



Continuing Ministerial Development 2019

Continuing Ministerial Development (CMD)

Meet the team



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Training for transitions

The diocese provides training for key transitions in ordained ministry to help you meet new challenges and to provide a supportive learning community. Some residential courses are shared with our partner dioceses in the South Central Regional Training Partnership. Except for the Renaissance ministry programme, all the training opportunities below are funded directly by the diocese.

Flourishing in your new role

**Tuesday 5 – Wednesday 6 March
and Tuesday 10 – Wednesday 11
September**

*Charney Manor, Charney Bassett
OX12 0EJ*

All those moving from curacy to a post of first responsibility (incumbency or similar post) are invited to this course. It usually involves two two-day residentials six to eight months apart. Between the two residentials there will be one or two half-day reflection groups. The aim is to help you to identify and explore the way the change of role is affecting you, its opportunities and challenges, with colleagues at a similar stage of ministry.

New posts consultation

**Tuesday 26 – Thursday 28 February
2019**

*St Columba's House, Maybury Hill
Woking GU22 8AB*

**Tuesday 17 – Thursday 19
September 2019**

*Douai Abbey, Upper Woolhampton,
Reading RG7 5TQ*

Those moving from one post to another, such as moving parishes, moving from chaplaincy into parish ministry or vice versa, are invited to the Regional Training Partnership New posts consultation. Over a 48-hour period you will identify the key features of your new situation, explore the way

you are responding personally, identify the challenges and opportunities of the new post and begin making plans for development.

You will be working in small peer groups with expert facilitators, drawing on the experience of the members of your group. Participants regularly go away inspired and invigorated.

Training incumbents

**Tuesday 30 October 2018 and
Thursday 7 March 2019**

*Church Mission Society, Watlington Road
Oxford OX4 6BZ*

It is both a privilege and a responsibility to help a colleague take their first steps in ordained ministry.



In line with the Church nationally, the diocese lays the emphasis on curacy as a period of further training and not as a spare pair of hands for busy parishes. Training incumbents are selected on the basis of their potential ability as trainers rather than the needs of the parish.

All those receiving a curate for the first time are required to attend two training days to learn about the curates' training programme and assessment procedures, and to practise supervision skills.

Area deans' consultation

**Monday 14 – Wednesday 16
January 2019**

*Sarum College, 19 The Close
Salisbury SP1 2EE*

As the Church gradually comes to terms with the call to mission in a fast-changing world, it is vital that local churches work together. This makes the task of the area dean ever more complex and demanding. All new area

deans are invited to join the Regional Training Partnership Area deans' consultation for an orientation to the new role.

In addition, the diocese provides regular training on coaching skills, conflict resolution, pastoral reorganisation, deanery finances and briefings on authorised local ministry.

Renaissance ministry

**Monday 10 – Wednesday 12
December 2018 and Monday
4 – Wednesday 6 February 2019**

*Sarum College, 19 The Close
Salisbury SP1 2EE*

With retirement age for many now approaching 70, what does it mean to be in ministry for the long haul? The Regional Training Partnership Renaissance ministry programme is especially relevant for clergy who have been in stipendiary parochial ministry for a number of years, and are beginning to think about how to shape their ministry for the next phase.

Renaissance consists of two 48-hour residential courses a few months apart. You will look back on your ministry so far; identify those aspects of ministry that renew you and those that drain you; reflect on whether your original vocation needs reappraising in the light of experience; identify the new skills you may need to learn; and plan for sustainable lifestyle in ministry.

If you think Renaissance might be for you, speak to your archdeacon. Renaissance is funded partly through the Bayne Benefaction and partly through CMD grants, and you will need your archdeacon's recommendation to apply for Bayne Benefaction funding.

Preparing for retirement

Monday 1 – Wednesday 3 July 2019

*Sarum College, 19 The Close
Salisbury SP1 2EE*

Retiring from ordained ministry means a change in lifestyle and a new phase of Christian discipleship. The diocese invites all stipendiary clergy

approaching retirement and their spouses to a three-day residential course to think about this important transition in the relaxing surroundings of Sarum College. The programme includes advice about health and wellbeing, finance and housing as well as small group work on future discipleship and ministry.

Except for some special circumstances, ordained ministers over the age of 62 are automatically invited each autumn to the following year's residential.



CMD day events 2019

This section gives details of CMD day events on a wide range of topics. Not all will appeal, but our aim is to provide a programme that will kindle your interest and support your ministry. It is not easy to take time out from a full ministry. However, time for learning in the company of others almost always refreshes and equips you, meaning that over time the ministry you are offering to others becomes more fruitful. Don't neglect the section on Flourishing in ministry (page 23). These are events primarily designed to help you prioritise self-care – time for you that will build up your resilience.

Unless there is a note to the contrary, events begin at 10.00am, with refreshments available from 9.45am, and will finish by 4.00pm. We aim to provide lunch as part of our gift of hospitality; only where this proves impossible to arrange will we ask you to bring your own packed lunch.

The standard fee for each event is £10. A few events are free and a very few are more than £10. This amount will be deducted from your CMD grant unless you choose to pay by credit card when you book. We do not charge for cancellation. We know that for those in ministry crises do arise which mean

you are unable to attend, and we are reluctant to penalise you. However, please remember that your lunch and other costs associated with the day will have been paid for, so do all you can to stick by your resolution to devote the day to beneficial learning for the sake of those whom you serve.

Booking for CMD events is via Eventbrite. You will find the links on the diocesan website:

 [oxford.anglican.org/
cmd-events-2019](https://oxford.anglican.org/cmd-events-2019)

Eventbrite will also generate a request for feedback. Soon after the event,

we will ask for your initial response to the content, the presenter, the style of presentation, etc. After three or four months, we will ask what difference you think the day has made to your ministry: what are your key memories and what you may now be doing differently. This information is extremely valuable as we plan for the future and we are very grateful for your feedback.

Don't forget: LLMs and SSMs are also entitled to a CMD grant.

The pastoral offices

Thursday 17 January

*St Peter's Church, Church Road
Earley, Reading RG6 1EY*

This day is an opportunity to reflect on your practice relating to baptisms, weddings and funerals in the light of rapidly changing social customs.

In 2016 in this diocese there were 4,880 baptisms, 2,260 weddings and 5,380 funerals, totalling 12,520. If there were an average of 50 people at each of these pastoral offices, 626,000 people would have experienced the church. People continue to see something beautiful and good in having a relationship with God and the local church.

We shall consider how we might build on these initial encounters, relevant resources and the importance of the pastoral offices in mission and ministry in our own contexts.

Presenters

Charles Chadwick is Parish Development Adviser for the Dorchester Archdeaconry.

Mark Bennet is Rector of Thatcham.

Becky Bevan is Vicar of St George and St John, Newbury.

Jeremy Brooks is Team Rector of Beaconsfield.

Understanding Islam and Muslims in Britain

Tuesday 22 January

*Church House Oxford, Langford Locks
Kidlington OX5 1GF*

This day is an introduction to our Muslim neighbours. It will include sessions on:

Understanding Muslims: An overview of Muslim belief and practice, with the emphasis on listening to the Muslim in front of you.

Exploring Islam in Britain: Moves beyond the stereotypes to explore the variety, geography and demography of Muslim communities in Britain.

Christians responding to Islam:

What concerns Christians about Islam and the presence of Muslims? A discussion and assessment of the spectrum of Christian responses to Islam in Britain from confrontation to conciliation, ideology to pragmatism.

Christians engaging with Muslims:

The challenges of multicultural coexistence and the implications of shared social action in addition to how the church might approach dialogue and the sensitive issues of evangelism and the pastoral care of converts.

Presenters

Richard McCallum is a sociologist. After returning from 10 years spent teaching in Tunis, his doctorate explored Christian responses to Islam in the British context. He has taught Christian-Muslim relations and Christian responses to Islam at various colleges and conferences. He regularly

teaches at theological colleges and provides training for groups from churches and other organisations.

Dilwar Hussain is founding Chair of New Horizons in British Islam, a charity that works on Muslim identity, integration and reform; research fellow at the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, University of Coventry and lecturer at the University of Leicester.

Martin Gorick is Archdeacon of Oxford, the diocesan interfaith adviser and chair of the committee for interfaith relations.

Leading multiple congregations

Wednesday 30 January

*St Mary's Centre, Station Road
Haddenham HP17 8AJ*

An opportunity for those who lead multi-parish benefices, united parishes or large churches with several congregations to share wisdom

and experience. In such situations a greater proportion of our ministry consists of overseeing the ministry of others. What does oversight ministry mean in practice and how are we best equipped for it? There will be input from David Heywood on the ways in which ministry is changing; and from Margot Hodson from her experience of leading the Wychert Vale Benefice.

Presenters

David Heywood served in parish ministry for 20 years and co-ordinated the teaching of mission and ministry at Ripon College Cuddesdon from 2006 to 2017. He is the author of *Reimagining Ministry* (SCM, 2011) and devised and led an MA course for ministry area leaders in the Diocese of Monmouth.

Margot Hodson has been vicar of a multi-parish benefice since 2009 and led a benefice merger with the development of a ministry team. She is passionate about the missional value of oversight ministry and has written for *Country Way* and CPAS.

Unlocking the church

Thursday 7 February

Ripon College, Cuddesdon OX44 9EX

Many churches are Victorian. Still more were effectively remade by the Victorians. Yet we struggle to understand what it was they were trying to achieve. Many parishes remain locked in a wearying battle with those who are trying to preserve Victorian architecture and design.

On this day William Whyte will draw on his recent book *Unlocking the Church: The Lost Secrets of Victorian Sacred Space* to explore what it was that the Victorians were trying to do and how that might help us with mission today.

Presenter

William Whyte is a British academic historian specialising in the architecture of British churches, schools and universities. He is Professor of Social and Architectural History at the University of Oxford.

Blessed are the place makers: the past and future of the English parish

Thursday 14 March

*St Peter's Church, Church Road
Earley, Reading RG6 1EY*

Revd Dr Andrew Rumsey, author of *Parish: An Anglican Theology of Place*, speaks about the way in which the parish system has shaped both Church and nation over many centuries – and considers what the future might hold.

Presenter

Andrew Rumsey is Rector of the Oxted Team Ministry in Southwark Diocese. His previous books include *Strangely Warmed* (Continuum), which was commended by, among others, Tom Wright and Ian Hislop – the latter endorsing it as ‘witty, erudite, eloquent and thoughtful’.

How do we best serve our schools?

Tuesday 19 March

Christ Church, Flackwell Heath HP10 9AA

Wednesday 19 June

*St Peter's Church, Church Road
Earley, Reading RG6 1EY*

Our work with schools needs to be sensitive and responsive to their needs in a rapidly changing environment. We have a great opportunity to bring the realities of faith into children's lives through a great variety of means. This day encourages us to challenge our assumptions and ask if our current roles are the best way of serving our schools – whether they are Church schools or not. We will consider:

- the characteristics of creative, enriching church/school relationships
- the changing world(s) of children
- governance and the importance of boundaries



- chaplaincy
- multi-faith issues
- ... and more.

Presenters

Christine Price-Smith is a diocesan School Link Adviser and director of a multi-academy trust. She was a primary school headteacher.

Robin Sharples is Principal Adviser in the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education. He has a lead role in school worship and school/parish relationships. Robin was a headteacher.

Charles Chadwick is PDA for the Dorchester Archdeaconry.

Preaching and teaching generous giving

Tuesday 19 March

*Emmanuel Church, Barberry Place
Bure Park, Bicester OX26 3HA*

Wednesday 12 June

*Greyfriars Church, Friar Street
Reading RG1 1EH*

Tuesday 17 September

*Fitzwilliams Centre, Windsor End
Beaconsfield HP9 2JW*

This day seminar will look at the most effective way to preach and teach on generosity and giving. We will explore our own attitudes towards money, giving and generosity, and how they have been shaped. We will also learn about the different approaches and perspectives that members of our congregation may have. We will then explore different giving programmes to see how we can encourage generosity and giving effectively within our different traditions and contexts.

Finally, we will develop generous giving plans for your parish or benefice.

Presenter

Jonathan de Bernhardt Wood

is Generous Giving Adviser for the diocese, and has an MA in applied theology from the University of Exeter. His book on giving, *The Porcupine Principle*, is published by the Directory of Social Change.

Chaplaincy: the pastoral potential

Tuesday 26 March

*The Church Room, St James the Great
Kennington Road, Radley OX14 2JN*

This day gives you the opportunity to learn more about chaplaincy in a range of contexts. We shall consider how the role of chaplain has developed over time, its role today, and how we might best engage with an institution and the people who are part of it in a multi-faith age. We shall think about how being a chaplain can enrich and develop us in our ministries.

Presenter

Ben Whitaker has extensive experience as a prison chaplain, chaplain to a psychiatric unit and chaplaincy with the deaf.

Thinking of you: understanding and supporting people affected by dementia

Tuesday 2 April

Ripon College, Cuddesdon OX44 9EX

This day will explore dementia from medical, psychological and theological perspectives before looking at practical approaches to supporting the spiritual life of people with dementia, their loved ones and carers.

Presenter

Joanna Collicutt is the diocesan Adviser for Spiritual Care for older people. She worked for many years as a clinical neuropsychologist in the NHS, specialising both in psychological treatments for people with severe memory loss.

Pioneering in areas of new housing

Wednesday 1 May

Christ Church, Flackwell Heath HP10 9AA

Working in areas of new housing is like ‘stepping off the map’, says Alison Boulton. Ali will offer practical tips for individuals and teams building relationships, community and church from scratch. God is already at work in that new community. Ali will show how to listen both to God and the community, and to allow a model of church to grow from the community rather than imposing a model of church upon them. John Bentley and Mark Bodeker will share their insights from working in new housing areas in the Oxford Diocese.

This course will equip clergy and church teams, who may be feeling slightly daunted at the prospect of new estates, to respond to the challenge. Bring your team with you if possible.

Presenters

Alison Boulton is a regional minister for Southern Counties Baptist Association with responsibility for pioneering mission enabling. She is co-author of the Grove booklet, *Pioneering Ministry in New Housing Areas*.

John Bentley is a Church Army officer, the ‘evangelistic arm’ of the Church of England. He has a specific role of creating community on the new estate of Kingsmere, Bicester.

Mark Bodeker is Associate Minister for the community church on Great Western Park, Didcot.

Martin Gorick is Archdeacon of Oxford and co-ordinates the diocese’s response to areas of new housing.

Creating a culture of discipleship in your church

Wednesday 22 May

Christ Church, Flackwell Heath HP10 9AA

If the local church is to fulfil its calling as God’s partner in mission, its members

must make the journey from clients of the clergy to missionary disciples. For many congregations this represents a massive culture change from the church in which they grew up. Even younger church members inherit many of the expectations of Christendom, which is largely passing away.

How can church leaders facilitate the kind of adaptive change required to create a culture in which most of the congregation responds to the call to discipleship and mission? We will draw on the Bible, theology and theories of organisational change to suggest practical ways in which we can lead our churches into lasting and fruitful change, without creating irresolvable conflict.

Presenter

David Heywood served in parish ministry for 20 years and co-ordinated the teaching of mission and ministry at Ripon College Cuddesdon from 2006 to 2017. He is the author of *Kingdom Learning* (SCM, 2017), which explores learning for discipleship and ministry in the local church context.

Clergy and laity bringing out the best in each other: the conversations that build a working relationship

Wednesday 29 May

*Church House Oxford, Langford Locks
Kidlington OX5 1GF*

This interactive day seminar explores how clergy and laity can bring out the best in each other and develop more effective working relationships in the context of the pressures facing the Church today.

Bring your own experiences, questions and dilemmas so that we can work together to deepen understanding of the processes involved and give you a wider set of options for the future.

We will use the work of Eric Berne in his model Transactional Analysis as a framework to focus our discussions.

Presenters

Rosemary Tucker and **Mick Kain** bring experience of facilitating and

training across Church, international development, community and other third sector organisations. Both are ministry accompaniers in the Diocese of Oxford. Across these settings they find that solutions to issues often lie in the balance between human interrelation and organisational functioning.

Your will be done on earth: a Christian response to key environmental issues

Wednesday 5 June

*St James Church, Church Lane
Finchampstead RG40 4LU*

What does it mean to pray, 'Your will be done on earth'? What are the big issues in our natural world today? How do they impact on people and what do they have to do with Christian faith and mission? This day will bring an up to date approach to climate change and biodiversity loss, and touch on other issues such as food, water, soil and plastic. How can our response be fully missional?

Presenters

Martin Hodson is a plant scientist and environmental biologist. He is Operations Director for the John Ray Initiative (JRI).

Margot Hodson is Rector of the Wychert Vale Benefice in Buckinghamshire. She is on the management boards of both the JRI and A Rocha UK. The Hodsons have written a number of books on faith and environmental issues.

Bridging the gap: community engagement as a model of mission for the rural church

Thursday 27 June

*Stadhampton Village Hall at St John's
Copson Lane, Stadhampton OX44 7TZ*

The day will focus on the theology and history of community engagement as a model for mission in rural churches. We will explore examples and models of creative partnerships between church, school and community, building relationships with people in new

housing in rural communities, and the church building as a social hub. There will be an opportunity for you to reflect on how the community engagement model of mission can be applied in your particular context and can contribute to your local strategic work to build stronger connections within the community and grow the church.

The day is open to rural clergy and lay leaders and it would be particularly relevant for clergy and ministry teams coming in groups of twos or threes to work together.

Clergy can claim the cost of the day from their CMD budget and benefices are encouraged to support the costs for lay people in ministry teams where possible.

Presenter

Claire Maxim is Director of Germinate at the Arthur Rank Centre, the Church's national resource centre for the rural church. She was previously the Rector of Ludgershall and Faberstown in the Diocese of Salisbury. Claire was originally an engineer, has an MBA from Henley Business School, a diploma

in applied theology from The Queen's Foundation for Ecumenical Theological Education in Birmingham, and is studying for a professional doctorate at the Centre for Rural Ministry Studies at the University of Warwick.

Managing a building project

Thursday 11 July 10.00am – 1.00pm
St George's Tilehurst Church Hall
St George's Road, Reading RG30 2RG

This half day seminar is for churches managing a building project, large or small. It complements the online course run by the National Stewardship and Resources Team for the Church of England. The seminar is held at a recently completed building project, and will include a tour of this facility and meeting Revd Adam Carlill, who has overseen the project. The seminar will also cover funding support and advice that is available to churches, and the practical steps necessary to gain Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) approval for any works.

Presenters

Jonathan de Bernhardt Wood is the Generous Giving Adviser for the Diocese of Oxford, and has an MA in applied theology from the University of Exeter. His book on giving, *The Porcupine Principle*, is published by the Directory of Social Change.

Liz Kitch has a degree in architectural technology and a masters degree in historic building conservation. She joined the diocese in 2016 as Senior Buildings Officer.

Engaging with the media

Wednesday 24 July
Church House Oxford, Langford Locks
Kidlington OX5 1GF

Whether responding to a local tragedy or promoting a new initiative, most clergy and church leaders will occasionally engage with the media. But many will be wary of journalists and worried about being misrepresented. This course equips you to engage confidently and fruitfully with the media,

recognising that all forms of media offer opportunities to reach new people. The day will be grounded in theological reflection, and will offer practical advice, optional opportunities for interview role-play, and include a briefing about the communications support offered by the diocese.

Presenter

Christopher Landau was a BBC journalist before ordination, working as a TV news producer, Radio 4 reporter, and latterly as World Service Religious Affairs Correspondent. He is the author of *Christians and the Media: A Theology for Confident Engagement* and is a founding trustee of the Religion Media Centre.

Preaching the Gospel of Matthew: the story of the humble king

Thursday 5 September

The Old Library, St Mary the Virgin High Street, Oxford OX1 4BJ

As we prepare for the Church's extended engagement with Matthew's Gospel

during Year A of the Revised Common Lectionary, this study day will explore some of the major themes that can help preachers connect the gospel with the life of the Church and the world.

Presenter

Will Lamb is Vicar of the University Church in Oxford. Until recently, he was Vice-Principal and Tutor in New Testament at Westcott House, Cambridge.

Setting God's people free: equipping your congregation for discipleship in the world

Tuesday 17 September

Emmanuel Church, Barberry Place Bure Park, Bicester OX26 3HA

98% of Christians – those not in paid church work – spend most of their lives as the scattered church, in regular contact with those who are not Christians. Many of them have the potential to have a major impact on their places of work and communities through their work and daily lives.

How can the life of the gathered church equip the scattered church for ministry and mission? What does effective daily discipleship look like? What part can clergy and lay ministers play? You will go away from the day with a bigger vision of the Church's mission and some concrete strategies for equipping people to make a difference in the places God puts them.

Presenter

David Heywood served in parish ministry for 20 years and co-ordinated the teaching of mission and ministry at Ripon College Cuddesdon from 2006 to 2017. He is the author of *Kingdom Learning* (SCM, 2017), which explores learning for discipleship and ministry in the local church context.

Mental health and faith

Tuesday 24 September

Church House Oxford, Langford Locks Kidlington OX5 1GF

Many in our communities and our congregations are facing mental health

challenges. Mental distress is on the rise, particularly amongst young people.

This day will explore:

- What are the mental health challenges in our parishes?
- What pressures are people experiencing, and how can we listen to their stories?
- What resources do we have within our faith for responding?
- What do we have to offer that is unique to us, and how can this complement the roles of others (e.g. GPs, psychiatrists, practitioners of mindfulness and meditation, drug and talking therapies)
- How can our churches become welcoming places of openness and honesty for us all as we build wellbeing?
- What can church communities do that helps those in distress, and what should we avoid?



The facilitator, Alison Webster, introduces people from the diocesan Health, Wellbeing and Social Care Group who bring personal stories and professional expertise. The day will be participatory and exploratory, with time for biblical reflection and theological insight.

Presenter

Alison Webster is the Deputy Director of Mission (Social Responsibility) for the Diocese of Oxford. She is author of *Wellbeing* (SCM Press, 2002), *You Are Mine: Reflections on who we are* (SPCK 2009), and also of numerous resource

materials and online publications in the field of social justice and faith. She is Chair of the charity Amaka Beautiful Child, which works towards personal and social transformation through poetry, art, music and drama. Her latest book is *Found Out: Transgressive Faith and Sexuality* (DLT, 2017).

Eco Church and mission

Wednesday 2 October

*St Mary's Church, Churchend
Haddenham HP17 8AH*

This day will focus on the context of the local church for environmental mission. Eco Church is an A Rocha project, run in partnership with Christian Aid, The Church of England, the Methodist Church and Tearfund. We will use Eco Church as a focus for the day, covering the areas of theology, worship and preaching, our stewardship, looking at land and buildings, community outreach and global engagement.

Presenters

Martin Hodson is a plant scientist and environmental biologist. He is Operations Director for the John Ray Initiative (JRI).

Margot Hodson is Rector of the Wychert Vale Benefice in Buckinghamshire. She is on the management boards of both JRI and A Rocha UK. The Hodsons have written a number of books on the Christian faith and environmental issues.

Death and life: Christian resources for living well in the light of mortality

Monday 4 November

*Fitzwilliams Centre, Windsor End
Beaconsfield HP9 2JW*

This day will introduce the new diocesan resource for supporting people of all ages to live well in the light of mortality and prepare for their last days of life on earth. There will be opportunities to reflect theologically

on the big ideas and ultimate values at stake in this area and also to respond using creative arts.

Presenters

Joanna Collicutt is the diocesan Adviser for Spiritual Care for Older People. She is the originator of the diocesan 'Death and Life' resource. She has written several books in the fields of spirituality, ageing and dementia care.

Victoria Slater is the researcher on the diocesan DeathLife project. She combines the role with a freelance portfolio of writing, research, consultancy and professional development work. She worked as a healthcare chaplain for twenty-five years, specialising in end of life care. She is the author of *Chaplaincy Ministry and the Mission of the Church* (SCM, 2015) and co-author of *Theological Reflection for Human Flourishing* (SCM, 2012).

Connecting with our communities

Thursday 14 November

*Church House Oxford, Langford Locks
Kidlington OX5 1GF*

Being good news for our communities is at the heart of mission and evangelism. But how do we do it?

This day will explore key principles of community development and some of the theological issues which frame our decision making. We will explore:

- Why do we reach out to our communities? What are we trying to achieve?
- What tools are there for understanding our communities better; how important are they?
- If we discover needs, is it our role to meet them?
- When we work with 'partners for peace' in our communities (of other faiths and of 'none'), how might our

identity be challenged, and how do we respond?

- What might community outreach mean to our discipleship?
- Where does 'growing the church' fit in?

Presenters

Alison Webster is the Deputy Director of Mission (Social Responsibility) for the Diocese of Oxford. She is author of *Wellbeing* (SCM Press, 2002), and *You are Mine: Reflections on who we are* (SPCK 2009). She is Chair of the charity Amaka Beautiful Child, which works towards personal and social transformation through poetry, art, music and drama.

Jane Perry is part of a micro-local community in Lewes which is exploring what it might mean for everyone to live well where we are. Jane combines a professional background in social research with a passion for local theology and contemporary mission – including supporting churches, charities and community groups with

listening, reflection and evaluation. She is currently studying for an MA with the Church Mission Society's Pioneer Leader training course.

Al Barrett is an Anglican vicar in Hodge Hill, East Birmingham, where he is involved with a grassroots journey of community-building in his neighbourhood. His PhD reflects on the journey so far, and he is seeking to develop 'a radically receptive political theology in the urban margins'.

Spiritual conversations

Tuesday 19 November

Christ Church Flackwell Heath HP10 9AA

We live in a society in which more and more people identify as 'no religion' but where interest in spirituality is on the increase. What does spirituality mean to the people who embrace it? Where do we find the language to talk about the spiritual dimension of everyday life and relate it to the Christian story?

This day will be an opportunity to consider the spiritual dimensions of everyday life. We will work together to explore how we can help people to articulate their deepest convictions and aspirations. You will go away better equipped to turn everyday chat into 'spiritual conversations' through which you can gently open people to the reality of God in their daily lives.

Presenter

David Heywood served in parish ministry for 20 years and co-ordinated the teaching of mission and ministry at Ripon College Cuddesdon from 2006 to 2017. He is the author of *Kingdom Learning* (SCM, 2017), which explores learning for discipleship and ministry in the local church context.

The Bampton lectures: Rethinking relations between science and religion

Tuesday 12 February and Tuesday 19 February, 10am – 4pm.

*The Old Library, St Mary the Virgin
High Street, Oxford OX1 4BJ*

The Bampton lectures were founded by the will of John Bampton and have been taking place in the University of Oxford since 1780. This year, in place of the traditional lecture format, they will take the form of two study days with a more interactive approach suitable for continuing ministerial development as well as the usual academic audience.

12 February: Modern myths about science and religion

19 February: Science and divine purpose

The relationship between science and religion is often thought of in terms

of competing factual claims or ways of knowing — evolution vs creation, reason vs faith. But arguments along these lines are rarely persuasive.

Peter Harrison will argue that this is because the dialogue is an expression of commitments to implicit historical narratives about science and religion. The most common is the conflict narrative, which proposes an enduring historical conflict between science and religion. Less commonly remarked upon is a naturalism narrative, according to which there is nothing in the universe but physical forces and entities.

The lectures will trace the historical emergence of these powerful narratives and the ways they have unhelpfully shaped contemporary arguments about divine action and purpose.

Presenter

Peter Harrison is a former Andreas Ireos Professor of Science and Religion at the University of Oxford. He is now an Australian Laureate Fellow and Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies in the Humanities at the University of Queensland. He has written numerous books and articles on the historical and contemporary relations between science and religion. In 2011 he delivered the Gifford Lectures at the University of Edinburgh, now published as *The Territories of Science and Religion* (2015). His most recent book is *Narratives of Secularization* (2017).



Flourishing in ministry

A series of events to enhance your personal development and wellbeing.

A great British wildlife spectacle

Tuesday 15 January

*RSPB Otmoor, Otmoor Lane
Oxford OX3 9TD*

Witnessing thousands of starlings wheeling around overhead is breathtaking. The birds gather in a ‘murmuration’ at dusk in the winter months and swoop in unison, performing intricate aerial stunts as they prepare to roost overnight.

It’s difficult to predict where and when the starlings will gather, but it’s often possible to witness this amazing display from the nature reserve at RSPB Otmoor. The afternoon starts at 2.30pm and you will need good boots or wellies for the 45 minute walk into the middle of Otmoor. At the end of

the walk there will be the opportunity to share a drink or an early supper together at the local pub. There is no requirement to bring binoculars but do bring a pair if you have them.

Leader

Colin Fletcher is Bishop of Dorchester and an experienced birdwatcher.

Planning your ministry development

Tuesday 26 February

*Emmanuel Church, Barberry Place,
Bure Park, Bicester OX26 3HA*

Tuesday 18 June

*Christ Church, Flackwell Heath
HP10 9AA*

All clergy and lay ministers are encouraged to give priority to

continuing ministerial development, and the diocese offers a variety of learning and development opportunities. But ministerial development embraces more than attendance at residential and training days. This day helps you identify the personal and professional development goals most appropriate for you, to understand the way you learn best and to find the resources to help you to grow in ministry.

Presenter

David Heywood served in parish ministry for 20 years and co-ordinated the teaching of mission and ministry at Ripon College Cuddesdon from 2006 to 2017. He is the author of *Kingdom Learning* (SCM, 2017), which explores learning for discipleship and ministry in the local church context.

Resilience skills

Tuesday 5 March

*The Chapter House, St Mary's Church,
Princes Risborough HP27 9AW*

Stress and pressure are constants in today's society, and it's increasingly important to learn how to develop flourishing lives and ministries when we're under pressure.

This day is based on performance psychology principles, frequently used in sports, and will highlight the psychological factors involved in resilience and thriving in tough times. It will equip you with the skills and techniques to manage stress and pressure more effectively and improve your resilience, wellbeing and performance.

Presenter

Michael Brooke is a chartered psychologist specialising in performance psychology. He has broad experience across many different sectors from sport to international

investment banking. Michael has a particular interest in resilience and enabling people to achieve sustainable performance improvements.

The journey to Easter from a Coptic Church perspective: a clergy retreat with Archbishop Angaelos

Thursday 28 March

*Shephalbury Manor, Broadhall Way
Stevenage, Herts SG2 8NP*

Following his address at the clergy conference, which so many found inspiring and challenging, Archbishop Angaelos offers a retreat for clergy from the diocese at his Church's British headquarters in Stevenage. The retreat is free, but you will need to take a packed lunch.

There is a limit of 80 places.

Presenter

Archbishop Angaelos became the first Coptic Orthodox Archbishop of London in 2017, after serving as General Bishop

of the Coptic Orthodox Church in the United Kingdom since 1999. Archbishop Angaelos specialises in initiatives relating to advocacy, international religious freedom and development work. He is founder and convener of the Asylum Advocacy Group.

Wellbeing, identity and spirituality

Tuesday 7 May

*The Centre for Spiritual Reflection
United Reformed Church, Spring Lane
Aston Tirrold OX11 9EJ*

A creative day of theological exploration and reflection on who we are and how we flourish:

- What does wellbeing mean, and how can we foster it?
- How is it related to our sense of ourselves and our identities?
- What spiritual and theological resources are helpful in giving us a positive sense of ourselves and our calling to be authentic?

- How do we hold on to all of this in our ministerial contexts?

Presenter

Alison Webster is the Deputy Director of Mission (Social Responsibility) for the Diocese of Oxford. She is author of *Wellbeing* (SCM Press, 2002), *You Are Mine: Reflections on who we are* (SPCK 2009), and also of numerous resource materials and online publications in the field of social justice and faith. She is Chair of the charity Amaka Beautiful Child, which works towards personal and social transformation through poetry, art, music and drama. Her latest book is *Found Out: Transgressive Faith and Sexuality* (DLT, 2017).

Ramble and pub lunch

Thursday 13 June, 10am – 4pm

West Berkshire Downs

A walk in the beautiful West Berkshire Downs. We will walk 6–7 miles at a leisurely pace. Dogs are welcome. Start and end locations and a detailed route will be available nearer the time.



Leader

Olivia Graham is Archdeacon of Berkshire and a keen walker.

Parenting as a church leader

Wednesday 16 October

*Christ the Servant King Church
Sycamore Road, High Wycombe
HP12 4TJ*

Being a church leader affects every part of our lives, including family life. We all want to see children

and teenagers flourish spiritually and emotionally alongside our congregations and communities. But parenting as a church leader requires unique skills and choices, and the journey can often feel quite lonely.

This day explores the parenting techniques that will help church leaders' children of all ages to flourish spiritually and emotionally in their connection with God and with the church. Share your experience with others, talk honestly about your journey, and hear from those who have walked this path before.

Presenter

Rachel Turner is the Parenting for Faith pioneer at BRF and has worked in churches for over 12 years as a Family Life Pastor, Children's Pastor and Youth Pastor. Rachel is the author of four books, and a Parenting for Faith course.

Sabbaticals

Every ten years ordained licensed office holders can take a three-month sabbatical. This sustained period away from normal duties promotes professional development and personal enrichment. A sabbatical will normally consist of three elements:

Renewal: This is the element of personal and/or professional development, which will normally take the greatest part of your three months. It will involve some element of learning, probably through study and theological reflection.

Retreat: The sabbatical should include some time set aside for you and your relationship with God. For many this will mean going on an organised retreat.

Rest: A sabbatical is not intended as a holiday, but the biblical pattern of Sabbath does include rest as a vital part of life. The three months will therefore include some time of rest and refreshment.

The diocesan policy on sabbaticals and study leave can be downloaded:

 [oxford.anglican.org/
sabbaticals](https://www.oxford.anglican.org/sabbaticals)

You will need the agreement of your incumbent (if applicable) or area dean and the permission of your area bishop for a sabbatical. Applications should be made to the sabbatical committee by the end of June in the year preceding the sabbatical. Full details of how to go about this are found in the policy document.

Ministers who are employed by other agencies (such as hospital and prison chaplains) should arrange a sabbatical or study leave with their employer. They

should also apply to their employer for a grant to cover the costs. If no grant is available, the sabbatical committee may consider a grant.

Safeguarding training: Promoting a safer church

Safeguarding is a positive opportunity to live out the gospel through learning how to develop safe working practices and respond well to concerns.

The following courses will take place at Church House Oxford:

Module C3: Foundation and leadership for clergy and lay ministers equips participants to embed healthy safeguarding practices and to respond well to safeguarding situations.

Module S1: Safer recruitment and good practice in employment explores guidance and legislation to ensure safer recruitment and good practice in employment. Participants will develop their understanding of the Church as a responsible employer, including the support and supervision of staff and volunteers.

The S1 session should be attended by all stipendiary or house-for-duty clergy

2019 Dates	Course	Session times
Monday 21 January	S1	10:00-16:00
Monday 28 January	C3	10:00-16:00
Friday 8 February	C3	10:00-16:00
Tuesday 26 February	S1	10:00-16:00
Friday 22 March	S1	10:00-16:00
Wednesday 3 April	C3	10:00-16:00
Saturday 27 April	C3	10:00-16:00
Saturday 15 June	C3	10:00-16:00

and by all those who are involved with recruitment through their roles.

Additional training dates are being planned for locations across the diocese. Please check the website for updates and additions to the programme.

Training bookings can be made online using the Eventbrite link for each course:

 [oxford.anglican.org/clergy-safeguarding-training](https://www.oxford.anglican.org/clergy-safeguarding-training)

Funding your CMD

A CMD grant is available to all licensed ministers, lay and ordained. At present, the annual grant is £250 per calendar year. The grant does not roll over from year to year. It is available to cover the cost of one-day events, residential courses, conferences, retreats or ministry accompaniment, whether provided by the diocese or through other agencies. The grant does not cover travel costs, and does not apply to events which are already highly subsidised, such as the LLM conference.

Ministers who are employed by other agencies, such as hospital and prison chaplains, should apply in the first instance to their employer, but they may be considered for a CMD grant in special circumstances.

There is no standard application form. To apply for a CMD grant email cmdgrants@oxford.anglican.org. You will need to:

- explain what the grant is for

- provide proof of payment (e.g. an invoice).

If you are uncertain whether a particular event qualifies for a grant, contact David Heywood: david.heywood@oxford.anglican.org.

Applications are considered towards the end of each month and the decision communicated as soon as possible afterwards.

Grants are also available from a variety of organisations for particular purposes or for particular groups of people. Details of some of these can be found in the CMD Handbook and on the diocesan website.

 [oxford.anglican.org/
grant-making-trusts](https://www.oxford.anglican.org/grant-making-trusts)

Dates and venues for day courses and events

Event	Date	Venue	Page
A great British wildlife spectacle	Tuesday 15 January	RSPB Otmoor, Oxford	23
The pastoral offices	Thursday 17 January	St Peter's Church, Earley	10
Understanding Islam and Muslims in Britain	Tuesday 22 January	Church House Oxford	10
Leading multiple congregations	Wednesday 30 January	St Mary's Centre, Haddenham	11
Unlocking the church	Thursday 7 February	Ripon College Cuddesdon	11
Bampton lectures 1: Modern myths about science and religion	Tuesday 12 February	St Mary the Virgin, Oxford	21
Bampton lectures 2: Science and divine purpose	Tuesday 19 February	St Mary the Virgin, Oxford	21
Planning your ministry development	Tuesday 26 February	Emmanuel Church, Bicester	23
Resilience skills	Tuesday 5 March	The Chapter House, Princes Risborough	24
Blessed are the place makers: the past and future of the English parish	Thursday 14 March	St Peter's Church, Earley	12
How do we best serve our schools?	Tuesday 19 March	Christ Church, Flackwell Heath	12
Preaching and teaching generous giving	Tuesday 19 March	Emmanuel Church, Bicester	13
Chaplaincy: the pastoral potential	Tuesday 26 March	St James Church Centre, Radley	13

Event	Date	Venue	Page
The journey to Easter from a Coptic Church perspective: a clergy retreat with Archbishop Angaelos	Thursday 28 March	Shephalbury Manor, Stevenage	24
Thinking of you: understanding and supporting people affected by dementia	Tuesday 2 April	Ripon College Cuddesdon	13
Pioneering in areas of new housing	Wednesday 1 May	Christ Church, Flackwell Heath	14
Wellbeing, identity and spirituality	Tuesday 7 May	The Centre for Spiritual Reflection, Aston Tirrold	24
Creating a culture of discipleship in your church	Wednesday 22 May	Christ Church, Flackwell Heath	14
Clergy and laity bringing out the best in each other: the conversations that build a working relationship	Wednesday 29 May	Church House Oxford	15
Your will be done on earth: a Christian response to key environmental issues	Wednesday 5 June	St James Church, Finchampstead	15
Preaching and teaching generous giving	Wednesday 12 June	Greyfriars Church, Reading	13
Ramble and pub lunch	Thursday 13 June	West Berkshire Downs	25
Planning your ministry development	Tuesday 18 June	Christ Church, Flackwell Heath	23
How do we best serve our schools?	Wednesday 19 June	St Peter's Church, Earley	12

Event	Date	Venue	Page
Bridging the gap: community engagement as a model of mission for the rural church	Thursday 27 June	Stadhampton Village Hall	15
Managing a building project	Thursday 11 July	St George's, Tilehurst Church Hall	16
Engaging with the media	Wednesday 24 July	Church House Oxford	16
Preaching the Gospel of Matthew: the story of the humble king	Thursday 5 September	St Mary the Virgin, Oxford	17
Preaching and teaching generous giving	Tuesday 17 September	Fitzwilliams Centre, Beaconsfield	13
Setting God's people free: equipping your congregation for discipleship in the world	Tuesday 17 September	Emmanuel Church, Bicester	17
Mental health and faith	Tuesday 24 September	Church House Oxford	17
Eco Church and mission	Wednesday 2 October	St Mary's Church, Haddenham	18
Parenting as a church leader	Wednesday 16 October	Christ the Servant King, High Wycombe	25
Death and life: Christian resources for living well in the light of mortality	Monday 4 November	Fitzwilliams Centre, Beaconsfield	19
Connecting with our communities	Thursday 14 November	Church House Oxford	19
Spiritual conversations	Tuesday 19 November	Christ Church, Flackwell Heath	20



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