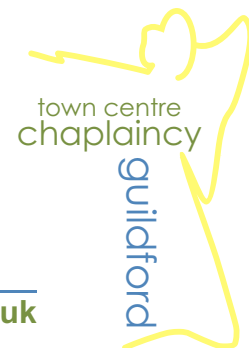


Guildford Town Centre Chaplaincy

Newsletter



May 2010

www.gtcc.org.uk

Full Time and Full Speed Ahead

The new Town Centre Chaplain, Rod Boreham, became full-time in the role from 1 April 2010. Three months after being appointed part-time, Rod is now able to devote his full attention to developing this new role within the town of Guildford.

It has been an exciting and busy time as Rod has started to develop contacts in the various sectors of our community. He has taken part in a plethora of meetings as he has attempted to establish contact and build relationships across the town. Among those he has had the opportunity to get to know have been:

- Business leaders mainly through the Town Centre Management Group
- Councillors and officers of Guildford Borough Council
- Police staff
- Day Care centre staff
- Various church groups who are working into the town in different initiatives
- Church leaders
- Members of the leisure Sector through Pubwatch and Guildsafe
- Potential volunteer chaplains



Rod also acts as a Chaplain for the YMCA one day a week and is enjoying interacting with the Staff at Bridge Street and Plantation in particular. He has also begun to act occasionally as a Chaplain at the Cathedral, which he has begun to enjoy and feels privileged to be a part of.

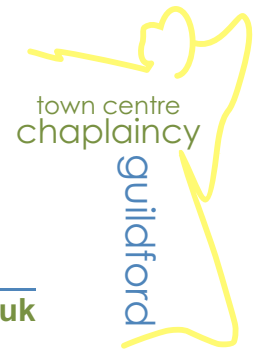
The response from those Rod has met so far has been warm and welcoming and very encouraging as far as the potential for building good relationships and developing understanding and mutual support is concerned. He has also been invited to speak at a number of churches and welcomes the opportunity to speak about the work of the Chaplaincy and Street Angels whether in a church or elsewhere, so feel free to invite him to any group you feel might be interested. Contact him directly on 07500 834658, or email at rod.boreham@gtcc.org.uk

Volunteer Chaplains

Rod has so far met with about half a dozen people who have shown interest in being volunteer chaplains. This side of the work holds tremendous potential and it is very encouraging to know of those who already are seriously considering taking up this voluntary role. In due course there will be more formal interviews for those who are still enthusiastic about it, and then there will be some training provided by experienced chaplains. The exact timescale is as yet not decided because of the recruitment drive we are undertaking at the moment for more Street Angels. But if you are also interested in this ministry, then please contact Rod Boreham on 07500 834658 or email at rod.boreham@ntlworld.com

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More Street Angels Needed!

The success of the Street Angels project means that we are now in the process of recruiting more volunteers in order that we can maintain a strong presence on the streets of Guildford each Friday and Saturday night. We need people who will provide care and practical support for visitors to our pubs and nightclubs, who may, for whatever reason, find themselves vulnerable and in need of help. These needs may be the result of homelessness, excessive drinking, drug abuse, or any other issue that has caused personal distress or the potential for physical harm.

If you share our values of being non-judgmental, selfless, honest, and demonstrating integrity, professionalism, excellence and collaboration, and you want to make a difference to the life of our town, we would love to hear from you. Street Angels commit to volunteer for one night per month and to undergo six training sessions before they start, plus ongoing training as and when necessary.

If you are interested in joining the Street Angels team, or know someone you think might like to apply, please contact us for an application pack which will need to be returned by the end of June (if we receive applications after that date we cannot guarantee that an interview can be arranged).

An application pack is available from our website: www.gtcc.org.uk or from our administrator Linda Haynes on 01306 730074 or lin.haynes@gtcc.org.uk



A Fond Farewell

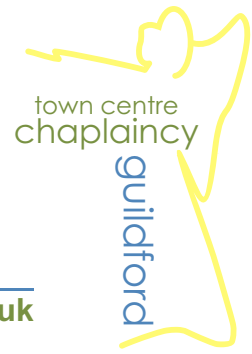
With some sadness we are saying goodbye to someone who has been one of the driving forces behind setting up the Town Centre Chaplaincy, and particularly the Street Angels project. Julian Lomas, who has done way above and beyond the call of duty, is leaving Guildford in the summer as his wife Catherine is taking up her first post as a curate in Wellingborough. Both Catherine and Julian have given much time and energy to establishing the work of the Chaplaincy. Julian, in his role as trustee, and for a while, Board Secretary, has provided us with the benefit of his experience in the workplace, together with incredible enthusiasm and energy and has been the impetus behind much of which has been accomplished over the last two years. Catherine has blessed us with her creative flair as she has provided the designs for the Chaplaincy stationery and StreetAngels uniforms.



We owe them both a debt of gratitude and wish them and their family God's richest blessing as they move on to pastures new.

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Kilimanjaro Heros

Our two teams set to climb Kilimanjaro in June and August in order to raise money for Guildford Town Centre Chaplaincy and a local African project have made heroic efforts to get the financial support they need. We applaud their enthusiasm and are very grateful for all the time and energy they have put in to achieve their financial goals. Well done to each and every one.

However, one person deserves a special mention because he has come on board very late and has to work very hard to reach the necessary funding level. He is David Bott, Guildford's Town Centre Officer, who has been very supportive of our work, and accompanied the StreetAngels on a Saturday night just recently. David is holding a special fundraising evening at the Keep Pub on 27 May. If you can go along and hear about what he is doing and support him, I know he would be very grateful. Well done David and all our Kilimanjaro climbers!

