

HARK THE GLAD SOUNDS...

A complete listing of audio compact disc and DVD video recordings available, featuring various speakers and conferences arranged by the Progressive Christianity Network - Britain, Free To Believe and others during recent years. All discs are attractively cased, tracked and labelled for easy access to any section.

"I am delighted with the recordings of the Sept meeting of the Sea of Faith – many thanks. Your discs are wonderful for me as I cannot get to meetings now, and quite possibly I shall be ordering others in the future!"

Jane, Dorset

"Thank you for your wonderful service."

John, Notts

"You are doing a remarkable job recording all this material – thank you so much."

Christine, Glamorgan

SoF Conference recordings are really excellent. Sounds even better than the event itself!

Carol, Norwich

Prices include postage and packing, with discounts for larger simultaneous purchases (any mix) as follows:

Two items – deduct 10%; three items – deduct 15%; four items or more – deduct 20%

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make cheques payable to C. Avis
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Items are shown in reverse chronological order.

Biblical Literalism – a Gentile Heresy

A 2-CD set of the October 2016 Day Conference with Revd Dr Robert Reiss and Julie Grove giving talks on the content of Bishop John Shelby Spong's 2016 book, *'Biblical Literalism – a Gentile Heresy'*. Also included is a 2-DVD set of 'Jack' Spong talking about his book in Windsor in 2015. Total cost of 4 discs is £15.00, or the packaged CDs and DVDs can be purchased separately.

Conference CDs £8.00

Windsor DVDs £10

Or all 4 discs £15.00

Cutting Edge Faith

The 2016 Free to Believe Conference chaired by Alison Micklem, including a fascinating range of talks by Susan Durber on gender and the Bible, Leslie Griffiths on 'Liberal Fundamentalism' and Lawrence Moore on 'When the Church needs to take sides because God does', plus Q&A's and some Reflections by Martin Camroux.

4-CD set £11.00

Belonging without Believing?

Although Canon Brian Mountford and the Revd Dr Harriet Harris are both at the more progressive end of the theological spectrum, their different approaches to specific areas of belief made for some thought provoking and lively discussion during this day at the Church at Carrs Lane, Birmingham.

3-CD set £8.00

Out of Our Minds

This startling title for the 2015 Sea of Faith annual conference was concerned with 'What can we offer towards a healthier world?' Keynote speakers were author and broadcaster David Boulton on *Utopia* and Unitarian minister Andy Pakula on *Oneness without the One*. The ever popular *Speakers' Corner* and *Desert Island Discs* plus plenty of Q&A produced another successful event, here preserved on three audio CDs and one DVD, all tracked, packaged and labelled as usual.

3 CD+1DVD set £10.00

Walking Forward with Bishop John Shelby Spong

Videoed at Holy Trinity Church Windsor, these two DVDs contain the very essence of Jack Spong's approaches to the Bible and Christianity. If you have not experienced this world renowned progressive Bible scholar before, here is an ideal introduction to Bishop Spong's ethos for Christian living. If you're familiar with much of his work already, here is an ideal refresher course!

2-DVD set £10.00

A Day in the Fountain with Mark Oakley

Mark Oakley is Canon Chancellor of St Paul's Cathedral and loves poetry. At Bloomsbury Baptist Church in London he emphasised the intertwined nature of poetry and religion in thought provoking, entertaining talks laced with humour and emotion. Later feedback from many of those present indicated that for them this was one of the best PCN events ever.

The day ended with members reciting poems discussed earlier in groups and then commenting on them – a memorable conclusion to a great day.

2-DVD set £10.00

Re-Imaging God

This day conference at Carrs Lane Church in Birmingham featured talks by Donald Horsfield and David Boulton on human attempts throughout history to conceptualise God. Depending on your current position on the religious road, the conclusions reached may be alarming, challenging, a relief, or a combination of all three. Either way, this is fascinating and stimulating food for thought, served with a good garnish of humour.

Three talks and a Q&A assembled on three edited and tracked audio CDs, with £1.00 donated to Carrs Lane for every set sold.

3-CD set £8.00

With or Without God

Gretta Vosper is a minister of the United Church of Canada. She writes: *'After I spontaneously preached a sermon in which I completely deconstructed the idea of a god named God, rather than fire me, the congregation chose to step out on an unmarked path. It's a hard road but a worthy one with no finish line in sight. Let's walk this road together. I promise you'll be inspired.'*

See and hear Greta talk about this bold, courageous adventure with her church, and the inevitable challenges it is creating. Two packaged DVDs (total time 90 mins+) contain the talk and resulting Q&A at Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church in London on 24 Sept 2014.

2-DVD set £10.00

Making Connections

A 5-disc set of the Sea of Faith 2014 Annual Conference at Leicester University, including key presentations by Derek McAuley, Keith Porteous Wood and Pippa Evans (with Q&As, of course) plus an innovative and very successful *Speakers' Corner* session with excellent presentations by members Dave Francis, Dinah Livingstone, John Gamlin, Barbara Burfoot, John Pearson and Jane Howarth. Founder member David Paterson chooses his *Desert Island Discs* with Carol Palfrey and the bonus *Connections Selections* DVD includes the complete home-grown concluding *Sunday Assembly* as well as some general atmosphere footage. A donation is made to Sea of Faith for every set sold.

4-CD + 1 DVD set £12.00

Hear the Overtures!

Rarely are seasoned Free To Believe conference goers shaken by new ideas, but this 2014 event with John Dominic Crossan stimulated much new thinking and debate about the Christmas and Easter stories.

'The Challenge of Christmas and the Meaning of Easter' is an invitation into the 'matrix' to experience overtures and other surprises. Four audio CDs include the talks and Q&A sessions, plus worship extracts led by Carla Grosch-Miller and Dom's sermon during the closing worship. As usual, all discs are boxed, tracked and indexed for speedy access to any section.

4-CD set £12.00

Celtic Christianity

An Exeter PCN meeting led by author and Celtic historian Fay Sampson. A fascinating and detailed journey through Celtic Christianity to the present day related by an accomplished storyteller.

Single CD £3.50

Is Religion Dangerous?

A day conference at Tavistock in Devon, October 2013, led by Revd Martin Camroux who is the current Chair of Free To Believe. Martin's talks included the title subject plus 'A Critique of Religion' and 'How to Get Religion Right'. The day ended with a Q&A session and is now available on two edited DVDs.

2-DVD set £5.00

Secular Religion?

Four DVD video discs of the Sea of Faith Network London Day Conference, September 2013 at St John's Church, Waterloo, featuring three prominent speakers:

Disc 1 Stephen Batchelor + Q&A; Disc 2 Don Cupitt + Q&A;

Disc 3 Richard Holloway + Q&A; Disc 4 Plenary with all speakers.

Discs can be purchased as a single full set or individually (including case), as priced below. All prices include postage & packing. 'Missing' discs can be ordered any time later.

Single disc £5; any two £8; any three £10; all four £12

Quaker Faith and Practice

An Exeter PCN meeting about the history of Quakerism and its members' variety of theological perspectives, focussing on a way of life rather than assent to forms of words or creeds. Maggie Cartridge (retired Family Law solicitor) and Gerald Conyngham (Family Mediator) revealed many little-known facts about Quakerism – did you know Quakers had received the Nobel Prize?

Single CD £3.50

For the Common Good

This was the subject of the Sea of Faith Network 2013 Annual Conference featuring sessions from Chris Howson on 'A Just Church'; Tim Jackson on 'The Altruist Within'; Alom Shaha on 'The Young Atheist's Handbook'; contributions from Don Cupitt, plus a debate on assisted dying and lots of Q & A. Four CDs packed with challenging controversy and informative discussions, with £1 donated to SOFN for every set sold.

4-CD set £11.00

Spirituality

Bishop Martin Shaw, late of Argyll and the Isles and now living in Exeter, spoke on this topic to the Exeter PCN group in June 2013. "It's going to be fierce and it's going to be confusing," he promised, and his outspoken presentation was just that. Bishop Martin's high octane style is confrontational and challenging; not for the faint-hearted, but worth getting to grips with.

Single CD £3.50

Leaving Alexandria

Richard Holloway's 'memoir' is an intensely powerful and moving book in which he attempts to come to terms with himself and his life's journey. This Free To Believe reading party at Windermere was a privileged and inspiring opportunity to discuss Leaving Alexandria in the delightful company of the author. Here is a chance to listen anew (or again) to this remarkable, approachable man. The four CDs in this set include Richard's talks, plenty of Q&A, and extracts from the Closing Celebration service led by Kate Compston.

4-CD set £11.00

Celebrating a 21st Century Faith

An April 2013 PCN day conference at The Lumen Church in London featuring presentations from three 'progressive' churches, all trying to make Christianity relevant and appealing to contemporary society. Speakers were from Carrs Lane, Birmingham; Southernhay, Exeter; and St Mark's, Sheffield. Lots of encouraging ideas, help and discussion tracked and packed into 80 minutes.

Single CD £3.50

Two's Views

Two separate talks given at Exeter PCN meetings by Southernhay Church minister Iain McDonald and his partner Ken Thomas. In '*Life and Church – a personal journey*', Iain gives a revealing, often amusing account of his life including some 'you couldn't make it up' bizarre encounters en route.

In '*Christian Atheism*', Ken describes this contentious subject and his present views on it, with reference to a book by Canon Brian Mountford, the Vicar of the Oxford University Church of St Mary the Virgin – intriguing! Both discs include the ensuing discussions, each is tracked, indexed, labelled and plays for an hour.

2-CD set £5.00

Religion Without the Rules

In November 2012 the Exeter Progressive Christianity Network group was privileged to receive a visit from the Revd Dave Tomlinson of St Luke's Church, Holloway. Dave was a house church leader for many years before founding *Holy Joe's*, a church in a pub in Clapham for disaffected churchgoers. This talk, based on his latest book *How to be a Bad Christian (and a Better Human Being)*, generated lots of discussion among the 75 who attended and was continued two months later at the next meeting (disc 2). Plenty of mixed reactions!

2-CD set £5.00

Beyond Our Wildest Imaginings – making Real the Love of God

Featuring Bishop Gene Robinson, Revd Dr David Peel and Revd Elizabeth Gray-King this remarkable Free To Believe conference broke new ground in several ways: the highest ever attendance (120); an 'artist in residence'; themed and effective reflective worship led by Kate Compston; and some video recording in addition to the usual audio. The result is a total of 6 discs presented in two cases of 3, complete with the usual labelling etc. 5 of the discs are audio CDs containing all the talks and Q&A sessions, except for artist Elizabeth Gray-King's very visual presentations. These are included among the contents of the 6th disc which is a 48 minute DVD, 'A Taste of FTB 2012' - you get the picture! All discs are 'tidy-up edited' and tracked for easy access to any part. This is one of the most comprehensive recordings I have made of any event; and the most modestly priced.

5-CD + 1 DVD set £12.00

Brain, Belief & Behaviour

This excellent **Sea of Faith 24th Annual Conference** at Leicester University in July 2011 featured three well qualified speakers on a fascinating subject. **Gwen Griffith-Dickson** is Director of the Lokahi Foundation and Gresham College Professor Emeritus of Divinity; **Colin Blakemore** is Professor of Neuroscience at the Universities of Oxford and Warwick; and **Alan Allport** is Emeritus Professor of Experimental Psychology and Senior Research Fellow at St Anne's College, Oxford. **Don Cupitt** also spoke about his latest book, *The Fountain*, contributing to more than 5 hours of great communication and entertainment on 4 CDs. For every set sold, £1 will be donated to the SoF.

4-CD set £11.00

Setting Jesus Free

In June 2011 the Exeter PCN group enjoyed a visit from the current chair of PCN Britain, John Churcher, who spoke about his latest book *Setting Jesus Free*. John explained that what he had to say was not official PCN policy (because, apart from the Eight Points, there is none), but a description of his own personal journey of faith and where it had led him so far. A great talk with some prompted discussion from an experienced and appealing teacher.

Single CD £3.50

The Lust for Certainty

This is the first Sea of Faith (www.sofn.org.uk) conference I recorded and features contributions from writers David Bolton and Julian Baggini; plus writer/broadcasters Mark Vernon and Kenan Malik. Under the headings 'God, Science and the Quest for Moral Certainty', 'The Death of God and the Triumph of Uncertainty', 'As Much Precision as the Subject Allows' and 'Uncertainty's Promise', the speakers presented knowledgeable and compelling insights into the title topic. Disc 4 concludes with a comprehensive plenary session. £1 donated to the Sea of Faith Network per set sold.

4-CD set £11.00

The Bible, the Birds and the Bees

Dr. Adrian Thatcher M.A. (Oxon.), D.Phil. (Oxon.) came to Exeter University in 2004 as a Professorial Research Fellow in Applied Theology, and gave this talk at St Michael and All Angels Church, Exeter in February 2011. The title of Dr Thatcher's presentation was actually "Towards a Gay-Friendly Church: New Arguments for Inclusion" but my title is designed to catch your eye!

How many sexes were there in the time of Jesus? How were babies made? Why were same-sex relationships so abhorred? The answers are likely to be unexpected. This is sex as (mis)understood in biblical times, knowledge of which must lead to informed Christian approaches to gender orientation issues today.

Single CD £3.50

Why We Need a God Outside Us

Join with the Exeter PCN local group as they explore the edge of philosophical approaches to 'God'. Is seeing believing? Is being wrong more productive for

a church than being right? Gareth Dyer is a sociology/philosophy lecturer and part-time Baptist minister whose open discomfort with the traditional church has encouraged him down paths of thought that many will find challenging but ultimately productive.

Single CD £3.50

Marcus Borg on 'Being Christian in the 21st Century'

Recorded at St John's Church Edinburgh in September 2010, here is another engaging series of talks by this much missed 'gentle-man' of contemporary Christianity. Marcus spoke of the need to 'redeem' the present barriers of Christian language and literalism, urging with his own quiet passion the need for a faith that realises the earthly Kingdom of God through distributive justice and compassion. The recordings include Marcus' sermon on the Sunday.

4-CD set £11.00

Interfaith - The New Ecumenism?

Yet another excellent FTB conference held in May 2010 featuring speakers on the future of interfaith dialogue, including Rabbi Tony Bayfield, the Revd Dr David Cornick, Alan Race, Raficq Abdulla and the Revd Ian Bradley. Wide-ranging approaches and topics plus a 60th birthday celebration made this a conference to remember! A 4CD set of edited audio recordings is now available.

4-CD set £11.00

Over the Points

A series of talks traversing the '8 Points of Progressive Christianity' on 6 CDs, recorded at PCN Exeter meetings between 2008-2010 led by the Revd Iain McDonald, minister of Southernhay URC in Exeter. At each meeting a brief talk is followed by comprehensive discussion, with each disc divided into titled tracks for speedy reference and access. Discs are attractively cased in three consecutive sets of two (individual discs cannot be ordered separately). These recordings are a rich resource for personal listening, or equally suitable for stimulating and aiding local group discussions.

1. God and Jesus; 2. God Paths; 3. God's Banquet; 4. Abandoning Certainty; 5. A Spiritual Community; 6. Privilege

6-CD full set £15.00

Special Offer - Eternal Life for a Fiver

As with most advertising, all is not necessarily what it seems, though this is still quite a bargain! The Exeter recording during Bishop 'Jack' Spong's lecture tour in October 2009, when he spoke about his latest book '**Eternal Life – a New Vision**', is now available on an audio CD. Included is a second disc containing a total of 13 questions and answers from sessions at the Exeter and Colchester venues. The discs are packaged in a single case with an attractive cover including photographs and a detailed track index. As someone remarked after Jack's visit to our church, "That was classic Spong!" - I couldn't agree more!

2-CD set £5.00

"It's Bible Study, but not as we know it..."

Studying the Bible is not usually considered the best way into a fun Saturday, but the time spent with **Janet Tollington (Westminster College)** in Yeovil one July Saturday at her '**Vision4Life Bible Study Day**' was, in biblical terms, a revelation. In a relaxed and conversational manner the Bible's protracted, tortuous genesis and compilation was revealed, including many little known and surprising facts. Hear some fascinating gems and learn what most churches still prefer their flocks not to know!

2-CD set £5.00

Whatever Next?

is the title of a series of three talks concerning life after death given to the Exeter PCN group in 2009 by the **Revd Anthony Freeman**, a priest and author whose books include *The Emergence of Consciousness* and *God In Us*, the latter causing him to be dismissed from his parish in 1993 for 'contravening church teaching'. Under the three headings of *The Bible Witness*, *Mediaeval Developments* and *The Modern Age*, Anthony presents a comprehensive and fascinating history of Christian attitudes to life after death right up to the present day. Each disc provides just over an hour of presentation and discussion, tracked and labelled for easy access to any part.

3-CD set £8.00

Liberal Voices!

The October 2008 Free To Believe conference with **Brian Wren** and **Ian Bradley** (in the moving presence of **Fred Kaan**) was an intoxicating mix of knowledge, discussion, humour and emotion, blended with great music and singing. Brian Wren is a familiar contemporary hymn writer, while Ian Bradley is an author, chaplain, pastor and reader in Practical Theology and Church History at St Andrew's University. Both combined brilliantly to make this one of the best FTB conferences ever. More than six hours of this memorable occasion are now preserved on a set of five audio CDs, each tracked and attractively packaged as usual.

5-CD set £13.00

Jesus: Uncovering the Life, Teachings and Relevance of a Religious Revolutionary.

In April 2008 **Marcus Borg** travelled to the UK from Oregon to speak at St Mark's Church, Sheffield. The result was a memorable weekend from this world-renowned teacher whose considered, thoughtful style well leavened with humour captivated his 300+ audience. The talks, Q&A sessions and Marcus' Sunday sermon are now available on a 4 CD set, including the original supporting notes. This was one of the best conferences I have ever been privileged to record and edit on to discs. In our troubled churches and a divided, violent world there is a crying need for the Borg 'gospel', so spread the (recorded) word!

4-CD set £11.00

"There are some who find Jesus appealing and Paul appalling"

So began **John Dominic Crossan's** wonderful series of three talks on **Paul and the Justice of Equality** in November 2007 at the Centre for Radical Christianity in Sheffield. Dominic is a world-renowned authority on Paul, with the ability to communicate his subject in an accessible, absorbing and entertaining way. A 4-CD set of the talks, including Q&A sessions and Dominic's sermon at the Remembrance Day service, is available. As always, the discs are fully tracked, cased and labelled for easy access to any section. There is a wealth of fascinating and informative material on the enigmatic Paul in these talks and an enriching, sometimes surprising experience is guaranteed!

4-CD set £11.00

Honouring the Heart's Desire

A talk by **Diarmuid O'Murchu** in Exeter on 12th Sept 2007. *"Desire is a word with several ambiguous meanings, an aspect of human existence which we need to reclaim and rehabilitate as we grow more deeply into a fresh sense of our planetary and cosmic identity"*

An intriguing talk, complete with Q&A session.

Single CD £3.50

A Progressive Agenda for the World Faiths

A conference recorded at Westminster College Cambridge in April 2007 featuring three speakers of different faiths: **Ajmal Masroor** – Muslim; **Jonathan Romain** – Rabbi; and **John Parry** – Christian.

A revealing experience of the many shared beliefs within pluralism, well laced with lively debate and humour!

4-CD set £11.00

What is Religion?

Karen Armstrong speaking at Exeter University in February 2007. A diverse, compelling presentation from this popular lady, including questions and answers.

Single CD £3.50

In November 2006 **Jim Adams**, the founder and original president of The Center for Progressive Christianity in N. America, spoke in Exeter and London during a UK tour. His topics were **Troublesome Words in the Bible** and **The Future of Progressive Christianity**, both of which are on a 2 CD set. Two excellent and informative talks.

2-CD set £5.00

Liberating Sexuality

More often than not the church is still quick to equate sex with sin and to view those with anything other than a 'normal' heterosexual disposition as sick or damned. This 2005 FTB conference explored the 'joy and terror' of sex within the Bible and contemporary culture, with contributions from Professor Elizabeth Stuart, Rev Dr Colin Thompson, Rev Dr Susan Durber (now

Principal of Westminster College) and our own Rev Martin Camroux. A refreshingly different approach to the subject from church leaders.

4-CD set £11.00

*And more for **Jack Spong** fans –*

Jesus for the Non-Religious

A conference in June 2006 recorded at The Hayes Swanwick featuring Bishop John Shelby Spong. These recordings have proved the most popular of all and are still in demand.

4-CD set £11.00

For an encore, listen to Jack giving a talk in Exeter later the same month entitled

The Challenge of Christianity in the 21st Century

More words of compassionate wisdom from this master of appealing Bible scholarship.

Single CD £3.50