

Joanna Walker is currently a postgraduate researcher in the Centre for Research in Ageing, in the final stages of doctoral studies within the Faculty of Social and Human Studies at the University of Southampton, UK. Up to 2014, she was the Bishop's Adviser in Adult Education in the Diocese of Guildford, where she had encouraged a focus on lifelong faith development and a special interest in the Church's response to older people's spiritual development. Previously, she held a lectureship at the University of Surrey in the Department of Educational Studies and established the first national educational resource centre for pre-retirement educators. She is a founding member of the Association for Education and Ageing and has held roles of Secretary and Chair during this period. She remains Associate Editor (Reviews) for the *International Journal of Education and Ageing*.

In addition to chapters and articles in the educational gerontology field since the mid-eighties, Joanna published *Changing Concepts of Retirement, Educational Implications*, a textbook to support professional and postgraduate students in pre-retirement education and *Preparing for Retirement: The Employer's Guide* to promote good practice within organisations. Her latest publication, jointly-edited with Malcolm Johnson, is *Spiritual Dimensions of Ageing* (2016, Cambridge University Press.) Trained initially in sociology and psychology, an early interest in older people and later life led to employment as a policy adviser with Age Concern England (now AgeUK) and, following postgraduate studies in medical sociology, professional development work with the Health Education Council. Joanna's current research into spirituality, ageing and lifelong learning reflects her range of interests and experience.

