



St Mark's CRC
Centre for Radical Christianity

Job Description

Curator/Researcher (Part-Time)

St Mark's Centre for Radical Christianity, based at St Mark's Church, Broomhill, Sheffield, wishes to appoint a part-time Curator/Researcher. The Job Description and Person Specification are set out below.

Background

St Mark's Centre for Radical Christianity (CRC), is an organisation whose object is 'to support and help individuals and groups who are working towards prophetic, inclusive and open minded churches, unafraid to ask the big questions and committed to sharing Jesus' radical message of love and justice in their communities'. It is based at St Mark's Broomhill, Sheffield, but is an independent organisation run by an elected Council. Members come not just from Anglican churches, but represent a wide range of people of liberal, radical and questioning outlook from many denominational backgrounds. It acts as a network or focus for such people, chiefly through running conferences and seminars.

CRC has been awarded a grant by the Trustees of the Jim Cotter Trust Fund to develop its online presence by gathering together resources and materials in an on-line library. This will enable people similarly minded to the outlook and values of CRC (see below for a summary of these) to access resources and materials to enrich their spiritual journey. It will also contribute to a wider understanding within the churches of significant aspects of our standpoint. This will be done by curating and creating materials to 1) broaden the understanding of different approaches to spirituality and 2) assist with modernising interpretations of religious materials in order to improve understanding and relevance.

Purpose of the Role	To curate and research appropriate materials for an online library which CRC will be creating during 2018/19.
Responsible to	The Project Management Team, a sub-committee of the Council for St Mark's CRC. The Project Management Team will identify an individual to be the key point of contact/manager for this role.
Hours of employment	The Curator/Researcher is expected to work for an average of around 10 hours a week during the period of the contract.
Remuneration	£15 per hour, to a maximum of £9,500 over the duration of the contract. The post holder will be contracted on a self-employed basis. The post holder will be expected to work from home; CRC will provide a laptop. Access to the Parish Office for printing/photocopying etc can be arranged via the Church Administrator.

Note: as well as contracting a curator/researcher, we recognise that we will also need someone to build the online library. If the person appointed as curator/researcher also has the appropriate skills to develop and populate the online library, then a further contract to enable this will be issued at the appropriate time. Otherwise, a different person will be contracted to fulfil this role.

Key Roles

1. Curating and researching materials for the on-line library

The post holder will be responsible, in line with the guidelines agreed by the Project Management Group, for curating and researching appropriate materials in the areas of worship/liturgy, spirituality and other religious/theological materials for inclusion in the online library.

2. Identifying gaps

The post holder will identify whether there are subjects/topics within the agreed subject areas agreed for inclusion in the online library for which there is no material which accords with the values, ethos and theological stance of CRC, and will liaise with the Project Management Group to decide whether and whom to commission to fill these gaps, and will be responsible for appropriate communications with such persons.

3. Liaising with the Project Management Group

The post holder will liaise on a regular basis (initially weekly) with the Project Management Group through the identified individual, to report on progress to date, materials collected and so forth.

4. Liaising with the web designer

Once the project has moved to the phase where it is possible to begin building the online library, the post holder will be responsible for liaison with whoever is appointed.

Person Specification for the post of Curator/Researcher (part time)

	Essential	Desirable
Experience	<p>Experience of curating/researching documentation and other materials for a particular purpose</p> <p>Experience of working independently and as part of a small team</p>	<p>Understanding of copyright and similar issues</p>
Skills	<p>Excellent research skills</p> <p>Confident use of ICT packages, including Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher)</p> <p>Proven high level of competency in literacy</p> <p>Ability to liaise with members of the project team, external contacts, authors/'owners' of material that might be included in the library, with tact, sensitivity and discretion</p> <p>Ability to prioritise workload and manage competing deadlines</p>	<p>Ability in web design and content management systems</p> <p>Confident use of social media to engage with a wider public as the project progresses</p>
Knowledge	<p>Knowledge of theology/religious studies and/or church life</p> <p>Understanding of and support for the values, ethos and theological stance of St Mark's Centre for Radical Christianity.</p>	<p>An awareness of people and organisations in the area of liberal/radical/progressive Christianity</p>

Personal and behavioural competencies	Proven ability to work independently but also cooperatively and flexibly Demonstrable attention to detail and accuracy regarding the quality of work submitted	
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Note on the values, ethos and theological stance of CRC

CRC stands for an approach to Christian faith and living in which

- conventional approaches to Christianity are no longer persuasive
- living with questions is more important than finding answers
- believing in a God of miracles may seem beyond comprehension
- faith is rooted in the person of Jesus of Nazareth, trying to understand who Jesus was rather than doctrines about him.
- examining the authority of Jesus'
 - humanity
 - wisdom
 - vision
 - passion for justice and inclusive compassion
 - grounding of spirituality within the earthiness of existence
 - capacity for affirming life and engendering a fuller, profounder quality of human being in others
- enables us to articulate why Jesus is still important for each of us
- faith is more about searching for meaning than securing salvation
- relating to Jesus is more persuasive than focusing on the Christ of the church
- looking for a way of life is more important than a set of beliefs
- including all within the community of Jesus is crucial
- being open to and engaging with contemporary society, its challenges, its idioms, its multiple faiths, its way of being, is integral to discipleship
- any forms of prejudice or discrimination have no place.

Applications should be sent by email – CV and supporting statement – to the Revd John Schofield, Deputy Chair of CRC, at johnscho@hotmail.com by Friday 16th February 2018. Interviews will be held in Sheffield in the week beginning Monday 26th February.

If you have any queries about this post, please contact John Schofield either by email or by phone – 07957 346566.

Our website is to be found at www.stmarkscrc.co.uk