



BIBLE & SCIENCE



An interdenominational group from Worcester's local churches

You are invited to hear:

Professor Chris Cook

On the topic of:

Addiction – The Divided Self



Tuesday 15 October 2013

8.00pm

Lindisfarne House, 4 Barbourne Terrace, Worcester, WR1 3JS

Addiction is a very broad phenomenon, from noted examples of physical dependence on drugs, alcohol and nicotine, to the possibly more psychological addictions to gambling, hoarding junk, compulsive shopping, etc. No previous generation has been exposed to the commercial advertising pressures we face today, or the pressure to conform sometimes exerted through social networking.

Professor Chris Cook of Durham University is both a psychiatrist and a university chaplain, being attached to the theology Department. He will describe current psychiatric models of addiction and look at the possible spiritual roots and the insights he gains from his Christian faith. He may help us to understand people who have experienced pressures we have fortunately been spared, but which drove others to addictive behaviour. Why not invite someone along who wants to ditch their own habit? It won't be a cure, but it could be a start.

The evening will be split into three short sessions, with time for questions. You do not need to be either a scientist or a Christian to participate – we aim to make the evenings accessible to all.

Professor Cook trained first in medicine, at St George's Hospital Medical School in London, qualifying in 1981, and then specialised as a postgraduate in psychiatry at the United Medical and Dental Schools of Guys and St Thomas's, also in London. He has been a Lecturer at University College, London (1987 to 1990) and Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Psychiatry, London (1994 to 1997) as well as being Professor of the Psychiatry of Alcohol Misuse at the University of Kent from 1997 to 2003. He is also an ordained Anglican priest with an MA in Applied Theology, and is currently Director of the Project for Spirituality, Theology & Health at Durham University. His studies have looked at the genetic effects upon the predisposition to alcohol misuse and dependence, as well as at treatment approaches, such as those based in the mutual help movement, such as Alcoholics Anonymous and those with religious roots, as well as those that are more medically based.

See <http://www.dur.ac.uk/theology.religion/staff/?username=dth0ccc> for more information.

All welcome – entry, parking & refreshments free – suggested donation of £3 towards expenses

Queries to 01905 641987

For more information, see our NEW website: www.bibleandscienceworcester.org.uk