

NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2010

WELCOME

This is the 3rd edition of the UKBHC's Newsletter and the final one for 2010. We hope you will find this pre-Christmas Newsletter helpful. We plan to issue a further three editions in 2011. If you have any comments or questions about our Newsletters, or if you have any matter you would like to have included, please be in touch.



AGM 2010

The UKBHC AGM took place in Edinburgh on Tuesday 28th September 2010. Minutes of the AGM are on the website, as are details of the annual Accounts. The 2011 AGM will be held in Northern Ireland, continuing our policy of taking the AGM to different parts of the UK. The provisional date is Wednesday 28th September 2011 in Grosvenor House, Belfast.

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.

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD

Unfortunately, due to weather conditions the December meeting of the Board was cancelled. Minutes of Board meetings, along with future dates, are posted on the website.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The revision of the Professional Code of Conduct is now complete, and the final document is now on the website. We are pleased to note that the NI Minister for Health will be officially endorsing the Code for NI at a launch on 9th February 2011.

FITNESS TO PRACTICE

The Board has agreed that a 'Fitness to Practice' policy is required. A draft is being prepared, and this will be finalised when the Board next meets.

CPD

The CPD Portfolio is being revised, and a sample copy will be placed on the website to help with greater awareness and understanding of CPD issues and the use of the portfolio. More detailed notes are being written on what qualifies for CPD and the points system. The new forms of CPD summary which are being placed on the website require to be returned by 31st January 2011.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Training and education opportunities are available on the UKBHC website and the websites of the member groups. Courses highlighted are:

Leeds: Chris Swift –

chris.swift@leedsth.nhs.uk;

Cardiff: Andrew Todd -

andrew.todd@stmichaels.ac.uk

Cambridge: Derek Fraser -

derek.fraser@addenbrookes.nhs.uk

Glasgow: David Mitchell -

david.mitchell@glasgow.ac.uk

Introductory course

The Board is also currently exploring what might be recommended as the overall content of an introductory course in healthcare chaplaincy. At present, discussions are focusing on:

- an awareness of health and spirituality;
- the models of healthcare chaplaincy;
- chaplaincy standards;
- chaplaincy competences;
- DoH guidance and directives;
- the professional Code of Conduct;
- an awareness of career progression;
- evidence-based chaplaincy;
- an awareness of chaplaincy resources;
- the responsibilities of employer, accrediting group, regulator, etc.

Further information and documentation will be made available when the exploratory work has been completed.

UKBHC LAY MEMBERS

Continuing to work through its transitional arrangements, two new lay-members have been appointed to serve on the Board – Lyn McIntyre and Martin Bradley (see below), their appointments having been confirmed at the AGM. They have already made a significant contribution to the Board's work, and we look forward to the gifts of insight, knowledge and commitment they will continue to offer.



LYN MCINTYRE

Lyn's began her nursing career in 1978 when she trained as a general nurse in Gloucester and then as a Registered Mental Nurse in 1990. She has worked across many healthcare settings - acute psychiatry, forensic nursing, mother and baby services and eating disorder services - across the region. Her areas of responsibility have included career and competency development for all grades of unregistered and registered staff; pre and post registration nurse training; Vulnerable Adults; and periods of acting up into the Chief Nurse Executive role. These roles involved considerable work with the Nursing & Midwifery Council and Royal College of Nursing to ensure that care was delivered to the highest standard.

Secondment

In 2009 she was seconded to NHS East of England as Interim Lead for Maternity and Neonatal Services across the region, until April 2010 when she was appointed initially as the Deputy Head and from September as the Head of Clinical Quality and Patient Safety (Interim). Throughout she career Lyn has remained passionate about nursing and care delivered to patients. This has involved ensuring that both pre and post registration staff are appropriately trained and developed to ensure that they have the skills in order to deliver safe care to patients.

Working with chaplains

Lyn says, *'I have always worked closely with the Chaplaincy Service, firstly in mental health by co-facilitating patient small groups with the Chaplain and being responsible for the co-ordination and review of trainees. I found that the role of chaplaincy was very important in a mental health setting. This relationship continued in my work at*

Addenbrookes, where we worked together to ensure the mental well-being of staff, particularly those going through difficult life events at home or within the workplace. I am greatly looking forward to my work with the UKBHC and this opportunity for continuing involvement with chaplains and their important work.'

MARTIN BRADLEY

Professor Martin Bradley is the Chief Nursing Officer in Northern Ireland's Department of Health, Social Service and Public Safety. Prior to taking up this post in November 2005, he was Director of the Royal College of Nursing, Northern Ireland. His background is in general and psychiatric nursing, nurse education, and public health administration in the Health and Social Services. He is a mentor for the King's Fund Nurse Leadership programme, and a member of the Florence Nightingale Foundation and the Florence Nightingale Museum. He is a past member of the UK Central Council for Nurses and Midwives, a former member of the BBC Broadcasting Council and Vice-Chair of the Northern Ireland Association for Mental Health.

Departmental responsibilities

Within the Department, he chairs the Serious Adverse Incident Group. With the Chief Medical Officer he co-chairs the "Confidence in Care" project group and leads the working groups on Professional Regulation and Stakeholder involvement. He currently chairs the All Ireland Cancer Nurses group; has a particular interest in community development, public health, targeting health and social need, primary care and practice development; is a visiting Professor of Nursing at the University of Ulster; was made a Fellow of the Royal College of Nursing in 2000 for his services to Nurse Education and Higher Education; and in 2007 was invited by the Commonwealth Secretariat to address the Commonwealth Conference in Uganda on "Health-Realising the Potential." He is married with two children.

Commitment to chaplaincy

Martin tells us, *'I am grateful for the invitation to serve on the UKBHC, and I look forward to offering something of my experience to the development of chaplaincy and a useful perspective from the Northern Ireland Health and Social Care context.'*

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Glasgow University & NHS Education for Scotland (NES) recently hosted an event to celebrate the development and delivery of the Postgraduate Certificate in Healthcare Chaplaincy.



Student, mentor and staff representatives pose in the grand setting of the Turnbull Room, Glasgow University.

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

EUROPEAN NETWORK

The biennial consultation of the European Network of Health Care Chaplains took place in London in September 2010, and proved to be an excellent celebration of 20 years of the Network's important contribution to chaplaincy in Europe. Further details from the network's website: www.eurochaplains.org or from Debbie Hodge by e-mail at: debbie.hodge@cte.org.uk.

MFGHC

The Board welcomes the appointment of Debbie Hodge as the new CEO of the Multi-Faith Group for Healthcare Chaplaincy, and looks forward to continued dialogue with her and the MFGHC.

CONVERSATIONS

The Board continues to have constructive conversations with Church communities and faith groups, and works with DoH officials in England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, seeking to enhance good relationships with all who are committed to healthcare chaplaincy and the welfare of chaplains and their colleagues.

The Bishop of Carlisle

In this regard the Board is pleased to note the recent announcement by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York of the appointment of the Bishop of Carlisle, The Rt Revd James Newcome, as lead bishop on healthcare issues, and welcomes their statement: *'This appointment reflects the importance which the Church of England gives to healthcare as a national priority and the significance of physical, mental and spiritual care for the good of all.'*

THE ON-GOING WORK OF UKBHC

There is always the concern that spirituality and, therefore, the delivery of good spiritual care and the integration of good chaplaincy provision, is considered peripheral to holistic healthcare provision. As a consequence - especially in a climate of scarce resources and cut-backs - chaplaincy can easily be seen as a 'soft option', and open to threat.



More than a special interest

Our task, therefore, is to continue to communicate what we believe - that spirituality isn't merely a 'special interest', to be fitted in if it is deemed to be necessary or if it can be afforded. Its efficacy must be open to scrutiny, and its methodologies open to further research and improvement. But we are not in the 'niche' business. We are integral to all that health-care stands for. We are proud to play our part in that.

GOOD WISHES FOR 2011



The UKBHC offers everyone best wishes for Christmas, and every blessing for 2011. Thank you for all your support. Here's to a good year ahead!

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