

WELCOME

This is the 2nd edition of the UKBHC's Newsletter. We plan to issue three newsletters each year, and we hope you will find these informative and helpful. Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions for future editions.

AGM 2010

The UKBHC AGM will take place in Edinburgh on Tuesday 28th September at 2.30pm in the Church of Scotland Offices at 121 George Street. This continues our policy of holding the AGM in different parts of the UK. Further details, including directions to the venue and papers for the AGM, can be accessed from the website.

WEBSITE

The main vehicle for keeping up-to-date with the UKBHC is the website - www.ukbhc.org.uk. Please access the website as often as you are able as it is updated regularly with important information.

CHAPLAINCY ADVISORY PANEL

A training day for chaplaincy advisors was held in May, and there are now 14 chaplains (from England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales) equipped to act in an advisory capacity for chaplaincy appointments. The UKBHC believes it is important for consistency, safety and accuracy that these advisors are appropriately utilised. Details for accessing this service are on the website. If any clarification is needed in this area of our work, please be in touch.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Following the agreed period of consultation, the Code of Conduct has been through its final revision. The Board would like to thank everyone involved for their helpful and thoughtful comments and suggestions. The final version is available on the website, and it is hoped everyone involved with healthcare chaplaincy will familiarise themselves with this important document which underpins chaplaincy practice.

EVERYBODY SINGS IN WALES!

On 25th May 2010, the Welsh Assembly launched their "Standards for spiritual care services in the national health service".

Minister's statement

Launching the standards, Edwina Hart, Minister for Health and Social Services, said *'The standards have been developed following a considerable amount of consultation and engagement with the national health service, faith leaders and other stakeholders ... It is important to recognise the value of the work done by healthcare chaplains and their colleagues from within the various faiths in providing a spiritual care service to patients, their families, carers and staff. Throughout the NHS, chaplains and spiritual care givers not only offer religious ministry to members of faith communities, but are also called upon to give wider spiritual care to those who have no association whatsoever with religious groups ... The standards also include guidance on capabilities and competences for healthcare chaplains and spiritual care givers in Wales that will form the framework to inform and develop education and training, the planning of work-based learning and the personal development of healthcare chaplains and spiritual care givers.'*

More details

The UKBHC offers congratulations to all who have been involved – in Wales and elsewhere - with this important initiative. Further information can be found on the Welsh Assembly's website at <http://wales.gov.uk/about/cabinet/cabinetstatements/2010/100525spirit/?lang=en>

UKBHC COUNCIL LAY MEMBERS

Working through its transitional arrangements, the UKBHC is exploring with people who have a background in nursing, NHS regulation, management and education, their suitability for joining the Board. It is hoped that appropriate lay appointments will be announced at or after the AGM in September.

NORTHERN IRELAND

The Board held its June meeting in Belfast, and had constructive discussions with representatives of the NI Healthcare Chaplains' Association (NIHCA). This continues the Board's commitment to working with and learning from chaplaincy organisations and individuals in all parts of the UK.



Members of UKBHC and representatives of NIHCA in the Belfast sunshine

NIHCA

The UKBHC offers congratulations to the NIHCA who celebrated their 50th AGM in May. The special guest was Rev Peter Speck, who addressed the topic "Spirituality research in healthcare." 55 chaplains and guests were present. Feedback afterwards reports that it was a challenging, informative and inspiring day.

VOLUNTEERS

The use of volunteers and their role in chaplaincy services has been raised through some chaplains and healthcare settings. The Board will prepare a position paper on chaplaincy volunteers, and this will be posted on the website when it is available.

MARK COBB

It was with regret that the resignation of Mark Cobb from the UKBHC was accepted at the June meeting. Mark has been one of the key people in the development of the Board, and his knowledge of and commitment to all facets of chaplaincy has been invaluable. Mark will now concentrate on other aspects of chaplaincy, writing and study.

Thanks

On behalf of all chaplains, the Board thanks Mark for his work and wishes him well. We still know where he is and will probably still look to him for advice from time to time.

A NEW PRESIDENT FOR THE AHPCC

The Association of Hospice and Palliative Care Chaplains is delighted that Steve Barnes, chaplain at The Willen Hospice in Milton Keynes, is their new President for a three-year period. The Board wishes Steve well in this new role. Useful information on hospice and other chaplaincy issues can be found at www.ahpcc.org.uk

MEMBER GROUPS OF THE UKBHC

The four member groups of the UKBHC are:

- Association of Hospice and Palliative Care Chaplains (AHPCC): www.ahpcc.org.uk
- College of Health Care Chaplains (CHCC): www.healthcarechaplains.org
- NI Healthcare Chaplains' Association (NIHCA): www.nihca.co.uk
- Scottish Association of Chaplains in Healthcare (SACH): www.sach.org.uk

MONEY MATTERS

The Board's accounts will be presented at the AGM and posted on the website. If there are any queries, contact David Mitchell, the Board's treasurer, at revdmitchell@yahoo.co.uk

CPD

The income from CPD points is healthier than expected, indicating that this system is working appropriately. The Board is encouraged by this, and hopes this is a positive sign for the future. The Board has been responding to questions on what qualifies as appropriate internal and external opportunities for a CPD folder. To assist chaplains, the Board will work on producing a definitive statement on this by September 2010. The CPD portfolio is currently being slightly revised and it is intended that a new summary form will be available for December 2010. This will offer further help for chaplains in this area.

Funding the Board

With the two-year transitional arrangements coming to an end, the Board will no longer have the start-up financial support from the constituent professional associations and will have to look to be self-funding.

Charitable Status

The Board will be discussing fees at the AGM along with matters relating to charitable status.

EUROPEAN NETWORK

The biennial consultation of the European Network of Health Care Chaplains takes place in London from 16th to 19th September 2010. Further details from the network's website: www.eurochaplains.org or from Debbie Hodge by e-mail at: debbie.hodge@cte.org.uk

INTRODUCTORY TRAINING

The Board is aware that there is no recognised training programme for new chaplains, and that opportunities for introductory education are both patchy and unsatisfactory. Drawing from good practice throughout the UK, and in discussions with other professional groups, the Board is working on an appropriate introductory training programme for all new chaplains. This will be on the 'blended-learning' model. Details will be publicised when they are available.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Information on training and education opportunities for healthcare chaplains is available on the UKBHC website and the websites of the member groups. Some are highlighted below:

Leeds: A new post-graduate certificate in healthcare chaplaincy studies at Leeds Metropolitan University. Contact Rev Dr Chris Swift at chris.swift@leedsth.nhs.uk

Cardiff: An MTh in chaplaincy studies – covering all sectors. Contact Rev Dr Andrew Todd at andrew.todd@stmichaels.ac.uk

Cambridge: An MA in Pastoral Theology (in Healthcare Chaplaincy) with the Cambridge Theological Federation. Contact Revd Dr Derek Fraser at derek.fraser@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

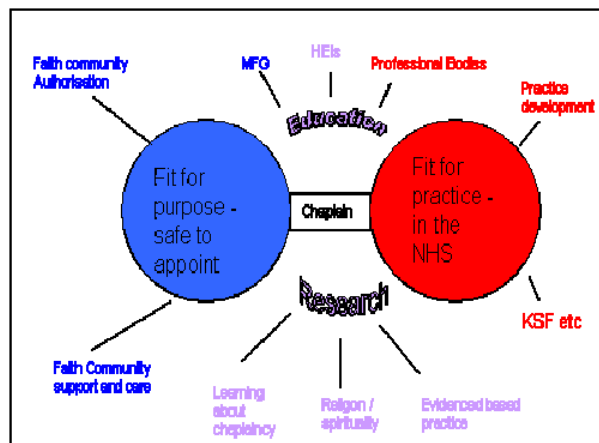
Glasgow: A one-year Certificate in Healthcare Chaplaincy at Glasgow University, leading to diploma, MSc or doctorate. Contact Rev David Mitchell at d.mitchell@clinmed.gla.ac.uk

CHCC AGM & ANNUAL STUDY CONFERENCE

This will be held in the University of Sheffield from 13th to 15th September 2010. The theme is to be: *The Self as Tool - An exploration of ourselves in healthcare encounters*. Further details are on the CHCC website.

CONVERSATIONS

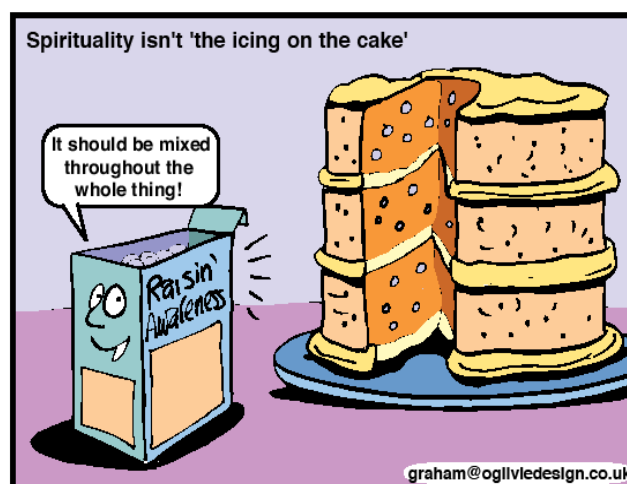
The Board continues to have constructive conversations with the English Church communities around the basic model below:



The Board also continues to work with DoH officials in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, and seeks to enhance good relationships with all who are committed to healthcare chaplaincy and the welfare of chaplains and their colleagues. Further details of the out-working of these conversations will be made available as they are taken forward.

THE ON-GOING WORK OF UKBHC

What chaplaincy highlights is not something which is additional, like the icing on a cake, but an aspect of well-being and wholeness which is integral to all aspects of healthcare provision.



Good wishes

The UKBHC offers good wishes to everyone who continues to be involved with the delivery, support and professionalism of all aspects of healthcare chaplaincy throughout the UK.

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