

# CHRistians In Secular Ministry

# CHRISM

Summer Conference Saturday 17th July 2021

## Making New Better

- **Living post COVID in our workplace**
- **Changes in society and the impoverishment of many**
- **How do we live and serve in this new context?**

**John Goddard** will lead us to reflect on changes in work, family life and the functioning of civil society that have been accelerated by the COVID pandemic and further complicated by Brexit. At the moment, it is unclear what the response of Government is to the immediate challenges of rising unemployment, and social and regional inequality, as well as dealing with climate change and an ageing population. How do and should we live, work and serve the community in this turbulent environment?

[John Goddard, OBE](#), is an economic and social geographer, Emeritus Professor of Regional Development Studies and formerly Deputy Vice Chancellor of Newcastle University. He has been active in connecting the worlds of thought and practice to address regional inequalities with a particular focus on the way our civic institutions need to change to meet the needs of the communities they serve, most recently to facilitate recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.

Although the COVID recovery continues, we believe it is right still to be cautious, and so we shall be holding this as an online event on Zoom. To register, please visit <https://eventbrite.co.uk/manage/events/152421730499/tickets>

The day will include presentations and discussion in groups, and the CHRISM AGM and, we hope, another bar session which proved so successful in February.

Related to this theme, you might have heard the interview with Peter Hennessy on Radio 4 (World at One, Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March – although I realise that many of you would have been at work!). He has proposed five big themes for recovery after COVID:

- Social care
- Social housing
- Technical education and skills
- Preparing people and economy for coming of AI
- Combat and mitigate climate change

It has been suggested we might like to add a sixth: Health and wellbeing.

Perhaps these might provide a helpful framework for your thoughts in preparation before the event.

Visit the CHRISM Website at [www.chrism.org.uk](http://www.chrism.org.uk)

To help ourselves and others to celebrate the presence of God and the holiness of life in our work, and to see and tell the Christian story there