

Postscript: As we reflect back on this event, we hope we may have prepared the way for other individuals and organisations to continue the work. (Photographs by Paul Langham)

## Press Red Conference.

Our 'Press Red' conference on October 5th 2019 at Christ Church Clifton, Bristol, was an 'incredible event'. It was a day of passion and compassion, information, transformation and commitment. As one contributor wrote in an email 'I was just thrilled and honoured to be part of the event. I felt reaffirmed in what I'm doing for abused women'. Paul Langham the Vicar of Christ Church, Clifton, wrote 'Press Red was a highlight of our year, and it's wonderful to see the creative arts flourishing'.

Kingdom Creatives collaborated with 'Press Red' <https://pressred.org> a Manchester-based charity who 'educate, equip and empower on the issues of violence and abuse against women and girls'. On October 5th we were focusing on two areas of injustice, sex trafficking and domestic violence.



Opening Piece: Members of Springs Dance Company accompanied by Flautist Kath Sugden  
[www.springsdancecompany.co.uk](http://www.springsdancecompany.co.uk)

We had some excellent speakers including our Mayor Marvin Rees who, in his motivation for the theme roused the attention of many. Dr Clare Fleming, known to the vulnerable in Bristol, inspired us to consider moving our thinking and behaviour from head to heart; and, Penny Gray from the charity 'Hope for Justice' (who exist to bring an end to modern slavery) spoke of her involvement in setting up an abolition group in her local area.

Many claimed to be quite stunned by the professionalism, impact, personal cost and sheer brilliance of the arts input during the day. The drama, dance, physical theatre, visual art installation and exhibition, hit individuals in the 'gut' as only the arts can, activating the emotions and bringing transformation.



'Shoes' of women killed via domestic violence in 2018



Solo 'Trafficking' Anja Meinhardt Artistic Director 'Justice in Motion'  
Physical Theatre Company  
<https://www.justiceinmotion.co.uk>

Three men spoke to Erica Bebb weeks later, how they are still digesting the impact of the drama presentation and physical theatre solo piece.



Press Red Drama  
Team:  
'Control' Excerpt  
from play about  
domestic violence  
Written by  
Matthew Britton

One of the questions in a Press Red survey following the conference and concert in the evening was :-

‘ Did the event help you to know what to do next to make a difference?’

65.38% said yes.

The concert in the evening featured four celebrated singer songwriters from around the UK, including Beth Rowley, Opera Singer Elizabeth Woollett, Emma Mould and Bristol’s very own Samantha Lindo. The singers sang many of their own songs, reflecting on the themes of the conference, highlighting the cause of the many charities we were promoting.

Throughout the day we promoted twelve Bristol charities working in the justice issue arenas of sex trafficking and domestic violence.

One Bristol University student approached Erica Bebb at a city gathering shortly after the conference she said, ‘I heard you talking about ‘Press Red’. I wasn’t there but I was told it was fantastic. Everyone at Uni is talking about it!

Yes, let’s keep going...  
‘turn the silence off’

Rev Erica Bebb

Associate Minister Christ Church Clifton

Pastor for the Arts Christ Church Clifton and Bristol Diocese

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