellent opportunity to discuss Jesus, known to Muslims and Christians alike. Register for the Prophet's Training day on November 9th that will take place at Christchurch Woking from 10am.



DIWALI AND THE HINDU WORLD

Over the years, we have focussed on reaching out to a growing Muslim community in the Woking area. The demographic is changing and Woking is now home to a growing Hindu community. Interserve have published a 15 day prayer booklet to coincide with the Hindu festival 'Diwali' on 31 October and we are delighted to be distributing copies to local churches or sending them out directly should you want one.



MAHABBA MEAL

We had Rev. Kumar Rajagopalan from Totteridge Baptist Church as our guest speaker at the Mahabba Meal on Friday 18 October at St Peters Church, Old Woking. He shared his testimony following his journey as a Hindu boy from a Bramin background, growing up in Chennai to now running a church in North London. We enjoyed a tasty South Indian supper and had the opportunity to hear Kumar give a personal insight into the Hindu world ...

MAKING CHRISTMAS INTERNATIONAL



The highlight of the Across calendar is the International Christmas Concert held at Christchurch Woking and this year it will be on the evening of Saturday 7 December. As always anyone who can sing or read in a language other than English is warmly invited to take part to make this a truly international event. We are aiming for all 6 continents to be represented so please do contact us if you could help. An evening of international song and readings ending with festive refreshments will be the format for the evening so this is an open invitation for all to attend.



MORE ON CHRISTMAS

We are very excited to be launching our very first Ladies Interfaith Christmas Craft afternoon around the common theme of angels. The kindness we have been shown by the local mosques during Ramadan is something we would like to reciprocate and we have planned for an afternoon of craft and conversation from 3pm to 5pm on Sunday 15 December.

The idea is to invite a Muslim friend along to make a Christmas Craft and enjoy some seasonal treats that will be Halal. Ladies please think about who that might be and start inviting them now. Invitations are available so please contact Riz at the Across email address for further details.



Across Calendar – what's coming up:

Regular **Monthly Prayer Meeting** 1st Friday at 8pm held at the Hills in Woking - 1 Nov, 29 Nov (not 6 Dec), 3 Jan, ALL WELCOME

Prophet Stories Training – Saturday 9 November – Christchurch Woking, 10am to 4pm

Cook with Beena – Sat 16 November – Christchurch Woking – 7-10pm enjoy food and entertainment and celebrate and support the work of **Bethesda Life Centre**

International Christmas Carols – Saturday 7 December – Christchurch Woking – 7pm

Interfaith Ladies Christmas Craft – Sunday 15 December – St Paul's Church, Maybury, 3pm to 5pm

“Sharing Faith Across Cultures”

‘Cross Cultural Ministry in Woking’ (Across) is a registered Charity (1106905) and exists ‘to see people of all backgrounds become disciples of Jesus Christ’. Across is formed by 10 churches working together and our mailing address is St Andrews Church, Goldsworth Park, GU21 3LG.

Contact: the ACROSS COORDINATOR acrosswokingoffice@gmail.com

Across is part of the Mahabba Network www.mahabbanetwork.com

‘Cross cultural ministry in Woking’ www.acrosswoking.org.uk

MAHABBA
LOVING ALL MUSLIMS

ACROSS
Sharing Faith Across Cultures