



**SpiritualityForum**  
THE NATIONAL SPIRITUALITY AND MENTAL HEALTH FORUM



## *The Professor Peter Gilbert Memorial Lecture*

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017**  
**2.00pm - 4.30pm**

### *Whither the soul of Psychiatry?*

#### **The National Spirituality and Mental Health Forum**

**cordially invites you to their third annual lecture to honour  
the late Professor Peter Gilbert and his contribution to  
social and mental health in the UK.**

#### **Guest Speaker: Dr. Andrew Powell**

Mental Healthcare in the twenty first century is facing an epidemic crisis of demand. In the UK and other 'developed countries', as well as 2 per cent who experience severe mental illness, up to 20 per cent of the population are now taking prescription drugs for depression and anxiety, at a global cost in excess of 80 billion dollars annually and rising. Why is this happening and what can be done about it? I will be exploring how life in the industrial world with its culture of material realism is impacting on the human spirit. Rather than live unquestioningly with what may turn out to be a diagnosis of convenience, our patients need help to make sense of their unhappiness and confusion. In such cases, mental distress can be the spur that brings a person into alignment with their true self, and the values that give meaning and purpose to life.

**Biography:** Dr Andrew Powell read natural sciences at Cambridge. Following postgraduate studies in general medicine, he trained at the Maudsley Hospital in psychiatry and psychotherapy before holding consultant and academic posts in London and Oxford. Andrew's widening interests led to further trainings in psychodrama, spiritual healing and transpersonal psychology. He is Founding Chair of the Spirituality and Psychiatry Special Interest Group of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, UK ([www.rcpsych.ac.uk/spirit](http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/spirit)), co-editor of 'Spirituality and Psychiatry' (RCPsych Publications, 2009) and 'Spirituality and Narrative in Psychiatric Practice: Stories of Mind and Soul' (RCPsych Publications, 2016) and author of 'The Ways of the Soul. A psychiatrist reflects: Essays on life, death and beyond' (in press, 2017).

**Venue: St. Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace,  
78 Bishopsgate, London, EC2N 4AG**

**Cost: £30 delegate    £10 unwaged or student    (No fees to add)**

There may be a few concessionary places available, please email Brian if appropriate

**[To book and register click here](#)**

**light refreshments will be offered**

**Further information:** [www.spiritualitymentalhealth.org.uk](http://www.spiritualitymentalhealth.org.uk)

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