

CHURCHES AND INDUSTRY GROUP BIRMINGHAM



AT A MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEETING - REVD COLIN MARSH, THE VENERABLE
HAYWARD OSBORNE, REVD STEPHEN WILLEY, PATRICK BRYAN,
CAROLE PARKES, PAUL DILKES, DAVE PINWELL
AND REVD BARRIE SMITH

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REGISTERED CHARITY NO 511711

**FRONT COVER PICTURE - STEPHEN PLANT (CONSTRUCTION LONGBRIDGE),
REVD MELUSI SIBANDA / REVD NICK JONES (RESPONDING TO LONGBRIDGE) AND REVD COLIN CORKE
(JAGUAR LAND ROVER) AT THE NEW BOURNVILLE COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT**



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2010/11**

CHAIRMAN



I am very pleased, with another Annual Report, to commend the activity of CIGB as we connect the faith of the church with the world of industry in its many aspects – retail, travel, manufacturing, leisure, service and public sector.

Our Chaplains, drawn from churches of different traditions across Birmingham and Solihull, are present in the workplace offering time, attentiveness and support to employees and management alike. This is especially valued at this critical time when virtually all areas of industry are under extreme pressure, and personal anxiety is often at a high level.

We do not push our beliefs on others, but our faith prompts us to be open and available to all.

With so many eyes currently focused on the economy, we affirm the importance also of spiritual values and respect for individuals in employment and commercial dealings. We say that people in their daily lives and their work environment matter to God. And we help the local churches to understand and respond to the needs of those whose jobs are under threat or have disappeared. This is another way of serving the community at large – and after all our church congregations have within them men and women facing this situation.

Together with other members of the Management Council I want to express my thanks to all who work with us and who support us in this endeavour. The need for this activity and commitment becomes clearer every day.

Hayward Osborne, Archdeacon of Birmingham

TEAM LEADER



The year began with several exciting developments.

With Canon Stewart Jones we negotiated with WM Fire Service to develop chaplaincy to local fire stations. We have begun recruiting and training potential chaplains and 4 chaplains are now in place, 4 more are in the process of placement and we need to find 7 more.

On a snowy day in January, 4 people sat in the CIGB office discussing the possibility of chaplaincy in the construction industry and, more specifically the redevelopment of the Rover site in Longbridge. From that discussion a piece of work has begun in which workplace chaplaincy is set within the wider context of the local churches responding to new developments in their neighbourhood. It's a model that we would like to see develop elsewhere in new developments but also in established communities.

'Faiths at Work' has been another new initiative, in conjunction with the 'Faith Encounter Programme'. The project brings together working people of different faiths to explore their common experience & the values that they bring to the work place. The groups involved have been small but people have both enjoyed and valued the experience and we are sharing the learning with others.

The 'Introduction to workplace chaplaincy' course had 12 participants. Some know where their chaplaincy work will be – in Birmingham City Centre Retail & Solihull Town Centre – others are exploring the possibilities.

Our AGM theme was 'Change and Renewal: recession & recovery in Birmingham & Solihull'. A theme still relevant today. Our Commissioning Service in November celebrated workplace chaplaincy. Bishop David Urquhart and Major Samuel Edgar [SA] commissioned 6 new chaplains.

Barbara Hayes

AIMS OF CIGB

To establish and develop Industrial Mission in the Birmingham area through industrial chaplains and others

To promote the understanding and interpretation of the Christian faith in economic life, in conjunction with industrial and commercial undertakings, trades unions and organisations dealing with the training or employment

To be a resource to the church in relation to work and economic life, affirming work as part of God's creative purpose for all people.

CORE ACTIVITIES

To learn about industry and commerce and how it affects people

- * through chaplaincy
- * through links with the Chamber of Commerce, Unions and others

To care for people at work

- *through chaplaincy
- *resourcing local churches
- *networking with helping agencies

To act with others in promoting a more humane and just society by offering the insights of the Christian faith

- *researching and acting on key economic issues
- *encouraging good working practice and positive cultures

To share with the wider church the knowledge gained in order to stimulate a greater awareness of the impact of industry and commerce on society

- * providing briefings and other material
- * providing training and education on chaplaincy and 'faith and work'

FROM CHAPLAINS

West Midlands Fire Service

After nearly a couple of months I am settling into the role well and I find nothing but good will and interest from the fire fighters, and other staff such as cook and receptionist. I have now met probably the majority of the men and have had some good talks with them, both in a group and individually. They now accept me and trust me and feel free to be themselves. I am impressed by the warmth they all have for each other. One, who is nearing retirement asked if I would care to talk to fire fighters who are coming up for retirement and may find the prospect daunting. So that may happen later on.

In The Gym

Through conversations, advice and support from CIGB I have just started a Chaplain type role one day a week at my local gym. I am working with Fit Lives charity, who encourage Churches to 'adopt their local gym' but have gained great support, encouragement and training through CIGB and their recent 'Chaplaincy in the Workplace' course. I now feel that I am not alone in offering this role, even if in a very different context, and I know I have support and advice and the end of a phone if I need it.

As I build trust and respect within the gym I hope, in addition to offering conversation over coffee and a 'lifestyle library' to be able to run seminars on various life issues to encourage whole health, for example, marriage, parenting, stress, self-esteem. It's great to know I have backup from CIGB as I think through the development of this work.

Birmingham Airport

Terminal re-development meant that our prayer room and office since 2001 became a duty free retail area. So on January 21st it was a joy to open a new multi faith prayer room on the ground floor. This is an improved facility, and we are grateful to the airport authorities.

The chaplains have continued their usual work of support for staff and passengers alike, particularly during the winter snow, an aviation accident and incidents where there has been a death relating to the airport.



FROM CHAPLAINS

Longbridge Construction

The Chaplaincy began in May 2010 with a meeting between Mike Murray of St Modwen, the developer for the site, and representatives from CIGB. St Modwen agreed to support and encourage the process. Discussions were held with Shepherd Construction, site access was agreed and regular site visits began in November. Stephen Plant was commissioned Chaplain at the annual CIGB service on 21st November.

Shepherd's have been very welcoming and supportive of the chaplaincy, and senior managers have volunteered to undertake some voluntary work in the community, renovating and painting two local community halls.

On February 1st a meeting of local church representatives took place at the Innovation Centre. Mike Murray gave a presentation on the development process to date and the vision for the future. The Churches' response was encouraging and the steering group will now see how the local church community and the work of the chaplaincy can move forward together in an integrated manner.

Jaguar Land Rover

Following a very unsettled time for the workforce when owners Tata said that one of the plants would close this year, new management and improved sales led to the decision that both West Midland assembly plants would remain open. The atmosphere is now very positive.

Most chaplaincy conversations are brief because of the limitations of work but increasingly we find people ask questions, make comments and genuinely seem pleased to see us walking around. With a secure future for the operation on the site we look forward to building up relationships and awareness of our offer of confidential support in the coming year.

Involvement in Diversity has grown, with work on communication styles to be mindful of those with such difficulties as dyslexia and investigation of faith issues. Last year the workers arranged a Muslim Awareness Day at Solihull and the Diversity Council has approached us with a view to doing a similar thing about Christianity.

For a full list of our Chaplaincy teams and their reports please visit our website at www.cigb.org.uk

MANAGEMENT

Our Patron is the Lord Mayor of Birmingham and our Presidents are Rt Revd David Urquhart, Bishop of Birmingham, Rt Rev Bernard Longley, Archbishop of Birmingham and Major Samuel Edgar, Free Church Moderator.

The management council, chaired by Hayward Osborne, Archdeacon of Birmingham includes expertise from Aston Business School, social enterprise, the Chamber of Commerce, Trade Unions, Human Resources, companies and churches.

Income, Expenditure and Balance for the year to 31 December 2010 (2009):

Income	£23,758.12	(£20,948.79)
Expenditure	£22,379.18	(£20,461.71)
Surplus/Deficit	£ 1,378	(£ 487.08)
Balance of Accumulated Funds	£23,233.85	(£22,746.77)

For further details of the management council, chaplaincies and annual accounts see our website or contact the CIGB office.

WORKING WITH US

If you are interested in building a good economy please think how you might work with us.

Churches

- * Support us financially but also through prayer
- * Invite a chaplain to preach or lead a study group
- * Think about your relationship with local business could CIGB train a chaplain to work locally?

Business and other organisations

- * Think about how having a chaplain proves your commitment to your staff
- * Supporting CIGB gives an insight into your companies ethics and values
- * Can we help you with faith as a diversity issue?

