

About Our Course Leaders...

John Bell

John Bell is a member of the Iona Community who lectures and leads workshops at home and abroad. He is a Scottish hymn-writer and Church of Scotland minister. He is also a broadcaster, and former student activist.

Michelle Bentley

I am Michele Bentley and I live in the beautiful Somerset countryside, with 5 dogs, 2 cats, 8 chickens. 6 pygmy goats and 1 very patient husband! As a gong practitioner, I work with integral sound healing, using Tibetan bowls, tuning forks, crystal bowls, chimes and shamanic drum, alongside my beautiful gongs.

Annette Bolton

Annette Bolton has been teaching for the past 30 years, including City and Guilds in Hand Embroidery, Design and Stumpwork Embroidery. Constantly updating her knowledge of all hand embroidery techniques, in order to keep up with current trends together with new and fresh designs.

Sue Brayne

For many years Sue Brayne worked as a psychotherapist specialising in loss, grief, and trauma. She has an MA in the Rhetoric and Rituals of Death and is the author of *The D-Word: Talking About Dying; Living Fully and Dying Consciously*; as well as the Granny Mo books. www.suebrayne.co.uk

Josie Brown

Josie is a lettering and heraldic artist with a special interest in book making and using ancient techniques in contemporary ways. She has taught calligraphy and related book arts for over 30 years and is passionate about helping people to achieve their creative potential in an enthusiastic but sensitive manner.

Vicki Burke

Vicki Burke is a musician and writer. Her healing journey began in 2000 when, as a saxophonist/teacher she took up the harp. Vicki began writing songs, became a storyteller, a workshop facilitator and this developed into writing books and, of course, plays. This has brought her to her present work with reconciliation.

Christine Clinch

Is the Lead Manager at Ammerdown with special responsibility for Interfaith. She is a Christian pilgrim, passionate about creating opportunities for people to meet 'the other' and to reflect on their spiritual journey.

Howard Cooper

Rabbi Howard Cooper is Director of Spiritual Development at Finchley Reform Synagogue and a psychoanalytic psychotherapist in private practice. He is a writer, workshop leader and the author of 'The Alphabet of Paradise: An A-Z of Spirituality for Everyday Life'. He blogs at howardcoopersblog.blogspot.com

James D'Angelo

James D'Angelo has been developing and leading his Soundspirit courses since 1996 in the UK and the USA and is considered an authority in the sound healing field. He is the author of *The Healing Power of the Human Voice* and *Seed Sounds for Tuning the Chakras*.

Christine Dodd

Christine Dodd lives in Worcestershire and takes inspiration from the countryside around her in her work. After a career in adult education she now runs art classes and workshops locally. She has exhibited, not only locally, but also in London and Washington DC. She says "Although I work in various media I find soft pastels are wonderful to use, not least because they are so forgiving and allow changes to be made easily! I love so see the joy people find in discovering the versatility which pastels offer."

Helen English

Helen is a life coach and facilitator with deep experience in helping people live well and thrive; in personal, family, work, team and spiritual settings. A co-founder of Enneagram Alive and a core faculty member with 'Enneagram Training' offering Narrative Tradition Enneagram professional qualifications in the UK, she holds a Cambridge MA, an MSc in Consulting & Change, Chartered MCIPD, Certified Integral Coach and IEA Professional

Membership. A long-term Taoist spiritual practice and Systemic Family Constellations work shape her approach.

Jackie Evans

Jacqueline is a teacher of Alexander Technique who facilitates retreats and workshops, and trains teachers of the Technique, alongside running a private practice. She is also a practitioner of Centering Prayer, and sees a deep connection between these two practices. So often when we think we are letting go we are unconsciously 'trying' in our body, or perhaps even consciously trying to shut out our body to pray, thanks to the false separation we have in our society between mind and body. Jacqueline works with meditators to help them discover the fullness of an inclusive release of body-mind-spirit, in life as well as in prayer, so that more and more of our whole lives may become unceasing prayer.

Sue Glanville

Sue Glanville has broad and varied experience of teaching, church leadership, coaching and spiritual direction. She has been writing and organising courses and retreats since 2005, including many at Ammerdown, as well as Dartmoor, Bardsey, Lundy and Iona Islands, and trekking in the Himalayas. Sue loves wild spaces and exploring the many ways that we can encounter God in our lives.

Hazel Jones

Hazel Jones is a confirmed Jane Austen addict, having fallen in love with Henry Tilney at the age of 11, although she has since been unfaithful to him with Mr Darcy, Captain Wentworth and Mr Knightley. She is the editor of the *Jane Austen Society Annual Report* and the author of *Jane Austen & Marriage*, *Jane Austen's Journeys* and *The Other Knight Boys: Jane Austen's Dispossessed Nephews*.

Julia Martin

Julia is a Chinese Brush Painting Artist, working from her studio, "Brushstroke Poems". Having been solely dedicated to this art form for over 15 years, she has studied with both Chinese Masters and the most renowned CBP artists in the UK. She loves the symbolism of the subjects and strives to create more than a representation of an object, but 'capture its spirit'.

Sian Martin

Siân Martin has mentored Stitch Textile Artists for many years at Dartington, Kingcombe, Urchfont Manor and Ammerdown. She is a professional member of the Textile Study Group www.textilestudygroup.co.uk and the 62 Group of Textile Artists <http://www.62group.org.uk/>. You can see examples of Siân's work on these group websites and her own www.change.jbworld.com.

Alison Murdoch

Alison Murdoch is the former director of Jamyang Buddhist Centre (London) and of the Foundation for Developing Compassion and Wisdom, and for many years was a regular Buddhist contributor to BBC Radio. In 2018 she founded The Good Heart, a centre for exploring kindness in Frome.

Janet North

Janet North is a Mendip based storyteller who believes passionately in the healing power of nature, creativity and storytelling to inspire and promote health and wellbeing. She tells stories from around the world that can entertain, empower, uplift and bring a sense of community. She trained at the International School of Storytelling.

Dawn Oliver

Dawn Oliver was born into a family of artists and was raised with a paintbrush in her hand. She has a fun approach to teaching as she believes people are more open to learning in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Dawn has been teaching drawing and painting at all levels and in all media in Adult Education for more than 24 years, she exhibits regularly and can be found in the 'Who's Who of Art'.

Pompi Parry

Pompi teaches Bobbin Lacemaking in the UK and the USA. She has lectured and exhibited internationally as well as demonstrated her craft in Japan and France. As well as the two specialties of her local Wiltshire Downton lace and Polychrome Blonde from Normandy in France, Pompi is experienced in many other English, Continental and Contemporary laces and as a Lace collector and Historian has an extensive knowledge of Lace.

Tina Patterson

Tina has worked at Ammerdown as the marketing officer since 2019. She has a passion for creative things and helps to run the craft session at the Refreshing Day for Carers and occasionally the TLC.

Pauline Payne

Pauline Payne is a freelance jewellery designer and has gained a number of prestigious awards for her jewellery work including: Royal Society of Arts Commendations and winning the National Platinum Award.

Bishop Peter Price

Peter Bryan Price is a retired English Anglican Bishop. He was the Bishop of Bath and Wells in the Church of England from 2001 to June 2013.

He sat in the House of Lords as one of the Lords Spiritual from 2008 until his retirement. Peter has over 40 years' experience of reconciliation, beginning in Northern Ireland but including Latin America, Africa and the Middle East. Currently he chairs the board of trustees for the NGO Conciliation Resources.

Tracey Quinn

We are a family oriented business and work as a team to make learning, working and creating with glass an enjoyable experience for everyone – no matter what level of experience.

Anthony Reddie

I am an A rated, Leading International Researcher with the South African National Research Foundation (NRF). I am also a recipient of the Archbishop of Canterbury's 2020 Lanfranc Award for 'exceptional and sustained contribution to Black theology In Britain and beyond.'

Helena Softley

Helena is a singer, songwriter and live Performer who enjoys leading regular workshops at Ammerdown.

Rev Narinder Tegally

Narinder is lead Chaplain at the Bath RUH Trust. Before ordination in the Anglican Church, she was a registered nurse working in palliative care and mental health for young people. She is also a qualified Psychodynamic Counsellor, Supervisor and Spiritual Director, particularly working with those

who have experienced loss. She leads workshops and retreats as well as pilgrimages to the Holy Land.

Dave Tomlinson

Dave Tomlinson is a vicar and writer whose books include 'The Post-Evangelical', 'How to Be a Bad Christian', and 'Black Sheep and Prodigals'. He also regularly contributes to BBC Radio 2's Pause for Thought.

Emma Went

Emma Went is also a Forensic Psychiatrist and Psychotherapist. She is based in Norwich where she has a private psychiatry and psychotherapy practice and provides expert opinions to the courts. Until recently she was a Consultant in Learning Disability Psychiatry based in a small private hospital in North Norfolk. She has a special interest in developmental disorders and the different understanding needed when working with atypical neurology both from a therapeutic perspective and when introducing mindfulness as a strategy for maintaining a healthy mind.

Thuli Whitehouse

I am a Forrest Yoga teacher and a GP. I previously trained to teach Sivananda and spent many years studying and practicing in the Bihar school while I was at University. Yoga has been part of my life for 18 years now, and sharing this magic with others is my absolute passion.

Eliza Wylie

I have been using voice and drums with people of all ages since 2002. I had my first child in 2009 (I now have 4!) and since 2010 I have been running mum and baby/toddler singing groups in and around Wells, developing musicianship through singing using the Kodaly method; I have a Kodaly professional practice certificate. I started up a Thula Mama singing group in my home in 2014 which has given me a taste for working with adults and singing more songs in parts which I have always loved.

Sister Felicity Young

Sr Felicity Young comes from a Methodist background and she is an Ursuline sister. For 26 years, she taught RE and French. In 1992, she followed a year-long, full-time spiritual accompaniment course at the Institute for Spiritual Leadership in Chicago and later, she followed a further course in

Ignatian Spirituality at the Jesuit Renewal Center, Milford, Ohio. She has been accompanying people for 25 years, giving retreats, ongoing spiritual accompaniment and 'Weeks of Accompanied Prayer' in parishes. This work never fails to give her joy and energy!