



WPC Team Report 2019/2020



Lakeside Prayer and Reflection Room
Guest Speaker Bishop John Perumbalath



Rev'd Andy Hudson

Thurrock & Lakeside Shopping Centre

& Team Leader Work Place Chaplains Essex and East London

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The ministry of Workplace Chaplains continues to thrive in a variety of contexts in Essex and East London.

I would like to thank the churches together for Essex and East London (CTEEL) for their continued financial support and thanks also to Rev'd Ivan King who has done a lot of work helping WPC to look at the future of the work and the constitution. Outcomes of this work will be forthcoming next year.

Thank you to all our Core Chaplains and teams of volunteers who walk alongside such a diverse population in all the varied contexts and situations of life, from Airports and Education facilities, to Shopping centres and theme parks, work place chaplains are a visible positive presence, keeping the Rumer of God alive, ministering and proclaiming the Gospel of a loving God, through offering themselves as a non judgmental listening ear, a shoulder to cry on, a support in time of need or crisis, and a companion on the journey of life.

These are the Chaplaincy teams working in Essex and East London under the umbrella of WPC (Work Place Chaplains)



Fr Alex Gowing Cumber

Anglican Chaplain Lakeside Shopping Centre

Care Homes and Supported Living Projects

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Janet Nicholls

Diocesan Rural Advisor and
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Fr Martyn Hawkes

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Rev'd Robert Findley

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Rev'd Canon Ivor Moody

Chelmsford Town Centre and Essex County Council

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Rev'd Robert Burles
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Stansted Airport

Sadly, Ruth had to step down from the team this year. However, God had already been speaking to Glynis about chaplaincy over quite a long period of time. She formally joined the team at the High Leigh conference and has quickly settled-in.

Rob has continued to visit the new Stansted Airport College and is accepted there by staff and students, being invited to lead a short Act of Remembrance there on 11th November, whilst Sidney lead a similar event in the main terminal building. Together with the annual 'Stansted Sings Christmas' these now seem to be well-established in the airport calendar. This year the carol service included Rosecares School choir from Takeley – a number of the pupils there have parents who work at the airport.

During the year the administration at Uttlesford District Council changed hands and the permission for an increase in the cap on passenger numbers was revoked. This has caused great uncertainty, led to a slow-down in the building projects and meant that contract staff had to be let go.

Meanwhile we continue to support all who work at the airport, and people often say how much our presence and quiet ministry is appreciated.

Revd Rob Burles



Barbara Hume – Lead Retail Chaplain Canary Wharf

Phone 020 7418 2444

barbara@canarywharfchaplaincy.co.uk

Barbara is the Lead Chaplain to the retail sector at the Canary Wharf Multifaith Chaplaincy and a spiritual director .

Report from Canary Wharf Retail Multifaith Chaplaincy. I was invited to join WPC in order to share ideas and best practice in retail chaplaincy, even though Canary Wharf is in the London Diocese. The past year has seen me recruit and train two volunteer ladies of the Muslim Faith. They have been very capable additions to the team and as a result we are looking at ways of paying them. We have however see the retirement of one of the longest serving volunteers Geoff Nicholson who has achieved so much in building up relationships in retail over the years. It has also been a pleasure to have several people on placement from different denominations and faiths come and spend time with us. During the Covid crisis I have been keeping in touch with retail managers and staff through email and text messages. We have also been having a reflective Christian service on Thursdays by Zoom and a small service sheet of reflection and prayers is sent out via email to approximately 80 people who have requested it from Canary Wharf, every Thursday and Sunday. Reverend Barbara Hume Lead Retail Chaplain.



University Chaplain, Anglia Ruskin University, Chelmsford

Jackie-dee.thornton@anglia.ac.uk

07879 805210

Jackie is a newly ordained Priest in the Church of England, having graduated from St Mellitus Theological College in 2017.

Jackie was born and grew up in Johannesburg, South Africa, before moving to the UK in February 2000. Before entering ministry, Jackie has lived with her then two young children in New York State, America, with her husband as he worked full-

time for Camp America. She also worked in Marketing at Writtle University College and then local Chelmsford charity MadeHYPERLINK "<https://www.madeformorechelmsford.com/>" for More as a secondary schools worker supporting young people as a mentor. She served the start of her curacy training in rural churches in Chelmsford North before joining Anglia Ruskin University, Chelmsford in September 2019 as full-time Chaplain. She now serves in the Chelmsford Cathedral on Sundays.

Jackie has a deep love for people and enjoys hearing stories about life's experiences and longs to see others reach their full potential. She is interested in mental health and wellbeing and is involved with local charity Kintsugi Hope who offer safe and supportive spaces which enables honest conversation and positively impacts mental wellbeing. When not on campus or in church, you will find Jackie in the gym, running or cooking up a tasty meal in the kitchen!



The Venerable Mike Lodge, Archdeacon of Southend
WPC Principal Officer and Chaplain to Southend United
football Club

Thank you to our Board:

Chair of the ECCIC Board Lesley Lee

Vice Chair Mike Lodge

Secretary to Board Sue Wise

Two Chaplain Reps Janet Nichols/ Dennis Ivey

WPC Treasurer Cyril Bamforth

WPC Team Leader Andy Hudson

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WPC Membership Sec Rob Burles

WPC Safeguarding Co-Ord Lara Dose

WPC Administrator Sue Wise

WPC Training Officer Lara Dose/ Alex Gowing Cumber

WPC Adopted the Chelmsford Diocese Safeguarding Policy July 2019

WPC Website: www.workplacechaplains.org.uk

WPC CONFERENCE 2019: SUMMARY REPORT

10th – 12th June, High Leigh Conference Centre

‘REIMAGINING BRITAIN’

Attendance:

There were 10 Core Chaplains plus 1 Administrator for the whole time and 14 further attendees for the Volunteers Day on Tuesday 11th June

Worship:

Those present shared in Morning and Evening Prayer as appropriate, and a Eucharist accompanied the Commissioning Service on the Tuesday.

MONDAY 10TH JUNE

SESSION 1: ‘REIMAGINING BRITAIN: FOUNDATIONS FOR HOPE’ by Justin Welby

Martin Harris, Area Dean of Harlow, introduced this session via a recorded presentation. He recalled the changes in society through history, particularly where Christians had been influential. In earlier centuries:- the end of the slave trade, factory working conditions, education and health provision. Later, post WWII, there was support for many in social care but the influences of Capitalism and Communism saw other changes and the beginnings of a turn to Individualism. Justin Welby’s book looks back at history and challenges Christians to think about how Christians might influence the society of today with the various challenges that have emerged, particularly over recent years, and as a result of ‘Brexit’.

Chapters having previously been assigned, there followed discussion on how those present reacted to the book and its challenges. The varying experiences of the group, particularly where a chapter was most relevant to those there, made for lively discussion. The Chapter on Immigration and Integration was discussed at length, along with Housing, ‘For Those as Yet Unborn’, and aspects of several other topics in the book. In general the group was not inspired to hope but a quote on page 32 had been picked up by several:-

‘In post-Brexit Britain we need a more inspiring and better narrative that shapes us in a common purpose, not a sense of division and antagonism, let alone frightened isolation, both domestically and internationally. We need a narrative that speaks to the world of hope and not mere optimism, let alone simple self-interest, that enables us to play a powerful, hopeful and confident role, resisting the turn in-

wards that will leave us alone, despairing and vulnerable. A vision of this kind will promote community, be courageous and be lived out consistently, not withstanding the events that come.'

It was felt that the book did not answer the questions so much as give starting places for further thought and potential action.

SESSION 2: BREXIT AND URBAN AND RURAL ISSUES

This session was lead by Lara Dose, as Chaplain to Romford Town Centre and Janet Nicholls, Diocesan Rural Adviser and Anglican Agricultural Chaplain. Both gave a summary of how Brexit was already impacting and was likely to impact the urban and rural communities.

Some businesses are already starting to move elsewhere in expectation and jobs are threatened within many communities. Uncertainty and lack of trust are predominant. There was a lack of understanding of the true situation before the vote that persists. Antagonism towards the 'rules from Brussels' played a big part in the vote.

The rural impact of Brexit will be essentially felt by exiting the Common Agricultural Policy and the end of freedom of movement for migrant labourers. There is a degree of fear that farms will be at risk, alongside criticism of the current system. There are proposals to replace lost funding.

There followed some discussion around the perceived problems and the lack of transparency/clarity and foresight with all the issues.

SESSION 3: INTRODUCTION TO MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

Lesley Bailey, Lead Emotional, Mental Health and Wellbeing for 'InterAct' delivered an introductory session on MHFA. The scope of what 'mental health' means, its impact and some strategies for looking at stress and relieving it were covered.

The full course is more detailed and it was suggested that this might be a topic to be pursued further.

TUESDAY 11TH JUNE

SESSION 4: WPC CONSTITUTION DEVELOPMENTS

Mike Lodge, Principal Officer for Chelmsford Diocese, gave an update of where the investigations into the Constitution were going. The current document is confusing and over complicated. Terms of Reference, organisational structure, definitions, finance, training and other aspects of Workplace Chaplaincy all need to be reviewed.

Mike is to meet with the Nick Lear (President of ECCIC) and Andy Hudson (Team Leader) with a view to producing a draft for review by interested parties to feedback for final revision.

Various attendees gave their view as to some of the items that needed addressing:- general awareness of the role of workplace chaplains, multi-faith inclusion, other

denominations representation, encouraging new volunteers/chaplains.

SESSION 5: CHAPLAINCY IN CHALLENGING TIMES

Revd Dr Fiona Stewart-Darling, Lead Chaplain Canary Wharf Multi-Faith Chaplaincy gave the keynote address on her work and the challenges presented in the current climate to all areas of chaplaincy (present on the day) including retail, universities, rural, airports, football, care homes, and caring for both staff and people in any institution so that they know they are valued and loved by God. She spoke of the challenges of a generation that uses social media to communicate and of the opportunities and privileges inherent in being alongside people and communities today. She reminded those present that this ministry is carried out *with* God, calling us to live out the Gospel on word and action, imitators of Christ. She also reminded those present to look after themselves.

The address was well received and feedback shows that a good Keynote Speaker is key to a good response. The script of the address has since been shared with the attendees.

SESSION 6: CELEBRATING SUCCESS AND RECEIVING SUPPORT IN CHALLENGING TIMES

Robert Findlay introduced the session, inviting three chaplains to explain how they worked with their teams to share both joys at achievement and support for troubles.

Rob Burles (Stanstead Airport), Christiana Asinugo (Westfield Retail Centre) and Andrew Merchant (Writtle University College) talked about their own contexts, summarising some of their challenges and working practices. Robert then invited those present to give their own testimonies of the joys and challenges of chaplaincy. We heard several stories of success and people thought it nice to be appreciated. All were enjoying their work and most, nonetheless, were feeling stressed.

SESSION 7: AGM, COMMUNION SERVICE AND COMMISSIONING

AGM minutes produced separately.

SESSION 8: FILM

The volunteers having departed, the remaining attendees relaxed with a film 'Swimming With Men'. 'A man, suffering a mid-life crisis finds new meaning in his life as part of an all-male, middle-aged, amateur synchronised swimming team.'

SESSION 9: PLANNING AHEAD

Robert Findlay led this session, which is documented separately and forms the basis of on-going Core Group Meeting discussions.

SUMMARY

The feedback from the conference indicates that it was much enjoyed. The discussions on the challenges facing chaplaincy in various contexts, as a result of the uncertainty on our society, were lively and wide-ranging. On the Tuesday, (Volunteers Day) the keynote speaker was particularly praised for her inspiring address, touching on so many aspects of chaplaincy, and for being both relevant and encouraging. One volunteer, just starting out, found the day very useful to her. Several others called it a 'day well spent'. Mental Health First Aid has been identified as an area to follow up in the near future, as the impact of mental health issues is part of the current social climate.

Above all, we are charged with helping people to find hope in a society where hopelessness is common, and to walk with them in their joy and sorrows, bringing the love of Christ to their lives through our listening ears, our compassion and our service.

The ECCIC Constitution is being looked at because it needs review to reflect current practice and to potentially include chaplaincy beyond Industry and Commerce, for example Health Care Trusts. Support roles are also being looked at. Clarification across denominations is needed, regarding Principal Officers (only Mike Lodge currently) and representation at board and CTEEL meetings. Structures are being reviewed to better understand what it means to be a chaplain in the Diocese of Chelmsford; to encourage commitment and support; to look at training; to ensure financial security; to make Workplace Chaplains more visible.

Essex Churches Council for Industry & Commerce
Budget for the year ending 31 December 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
<u>INCOME</u>		
<u>From Contributing Bodies</u>		
Roman Catholic Church	0	6720
Chelmsford Diocese	0	0
Eastern Baptists	1500	1500
Putting Faith in Harlow	500	500
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2000	8720
Gross interest	10	12
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2010	8732
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
<u>Chaplains Expenses</u>		
Motor expenses	3700	5934
Postage & telephone	300	720
Training		
Printing	50	40
Other expenses	600	1103
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	4650	7796
Christmas lunch	200	240
High Leigh Conference	1800	2649
Printing		0
Room hire		-20
Affiliation fees & insurance	440	414
bank charges		
Sundries		322
Conference books & expenses		322
Sundry charges		89
Badges	100	100
Website costs	191	191
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7381	11782
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-5371	-3050
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>Surplus for the year</u>		
<u>CURRENT FUNDS</u>		
Opening balance	11237	14287
Surplus for the year	-5371	-3050
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5866	11237
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<u>Being</u>		
Business Tracker Account	6050	6040
Community Account	679	6197
Laptop	441	441
Banners	282	282
Stock of badges	0	100
Prepayments	0	0
Creditors	0	-237
Malden Industrial Mission	-635	-635
Police Chaplaincy earmarked fund	-750	-750
Dagenham & Barking Industrial Mission	-200	-200
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5866	11237
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Essex Churches Council for Industry & Commerce
Accounts to 31 December 2019

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
<u>INCOME</u>		
<u>From Contributing Bodies</u>		
Roman Catholic Church	6720.00	6720.00
Chelmsford Diocese	0.00	8000.00
Eastern Baptists	1500.00	1500.00
Putting Faith in Harlow	500.00	500.00
	8720.00	16720.00
Gross interest	11.90	11.72
	8731.90	16731.72
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
<u>Chaplains Expenses</u>		
Motor expenses	5933.77	6059.10
Postage & telephone	720.00	720.00
Training		0.00
Printing	40.00	25.00
Other expenses	1102.69	1251.60
	7796.46	8055.70
Christmas lunch	240.00	61.80
High Leigh Conference	2649.22	1825.92
Printing	0.00	201.00
Room hire	-20.00	172.48
Affiliation fees & insurance	414.40	391.46
bank charges		
Sundries		
Conference books & expenses	321.88	
Sundry charges	88.92	
Badges	100.00	100.00
Website costs	191.00	175.00
	11781.88	10983.36
	-3049.98	5748.36
<u>Surplus for the year</u>		
<u>CURRENT FUNDS</u>		
Opening balance	14287.31	8538.95
Surplus for the year	-3049.98	5748.36
	11237.33	14287.31
<u>Being</u>		
Business Tracker Account	6039.69	5527.79
Community Account	6197.03	9024.91
Laptop	440.98	440.98
Banners	282.00	282.00
Stock of badges	100.00	200.00
Prepayments	0.00	484.03
Creditors	-237.37	-87.40
Malden Industrial Mission	-635.00	-635.00
Police Chaplaincy earmarked fund	-750.00	-750.00
Dagenham & Barking Industrial Mission	-200.00	-200.00
	11237.33	14287.31

I confirm that these accounts fairly represent the results for the year as recorded in the financial records

Signed

Dated 2020