

*Serving the
heart of Luton*

Luton Town Centre Chaplaincy

November 2010
Issue 4

So far, SO good!

* Michael Campbell
writes ...

Lighting up Luton

* Sunday 21st November

J John Returns

* Sunday 12th December

Give them a rest!

* Give your minister a
break!

Invest in Luton

* Funding so far
* How can you help

Contact us

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Town Centre Chaplain

Michael Campbell

Trustees

Canon Nick Bell (Chair)
Yemi Adedeji
John Archer (Vice-Chair)
Ashraf Farahat
Steve Jones
Gerry McGrogan
Yasmin Milligan (Treasurer)
Paula Morrison

Administrator

Helen Roche



Michael Campbell

So far, SO good!

I can't believe I have been here over two months already - so much has been happening I could write a book on it. Much of my time has been spent getting to know the streets and chatting to people on the many benches in the town centre - I call it creative loitering, which means I currently spend some lunchtimes having lunch on the benches along George Street and in the square chatting to people who live and work in the Town Centre. Pretty much everyone I speak to is very positive about LTCC; think it is a great idea; and think it is very much needed in the town.

There seems to be Christians (and not surprisingly!) dotted around everywhere. I joined the Library and the guy on reception was a believer; I became a blood donor and the lady there was a Christian; I go to the University and meet Les Ebdon who is a well-grounded, Godly man - there are Christians everywhere! It is wonderful to come to a town and know that for many years Christians have been praying over Luton, not only to see the physical transformation of the town, but more importantly a spiritual transformation as He goes before us and places people exactly where he wants them to be.

Another exciting development is that we are beginning to meet up with those who have expressed interest in volunteering with LTCC—as chaplains, administrators and prayer partners. We hope to be able to place our first chaplains into businesses in the town centre early in the New Year.

Brian McFarland, who has been very supportive of Luton Town Centre Chaplaincy, invited me to the Mall tenants' meeting recently. We had an excellent meeting when I had the opportunity to briefly talk about LTCC. Everyone was upbeat as a group of managers and positive about LTCC. I was approached by a shop manager afterwards regarding a member of staff who is going through a tough time at the moment and she asked if I could call in to see her - this is exactly what we are about.

You may or may not know that over the last year The Mall has been in dialogue with M&S regarding office space for LTCC, a one-to-one room and an adjacent quiet space on the gallery above Smith Square. I am very pleased to say we have officially been given the all clear to go ahead and work on the new premises (around 700 sq ft) should commence within the next few weeks. Brian is very happy for LTCC to design and come up with more ideas regarding the chaplaincy office and quiet space which is just a fantastic opportunity.



Profiles of our Trustees

The Luton Town Centre Chaplaincy is a registered charity and is governed by a Board of Trustees. You can get to know something about them as they write about themselves in our newsletters ..

Yemi Adedeji comes with a 12 years retail background having led the commercial teams of various retail companies including Debenhams, Woolworth and Marks and Spencers. He is currently the CEO of a church management consulting firm called "Mind the Gap Consult".



Yemi's passion is in serving as a bridge between communities of multiracial facets.

"The Luton Town Centre Chaplaincy is rooted at the centre of multi-cultural and multi-racial Luton. As a Christian and a resident of Luton Town, I see my role as a trustee as an avenue to demonstrate my skills and spirituality to make a difference in the life of the residents in Luton."

Give them a break!

If you think your minister deserves a break from preaching, then why not invite us to come and speak to your church members on a Sunday morning? Just give us a ring.

Admin

Helen Roche has been the administrator to the Trustees for some time, but has now been appointed as Administrator to the Chaplaincy. She can be contacted at the address overleaf.

Lighting up Luton

Come and join in the fun on Sunday 21st November as the Christmas lights are switched on in the Town Centre. A variety of events are planned from lunchtime onwards. Churches Together in Luton have been working with the Council and there will be a short service at around 5 pm on Market Hill and then Nick Bell and Michael Campbell will have the opportunity to stand on the balcony of the Town Hall and say a prayer of blessing over the town—a wonderful opportunity!

Invest in Luton

Many thanks to the trusts, churches individuals and other organisations who have so generously supported this initiative so far. To date we have received around £85 000 of the promised £144 000 towards our target of £150 000 for the first three years of the project. To sustain the Chaplaincy in the long term we need the commitment of individuals and churches in Luton who want to make an investment in the well-being of our town. Please consider how you can help. We especially need regular donations to help us plan for the future. If you can do this, please complete the form below, and return it to our Treasurer, Yasmin Milligan.

J John returns

On Sunday 12th December J John will return to Luton for a town-wide carol service to be held at the Church of God in Christ (COGIC) in Dunstable Road. Starting at 6 30 pm, this will be a wonderful celebration of Christmas—something to invite your friends and family to, and something in which the Chaplaincy will be fully involved.



If you would like to support this exciting initiative by making a financial contribution please complete this form and return it to **Yasmin Milligan, LTCC, c/o St Mary's Parish Church, Church Street, Luton LU1 3JF**. Thank you.

Your name.....

Church/organisation (if applicable)

Address

.....Postcode

'Phone number

Email

I/We would like to support the LTCC financially by making a regular payment of per month starting from and agree to set up a standing order to Luton Town Centre Chaplaincy, HSBC, A/c 12307375, Sort code 403032

I/We enclose a one-off donation of (Cheques payable to Luton Town Centre Chaplaincy)

I or my spouse pays tax and would like you to claim Gift Aid on our donation (Please tick if appropriate)

Signed Date

Registered Charity number 1133112

Please feel free to copy this newsletter to give to your church members, friends or others who may be interested—and please keep praying!!