



The Revd Charles Thody

Charles was born in rural Hertfordshire where he grew up with farming. At just 13, he became involved with the restoration of historic aircraft, eventually becoming a fully qualified aircraft engineer.

In 1991 he moved to Lincoln, for just three years, to study Theology at Lincoln Theological College – 30+ years on he is still living in the County, falling not only for the varied geography and culture across the County, but also the rich aviation history that is found there.

Following some time in parish ministry, Charles became a Mental Health Chaplain with the NHS. After a period as a Community Mental Health Chaplain, he became a full time specialist Chaplain at Rampton High Secure Hospital, specialising in Dangerous and Severe Personality Disorders. He subsequently became the Lead Chaplain for Rampton, where he developed a multi-faith Chaplaincy, one of the great privileges of his career so far. During this time he studied for a Masters in Healthcare Chaplaincy, some of his studies since being published.

Following a few years at Rampton, Charles returned to community mental health before becoming the Lead Chaplain for hospitals in the north of the Diocese. Currently he serves as the part time Lead Chaplain for Mental Health across Lincolnshire, whilst also enjoying involvement in some rural ministry where he lives. He has a lifetime love of nature and the countryside, particularly the preservation of the natural world. He is also a keen supporter of the need to reverse the effects of climate change.

In his spare time, Charles volunteers as part of the team bringing the Lancaster Bomber “Just Jane” back to airworthiness. When not working on the Lanc’ he is either working on (or riding) a classic motorbike or is out and about with his camera. More recently, Charles has built a robotic observatory in his garden, from which he photographs distant galaxies and other celestial objects. His photographs have featured in a number of publications, including the BBC Sky at Night and Lincolnshire Life.

He shares his home with his Wife, Patience, and four Burmese cats (Moriarty, Mycroft, Lagertha and Astrid).