



*"It must have made people really think about Jesus and I hope it taught those who didn't know him to make them want to know more."*

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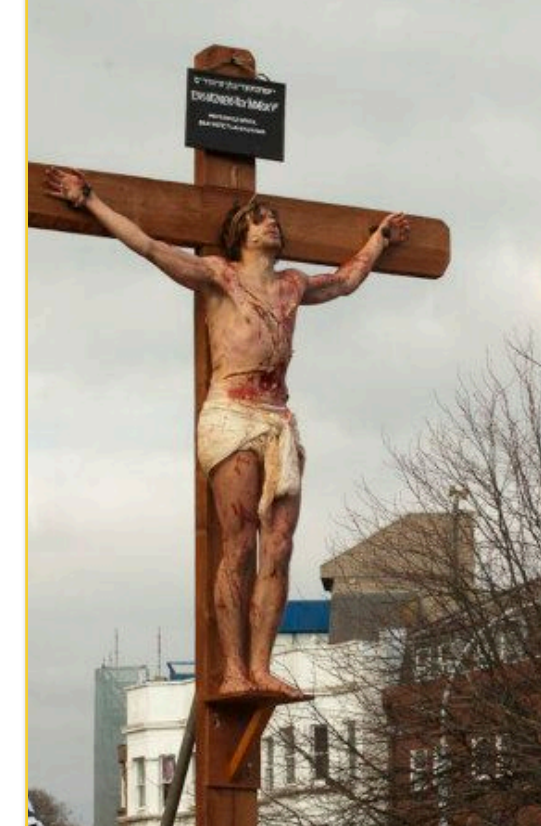
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# PASSION TRUST

SUPPORTING PASSION PLAYS & BIBLICAL DRAMAS





# PASSION PLAYS

## Experience the real story of Easter



### What is The Passion Trust?

The Passion Trust is a registered charity that exists to support and promote performances of passion plays and biblical drama around the United Kingdom. These plays are new and exciting aspects of Easter celebrations and a growing number of Passion Plays are being performed across the United Kingdom, including Trafalgar Square, Glasgow, Dundee, Guildford, Northampton, Bolton, Leominster and Brighton.

Together these performances attract crowds of people in the thousands and they are regularly featured in national and regional newspapers. They are fitting performances during Easter to focus attention on the real reason behind the eggs and chocolate: Jesus' death and resurrection, which is the centre of the Christian faith and hope.

**"I'm not religious, but when they put Jesus on the Cross, it got through to me. It was very real."** - Ken, 73, Brighton

### Aims of The Passion Trust

- 1. Performance:**  
Resourcing new passion plays in local communities and providing pro-bono consultations.
- 2. Community:**  
Supporting the passion play community through resources and events to facilitate innovation and creativity.
- 3. Advocacy:**  
Promoting biblical drama, publicising performances and fundraising on behalf of passion plays in the UK.
- 4. Education:**  
Promoting biblical literacy and ongoing research through workshops and conferences.

### What is a Passion Play?

A Passion Play dramatises the events of the last week of Jesus' life, depicting the events that led up to his crucifixion. Many Passion Plays today also include a dramatic portrayal of Jesus' life, including his teachings and miracles, and his resurrection to show the context in which his death took place.

Passion Plays use theatre to bring the words of the Gospel to life in new, often vivid and startling, ways. They show how the message of second chances, forgiveness and new opportunities has the potential to speak life and hope into communities struggling with poverty, crime, addiction or hopelessness and boredom.

A Passion Play is a dramatic portrayal of what has been called the greatest story ever told. It is the real story of Easter and it has all the elements of stories that are compelling and confronting: treachery, betrayal, injustice, sacrifice, redemption and a startling ending. As Passion Plays dramatize the story of Easter, they allow it to speak again to new audiences in new contexts.

**"It was fantastic. It was so moving. It just brings everything to you. It blew me away"**  
- Paul, 55, from Dorking

***"The Passion brought tears to my eyes .... it was a truly wonderful production."***



In a survey conducted by the Bible Society in 2014 38% of children indicated that they have never seen, read or heard Adam & Eve and 43% had never seen, read or heard of the Crucifixion.

### Huge community benefits

Passion plays, ranging in size from involving whole cities to small communities, have a lasting impact.

#### Winchester Passion:

"The impact of the turn-out was immense: that alone made a huge statement. The sense of unity and camaraderie of the event was huge. People from different churches and various streams worked alongside one another and became close friends. What was unforeseen and encouraging was how working closely with the Civic Authorities forged friendships and put us on the map with them. It seems we earned a lot of favour and respect with them and the Police. This paved the way for the arranging of other events and Street Pastors."

**Firs & Bromford Community Passion Play:**  
"We are being invited to step into our most treasured story, afresh and to discover it living and breathing at the heart of our local community, as strangers and neighbours become friends and God's footsteps are followed down our street."



**"The suffering and triumph portrayed in this moving production speaks to everyone, regardless of their background or beliefs. The work of everybody involved is inspiring"**  
MP for Hove & Portslade

**"Stopping people in their tracks"**

**"The Passion brought tears to my eyes ... it was a truly wonderful production. When it comes to telling the Christian story, nothing makes greater impact, or has a higher profile, than a Passion play; it stops people in their tracks, delegates to a conference run by the Passion Trust all agreed on Saturday."**  
Pat Ashworth (Church Times)