



<b>Position</b>	Scholar-Researcher (fixed-term for five+ months, February 2019 onwards)
<b>Stipend/grant</b>	£1,000
<b>Hours of work</b>	This role has no fixed hours, but it will require, on average, 5 hrs per week over the course of the project.
<b>Closing date</b>	Midnight on 11 January 2019

### **Position**

BIAPT is seeking to recruit a Scholar-Researcher to take the lead in a 6-month research project investigating and analysing the history and trajectories of BIAPT's journal, which began life as *Contact* and became *Practical Theology* in 2008. The position is available immediately for the duration of the research project (approximately 6 months from appointment, with output for delivery at the 2019 BIAPT Conference, 8-11 July 2019, and some follow-up work after the conference).

### **Project details**

The research project, *Traditions and trajectories of British and Irish Practical Theology, as evidenced in more than 50 years of BIAPT's journal*, considers the history and output of *Contact* and *Practical Theology* from its inception in 1960 up to 2018, as a means of analysing and evaluating the state of British and Irish Practical Theology over the past 50 or so years. This research project is planned in conjunction with the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary BIAPT conference in July 2019, which will bring together past chairs of BIAPT and keynote speakers to reflect upon, analyse and celebrate (as well as perhaps mourn) the development of practical theology in Britain and Ireland over this period.

The association's journal is self-evidently one of the primary sources for such analysis, not only in its content but also in its changing style, iconography and format (although the limitations of using the journal as evidence for British and Irish Practical Theology will need to be noted). The intention is for this research project to result in a paper for the 2019 conference and a published article in the special double issue of *Practical Theology* following the conference.

Some of the key research questions include:

- What role has the journal played in the history and development of British and Irish practical theology, and indeed practical theology on the international scene?
- Who were have the different editors of the journal and how did they shape the journal during their editorship?
- Who has contributed to the journal at different times and in what capacity? Whose voices and interests have been reflected, and whose voices and interests have been absent?
- What have been some of the key issues, themes, questions and concerns as reflected in the journal over its life, and how have these developed and changed?
- How does the changing format, style, presentation and visual look of the journal reflect broader changes in practical theology, in church, academy and society?

The project team, which consists of Dr Andrew Rogers (University of Roehampton and Chair of BIAPT), Professor Nicola Slee (The Queen's Foundation, Birmingham and Vice-Chair of BIAPT) and The Revd Canon Dr Nigel Rooms (The Queen's Foundation, Birmingham and Editor of *Practical Theology*), will guide the project and be available for consultation, although it is expected that the researcher will be largely self-directed.

### **Description of role**

Applicants will have a degree in a relevant subject or experience in a related field of study and, ideally, a postgraduate qualification in some aspect of Practical Theology. A broad knowledge and understanding of British and Irish practical theology is highly desirable.

Applicants need to be able to commit to attendance at the annual conference, at Liverpool Hope University from 8-11 July, and the intention to deliver a paper at the conference (which will be scrutinised by an appointed panel in the same way as all paper proposals). There will be a reduction in the conference fee for the appointee.

This project is likely to appeal to a member of BIAPT with a good working knowledge of the association and the journal.

### **Application process**

To apply please send a brief CV and covering letter outlining your suitability for the role to [vicechair@biapt.org](mailto:vicechair@biapt.org) to arrive no later than **midnight on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2019**. All applications will be acknowledged, and we aim to notify applicants of the outcome by the end of January.

Any queries about the project or the application process should be sent to [vicechair@biapt.org](mailto:vicechair@biapt.org)