

## Conference Venue

We have once again chosen the Marriott Hotel, Preston. Not only are the facilities excellent, but it is conveniently situated for delegates from throughout the North West and beyond.



Built in 1891 as a family home, in delightful grounds, it maintained this status until 1978 when it was sold to Whitbread. Since purchasing the property in 1996, Marriott has made substantial improvements.

There is a large car park at the hotel, and all guest rooms are accessible by lift.

We have negotiated a special accommodation rate, and for those wishing to extend their stay there is a superb leisure suite within the hotel complex, complete with spa, pool & gymnasium. For those eager to engage in retail therapy Preston city centre is nearby, and Barton Grange Garden Centre is less than a 10-minute drive away.

Our conference will be held in the Broughton Suite, which is fully self-contained with separate access from the hotel itself.

Lunch will be served within the Broughton complex to enable delegates to 'chill out' in a friendly environment.



**Preston Marriott**  
Garstang Road,  
Broughton, Preston  
Lancashire PR3 5JB



**Regional Conference  
2019**

## Advance Information



***#BreakingBarriers***

**Saturday 11 May 2019**

**9:00 am to 4:30pm**

## Conference Theme

"#BreakingBarriers" is the theme for this year's conference.

The aim of the Conference is to:

- stimulate discussion
- broaden knowledge and horizons
- provide networking opportunities

The Conference speakers come from a variety of backgrounds, some representing national or international organisations – others working and/or living abroad. It is hoped they will both inspire and educate you and you will leave feeling motivated to make a difference, however small.

Our Conference Chair - **Judith Grocott** from **SI Garstang** - will host a question and answer session following each speaker's input.

Brief details of our Speakers have been included. Full biographies will be shown in your delegate pack, issued on your arrival at the conference.

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**Booking forms are available on the Regional website.**

For those who would like to keep the weekend relaxed (**and avoid getting up very early on Saturday morning!**) we invite you to come to our informal supper on Friday evening and maybe stay over. It's a splendid way to reinforce old, and make new, friendships!

## Conference Speakers

**Dr Erinma Bell OBE DL JP** - *Transforming Lives in an Urban Environment*

How to employ a successful model that 'builds social capital' amongst grass roots and key stakeholders. How do you employ methods which 'transport and transform individuals' to bring about peace? Erinma will give examples of her work around issues such as Restorative Justice, Conflict Resolution as well as Peace Making, Keeping and Building within an urban environment.

**Steph Sherratt, Breaking Barriers NW** - *A Celebration of Difference*

Breaking Barriers is a twofold organisation founded by 3 parents of disabled children with various requirements. Steph, one of the founding parents, talks about diversity and difference being positive things and how raising awareness and effectively challenging the barriers to inclusion faced by children can make a real difference to the lives of their families.

**Gail Newsham** - *Pride of Preston – The Dick, Kerr Ladies*

Dick, Kerr's Ladies FC was one of the earliest known women's association football teams in England. Formed at a munitions factory during WW1 to raise funds for wounded soldiers, the Dick, Kerr Ladies went on to become the most successful team ever. Gail is the original biographer of their history and author of 'In a League of their Own!'

**Chris Green OBE, White Ribbon (UK)** - *Men Challenging Male Violence against Women*

Christopher Green is Founder and President of White Ribbon (UK) In the 1980's he was a member of the Achilles Heel Magazine Collective, worked on the anti-sexist Mens Newsletter, and developed a database of all the anti-domestic violence projects funded through the European Commission Daphne programme.

**Flowa Houldsworth, Medecins Sans Frontieres** - *Breaking the Barriers of Cultural Differences*

Doctors without Borders (MSF) is a medical humanitarian organisation that delivers emergency aid in more than 70 countries to people affected by armed conflict, epidemics and natural or man-made disasters. Assistance is offered based on need, irrespective of race, religion, gender or political affiliation.

**Rosie Dummer, aka Rosie Cake-Diva** - *The Sky's the Limit*

Two decades before the British Army officially allowed women on the front line, Captain Rosie Dummer became the first female Lynx Anti-Tank Helicopter Pilot with the Army Air Corps. Rosie charts her unorthodox path from flying choppers to baking extreme cakes on Channel 4 and proves that life is not defined by one career.