

CHCC  
Annual  
Report

2018

This is a simple summary of College activity in the year since our 2017 AGM. Members asked for a less 'glossy' format and this is the result. We do hope you find it useful.

College of Health  
Care Chaplains  
Unite Health  
Sector128  
Theobald's Road  
London WC1X 8TN

## CONTENTS

President's Report 2

Registrar's Report 5

Treasurer's Report 6

Professional and Industrial Officer Reports 7

Equality and Diversity Officer Report 8

Mental Health Chaplains' Forum Report 9

GP Chaplaincy Report 9

Faiths Co-ordinator Report 10

Website Administrator Report 11

Regional Reports 11

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

I want to begin this report by offering very public thanks to my predecessor, Mark Burleigh. Although I had insight into the role from some years as Vice President, when the email [president@healthcarechaplains.org](mailto:president@healthcarechaplains.org) switched over to me, I soon had a much clearer picture of what Mark had been doing to support the profession over the last six years. I am delighted he continues to support us (see website report below).

### *A new Registrar*

My first year has come during what some might call 'interesting times', as was evident by those able to attend the 2017 AGM. William Sharpe, who did so much as College Registrar, has now moved on to a senior Chaplaincy post. Whilst we wished him well, this left a critical gap in our infrastructure, which is pretty small as it is. This came right at the time when 'Unite in Health' was undergoing significant 'reconfiguration' (I will leave the meaning of that phrase for you to translate).

After robust and constructive discussions, we all agreed a way forward and asked for nominations for Branch Secretary. Following a vote, Lance Sharpe was elected. 'Branch Secretary' is the formal union name for what we have always termed the Registrar (he answers to both). It came as a great relief when I was not carrying both roles. There is some small remuneration for this role, but Lance is offering us far more than we have the ability to pay for as a small membership body, and I for one am deeply grateful. In the spirit of gratitude, I also want to note that several key individuals within Unite have been very supportive 'behind the scenes', picking up much of what William did in terms of administration, and this has been a real saving grace.

### *Key meetings over the year*

Apart from chairing the AGM and 3 OPC meetings, I have represented the College in several other ways, perhaps most significantly supporting the creation of a successor to the Chaplaincy Leadership Forum. This is known as the 'Chaplaincy Forum for Pastoral, Spiritual, Religious Care in Health' (FORUM for short). It exists to ensure key parties in England (NHS England, Faith and belief groups, UKBHC, professional groups) work together for the good of Chaplaincy. This has two CHCC members (myself and Kartar Singh Bring at present). Whilst it directly affects England, both the College and UKBHC are UK wide bodies, and we have agreed to ensure that all discussions consider the inevitable impact across the UK of such a co-ordinated approach. I hope you find my emailed summary 'forum reports' of interest. This is a key opportunity for issues such as 'endorsement' and 'patient data access' to be discussed without the tensions that have occasionally blighted our Profession in times past.

The President is also automatically a member of the UK Board for Healthcare Chaplaincy (UKBHC) which has finally achieved the momentous milestone of accreditation by the Professional Standards Authority). PSA accreditation is a huge achievement and the result of considerable thankless work by a few, but enables a future in which healthcare providers can get formal assurance that the Chaplains they recruit are both competent and safe to practice. There will be many issues and concerns for some members as Board Registration becomes the norm in coming years (and we have already shared some of these at our

UKBHC meetings) but overall, accreditation is one of the key building blocks that has been missing for many years in our Profession.

#### *A new OPC from this October*

The heart of the College is not the President or Registrar but the OPC (Organising Professional Committee). Many of them report below, but without their commitment and time, the College would have much less to offer. I am indebted both to those serving up to October 2018 and those who have stood for election from 2018 to 2022. In recent meetings we have initiated on a number of projects, but perhaps the most significant decision I want to report is a sharpening of our FOCUS in the coming years. We have not changed direction, by tried to make it clear what we exist for, namely:

**1. To support the future of Chaplaincy as a Healthcare Profession**

(this includes raising our profile, tackling barriers to entry into the profession, addressing issues that hinder us such as the miss-application of data protection laws, supporting registration, encouraging academic research, engaging in national consultations and so on)

**2. To support individual members as professionals in their place of work**

(this includes providing peer-to-peer collegial support for members in their work as Chaplains, enabling specialist networks for paediatric, mental health chaplains etc. fostering local networks if none have grown naturally, recruiting well to ensure College supports members across the UK)

**3. To support individual members with employment issues**

(this includes enabling members to access local unite reps, offering useful guidance/advice on Chaplaincy specific concerns, e.g. facing excessive on-call)

This focus will shape our work going forward, enabling us to prioritise all we do (and sometimes more critically as a small organisation, what we don't do). We want to ensure all our energy, our conference, our bursaries etc. focus on delivery of at least one of our core objectives.

#### *The Annual Conference*

Speaking of the Conference, last year was well received with great feedback, and I am most grateful to Mark Newitt, the rolling conference organising group he has built up and the CHCC Mental Health Forum, not only for last year but also 2018, 2019 and beyond. This collaborative approach enables a high quality Conference to be offered at a fraction of the cost of those found in other professions. Over the last 18 years I have personally seen the Conference a key to my professional development, even though on some occasions I have had to be extremely creative and persuasive to find the funding with different employers. It has *always* been worth the effort and juggling to attend.

#### *Marking Health Care Chaplains' Week (#HCChaplainsWeek)*

October 2017 seemed to be go well, with many teams taking the opportunity to increase their profile locally. We do intend to support those teams marking this again in 2018 (See Professional Officer report below)

### *Monthly Updates*

I have continued the practice of sending emails most months; thank you for so many kind emails I receive by way of response. If for any reason these have not been coming to you, please make sure you have not put a block on Unite 'contacting you via email' as part of their GDPR options!

### *Other Activities*

One surprise privilege this year was representing the College at the European Network of Healthcare Chaplaincy consultation during June at Blankenberge in Belgium. It was good to participate and present a paper (on how we might best nurture the spiritual lives of Chaplains) but best of all was the insight it offered into Chaplaincy across so many different healthcare and cultural environments. Countries where there are many more ward psychologists than Chaplains, countries with a strong history of humanist chaplaincy, regions where 95 percent of Chaplains are Catholic, countries where every single Chaplaincy post is at risk, places where there government money is being invested (in the millions) to research the benefits of our profession. There are many commonalities, but equally fascinating differences across Europe (and beyond). It convinced me that **nothing about Healthcare Chaplaincy is written in stone, nothing is a given, nothing is secure, but so much more is possible in the coming years.**

I won't report in detail on everything this year, but I do want to mention some unexpected and valuable opportunities to support individuals and teams at their request. Supporting individuals and teams was something I loved doing as a regional representative on OPC and though I do not now have as much time, it is still a great privilege. We are a small profession, still emerging and evolving, and we all need each other to survive and to thrive.

### *FINAL THANKS*

Alongside those mentioned in my report above, there are many others who make the College work. I particularly want to thank a few key folk that members may not have direct contact with but who nevertheless do so much for us. Jane Beach, our Unite Professional Officer and Kathy Walters, our Unite Industrial Officer both deserve clear thanks, as does Nick Flood, our long serving Treasurer, who keeps our (small) budget stretching year by year. I am deeply grateful to them all.



*p.s. Due to unforeseen consequences, one or two individuals have been unable to provide an update in this years report. If these are received they will be added to the final version posted on the website in the members area.*

## REGISTRAR'S REPORT

Time seems to have flown since I first took on the position of Registrar after my namesake and much respected colleague William Sharpe took on his new role in Chaplaincy. At the outset I think it is only right to express my thanks to him for all that he did over several years with the College. So thank you William!

Not only has the Registrar changed but the way the Registrar works has also changed significantly. William worked for UNITE at the Headquarters in London. That arrangement, however, came to an end during a time of financial constraints. The solution decided on involved an elected member taking on the role in a quasi-voluntary capacity (there is a modest honorarium attached to it). Of course, we are still in the first year in this arrangement so we are still finding out how well it is going! I do have a day job as a Chaplaincy manager with a large Welsh University Health Board so whilst I do try to be responsive, I do also need to prioritise my own Board in the first instance. I do ask for your patience with that in mind.

I want to thank all the OPC members for their commitment to the College especially those who are standing down after their terms of office. All those long days travelling to London and struggling to get to UNITE HQ for the meetings have been appreciated! In addition, I'd like to send all the very best wishes to the OPC members serving in the new term from October.

The conference is almost upon us at the time of writing and I am excited to be involved in putting this event on. I really hope everyone has an inspiring and thoughtful study conference as well as networking with colleagues from all around the country. Hopefully, I'll see a good number of you there. Can I encourage you if you haven't been on one to seriously consider putting it in your 2019 diary, for a residential conference like this with top drawer speakers it is remarkably good value for money - details are on the Website.

Finally, at the time of writing we are hovering at the 650 fully paid up members mark and I am receiving applications to join on a weekly basis which is very encouraging. Of course, please do contact me if you have any queries or questions and I will endeavour to help and please remember your OPC representatives are there too.

Every best regard

*Lance Sharpe- Registrar / Branch Secretary*

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### College of Health Care Chaplains

Hon Treasurer's Report - Year Ended 31st December 2017 2016

#### BRANCH FUNDS

##### Receipts

Branch Administration Allowance	5936.84	5836
---------------------------------	---------	------

##### Payments

Web Site Maintenance & Admin.	1173.94	2575
Annual Report - Public'n & Printing	1145.00	900
Working & Task Groups		
Mental Health Chaplains	620.65	617
ELC/Ambitions	238.15	123
Other Meeting Costs & Travelling	291.50	246
Subscription NCPC		120
ENHCC Affiliation etc Fee	111.80	98
Conference		756
Other Conference Fees	234.00	
President's Expenses		101
Treasurer's Travelling etc	341.40	213
Bank Charges	27.20	
General Expenses	17.24	22

	4200.88	5772
--	---------	------

##### Surplus of Receipts over Payments

	1735.96	64
--	---------	----

Cash & Bank Balances at 1st January 2017

	354.26	290
--	--------	-----

Cash & Bank Balances at 31st December 2017

	2090.22	354
--	---------	-----

#### BURSARY & TRAINING FUNDS

##### Funds generated by

Annual Study Conference	6079.82	10304
Mindfulness Day	-190.00	-84
In-service Training Day	-15.00	
Donation	500.00	300

	6374.82	10520
--	---------	-------

##### Payments

CHCC 25th Anniversary	3964.08	
National Chaplains' Week	743.90	
Bursaries	2250.00	3750
Journal Publication & Printing	1636.00	3521
Research	82.00	247
Web Site Redesign & Development		1385
Presentations	353.75	
General Expenses	229.25	197

	9258.98	9100
--	---------	------

##### Net Decrease (Increase) in Funds

	-2884.16	1420
--	----------	------

Cash & Bank Balances at 1st January 2017

	34108.11	32688
--	----------	-------

Cash & Bank Balances at 31st December 2017

	31223.95	34108
--	----------	-------

Nick Flood. [treasurer@healthcarechaplains.org](mailto:treasurer@healthcarechaplains.org)

## PROFESSIONAL OFFICER'S REPORT

It is hard to believe that a year has gone by since my last submission, how time flies!

We have seen a number of changes within the OPC this year. We welcomed Simon as our new President and under his leadership the OPC continues to move the healthcare chaplaincy agenda forward. We were delighted that Lance agreed to take on aspects of the Registrar role, which is a new, and I hope Lance would agree, very positive way of working. The OPC elections have also taken place this year and we will be ratifying new and experienced regional representatives at the annual general meeting. Their contribution is essential to maintaining contact with members and ensuring that local issues are highlighted nationally. My sincere thanks go to the OPC for their time and commitment.

Following the success of last year we are pleased to be holding the second healthcare chaplain's week the 22-26<sup>th</sup> October! Once again the aim is to raise awareness of healthcare chaplaincy and the fantastic work you do and also to celebrate the 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday of our wonderful NHS! I am aware a number of you have already held events in your organisations as part of the Birthday celebrations and many have events planned. If you would like these showcased on the website; [www.healthcarechaplains.org](http://www.healthcarechaplains.org), please send me the details. If you don't yet have anything planned we very much hope you will support the week and consider organising your own event. We have our own hashtag for the week; [#HCCChaplainsWeek](https://twitter.com/HCCChaplainsWeek), so for those of you active on Twitter, please join in and retweet! If you are not on Twitter, why not think about joining so you too can follow events as they happen?

*Jane Beach, Lead Professional Officer for Regulation, Unite in Health*

## INDUSTRIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Kathy Walter's detailed report is not yet available... Kathy has been actively supporting our OPC throughout the year, both in terms of our organisation (such as elections) and in particular contributing to our equality work.



## EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY OFFICER

Since my election as your Equality and Diversity Officer during the Autumn of 2017, I have continued to work on developing relationships within the OPC, and CHCC/Unite's Officers, Staff and others.

It has been a busy challenging year, as you may have read or seen from our President and Registrar, however the OPC has worked constructively to achieve a sustainable approach to these challenges.

### **CHCC Membership Survey:**

The second part of the data and statistical analysis has now been completed.

A breakdown of the results and graphs is now available to Members on the Collage website, along with an agreed OPC summary of the key findings. I and the OPC have used these findings to inform this year's work.

Along with my OPC & Unite colleagues we are in the process of developing new resources to address some of the issues raised by the survey. The resource will be available both in leaflet form and online, allowing for more flexibility of useful contact links and regular updating. Sadly, due to staff sickness, these resources are not yet available, we are working to get them out to Members as soon as is practicable.

**Plans for 2019** If time permits, a 2nd Survey is planned and will be carried out during 2019. This will assist the College in building an evidence base and enable us to compare results, allowing CHCC to see if we continue to meet member's needs.

There are other projects and pieces of work at an early stage, which I will continue to keep Members informed of, as they develop. If they are any issues you think I should be addressing or would like raised, please contact me via the website or at my email below.

*Stewart Selby / Equality and Diversity Officer*

[equality@healthcarechaplains.org](mailto:equality@healthcarechaplains.org)

## MENTAL HEALTH CHAPLAINS' FORUM REPORT

The Mental Health Forum has continued to meet this year and engage with the issues that affect mental health chaplaincy. Jean Fletcher has been leading and editing a book project, alongside Jessica Kingsley Publishers, which will see Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care in Mental Health Settings published in 2019. It is hoped that this book will be one which will raise the profile of mental health chaplaincy and, in so doing, provide an excellent resource for those engaged in this area. Also, Jean Gilbert has been working as part of the organising committee for this year's CHCC Annual Conference. It has been a busy year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in the Mental Health Forum for their hard work and thoughtful reflections and discussions at meetings. I wish the Forum well in the future.'

*Cameron Hunter Langlands – MH Forum rep on OPC*

## GP CHAPLAINCY

The Association of Chaplaincy in General Practice has developed a professional accreditation for practising chaplains in GP centres, piloted with chaplains in Birmingham and Sandwell in January 2018. Whilst it is separate from CHCC, many members are also members of the College and a representative comes as an observer to OPC

GP Chaplaincy has expanded to further centres including three more in the south of England. Training is now being offered to volunteer chaplains in a modular way at Lincoln Theological Institute, University of Lincoln.

The Association is holding a conference at the University of Birmingham on 10 January 2019. The title is 'Turning the Tide: establishing spiritual care in General Practice.' All with an interest in GP Chaplaincy are welcome. Details will follow on the website [www.gpchaplaincy.com](http://www.gpchaplaincy.com)

*Elizabeth Baker, Chaplain for Wellbeing, Listening and Guidance, OPC observer*

## FAITHS COORDINATOR'S REPORT

CHCC holds a strong position as a national Chaplaincy body but has room for improvement in its engagement with minority faith chaplains. Minority faith chaplains are often employed in part-time roles and whilst may be well integrated into their teams may also feel peripheral to the direction of Chaplaincy and Spiritual care and largely disconnected from national Chaplaincy bodies. With the moves towards developing professional chaplaincy, questions around generic and faith specific support and the introduction of non-religious pastoral support, Chaplains may feel more uncertain about the future direction of Healthcare Chaplaincy and their role within it.

In this context the Faith Coordinator role may offer an opportunity to connect with minority faith chaplains as part of a wider engagement in empowering and preparing grassroots Chaplaincy to respond confidently to the changing landscape.

### **Objectives**

- 1. Build the profile of the CHCC with minority faith chaplaincy as a valued national organization
- 2. Explore barriers, challenges and concerns experienced by minority faith chaplains and identify what meaningful support would look like.
- 3. Respond to Objective 2
- 4. Develop meaningful resources to empower minority faith chaplains in responding confidently to changes within Chaplaincy and Spiritual care.
- 5. Explore and encourage Chaplaincy Leadership with minority faith Chaplains.

### **Outcomes**

- 1. Increase confidence of minority faith chaplains in responding to the future of chaplaincy
- 2. Strengthening the view of the CHCC as a strong partner for diverse chaplaincy amongst chaplains
- 3. Increased aspiration and involvement of minority faith chaplains seeking leadership.

### **Aspiration**

- Increased participation and involvement of minority faith chaplains in wider chaplaincy related activities i.e. CHCC Conference
- Strengthening of the importance of diverse Chaplaincy in Healthcare
- Growing confidence in Chaplaincy teams respond to the future
- Ensuring minority faith chaplains are and feel connected with national chaplaincy bodies.
- Presenting Chaplaincy as a worthwhile path in life for minority faith communities.

*Kartar Singh Bring*

## WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR

Following a recent security breach we have recently added another level of security to the site. The breach was minor, but already there have been two further attempts to exploit the vulnerability, that have been repulsed by the software.

To enhance the security, users will now be forced to use “strong” passwords when they set their password, and those who have weak passwords will be forced to change them when they log in again.

We believe no information was compromised. No information is stored within the site except members' email addresses and passwords for the members' area.

CHCC members can access the members' area using their email address. You will need to use the email address that the CHCC has as a part of your membership details. If you need to change your registered email address please email the CHCC Registrar. The first time you want to log in please use the "forgot password" option. A new password will be emailed to you. When you have used that password to log in to the members' area you can change your password to something more memorable.

I am glad that the website is being well used and continues to serve the cause of Chaplaincy and the interests of the members of the College. If you spot a problem with the website, please do send me an email!

[website.admin@healthcarechaplains.org](mailto:website.admin@healthcarechaplains.org)

*Mark Burleigh*

---

## REGIONAL REPORTS

Our regional reports (below) are a little less complete this year as a number of the OPC are coming to the end of their time of office, and we have a small number of vacancies.

If, following our OPC elections (which are nearing completion as this report is being written) there are any vacancies remaining- we will seek to contact members within those areas and co-opt an individual to ensure each region has a voice at OPC. Two new members co-opted during this year have reported below and also attached pictures.

Our regions are designed to match across to Unite regions- the various historical reasons we have some regions further subdivided (e.g. Wales traditionally has been divided into two to enable geographical distances to be dealt with and a Welsh speaker on OPC when possible)

## LONDON

Once again, the year has included important meetings for the future of Chaplaincy, which London Chaplains have been able to attend. Members have taken up opportunities for education and support from UKBHC, CHCC, faith communities, educational establishments and the Network for Pastoral, Religious and Spiritual Care in Health and others.

Supervision and peer support have featured as increasingly significant as chaplains face a period of transition in multi-faith and belief teams. It is to be hoped that current consultation will result in intelligent reforms of the NHS Chaplaincy Guidelines and an integrated approach to healthcare chaplaincy.

Our current regional membership is about 112. In this area, like others, we have been experiencing a number of changes in chaplaincy teams, including reductions in team size; challenges with recruiting support chaplains for the substantive teams and a number of Lead Chaplains (especially Heads of Departments) have made moves.

We have been able to raise issues of concern with one another, are pleased with the Journal developments and the level of engagement made by Chaplains nationally and in our Region. London Chaplains are contributing to the national CHCC review of Spiritual Care Policies and supporting the increase in Chaplaincy qualifications, which enable chaplains to work professionally across various healthcare contexts.

*Rev Canon Tim Mercer, London Region, South London Healthcare NHS Trust, and Bishop's Adviser for Hospital Chaplaincy, Rochester Diocese based at The Princess Royal University Hospital, Farnborough, Kent, within King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust.*

## NORTH EAST

The geographical spread for this region is quite large and therefore it is creditable that we have met as a group of chaplains three times with attendance being between 15 and 20 on each occasion. One event centred on a training day picking up on the theme of "eating disorders" and challenged participants to look at all that lies behind such problems. Communication to members has been maintained through mailings, and there have been 3 requests for support for individuals working through issues with management.

*Rev. Peter Webb, Chaplaincy manager and "Freedom to speak up ambassador" City Hospital's Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust: [peter.webb@chsft.nhs.uk](mailto:peter.webb@chsft.nhs.uk)*

## NORTH WEST & IRELAND

*Due to the Rep changing roles, this region had a vacancy this year and we were not able to successfully co-opt someone to represent the region. If this region is yours- please consider speaking to the president or registrar about what is involved....*



## SOUTH CENTRAL

Following the retirement of Karen Mackinnon who has been such a significant presence on OPC, we contacted members and were pleased to be able to co-opt Declan McConville to support this region.

I have been in Chaplaincy for sixteen years but being co-opted to the Organising Professional Committee (OPC) has been a steep learning curve as I attempt to understand the wide and varied remit that our College undertakes. It has been wonderful to get to know the other members of the College who work so hard on behalf of colleagues and the College and who are so passionate about Hospital Chaplaincy. I never cease to be amazed how my colleagues manage to do so much nationally on top of their busy and varied workloads back in their respective Trusts. I am beginning to realise that there is much to be done in an ever demanding and changing landscape of Hospital Chaplaincy and the NHS. To date my focus has been very localised in Dorset and Wiltshire where we have a well established Chaplaincy gathering which brings together both Chaplains and Chaplaincy Volunteers to offer training and support. Locally we have been endeavouring to support our Salisbury colleagues who have been caught up in tragic international events. My hope, if elected this autumn, is to gain a greater knowledge of the geographical area, establish and develop an effective communication system that enables me to be more available to support colleagues across the huge South Central region and to raise your concerns or issues at national level.



[Declan.McConville@poole.nhs.uk](mailto:Declan.McConville@poole.nhs.uk)

## EAST MIDLANDS

Having now retired as Lead Chaplain at Kettering General Hospital I have also stood down as OPC representative for the East Midlands having served on the committee for the last 5 years. I have enjoyed the opportunity of serving the College and meeting colleagues on a local and national level. In addition to being the OPC spokesperson for East Midlands I have also used my position to raise concerns pertinent to smaller District General Hospitals, like Kettering.

Over the years I have held local East Midlands meetings and more recently arranged study days with the West Midlands region.

Looking back on my 16 years as a Hospital Chaplain, it has been a real privilege to journey with people as they go through difficult episodes in life. It has also been a joy to work alongside so many colleagues who make up our wonderful NHS.

*Rev Phillip Staves, Lead Chaplain Kettering General Hospital NHS FT*

## WEST MIDLANDS

During the year I have been able to represent our region at the quarterly OPC meetings in London and contribute to a range of issues facing the College. I have also been pleased to offer support or information to members on a number of work-related issues and raise specific concerns with the OPC. I have been supporting some critical work around on-call pressures in individuals which we hope will bear fruit in 2019.

I regret that it has not been possible to arrange a further joint study day with East Midlands region this year but this may be something for the future if there is sufficient interest.

This is my last report as I have now served for two terms and will not be seeking re-election. I have enjoyed the opportunity of serving the College and meeting many of you over recent years. I look forward to seeing some of you at our annual conference in September and strongly hope that one of my colleagues will come forward to represent us in future.

*Alison Coles*

## SCOTLAND

As the CHCC Rep for Scotland, I have attended three meetings of the CHCC's Organising Professional Committee (OPC) over the last year. Inevitably, these meetings tend to focus on issues relevant to spiritual care in England (with the occasional voice from Wales) and it is sometimes difficult to connect the English context and practice with our experience of Spiritual Care in NHS Scotland. As the lone Scottish voice on the committee, I try to represent our distinctive Scottish situation and keep colleagues south of the border informed of our thinking and direction of travel. My feeling is that there is much we can learn from each other - and, of course, also, much common ground. Back in Scotland, the "regional" group remains somewhat dormant – though I'd be interested to hear from anyone who has ideas or a vision for how the group could work, or what it could be.

*Tim Bennison, CHCC Regional Rep for Scotland*

## SOUTH WEST

As Lead Chaplain for the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust it has been a privilege to serve the on the OPC for past the few months, as a co-opted member representing the South West Region. During that time I have been able to attend committee meetings and meet with colleagues as we begin to discern the future definition and direction of the College.

It has been a positive time during which I have been able to offer a listening ear, practical support and signposting to those who have asked for help. I believe passionately in the importance and value of healthcare chaplaincy, because it makes a positive difference and it changes people's lives. If elected to the OPC I will do my utmost to serve the college and its members with passion and commitment.

*Mark Richards (co-opted) Royal Cornwall Hospital*



## WALES (South) / CYMRU (De)

It seems to have been a quiet year on the CHCC front on the surface, but having said that a lot of work goes on behind the scenes that people always see. Evidently, it is not always appropriate to share what a OPC representative does in every instance but suffice it to say I have been involved with a number of members to give support and informal advice to.

I know one of the areas that crops up from time to time is the burden of on-call. This vital part of chaplaincy work can be some of the most rewarding and hardest and we want as professionals to be at our best for patients and carers/families when we are called upon often at weekends or even the small hours of the morning!

However, our best can be compromised if our share of the on-call commitment becomes onerous. Just to reassure you that CHCC is involved in the early stages of providing guidance for on-call for members that I will be involved with. Hopefully, it will give members some knowledge on what is expected of them and their managers in providing a service and offer solutions to some of the difficulties often experienced.

There have been significant changes recently in Wales with new lead chaplains being appointed both in Cwm Taf UHB and C&V UHB so there is a 'changing of the guard' occurring. Of course, we wish them both well in their new roles and I know they will give it 100%. I'm looking forward to working with them to put on a study day in late 2019.

Finally, I have not stood for re-election due to my election as Registrar and Branch Secretary; I hope you will give my successor every support. It's been a privilege to represent you all in South Wales.

*Lance Sharpe (Morriston Hospital, Swansea)*



*Other areas still awaiting reports*

**SOUTH EAST**

**EASTERN**

**YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER**