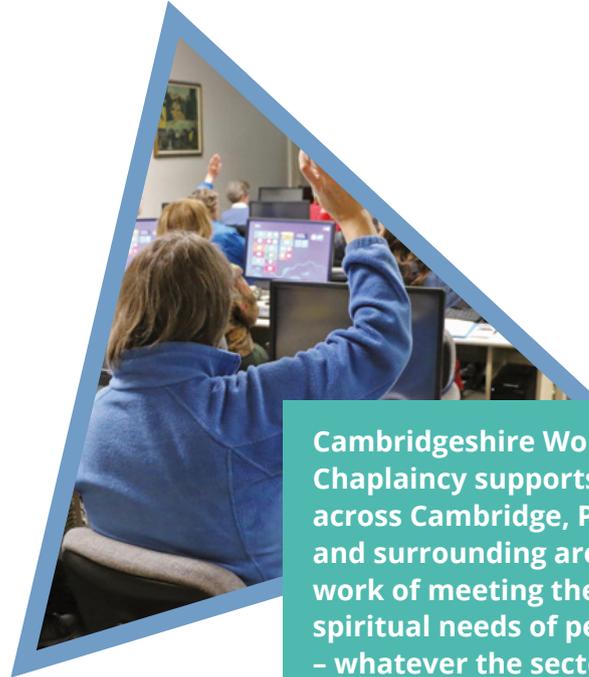




# CAMBRIDGESHIRE WORKPLACE CHAPLAINCY

MEETING THE PASTORAL AND SPIRITUAL  
NEEDS OF THE WORKPLACE ACROSS  
CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH



Cambridgeshire Workplace Chaplaincy supports Chaplains across Cambridge, Peterborough and surrounding areas in their work of meeting the pastoral and spiritual needs of people in work – whatever the sector.

To develop, support and promote the value of Chaplaincy in the workplace; and recognise:

- The value of every human being;
- The human need to care for others;
- The belief that we should love our neighbours as ourselves.



## CHAPLAINCY TO THE EAST ANGLIAN AIR AMBULANCE (EAAA) CAMBRIDGE BASE

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I was appointed Chaplain to the Cambridge EAAA base in July 2019. The Norwich base had a Chaplain, but there was no one offering this service in Cambridge, and following an approach to me, I met with the CEO and was welcomed to the team.

My role is developing slowly – we have set up a meeting between the two Chaplains and the CEO to explore how we can develop the Chaplaincy service further, but there has been plenty of support and encouragement, and a warm welcome on the most part, some indifference, but no hostility, which is great for me!

I usually try to spend a couple of hours each week at the base – timing my visit to coincide with the shift change as it means I get to see two teams in the one visit. A team will normally comprise two pilots and three medical staff. It also makes it interesting being around for the briefing. There are a few office staff I get to see as well.

Alongside the two bases, there is a fundraising office at Melbourn, which I hope to get to visit periodically, but haven't made it as yet!

There are not many opportunities to really have meaningful conversations in the operations room due to the nature of the layout, but this issue will form part of our thinking when we discuss developing the roles.

In terms of the work, every call out for the crew is life or death in reality; I have spoken to a couple of people – a pilot and the cameraman from the TV show that follows the crew, and both independently expressed the view that they anticipate they may have some Post Traumatic Stress that will hit them at some point in the future because of the nature of some of the things they have had to witness.

The challenge remains how we as Chaplains can best serve the crew and staff as they work in this highly pressured environment, facing trauma at every call out. Your prayers are appreciated.

” **REVD. STUART WOOD**

## CHAPLAINCY IN THE POLICE FORCE



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The Chaplaincy Team for Cambridgeshire Constabulary exists to support all members of the force across our county, including Peterborough.

Our role as police Chaplains is to provide safe, independent and confidential support to everyone, whether or not they have a religious faith. We aim to offer personal, practical and spiritual care to police officers, police staff and their families. We do this by visiting our local police stations regularly to get to know staff and build relationships of trust and friendship. We also assist with events such as award ceremonies and memorial services.

The Chaplaincy Team offers operational support to our local police service by providing a resource where faith and operational issues interact, and by facilitating and developing links between communities and the police. If called upon, we will respond to major and critical incidents helping to support emergency services personnel and assisting community recovery.

At present we have a team of eight volunteer Chaplains serving police stations in Huntingdon, St Neots, Ely, Wisbech, Sawston, Cambourne, Parkside (Cambridge) and Force HQ (Huntingdon). All our Chaplains are trained and experienced in pastoral care, and we represent differing denominational and faith traditions.

Modern day policing is both complex and demanding. Police work, by its very nature, can be stressful and challenging, at times even de-humanising. Whatever their rank, it can be helpful for officers to have someone outside the force to talk to about their thoughts and feelings, whatever their personal faith or beliefs. Police Chaplains know how to listen well, showing interest in police work and offering friendship or support when it is needed.

Over the past six months our ministry has included supporting individual police officers and staff as they encountered workplace pressures, family bereavements or major health challenges. Recently, we have been working in partnership with the Force's Health & Wellbeing Strategy to set up rooms at several stations offering staff a quiet space for reflection. Over the next few months we hope to add a set of faith-based resources to the room at Force HQ so it can also be used as a Prayer Room by anyone who wishes to.

” **REVD. DR LYNDA TAYLOR**





## MILL ROAD WORKPLACE CHAPLAINCY

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Mill Road Workplace Chaplaincy was launched in 2019. Mill Road is strategically situated with businesses, colleges and houses on the same street which makes it ideal for the purpose of Chaplaincy.

Since starting I have made great contacts with some of these businesses, colleges and people living along that street.

I offer a listening ear to all – whilst some are still learning to understand the role of a Chaplain, the idea of having someone to talk and open to, is slowly but surely being accepted and utilised. I now have people who come to my office when they need a chat instead of waiting for me to do my weekly visit.

Towards the end of 2019 I was also asked by one of the estate agents on Mill Road to send them a weekly quote which they use to encourage, motivate and inspire their customers via Facebook. I have since become a member of the Mill Road Traders Association because they asked me to be part of the group.

Sadly, there are several people situated in and around Mill Road who have mental health issues. Although my current Chaplaincy skills can and do help, I would also like to get further specialised training so I can learn to deal with those individuals better.

As I work on my own, my workplace Chaplaincy only covers some areas of Mill Road so ideally it would be great to have a team of about 2/3 Chaplains who could help me. That way we can cover more areas and be available to help on more days.

” **REVD. GILSEN GWENDU**



## CHAPLAINCY IN PETERBOROUGH



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As Chief Executive Officer of Light Project Peterborough and Chair of Peterborough Chaplaincy Forum I get to meet amazing Chaplains working in a range of settings across the city. From the hospital to the prison or council offices to local pubs many people are gently listening and providing a prayerful presence to those who want to talk.

Twice a year the Peterborough Chaplaincy Forum meets to encourage and inspire each other in the service of Chaplaincy. Stories of success are shared, prayers are made and input from such as Peterborough City Council and the Alliance of Town and City Chaplaincies is heard.

At the 2019 Peterborough Cathedral New Years Eve Service I was honoured to share some of the amazing work that Chaplains in Peterborough do and share such words as:

Meaningful encounters occur every day. It is a great privilege to be welcomed in to the deepest place in someone's life as a stranger and allowed to share with them in their experiences. Last week I was thanked for the care and love I had given to a young couple when one of their twin babies was still born two years ago. They spoke of me not ever being forgotten. This is very humbling. Helen, Lead Chaplain North West Anglia NHS Foundation Trust

I find that this is a wonderful opportunity to engage with people in a relaxed setting, encourage them to remember how loved they are by God and pray for their needs. It also helps me to stay focussed on the Lord amidst life's ups and downs. The Chaplaincy team are very supportive and encouraging to each other too. Rosemary, LPP City Centre Chaplain

I enjoy being part of the Chaplaincy Team because it is where God has led me to be. I am able to connect and empathise with staff and students, having previously worked at PRC and it enhances my own skills that I have developed over various different employment opportunities. Caroline, PRC and Anglia Ruskin University Chaplain

Please pray for our work in Peterborough, many people face really tough life challenges. A gentle listening ear and a light in the workplace – Chaplains are the active evidence of what is best in us all.

” STEVEN PETTICAN, CEO, LIGHT PROJECT PETERBOROUGH





## CHAPLAIN TO SWISS LAUNDRY

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I have always felt that regular visits by the Chaplain offered a very positive and valuable experience. They allow me to reflect for a moment on how my staff view the world and whether my own team and I are doing the right thing! I think I have tended to view the service as being my 'conscience'.

The service also allows for anonymous feedback on issues that are concerning staff. We work hard on it, but often a member of staff feels unable, or is unwilling, to share an issue with a colleague or line manager, whether about work or personal matters.

Our staff have been very appreciative of Paula. Even those who rarely speak to the Chaplain say that they realise the service provides comfort and a listening ear to members of staff who need it. The support from CWC has been hugely significant during recent months of change as the business has moved from long-occupied premises in Cambridge to a brand new, state of the art facility in Papworth Everard.

” GUY TURVILL CHAIRMAN

REVD. PAULA SPALDING



## PETERBOROUGH CITY COUNCIL

“

After less than a year as Chaplain at Peterborough City Council two words strike me: privilege and significance. Being appointed Chaplain and being permitted to be the Chaplain by the Council, are privileges which allow access into the lives of staff in order to try to help and encourage them in their daily lives.

Significance is found in even brief conversations. Often in the struggles of life staff need a listening ear and trust Chaplains to be that. Often after a quiet week or two there is an opportunity to help someone and have a significant conversation, which makes it all worthwhile.

” **REVD. BRIAN HENRY**





PHOTO CREDIT: ANDREW WILKINSON



# CHAPLAINCY TO ARTHUR RANK HOSPICE CHARITY CAMBRIDGE

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I am the Chaplain at the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity in Cambridge, I also lead the Patient and Family Support Team there which delivers Psychological, Spiritual and Social Care to our patients and their families.

On average I might visit one or two people a week in the community in their own homes as requested to give spiritual support, these are patients who are receiving care from our Hospice at Home or Specialist Palliative Care Community Nurse Service, these meetings are often followed up with further visits in the following weeks. In addition to this work I also care for those in Day Therapy or on the In-patient Unit in the hospice and several Chaplaincy volunteers also help with this aspect of the work.

My role is to enable each patient to explore some of the more difficult questions that they might face when they're coming to the end of their lives. Spirituality lies at the heart of who we are and often, we will end up talking about the bigger questions in life: for some people this may include theological issues and restoration of or encouragement in their faith, for others it might be an exploration of their feelings and thoughts at this stage in life.

For some patients, religious rites are also important at this time, so if this is something that would be helpful to them, we help fulfil those rites. If I'm able to do this as a Christian e.g. Holy Communion or Anointing then I will, but equally if they are not Christians then I help ensure they have access to ministers or visitors of their own faith.

I am also part of an on-call team of Chaplains along with the Chaplains at Addenbrookes Hospital, this usually requires a night on-call per week and a weekend every four or five weeks. Whoever is on-call is required to help patients and families in urgent spiritual need at the Hospice, in Addenbrookes and the Royal Papworth Hospital.

Many people are so grateful for the comfort they and their families receive at this difficult time, and I continue to be thankful that I am resourced to be able to continue to be part of the provision of this service which one way or another had over 1,400 contacts with patients last year.

” **REVD. KEITH MORRISON**



CAMBRIDGESHIRE  
**WORKPLACE**  
**CHAPLAINCY**

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