



SOWN NEWS

*Seeds of Faith Hope Joy and
Meaning in the World of Work*



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN
DERBYSHIRE

Promoting Workplace Ministry in Derbyshire

Quarterly Review October 2009

How are you finding SOWN News? SOWN stands for Spirituality Of Work Network. The newsletter is one means of connection for all who are interested in faith and work issues.

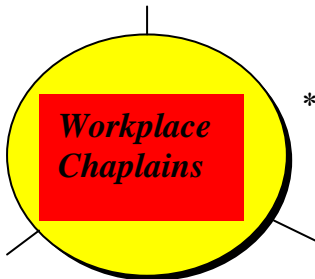
INSIDE THIS ISSUE >>

* "Money and Faith in a Material World" – Major featured article. Ian Yearsley addressing MSEs gathering



* "When Time Just Flies By" – EMOACT celebrates 10 years

* "Growing developments in retail chaplaincy" – featuring Swadlincote



* "Calling Workplace Chaplains"
Your chance to develop the people model.

Plus

Chaplaincy work - could you help?

>> *Work can mean anything that anybody does to make something happen. This is often thought of in terms of paid employment, but must also cover voluntary work as well as informal work.*

Spirituality is one of those amazing words that is only ever heard in certain circles, of which Christianity and Christian organisations and people is one such forum.

Am I in this network? As you have received a copy of SOWN News then, yes, you are.

SOWN News is circulated quarterly free to Church leaders and those who have previously expressed interest.

If you are receiving this through your Church and would to have issues sent directly, then please return the form on the back. Thank you.

This edition of SOWN News is being sent by post to those whose email addresses are not known to IMD. If you would prefer to receive editions by email in future, then please email to imd02@queenshall.plus.com to indicate this.

Church leaders > Please pass this on to your clergy and leaders and congregations. They may be interested in how faith and work relate to each other, and, in many cases, have a direct personal interest in the issues and face daily dilemmas.

- > Do your Churches ever discuss faith and work or hear sermons on the subject?
- > Would you like an IMD representative and/or chaplain to bring display boards and material and talk about this work?

IMD CHAPLAINCY NETWORK

Creating opportunities for, and supporting Chaplaincy in the City and County in manufacturing, retail, public service, health, education, agriculture and leisure and tourism

The chaplaincy network supported by Industrial Mission in Derbyshire covers various sectors of working life in the county.

“In recent years there has been an upsurge of interest in chaplaincy. It is rare not to find an advert for a post of some kind in the religious press. The range of chaplaincies has widened.....”

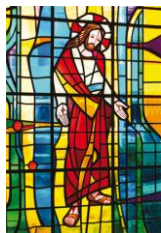


Thus writes Paul Ballard (Professor Emeritus, Cardiff University) in his article “Locating Chaplaincy” in the July-September **Crucible Magazine**.

“Moreover, chaplaincy activity attracts from a wider theological spectrum than has formerly been the case. A growing number of clergy and ministers are engaged in part-time work, and initiatives come from many quarters, some very locally sponsored.” Prof Ballard adds, noting “clear signs of an emerging theological and academic interest in the field.....”

The real force of his paper seems to lie in his call for a fresh look at how chaplaincy is situated within the Church:-

“Such ministries have, hitherto, usually been labelled ‘sector ministries’, as though chaplaincies only addressed a particular narrow facet of society, in contrast to the normative ministry of the congregation or parish. If, however, chaplaincy is of growing importance then it needs to be understood as having normative status and to be more firmly grounded, both theologically and structurally.”



If you would like to know more about chaplaincy work, please contact the Principal Chaplain, Rev'd Harold Dobbin on 01773 850398 or email principalch@derbyshirechaplaincies.org.uk

When Time Just Flies By!

On June 19th the East Midlands Airport Chaplaincy Team (EMACT) celebrated their 10th anniversary since establishment.

Rev'd Roy Monks (pictured right getting up – with fellow chaplains Rev'd Jane Micklethwaite and Father Michael Eastwood) is the one still serving chaplain from the 1999 founding team.



In his address “Reflection on Airport Ministry”, Father Anthony Dolan (of the original team) described Roy as being “as constant as the Northern Star.” He gave a number of anecdotal references to the nature and

character of chaplaincy at a busy airport. These are expanded upon in the report on the IMD website (details foot of page 3).

The Bishop of Leicester, Rt Rev'd Tim Stevens, led the chaplains in an act of rededication (right).



The service of thanksgiving and re-commitment was held in the Airport prayer room, one of the developments in the work over the last 10 years.



Afterwards the assembled people moved up to the boardroom, to eat, drink, chat, and see the team's display material. It took a lot of people - past and present chaplains, as well as Airport Chief Executive, Penny

Coates, 2nd left – to cut the cake! Yes, the food was worth celebrating!



These pictures, and more are on the IMD website.

Roll on the 20th!

Growing Developments in Retail Chaplaincy

In May the year, the Churches of Swadlincote launched the town centre chaplaincy, in the Shopmobility (below)



The service is available by telephone, email, or simply calling in at lunchtimes on Tuesdays – the market day.

The team consists of 8 people (2 on each Tuesday sitting) supported by 15 Churches from 6 denominations



The Westfield Centre in Derby has 2 chaplains – Rev'd Derek Beech and Tony Barson

Their leaflet and contact details are available from IMD (foot of page 3)

The IMD website recently highlighted the **Oastler Centre**, which shows retail chaplaincy operating in West Yorkshire

The Derby City Centre chaplaincy is under consideration. Further info to follow.

[Main feature this quarter] Money and Faith in a Material World

“For the love of money is root of all kinds of evil”, I Timothy 6v9, follows on from, “But Godliness with contentment is great gain”, in verse 6.

Christian people have always struggled to make sense of money and how it relates to faith. We have an idea that we need money in order to live in this world, and that we don't want to be greedy about it, especially given that others have nothing. We have an idea that public authorities require money to help people, but have lots of views about whether it is wisely used.

At a recent gathering of Derby Diocese's Ministers in Secular Employment (MSEs), Ian Yearsley, who is a consultant for IMD, spoke about money in relation to faith. It was extremely wide ranging, covering such things as:

the quantity of work that can be expected to be available for working lives

>> “We were going to work 47 hours a week for 47 weeks each year, for 47 years, and that works out to just over 100,000 hours. But, said Handy, changes in technologies, markets, working methods were going to mean that in future there would only be 50,000 hours work on offer for each of us.”

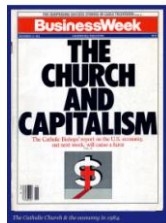


History of coinage and different kinds of currency >>

“There is a long history of devaluation of coinage by clipping the edges off also by rulers debasing the coinage by mixing cheaper metals....”. “So now neither our coins nor our paper money has any intrinsic value, only the value that we choose to give it”.

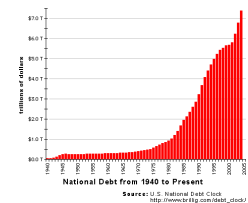
Biblical perspectives on money, debt cancellation, Sabbaths, and years of Jubilee >>

“Money is seen throughout Scripture as a means of exchange. This is emphasised by the prohibitions against the giving or taking of loans,....” “But any study of money in Biblical times will also take us into the provisions in relief of debt and the Sabbatical cycles of the seventh day, the day of rest, the seventh year when debts were cancelled and the year of Jubilee when land was returned to its ancestral owners.”



The early Church, wealth and poverty >> “It is interesting to note that for the early Fathers of the Church, wealth and poverty was probably the biggest moral problem they had to deal with, more important than peace and war.”

Banking, paper money, and the Bank of England >> “A large part of our taxation is spent therefore, not in providing public services, but in paying the interest on this ever-growing debt.”



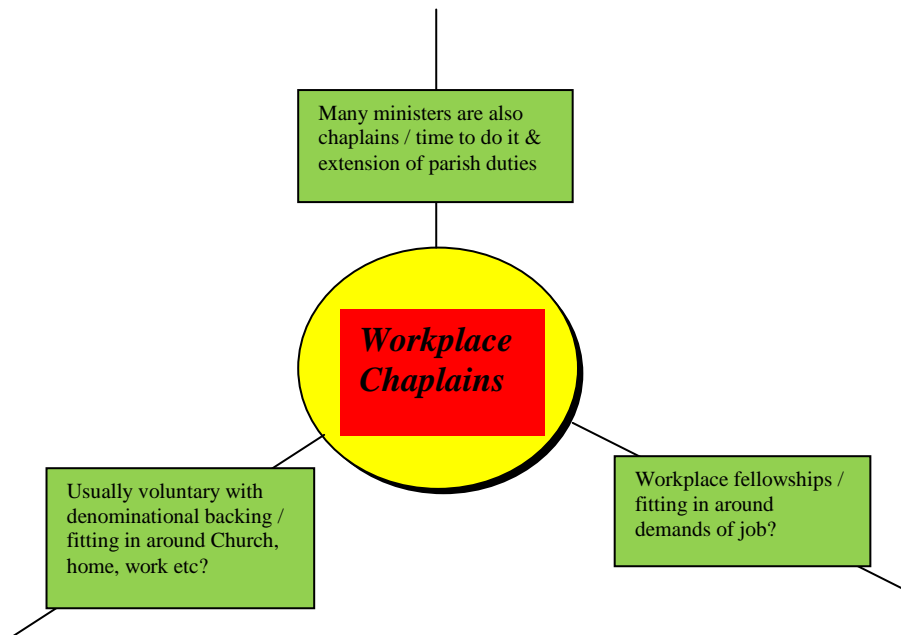
Challenge of applying prayer and preaching to work >> “It was very quickly apparent that the largest single slice of their time was devoted to their main employment, whether paid or unpaid. So, I would then say, can I take it from this that the largest single topic for prayer and preaching in your Churches is about the workplace?” “We may well pray for individuals caught up in the credit crunch, but not very often about the issues that underly that situation.”

Metanoia and our complicity in the state of things >> “Everyone believes in metanoia, in a change of direction, but not so many are prepared to accept it for themselves.”



Also - **The experience of redundancy** and **The Islamic system of non-usury banking.**

For the full talk see the IMD website (details below)



“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.” Colossians 3v23,24.

Calling Workplace Chaplains!

We need your help. Please could you take a few moments to try the following questions? Email or post to the editor (details foot of page 3). Thanks.

As Workplace Chaplains you relate to (and/or are yourself) those in the other bubbles.

- 1) Are you - a serving Church minister /a minister attending a Church congregation / a member of a Church congregation
- 2) Are you a voluntary chaplain / or employed at the workplace /financially assisted by Church or Christian organisation
- 3) Besides chaplaincy, do you participate in the workplace’s core activity? Yes / No
- 4) Is your chaplaincy work – part of your ministerial work / your employment / fitted around your own work commitments / part of your retirement
- 5) Does your chaplaincy work involve contact with Christians in the workplace / Christian groups in the workplace / workplace staff / workplace management / customers
- 6) Please describe, in your own words, what issues affect your chaplaincy work, what things make your role easier or harder than other chaplains or other workplace Christians.....

Would You Like to be Kept in Touch with Developments in the SPIRITUALITY OF WORK NETWORK OF IMD?

You can receive SOWN News, hear of events and keep abreast of issues – either by email or post – simply by letting us know how to reach you! Our email and post details are at foot of page 3.

Please pass on to anyone you know who may also be interested.

Name Telephone Email

Address.....

Number of copies wanted..... (for) Church/Faith Community/Organisation.....

Interest in - faith and work issues chaplaincy other