

We have a great set of Friday Fringe evenings lined up this autumn, and thought you would like to have dates for your diary in good time.

The first two evenings are by speakers themselves regular Friday Fringe attenders, and we're delighted to have successfully twisted their arms to come and speak on their areas of special interest and expertise. For the third we are pleased to welcome a London speaker making a rare visit to the Westcountry.

God and the World of Signs.

Andrew Robinson is a GP in Newton Abbot and also working on an [international](#) project "[Information and the Origin of Life](#)". His passion is to find ways that science and religion might make a new home together using the framework of the philosophy of signs. Sounds heavy? No, expect a fun and accessible introduction. We have evolved to try and interpret and make meaning from the signs that surround us, but we are barely aware of doing it. What does it tell us about our world that ordinary physical stuff can become filled with meaning?

Friday 9th October.

Climate Change – What do we believe?

[Clare Bryden](#) recently resigned from the Met Office to spend more time with the environment, which says something about her passion for her subject. However, she does not consider herself an activist, but a cool thinker determined to evaluate evidence objectively. She certainly has the skills and experience for such a task, and is working with a range of non-profit organisations at the coal face (or should that be wind turbine?) of practical implementation. She is determined to face up to the tough challenges that climate change questions pose to people of faith, and to explore how we might respond. She is joined in this endeavour by Martyn Goss, Director of the [Exeter Diocesan Council for Church and Society](#).

Friday 30th October

Outside in and Inside out

Clare Herbert is National Co-ordinator of Inclusive Church, formerly Rector of St Anne's Soho, and currently a member of the clergy team at St Martin's in the Fields. Her life and ministry have prompted deep reflection around issues of inclusion. Is it a lefty liberal luxury or a radical gospel imperative? How come we think ourselves so expert at drawing lines between who is "in" and who is "out" – whether we define outsiders by race, gender or sexual orientation? Last year Clare headed the IC team at the [Lambeth Conference](#), where the heavy metal fence surrounding the Bishops' meetings, though sadly practically necessary, forced the question for Clare "Who is Church? Which people and which parts of our own being are heavily excluded by the boundaries we create?"

Friday 20th November