

THE

celebrating 30 years

CITY CENTRE CHAPLAINCY



newsletter



Where are all the Penguin's?

Recently I have attended a series of events about 'Visioning'. I am sure many of us agree that having a vision is a good thing. I have a silly one I would like to see penguins in Newcastle City Centre. Perhaps we could have tubes full of penguin's criss-crossing the city sky line. We could have a big aquarium or should it be penguinarium in the middle of Eldon Square. They could come to the new bus station in Eldon Square from Edinburgh Zoo. But why would a penguin come to Newcastle? A question I am sure you lay at night thinking about! They are black and white for a start. Anyway that is just my crazy idea but there is nothing wrong with being creative. I believe we should take some bolder creative risks in Newcastle. I did suggest cable cars a long time before Gateshead did. Now that's a thought penguin's in cable cars.

Visions are all well and good. For example we might have a vision of what a good city is but we need to work towards it. We might differ from other people about how we achieve a vision. Open debate and discussion is part of this. I believe we have 'talked the talk' we need now to 'walk the walk'. This is a very important time for the future of Newcastle and the Region. We need strong leadership. Taking action might involve criticism but the old saying is 'If you want to avoid criticism: Say nothing, Do nothing and Be nothing' and to remember most knocking is done by those people who don't know how to ring the bell.

The Chaplaincy has been pleased to have been part of all of this 'Visioning' which has taken place. We hope that we can now help some of the vision to become a reality. To waddle the waddle. I have already convinced two penguins to come to Newcastle, mind you one is plastic and the other a little fluffy one!

- Glyn Evans



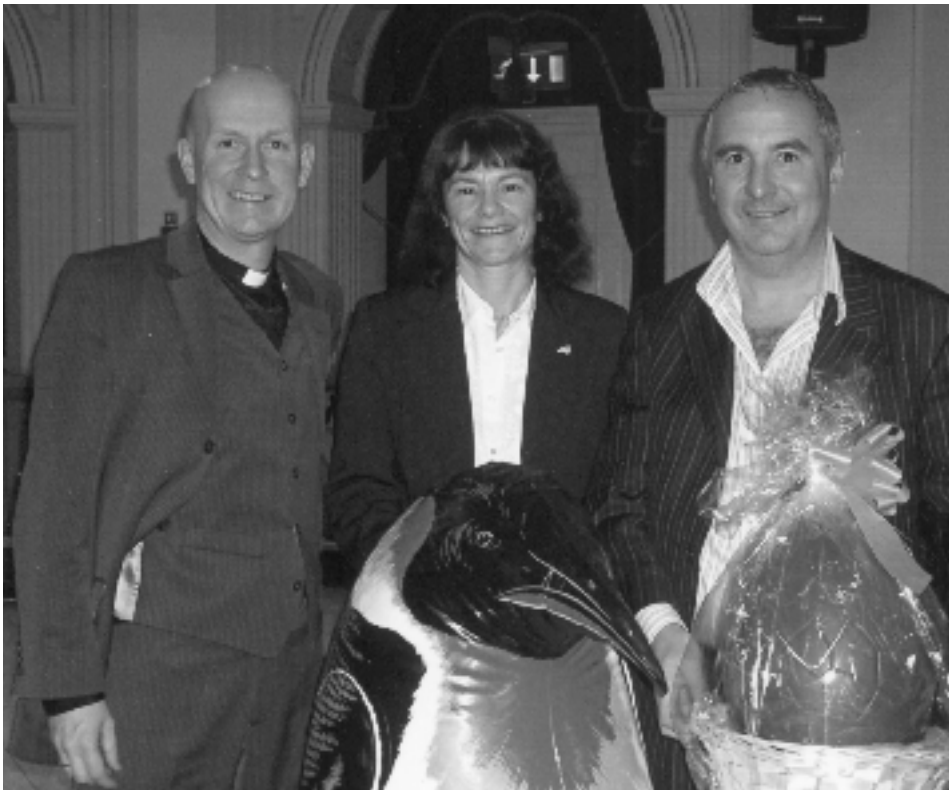
Mr John Holmes appointed as new Chair for Management Committee and Trustees

Mr John Holmes Head of Regeneration and Tourism at the Regional Agency One North East has taken over from Mary Coyle as the new chair of Newcastle City Centre Chaplaincy. John brings a wealth of knowledge, expertise and faith to the Chaplaincy which has recently been celebrating 30 years of work place chaplaincy in Newcastle. The Chaplaincy which ministers on behalf of all the Christian Churches in the city centre has grown from strength to strength. It cares for people at work in all sorts of work situations, debates issues which arise and takes action to make our city a better place to live (for example we have recently helped with a drug users drop-in and advice group). The Chaplain's work is paid for by donations from individuals, churches and trusts. John spoke recently at the 30th anniversary celebration service for the Chaplaincy and promised to continue the terrific work which had gone on in the past. We look forward to John's input and leadership.



New Trustee

The Chaplaincy was very pleased to welcome the Dean of St Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral to the board of trustees. Father Peter Leighton brings a fresh face and new insights. We appreciate his time, prayers and commitment to our work.



Rev. Glyn Evans, Jill Catherall and Andrew Dixon

Shrove Tuesday

This year's Shrove Tuesday event was a great success attended by over 60 people. Even a penguin! Andrew Dixon from Newcastle Gateshead Initiative talk was entitled 'A tourism boom or clutching at straws?'. Andrew began by talking about Scunthorpe and whether people ever went there and stayed overnight. Have you? Of course the point he was making was that we have so much to offer and that we should be proud of it. His job as Chief Executive was to encourage people to visit and work in our region. He said "the best tourist comes and stays forever". He spoke about the life and vitality which had increased in the last 10 years. He asked us to think of the growth of the airport and the opportunities this gave us. He spoke about the Baltic, Sage, Seven Stories and the growth in the cultural scene. He told us loads of good news stories. He is a good news man. After Andrew's talk he was asked a series of questions including What did he see was the biggest failure so far? He replied not securing the American Airline market. People also asked about the 'work' agenda which is also a part of the role of NGI. The question related to training for the service industry etc. Andrew spoke about some of the schemes available at Newcastle College. Some people did comment about the proposed college links between Newcastle and Gateshead which had not happened. There was also questions about the recent 'Glow' event at Christmas and the lack of a big firework display on New Year's Eve. Andrew fielded these questions well. We did not speak about the housing agenda which is also part of Andrew's brief.

Andrew's work is crucial in a way forward for us all. One thing he would love to see is a new convention centre to attract more people. Andrew's charm and smile would attract anybody! We are grateful for all he does. We would like to see Newcastle and Gateshead come even closer together. We wonder if Gateshead has any plans for penguins as well as us. Finally pancakes were enjoyed by all thanks to the generosity of The Assembly Rooms.

For life and death are one, even as the river and the sea are one.
 For what it is to die but to stand naked in the wind and to melt into the sun?
 And what it is to cease breathing but to free the breath from its restless tides, that
 it may rise and expand and seek God unencumbered?
 Only when you drink from the river of silence shall you indeed sing.
 And when you have reached the mountain top, then you shall begin to climb
 And when the earth shall claim your limbs, then shall you truly dance.

from The Prophet by Kahlil Gibran

Breakfast Conversation

Alan Clarke, the Chief Executive of One North East, a Liverpool fan, braved many Newcastle fans to speak at our sell out Breakfast Conversation. His talk was entitled 'O.N.E Does it deliver? Does it have a lasting impact on Business and the Community?' Some of the question's we were hoping Alan might be answering were: How far do the various agencies work together? Do strategies actually result in action and things which will last? Where does the money go and to who? What is his vision for the future? Alan proved a candid and honest speaker. He was refreshingly open and honest. He spoke about how One North East was formed, how it operated and how it was assessed. We all received a O.N.E 'pocket bible' of how it works and its strategies. Alan spoke about the many responsibilities old and new which he leads on. He spoke about the board of trustees and the skills and knowledge they bring. He spoke about delivery mechanisms. You could see what a difficult job he had in trying to work with other agencies to obtain clarity and common goals. The questioning and discussion ranged from immigration, tourism, the northern way, economic health to iconic buildings and their effect or not on poorer areas. There was lot's to discuss about attracting more talent, leaders and inward migration. As with many other organisations Alan had a vision which he clearly demonstrated to everyone. He was realistic about what his organisation could achieve with the money they were actually allocated. It remains to be seen if the money he has spent will continue to have an impact. Just look at Newcastle United lots of money lots of support no success. We think both Alan and Liverpool at least have had some. Many of us in the room hoped and prayed that organisations such as O.N.E do work together to have a lasting and tangible benefit for those in our city and region who are often out of work and living in situations many of us would find difficult and unacceptable. Alan was thanked and presented with a penguin.



Prayer for the City

Listen to the city
Anytown, Notown, Downtown
Mark its tinged cry.
The city's
Like an orchestra
Tuning up to play.
Some parts are big and brassy
Others with hardly a say
Some take melody's high road
Others are just by the way.
Oh listen to the tuba,
Piccolo and viola
One and all a soloist
Each with their own style
But when the tuning's over
The orchestra plays as one.
Not so downtown city
Where each is for his own,
Oh listen to the city
Mark its tinged cry.

(from Scottish Churches Industrial Mission)

Good bye! Good bye!



Glyn Evans & Chris Savage

We were sad to see some people move on from the Chaplaincy over the last few months.

Revd Canon Chris Savage left us at the beginning of the year to become Leader of Chaplaincy to People at Work in Cambridge. Chris is a larger than life character. For the last six years he brought so much knowledge, fun and advice that he will really be missed. Obviously we will be in contact with Chris at various events because we are involved in the same area of ministry. We thank Chris for all his hard work for the Chaplaincy.

We presented him with a banana and a small gift at his last meeting with us in the offices of Eversheds who kindly host our management meetings.

Revd Jean Skinner, who organised our team meetings for chaplains also has taken on a new role as Child Protection Officer for the Diocese of Newcastle. Jean who is very involved and passionate about people's ministry at work will still be supporting our work but obviously cannot give the time she was giving. Her work and knowledge she has in her role at CHRISM and elsewhere will still be of great value to us.

Mary Coyle our chair has now stood down to be replaced by Mr John Holmes. Mary has also changed jobs moving from Common Purpose to Aspire (it sounds like she will be on top of a church!). Mary is one of the most bubbly and sincere people you could ever hope to meet. Again we are so grateful for her friendship and support which we know we will continue to have. Our thoughts and prayers are with her.

Joke of the Month

I recently took up a job at a bowling alley some one asked ten pin and I said no permanent.

New Website

The Chaplaincy now have a new website which can be found at www.nccc.me.uk. We are very grateful to The Rothley Trust for a grant which helped us to set it up. The website allows us in the future to communicate with people via the website and email. The website was designed by Matt Moore who has just started up his own business HICCUP. He has worked hard and the website is now up and running. Please visit the site and sign up to receive newsletters, invites and information. One idea in the future is to relay services and thoughts for the day via webcam. That would be an interesting idea. What do you think?



Jean Skinner



Glyn Evans & Mary Coyle

Don't try to teach a pig to sing, it waste's your time and it only annoys the pig.

It was great to see two funny events which appealed to us advertised recently for people at work. They were Take Your Dog to Work Day and Talk like a Pirate Day. They even have their own websites.

Selling Spirituality

Recently there has been an increase in the Spirituality at Work movement in the UK. Businesses have recognised that employees are often more spiritual than they think. They have also found out that certain spiritual exercises e.g. meditation have helped people to feel calmer at work and relieve stress. The growth in this area of work is of great interest to the Chaplaincy. Later in the year we will be running an event to look at the pros and cons of this phenomenon. One of the books we have found interesting is called Selling Spirituality by Jeremy Carrette & Richard King. This cutting recently appeared in a church newspaper: "I've always found you can't beat your local parish church – quite seriously – when it comes to spiritual retreats. One of the new church adverts says: **"Why go to India to find yourself – you might be just around the corner." That works for me.**"



Matt Moore

The Chaplains:



Revd. Glyn Evans



Deacon
Eunice Attwood



Keith Morley



Ed Rouse



Max Morley



Bob Arkley



Dorothy Robinson

The Chaplaincy acts on behalf of Churches Together in Newcastle

New Arrival

My name is Michelle Small. I am the new office manager at Newcastle City Centre Chaplaincy.



Michelle Small

Telephone

0191 232 7935

Email

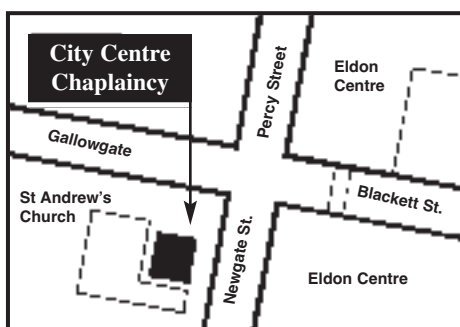
banana@nccc.me.uk

Website

www.nccc.me.uk

Newcastle City Centre Chaplaincy

The Parish Church of St Andrew
Newgate Street
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 5SS



EVENTS AND INFORMATION

Breakfast Conversations

Speaker: Sarah Green from Confederation of British Industry
Public Sector Reform – opportunities for the private sector.
25th April, 7.30am Northern Counties Club, Hood Street
£8.50 (including breakfast).

Civic Centre Prayer Group

One of the prayer groups that meet in places of work is the Civic Centre Prayer Group. The meeting takes place the 1st Wednesday of every month at 12.00pm in the Peace Room for half an hour

Remembrance Service

Quayside Poppy Appeal Service this year will be held at Trinity Chapel on Friday the 9th November.



Revd. Glyn Evans, Lord Mayor Diane Packham and Canon Chris Savage

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

There are a large number of Faith and Work websites. Here are a few. We have an extensive list, which we are always adding to.

www.aftersunday.org.uk – After Sunday

www.ibe.org.uk – Institute of Business Ethics

www.scruples.org – Scruples

www.faithintheworkplace.org – Forum for Faith in the Workplace

www.jesuit-prayer – Help with prayer

www.cis.org.uk/ – Christians in Science

www.buynothing.co.uk – A movement to look at our buying habits

www.stpaulscathedral.org.uk – St. Paul's Institute that looks at ethical issues at work

www.christiansatwork.org.uk – E-broadcasts on work themes

www.licc.org.uk – Finding faith at work

BOOKS OF INTEREST

Check:

www.workplaceministry.com – For a list of good books on Work and Faith

Please call into the Chaplaincy where we are beginning to establish a collection of books, magazines and articles relevant to Faith and Work.