



2009 Retreats at Silverdale Friary

All visitors to Silverdale will benefit from the history in the land of this tiny village and gracious area. Tarmac was invented here, so many a new highway has been laid from here! Significant works of God were birthed here in recent years and in previous centuries major reformers lived and struggled with fresh ideas and values, such as Bernard Gilpin, 'the apostle of the north', and the area is steeped in the pioneering justice and joy of the Society of Friends.

While here, you will be warmly hosted in our stone-built Victorian home. Breakfast is leisurely and always incorporates prayer and communion to begin the day and evening dinner is latish, with wine, good food and conversation which aims to open up, clarify and interpret the insights of the day's journey together. The rest of the time is free to be used as you choose should you come on your own visit. For those who would like to join a slightly more organised retreat, we can offer the following opportunities.

Silverdale Study Weekends

These are quite intellectually stretching times, based as they are around the doctoral studies that Roger is pursuing at Lancaster University, on the issues of how church has developed through history and her interaction and relationship with the Empires of the world and with the Kingdom of God. With a little help from his friends, these weekends have become accessible, stimulating and extremely relevant to the days we live in!

Next SSW is January 23-25th when Roger will open up his latest chapter and particularly focus on the foundations of the modern world in the aftermath of the Reformation; the founding of the Bank of England on war and nothing else but false hope (!) and the seeming failure of the Church to challenge these developments theologically despite wonderful people like the radical 'founder of America', the Quaker, William Penn!

The Journey beyond the Congregation

Many Christians today are finding that God is requiring a more creational lifestyle than we ever imagined, with our major identity and calling as God's people being re-contextualised in today's wider society rather than primarily or only in the local church congregation. These weekends tend to facilitate conversations about feelings of loss, guilt and inadequacy, excitement, freedom and awesome responsibility – and finding a place of peace, confidence and a changed mindset.

Next JBC will be 27-29th March, when Roger and Sue will hope to encourage your stories and journey experiences to be shared and common lessons, hopes and fears to be addressed biblically and prophetically.

Guided Retreats

In times of change, we all need time and space to pause and reflect (Selah!) which we are very happy to provide here in Silverdale, giving time to share the Scriptures, with prayer and prophetic insight if desired. On guided retreats, we aim for everyone to have a room to themselves (unless coming deliberately as a couple) and plenty of time free to reflect and listen individually. But we also believe firmly in the creation speaking, so will hope to facilitate a visit to the head of the valley where Gilpin was born and raised, (very fit people can climb right up onto the Kentmere Round) or to significant nearby Quaker sites, where many were guided into joy and justice!

Next GR is 6-9th April, leading up to Easter weekend, when Sue will open up the 7 words of the cross and apply them prophetically, hopefully to give us food, strength and the mindset change of resurrection people!

Please email us at admin@passion.org.uk for further enquiries and bookings. Please note that occasionally the dates may be subject to change and should be confirmed via the website www.passion.org.uk Check out the lovely area too on www.arnsidesilverdaleaonb.org.uk, click 'online' and find the Bittern at the bottom of the page!