

Friends of Wimborne Minster
present
THE CUTHBERGA LECTURE 2026

3rd September 2026 at 7:00 pm

Given by

Bijan Omrani

the author of the current best seller “God is an Englishman”, will lecture on

**“What must the Church do to make Christianity
a greater part of the English identity?”.**

Telegraph **Book of the Year** author, **Bijan Omrani** has taken the challenge to the modern church in his award-winning book. He believes that we shouldn't shrug our shoulders and accept the decline of our congregations as inevitable but argues that something important is being lost and we should act.

Bijan Omrani is an award-winning British historian, classicist, and writer with a particular focus on Central Asia, Afghanistan, and the classics. He was educated at Wellington College and studied Classics and English at Lincoln College, Oxford. Beyond his scholarly work, Bijan is a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and the Royal Asiatic Society. He has contributed to numerous publications including *History Today*, *Geographical Magazine*, and *Asian Affairs*. As a lecturer, he has spoken at prestigious institutions including the British Museum, Royal Society for Asian Affairs, and multiple universities, sharing his extensive knowledge of Central Asian history and classical literature. Bijan is also a Warden of his church of St Michael's in the village of Shute, near Axminster.



After the lecture the speaker will be available to chat over a glass of wine (provided by the Friends of Wimborne Minster) and sell signed copies of his book.

Tickets £10 (to include a complimentary drink) available from:

David Allen at david-churchwarden@wimborneminster.org.uk, John Hughes john-verger@wimborneminster.org.uk or the Minster Vergers during church opening hours [10am – 4pm daily] or alternatively from Gulliver's Bookshop or on the door on the evening.