

ACROSS Newsletter

ACROSS
Sharing Faith Across Cultures

حبة
MAHABBA
LOVING ALL MUSLIMS

Winter, Jan/Feb 2018



Imam Hashmi & his son distributing Christmas gift @ChristchurchWoking

The True Essence of Christmas

The well known nativity account of the birth of baby Jesus includes the wise men from the East bearing gifts.

A similar event took place this Christmas, when the local Imam Hashmi from the Shah Jehan mosque visited ten churches in the area on Christmas day to bring a gift of chocolates and biscuits to celebrate the birth of Jesus, whom we call the Christ, and who Muslims also know, as their prophet Isa al Masih. We give thanks that the churches of Woking maintain good relations with our Muslim neighbours and we look forward to strengthening those ties in the future, particularly during Ramadan which begins in May.



HOLY INJIL - LUKE
New translation by Duncan Peters

Part of the vision of Across is to reach our Muslim neighbours through recognising commonality in our prophets and scriptures.

Duncan Peters has translated Luke's gospel into a book called 'Luke the Holy Injil' which is geared towards Muslims who want to learn more about Jesus, known as 'Isa al Masih' in the Quran. Peters has translated Luke's Gospel referencing the original Greek text while including the recognised Arabic names for the prophets and Biblical characters mentioned in both Luke's gospel and the Quran. Copies of this beautifully written and well explained book, suited to gifting to your Muslim friends, are available through Across for just £5. For your copy do get in touch www.acrosswokingoffice@gmail.com

Father's House
Woking



www.fhwoking.org.uk

We kicked off the New Year with a Prayer Breakfast to pray for diaspora churches in and around Woking. We were privileged to hear from Pastor Giovanni and his wife Benedetta about their vision for 'Father's House' - a new church in the heart of Woking for every culture, nationality and background.

The diversity of Woking is represented in our neighbourhoods and it includes the richness of its people, a reflection of Isaiah's prophecy: 'As surely as I live says the Lord, every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God.' Isaiah 45:23



Helping ordinary Christians discuss Good News with ordinary Muslims
<http://friendshipfirst.org>

A Friendship First Course coming near you?
 As more of our local churches become aware of the work of Across, there has been an increased interest in attending a 'Friendship First' course. Christians in Woking who are wanting to share their faith with their Muslim neighbours are often apprehensive as the worry of offending prevents them from sharing the 'good news' with their Muslim friends. If you are interested in us hosting a course for your church group or would like to join a Course please do get in touch. This course will equip you to take that first step of sharing faith, through friendship.
acrosswokingoffice@gmail.com



How to share your faith with your Muslim Neighbour

Learn how to share your faith & answer difficult questions * Hear testimonies of Believers from a Muslim background * Meet experienced trainers who can provide ongoing training * Training resources will be available for purchase.
 Sat 24 Feb, 9:30-3:00 - St Mary's Church, Goat Lane, Basingstoke RG21 7PZ
This event is for individuals and churches wanting to reach out to their Muslim neighbours. Refreshments & lunch will be provided (donations welcome)
 Contact John Hayward at hayward800@btinternet.com

This is a Mahabba Network training event



Across Calendar – what's happening:

Regular **Monthly Prayer Meeting** (1st Friday at 8pm held at the Hills' in Woking – 2 Feb (Simpsons) , 2 Mar, 6 Apr - ALL WELCOME....
26 Feb Bristol are running an event - **preparing for Easter**
Wed 28 Feb - **Near Neighbours** event in Luton
WPOF will be hosting a Faith Pilgrimage on **Sat 3rd March** - details will follow
Mahabba Meal – to be announced. WATCH THIS SPACE
 The **Mahabba Day** is happening regionally on **Sat 12th May** at a location near you (in North, Midlands, West & London) put the date in your diary ...

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 is based at St Andrews Church, Goldsworth Park, GU21 3LG.

Contact: the ACROSS ADMINISTRATOR acrosswokingoffice@gmail.com

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

'Cross cultural ministry in Woking' www.acrosswoking.org.uk

