

### WELCOME

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the UKBHC's Newsletter. As we hold to our commitment to making three newsletters available throughout the year, we hope you will continue to find these informative and helpful. Please let us know if you have any comments or suggestions for future editions.

### UKBHC AGM 2011

The UKBHC has a policy of moving its AGM throughout the UK and this year we go to Northern Ireland. The 2011 AGM will take place at 2pm on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September in Grosvenor House, Belfast. Grosvenor House - 5 Glengall Street, Belfast, BT12 5AD - is directly opposite the front entrance of the Europa Bus Centre and round the corner from the Europa Hotel. Anyone planning to attend should contact Derek Johnston by 16<sup>th</sup> September at [nihca@chaplains.c.uk](mailto:nihca@chaplains.c.uk) so that appropriate arrangements can be made. There are direct and regular bus services from both Aldergrove International airport and Belfast City airport to Belfast city centre. Relevant papers for the AGM will be accessible through the website. The 2012 AGM is planned for Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2012 and will be held in Birmingham.

### WEBSITE

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

### 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](http://www.ahpcc.org.uk)
- College of Health Care Chaplains (CHCC): [www.healthcarechaplains.org](http://www.healthcarechaplains.org)
- NI Healthcare Chaplains' Association (NIHCA): [www.nihca.co.uk](http://www.nihca.co.uk)
- Scottish Association of Chaplains in Healthcare (SACH): [www.sach.org.uk](http://www.sach.org.uk)

### SACH AGM

The AGM of SACH will be held in Carberry Towers, by Edinburgh, on the evening of Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2011. Further details are on the SACH website.

### AHPCC

Steve Barnes, AHPCC President, writes: 'The annual AHPCC conference, 'Sustaining the Vision', was held in Swanwick in mid-May, and focussed on pastoral theology and reflective practice. The keynote speakers were Michael Paterson and David Lyall. There's some keen new blood on the exec committee; Steve Barnes continues as President and Caroline McAfee as Treasurer; Judy Davies is our new Secretary; Ian Stirling, Conference Organiser; with other members fulfilling an assortment of representative roles. Michael Rattenbury is to be taking our Website in hand. There have been a number of requests for book reviews, participation in radio and TV documentaries, and prompts from the Government's current focus on 'End of Life Care'. Every so often the issue of assisted dying has to be addressed. Lots to keep us thinking.'

### CHCC NEWS

The CHCC annual study conference takes place from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September 2011 in the University of East Anglia, when the theme will be *Spiritual Care: A Public Theology for the 21st Century?*

### A full programme

On Day 1, Debbie Hodge, Free Church Secretary for Health Care Chaplaincy, will lead two sessions on 'Healthcare Chaplains: how do we know them?' On Day 2, Tom Gordon, Chair of the Chaplaincy Training Advisory Group in Scotland, will lead two sessions on 'Chaplaincy in 2011'. And, on Day 3, Wilf McSherry and Linda Ross will lead two sessions on 'Spiritual assessment'. In addition, there will be time for workshops, sharing and worship. The conference will also include the CHCC AGM. Further details are on the CHCC website.

## NIHCA NEWS

Details of presentations at the NIHCA's recent AGM are available on their website. In addition, the following might be of interest.

### Office-bearers

Following the AGM, the Officers of the Association for 2011/12 are: President, Fr Gerard Fox; Secretary, Rev Jennifer McWhirter; Treasurer, Rev Jack Moore; Director of Training, Rev Derek Johnston.

### Hospital visitors' course

In conjunction with Edgehill Theological College, Adult Christian Education, NIHCA plan to run their fifth hospital visitors' course at Edgehill College, Belfast, from Thurs 22nd September to Thurs 1st December. The course facilitators are Rev Jennifer McWhirter (Secretary NIHCA and Diocesan trainer), Rev Derek Johnston (Director of Training NIHCA and Lead Chaplain, Belfast HSC Trust) and Mrs Louise Wilson (Training and Development Officer, Edgehill College). The course is aimed at lay people who are interested in hospital visitation, either within the local church or chaplaincy context, or who already visit hospitals as part of their church responsibilities. Closing date for applications is 31st August. Further information and an application form from: Mrs Kay Irvine, College Administrator Edgehill Theological College, 9 Lennoxvale, Belfast, BT9 5BY. [ace@edgehillcollege.org](mailto:ace@edgehillcollege.org). Tel. 028 9068 6938

## PASTORAL SUPERVISION AND REFLECTIVE PRACTICE

Michael Paterson, co-author with Jane Leach of *'Pastoral Supervision: a handbook'* (SCM 2010) and one of the founders of APSE (The Association of Pastoral Supervisors and Educators) is leading a course entitled 'Skills in Pastoral Supervision and Reflective Practice' in the Gillis Centre in Edinburgh ([www.gilliscentre.org.uk](http://www.gilliscentre.org.uk)) from 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> September 2011. The course - 3 days/2 overnights - will involve teaching input, skills practice, group reflection/supervision, peer reflection/supervision.



### A deeper reflection

This practical course is designed for people of faith who want to reflect more deeply on their own work and ministry and enhance competence and confidence in supervising others or in facilitating reflective practice. It aims for each participant to experience group supervision and reflection which is rooted in prayer and scripture; practise key skills in supervising and/or reflecting with individuals and groups; develop their own style of supervising and/or facilitating

### Underpinning

The course content will include: identifying the vision underpinning our work and ministry; listening to God through prayer and Scripture, head and heart; creative approaches to eliciting the stories people bring from their work; techniques for encouraging reflective practice; bringing 'theological reflection' alive; unconscious processes at work in supervision and in ministry; common issues raised in supervision and reflection (change, conflict, interpersonal tensions etc).

### Possible applications

Commenting on the purpose of the course, Michael says: 'The course is ideally suited to healthcare chaplains and others associated with our work. Participants will gain skills in facilitating verbatim or reflective practice groups, and well as gaining confidence in energising team meetings through a wider repertoire of interventions. In addition, it is hoped that the course will lead to an improvement in ability to supervise trainees or students on placement and in the setting up of peer supervision or reflective practice groups.'



### Further details

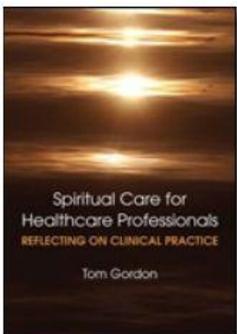
The course fee is £280 per head. This includes course materials, tuition, supervision, refreshments and lunch on all three days, but does not include accommodation or travel costs. For bookings and enquiries, contact Michael Paterson at 113a High Street, Cockenzie, East Lothian. EH32 0DQ, or by email at [michael@michaelpaterson.org.uk](mailto:michael@michaelpaterson.org.uk)

## FOR HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

Three members of the UKBHC Board, Tom Gordon, Ewan Kelly and David Mitchell, have collaborated on a new text-book resource, *Spiritual Care for Healthcare Professionals: reflecting on clinical practice*. (ISBN 9781846194559) The book is due for publication by Radcliffe Publishers in August and will be officially launched in October/November in Glasgow University.

### Accessible and relevant

The publisher suggests: 'This accessible and highly relevant book surveys [recent spiritual care] statements, guidelines and standards and equips healthcare professionals with the knowledge, skills and competence to provide the essence of spiritual care within their professional practice. Practical and evidence-based, this manual proves that delivery of good, professional spiritual care can build on intuitive human skills, and can be taught, learned, assessed and quantified. It gives readers the opportunity ... to assess and improve their understanding, skills and clinical practice ...'



### Grounded in Clinical Practice

With a foreword by Stephen Thornton, Chief Executive, Health Foundation, *Spiritual Care for Healthcare Professionals* grounds spiritual care in clinical practice. Aimed at all healthcare professionals, it can be used by individual practitioners for continuing professional development as well as by academic staff developing educational programmes.

### Contents

Contents include: The art of spiritual care; Communication issues and skills; Competence; Assessing and responding to spiritual needs; Disentangling spiritual and religious care; The complexities of spiritual care; Ethics and values; Loss, grief and bereavement; The personal impact of spiritual care; Nurturing our spiritual selves; The institution and staff; The unique role of the chaplain. Copies are available at [www.radcliffe-oxford.com](http://www.radcliffe-oxford.com) or directly from the authors.

## THE SCOTTISH SCENE

Plans are in place, under-pinned by the Scottish Government, for a major multi-disciplinary international conference on spiritual care in the Beardmore Conference Centre in Clydebank on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012. The conference, *Meeting Spiritual Needs: Enhancing Wellbeing, Improving Outcome*, will have as keynote speakers: George Fitchett (Longstanding Chaplaincy Researcher USA), Harvey Chochinov (Mindfulness in Palliative Care, Canada), Scott Murray (Spiritual Distress and Disease Trajectories, Scotland), Harriet Mowatt (Patient Outcome & Cost Effectiveness - Community Chaplaincy Listening, Scotland). Other international speakers from a variety of disciplines will be invited to lead workshops.

### Workshops and poster presentations

There will be an opportunity soon to submit a workshop or poster abstract so that chaplains and other healthcare professionals may present their research and best practice to an international gathering. Ewan Kelly, programme director for chaplaincy in Scotland, suggests, 'This conference will enhance the standing of spiritual care in healthcare provision. It will bring together internationally-renowned leaders in this field, as well as offering an opportunity to showcase good professional practice in the UK.' For further information, please make contact with: [anne.Richardson@nes.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:anne.Richardson@nes.scot.nhs.uk).

## CAMBRIDGE THEOLOGICAL FEDERATION

News comes to us of an MA in Pastoral Theology running at Cambridge. There are two key courses which are distinctive for Chaplains: *Healthcare Chaplaincy* (A426), a taught-module; and *Pastoral Reflective Practice in Healthcare Chaplaincy* (A427), a blend of a practical placement, pastoral reflection and guided reading.

### More information

Further details and information can be accessed at: [www.theofed.cam.ac.uk/courses.html](http://www.theofed.cam.ac.uk/courses.html), or from Lisa Saunders (Administrator), The Chaplaincy Centre, Box 105, Addenbrookes Hospital, Hills Road, Cambridge. CB2 0QQ. Telephone: 01223 217769; and e-mail: [chaplaincy@addenbrookes.nhs.uk](mailto:chaplaincy@addenbrookes.nhs.uk).

## VOLUNTEERS

Mark Stobert, President of CHCC, has been working on paper concerning chaplaincy visitors and volunteers. The paramount concerns are competence and safety for patients and carers, and that the standard of delivery of service is held appropriately within the chaplaincy province. The issues raised in this helpful paper will be taken forward, particularly in respect of the need for clarity of definitions and roles, and will be processed appropriately forthcoming months.

## ADVISERS

Further work is being done on the establishment of a 'Reference Panel' in the area of advisers for healthcare chaplaincy appointments. This process has the blessing of the Department of Health, and the funding will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011. Work will continue through the co-ordination of the panel and the advisers and the setting up of a process that is both robust and accountable.

### The Reference Panel

The reference panel will report as its work unfolds, and, through its lead officer for its Professional Advisers strand – the capable hands of Malcolm Masterman - the UKBHC will continue to be fully focussed on and engaged with this issue.

## THE GOVERNANCE OF THE BOARD

The Board has been giving thought to firming-up its structures as it moves from an 'interim' to a 'final' form. This is informed by our discussions with the CHRE, and the constitution of the Board should be appropriate to the proposed regulatory processes. It is clear that the Board is 'on a journey' and that the future shape of the Board may have to be further developed. The Board considers that its structure and its work should be appropriate, realistic and transparent.

### Revised constitution

With this in mind, the Board has appointed a sub-group to review its constitution so that its structures might appropriately reflect its progress in recent times, as well as current circumstances and future aspirations. It is hoped that a revised constitution might be presented in its entirety at the AGM.

## MFGHC

The UKBHC appreciates its on-going contact with the Multi-Faith Group on Healthcare Chaplaincy (MFGHC) and looks forward to the deepening of a working relationship around matters of mutual interest and concern.

## CHRE

The UKBHCC continues to work with the Council for Healthcare Regulatory Excellence (CHRE) and values the on-going involvement in discussions concerning 'Standards for Voluntary Registers' and what a suitable accreditation scheme might be for assured voluntary registers. The Board hopes to report on progress on these discussions in the near future.



council for  
healthcare  
regulatory  
excellence

## OUR ON-GOING WORK

There are different perceptions of the role of chaplains in healthcare. Some would confine a spiritual dimension to religion alone and dismiss 'the God squad' as an irrelevance and an intrusion. But when our spiritual care is seen as integral to the well-being of all our patients, carers and staff, then the chaplain's role is widened into an undershadowing of wholeness.



### Spiritual care in context

In that context, chaplaincy deserves more than to be stopped at the front-desk. Whether service delivery relates to religion or wider facets of spiritual care and wholeness, such care is fundamental to all of healthcare provision.

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