

# HSACRE



## HILLINGDON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**Date:** Wednesday 7 November 2012

**Time:** 7.30 pm

**Venue:** Committee Room 4 - Civic Centre,  
High Street, Uxbridge UB8 1UW

**Meeting:** Members of the Public and Press  
are welcome to attend this  
meeting

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reports can be made  
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information.**

### Members

Duncan Struthers (Chairman)  
Mike Gettleson (Vice-Chairman)  
Councillor Michael Bull  
Councillor Keith Burrows  
Councillor Carol Melvin  
Councillor David Routledge  
Councillor Avtar Singh Sandhu  
Amir Ahmed (Syed Amir Ahmed)  
Mary Coulthurst  
Connie Dusek  
Angela Lount  
Jean Nunney  
Jamal Pasha  
Jasvir Singh Rayat  
Daniel Norris  
Heather Steady  
Jay Lakhani  
Hilary Stone  
Carolyn Appleby  
Kevin Guest  
Farina Jussab  
Dharmini Shah

Published: Tuesday, 30 October 2012

[This Agenda is available online at:](http://modgov.hillingdon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=130&MIId=1346&Ver=4)  
<http://modgov.hillingdon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=130&MIId=1346&Ver=4>

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# Agenda

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## Chairman's Announcements

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and Dioceses

## Minutes

### HILLINGDON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

20 June 2012



Meeting held at Holy Trinity CE School,  
Rickmansworth Road, Northwood, Middlesex,  
HA6 2RH

|    |  |   |
|----|--|---|
|    | <p><b>Committee Members Present:</b><br/>Mike Gettleson (Chairman)<br/>Councillor Carol Melvin<br/>Councillor David Routledge<br/>Carolyn Appleby<br/>Amir Ahmed<br/>Jasvir Singh Rayat<br/>Daniel Norris<br/>Mary Coulthurst<br/>Jean Nunney</p> <p><b>LBH Officers Present:</b><br/>Nadia Williams, Democratic Services (Clerk to HSACRE)</p>  |   |
| 1. | <p><b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 1</i>)</p> <p>Apologies for absence had been received from Duncan Struthers, Cllr Mike Bull, Cllr Keith Burrows, Cllr Avtar Sandhu, Kevin Guest, Jamal Pasha, Heather Steady and Hilary Stone.</p>   |   |
| 2. | <p><b>MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 NOVEMBER 2011 AND 21 MARCH 2012</b> (<i>Agenda Item 2</i>)</p> <p>The minutes of meeting held on 9 November 2011 and 21 March 2012 were agreed as a correct record and there was the following matter arising:</p> <p><b>Minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2012 – Item 10 (Minute 58)</b></p> <p>It was reported that Brunel University was putting together a CD on Youth on Religion (YOR) which would feature Hillingdon Sixth formers. Discussion was currently on-going.</p> <p>HSACRE would be updated of its progress in due course.</p> | <p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>Mike Gettleson</p> |
| 3. | <p><b>ASSESSING PRIMARY RE - PRESENTATION</b> (<i>Agenda Item 3</i>)</p> <p>Prior to the start of the presentation, Daniel Norris gave a brief tour of Holy Trinity School, which was welcomed and those present very much appreciated.</p>  | <p><b>Action by</b></p>                       |

In his PowerPoint presentation entitled 'Raising Standards in Primary Schools'. Mr Norris explained that following the Ofsted report on Transforming Religious Education (RE) Education in 2010, some key issues highlighted included:

- Leadership quality of worship
- The quality of the way it met pupil's needs
- That learning being heavily focussed on AT1 with minimal learning from AT2
- That leadership management was always outstanding when RE was outstanding.

In 2009, a conference for RE leaders from church schools and community leaders established that whilst leaders held firm religious beliefs, they found it difficult to do their jobs. It was noted that this conference inspired the launch of a network for all Church of England schools in Hillingdon and Harrow.

Through this network, Holy Trinity School then decided to set up a conference and engaged speakers on RE Assessment. One of the issue that became apparent was that teacher training on RE was very minimal and that teachers required help when setting tasks to guide them in setting tasks that were challenging enough to deepen children's thinking and experiences. It was stated that this could be achieved by finding the right resources.

Attention was drawn to the fact that such help was available to boroughs which had RE Advisers and that Hillingdon did not. Mr Norris suggested that schools therefore needed the Network to work together to support teachers.

During discussion, it was suggested that links should be developed so that schools could invite people who practiced their faiths, supported by academics. Conferences, similar to that organised by Holy Trinity could be arranged and opened to neighbouring boroughs to cover costs. Mr Norris said that Barnet, Hounslow and Harrow had already expressed an interest in attending such conferences.

Suggested issues that could be covered at such conferences included:

- Voluntary inspections – as currently no one was able to do this
- Improve RE – could start by setting up conference/ workshop which would be self funding.

Daniel ended the presentation by informing the meeting that schools required the support of HSACRE as they would welcome the opportunity to work with different faith groups.

The Chairman thanked Daniel Norris for giving HSACRE members a tour of Holy Trinity School and for making a thought provoking presentation, which would give HSACRE issues for consideration. He also added that, with RE being given such low emphasis at Teacher Training, HSACRE would need to explore how it could help address these issues as a group.

All

|    |  |  |
|----|--|--|
| 4. | <p><b>FUTURE FUNDING FOR HSACRE - UPDATE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 4</i>)</p> <p>It was confirmed that the sum of £5,000 had been allocated to HSACRE for 2012-2013.</p> <p>The meeting discussed using some of this money to fund a conference in 2012/2013 and noted that ideas and suggestions for the format and topic of the conference would be welcomed from HSACRE members. All suggestions were to be emailed to <a href="mailto:nwilliams@hillingdon.gov.uk">nwilliams@hillingdon.gov.uk</a> (the Clerk to HSACRE).</p> <p>Those present agreed that the proposed conference should be inclusive of all faiths and should aim to demonstrate the importance of RE.</p>   | <b>Action by</b>   |
| 5. | <p><b>PROSPECTIVE CHAIRMAN OF HSACRE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 5</i>)</p> <p>The Chairman announced that Duncan Struthers had indicated that he was stepping down as Chairman of HSACRE and consideration should now be given by all with regard to taking on this role. To assist, brief details of the role of the Chairman would be circulated to all HSACRE members. The Chairman advised also, that a new HSACRE Advisor would be required, as Eric Blaire had also indicated that he would be relinquishing this role as HSACRE Advisor at the end of the year.</p> <p>Whilst it was acknowledged that appointment of HSACRE advisor was one that would be undertaken by the Local Authority, it was highlighted that appointment to this role would require someone who was suitably qualified in this area. HSACRE members who considered that they may be suitable for this role were encouraged to think about it.</p> <p>The meeting was reminded that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman for 2012/2013 would be appointed at the annual general meeting on <b>Monday 7 November 2012</b>. The appointments had been delayed to give HSACRE members some time to give some consideration to the roles and to be provided with details about what the role of the Chairman entailed.</p> | <p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>All</p> <p>Nadia Williams</p> |
| 6. | <p><b>RAMADAN - UPDATE</b> (<i>Agenda Item 6</i>)</p> <p>It was noted that Ramadan commenced on Saturday 21 July 2012 and that the last day of the summer term was on 20 July. Given that the remainder of the Ramadan period fell during the school holidays, it was decided that schools would not be unduly affected at this time.</p>  | <b>Action by</b>   |
| 7. | <p><b>INFORMATION ITEM: HSACRE REVISED CONSTITUTION</b> (<i>Agenda Item 7</i>)</p> <p>The Chairman drew the meeting's attention to the HSACRE Revised Constitution which was attached to the agenda. It was noted that the Revised Constitution had now been approved by the Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Education and Children's Services.</p>   | <b>Action by</b>   |

|    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 8. | <p><b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b> (<i>Agenda Item 8</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carolyn Appleby advised that she would be attending the 'A Question of Religion: Young People and Identity in contemporary Multi-Faith Britain' conference organised by the Centre for Child and Youth Research, At Brunel University on Friday 29 June 2012.</li> </ul> <p>Carolyn agreed to give feedback on the conference at the meeting on 7 November 2012.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It was noted that the Olympic touch would be going through the Uxbridge Leisure Centre on the 24 July 2012.</li> </ul> | <p><b>Action by</b></p> <p>Carolyn Appleby</p> |
|    | <p>The meeting, which commenced at 7.30 pm, closed at 9.10 pm.</p>  |  |

These are the minutes of the above meeting. For more information on any of the resolutions please contact Nadia Williams on 01895 277655. Circulation of these minutes is to Councillors, Officers, the Press and Members of the Public.

## HSACRE

HILLINGDON STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



### ANNUAL REPORT 2011

The current HSACRE was inaugurated on 22 February 1989 and this is its twentieth Annual Report in accordance with its constitution and statutory obligations.

A copy of this Annual Report can be found on the Hillingdon Grid for Learning/Fronter.

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## 1. FORWARD BY THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES



It gives me great pleasure to introduce this twentieth Annual Report of Hillingdon's Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education [SACRE].

I am pleased to note that most meetings of Hillingdon SACRE are well attended and this year has seen a number of important developments embedded including the meetings of Heads of RE in secondary schools and the continuing Interfaith work with its own innovations. The new Agreed Syllabus launched in 2010, was being implemented and the exciting project work with Brunel University entitled: 'Youth on Religion' continues. The HSACRE Constitution was reviewed and formally approved by myself on 3 April 2012.

Religious Education continues to make a profound contribution to the Authority's commitment to developing community cohesion. Hillingdon's SACRE works hard to support every teacher of RE in order to give our young people active and engaging learning experiences of living religious tradition in order to achieve both attainment targets of learning about and from others' faith views. SACRE members believe that a flourishing SACRE is vital to the promotion of mutual understanding of the different communities in Hillingdon, even in a period of significant educational change nationally.

Hillingdon SACRE promotes open-mindedness, respect for all, self awareness and appreciation and a sense of wonder, all of which have much to contribute to young peoples' development. Contacts with faith organisations throughout Hillingdon have enriched this. For children of the 21st century multicultural Britain, to learn about the plurality of religions and the beliefs that inform them is essential for them to become responsible citizens.

I would like to conclude by thanking the whole membership of the SACRE for being so active over the year. Thanks also to those who serve the SACRE, Nadia Williams for clerking meetings and Eric Blaire, the Professional Adviser to SACRE, but particular thanks must go to Duncan Struthers who continues to chair SACRE and drives forward most of the SACRE's work.

## **2. MEMBERSHIP**

HSACRE members are from four distinct groups and the committee is only quorate when representatives from every group are present:

GROUP A – Representatives of all faith groups in Hillingdon, including representatives from the Christian community not members of the Church of England. HSACRE works at ensuring that along with representatives from all the major world faiths, it works with all communities within the borough and welcomes their representation so long as they recognise the emphasis placed on inclusion by HSACRE.

GROUP B - Representatives from the Christian Church of England.

GROUP C - Representatives from each of the teachers' professional associations.

GROUP D - Hillingdon Councillors.

A list of members of each committee is included as an appendix.

Nadia Williams (Democratic Services) replaced Natasha Dogra (Democratic Services) as Clerk to SACRE in May 2010.

Eric Blaire continues as the professional adviser to SACRE, as an independent consultant, working on behalf of the authority's Chief Education Officer, Anna Crispin. SACRE remains delighted with this support but is ever more anxious as to the level that will be available in the future, particularly as Dr Blaire will be retiring at the end of 2012.

Duncan Struthers has continued as Chairman and Mike Gettleson as Vice-Chairman.

## **3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The main business for the year has been the launch of the Agreed Syllabus in the summer, particularly consideration of the development of the new 'Faith Strand' and the intra-faith co-operation in the completion of the individual sections for the main faiths.

As part of the work of the Hillingdon Inter-Faith Network (HIFN) there has been the embedding this year of a Faith Visitors to schools project that has received funding from the Hillingdon Community Trust. This has been extended with the involvement of sixth formers going to speak about their faith in primary schools.

The Rosedale College was presented with a framed certificate backed by a financial reward for the RE department, celebrating the school being the 'most improved' for its RE GCSE results for 2011. This was the second time that Rosedale College had received this award. Consideration continues to be given to other ways for SACRE to engage and encourage pupils and staff.

The lead specialist school, Swakelys continues to be an enthusiastic partner and continues to be instrumental in running the High school Inter Faith events, including a Conference with a theme of 'Prejudice'. These events attract most of the schools in the borough. Similar informal leadership is shown by Yeading Junior School. It continues to run cross-phase Inter Faith meetings of the schools in the Yeading cluster.

Hillingdon remains unique across London in not having any school seeking a 'determination' to be exempt from the locally Agreed Syllabus and furthermore, the movement of all but to secondary schools to Academy status has not changed this situation.

Working with the research team at Brunel University has resulted in interviews with two groups of sixth formers as a follow up to the YOR study and it is hoped to produce a DVD to be used as source materials in schools. All High schools in the borough were invited to participate in this 'Youth and Religion' study.

SACRE wishes to thank Lucy Russell, the Quaker representative, for her involvement in SACRE for many years. Carolyn Appleby joined SACRE in her place. Daniel Norris, Headteacher of Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School, replaced Graham Mariner as the Church of England representative on Hillingdon SACRE in the autumn 2011.

#### **4. MEETINGS OF HSACRE IN 2011**

Full meetings of HSACRE were held on:

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 23 March 2011   | Ruislip Synagogue |
| 22 June 2011    | Civic Centre      |
| 9 November 2011 | Civic Centre      |

All meetings but one was quorate.

In addition to the full meeting of SACRE, there were a number of subgroup meetings and the continuing progress of the Inter-Faith Forum and of Youth Events.

#### **5. FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

HSACRE was delegated a budget of £2500 for the year.  
Major items of expenditure to date (December 2011) are:

|                         | £    |
|-------------------------|------|
| Subject development     | 1575 |
| Conference attendance   | 70   |
| NASACRE                 | 85   |
| Catering for meetings   | 120  |
| Successful School Award | 250  |
| YOR developments        | 400  |

HSACRE is grateful for the financial support it receives and its development plan is guided by comments received from schools and faith communities.

## **6. ADVICE GIVEN TO THE AUTHORITY BY SACRE**

- i. Advice is given annually to the authority on Religious Education and Worship paragraphs in its information booklets for families entering a particular phase of education.
- ii. Responses to Freedom of Information requests re the nature and responsibilities of SACRE.

## **7. PUBLICATIONS AND EVENTS**

Extensive detailed work was carried out revising the Constitution and the final version was submitted for approval in 2012. An article on the new syllabus appeared in the autumn newsletter for governors and a presentation to governors was carried out in spring 2011.

Continuing support is given to both Inter-faith Events locally and nationally and similarly to the Week of Peace.

## **8. ADVANCED SKILLS TEACHER**

Dharmini Shah is an RE teacher at Bishop Ramsey CE school and SACRE is fortunate to have some of her dedicated time for support.

As part of her AST work Dharmini worked with SACRE in the re-writing of the Hillingdon Agreed Syllabus. This involved checking the content of the syllabus and thinking about ways in which some can be delivered.

Another part of her AST work involved 'outreach' whereby she could be deployed by the local authority to help RE Departments across Hillingdon. This latter situation is likely to end with her school becoming an Academy.

## **9. MONITORING AND REVIEW**

### **GCSE AND GCE RESULTS FOR 2010**

SACRE has received the published results of public examinations in RE for all schools. It is pleased to note that all schools continue to offer RE as a compulsory subject at KS4 as required.

Part of SACRE's role is to monitor the quality of Collective Worship in Hillingdon schools. During the year, the SACRE has remained concerned that the Ofsted inspection reports in respect of collective worship and spiritual, moral, social and cultural development do not give information for monitoring standards.

Members of the SACRE have continued to consider ways of obtaining good information about collective worship but to little effect.

## **10. OTHER ACTIVITIES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR 2012**

In collaboration with Brunel University Hillingdon SACRE has played a major role in delivery of the Youth on Religion Project in Hillingdon through interviews with groups of sixth form students.

SACRE intends to revise its previous advice on Ramadan and take cognisance of the holy month coming to coincide with public examinations in the coming years. Further issues around prayer and dress for physical education were expected to arise in 2011, covering primary age as well as secondary students.

No school had sought a determination in 2011 but the issue is likely to arise again in future years as consideration of the ever shrinking numbers of practising Christians in some schools occurs.

SACRE continues to seek Humanist involvement in its work through representation.

Comments on the value of this report are welcomed. These should be sent to Nadia Williams – Democratic Services, Civic Centre, High Street, Uxbridge, Middlesex UB8 1UW, or by emailing [nwilliams@hilligdon.gov.uk](mailto:nwilliams@hilligdon.gov.uk).

## APPENDIX

### **GROUP A**

|                                     |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Baptist                             | Duncan Struthers   |
| Hindu                               | Kamal Persaud      |
| Methodist                           | Angela Lount       |
| Church of England                   | Elenor Paul        |
| Muslim                              | Amir Ahmed         |
| Hillingdon Assembly of Muslim Youth | Naseem Bint Amir   |
| Quaker                              | Carolyn Appleby    |
| Jewish                              | Mike Gettleson     |
| Roman Catholic                      | Vacant             |
| Hillingdon Area Salvation Army      | Heather Steady     |
| Sikh                                | Jasvir Singh Rayat |
| Buddhist                            | Connie Dusek       |
| United Reform Church                |                    |
| Bahai                               | Lil Osborn         |
| British Humanist Association        | Richard Thomas     |

### **GROUP B**

|                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Church of England | Hilary Stone      |
|                   | Mary Coulthurst   |
|                   | Elenor Paul       |
|                   | Alison Fothergill |
|                   | Daniel Norris     |

### **GROUP C**

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| National Union of Teachers                                     | Ian Harper   |
| Association of Teachers and Lecturers                          | Jean Nunnery |
| National Association of School Masters/Union of Women Teachers |              |
| VOICE (formerly PAT)   |              |
| National Association of Headteachers                           |              |
| Headteacher – Yeading Junior School                            | Carol Jones  |
| Association of Secondary School and College Leaders            | Vacant       |

### **GROUP D**

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Local Authority | Councillor Mike Bull<br>Councillor Keith Burrows<br>Councillor Carol Melvin<br>Councillor David Routledge<br>Councillor Avtar Sandhu |
|-----------------|--|

### **CURRENT CO-OPTED MEMBERS**

|                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Graham Sumbler | Ruislip Baptist Church |
| Dharmini Shah  | Bishop Ramsey School   |
| Albie Huyser   | Harefield Academy      |
| Farina Jussab  | Swakeleys School       |

### **OFFICER SUPPORT**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| London Borough of Hillingdon<br>Committee Services | Nadia Williams<br>Democratic Services 3E/05<br>Civic Centre<br>High Street<br>Uxbridge<br>Middlesex UB8 1UW |
| SACRE Consultant for Hillingdon                    | Dr Eric Blaire  |

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## Inter Faith Week 18-22 November [www.interfaithweek.org](http://www.interfaithweek.org)

This year Inter Faith Week 2012 is taking place from Sunday 18 to Tuesday 27 November. It is a special, extended Week for the Diamond Jubilee year.

Information and resources for event organisers can be found on the Inter Faith Week website, [www.interfaithweek.org](http://www.interfaithweek.org), together with listings of events.

Secretary of State for Education, Michael Gove MP singled Inter Faith Week out when writing to congratulate IFN on its 25th Anniversary this year, noting that the:

***“extended Inter Faith Week that will take place in November this year gives even more opportunity for schools and young people to participate, and I hope they will take advantage of this to build new partnerships and celebrate the diversity that exists across the UK.”***

SACREs have played an important role in Inter Faith Week since it began, both by holding events to mark the Week and by encouraging schools in their area to get involved and forwarding information to them.

A number of Inter Faith Week resources for SACREs and schools – produced in 2009 by NASACRE and NATRE respectively – are available on the website at <http://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/for-schools>. These are also available this year from the Times Education Supplement website.

The Inter Faith Week website will again be listing events taking place throughout the country, and **we would like to encourage more schools and SACREs to list events they may be planning**. Many school events are, of course, not open to the general public, but it is possible to explain this, whilst still benefitting from the publicity of being listed on a national website.

If you are looking for inspiration, reports on past Inter Faith Weeks can be downloaded from <http://www.interfaithweek.org/resources/reports> along with full lists of all events known to have taken place. Ashley Beck at the IFN office would also be happy to have a conversation with you about the Week if this would be helpful. He can be reached at 020 7730 0410.

### **Events which schools have run in the past include:**

- ‘Shared Values Ethics Conference’ for GCSE pupils
- Presentations from religious and non-religious people on subjects relevant to the RE syllabus
- Discussion workshops for Sixth Form students tackling difficult issues
- Focused assemblies on similarities between faiths, such as ‘festivals of light’ and ‘searching for peace’
- Screening films with an inter faith theme, such as ‘The Imam and the Pastor’ and ‘Of Gods and Men’
- Visits to places of worship
- Inviting performers or musicians from faith communities to feature in school assemblies
- Themed lunchtime menus from different faith or cultural traditions

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## **Religious Education Quality Mark**

### **A day conference on the RE Quality Mark for teachers and advisers in Local Authorities and Dioceses**

Monday 17th December 2012 10am - 3pm  
Diocesan Office, 41 Holywell Hill, St. Albans Hertfordshire AL1 1HE

#### **RE Quality Mark: Background**

The RE Quality Mark (REQM) has been developed to celebrate high quality religious education and is available to all schools.

The REQM works at three levels of Bronze, Silver and gold awards. Schools apply for the REQM through the website and trained assessors will visit individual schools to validate the quality mark. Schools gaining the REQM award will be encouraged to share their good practice and act as a central hub to develop RE for local schools. The course leaders are Mary Myatt and Jane Brooke, who support schools who wish to apply for REQM.

**Mary Myatt** is an adviser to Suffolk SACRE. Until recently she served on the executive for AREIAC (Association of RE Inspectors Advisers and Consultants) and has been an assessor and trustee for NACE (National Association for Able Children in Education). She is an associate tutor at UEA in the School of Lifelong Learning and a lead inspector for Ofsted.

**Jane Brooke** has taught RE to pupils from ages 3 to 18 years. She has worked for CEM (now REtoday services) and in local authorities as an RE Adviser, senior Curriculum Adviser and Principal Secondary Improvement Adviser. She is an Ofsted trained inspector (RE, Maths, PSHCE) and SIAS inspector and still carries out church school inspections. Jane has been chair of NASACRE, the English representative on EFTRE (European Forum for teachers of Religious Education) and RE Project development Officer for

the National Society. She has led RE INSET nationally and internationally. She is currently an independent consultant working for schools and LAs as a School Improvement Partner and for Chester Diocese as Principal Consultant. Jane is also a sub-editor for REToday.

**Cost: £70 ; includes refreshments and lunch**

# Application Form

**Please reserve a place for me on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2012**

Name:

Post:

Address:

Email address:

Telephone Number:

**You will receive confirmation of your booking and an invoice will be emailed to you.**

If you have specific dietary needs please state eg vegetarian

Rooms can be arranged via

<http://www.enjoystalbans.com/where-to-stay/index.html>

Book early to avoid disappointment

**Please return this form to Jane Chipperton (AREIAC Executive Assistant) [jchipperton@stalbans.anglican.org](mailto:jchipperton@stalbans.anglican.org)**

**Or post to Diocesan Office, 41 Holywell Hill, St. Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 1HE**

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