



The National Network of Pastoral Musicians

Partnered with the Pratt Green Trust

Summer Conference

24-26 July 2026

ONE HEART, ONE VOICE

Highgate House, Creaton, Northants, NN6 8NN

This event is organised by the National Network of Pastoral Musicians. All are welcome: either come for the whole weekend, or just for the Saturday, an open day of worship, workshops and song.

The NNPM is an informal group of people of many denominations, whose aim is to meet to learn from each other and experience prayer and music in common. In 2026 we celebrate our 30th anniversary.

Keynote Speaker Saturday: Peter Gunstone



One heart, one voice - can people of diverse backgrounds and traditions become one people of God in worship?' Pete, a priest-musician, was previously a freelance classical and church musician before being ordained in 2019. He served his curacy as part of the team that planted Fountains Church, a new Resource Church in Bradford city centre. In 2022, he moved to Bradford Cathedral as Interim Precentor and then as Minor Canon for Worship and Nurture. In 2025 he became Precentor at Carlisle Cathedral where he is responsible for leading, overseeing and managing worship, liturgy and congregational Life.

Keynote Speaker Sunday: Sue Price



I Believe... with one heart and one voice'. We will explore how we can, with one heart and one voice, pray the Apostle's Creed. I will be reflecting on this great Christian prayer using hymnody and pictures. Dr Sue Price teaches on the MA in Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care for the Margaret Beaufort Institute and Anglia Ruskin University, both in Cambridge. She offers Pastoral Supervision to clergy and chaplains. She is a Trustee for the Society of St Gregory and a Director for a Catholic Multi-Academy Trust. She is concerned about how to ensure that liturgy, in whatever form, really feeds people's spirituality.



Conference Timetable 2026

Friday 24 July

- 4.00 Arrivals and registration
- 6.30 Dinner
- 8.00 **Welcome and Opening Worship**
- 8.20 **Big Sing**

Saturday 25 July

- 7.30 **Morning Prayer**
- 8.00 Breakfast

Day Visitors

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.15 **Welcome to the Day**
- 9.30 **Keynote Talk**
- 10.30 Coffee/tea break
- 11.00 **Workshop 1**
- 12.05 **Workshop 2**
- 1.00 Lunch
- 2.00 **Workshop 3**
- 3.05 **Sing Gospel**
- 4.00 Coffee/tea break
- 4.30 **Closing Worship**

6.00 **Catholic Mass - Celebration for All**

- 7.00 Dinner
- 8.00 **Entertainment in the bar**

Sunday 26 July

- 8.00 Breakfast and Packing
- 9.30 **Anglican Eucharist - Celebration for All**
- 10.30 Coffee/tea break
- 11.00 **Keynote Talk**
- 12.15 **NNPM Forum**
- 12.30 **Closing Worship**
- 1.00 Lunch and departure

Scan the QR code to book online or download a booking form.

Contact:

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JOIN THE NNPM

£15 for two years.

Contact: VickyDearing, NNPM (membership), 12 Boleyn Way, New Barnet EN5 5JS
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Friday Evening – The Big Sing

Richard Hubbard

Start the weekend with a hearty sing! Richard will take you through a range of repertoire – some new, some old – that will explore a wealth of musical ways to engage with God in worship.

Saturday Workshops

Chris Walker

'Ewe and Me – We're In It Together!' We will explore the different ways music and the way we sing it can help build and support the Christian Community.

Chris Walker, a former Director of Music at Clifton Cathedral, lives in California but is familiar in Britain and internationally, much in demand for his insights, enthusiasm, and inspiring compositions.



Peter Gunstone

'One heart, one voice – an impossible ideal?' Come and share stories from personal experience and reflect on the task of uniting the local worshipping community, particularly in music.'

Pete, a priest-musician, has wide musical tastes and is interested in enabling a church of many cultures to express their oneness in Christ in worship.



Emma Hagger

"Integrating Iona Community Worship into Church Life" - a workshop exploring songs and other worship material produced by Wild Goose Publishing, including practical ideas of how to use them and reflections around the worshipping life of Iona Abbey.

Emma Hagger spent 17 years working as a pianist and musical director. In 2016 she volunteered for 3 months with the Iona Community, during which time she felt called to ordained ministry in the Church of England. She is now vicar to a parish of three estates, in an area of deprivation in Ipswich.



Richard Hubbard

'Ladder Conducting.' Teaching new tunes to a congregation can be challenging, but is most effective when they are given visual clues as to which notes to sing. This workshop aims to give you confidence in the technique of "ladder conducting" – demonstrating pitch through hand gestures. No previous experience required, but it will be fun!

Richard Hubbard has many years' experience in church music, spanning a wide variety of styles. He is a Visiting Lecturer in Music and Worship at London School of Theology, and from 2015 to 2025 was Music Development Director at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, working across the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich. He is Artistic Director of Cantus Firmus Trust, directing an inter-church choir in Suffolk.



Saturday Gospel Session

Steve and Velveta Thompson

Steve and Velveta will lead a **fun and inspiring Gospel Choir Workshop** exploring both gospel and inspirational songs. Open to all ages and singing abilities, this interactive session will immerse participants in the authentic Gospel choir experience.

Steve and Velveta Thompson have been active in the wider music ministry and industry for over three decades. Steve is a highly respected multi-instrumentalist, record producer, composer, and arranger, while Velveta is an accomplished vocalist and choir tutor. Steve has served as Musical Director for the renowned songwriter Graham Kendrick, and together with Velveta has worked with numerous artists worldwide. For the past twenty years, they have also served as regular arrangers and musical directors for BBC's Songs of Praise.

