

URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. *John 1: 5*

SOUTHERN SYNOD
presents

Stepwise facilitators day

A day designed to inform, equip and enthuse potential facilitators for Stepwise. Facilitators are not tutors in the traditional sense, but will have experience to share and skills in enabling and encouraging the group in their discipleship development.

The day will include –

- Worship
- An introduction to Stepwise
- Some group work exploring and experiencing facilitation
- A Stepwise facilitated group taster session

Come expectant: God has exciting plans for His Church!

St Andrews URC, Canterbury

10 December 2019

Refreshments from 10.00
Start: 10.30
Depart: 15.30

Bring your own lunch

Contact Andy Twilley for details

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

6-8 December 2019

spectacular display of decorated trees and lights

Friday 6 Dec 10:30-19:00
Saturday 7 Dec 10:30-19:00
Sunday 8 Dec 12:30-16:00
16:30 'Carols among the Trees' and refreshments

FREE ENTRY

at Trinity Church
Mansel Road
Wimbledon SW19 4AA
<http://ctf.trinitywimbledon.org>

in aid of

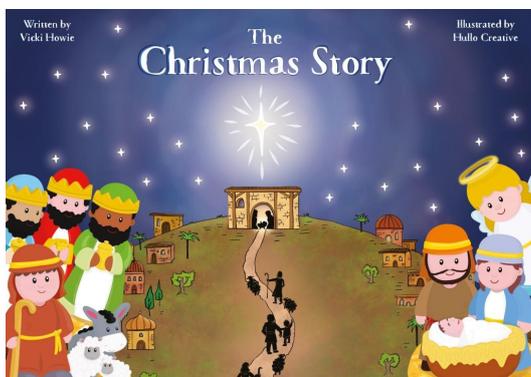
London's Air Ambulance Charity

CRAFT & GIFT FAIR

Saturday
7 December
11:00-15:00

Visit
FATHER CHRISTMAS
in his Grotto!
(Saturday only)

NEW RESOURCES THIS CHRISTMAS FROM HOPE



[FIND OUT MORE](#)



LOVE, PRAY & VOTE

As Christians, we can show love in action during this election by thinking about how our voice affects others, & using this opportunity to listen to those around us as we seek to build God's kingdom. Resources have been prepared by the Joint Public Issues Team.

[RESOURCES](#)



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CALLED TO PREACH?

The 2020 Lay Preachers' training course will commence on January 30th at Caterham URC, the sessions running from 10.30 – 12.45.

An exciting and stimulating journey!

Do you know anyone who might be interested? Maybe God is calling YOU to explore this area of ministry.

FIND OUT MORE



Please note: A copy of this news sheet can be found and downloaded from the news section of the Synod website: www.southernsynodurc.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE
All items for the next issue of "Mission & Vision" need to be sent to Opuene by 29 November 2019.

Trinity Advent Lecture 2019

Tuesday 3 December 7.30pm

"Gospel Music"

with Prof. Robert Beckford

Professor Beckford was Britain's first tutor in black theology in the 1990s and has since risen to broadcast on BBC and Channel 4. In his talk about the problem with gospel music and how to put it right, he will discuss music, coloniality and the church. This will be an entertaining, provocative and informative evening.

Prices £5 - tickets available online

<https://www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk/trinity-lecture>



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WELCOME TO METHODISM

At Methodist Church House
February 18th from 11.00-15.00

A day for ministers from non-Methodist churches who are serving as authorised or associate presbyters or deacons in Local Ecumenical Partnerships or other Methodist churches. The day will include consideration of Methodist ecclesiology and the forms of ministry in the Methodist Church. We will also worship together and spend time thinking about the ways in which ministry is supported.

[CONTACT Paul Dean to find out more.](#)

SPONSORED CYCLE RIDE

Dan Harris (a Southern Synod student at Westminster College) is taking part in a cycling fund-raising challenge, called Cycling Down Dementia, for the charity Alzheimer UK Research. This charity ride involves cycling 1000 miles (peddle power, not horse power!) through the winter months.

Dementia will affect more than half of us in some way and is one of our greatest medical challenges. But research can overcome the diseases that cause dementia. And that's where you come in. Join Cycling Down Dementia and together, we'll leave dementia out in the cold.

To sponsor Dan:

<https://cyclingdowndementia2019.everydayhero.com/uk/dan-1#>

Christian Leadership for the Common Good

In a divided society, how can churches act for the common good?



15 January - 16 January 2020

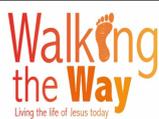
A two-day training workshop in association with Together for the Common Good

For ordained and lay people in Christian Leadership from all denominations and church traditions



Sarum Centre for Formation in Ministry

19 The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2EE
01722 424826 | courses@sarum.ac.uk | sarum.ac.uk | [@SarumCollege](https://twitter.com/SarumCollege)



EXPLORING TWO HOLY HABITS

'MAKING MORE DISCIPLES'

'PRAYER'

Presented by Revs Andrew & Sally Willett

SATURDAY 29TH FEBRUARY 2020
AT GILLINGHAM UNITED REFORMED CHURCH
BALMORAL ROAD, GILLINGHAM ME7 4PU

Starts with registration & refreshments at 10.00 and finishes 15.15

Come and be encouraged & inspired.

Email ptolhurst02@gmail.com or ring 01634 281215 to book for one or both sessions.



Group for Evangelism And Renewal within the United Reformed Church

The Autumn 2019 edition of In GEAR is now available on GEAR's web-site. This latest edition plus numerous back copies can be found at:

<http://www.gear.org.uk/publications/in-gear-magazine/>

You can download the PDF version by clicking on the relevant front page view.

If you wish to receive a paper copy (or multiple copies), please send your contact details to revscoop@gmail.com or phone Sheila on 0161 620 2884.



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Faith and Science for Everyone: A Short Course for Christian Leaders

Friday 10 - Saturday 11 January 2020, Cambridge
£30 for one day, £50 for both, including lunch
£10 for both days for those training in ministry

Join us for our professional workshop aimed at church leaders, lay or ordained, and those in training. The workshop will cover contemporary hot topics in the dialogue between Science and Religion as well as how to engage with Science and Faith in the local Church. Open to all church leaders; no scientific background required.

www.faraday.cam.ac.uk
Tel. 01223 748 888



NOW IN ITS TWELFTH YEAR! CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2019

A CHURCH FULL OF UNIQUELY DECORATED CHRISTMAS TREES FROM INDIVIDUALS, SCHOOLS, SHOPS, AND ORGANISATIONS IN THE DEAL AREA

GRAND OPENING
10AM FRIDAY 6 DECEMBER
BY THE WORSHIPFUL TOWN MAYOR OF DEAL
AND FEATURING THE CHOIR OF SANDOWN SCHOOL
PLUS SEASONAL ENTERTAINMENT AT VARIOUS TIMES:
REFRESHMENTS, LUNCHES, AND STALLS



FRIDAY
6 DECEMBER
10-5.30



SATURDAY
7 DECEMBER
10-5.30



SUNDAY
8 DECEMBER
12-5.00

ADULTS £2, ACCOMPANIED CHILDREN FREE

PROCEEDS TO



AND TRINITY CHURCH FUNDS



TRINITY CHURCH, DEAL
CORNER OF WEST STREET AND UNION ROAD

Church in focus

St Paul's URC, South Croydon

South Croydon United Church (Methodist/URC)

These 2 churches offer a warm & friendly welcome in South Croydon. Like so many of our churches in Southern Synod, we are exploring new and creative

ways of 'living the life of Jesus' in this fast-changing age.

St Paul's, with 56 members, has grown in it's openness to change and has a vision to become ever-more welcoming in a world which is often the opposite.

We are following a call to express God's welcoming love through our beautiful buildings, our youth work, music and through our growing understanding of social issues. Changes to our buildings to create warm and welcoming spaces inside and out, a new digital organ, contact with a new secondary school, 'Prayer Beat' (visiting our neighbours to ask for their prayer-requests), are all steps on this exciting journey.

South Croydon United Church is made up of 16-20 wonderfully commitment folk each Sunday. Its buildings are well-used by A.A, the Jack and Jill club, Croydon Outdoor Pursuits and Social Events Club (COPSE) and the vibrant Living Word Ministries church each Sunday afternoon. Our desire to reach beyond our walls is lived out in an active relationship with a new Primary school next door.

We ask for your prayers for our two churches and for Southern Synod as a whole, as we allow God to remake us in the image of the potter.

Rev Martin Knight



The
United
Reformed
Church

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