



Issue One - Winter 2014

# Newsletter



Rev. William Ruddle

## **INDUSTRIAL CHAPLAINCY STARTS HERE**

It is not often that an expression of Christian Ministry can be described as ground-breaking, but with the arrival of Rev. William Ruddle to take up the new post of Industrial Chaplain for South East Lincolnshire, a new era of Christian Chaplaincy has begun and previously uncharted territory is being entered. This is both exciting and daunting in equal measure!

Although this is William's first ministry within the SE of Lincolnshire, the area is not completely unknown to him as his wife of 15 years, Louise (nee Chamberlain) grew up in Moulton Chapel (in the heart of the Fens) and was a Local Preacher within the South Holland Methodist Circuit in the 1990's.

William, Louise and their twins Joshua & Hannah most recent home was in Ashted in Surrey where William was the pastor of a local Baptist Church that was pioneering fresh work amongst the children of that village. However, William's heart has long been in chaplaincy having spent 7 years as the full-time chaplain of Basildon Hospital, latterly leading the team and managing the Bereavment Service too.

When asked what prompted him to seek this post William replied, "I have always had as great a passion for those outside the church as those inside. Archbishop William Temple stated that the Church was the only organisation created for its non-members and I agree. It seems to me that in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the church seemed to forget its missionary focus, its care for the poor, the marginalised and the disposed. Whilst Jesus loved being in the Synagogue, the Gospels make it clear he spent most of his time outside of it – in the market, in people's homes, in places of work and places of leisure. Under challenge and attack by an increasingly secular society, the Church of my childhood often retreated into the shell of its buildings.

Chaplaincy is the church rediscovering its missionary call to be salt and light to a dark and flavourless world. To remind the world that if indeed he is Lord of All (as we proclaim every Sunday), then he is Lord of Monday-Saturday as well. God is at work in his world: in creation, in business, in schools, in industry – in fact in every place where Christian's are present and Gospel values are incarnationally lived out.

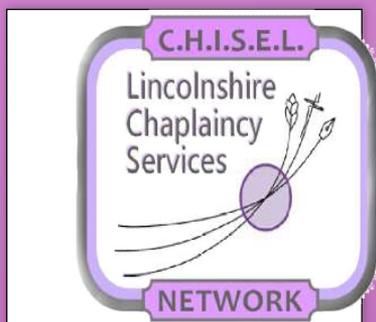
I seized the opportunity because I believe Lincolnshire Chaplaincy Services is at the cutting edge, the coal face, of the church's mission to be part of God's redeeming love for His world and His people. I believe when we are in step with His Spirit's activity then we really can make a difference. With God's help, I want to make a difference to the people of the Fens, the people who God loves with an unyielding and undying passion!

## **LINCOLNSHIRE POLICE WELCOMES POLICE CHAPLAINCY**

Doors are already opening for LCS, none more exciting that the welcome given by Inspector Paul Timmins and PC Martyn Chambers to William this week as he began an 'introductions' tour of Boston Police Station. In time we hope to build a team of lay volunteer chaplains who will work alongside LCS being placed in stations throughout Lincolnshire to provide pastoral and spiritual support to the many staff who work for the Constabulary.

The police service, including civil staff, PCSO's and Officers are at the sharp end of the community and supporting them in their often testing workplaces is an opportunity the church through LCS should seize with relish.





Fr Jonathan Sibley

## **FEN SOCIETY WELCOMES NEW PARTNER**

I am very pleased to be writing this expression of welcome to William. It's a new and long awaited post. This post responds to the significantly growing needs of the food, agricultural and transport industries of this area. The post will also interact with the Lincolnshire Police and Boston College by exploring chaplaincy with them. Significantly too, the work of the Social Issues in South Lincolnshire [www.fensociety.org](http://www.fensociety.org) has made a major contribution in the foundational steps in setting up this post alongside the Lincolnshire Chaplaincy Service. It will be important for the chaplain to work in conjunction and partnership with our on-going work as we explore together the implications for mission and ministry and developing expressions of the Christian gospel in this part of Gods Kingdom. I commend William and his family to you and ask for your prayers as he starts this new stage of his calling and ministry.

Fr Jonathan Sibley  
Coordinator Social Issues in the Fens

## **C.H.I.S.E.L. Network: BECOME A FRIEND OF CHAPLAINCY.**

C.H.I.S.E.L. stands for **C**haplaincy to **I**ndustry in **S**outh **E**ast **L**incolnshire and is a brand new network of people who have an interest in Chaplaincy to Boston & South Holland Districts. Are you interested in how William gets on? Are you willing to partner this new work in prayer? Do you want to see the workplaces that you are in or are in your area supported pastorally & spiritually? Would you be interested in becoming a volunteer chaplain in one of our new placements? Would you be an ambassador for chaplaincy in your church/organisation? If the answer is YES to any of these questions, then PLEASE sign up and become a friend of C.H.I.S.E.L. Contact William on the details overleaf and he will sign you up to the C.H.I.S.E.L. bulletin and keep you informed of prayer needs and opportunities in the months ahead.



Rev. William Ruddle – Industrial Chaplain for South-East Lincs..  
Northgate House, Northgate, Pinchbeck, Spalding, Lincs PE11 3SQ  
Telephone: 07903 730591 Email: [Rev.William.Ruddle@gmail.com](mailto:Rev.William.Ruddle@gmail.com)  
Web Site: [www.lincschaplaincy.org.uk](http://www.lincschaplaincy.org.uk)

