

## Books of the month

**Two books are highlighted this month. Both are on special offer in the bookshop, or available to borrow from the library.**

### **1. Re-Enchanting Christianity: faith in an emerging culture** *by Dave Tomlinson*

It is surely a great irony to realize that many people who stand outside the church believe that we believe things that we don't believe. Theo Hobson in the *Guardian* asserts "We demand a new way of proclaiming Jesus Christ, one that feels authentic, contemporary."

Here in rural Dorset, longing to speak with those on the threshold of faith – especially young adults who were baptised but mostly not confirmed yet come to the church for weddings and baptisms - I was thoroughly pleased to find Dave Tomlinson's book *Re-enchanting Christianity – faith in an emerging culture*. "Re-enchantment is ...finding a realistic faith that reconciles heart and head, that offers a positive, engaging spirituality, that is unafraid of grappling honestly with even the most difficult questions."

Two of the 15 people I've introduced the book to have this to say -

"I thought this was a blast of fresh air through the church. There is so much common sense in it that I wondered why it hadn't been written before. I'm sure many people who feel sad to be on the 'outskirts' will take heart from Tomlinson's views that they are not alone, and are quite normal." (Lay person recently returned to Church)

"Tomlinson shows how a modern rationalist can and must continue to wrestle with the dialectic between the gospel and the world if he or she is to retain integrity. He meets head on all the difficult issues, and coming from a conservative and charismatic background, he has a CV which more than qualifies him to speak on the issues he discusses....this would make an ideal parish study – especially if those invited came in part from outside the traditional church boundary." (Parish priest)

Tomlinson has challenged me to stop being so subtle in admitting what it is I *really* believe yet encouraged me to be bolder in talking with others about the wondrous things that Christ has to offer!

***Reviewed by The Rev'd Janet Smith, Rural Dean Dorchester Deanery***

**Mention the bulletin to order at the special price of £8.99 (rrp £9.99) and post free.**

## **2. Our sound is our wound: contemplating listening in a noisy world**

***by Lucy Winkett*** The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book 2010



There is an old saying that it is better to stay silent and be thought a fool than to speak and remove all doubt. To speak is to be vulnerable and risk being wounded by the response of others. However, this remarkable and beautifully written book is about more than language: it is about the way we experience and respond to all the sounds of the modern world, including those of the silenced, the oppressed and the excluded.

Lucy Winkett guides us through the sounds of Scripture ("the troubadour Lord singing a love song for his suffering people"), of lamentation echoing down the centuries, of freedom even in a closed world, of resurrection (not trumpets, but a grace-filled silence in which we become aware of God calling us by name and awaiting our reply) and of angels (whose song "saves us from arrogance").

It is often tempting to distinguish mentally between sound (the things we like to hear) and noise. Lucy Winkett reminds us that this is not the case; sound is not neutral. Even Choral Evensong or bird song can be "audible scars of damaged tissue" marking a failure to harmonise with modern culture, or the impact of noise and light pollution, can make birds sing more loudly, at a higher pitch and in the dark in order to be heard above the noise of the city.

Our sound is our wound when we ignore the reality of dissonance in favour of manufactured harmony; when we prevent others singing the true song of their

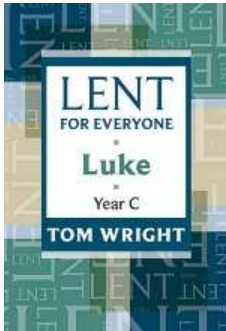
experience; when we mimic the noise of the world rather than challenging it and offering, as a Church, the value of silence in order to hear an echo of the voice of God and a chance to live lives which are rooted in God's love. It is, after all, in God's love that we find not just our refuge from a noisy world but the courage to find our unique sound and to risk being wounded while making it.

Just as sound is more than what we hear through our ears, this book is more than you will read with your eyes. It is a book to be read with the heart.

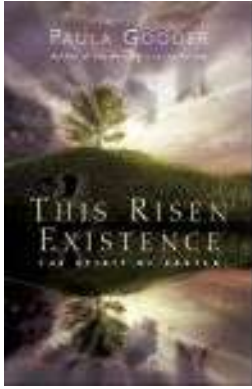
***Reviewed by Norma Fergusson, STETS student.***

**Mention the Bulletin to order a copy of *Our sound is our wound* at the special price of £8.99 (rrp £9.99) and post free. Call Sarum College Bookshop on 01722 326899 or email [bookshop@sarum.ac.uk](mailto:bookshop@sarum.ac.uk)**

**Our Lent books are selling fast. As well as *Our Sound is our Wound* reviewed above, here are some of the highlights:**



A Lent lectionary resource using Tom Wright's For Everyone Bible translation, this is the first in a three-volume series to cover the three years of the Revised Common Lectionary. For each day of Lent, there is a reading chosen from the Gospel designated for the year, plus a reflection by Tom Wright. The book grows out of a project to encourage Lent reading in the diocese of Durham. £6.99



**This Risen Existence** by **Paula Gooder**

Some of you will have read Paula Gooder's Advent book *the meaning is in the waiting* which was extremely popular.

This new title follows the same pattern, leading us on a biblical exploration of the resurrection accounts in each of the Gospels and in Paul's writings, as well as the account of the Ascension and coming of the Spirit at Pentecost in Acts.

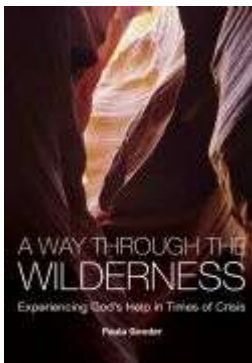
Arranged for daily reading through the seven weeks of Eastertide, *This Risen Existence* opens with an extended reflection on ancient and contemporary understandings of resurrection. Subsequent chapters lead us on an exciting journey of discovery through the New Testament narratives in a quest to discover what resurrection tells us about life after death, the end times and what it actually means to be a Christian. £8.99

Also by Paula Gooder, a new Lent book based on the book of Isaiah

**A way through the wilderness: experiencing God's help in times of crisis**

SCM £5.99.

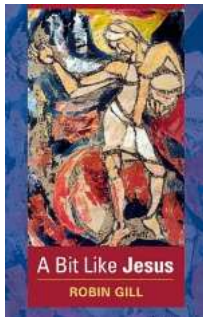
Her 'Lentwise' was a bestseller last year.





takes the post-resurrection sayings of Jesus as starting-points and uses the same reflection format. The meaning and significance of the Resurrection, how it was first communicated and how it is communicated to us today, are explored by piecing together these sayings of Jesus. £6.99

The follow-up to the author's highly successful *The Things He Carried*, this book



A Bit like Jesus, by Robin Gill

what is it to be even a little like Jesus? The kingdom of God is central to Jesus' message and, from the stories about Jesus and the stories he told, we can discover the values that rule in the kingdom, and whether those values are ours. A Bit Like Jesus is written for busy people on this journey of discovery. While focusing particularly on the healing stories and parables of Jesus, Robin Gill offers a short meditative piece for every day (except Sunday) during the six weeks of Lent. At the end of each meditation, there are readings from the Psalms and the Qur'an for reflection. £6.99

We are also carrying the *Fully Alive* Lent course packs, so if it is easier (eg on a Saturday) , you can collect these from us rather than Church House. Please phone first if you need large numbers.

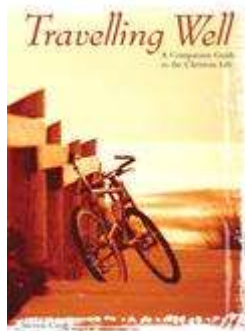
## Other Current Bestsellers

### **Gratitude and Grace: The Writings of Michael Mayne**

By Joel W. Huffstetler £11.95

This book " offers an introduction and overview of the five bestselling books by one of the United Kingdom's finest spiritual writers, Michael Mayne, who served as dean of Westminster Abbey from 1986 to 1996. Previously, he had served as vicar of Great St. Mary's (the University Church), Cambridge, and as Head of Religious Programmes for BBC Radio. Mayne's primary vocation was that of pastor, not writer, but his deep pastoral wisdom shines through in his books. Though clearly Christian in orientation, Michael Mayne's books were written to appeal to all who are on a quest to integrate spirituality into their daily lives. His work recalls the very best of English pastoral writing, such as that of George Herbert, Thomas Traherne, and Francis Kilvert. The list of the finest English pastoral books now includes those by Michael Mayne (d. 2006). *Gratitude and Grace: The Writings of Michael Mayne* is the first book-length treatment of Mayne's writings and will remain the starting point of Mayne studies for years to come".

[Further information](#)



**Travelling Well: A  
companion guide to the Christian life  
by Stephen Cottrell and Steven Croft, £8.99**

## Just arrived

Another new book by Tom Wright – **Virtue Reborn** SPCK £12.99



*"With characteristic verve and luminous clarity Tom Wright now brings his learning and insight to bear on the complex field of ethics. He slices through both old and new conundrums by using - and renewing - the ancient key of virtue and the transformed character. Here is deep Christian wisdom for a bewildered age."*

*John Pritchard, Bishop of Oxford* £12.99



Brilliantly concise introductions to almost everything. We now have a spinner near the till with a good selection of relevant titles, including :

- **Christianity** by Linda Woodhead
- **Theology** by David F. Ford
- **The Bible** by John Riches
- **Paul** by E. P. Sanders
- **The Old Testament** by Michael Coogan
- **Biblical Archaeology** by Eric H. Cline
- **Anglicanism** by Mark Chapman

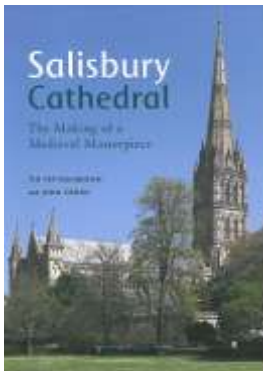
and many more



## **Crafting Common Worship: A Practical, Creative Guide to What's Possible by Roger Moger**

Drawing on the author's wealth of experience as the Church of England's National Worship Development Officer, *Crafting Common Worship* is a highly practical guide to how to make the most of *Common Worship*.

It includes extensive case studies on how *Common Worship* has been used in various contexts to create engaging and mission-focused worship, including Holy Communion, Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals.



## **Salisbury Cathedral: the making of a Medieval Masterpiece**

by Tim Tatton-Brown and John Crook £14.95

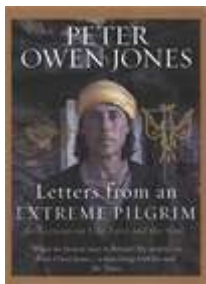
*The Press release about the book says:*

Researched and written by Tim Tatton-Brown, Consultant Archaeologist of Salisbury Cathedral since 1990, it is lavishly illustrated with beautiful new pictures by specialist photographer John Crook, a fine new series of drawings by Jill Atherton and two new watercolours by Terry Ball.

Tim Tatton-Brown said, "This book offers a completely fresh account of the building of the Cathedral, revealing all the new findings which have been made from both my work and associated specialist studies of the building's fabric during the past twenty years as it undergoes its Major Repair Programme. I have attempted to put these new findings alongside the known historical dates and documentary information we already have and present it all in a straightforward and readable style.

“Salisbury Cathedral is a famously beautiful work of ecclesiastical architecture and an extraordinary achievement. It is unique among medieval English cathedrals being erected within about 40 years in a single style, Early English Gothic, and is a testimony to the faith, skill, craftsmanship and endeavour of those who built it.”

Salisbury Cathedral cost £14.95 (rrp £16.95) This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> recent book about Salisbury, and compliments *Salisbury: a walk around the Close* and *Salisbury in detail*.



***Letters from an extreme pilgrim* by Peter Owen Jones £9.99**

“On a journey that would take him deep into the wilderness, award-winning television presenter, author and parish priest Peter Owen Jones set out in the footsteps of St Anthony, the founder of monasticism. In a hermit's cell in the heart of the Egyptian Sinai Desert, he lived alone, spending his days in contemplation and prayer, and pushing himself to the limits of physical, mental and spiritual endurance.

*Letters from an Extreme Pilgrim* is based on the extraordinary letters that he wrote during this time. They are addressed to a thought-provoking array of figures - parents, children and past loves, prime ministers, singers, saints and sinners. Each letter is a powerful meditation and an honest exploration of the ways in which we are formed by others; by those who nurture us, those who horrify us and those who dare to love us. Revealing and heartfelt, the letters combine personal memoir with broader issues of faith, morality and relationship, and they invite all of us to consider our lives anew”.

Peter Owen Jones was recently spotted travelling around Dorset – look out for his next TV programme!

**CD *Et Spiritu Sancti: hymns and poems set to original music* Carrie Melbourne £10.99**

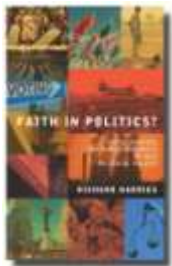


## Events



Esther Reed at the recent launch of her book ***Work: for God's sake***, the book of the 2007 Sarum Theological Lectures. The book is available from the bookshop, priced £12.95

Coming soon – the book of last year's Sarum Theological Lectures **Faith in Politics** by Richard Harries



*'This is a voice we need to hear, at this time in the political life of our nation. Lord Harries reminds us of the roots of our deepest political convictions, and invites us to examine where and how deep those roots are. The message is urgent and incisive, clear and compelling. We ignore it at our peril.'*  
**Keith Ward**

**Bargains      2010 Diaries – now half price.**  
**Lots of other books also at half price, + some '3 for £5' titles. Have a look next time you are in Salisbury.**

**The second hand department is now looking better, thanks to the regular attention of a new volunteer. Take a look next time you are in.**

## National BOOK tokens

Paper book tokens are no more. You can of course still redeem them, but you can no longer buy them. They have been replaced by BOOK tokens Gift Cards – credit card sized plastic cards which can be loaded with any amount of money, and can be 'topped up' if required. For the chance to win £100 worth, go to [www.nationalbooktokens.co.uk/competition](http://www.nationalbooktokens.co.uk/competition)

## On a lighter note

The following have all appeared in church magazines (or so I'm told)

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Next weekend's Fasting & Prayer Conference in Whitby includes all meals.  
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Sunday morning sermon: 'Jesus Walks on the Water'

Sunday evening sermon: 'Searching for Jesus.'  
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Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation .  
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For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.  
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Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.  
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Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

More next time...

If anyone would like to review a book, please [let me know](#)

Any comments on the bulletin or ideas for what you would like to see in future issues,

please [let me know](#)

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