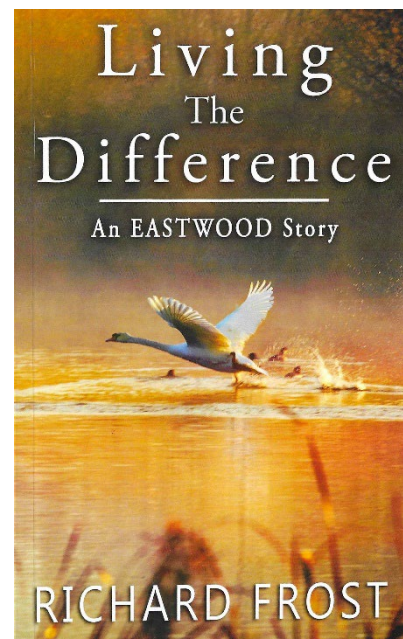


Reviews (as at 15.2.24)

Reviewed by Maressa Mortimer on 15 February 2024

<https://vicariouhome.com/living-the-difference-richard-frost/>



On Amazon & Goodreads...

John Stevens

4.0 out of 5 stars **Engaging**

Reviewed in the United Kingdom on 23 January 2024

Living The Difference, the sequel to Looking to Move On, takes us once more into the world of Matt West, his new wife, Sophie and a tight-knit community with connections to Revd. Liz James, Vicar of St Mark's CofE Church. Anyone who has enjoyed the Vicar of Dibley, or has been part of a church congregation, will know the variety of personalities and needs, or those that literally turn up unannounced on a Vicar's doorstep. As in Looking to Move On, Richard Frost, has used this template to set some 'social issues' hares running, including the effect of crime, illegitimacy, shame, unforgiveness, sexuality, PTSD, counselling, and family history. Meanwhile, Matt and Sophie, with Matt's daughter Tilly, continue to build a life together. This is a book that shows compassion as a strength in society rather than a sign of weakness.

Sharon Hazel

4.0 out of 5 stars **Encouraging faith!**

Reviewed in the United Kingdom GB on 10 January 2024

This book is a sequel to Looking to Move On, although it could be read alone. 'Living the Difference' develops the storyline for some familiar characters while also introducing new ones. I found it an easy, encouraging, read with insight into a slice of English church life – or what I imagine an English church community to be like! The author includes wry observations on the quirks of our very human behaviour while shaping a bigger picture. Faith plays an important part in 'Living the Difference' and although it is not explicitly stated we see how everything works together, for good.

Annie Pam

5.0 out of 5 stars **A fireside read - Heartwarming**

Reviewed in the United Kingdom GB on 1 December 2023

Something that stood out for me while reading this homely novella, is how, as a parishioner, I forget about all the work involved in being a member of the clergy. It's not just about arranging and preparing each service, it can be about chatting with, for instance, Mary (a name I made up) who lost her dog. Or planning and thinking about Easter in January, even! Or the odd day filled with tragedy, sorting out and reconciliation.

This book is written as fiction (I think one incident is true or based on true events). I found it a gentle fireside read. The ideal book for someone who wants to receive a little hope and a warm heart, but doesn't want to read a 500 page book to search for it!

I'm not going to give away the storyline (well, maybe a little): I like how Richard recognises the funny side of people's habits and gently makes light of them. The cracked teapot, for instance, and communication

mix-ups by genuine-want-to-be-helpful-helpers - all fictitious, of course (my lips are sealed, you'll have to read the book yourself to discover more). I recommend you buy the book and enjoy this read! There's lots more to this story. Including an offering of gentle spiritual growth. I'm also reminded of how Sundays can be easily taken over by other considered important things, and how judgmental some people can be with such little information. But I'd better stop there, or you'll know too much! I recommend you read *Living The Difference*, along with the first book in this series. Well done Richard.

Teresa O'Driscoll

5.0 out of 5 stars Enjoyable hope-filled read!

Reviewed in the United Kingdom GB on 30 November 2023

This thoughtful and well-crafted sequel has much for the reader to identify with: highly relatable characters and life challenges. The closely entwined nature of village life is well drawn. This book gives a great insight into the life of a vicar, and how to show them real appreciation. Well-paced, spare, tight writing guides us carefully through the plot's twists and turns.