

PROGRAMME

- 10:00 Arrival and refreshments
- 10:30 Andrew Todd: **'From Bright Idea to Feasible Research Project'** - Presentation with Q&A
- 11:30 Brief research presentations (Pecha Kucha style)
- 11:45 Mark Newitt: **'Developing a Practical Service Evaluation Tool for Chaplaincy'** - Presentation with Q&A
- 12:30 Lunch
- 13:30 Panel (Andrew Todd, Mark Newitt, Neil Cockling, Sarah Crane): **What might an academic career pathway look like for a chaplain?** – Panel discussion with Q&A
- 14:15 Brief research presentations (Pecha Kucha style)
- 14:30 Mark Newitt: **Developing a Practical Service Evaluation Tool for Chaplaincy** – Workshop
- 15:15 Helen Cameron: **Considering a Doctorate? The pros and cons** – Video presentation from Helen, followed by Q&A with Andrew Todd
- 15:45 Refreshments
- 16:15 Panel (Andrew Todd, Mark Newitt, Helen Cameron) Research planning and process – Q&A with panel
- 17:00 Open discussion following up themes of the day along with opportunities for 1:1 discussions with speakers, panel members and others about potential or existing research projects and/or applications for research qualifications.
- 18:00 Departure

With thanks to the team at Regent's Park College for your active support in making the day happen!



Health Care Chaplaincy Research Study Day

Tuesday 30th June 2026
Regent's Park College, Oxford

To support and encourage all who have an interest
in research into chaplaincy and spiritual care within
a healthcare context in the UK



Regent's Park College
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Speakers and organisers:



Andrew Todd

Dr Andrew Todd is Associate Professor of Practical Theology and Director of the Professional Doctorate in Practical Theology at Anglia Ruskin University and the Cambridge Theological Federation. He is a practical theologian and ethnographer, with a particular research interest in chaplaincy in the public sector. He was formerly the Director of the Cardiff Centre for Chaplaincy Studies, where he led funded research into chaplaincy in healthcare, prisons, the Armed Forces and other settings. He continues this research in his present role, while also resourcing, supporting and supervising doctoral students. His most recent publication is: *Future Faith: Public and Practical Theologies for the Contemporary World*. Routledge.



Mark Newitt

Dr Mark Newitt is an experienced hospital chaplain who holds a number of healthcare chaplaincy related posts. Principally Mark is the Secretary for Healthcare Chaplaincy at the Free Churches Group. He retains an active chaplaincy role as part of the chaplaincy team at Sheffield Teaching Hospitals where he is also the Professional Lead for Clinical Pastoral Education. In an unpaid capacity Mark is a director of the Council for Professional Chaplains and Pastoral Carers. He co-edited *Being a Chaplain* (published by SPCK) and has published articles in journals as diverse as the *British Medical Journal*, *Health and Social Care Chaplaincy*, *Infant, Modern Believing*, and *Practical Theology*.



Helen Cameron

Dr Helen Cameron is a practical theologian and Director of Research at Regent's Park College, Oxford. She is passionate about enabling excellent research and communicating that research to audiences within and beyond the university.



Andrew Williams

Andrew Williams is Research Coordinator for the CHCC (College of Health Care Chaplains), course lead for the OxCSWell Postgraduate Certificate in Psychospiritual Care (Oxford Health / Oxford Brookes University) and Head of Spiritual and Pastoral Care at Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust. Previous research into the impact of pornography led to his 2023 book *From Object to Icon: the struggle for spiritual vision in a pornographic world*.



Frin Lewis-Smith

Frin Lewis-Smith became Head of Chaplaincy at East Lancashire Hospitals Trust in May 2026. As specialist chaplain for Oncology and Palliative Care in Leeds Teaching Hospital she led a quality improvement project on screening for spiritual needs in an oncology clinic. Before this, in the Northern Care Alliance (Salford Royal) she developed a proactive role for chaplaincy in a 40+ bed critical care unit. Her research interest is the spiritual pain, and how patients and staff understand and address it within the context of illness.

Other Contributors:

Dr Neil Cockling

Neil is President of the CHCC (College of Health Care Chaplains) and chaplaincy team lead at Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust. His doctoral research (Theology and Ministry, Durham) focused on inclusive leadership.

Sarah Crane

Sarah is chair of the Council of Professional Chaplains and Pastoral Carers (formerly UKBHC) and leads the chaplaincy team at Milton Keynes University Hospital. Her doctoral research focuses on the integration of personal and professional identities in modern healthcare chaplaincy.
