



Welcome!



Hello and welcome to your celebration pack!



As a registered Team Leader with Open the Book (OtB), you have received this complimentary pack to prepare your team and community to celebrate our 20th anniversary together. You may want to participate with something very low-key or you may want to celebrate with a bang and get everyone you know involved in a big party, challenge or performance.

As we celebrate, we want to thank everyone for their commitment, passion, creativity and hard work to OtB. However, many of you tell me you are struggling to recruit more team members, so the pack has an A-Z of ideas to use in your home or local community to celebrate 20 years of OtB and get more people involved.



We are very excited to partner with our friends, Paul Kerensa (Christian comedian: Pause for thought BBC Radio 2, writer of Miranda) and the legendary Bob Hartman (The Lion Storyteller Bible author) who have both been busy preparing performance materials as part of this pack.

Paul's script is a scene-by-scene walk through the Bible in chronological order in his unique style of humour and storytelling to put on a full-scale stage, church, park or school production.

Bob Hartman's new fun Bible story and act of Collective Worship will also inspire you to celebrate with the children at your school. It might even be an opportunity to give potential Storytellers a go to see if they want to join your team!

We also need to make plans for the future. There are many places who have still not heard of OtB. To spread our work will involve financial commitment so I have decided to include a fundraising aspect in this pack, if you feel blessed at this time to help us share the joy and passion of our work financially that would be very welcome, however if the time is not right, please don't feel obliged to fundraise. We do understand this does not suit everyone's circumstances.

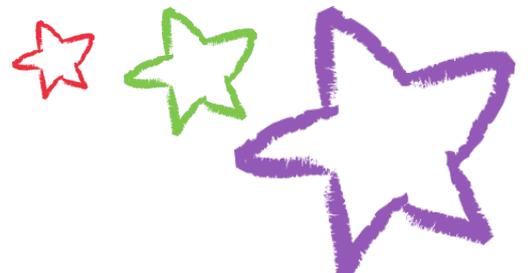


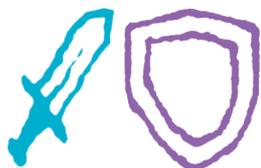
We know you are very creative and will come up with your own ideas. Please see note over the page on how to 'Share the fun'. You never know, you may inspire a host of other people throughout the country.

Do tell your schools about the story and picture competition running this summer term. You'll find more details on our website and in the January newsletter. The winning entries can win fabulous prizes!

However you choose to celebrate OtB in 2019, remember our hints and tips to Pray, Prepare, Present. And above all – **HAVE FUN!**

Julie Jefferies
Head of Open the Book





Celebrate!

Ways you can help us grow

Feel free to photocopy this pack's contents or download extra sheets from our website at openthebook.net.

We have a vision to see every primary school have an Open the Book (OtB) team so every child has the opportunity to hear Bible stories. With 18,076 schools throughout England and Wales and OtB teams now in 3,000 schools, we still have a long way to go! Every activity you do in 2019 for OtB can help make a difference – maybe in ways that you don't expect.

Sow more seeds in churches to get more volunteers

We want to see every school have an OtB team. Spread the word about what you do and maybe work with other churches in your area to see OtB in action during a church service or joint event. Maybe you can grow your team or form another team to go into more schools.



Support us with funds to improve OtB resources and develop new areas

Use the sponsorship form to give yourself and others a challenge or use the collection box to collect donations. Help us raise money to improve our resources and provide training and development in new areas.

Celebrate in schools or with an event

Why not celebrate at your local school with our new story from Bob Hartman? You could even ask the Head Teacher to get everyone involved in the summer competition or to hold a school production using Paul Kerensa's script.



Share the fun

We want to share the fun this year but please **do not take or share photos/videos** of anyone, **unless you have first asked** if they are happy for you to share them publicly (e.g. Facebook, Twitter) or with the OtB team to include in our publications. Please don't assume people are happy, just because they are smiling at the camera! Also be extra careful if children are around (ask parents first if they are happy with the proposed use of the pictures).

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- ◆ Email enquiries@openthebook.net
- ◆ Tel 01793 418355
- ◆ Facebook: www.facebook.com/OpentheBookuk/
- ◆ Twitter: twitter.com/Open_the_Book #OTB20

Ways to pay in gifts or other money you raise

However you help, we have easy ways to pay in money you raise. All monies will go to OtB.

Online or over the phone - Go to openthebook.net or phone 01793 418355 to use your credit or debit card.

At the bank and mailing multiple donations – Pay cash into your own bank then send us a cheque for the same amount, made payable to 'Bible Society' along with the completed donation form indicating the amount you paid in, and any gift aid envelopes.

