



NEWS FROM RIDLEY SUMMER 2018

WHY TRAIN RESIDENTIALLY?



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Why train residentially?

AS WE COME TO THE END OF OUR 137TH ACADEMIC YEAR AT RIDLEY HALL, WE HAVE A GREAT DEAL FOR WHICH TO THANK GOD.

Thirty-one men and women leave us to serve title posts around the UK. Recruitment for lay and ordained training for the coming year is deeply encouraging. Staff and returning students are in good heart.

As a current or former student or supporter of Ridley Hall, you will have some grasp of the value of residential theological training. The Church Times recently published an article in which I set out some compelling reasons for the Church to continue to invest wholeheartedly in residential training. An edited outline of part of the article follows. I trust it will help to deepen your commitment to prayerfully supporting God's work in this special place.



and coping with others who are different. It is important that future church leaders-in-training experience grace in their day-to-day relations with others, to be able more fully to understand it, live it, and communicate it.

The gifts of time and space that residential training offers have a financial cost, but this represents value for money for a Church committed to identifying, training, and releasing a generation of pastor-theologians, along with those who will become the theological educators of the future. In addition, residential colleges working in relationship with a university ensure academic accountability and intellectual integrity.

Residential training exposes men and women to the disciplines of daily corporate worship, living in community,



Such a relationship has the potential to spark imaginative engagement with contemporary ideas, and ensures that students have something of worth to contribute to public debates on the complex issues of the day.

Residential training offers a supportive environment for individuals and families to prepare for a way of life that is likely to involve regular disruption. Part of the unwritten curriculum of residential training involves immersion in the pressures and stresses incurred in ordained ministry. Many find it better to learn to cope with some of these issues with the support of a residential community than to experience them for the first time on their own in a curacy or first incumbency.

Residential training can offer a window into the “real life” of what a community of grace can become. “Real life” is wherever people are. Ministry is not just something that a person in

residential training will eventually do, but is an ongoing, everyday experience of living in Christ with others.

Residential training offers value for money. A Church that trusts God to provide abundantly for its needs refuses to weigh the future in terms of the financial

“Residential training can offer a window into the ‘real life’ of what a community of grace can become”

bottom line. The Church of the future will trust God for the resources necessary to ensure the continued flourishing of ministerial training, because we are committed to giving our future leaders the best possible preparation for mission and ministry.

REVD DR MICHAEL VOLLAND
Principal of Ridley Hall



Bishop Michael Lewis visits Ridley Hall

Michael Lewis is Bishop of Cyprus and the Gulf.

He visited Ridley Hall in May to give an inspirational lecture entitled, “Beyond Survival: Anglican and Christian Presence and Practice in the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula”.

Bishop Michael has been the Bishop of Cyprus and the Gulf since 2007. In his lecture he compared and contrasted ministry there with his previous life as priest and bishop in the Church of England.

He talked about how it is possible to be shaped for mission in such thor-

oughly Muslim settings. He helped us to think creatively and constructively about interfaith encounter and he challenged us to consider how such encounters might be more than superficial.

He explored the question of whether Christian ecumenism makes a difference, concluding that it certainly does. He considered the question of discerning vocations and fostering lifelong learning in transient places.

The Ridley community and members of the Federation were greatly blessed and encouraged by what Bishop Michael shared with us and we were encouraged to prayerfully support the ministry of our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf.

Free public lectures

The 2018 Lesslie Newbigin Summer Institute is already fully booked, but two of the lectures, by Professor David Ford and Professor Miroslav Volf, are open to the public.

The theme of the 2018 Institute is “Jesus and the World’s Faiths”, and as in previous years we will be taking Lesslie Newbigin’s work as the starting point for our reflections on contemporary mission. He confessed “Jesus Christ is Lord of all” but said, with equal conviction, “Jesus Christ is infinitely greater than my limited view of him”.

With speakers David Ford, Miroslav Volf, Muthuraj Swamy, Carol Walker and Shirin Shafie we are thrilled to say that the conference has quickly sold out!

However, if you would like to come to one of the two public lectures, do let us know. As part of the programme we have Professor David Ford speaking on Monday 9th July at the St John’s Old Divinity School, and Professor Miroslav Volf speaking on Thursday 12th July at the Cripps Auditorium, Magdalene Col-



lege. Both lectures are free of charge and will be held at 4.15pm and finish by 5.30pm. If you would like to book a place at either or both of these lectures, do email us at newbigincentre@gmail.com so that we can reserve you a place.

As in previous years, the Newbigin Centre is hosting the conference in partnership with the Newbigin House of Studies in San Francisco.

Thank you

IN THE LENT TERM OF EACH YEAR WE TAKE OUR FIRST YEAR ORDINANDS AND THEIR SPOUSES TO A RETREAT CENTRE TO TAKE PART IN A PRAYER WEEKEND.

It’s a fantastic opportunity for us to spend time away together with God and to grow in faith, hope, love and understanding. The weekend allows us to form deeper relationships with each other and to encounter God in new ways. It is through experiences like this that ordinands are formed for a lifetime of ministry and provided with resources that will sustain them during the many years of service ahead.

Hosting the weekend costs Ridley £8,000. During the Lent term Michael Volland wrote to friends and supporters of the College inviting them to consider making a gift to our Annual Fund to help us to meet the cost of this crucial investment in the spiritual formation of our ordinands and their families. I am delighted to say that the whole £8,000 was raised through generous donations from supporters. We give thanks to God for this provision!

This provision will allow us to include the Prayer Weekend in the ordinands’ programme of formation and ensure that Ridley continues to send out ministers and families who are equipped to share the Good News of Jesus with confidence and joy.

Enabling reflective practice: Ridley Lay Ministry (RLM)

This has been an exciting year for RLM with forty-two students undertaking degree-level ministerial training in children's & families ministry, youth ministry and, for the first year ever, pioneer ministry.

As we continue to attract more students, it has become necessary to grow our team, and this September we are looking forward to filling two new posts: a children's & families ministry tutor and a pastoral tutor. We will also be welcoming Andrew Dunlop who as part of his wider role at Ridley will also work with the RLM team as tutor for both lay pioneers and students undertaking level 6 study as part of their IME2 training (curacy).



The vision of RLM is for a church where ministers of all specialisms and types – ordained, licensed, neither! – work together to build God's kingdom in accordance with their unique mix of experience, giftings and abilities. It is for this reason that we have ensured that the training received by RLM students is comparable with ordination training.

Not only do RLM students undertake

the same degree and therefore engage in identical theological study to those training to be priests, but it has also informed how we organise training for RLM students – moving to block week teaching so that students experience being part of a worshipping learning community – and our move away from secular technical accreditation to a focus on faith and (trans)formation.

One difference between training with RLM and training for ordination is the extent to which RLM students engage in ongoing ministry during their time at Ridley. RLM students are placed within an existing ministry team in a church or faith-based organisation for the duration of their studies, often undertaking up to twenty hours of ministry a week. Not only does this provide a context for students to develop their particular specialism – pioneer, youth, children and families, pastoral – and to develop key skills around collaborative ministry, it is also a key plank in the students' overall learning experience.

Central to each student's learning and ministerial training is an emphasis on reflection-on-practice, or ministerial theological reflection. As we explain to all new students, our aim is not to produce an identikit of ministers but to support students to discern and join in with the work of the Holy Spirit where they have been called and with the people they have been called to minister to and with. We are therefore not interested in telling students what to do, but to facilitate the depth of faith, learning and practical wisdom that will enable graduates to be the person God has called them to be, for His purposes, and His glory.

ROBIN BARDEN
Director, Ridley Lay Ministry

Leaving with new energy and fresh vision



During my two years at Ridley, I've heard many ordinands express surprise at finding themselves here.

I can echo that, having been just as surprised by God to be called to work at Ridley. And, like all who study here, I have learned that I came to leave. But I return to parish ministry — to be Rector of Wilmslow in Chester Diocese — with a new energy and fresh vision, the fruit of time spent in beautiful surroundings with great colleagues and amazing and inspiring students.

It has been a privilege to serve as a pastoral tutor and to teach practical and pastoral theology. We have worshipped and prayed, lived and learned together. We have laughed and cried together.

“We have worshipped and prayed, lived and learned ... laughed and cried together”

I have been both encouraged and challenged in so many ways and am now excited to see how the journey unfolds for all those Ridleians I've come to know, as we go out, having grown more in wisdom, to proclaim Jesus Christ.

REVD CAROLINE THROUP
Pastoral Tutor



Pausing to pray:

EN ROUTE TO CURACY

With assignments finished and leave-taking done, those to be ordained gather for a few days apart to pray and prepare before they are welcomed as new deacons in the cathedral.

It is always a privilege to accept an invitation to lead such a retreat and to walk with women and men during a very particular time of transition, where hopes and dreams are mixed with a sense of the enormity of the task to which they have each been called. This year I will be accompanying ordinands from Chichester Diocese, including two Ridley students, Rebecca Tuck and Ben Sleep.

Please pray for all our students leaving to begin curacy this summer!

REVD DR CATHERINE WRIGHT
Director of Ministerial Formation

EMBER LIST 2018

Our annual 'Ember list' draws on a tradition of Ember Days, which were formerly set aside by the Church for fasting and prayer, and considered especially appropriate for ordinations.

With this pullout centrefold we invite you to pray for this year's leavers, and their families, as they prepare for their future ministry, whether it be in the world of work or in parish or lay ministry.

Ordinands



AJAYI: TIMMY & BUKKY;
PETRA & EZRA

Formerly: Business Consultant
Curacy: St Michael & All Angels, Blackheath, London (Southwark)

My time at Ridley Hall has taught me about the joy that comes from communally embracing the incarnational nature of God's kingdom. My hope is that we may, through the power of the Spirit, find and create platforms to confidently share the joy and abundance of life received from Christ (while at Ridley) with others in our hurting world.



ARNOLD: PAUL & ELIZABETH;
EVELYN,
BEATRICE & TOBIAS

Formerly: Senior Civil Servant
Curacy: All Saints', Preston-on-Tees with St Mary's, Long Newton (Durham)

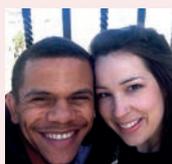
We have really enjoyed sharing life, laughter and cake here! Learning more about God, practising grace, and watching our children grow at Ridley. We are really excited as we move to Durham and all that God has in store for us and the parish there! Please keep us, and them, in your prayers.



ATKINS: ANDY & TIFFANY;
BEKAH, JACOB,
EMILY, ALICE & ELSIE

Formerly: CEO Agape UK
Curacy: St George's, Chesterton (Ely)

Training residentially at Ridley Hall has been a rich experience. It's been a privilege to be a part of a worshipping community and I have made some lifelong friends for the journey. Ridley's gracious and godly staff have inspired me to proclaim the unchanging Christ with greater wisdom in a changing world.



BACON: LUKE & BECCI;
MARY & CHARIS

Formerly: Church Staff Member
Curacy: Christ Church Beckenham (Rochester)

Ridley has been an incredible gift to us as a family: a place of learning, of friendship and of preparation for all that lies ahead. We are leaving Ridley with a huge sense of excitement for what God is calling us on to and with a deep sense of joy for all that we have received.



BAKER: KATE & LEO;
MATTHEW & CHARLOTTE

Formerly: University Employability and Careers Team Manager
Curacy: Houghton, Wyton and Hartford (Ely)

Training at Ridley Hall has been both a huge privilege and a massive challenge. I am looking forward to my curacy and the opportunity to put all the theoretical knowledge gained to good use, serving God in my parish.



BANTON: GARETH & APRIL;
SAMUEL & JONATHAN

Formerly: University Chaplain
Curacy: Hope Hub Team, Newton-le-Willows (Liverpool)

We've loved being part of the Ridley Hall community, praying, learning and eating together. It has been a family to us and our boys these last three years, and we're so grateful. Now, it's back to the North West for us, to discover, and joyfully join in, with what God and his people are doing there.



BESWICK PALLISTER:
JOHN & LAURA; MATILDA

Formerly: Training Secretary, IFES Portugal
Curacy: Betley and Madeley (Lichfield)

I'm very grateful for two years of learning and growth, as we experienced amazing blessings and some big challenges too. I am really looking forward to this next stage, to learn about parish life and to be further trained in ministry. I am particularly excited to discover what God is doing in rural churches!



BIGGS: DAVID & EMMA

Formerly: Computer Games Programming Student
Curacy: Benefice of Thirsk (York)

I have loved my three years at Ridley making lifelong friendships, being stretched theologically and having firm foundations set for future ministry. We are both excited for all that Thirsk will bring and are looking forward to joining the team in proclaiming Jesus.



BROUGHTON: MATT & RACHEL; CLARA & SYLVIE

Formerly: Church Worker

Curacy: St Paul's Ireland Wood, Leeds
My family and I have loved our three years in Cambridge and as part of

the Ridley community. I am grateful for all the teaching and input I have received but also for the chance conversation and pearls of wisdom shared over coffee or the croquet pitch. I feel God has used this time to form and prepare me for ordained life and I am excited to serve my curacy in Leeds.



FARNHAM: RACHAEL & SAM

Formerly: Special Needs Teaching Assistant

Curacy: Christ Church, Bayston Hill (Lichfield)

Ridley has been full of inspiring people and friends that will last a lifetime (poor them!). I'm leaving Cambridge feeling blessed by my time here and with a readiness to leave. Sam and I are looking forward to seeing who and what God will place into our lives as we move to Bayston Hill.



FORSYTH: MIKE & RACHEL; EVIE

Formerly: Royal Air Force Logistics Officer

Curacy: Christ Church Chilwell (Nottingham)

Training at Ridley has been a real gift from God as we prepare for future ministry; we have grown in love and expectancy on God during our time here. Our prayer is that we would live out Christlike hospitality within our new community as messengers of God's grace.



HOLLAND: LISA & NIGEL; MATT, AMY & ELLIE

Formerly: Spiritual Director, Prayer Spaces in Schools

Curacy: St Luke's and St Francis, Duston, Northampton (Peterborough)

Even now, in my final term, I occasionally pinch myself as I come through the archway. Living in Cambridge and studying here during the week and returning home for weekends has been challenging but a huge privilege and a joy. I shall miss this place and the community here very much, but look forward to the adventures ahead.



JEE: THOMAS & SARAH

Formerly: History Teacher

Curacy: All Saints Woodford Wells (Chelmsford)

We've made great friends here, and I've loved having so much time to dig into the Bible, to travel, and to

talk and pray with others. I'll miss the table football and the coffee, but I'm looking forward to spending the next three years sharing the good news we have in Jesus with the community in Woodford.



JOYCE: JO

Formerly: Acting Parks and Leisure Manager, Maidstone Borough Council

Curacy: St Paul's, Stockingford, Nuneaton (Coventry)

I have really enjoyed being part of the community at Ridley. Living residentially in college has been a huge blessing and enabled me to make lots of good friends as well as being challenging at times! I am looking forward to ministering in a new context and would value prayers for settling in quickly particularly as I am moving to a new area.



LAKE: ROBERT

Formerly: Financial controller and freelance financial consultant

Curacy: tbc

Training at Ridley has been an exciting and challenging adventure where I have enjoyed learning alongside people from different traditions within the Anglican Communion. I am grateful for my time here and for the community at my attachment church, Magdalene College Chapel.



MORING: JAMES & JOY (FIANCÉE)

Formerly: Religious Studies student (University of Kent)

Curacy: tbc

I've immensely valued being part of a community who deeply cares for those within it. I'll miss the laughter, the atmosphere of prayer and, most of all, the croquet.



OLIVER: AMANDA & DARREN; MEGAN & HELENA

Formerly: Voluntary Worker and Music Teacher

Curacy: Yardley Hastings, Denton & Grendon with Castle Ashby & Whiston

It has been a privilege to train at Ridley. Whilst I shall remember the challenges of the teaching and study with great joy, it is the people that have shared this time with us that shall always be in our hearts and prayers. We are ready to discover God's next chapter for us. Thank you, Ridley.



OSBORNE: MARK & CHRISTIAN; FELIX, TALULLA & ISAAC

Formerly: Housing Project Manager

Curacy: The Church of the Good Shepherd, Arbury (Ely)

Ridley has been fertile ground for me: time set aside which has been both challenging and rewarding; I have wrestled, reflected, learnt and grown, and all in the company of a loving community. I am looking forward to the challenges and rewards of proclaiming the Gospel, and learning to love and serve the community of Arbury, Cambridge.



PAVLOU: PAUL & HAYLEY; EVANGELINE & ZACHARY
Formerly: Special Educational Needs Coordinator
Curacy: St Mary, Bletchley, Milton Keynes (Oxford)

I have enjoyed having the time over the last three years to spend with my family. We are really excited to start curacy.



PERKINS: MICHAEL & EMMA
Formerly: Alpha Coordinator
Curacy: St Michael le Belfrey (York)

I have loved my time at Ridley (especially time spent around the table football!) It has been a challenge at times, but I feel I have grown immensely in both vocation and knowledge. We are incredibly excited to move back to York and see all that God has in store for us there.



PHILLIPS: MATT & CAROLINE
Formerly: Children's Pastor
Curacy: Ely Team (Ely)

It has been a huge privilege to study at Ridley and I am grateful for the opportunity to learn from brilliant tutors and fellow ordinands. We go into curacy with thankful hearts, knowing that the Lord is good and strong, and more determined than ever before to live our lives for Him!



PRICE: PHIL & ESTHER; MILLIE & LENA
Formerly: Marketing Executive
Curacy: St Peter's Earley (Oxford)

My time at Ridley has been a spent learning all sorts of things that I didn't realise I needed to learn. Looking back now, I can see that they were exactly what I needed to learn, so either the College knows what it's doing or God is at work here (or both).



PURNELL: LAURA & MARTIN
Formerly: Administrator
Curacy: St Faith's Gaywood, King's Lynn (Norwich)

Ridley has been an amazing God-

given space, which has given me time and space that non-residential training wouldn't have allowed. I am looking forward to going forward into curacy with all the new friends that these two years have given me.



SHINHMAR: JOSHUA & JELENA
 MARIA, CHRISTIANA & GABRIEL
Formerly: Chaplain, British Transport Police
Curacy: St George's, Chesterton (Ely)

Community life in Ridley has been wonderful. I have met many amazing men and women of God, both ordinands and staff, and my life has been enriched by them. I shall particularly miss my staircase (H), my pastoral group and Morning Prayer in chapel with the whole community. Looking ahead, I look forward to taking some more risks for the Gospel!



SLEEP: BEN & LUCY; EVIE; HERBIE; MONTY & DIGGORY
Formerly: Actor & Writer
Curacy: St John's, Meads (Chichester)

Ridley has been a fantastic experience that has afforded me great friendships and opportunities. It has been wonderful to experience the great breadth of the church and to explore the deep theology that guides us. As a family, we are really excited about moving to our new parish and beginning our ministry together.



SMITH: CHRISTOPHER & EMMA; CHARLOTTE & ADAM
Formerly: Technology Consultant
Curacy: St Luke's Highwoods, Colchester (Chelmsford)

These two years in the beautiful city of Cambridge have been both challenging and transformative; providing a real opportunity to rely on God in new ways and be shaped by his Word and his Spirit ready for curacy. We are looking forward to joining in with what God is doing in Colchester.



SMITH: JESSICA
Formerly: French & Spanish Teacher
Curacy: St Francis of Assisi, Strood (Rochester)

It has been a huge privilege to be part of the caring, praying community that is Ridley. I have loved my time on E staircase, making friends, worshipping together and, of course, learning Greek! I'm looking forward to being back in the Medway towns and seeing God at work in a very different setting in Strood.



TAYLOR: GORDON & SARAH

Formerly: Management Trainee
Curacy: Christ Church Tunbridge Wells (Rochester)

Ridley has been a wonderful time of discovery — new theology, new styles of worship, new church contexts and new people. It’s been fantastic, but we can’t wait to get stuck into the local church full time. We’ll be taking renewed passion (and hopefully much wisdom) with us as we go.



WARD: ALISTAIR & ERICA; WILLIAM, SARAH, MATTHEW

Formerly: National Account Manager Tarmac Building Products
Curacy: St Peter in Eastgate (Lincoln)

It has been a great privilege to be at Ridley. I have valued the time to study, to meet great people, make good friends, to pray, worship, laugh and be challenged together. To learn more of God’s goodness and grow in his grace. Now to tell others about him. . .



TUCK: REBECCA & SIMON; ABIGAIL & NOAH

Formerly: Primary School Teacher
Curacy: St Mary’s Horsham (Chichester)

The Ridley experience has transformed my whole family, helping Simon to find faith, and preparing us to go and share God’s love in our own unique way. I’ve learned here that God does not call any of us in isolation.



WARMINGTON: THOMAS & ALLULA; LUCAS & REUBEN

Formerly: Communications Director
Curacy: Epping District Team Ministry (Chelmsford)

Our time in Cambridge has been an extraordinary adventure for which I am extremely grateful. I have been challenged, excited and inspired to be obedient to God and to live expectantly that His transforming love will be at work in and around me. I look forward to all that God has for us in the future.

Lay Ministry Students



FREYA BLACK

Having predominantly worked at a faith-based community charity throughout my placement I look forward to continuing work in the community with those on the edge of society.

the freedom to pursue things that are important to me such as setting up LGBT Youth groups and working with those marginalised by society. Looking to the future I am hoping to work in South East Asia with young people for at least eight months and when I get back. . .who knows?



SUSIE BOXHALL

Having spent 2.5 years at Romsey Mill within the children’s centre and the remainder at my home church in Watford, I am exploring options and callings into a creative ministry, with all of the children of God, not just the little ones! More specifically art and textiles and using that to empower people.



JODY GRAYSTON

I’ve spent my time working in an Inclusive Church Parish in London and plan to continue my studies with a master in Gender & Sexuality studies to keep promoting inclusion within church.



MEGAN BROADLEY

Continuing as Associate Director the Red Balloon Family Foundation. I have spent the last three years wanting to write WHY on the ceiling. For now I am driven by my faith in God and my dream to help young people discover and become who they were designed to be. I’ll figure out the rest later.



LAURA NEALE

Throughout this course, I have learnt to be more reflective and reflexive and these skills have enabled me to grow emotionally, mentally and physically. I hope to be able to use this and continue learning as I move into the next stage of my life.



STEVEN CONROY

I’ve been working at Chelmsford Cathedral for the last two and a half years. Through this I have been given



BEN WILSON

When I began the course I was in desperate need of maturing and growth in faith. Now I feel confident and able to go forwards into my new role as a youth worker and to train further in church ministry.



Twenty-nine years...

Yes, I will be retiring in August 2018, twenty-nine years after joining the Ridley staff in 1989.

That was the year of the Hillsborough Disaster, the Massacre of Tiananmen Square and the Collapse of the Berlin Wall. It seems like another age. I have served under no less than five principals, including two former students in Andrew Norman and Michael Volland. Throughout I have been lead teacher on the Federation Ethics course, Director of Faith in Business (originally called God on Monday) and, since 2000, Director of Studies.

Having helped Michael Botting write the college history *Fanning the Flame*, I believe I am the longest ever serving member of Ridley staff! I have seen the college improve its buildings (the installation of doors at the foot of staircases, the refurbishment of the chapel, new rooms at the top of E and F) and the Federation update its courses. Teaching Ethics hasn't actually changed that

“The priceless privilege of preaching regularly in Ridley chapel”

much, though it has certainly grown more challenging in an age of postmodernism and political correctness.

I didn't intend to stay so long, and was looking to move on around 2006–8, but then God suggested otherwise. Faith in Business got a new lease of life, with invitations to speak in places like Vancouver, Hong Kong and mainland China, and attendance at our conferences increased considerably.

Special highlights? A wonderful “exchange” sabbatical in 2000, when our whole family spent a term in Melbourne, Australia; winning the 2007 croquet tournament with Paul Weston; writing the book on Christian entrepreneurs with an African student, Kina Robertshaw; and the priceless privilege of preaching regularly in Ridley chapel – a place that is very dear to me.

REVD DR RICHARD HIGGINSON
Tutor in Ethics and Director of Faith in Business



Easter Mission 2018

PUPPETEERING MINISTRY IN THE SUPERMARKET

DURING HOLY WEEK, PAUL WESTON LED A TEAM OF SEVEN STUDENTS ON A MISSION BASED AT ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH IN IPSWICH.

The vicar at St Augustine's is Trevor Golding, who left Ridley in 2009 and has maintained an energetic commitment to mission and community involvement. He and his wife Lois are doing a great job at St Augustine's as they seek to lead the church in a vari-

ety of local projects and opportunities. It was deeply encouraging for the team to catch a vision for this work during our short stay. And to be involved too! We took part in lots of different activities and events during the week, each challenging us to discern creative and appropriate ways to communicate something of the Easter message. There were two "Easter Experience" sessions at a local primary school, with the team helping children to engage with some of the key events of passion week, and two brilliantly organised "Happy Hippos" toddler groups, with opportunities to mix with parents and children. Then there was an extraordinary afternoon tea for 70 older people led

from the piano with community singing of Vera Lynn classics, and tunes from the musicals, interspersed with teamed testimonies. Holy Week offered more formal opportunities as well, each planned and led by the team, from reflections at a Good Friday "Hour at the Cross" to a vibrant and joyful Easter celebration service on Easter Sunday morning. And on Holy Saturday, we spent most of the day at the local Sainsbury's superstore mixing with shoppers and supporting the talented St Augustine's puppet team who had been invited in by the branch manager to perform songs



HOLY SATURDAY: MISSION AT THE CHECKOUT

with an Easter message. In the central entrance foyer, normally stacked high with last minute Easter Eggs the puppets sang out 'Re-sur-rec-tion Time, Come On!' Kids loved it, and parents too, perhaps glimpsing something that they hadn't expected.

A number of people made significant steps of faith as a result of the week and we were reminded as a team that though each new setting requires prayerful inspiration, nothing quite matches the profound joy of sharing something of the good news of Jesus.

REVD DR PAUL WESTON
Tutor in Mission and Homiletics

CHANGES IN THE FEDERATION

RIDLEY HALL IS A FOUNDER MEMBER OF THE CAMBRIDGE THEOLOGICAL FEDERATION (CTF) AND HAS MADE AN ENORMOUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE FEDERATION'S LIFE AND TEACHING OVER ALMOST FIVE DECADES.

In recent years, the combination of a reduction in numbers of Cambridge-based students in some Houses, along with an enormous increase in the administrative

“Among the Houses there is a new level of appreciation and trust, which bodes very well for the future of the Church”

burden of compliance placed on providers of higher education has led to a period of intense heart-searching and reflection in the CTF.

Member Houses have been working hard to imagine a sustainable future for the CTF; one that will serve the differing needs of the partner institutions while at

the same time offering value for money.

As a result of our collaborative efforts, the CTF has developed a new financial business plan, a more streamlined approach to working with our three partner universities and a simpler and more effective governance structure.

The new arrangements will come into effect in time for the 2018–19 academic year. We are grateful to God for guiding us through one of the most difficult years in the CTF's history.

Among the Houses there is new level of appreciation and trust, which bodes very well for the future of the Church. Two new members will join the Federation from 1st September: The Faraday Institute of Science and Religion and Westfield House (Evangelical Lutheran Church of England). These are fantastic signs of hope, which we trust will encourage your ongoing prayers for the CTF.



CAMBRIDGE
THEOLOGICAL
FEDERATION



Archbishop John
Sentamu to give
2018 C.F.D. Moule
Memorial Lecture

This year's annual Moule Lecture will be given on Wednesday 6th June by the Archbishop of York, Dr John Sentamu on the subject, "Growing in Wisdom to Proclaim Jesus Christ".

Archbishop Sentamu is a Ridley alumnus and we are delighted to be welcoming him back to his old College.

Among the Archbishop's stated priorities for ministry are, "seeking God's

rule of justice, righteousness, peace and love; being part of God's movement of change, being willing to take risks and be vulnerable, being the servant of others as Christ was servant of all, and praying constantly".



GROWING IN WISDOM TO
PROCLAIM JESUS CHRIST

Living out of these priorities has equipped him supremely well to share with us on the subject of "Growing in Wisdom to Proclaim Jesus Christ", and we look forward with anticipation to receiving what he will bring.



"I suggest our notions of success begin with God's action in the world"

What is success in pioneering?

Andrew Dunlop will join the Ridley staff team as Tutor in Context-based Training in September. We asked him to tell us about his book, due out this month.

Between 2010 and 2015 I was pioneer minister on a new-build housing estate on the edge of Northampton. During that time we built a large network of relationships through our community activities, and I saw God at work in many ways.

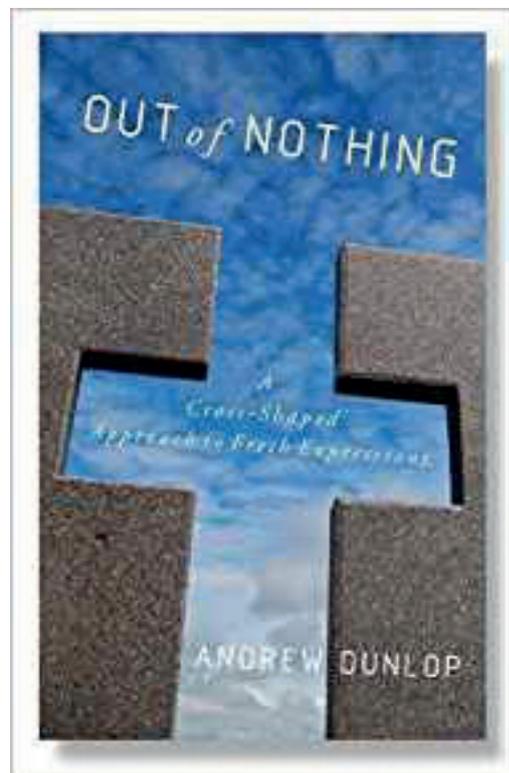
However, had someone told me that, by the end of my stay, the resulting church would have only thirty-five regular attendees (including children) at the worship gathering, I would have been disappointed. This led me to question notions of success.

In *Out of Nothing: A Cross-shaped Approach to Fresh Expressions*, I propose that traditional models of "success" are flawed. We are often concerned with questions of numbers, sustainability (leadership and finance), or ecclesiality (is it proper church?).

I suggest our notions of success begin with God's action in the world. God is at work in the community and in the lives of individuals, continually drawing them to Himself. He meets us at our points of questioning, crisis, or need—our places of nothingness

—and from these points he draws us into relationship with him.

A broad notion of the doctrine of atonement can help us to understand this. When we listen to stories of what God has been doing in people's lives, we see his atoning action at work. Surely



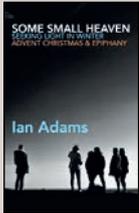
Out of Nothing will be published on 30th June and can be pre-ordered from SCM Press (www.scmpress.hymnsam.co.uk) with a £4 discount by using the code OUT2018 on checkout.

the goal of any pioneering venture in the church is to see God at work? I suggest that this is the place from which we define notions of success.

REVD ANDREW DUNLOP
Tutor in Context-based Training (from Sept 2018)

Getting the Word Out

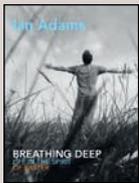
Recent and forthcoming publications
from Ridley staff, students and alumni



SPIRITUALITY

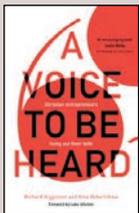
Some Small Heaven by Ian Adams
London: Canterbury Press, 2017

Breathing Deep by Ian Adams
London: Canterbury Press, 2018



FAITH AND WORK

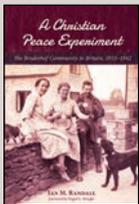
A Voice to be Heard: Christian Entrepreneurs Living out their Faith
by Richard Higginson and Kina Robertshaw
London: IVP, 2017



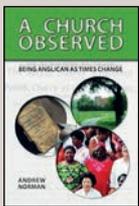
“Making a Difference: Christian Impact on the Business World” by Richard Higginson
Faith in Business Quarterly 18:4 (2018)

HISTORY

Preaching and Popular Christianity: Reading the Sermons of John Chrysostom by James Cook
Oxford: OUP, 2019

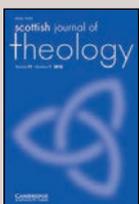


A Christian Peace Experiment: The Bruderhof Community in Britain, 1933–1942 by Ian Randall
Eugene, OR: Wipf and Stock, 2018



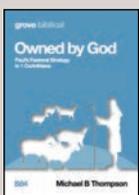
ANGLICANISM

A Church Observed: Being Anglican as Times Change by Andrew Norman
Malton: Gilead Books Publishing, 2018



DOCTRINE

“Barth Backwards: Reading the *Church Dogmatics* ‘from the end’” by Rob McDonald
Scottish Journal of Theology Vol. 71 (2018)



BIBLICAL STUDIES

Owned by God: Paul's Pastoral Strategy in 1 Corinthians by Michael B. Thompson
Grove Books Ltd, 2017

On the Road

A snapshot of some of the past year's
speaking engagements by Ridley staff

IAN ADAMS was a keynote speaker at the Diocese of Ely Fresh Expressions Conference. He also performed poems at the Church Times Festival of Faith and Literature in February and at the Church Times Festival of Poetry in May.



ROBIN BARDEN has spoken at a number of events in the Diocese of Ely on “Demystifying the teenager” and “Young people and the lure of social media: Challenging the addictive behaviours of a digital culture”.



SUE BUTLER spoke on “Building new communities with Jesus at the centre” at the CPL Pioneer School in January.



RICHARD HIGGINSON spoke about his book *A Voice to be Heard: Christian Entrepreneurs Living out their Faith* in numerous places including China, Geneva, London, Manchester, Hoddesdon, Hereford, Birmingham and Oxford.



PHILIP JENSON gave a paper to the Society for Old Testament Study on “Is there a Holiness Code, and does it matter?” He also contributed a paper to a seminar series at St Andrew's, on “A Cosmic Temple? A critical review of the parallels between Genesis 1–3 and the Tabernacle”.



ROB MCDONALD gave an evening lecture at Leadership College London on the topic of “Pneumatology and Leadership”, and delivered a lecture series to the Community of St Anselm at Lambeth Palace on “The Holy Spirit”.



CHRIS PEMBERTON spoke in Switzerland for a week of prayer for Christian unity. He also lectured at Westminster Theological Centre on spiritual formation and gave a series of lectures at the Leadership Academy, Cambridge.



MIKE THOMPSON spoken on “Introducing the Gospel of John” at St Mary's, Burwell in July, gave a mini-series of talks on “Making sense of Romans” at St John's Waterbeach in October and led a day on “Demystifying Paul” for St Bene't's, Cambridge in November.



PAUL WESTON preached at City Church, San Francisco and delivered a lecture on “The Cross as Creative Maladjustment” at a Pastors' Conference there. He also lectured on “Proper Confidence in a Shifting Culture” for the Peterborough Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship.



CATHERINE WRIGHT led an ordination retreat for those to be made deacon and priest in the Diocese of St David's.



Mega-churches and social engagement

Sarah Dunlop recently worked on an AHRC-funded project called “Megachurches and Social Engagement in London”. Here she outlines what it involved and some of the insights that emerged.



The aim was to investigate the nature of social action activities among five of the eleven churches in London with 2000+ people attending worship in a week. A team of researchers conducted three-month case studies of All Souls Langham Place, HTB, New Wine (the church, not the network), Jesus House and Kingsway International Christian Centre.

The study uncovered a huge number and variety of activities that churches are co-ordinating within London, including homeless shelters, Christmas hamper packing, feeding on the streets, homework clubs, GCSE exam preparation, addictions support groups, eating disorder ministries, debt counselling and many more. Some have grown out of the vision of church leadership, but most have started from congregation members recognising a need and gathering people around them to do something about it.

The study has produced insight into the theological motivations of church members. Although church leaders listed a large number of methods for encouraging social action, such as ser-

mons, vision days, testimonies, books, Bible studies, etc., what congregation members said actually motivated them to get involved was an experience of the love of God. It seems that when people have their lives changed by God, it is this experience that empowers them to offer their time and energy to helping others in their community.

Although this finding is not easily transferable into wider notions of civic participation, the results of the project have offered insight into how local governments can relate to faith-based social engagement. Additionally, the findings shed light on the public theologies of these large churches. For example, very little was done about wider issues of social justice. Instead, the transformation of society was seen to happen through personal encounters with others and with God. Tellingly, social engagement was not about church growth, but instead was seen as freely sharing the love of God with no expectation of a positive response to the gospel. Nevertheless, this growing commitment to social engagement could be the spark that renews the church’s influence within wider society.

DR SARAH DUNLOP

Tutor in Practical Theology (from Sept 2018)

