

## Trainer

## About Bridge Builders



Colin Patterson is Assistant Director of Bridge Builders, and an Anglican priest. He has worked as a training officer for the Diocese of Durham, and is an experienced adult educator. Author of the Grove booklet *How to Learn Through Conflict*, he is also a contributor to *101 Great Ideas for Growing Healthy Churches*.



Bridge Builders seeks to transform the culture of the church in relation to how leaders lead and the way conflict is handled. We aim to strengthen the ministry of Christian leaders, by helping them to be more self-aware, and to develop greater skills, confidence and resilience for working with tensions and conflict in the church.

Bridge Builders offers a range of training courses and workshops, and leads tailored learning events on request. In addition we provide coaching, consultancy and mediation services.

Find out more at [www.bbministries.org.uk](http://www.bbministries.org.uk)

### Quotes from past workshop participants

Lots of humour – not too intense.

Enjoyable as well as helpful.

Such a valuable day – ministers are crying out for this sort of support.

Very thought-through presentation, and appropriate to the audience.

*'Bridge Builders' is a working name of Bridge Builders Ministries.*

*Registered charity no. 1145235.*

*Registered in England:  
company registration no. 7336077.*

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# Responding to Criticism

**A workshop training day for people in church leadership**

**Thursday 12 January 2017**

**Bloomsbury, London**

**9.30–4.30**

**Transforming church culture**  
The way leaders lead and how conflict is handled

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## Polishing Your Performance

There is a world of difference between constructive feedback and corrosive criticism. Fair assessment, offered graciously, can help you to be a more effective leader. But harsh comments, perhaps comparing you unfavourably with your predecessor, may become a drip, drip, drip that just wears you down.

You may find yourself wondering why you are the target, and what can you do or say in response. How can you move out of a mood of anger or resignation? How can you avoid getting hooked into finger-pointing yourself?

This is both a spiritual exercise, requiring God's help to grow in grace, and a practical challenge, looking to learn ways of listening and speaking that can earth the cycle of blame.

And even if you are not personally under fire, you may be aware of undercurrents in your church that tend to drag people down. How can you name what is happening below the surface, in a way that allows it to be addressed?

Things to explore in a supportive atmosphere .....

## A practical focus

The workshop is designed to equip you as a leader within your church. It is for anyone in leadership, but specially relevant to those in a position of overall oversight. The aim is to give you confidence, and hope.

## Programme

Running from 9.30am to 4.30pm, the programme includes worship, presentation, personal reflection, group discussion and experiential exercises.

- Practise some skills for handling difficult criticism
- Do a personal "attitude check": what are you modelling?
- Work on a case-study that you bring
- Develop your own framework for maintaining perspective
- Plan some strategies for changing a predominantly negative culture

## Cost

£65 per person

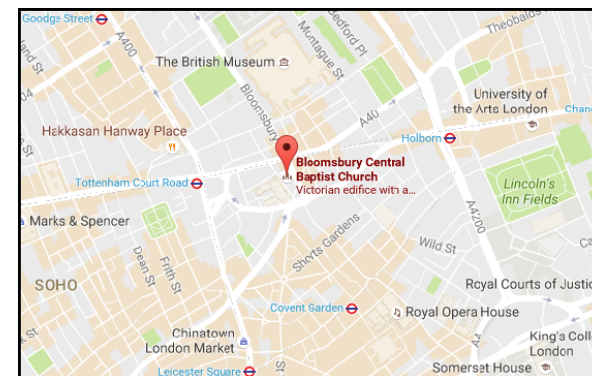
This includes training materials, refreshments and a simple buffet lunch.

## Venue

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church,  
235 Shaftsbury Avenue, London, WC2H 8EP

<http://www.bloomsbury.org.uk/>

Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church is 10 minute walk from either Holborn or Tottenham Court Road underground stations



## How to Book

Please complete the online form at <https://www.bbministries.org.uk/course/responding-to-criticism-workshop-bloomsbury/> and then pay the fee to secure a place.

Cancellations before 2 January 2017 will receive a 50% refund. Thereafter no refund will be provided.

Full contact details for Bridge Builders are on the back panel.

