

WMHB

WORKPLACE MINISTRY HERTFORDSHIRE AND BEDFORDSHIRE
AN ECUMENICAL PARTNERSHIP



NEWSLETTER No 1

AUTUMN 2008

NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first edition of a new format for the WMHB Newsletter which will be sent as hard copy to all those who support its work as well as being available on the WMHB web site.

STRATEGIC PLAN



Mike Shaw, Director



Alan Harpham, Chairman

Following a wide ranging consultation the Ecumenical Board of WMHB agreed unanimously at its September meeting the direction and key objectives for WMHB over the next three years.

Those engaged with "Mission" on the frontiers or 'the edge,' present a picture of those who have, over the years, something

of a battle to be recognised by the church, a church suspicious of and not easily affirming the work of a radical approach to ministry.

WMHB affirms that Mission in the Economy (MITE) is a task for the whole Church and to achieve our Mission WMHB will aim to:

- Develop the existing chaplaincy into a 'best practice organisation' around the five principles (caring, support, availability, visibility and spirituality) and expand the number of workplace chaplains to meet growing demand and need;
- Encourage the relationship between faith and the economy to be a more prominent aspect of the Church's learning and development;
- Develop a network of WMHB Faith in the Economy Enablers and identify the resources to make this possible;
- Achieve a level of financial stability that reflects an equitable balance of funding between the Church and the Workplace.

WMHB will do this by building on our specialist expertise, inspired by our Christian faith, working with other faith communities to create co-ordinated faith centred responses to issues and needs.

VISION, MISSION & ETHOS

The primary aim of WMHB is twofold:

To provide high quality services and support to the workplace
(CHURCH to WORKPLACE)

Present workplace issues and opportunity to the Church
(WORKPLACE TO CHURCH)

VISION

To encourage a positive connection between faith and economic life and be a transformative presence in the workplace and church.

MISSION

To offer a Christian presence that contributes to the whole of economic life in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

ETHOS

WMHB has a Christian basis founded on the principle that Christ's love is for all people. This principle inspires, underpins and permeates its work in today's diverse society

CHORAL EVENSONG WITH LICENSING & COMMISSIONING

Over 150 people filled the Cathedral for Choral Evensong on Sunday 7th September.

During the service Barbara McIntosh, an Anglican Reader, was licensed to Workplace Ministry by the Bishop of Bedford. Barbara is Chaplain & Chaplaincy Administrator at London Luton Airport.

Simon Manley-Cooper was newly commissioned to chaplaincy to the Air

Ambulance Service which covers both counties; Alan Harpham to East Anglia Ambulance Service at Bedford; Sue Chapman to Bedfordshire & Luton Fire and Rescue Service and Ian Tomkins to Hertfordshire Police.

Congratulations to all concerned.

WEBSITE

The WMHB website will be changing. Initially the changes will be quite small whilst we work over the coming months in collaboration with MiLE (Mission in London's Economy) and CP@Work (Cambridge People at Work) to develop a new format to the website making it more accessible and relevant to our work in the 21st century.

NEW OPPORTUNITIES

WMHB is constantly in need of new chaplains to meet the needs of the Police, Fire and Ambulance Services as well as the growing demands from London Luton Airport.

We will be looking at new ways to encourage and find new chaplains to join the existing team.

WMHB FOCUS

In each edition, we will focus on a different aspect of our work in Hertfordshire & Bedfordshire and the people who provide the chaplaincy, starting with London Luton Airport.



The Reverend Michael Banfield is the full-time Senior Chaplain and a small part-time team of Volunteer Chaplains provide Chaplaincy to the Airport in the following ways:

- For Staff - through workplace visiting and pastoral interaction for the more than 8,000 staff in the more than 100 on site companies in which they work
- For Passengers - availability to passengers with any special needs, when called upon to assist, or when identified through daily walking of the Terminal Building
- Through the ministry of the Airport Chapel – caring for it, providing faith literature and aids to prayer, and leading a short weekly Christian service
- Through Emergency Response in a major incident or aircraft accident – via an extended Chaplaincy Team of nearly 30 local clergy, and lay leaders – with full Airport access
- In the Senior Chaplain working through people-related issues and projects with the Airport Operator from time to time
- Chaplaincy is provided to people of all faiths and none.

CHAPLAINS CONFERENCE



Attended by over 20 chaplains for a variety of disciplines the conference focussed on *Fresh expressions of church* and the *Changing face of chaplaincy* in the context of workplace ministry.

Keynote speakers were Richard Chewter and Bridget Adams, both from Watford but sharing different aspects of workplace ministry.

Watford Town Centre Chaplaincy is currently regarded as a major contributor to social cohesion in Watford by local government and the emergency services.

The Hub Partnership specialises in helping entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial organisations, using state-of-the-art business development models.

The Conference programme offered an opportunity to learn, reflect and share together and was rated **good to excellent** by those attending.

NETWORKING

WMHB will be collaborating with Cambridge People at Work (CP@W) and Mission in London's Economy (MiLE) to reduce reduplication and to make the most effective use of resources. Initially areas for collaboration will be:

- GS Motion on Faith in the Economy
- Olympics 2012
- Coordinated Faith Centred work

WHO'S WHO

The Core Team

There are currently four senior chaplains at present with a diverse portfolio of responsibilities including the Emergency Services (Police, Fire and Ambulance) Luton Airport and General Motors, Luton. Changes will be introduced in the New Year.

Richard Chewter, Watford Town Centre and Anne Crawford are coordinators in Herts & Beds respectively for the growing interest in town centre and retail chaplaincy.

The Reverend Tony Ruffell
Senior Chaplain



Captain Brian Griffin
Senior Chaplain



The Reverend Michael Banfield
Senior Chaplain

The next edition of the Newsletter will be in February and will focus on the Chaplaincy to the Bedfordshire Fire Service.



The Reverend Barbara Johnson (NSM)
Senior Chaplain

Advent Sunday will be a special day for Barbara who is to be licensed to the parish of St Mary the Virgin, Goldington and will assist the Reverend Richard Howlett.



St Mary the Virgin, Goldington

WANT TO WORK A FEW HOURS PER MONTH ON THE EDGE?

INTERESTED IN CHAPLAINCY?

To contact WMHB

E-mail:
workplace.ministry@stalbens.anglican.org

The Reverend Mike Shaw, Director

Tel: **01727 818144**
(Ansaphone available)
or
0771046 5548 (mobile)