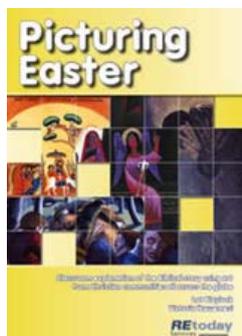


# Secondary Newsletter

November 2012

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*Picturing Easter*

<http://shop.retoday.org.uk/9781905893041>

## RE News!

This term has been an extremely busy one for RE! This newsletter provides details of some of the activities, resources and opportunities currently available, which I hope you will find helpful.

I hope that many of you will be entering for the **Hockerill/NATRE Prize for Innovation in RE teaching** – and also consider applying for the **RE Quality Mark**. These are both excellent opportunities to celebrate your hard work and your pupils' achievements in RE.

The **publication for consultation of the RE Council's report on RE** is a significant milestone in the Council's Review of RE. This is something to look out for – please make your own response to this national initiative.

RE Today's subscription mailing is due in January – the curriculum publication this time is **Questions: Values & Commitments**. Do look out for this and let us know what you think.

As ever, we'll keep you up to date with RE news via the news section of our **websites, Twitter and Facebook**, and our termly *REtoday* magazine.

Rosemary Rivett, Director of Education

E: [rosemary@retoday.org.uk](mailto:rosemary@retoday.org.uk)

W: [www.retoday.org.uk](http://www.retoday.org.uk)

## Picturing Easter – special offer!

*Picturing Easter* is a visual learner's feast and is available to subscribers to this newsletter at the **special offer price of £20** (usual price £26).

Using art from Christian communities all across the globe, the pack consists of:

- **8 works of art** telling the Easter narrative reproduced on A4 tear-proof cards
- **a teacher's booklet** giving notes on each work of art together with a collection of stimulating learning activities
- **a CD-ROM** containing the eight images, four Flash presentations and five additional resources (pdf).

The works of art will help **pupils aged 7 – 14** to engage with the gospel narratives of Jesus' last days. With an emphasis on questions of meaning and purpose, the resource enables classroom exploration of biblical story in depth and with inspiration.

**To obtain *Picturing Easter* at the special offer price** you must quote the **code Easter240113** when ordering – by contacting us on 0121 472 4242 or [sales@retoday.org.uk](mailto:sales@retoday.org.uk). This offer is specific to this newsletter.

T: 0121 472 4242 E: [sales@retoday.org.uk](mailto:sales@retoday.org.uk)

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*'I very much appreciated the practical focus of the day – I feel very well equipped, with resources to take back to school.'*

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*'The whole day has been excellent. Planning, organization and delivery have been brilliant. Very inspirational sessions. Thank you!'*

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**The Hockerill / NATRE Prize for Innovation in RE Teaching 2013**

This prize will be awarded to the school that has demonstrated the ability to deliver a new and exciting module or course of study on religion or religions which is based on sound educational principles, is at an appropriate level for the pupils' development stage and encourages both critical thinking and enjoyment of the work.

The prize comes in two parts:

1. £700 for the school to enable it to purchase new RE materials
2. £400 educational bursary for the teacher to part fund attendance at a specialist educational course for RE.

There will be a prize awarded in both the primary and secondary sectors.

**Closing date: 31 January 2013**

Details and application form are available at: <http://bit.ly/HockerillNATREPrize>



## Professional Development Opportunities

RE Today offers a range of professional development opportunities during the year, all delivered by one or more of **our team of specialist RE Advisers**. A summary of currently available opportunities is given below, with full details available on our website: [www.retoday.org.uk/courses](http://www.retoday.org.uk/courses).

### Better learning from Christianity: increasing challenge and impact (KS3) – Stephen Pett

Bristol, 12 June 2013

### Assessing progress for pupils in RE: day course for teachers of RE in all schools and academies – Lat Blaylock

Birmingham, 4 February 2013

London, 15 February 2013

### Booking and prices

**Prices** are £160 for RE Today subscribers & NATRE members (including **10% discount**) and £190 for non-subscribers. Booking your place can be done online, or by completing the booking form (pdf) which is downloadable as from the website. Please contact us if you have any questions.

T: 0121 472 4242 E: [courses@retoday.org.uk](mailto:courses@retoday.org.uk)

W: [www.retoday.org.uk/courses](http://www.retoday.org.uk/courses)

### Bespoke PD opportunities

We are often asked by schools, academies, local authorities and dioceses to deliver **bespoke professional development opportunities** for their teachers. If this is of interest to you, please contact Rosemary Rivett in the first instance to talk over your needs.

T: 0121 430 2959 E: [rosemary@retoday.org.uk](mailto:rosemary@retoday.org.uk)

## Hockerill NATRE RE Award 2013

**The 2013 Hockerill NATRE Award for Innovation in RE was launched on 1 September.** Entries can be made completing the application form available on the link below.

The Award is open to all schools teaching primary age (4 – 11) and secondary age (11 – 19) pupils; each prize will be awarded in both primary and secondary categories.

The **First Prize** will be **£700 to the school** to enable the purchase of resources for RE, and a **£400 bursary** to the teacher to part fund access to a relevant professional development opportunity.

**Full guidance notes** are provided and you are **warmly invited to contact Hockerill and NATRE to talk over your ideas** to see if they meet the criteria.

Do consider **entering for the award** yourself – and/or **circulate the details** to teachers and schools who you think might be interested.

E: [info@hockerillfoundation.org.uk](mailto:info@hockerillfoundation.org.uk) [01279 420 855]

E: [exec@natre.org.uk](mailto:exec@natre.org.uk) [0121 430 2959]

W: [www.hockerillfoundation.org.uk](http://www.hockerillfoundation.org.uk)

## CPD – online survey – can you help?

Birmingham City University is undertaking research on **teachers' experience of CPD**, working with colleagues in five other European countries.

There are two strands to the work - case study interviews in each country and an online survey.

All teachers are invited to complete the online survey - **it will only take 10 minutes**. It is **completely anonymous** and no personal details are requested.

**W:** <http://www.survey.bris.ac.uk/bcu/pactt-uk>

The questions are specifically about your initial teacher education, your teaching experience & your thoughts about the CPD you have undertaken recently. This project activity has been scrutinised and approved by the Education & Social Science research ethics committee at BCU.

The research is being undertaken by Professor Alex Kendall and Phil Taylor of Birmingham City University. If you have any questions about the research, please do get in touch with them.

**E:** Professor Alex Kendall, [Alex.kendall@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:Alex.kendall@bcu.ac.uk)

**E:** Phil Taylor, [Phil.taylor@bcu.ac.uk](mailto:Phil.taylor@bcu.ac.uk)

**W:** <http://www.survey.bris.ac.uk/bcu/pactt-uk>

Partnership around Continuous Training of Teachers (PaCTT) - Teacher Survey

Introductory Questions

1. Gender  
 M  F

2. Which age range(s) do you teach?  
 (select all that apply)

Age 0 to 4  
 Age 5 to 10  
 Age 11 to 14  
 Age 14 to 18  
 Age 18+ (higher education)  
 Age 18+ (other adult education)  
 Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

3. In which country do you teach?  
 Bulgaria  
 France  
 Portugal  
 Slovakia

[www.survey.bris.ac.uk/bcu/pactt-uk](http://www.survey.bris.ac.uk/bcu/pactt-uk)

## Inspiring RE – NATRE's 2013 Conference

Teachers of RE are like master chefs, trying to cook up the meaning of life from unpromising ingredients and a limited budget, all in a race against the clock and with one eye on the judges from Ofsted.

The NATRE North of England conference, supported by Culham St Gabriel's, offers RE chefs the chance to dine out for a change on a tempting menu of professional development, shared commitment and fruitful ideas.

**Inspiring RE** is generously supported by the Culham St Gabriel's Trust, meaning that you can apply for a full residential place for just £100 inclusive.

**Dates:** 18 – 19 May 2013

**Cost to delegates:** £100

**Venue:** The Last Drop Mercure Hotel & Spa, Bolton

**Bookings close:** 20 March 2013.

**Discount** for Academy Consortia/SACREs etc: book three places together for teachers from the same SACRE area for just £250

The conference fee includes all meals, accommodation, use of spa facilities, full programme, conference pack and web downloads from speakers and leaders.

For full details and application form follow the link below.

**W:** [www.retoday.org.uk/news/natre-conference-2013](http://www.retoday.org.uk/news/natre-conference-2013)



*Inspiring RE – Conference 2013*

## RE Quality Mark

The **RE Quality Mark** website is now available - [www.reqm.org](http://www.reqm.org) - and although the second pilot is still taking place, schools are encouraged to apply as soon as they have downloaded the evidence form and considered whether they are ready or not.

Schools apply through the website to the administrator. An assessor will visit the school for two hours to interview young people and the subject leader, and to validate the school evidence.

There are now 53 assessors available across England who have been interviewed and undergone assessor training.

There were very positive comments from the first pilot from headteachers, teachers and young people of all ages. Some Primary feedback included these comments:

'I like putting myself in other people's shoes'

'RE is all about getting stuck in'.

'I like thinking about what things or people might be and then finding out if I'm right.'

Jane Brooke and Mary Myatt  
REQM Project Managers

W: [www.reqm.org](http://www.reqm.org)



RE Quality Mark  
[www.reqm.org](http://www.reqm.org)

## Holocaust Memorial Day 2013

**27 January 2013** is Holocaust Memorial Day.

There are many ways in which this important day can be celebrated in the school context, and the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust has gathered together ideas and resources to help teachers in planning activities which are appropriate to their school context and curriculum.

HMDT resources are free and are available from their website. If you want hard copy of the 2013 Campaign Pack containing posters which form a display and some sample handout materials see - <http://hmd.org.uk/resources/campaignpack>

If you are wondering what sorts of activities your pupils might engage in, here are some ideas from last year:

- a balloon release with personal messages remembering the victims of the Holocaust and subsequent genocides
- poetry, dance, music and drama performances
- creating, exhibiting and responding to art and photography
- discussions
- inviting speakers such as Holocaust survivors, survivors of other genocides, or members of communities who are victims of hate crime
- hosting a spiritual evening focusing on the theme
- making a film
- creating a permanent memorial
- tree planting
- writing comments in a thought/reflection space.

We hope you will be inspired!

E: [enquiries@hmd.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hmd.org.uk)

W: <http://hmd.org.uk>

T: 0845 838 1883



Holocaust Memorial Day Trust  
[www.hmd.org.uk](http://www.hmd.org.uk)

## Review of Religious Education 2012/13

Phase 1 of the Religious Education Council's initiative to **review RE** is approaching a significant part of its work, to be completed by December.

The Expert Panel has produced its **final report** – this is designed to provide sound foundation and a clear direction for the rest of the RE Review process. The Project's Steering Group received the report at the end of October and in early November it will be shared with the project's Reference Group, which includes a very wide range of people who care passionately about RE.

Then, most crucially of all, the report will be put out for **consultation**. The consultation period will last about three weeks – **12 November to 3 December**. The time frame is tight, but achievable if all those wanting to contribute are aware of the time frame and are alert to accessing the consultation documents as soon as they are published.

It is to be hoped that as many people as possible respond and that they encourage others to do so, so that the next stage of the Review can proceed confidently.

RE Today will post details of the consultation on the news pages of its website as soon as they are published.

W: [www.retoday.org.uk](http://www.retoday.org.uk)



*Dr Janet Orchard*

[www.bristol.ac.uk/education/people/janet-l-orchard/index.html](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/education/people/janet-l-orchard/index.html)

## NATRE local network groups

NATRE's **local network groups** for teachers of RE continue to meet, with many groups thriving in the absence of easy access to professional development opportunities during the school day.

If you would like to **join a group**, or **start one yourself**, do get in touch with NATRE's local groups officer, **Juliet Lyal**, who will be pleased to talk with you how NATRE can support and encourage you. You can also have a look at our website where we list the **location of our groups**. If there's one near you, contact Juliet for contact details of the group leader and we'll help you make the contact.

W: [www.natre.org.uk](http://www.natre.org.uk)

E: [exec@natre.org.uk](mailto:exec@natre.org.uk)



*Juliet Lyal*

*NATRE Local Groups Officer*

## RE Today Services

RE Today Services is an educational charity which works nationally and internationally to support Religious Education in schools. It is committed to the teaching of the major world faiths in Religious Education, and to an accurate and fair representation of their beliefs, values and practices in all its teaching materials.

**Visit us online:** [www.retoday.org.uk](http://www.retoday.org.uk). See our **website** and **webshop** for information about our **consultancy service**, **training courses**, **publications** and **subscription packages**.

**Phone us:** 0121 472 4242. We're open 9 – 5 Monday – Thursday and 9 - 4pm on Fridays.

**By post:** 1020 Bristol Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6LB