

September 2023



Supporting local churches and communities across Peterborough

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Across Peterborough Magazine

Across Peterborough magazine is designed to supplement the Across Peterborough website. Across Peterborough serves the city by sharing the good news of Christian work and activities, and by building bridges across denominations and different communities. Some of the key aims are:

- Share good news of activities in Peterborough
- To help create unity and peace
- To serve the Christian church and community

This magazine is produced by Light Project Peterborough, whose aim is to enable and equip the church and community to heal the broken-hearted, set free the oppressed, and bring good news to the poor. Light Project Peterborough provide various projects including:

- The Garden House - Day Centre for rough sleepers
- Homeless Health Hub – support from numerous healthcare agencies
- Peterborough Night Shelter - emergency accommodation
- Street Chaplaincy - volunteers who offer prayer and chats around the city centre

Find out more about the work of the charity by visiting lightprojectpeterborough.org.uk.



Across Peterborough

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Facebook - Across Peterborough

Share Your Story

Wherever you are on your life journey we hope you'll find something here to inspire you.

Our aim is to showcase some of the amazing work being done by Christians in our city and provide resources that will help improve communication across Peterborough's community.

To submit a story or to publicise an event, please email:
ap@lightprojectpeterborough.org.uk



Across Peterborough

What is the Gospel?

The Gospel is the good news of the kingdom of God and salvation by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

It is the message that Christ died for our sins and has made us his own before and apart from our believing in him and has bound us to himself by his love in such a way that he will never let us go.

Therefore, he calls on all humans to repent and believe in him as Lord and Saviour.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16 NIV).

The Gospel declares that because of Christ, all people, regardless of background, ethnicity or status are loved, forgiven and accepted by God – we all belong to him.

As believers, we rejoice in the gospel of God through which we have been saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Because God first loved us, we love him (1 John 4:19), and we demonstrate our love for him through our love and concern for others.

Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead (James 2:14-17 NIV).

It is the Gospel that informs our social action.

Global Café at *The Fletton Centre*

Would you or someone you know like to practise speaking English?

If yes, then come to Global Cafe every first Monday and third Monday of the month at The Fletton Centre (139B Fletton Avenue, Peterborough, PE2 8BY).

This is a great opportunity to meet new people in a friendly and relaxed environment.

There's also free coffee and cake available.

If you'd like to know more information, email globalcafe@wearelifechurch.uk or call **07547976574**.

Global Cafe



WE'RE RUNNING IN THE GREAT EASTERN RUN



light
project
peterborough
Revealing Jesus

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End of an era and a new exciting opportunity

STREET CHAPLAINS

Our Street Chaplains volunteer both in the day time and night time and enjoy excellent relationships with the Police and other key 'Street' partners.

On 13th December 2008, Peterborough Street Pastors went out on patrol in the night-time economy for the first time. Over the next 11 years, Street Pastors helped countless people out in the city centre on a Saturday night between 10pm-4am.

At the beginning of 2019, Peterborough city centre had changed, and Street Pastors were struggling to patrol every weekend as they were down to just six volunteers.

The dedicated Management Committee was also very small in number. So, they began to seek God about His will for the future.

Then in March 2020, the COVID-19 lockdown began! The patrols immediately ceased, and the Pastors continued to seek God.

Christine Graham, Founder and Co-ordinator of Street Pastors says, 'We could only have imagined when we stepped out in faith in December 2008, how God would use us over the next decade. To be able to take God's love to the streets and meet people has been a real privilege.

Jesus said that we should be salt and light to our world and this is what we have been to those in our city centre'.

During the summer of 2022, Street Pastors and City Centre Chaplaincy volunteers merged under a new banner of Street Chaplains.

You will see Street Chaplains out in our city talking to people, giving out gifts on special occasions, listening to those in need, praying where asked to do so and much more.

Would you like to become a Street Chaplain?

Light Project Peterborough are looking to recruit new volunteers. If you or someone you know would like to become a part of an amazing team of volunteers, then please read below.

What makes a great Street Chaplain:

- Being reliable, trustworthy, and of a non-judgemental nature
- Have good communication and people skills
- Be a member of a church for at least six months

What you'll get in return:

- The opportunity to meet new people and make new friends
- Be able to help others who are in need
- Gain key skills and experience for CV or future roles

There are various shifts available. For daytime, chaplains go out on Wednesdays (11am-1pm) and Friday (10am-12pm and 2pm-4pm). For night shifts, these are only on Fridays (9pm-3am) but looking to expand this to Saturdays as well. Chaplains don't need to volunteer every week but ideally at least once a month.

If you or someone you know would be interested, please contact: Sarah sarah.harcharran@lightprojectpeterborough.org.uk.



What is chaplaincy?

Clive Morton

Many of us in churches are vaguely aware of what chaplaincy is, and maybe we have a chaplain in the congregation or amongst the clergy, but what do they do? And where do they fit in within the church?

There's a long history behind chaplaincy, and in modern times it came to prominence in the First World War with chaplains in the military ministering to the troops.

When the UK was much more industrialised than it is today, there were chaplains in steel works, coal mines and in other aspects of heavy industry.

Over the last 50 years, the focus has moved so that the vast majority of chaplains now work in public service – in hospitals, prisons, schools, universities.

There are not so many chaplains in private industry nowadays as the vast majority of businesses are small with relatively few employees.

Today other forms of chaplaincy have arrived – notably in retail, which has spread into the 'high street' in general terms, and an example close to home is with the Street Chaplains, headed up by

Sarah Harcharran at Light Project Peterborough. The volunteer chaplains make themselves available in Cathedral Square, in the pubs and around Central Park where lots of people wander to enjoy the fresh air and nature. Street chaplains find that quite a lot of those they encounter want to share their problems, worries and concerns, and many will ask for the chaplain to pray with them and for them.

A few years ago I worked with some colleagues, researching into chaplaincy under the heading of "Spirituality in the Workplace" and we interviewed a number of chaplains across a wide range of employment situations.

It was a valuable learning experience and we came to some useful conclusions:

Street chaplains find that quite a lot of those they encounter want to share their problems, worries and concerns, and many will ask for the chaplain to pray with them and for them.

- There is more interest in 'spirituality' in the workplace and in 'meaning in life' today
- Chaplains are seen to be effective in dealing with issues of spirituality, meaning in life and often mental health issues

- Chaplains are energised and motivated by their work and are valued by those they encounter in the workplace

- Regrettably, churches and denominations are often unaware or uninterested in the work of chaplains.

- The entrepreneurial approach adopted by many chaplains in their daily work could be a learning model for churches!

So, I would like to put a challenge out there.....do you have someone in your church who does chaplaincy work, part time, whole time, as a volunteer or as a paid role? If so, please contact them and:

- Ask them about their work and experiences
- Let them know you support them
- Encourage your church leadership to ask the chaplain to share their knowl-

edge with the congregation. What can we learn from them?

- Pray for their work and encourage the whole church to be behind them in prayer.



**CHAPLAINS ARE TAKING
CHRIST'S LOVE OUTSIDE
THE CHURCH – OUTSIDE
THE 'FOUR WALLS'**

FOOD HUB PROVIDES VITAL SUPPORT

St Luke's Catholic Church



Food Hub volunteers, from the left, Fedra Diogo, Margaret Snowden, Carol Brooks, Joan Wayland, Richard Rahim and Tony O'Driscoll.

A Food Hub at St Luke's Church in Orton Malborne has been giving food and much needed support to those in need within the local community.

Joan Wayland (organiser) reports that back in June 2021, Fr Jeffrey asked parishioners if they would be able to support a "Food Hub" in the Parish. There was already a team of volunteers who had, before Covid restrictions, supported the Winter Night Shelter and they were contacted to see if they could support this new project. Several people responded, some parishioners and some who do not go to church at all.

An inaugural meeting was arranged to form a working party and David Livesey from Caritas shared his invaluable experience with all who attended.

There was a steep learning curve, and it was beneficial to have contact with other more experienced organisations both locally and in London, who were generous with their time and support. As word of the Food Hub spread, donations of food came in from Joe Rodriguez of St Joseph's Family Society, Unison and parishioners.

The kindness and generosity of all who contributed meant that the small meeting room at St Luke's really did become a Food Hub.

Local doctors, schools, the council and other organisations were alerted to the new venture and soon began to send those they felt were in need, though numbers were initially small, they are growing week-

on-week. Although the Food Hub had very humble beginnings it has steadily grown ever since.

Local city councillors have visited the Food Hub and will promote it appropriately and volunteers have had the opportunity to speak to a meeting of Churches in the Ortons.

The food hub began just before Christmas and has steadily grown ever since

The volunteers attend on a fortnightly rota, and it is not only food and other provisions that are shared. Tea, coffee and biscuits are always on offer, and our visitors can stay to chat, warm up on a cold day as well as collect appropriate provisions. Some of our visitors have continued to attend and become volunteers themselves.

Much has been learned: If visitors are loaded up with too many bags, though this may seem generous, they can't always carry that amount; holding stock for too long can mean it goes out of date; space is of the essence and is soon filled; can people heat food at home or

even open tins without ring pulls?

The benefits of having a Food Hub have been immense. Local people in need can come and get provisions but volunteers have been given the opportunity to learn from all who attend about gratitude.

Resources have been shared and someone with IT skills has set up a spreadsheet, co-ordinators take responsibility for contacting volunteers to remind them about their "shift". All in all, this has been a great project for furthering parish cohesion and reaching out to others some of whom do not attend church.



HOW CAN I HELP THE HOMELESS IN PETERBOROUGH?

How can I help the homeless in Peterborough?

As you walk through the city of Peterborough and suburbs, you may see many people sitting in shop doorways, through the underpasses or in the surrounding green spaces.

While you feel you want to do something to help them... you may be unsure of what is the best thing you can do.

We have put together the top ways that you can really help the homeless in Peterborough, so it will help move their lives forward for the better.

Send them to The Garden House

The best way to help someone is direct them to Light Project Peterborough so the right support can be given to the individual. The Garden House is located at Archdeaconry House, Gravel Walk, Minster Precincts, Peterborough, PE1 1YU. People sleeping rough can come between 10am-12:30pm and 1:30pm-4pm every weekday (closed on Wednesday afternoons).



instead of giving money to the homeless in Peterborough



Inform the council via StreetLink

If you are concerned about someone who is 18 or older and is sleeping rough in Peterborough, you can visit www.streetlink.org.uk or download the StreetLink app to send an alert. You will need to include where you have seen the homeless person and give a description of what they look like.

The details you provide are then sent to Peterborough City Council whose outreach service will visit the area you reported the individual is in, so they can provide support and advice. It is important to note that if you think the person you are concerned about is under 18, please do not contact StreetLink but instead call the police.

Out of hours

If you see a homeless person when The Garden House is closed and you're unable to report the individual via StreetLink, you can phone the council's Housing Needs number - 01733 864157.

Donate time

Instead of giving money to the homeless in Peterborough, we recommend that you give your time. The homeless person you meet may be going through challenges and the money you give them may not be spent in the right way, or on the right things.

By giving your time to listen to the person, you are making them feel like a valued person in the community once more. Alternatively, you can donate your time to Light Project Peterborough by becoming a volunteer at The Garden House or becoming a Street Chaplain.

Donate money, in the right way

If you really want to donate money but want to ensure that it is spent in the right way, on the right things, then you can donate to Light Project Peterborough. Money raised goes straight into their projects to support those in desperate need within the city. To donate, visit lightprojectpeterborough.org.uk.

Alternatively, you can also fundraise for the charity through your own activity or with an organised event such as the Great Eastern Run. Further information can be found on the website.



...rborough, we recommend that you give your time.

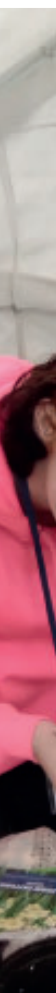
THE GARDEN HOUSE

"Without the help from the Garden House I don't think I would be here now. I was actually contemplating ending my life. I do not have enough words to say thank you..." Paul (ex rough sleeper)

Light Project Peterborough started its journey in 2009 and one of its main projects is The Garden House. This is the first step for anyone who is sleeping on the streets in Peterborough and needing support. People sleeping rough can come to The Garden House for food and drink, information and advice, as well as access to a wide range of support services. The project began on 8th October 2018 and sees at least one new person walking through its doors every day.

Light Project Peterborough has linked up with service providers including Peterborough City Council housing officers, GPs, employment agencies, alcohol and drugs support specialists, mental health teams, Police, hairdressers, chiropodists, and arts therapists. These services visit The Garden House on a regular basis. To coordinate and lead all this, project workers work tirelessly and are supported by amazing volunteers who are kind enough to donate their time.

The Garden House is a project that really changes the lives of those who come through the doors, because people in the darkest of places are given hope and made to feel valued and supported during some of the biggest challenges they will ever face.





"THE THOUGHTFULNESS OF THE APPROACH, WOULD CERTAINLY PUT THE GARDEN HOUSE RIGHT UP AT THE TOP OF THE LIST FOR GOOD MODELS FOR THIS KIND OF WORK" ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY – JUSTIN WELBY (2019)



Jimmy's story

Jimmy was living in Lincolnshire with his parents but due to a family breakdown, he came down to Peterborough as he knew some friends. For a few nights though, he lived on the streets. He was then referred to The Garden House by the city council as he hadn't eaten for two days.

Jimmy recalls "On the first day [at The Garden House] I was a state; I was shaking and crying. It was Teresa who greeted me. She sat with me and calmed me down." Since coming to LPP, Jimmy has regained his confidence and got the "kick up the backside" he needed to turn his life around.

"I like coming to The Garden House as it means I'm not sat alone, I'm communicating with people, I'm not lonely or feeling depressed. Everyone here has been a big help. In such a short space of time, my whole life has changed: from being depressed, lonely and crying to now feeling happy and walking out every day with a smile on my face."

ST MARK'S HUB AND SAFE SPACE PROJECT

Olufemi Olasoko



"We are always grateful to hear from anyone who can spare a few hours to volunteer with us."

St Mark's Church Peterborough launched the Community Hub and Safe Space Project in July 2022. This is funded by the National Lottery Community Grant until 2025. The sole purpose of this work is to meet some of the needs in our Parish, highlighted in the Peterborough4U pre-covid survey carried out by the Church. These include loneliness, feelings of isolation, poverty, mental health issues, anti-social behaviour, language barrier and so on.

A few months after we opened, Peterborough City Council launched their Household Support Fund to provide warm spaces, hot meals, and food parcels for the most vulnerable in the Peterborough community.

St Mark's Hub applied, and we were successful, commencing warm hub/ food provision in November 2022. In that funding season, we opened on Wednesdays for breakfast/ lunch, and on Thursdays for late lunch. This was made

possible by the support of the St Mark's Church PCC and membership, Staff handling the Household Support project at the Council, Churches Together, Community First Peterborough, Hotpoint Peterborough (donation of Fridge) and T4Free users who rose to the occasion.

Our team served close to 2,000 meals and take aways, gave over 1,872 volunteering hours and welcomed 1,329 people of whom 303 were homeless, sleeping rough or in temporary accommodation.

With the continued cost-of-living crisis, many of our users are still living under the poverty line, making the need for food provision very high.

We have received the continuation HSF4 funding from Peterborough City Council and are therefore open on Mondays and Thursdays to keep meeting the need within our community. Our staff and volunteers working tirelessly to ensure

those that use our services are cared for with utmost respect and dignity, regardless of their situation or background. In addition to the provision of hot meals, the hub is running other activities and projects. Some of which are 'gardening for wellbeing' project in the allotment behind the Church Hall. This provides opportunity for participants, to keep active, make new friends and grow their own food. Funding for this came from the Wellness Fund PCC/ PCVS and Living Sport.

We have continued to run Tea4free sessions every Monday from 2pm-4pm. Those aged between 18-25 can come and chat, share ideas and make new friends. Since the opening of the hub, we have seen increased footfall to these sessions. Two of our users are now volunteering with us on a weekly basis. One of them said,

'I was only invited to come to T4Free because I was in a very bad place with my mental health. I had been recently laid off work because my employer did not know how to support with my mental health. Coming here has improved my wellbeing and I am in a much better place than when I arrived, this is why I want to give back and begin to rebuild my life gradually'.

We seek out the support of other agencies and professionals for our users and signpost to the help they need. One good example of this is Healthy You. They are periodically carrying out health checks and mini-MOTs at our sessions, providing opportunity to those who would otherwise not seek medical attention to be checked. Other workshops and training sessions we run include, cooking classes, soap and candle making sessions and sewing classes.

We are always grateful to hear from anyone who can spare a few hours to volunteer with us, as we seek to meet the need of our community. In addition to our volunteer needs, we are calling restaurants, and professional caterers to take part in our 'Chef of the Month' initiative. We note that some of our users cannot afford to eat out due to the increasing costs.

Our hope is that once a month, a professional chef will support with making restaurant worthy meals from our kitchen, using our resources. If you are interested in supporting us, please pop in to see us on Mondays 2pm-4pm and Thursdays 1pm-4pm. You can also call us on 07724003677 or email Olufemi. olasoko@stmarkspeterborough.org.uk.



Olufemi Olasoko is Community Coordinator St Mark's, Lincoln Road, Peterborough

Find the nearest Cost of Living Support hub:

Afro Caribbean Group

Address: Millennium Centre, Dickens Street, Peterborough, PE1 5GD
Phone: 01733 562 663

Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Address: N/a - phone / web based service
Phone: 0300 666 9860

Barnardo's Community Hub:

First Steps Child and Family Centre, 20 Scalford Drive, Wel-land, PE1 4TR
Tel: 01733 295 860

The Food Basket:

First Steps Child and Family Centre, 20 Scalford Drive, Wel-land, PE1 4TR

Black History Month Committee Peterborough

Address: N/a - delivery only
Email: info@bhmpeterborough.org
Phone: 07392 953 665

Bretton Baptist Church Hub

Address: Copeland, South Bretton, Peterborough, PE3 6YJ
Phone: 0782 143 5426

Christ The Servant King (CSK) Church and Chimes Coffee Shop

Address: Silver Hill, PE7 8FF
Phone: 01733 248 236

Compas Charity

Address: Gladstone Park Community Centre, 927 Bourges Boulevard, Peterborough, PE1 2AN
Phone: 07842 244 535

Dial Peterborough (known as Disability Peterborough)

Address: N/a - delivery only
Email: info@disabilitypeterborough.org
Phone: 01733 265 551

Faizan e Madina Mosque

Address: 51 Cobden Street, Peterborough, PE1 2HA

Family Action

Address: The Charteris Centre, PE1 4XE
Phone: 01733 893 361

Family Voice Peterborough

Address: The Goldhay Centre, 105 Paynels, PE2 5QP
Phone: 01733 685 510 or 07505 662 670

Good Neighbours Rural Roving Hub

Phone: 07735 810 139

iCare Peterborough

Address: UKIM Masjid Khadijah, 311 Cromwell Road, Peterbor-ough, PE1 2HP
Phone: 07965 245 211

KingsGate Community Church

Address: Lime Academy Parnwell, Saltersgate, Parnwell, PE1 4YH

Light Project Peterborough

Address: The Garden House, Gravel Walk, Peterborough, PE1 1YU
Phone: 01733 560 031

Little Miracles Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Address: The Spinney, Hartwell Way, Peterborough, PE3 7LE
Phone: 01733 262 226

Mary's Child

Address: St Michaels Church, Mace Road, Peterborough, PE2 8RQ
Phone: 07976 523 555

Millfield Community Fridge

Address: Open Door Baptist Church Hall, Searjeant Street, Peterborough, PE1 2LY
Phone: 07443 653 710

Nigerian Community in Peterborough (NCP) and Life Mon-ey at The Fletton Centre Hub

Address: 139B Fletton Avenue, Peterborough, PE2 8BY

Park Road Baptist Church

Address: Park Road, Peterborough, PE1 2TF
Phone: 01733 347 709

Paston Farm Community Foundation

Address: Paston Farm Centre, Freston, Peterborough, PE4 7XB
Phone: 01733 570 310

Peterborough Asylum and Refugee Community Associa-tion (PARCA)

Address: Unity Hall, Northfield Road, Peterborough, PE1 3QH
Phone: 01733 563 420

RCCG Dominion Christian Connections

Address: 36 - 38 Park Road, Peterborough, PE1 2TG
Phone: 07733 450 555

St John's Church

Address: Cathedral Square, Peterborough, PE1 1XB
Phone: 07957 292 111

St Mark's Community Hub and Safe Space

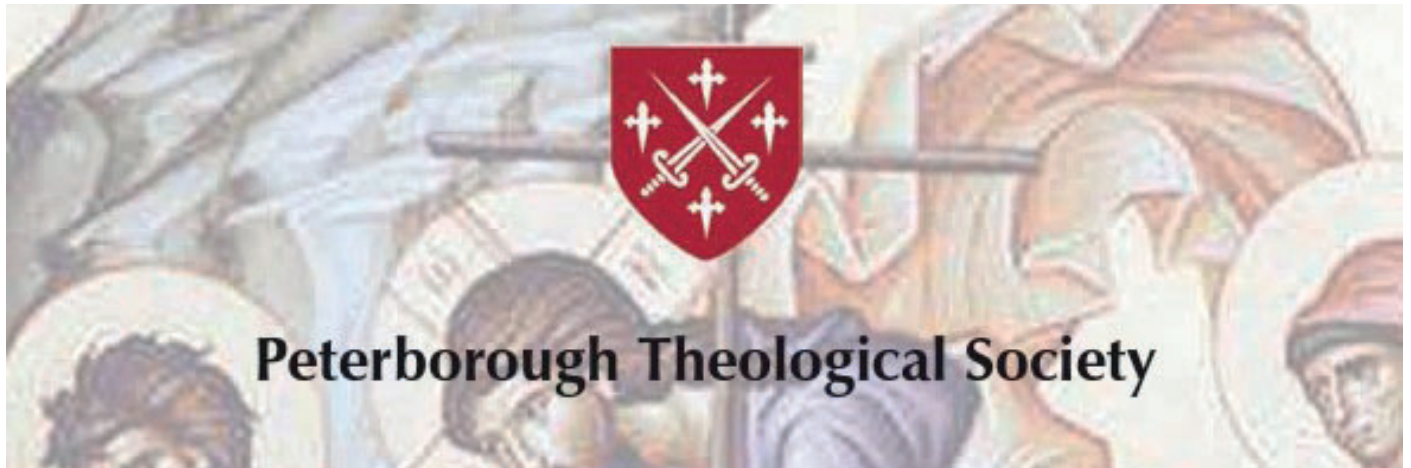
Address: St Mark's Church Hall, 82 Lincoln Road, Peterbor-ough, PE1 2SN
Phone: 07724 003 677

Wellspring Community Church

Address: The Alpha Centre, Adderley, Bretton, e: 01733 306 401

Westraven Community Cafe and Garden

Address: 24 - 28 Hampton Court, Westwood, Peterborough,



The Peterborough Theological Society, led by Rev'd Canon Bill Croft, is an ecumenical group open to all. Meetings are held on Mondays 7.30pm – 9.15pm at Park Road Baptist Church, Park Road, PE1 2TF as well as on Zoom. The society has released it's 2023-2024 programme:

Monday, 30 October 2023

Speaker: The Rev'd Professor Christopher C.H. Cook, Emeritus Professor in the Institute for Medical Humanities at Durham University and a Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Hearing voices, Demonic and Divine

Monday, 27 November 2023

Speaker: The Rev'd Prebendary Dr Isabelle Hamley, Secretary for Theology and Theological Adviser to the House of Bishops, Church of England. The Lord has given, the Lord has taken, what shall I say of the Lord? Trauma and God-talk in the book of Job

Monday, 29 January 2024

Speaker: The Rev'd Dr Donald McFadyen, Vicar of the Warmington benefice, Diocese of Peterborough, and Associate Tutor on the Eastern Region Ministry Course. Hooker meets Drucker: avoiding the dead hand of managerialism on the Church.

Monday, 26 February 2024

Speaker: The Rev'd Dr Ayla Lepine, Associate Rector, St James's Piccadilly, Diocese of London. Women, Art, God: Feminist Visual Theology

Monday, 18 March 2024

Speaker: The Rev'd Dr John P. Bradbury, General Secretary of the United Reformed Church and former vice-Principal of Westminster College, Cambridge. Ecumenism: Towards a theology of non-theological factors

Monday, 29 April 2024

Speaker: The Rev'd Dr Rowan Williams, Canon Precentor at Peterborough Cathedral and Bishop's Adviser for Liturgy and Worship. Speaker: Tansy Castledine MA FRCO NPQSL ARAM, Director of Music at Peterborough Cathedral, Trustee for the Royal School of Church Music and Church Music Society, and member of the Academic Board of the Royal College of Organists. 'I will sing with the Spirit': issues in contemporary music-making in churches and cathedrals.

Monday, 20 May 2024

Speaker: Dr Sue Price, Director of Pastoral Outreach, Margaret Beaufort Institute of Theology, Cambridge and Patron of Peterborough Theological Society. Mary: first woman of the Church

Monday, 24 June 2024

Speaker: The Rev'd Dr Charlie Bell, Fellow of Girton College, Cambridge and Research Associate at St Augustine's College of Theology. At what cost? Unity, queerness, and doctrinal development

Contact michael@mpage.org.uk to find out more information.

DID YOU KNOW?

Hope into Action



Hope into Action is a charity which began in 2010 whose unique purpose is to enable churches to house the homeless. They're passionate about changing homelessness in the city and believe everyone has the right to a home.

The charity was launched when Ed and his wife Rachel bought a house which was decorated and furnished with help from friends so two young men could have somewhere safe and secure to live in. They both settled well thanks to the support and friendship of the local church team. Now, 352 people receive the same love and support within 100 homes every night.



Hope into Action have expanded outside of Peterborough and now works with churches right across the country.

Everyone is welcome to receive support from Hope into Action, no matter their ethnicity, sexuality or if they're of faith or not.

To find out more about the work they do, visit their website hopeintoaction.org.uk or call 01733 558301.

DID YOU KNOW?

Concrete Rose



Concrete Rose Collective CIC are devoted to providing support that responds to the needs of young people especially within accommodation and education.

They believe that every young person should be able to live life to the full and have the opportunities to flourish.

It was established as a Community Interest Company in 2020 but the foundations of their work started 20 years sooner when the founder, Mike Farrington, dedicated himself to supporting young people who are “most at risk, vulnerable and isolated.”

Concrete Rose help provide “supported lodgings for young people (including care leavers, those at risk of homelessness, unaccompanied asylum seekers and young parents)”. These places include wrap-around support for both hosts and the young people. This is achieved mainly through help from local churches.



**LEARN MORE
ABOUT CONCRETE
ROSE BY VISITING
CONCRETEROSE.
CO.UK**

**OR CALL
07881926728.**

6 REASONS TO ENGAGE IN SOCIAL ACTION...

Richard Dempsey

There is a growing awareness among the Christian community in Peterborough, largely as a result of the effective work done by groups such as PC4SA (Peterborough Christians for Social Action), that believers need to be serving along with Jesus in their local community. Believers understand that the Gospel emphasises helping the poor and the marginalised, and speaking up for those who cannot speak for themselves (Luke 4:18; 15:1-2), but should Christians be involved in social action?

Here are 6 reasons why I believe Christians should:

1 Christians are naturally socially active people because the Lord Jesus Christ taught his disciples to love their neighbours as they love themselves (Mark 12:31). Without this teaching, history would never have known such names as Elizabeth Fry, William Booth, William Wilberforce and many more.

2 Jesus called his disciples 'the salt of the earth' (Matthew 5:13) and, as salt enhances the flavour of food, it also acts as a preserver, a cleanser and a healer. To be the 'salt' in

the world, we must maintain that spiritual 'saltiness' so that the Holy Spirit, working in us, will inspire those same attributes to 'flavour' our good works (Titus 3:8; Acts 20:35).

3 Jesus called his followers 'the light of the world', but a light hidden under a basket cannot illuminate anything. When we hide inside our churches and refuse to bring the light of the Gospel into the community, we are in danger of becoming spiritually bankrupt (James 2:26). It is the Holy Spirit who calls us to action and gives us boldness to engage in our communities, allowing the light of the Gospel to shine through us.

4 We as Christians should be performing good works in our local communities because we have been united to Christ for that very purpose (Ephesians 2:10). Social action may take on different forms for different individuals because God has gifted us differently. However our faith is revealed, not so much through our words and our preaching, but through our acts of kindness, especially toward the poor and disadvantaged in society (James 2:14-17).

5 Our social action serves as a witness to God and to the gospel in our communities and is one way in which we bring glory to our Heavenly Father (Matthew 5:16). The Gospel not only instructs us to be 'zealous for good works' (Titus 2:14) but the Holy Spirit has 'equipped us for every good work' (2 Timothy 3:17) so we are without excuse. Rather, knowing that we have been graced with both the desire and the means, as the writer of the letter to the Hebrews says: 'let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works' (Hebrews 10:24).

6 Social action for Christians means that we are living our faith all of the time, not just at home or at our places of worship. For believers, witnessing for Jesus means that there is no point at which we switch off our 'light' or 'rest' from doing good works (1 Corinthians 15:58). As believers, we take the Holy Spirit with us wherever we go (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) and, where we have opportunities for service, God expects us to be the 'salt' and 'light' in our local communities.

Richard Dempsey serves as a minister with Grace Communion Church

CIVIC PRAYER BREAKFAST

A good example of social action is the Peterborough Civic Prayer Breakfast. The second ever event took place on Friday 7 July at Bretton Baptist Church.

Christian leaders came together to consider their work in the city for those in need and to pray for the City Council, the Police and Health Services.

By working together, we can do so much to help make Peterborough a better place for all.



TEST YOUR MIND

1 Once you have answered all the crossword clues, create an anagram of the letters in the yellow squares to reveal the name of a famous Slide figure.



Across

- 1 Australian animal that jumps (8)
- 3 Dark brown freshwater mammal (5)
- 7 Item found in a playground (5)
- 9 Mask that shows an answer is correct (4)
- 11 ____ pit; not natural (5)
- 12 Put inside (6)
- 14 Large primates (4)
- 17 Divide by ten (5)
- 18 Breeding organs (5)
- 19 Way in (6)

Down

- 2 Loft (5)
- 3 Microorganism that can cause illness (4)
- 4 Serve from a dangerous situation (6)
- 5 Edible leafy plant used as a vegetable (5)
- 6 Very big flightless bird (7)
- 8 These are worn to help you see better (7)
- 11 Religious minister (6)
- 12 Work out the answer (5)
- 15 Feeding of sheep (6)
- 16 Tiny insect (4)



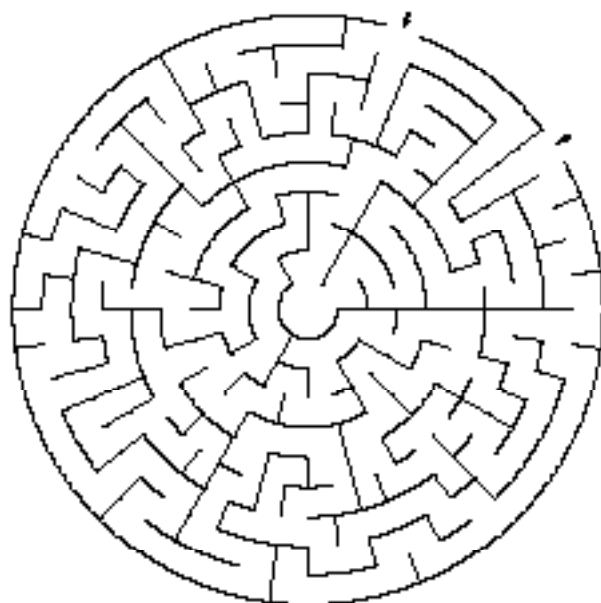
4 The words below are four books of the Bible with their letters jumbled up. Can you solve the anagrams to work out what each of them are?

SEEINGS HURT
BE MR SUN USED OX

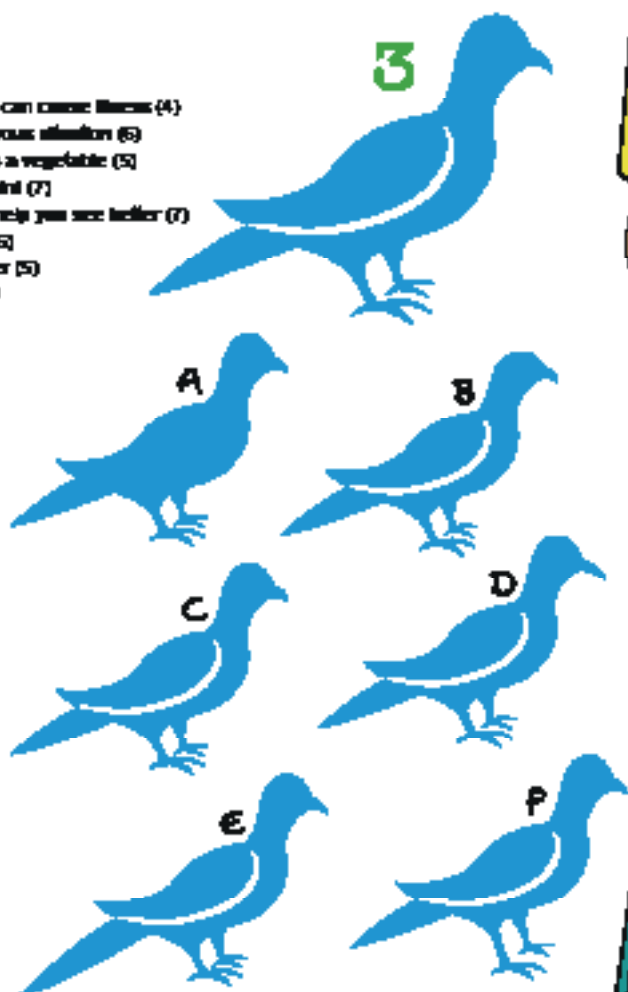
5 Trace the lines connecting the circles to find out what the second word is. Try and solve it in your head first.



2 Can you find your way through the maze from the entrance to the exit arrow?



3



Can you see which dove exactly matches the top silhouette?

TEST YOUR MIND

6

Solve the sums from 'Start' to 'End' to complete the equation.



7

Find each of the words in this grid of letters. Words may be hidden horizontally, vertically or diagonally and in either a forwards or backwards direction.

Biblical Figures

J	D	A	V	I	D	E	N	S	L
J	O	H	N	J	I	A	E	Y	E
J	A	O	B	H	S	R	W	H	
N	O	A	N	T	O	A	H	O	C
N	D	T	R	M	L	P	J	A	
O	H	A	N	N	A	H	E	T	R
M	M	A	N	N	D	S	S	S	N
I	D	E	C	I	U	W	O	A	I
S	V	A	J	S	E	T	J	A	O
E	I	S	A	A	O	L	H	K	P

DANIEL
DAVID
EVE
HABESH
ISAAC
JACOB
JESUS
JOHN

JOSEPH
MARTHA
MARY
MOSES
NOAH
RACHEL
RETH
SERON

8

Place each number from 1-6 once in each row, column and 3x2 bold-lined box.

		6	2		
					1
2				6	3
1	6				4
6					
		1	3		

9



Which letter is the hand holding?

10

Three of the numbers in this box below add up to 60. But can you work out what those three numbers are?

21		25
35	27	28
38	37	26
		14
	32	15
	36	

ANSWERS

10 Answer: 14, 21, 25

9. Answer: B

6. Answer: 6

5. Answer: 4

4. Answer: 4

3. Answer: C

J	D	A	V	I	D	E	N	S	L
J	O	H	N	J	I	A	E	Y	E
J	A	O	B	H	S	R	W	H	
N	O	A	N	T	O	A	H	O	C
N	D	T	R	M	L	P	J	A	
O	H	A	N	N	A	H	E	T	R
M	M	A	N	N	D	S	S	S	N
I	D	E	C	I	U	W	O	A	I
S	V	A	J	S	E	T	J	A	O
E	I	S	A	A	O	L	H	K	P



6	5	1	2	4
5	3	5	4	1
2	4	1	3	5
3	1	5	4	2
4	2	3	1	5
5	4	2	3	1
3	1	5	4	2
4	2	3	1	5



To send us your stories, event details or anything you would like to have published on Across Peterborough, or just to get in touch with us please email: ap@lightprojectpeterborough.org.uk

We look forward to hearing from you...

