

"ENGAGING ISSUES" in CHURCH STRETTON

"Engaging Issues" is a group that meets throughout the autumn and winter months to discuss issues of Christian faith and ethics in the context of everyday life, the challenges of the modern world and religious pluralism. It is open to people of all denominations and none. The meetings take place in the United Reformed Church, Church Stretton, at 7.20pm.

You might like to note some of the highlights:

1. The first meeting on Tuesday 22nd September, which will be addressed by Brian Davies, a former Educational Officer for CAFOD. He will speak about **Catholic Social Teaching**, which deserves to be better understood as the world seeks new wisdom in handling the current economic crisis. Here is an opportunity to explore the teachings of our different religious traditions in a spirit of friendship and mutual respect.

3. The Annual Lecture on Tuesday 3rd November, which will be addressed by the Rt Revd Richard Harries (Lord Harries of Pentregarth), former Bishop of Oxford and a well-known contributor to "Thought for the Day". Lord Harries has a wide-ranging interest in current ethical issues, including ethical investment, war and peace and embryo research (he chaired the House of Lords Fertilisation and Embryology Committee). He will speak on **Current issues of war and peace**. Last year's Annual Lecture (by John Polkinghorne) was a sell-out, so book now! Tickets cost £4 and are available from Glenys Young, tel 724647.

4. On 17th November Professor Terence Copley of Oxford University will introduce a discussion on the hotly debated issue of **The nature and purpose of Religious Education in a changing society**. Whether your interest is in Church Schools, young people's knowledge of the Bible, or religious education in a multi-faith society, this is a meeting you should not miss.

5. The meeting on January 12th 2010 will pick up the current commemorations of Charles Darwin, and the controversies over Creation and Evolution. Who better to lead it than Andrew Allot, who is Head of Biology at Shrewsbury School, where Charles Darwin was a pupil?

For further information contact Gill Jackson, 2 Bodbury Close, tel 722390