

THE

celebrating 35 years

# CITY CENTRE CHAPLAINCY

The  
**99**  
per center

newsletter



## Living in Two Worlds

For many people their working life and their faith are two separate worlds. The modern world is very diverse and often very complex. It is a competitive world in which individuals and companies have to struggle to survive and make progress. All people who work, for paid reward or otherwise, must consider from time to time how they best can reflect their faith in the working environment and how their faith can support them too. There are conflicts, real or apparent, joys and sorrows. The City Centre Chaplaincy was established 35 years ago to help bridge these two worlds of Faith and Work. We continue to do this and with great success. In this issue of our newsletter we have set out for you our Aims and Objectives. Please contact us if you would like to hear more about our work.

*'Things to remember: the value of time, the success of perseverance, the pleasure of working, the worth of character, the power of kindness, the influence of example, the obligation of duty, the wisdom of economy, the virtue of patience, the sound of laughter, the joy of originating, the thrill of accomplishment.'*

– Glyn Evans

Welcome to our Newsletter for Newcastle City Centre Chaplaincy which is celebrating 35 Years since it was founded. What happened 35 years ago to inspire the churches to form a chaplaincy? Eldon Square was built. In response to this the churches decided it needed a specific ministry to those at work and visiting the city. They wanted to explore and develop a deeper understanding of the city's spiritual and working life. The Charity was founded and has continued to support, engage and challenge all that happens in our wonderful city. We hope you enjoy reading something about our work and activities. We usually throw in a few jokes and quotes to keep you smiling and thinking. We are very proud of what we have achieved over many years. We are grateful for all the support we have received, long may it continue.

### 'Keep Dancing Together'

It is always better to go dancing with somebody else. You can look a bit of an idiot dancing all alone. It is the same with work to improve the life of people in our City Centre. At the Chaplaincy we always endeavour to work with other people, to dance together.

It is very exciting to be working with two organisations at the moment. We have formed close links with Forces for Good and the Big Issue.



Tony Wright and Glyn



Paul Moore and Glyn

Forces for Good (also About Turn) work with ex-service personnel to help them when they need support and advice. They try and meet the needs of chronically socially excluded ex forces personnel with multiple complex unmet needs. Glyn works as part of the advisory group and supplies chaplaincy provision for the organisation.

The Big Issue is well known by many people. We as a chaplaincy have been asked to provide some accommodation and support for their work. Eunice Attwood and the other chaplains seek to provide a listening ear and encouragement for sellers who 'work' in the City Centre.

Learning a new dance is always good fun (well we think it is!) and having new partners creates new moves. So we look forward to many more dancing opportunities with friends new and old. As Bruce Forsyth says

**'Keep dancing'**

## Taking Newcastle Forward

Council Leader David Faulkner and the smiley Mr Barry Rowland led a breakfast meeting recently with what they called their 'Stakeholder Partners'. The idea of the meeting is to highlight some of the councils priorities and challenges currently facing the public sector. Barry Rowland spoke about business development, health improvement, climate change and sustainability and finally the financial situation facing the council. Nothing to argue about there or is there? He also talked about the changing landscape (I am sure there is a joke in there somewhere. Is he a plant?) Glyn asked about Elected Mayors and where we get our voice in government now. Glyn recently spoke to Linda Arkley Elected Mayor of North Tyneside and was convinced elected mayors seemed a good idea. Topics perhaps for a breakfast conversation. David Faulkner talked about positive survey results on the councils performance. They have done pretty well. A big thank you must go to all who give time as councillors and make decisions on our behalf. Who or What do you think should be 'Taking Newcastle Forward'.



Barry Rowland



David Faulkner



Linda Arkley

## Pancakes and the Community Foundation

Yummy pancakes yummy talk yummy people. Our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Lunch was attended by nearly 90 people. Our speaker was the bubbly brilliant Barbara Gubbins from Durham Community Foundation. Appropriately it was the 100th Anniversary of International Women's Day. She spoke about the effect of the present economic climate on charitable giving. Some charities have had to merge and others dig into their reserves. The big society was also discussed and Barbara hoped the foundation could promote more philanthropy (we had difficulty spelling it but hope we get more of it). She also outlined some of the specific projects which had made her happy. After a good discussion we were treated to pancakes by the Assembly Rooms. Someone asked for a Buddhist pancake they said "Make me one with everything!"



Antony Michaelides, Glyn Evans, Barbara Gubbins and The Lord Mayor Brenda Hindmarsh.

## Lunch with a 50 Year Old

**'Can Creativity Create Jobs?'  
'Is the Northeast Creative or Not?'**

Mr Tom Harvey spoke at our recent Lunchtime Conversation about creativity and its role in the Northeast economy. Tom is the Chief Executive of Northern Film and Media. Tom has a lot of experience in media industry in fact his list of jobs was mind blowing (I hope it doesn't blow). It was Tom's 50th birthday and so he did blow out some candles (fork handles! I hear you say or don't).

Tom is a forth right speaker but very positive in all that he does. He helped us define what is creative and also about the present shift to what he called a "weightless economy". I think what he meant by this is that you don't have to be in London now to succeed in the creative industries. He spoke about digital and global entertainment. People are asked searching questions which helped us to understand a bit more about our local film and media. The picture (excuse the pun) was mixed in the Northeast. Like a good painter Tom did not "gloss" over the difficult times ahead. Are people more creative when times are tough? Discuss.



Tom Harvey & Glyn

**"Old Steelmakers Never  
Die They Just Loose  
Their Temper"**

**Trade Unions: Living in the Past?  
or Striking for a Better Future?**

Kevin Rowan was a speaker at our Breakfast Conversation which discussed the modern role of trade unions. Kevin is the TUC Regional Secretary. Kevin is well known in the region and has a vast amount of experience in workplace activities. The conversation was superb and discussion as you can imagine very lively. Kevin was an open and provocative speaker who helped dispel some of the old myths about unions. We are fortunate to have people such as Kevin working for our region.

## Swearing at Work?

Wayne Rooney thinks it's alright to swear at work. When is it acceptable to swear at work?

## Strategy for Retirement

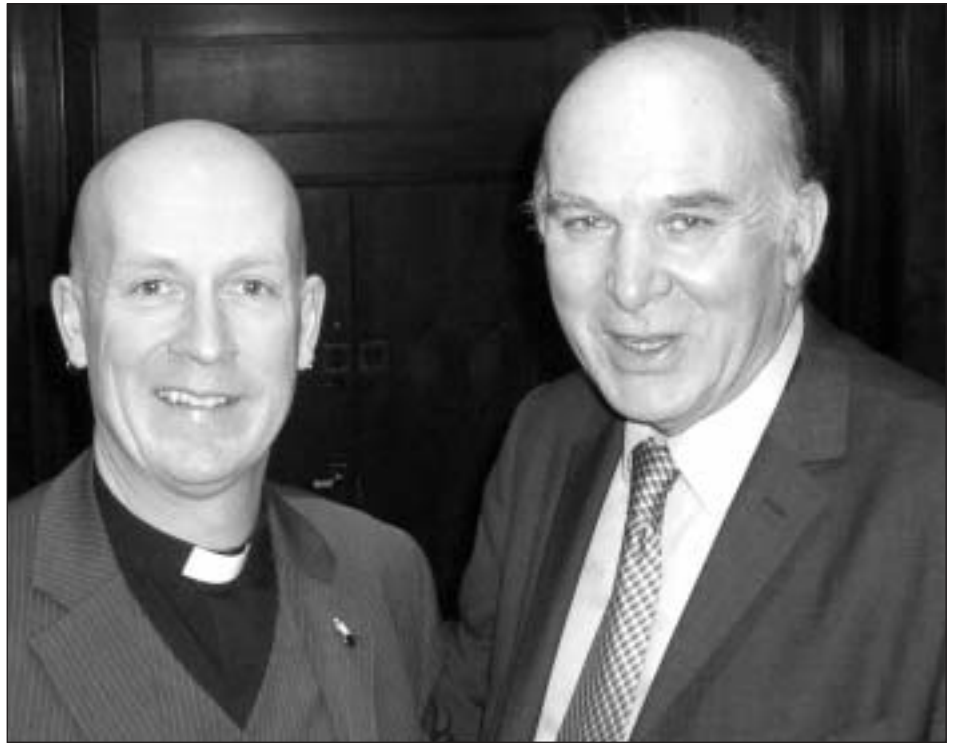
We recently read an article about ten ways to find your purpose and meaning in retirement. We think they are a good idea anytime. They are: Refocus your life, increase your social circle, plan events, prioritise health, stay in shape, join a cause, increase your knowledge, update your looks, explore your dreams and maintain a youthful attitude.

## God Laughs Too

We recently saw the bus that atheists had put the slogan on 'There's probably no God enjoy yourself'. We thought it was a Carlsberg advert. Anyway we believe God laughs. On September 29th Glyn will be taking part in a Comedy Night at the Hyena Café to show how people of faith can laugh at themselves.

## Service of Celebration on the Mall

On Wednesday 12th October at 6.00pm on St Andrew's Mall in Eldon Square we will be holding a celebration of 35 years since Eldon Square was opened and the Chaplaincy founded. Please put this date in the diary.



Glyn recently spoke to Vince Cable and told him about our work. Does he look impressed to you?

## 'The Nature of Work'

*Life can be a labour of greed or a labour of love. Nature shows us that if we compete with others our gain is at their expense, but that if we co-operate, we can benefit each other. This is the Law of Help. We all need to help each other; because sometimes we are weak, and sometimes we are strong, sometimes our efforts are rewarding by success, sometimes by failure. This variegation in each of us reflects our personality and is the most precious form of beauty revealed in the daily work of our hands and minds.*

(JOHN RUSKIN)



The opening of St Andrew's Mall named after St Andrew's Church

## Prayer

Pray for the unemployed,  
for industrial mission,  
for those whose work is exploited.  
For those who have no work,  
and those who have too much;  
for work that is meaningful and shared;  
for a society where people are valued for themselves.  
In the name of God of work and rest.  
Amen.

(Kathy Galloway)

They are fools that fear to loose their wealth by giving, but fear not to loose themselves by keeping it.

(JOHN TRAPP 1601)

## Newcastle United Chaplaincy at last

The Revd Glyn Evans after many years of waiting was recently appointed Newcastle United Chaplain with a special role at the Academy. Mr Jimmy Nelson (Head of Education) and Joe Joyce (Head Coach) asked Glyn to help out the young players and their education. Glyn who has written hymns about Newcastle United and won Barclaycard Premiership Fan of the Month is happy as Larry with this new chaplaincy



Glyn and Jimmy Nelson



Revd. Lyn Jamison and Revd. Rob Hinton

## Workplace devotion beneficial, says IBE

Employers whose faith and religious practices are treated sensitively by their employers are more productive at work, new research for the Institute of Business Ethics (IBE) suggests.

The report, *Religious Practices in the Workplace*, published this week, found that there are tangible financial benefits for organisations that create a “faith-friendly” workplace.

The author of the report, Simon Webley, research director of IBE, said “Employees do not leave their religious beliefs at the entrance to their place of work: it is integral to their lives. A positive approach to these matters not only deters adverse publicity and exposure to legal cases; it also enhances harmonious relations at work”.

The Chartered Management Institute found that having a company wide policy on religious practices in the workplace improved staff morale, recruitment, and retention, gave the company a positive public image, and had financial benefits.

*The IBE report is available from [www.ibe.org.uk](http://www.ibe.org.uk)*

## Doing Business with God and the Wealthy

Revd Rob Hinton spoke to our recent Retail Chaplains Network about his new role in Leeds City Centre. Like our chaplaincy Rob seeks through the ‘Ministry to Business Initiative’ to help churches reawaken the relationship with business in the city in creating new and significant partnerships. Interestingly Rob seeks to minister to the rich and senior staff. Many new chaplaincies are springing up around the country. We try to meet to share insights and good practise on a regular basis. *(There’s a joke in here somewhere).*

Every time you smile at someone it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing.

(MOTHER TERESA)

## What makes you happy?

*The government's National Wellbeing Project intends to establish an index on 'happiness'.*

How happy are you? Very happy? Quite happy- considering the circumstances? Not very happy at all? Miserable? Don't really know? Please tick one.

The idea that GDP might not be a very good measure of a country's success, or for the matter, how its people feel about life, was very eloquently addressed by the late Robert Kennedy at the University of Kansas on March 18, 1968, three months before his assassination.

In an inspiring speech, now quoted often and at a length by David Cameron, "GDP measures neither our wit nor our courage; neither our wisdom nor our learning; neither our compassion nor our devotion to our country; it measures everything, in short, except that which makes life worthwhile."

Still not sure if measuring it, will make it happen. What do you think?



Alan Carr seems to make Glyn happy!

"Technology...the knack of so arranging the world that we need not experience it"

MAX FRISCH

How much do they charge pirates for piercings? A, buck an ear!

Did you realise the reason pirates wore gold earrings was that the gold paid for their funeral. Fancy that.

## New Chaplains and Placements

It is always a pleasure to welcome people on placement or as new chaplains. Please enquire if you are interested. At present Rowena Ashworth is on placement from St Giles in Durham.



## Some of our other Chaplains:



Alfhild Weborne



Dave Bennett



Deacon Eunice Attwood



Duncan Murray



Keith Morley



Norma Smith



Rev. Ed. Fletcher



Michael Bushby

# Newcastle City Centre Chaplaincy: Who we are & what we do.

The following explanation of our work has changed very little in 35 years and will give you an insight to our role and purpose. We realise this does not encompass all we do and may not answer all your questions. In fact part of our job is to ask questions and sometimes awkward ones. Our work is always open to change and challenge so please feel free to contact us at anytime.

The Chaplaincy was established in 1976 as an ecumenical venture supported by the City Centre Churches of all denominations; it is based at St. Andrews Church Annexe, Newgate Street, Newcastle Upon Tyne. Its ministry is to the commuters who work in the city centre: in the shops and offices, departmental stores and banks, local government and many other places of work. The Chaplaincy is a charity and raises money for its work by various means.

## The Aims of the Chaplaincy.

1. To learn the nature of commerce, business and other City based institutions and to understand the effects of City working life on individuals and on groups.
2. To share the insights of Christian belief and faith in the life and stresses of the City centre.
3. To minister to the needs of individuals and groups within the City.
4. To work with others toward a more humane society.

## General Approach.

The Chaplain is neither a part of Management nor Staff nor Union but is present only at the invitation of all concerned. The Chaplain's role is ecumenical and it should be apparent that the chaplain is not acting for any single denomination and is aware of our multi-faith context.

## The Role of the Chaplain.

From what is written above, it will be apparent that the Chaplain's role is not so much to be seen in "talking religion" as in supporting and encouraging the fullest involvement with everyday life, in a creative and positive way. We operate in three principal areas and at all levels:

1. Departmental stores, shops and retail organisations.
2. Business generally, including the business professions and financial institutions.
3. Local government, in particular the Civic Centre and the public services such as the Police.

The work includes:

- (a) Visiting stores on a regular basis and other places of business as opportunity affords. Talking with and listening to people. These visits include Eldon Square, John Lewis, Monument Mall, the Theatre Royal, Newcastle Building Society, the Civic Centre, Nexus, The Gate, and the Emergency Services.
- (b) Taking part in training courses such as Equality and

- Diversity. Membership of policy discussion groups.
- (c) Establishing and maintaining a presence within organisations that are a part of the City's business and commercial life.
- (d) Creating opportunities for people to meet informally across the boundaries of their own occupations.
- (e) Arranging discussion groups at the Chaplaincy and elsewhere to share ideas on specific issues of common interest.
- (f) Fostering interest among Christians of all denominations and supporting them. Working with people of other faiths. Asking how does my faith relate to my work?
- (g) Co-operating with others in arranging conferences or other meetings for the benefit of commerce and industry.
- (h) Caring for people in need from the City Centre and providing them with practical help. We have worked on projects involved with homeless people, ex drug users and prostitution in the city.
- (i) Addressing organisations and other interested groups on the work of the Chaplaincy and we're not boring promise.

## Management Committee and Trustees.

This is a group of people involved in the life of the City Centre; its role is supportive and advisory, but also includes assistance in finding sources of finance.

If you want to contact us please do so on

Tel: 0191 232 7935

Email; [banana@nccc.me.uk](mailto:banana@nccc.me.uk)

Website: [www.nccc.me.uk](http://www.nccc.me.uk)

Newcastle City Centre Chaplaincy

The Parish Church of St Andrew,

Newgate Street,

Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 5SS

## 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.ibe.org.uk](http://www.ibe.org.uk) – Institute of Business Ethics

[www.scruples.org](http://www.scruples.org) – Scruples

the Workplace

[www.cis.org.uk/](http://www.cis.org.uk/) – Christians in Science

[www.buynothing.co.uk](http://www.buynothing.co.uk) – A movement to look at our buying habits

[www.stpaulscathedral.org.uk](http://www.stpaulscathedral.org.uk) – St. Paul's Institute that looks at ethical issues at work

[www.christiansatwork.org.uk](http://www.christiansatwork.org.uk) – E-broadcasts on work themes

[www.licc.org.uk](http://www.licc.org.uk) – Finding faith at work