

Chairman's Report

Andrew Henderson

This year has seen relationships continuing to strengthen, both within the organisation, and with those outside. Some of the highlights of the year demonstrate this as some different events have helped raise our profile. These include the RAF Logistics Officers Training course at RAF Halton's 'cyclothon' (pictured) in the town centre; raising over £600 (split between Street Angels and the RAF 100 Fund), our involvement in the town's successful bid for Purple Flag status, and our involvement with the Waterside Theatre's Panto promo video (more later!).



We were also delighted to meet Frances Novillo, the new Watford Town Centre Chaplain, and speak to her about our experience of Chaplaincy with Street Angels as she started her role. Seven years ago when we started, Watford Town Centre Chaplaincy were so helpful to us and we were delighted to share back.

In terms of volunteers we have not seen huge growth, but we appointed 5 new volunteers during the year; 4 Street Angels and 1 Chaplain, but 4 volunteers (3 Chaplains and 1 Street Angel also stepped down). Our Chair, Revd Martin Kuhrt, also stepped down as a trustee. At the end of the year we had 4 trustees, 12 Chaplains and 22 Street Angels in total, representing 20 different churches. We thank them all for their support.

The trustees have continued to monitor the financial position of the charity during the year, following the difficult decision in 2017 to reduce staff hours. This year has seen a positive position with our Finances, leading to the decision to increase the paid hours for the Lead Chaplain to 18 a week. We look forward into 2019 to grow our volunteers and to continue to be able to bless our town through Chaplains, Street Angels & Healing on the Streets.

Communications and Partnerships

We issue regular newsletters to volunteers, Friends, churches & other partners, and also use our website and Twitter to let people know when we're out and to share news.

We have also been welcomed at speaking engagements at many churches and organisations during the year, including U3A, WI, Café church, conferences and Sunday services. Catherine and Mark have been meeting with our local partners regularly and also we were able to attend the Mayor Making, the ROC conversation, and events connected with Aylesbury Town's Dementia Action Alliance. We also join in with events run in our town centre; with our staff and volunteers assisting at the Whizzfizz Festival, the Waterside Festival and Santa's Parade this year. We joined with over 160 others from 48 organisations, charities and businesses to help the Waterside Theatre make their first panto promotion film; a great day to meet others who love and work in our community.

During the year articles appeared in Buckinghamshire Life, Vale Life and the Watermead Village magazine about our work.

We are extremely grateful to all our local partners for their support for our work.



Chaplains

During the year 4 of our Chaplains moved on as changing circumstances meant they were unable to continue. However, we have seen some real growth in the depth of relationships and understanding of the role of Chaplains as we enter our seventh year of Chaplains in the town.

Our placements during the year were in the town centre, at AVDC's Waste & Recycling Depot, at UCAV, Aylesbury College, Bucks County Council and AVDC's offices, the Police Station, Morrisons, the Healthy Living Centre and the Waterside Theatre.

This year we have seen some changes and some Chaplains have had spells of ill health, but between them Chaplains gave over 530 volunteer hours, and had meaningful 'listening' conversations on over 500 occasions.

We do not wish to miss anyone out, but some highlights during the year have been:

- the support which Melissa and Jean (Chaplains in Friars Square) have been able to give to those working there, shopping, or just taking a rest on the benches and comfy chairs.
- the growing of the role of Chaplain at the UCAV building. Marlene has met with the wider Chaplaincy team at Bucks New University in High Wycombe, and was able to provide a short Christmas carols & mince pies event at the campus here in Aylesbury.
- at the Police Station, Mark has provided support to the wider Chaplaincy team; attending the SafeDrive event in Oxford, and the Road Death Memorial Service. He was also on duty supporting officers from all over the country during the Presidential visit to Chequers in the summer

During the coming year, we will continue to build new relationships, and begin Chaplaincy at Aylesbury Crown Court as Melody moves there.

Street Angels

This year our Street Angels were out on 52 occasions on either a Friday or Saturday night as well as 'A' level Thursday and New Year's Eve (pictured with funny hats!).

They gave over 700 volunteer hours between them, and ensured 49 people had a safe route home.

We were fully involved with the Town's successful bid to be awarded a Purple Flag for the 4th time. The report, from the Association of Town & City Management highlighted many of the great initiatives the Town Centre Management, licensees and other local partners do to ensure a great night out, including 'the much-loved Street Angels service that offers both a listening ear and practical help to revellers, the homeless and the vulnerable'.

Four new Street Angels joined us during the year, with one leaving, so we have a good number. There is still room for more, as we'd love to see the number of nights we are out increase during 2019.

We continue our links with the national picture and several of us were able to attend the CNI (Christian Night-time Initiative) network's Midland Conference in Bedford (pictured). Its always great to meet up & share experiences and encouragement.



HEALING ON THE STREETS

The team of volunteers were out once a month during the year; their new location proving to be much busier. During the year there were on average 5 out in the team each month, and prayed for 50 people.



Supporting our Volunteers

This year we were able to organise a couple of training evenings with the Red Cross' Basic First Aid Course; this excellent free course was so practical and useful to all our volunteers. We had another training evening with Aylesbury Homeless Action Group helping us to understand some of the issues faced by those sleeping rough as well as the support being given. Some of our volunteers were also able to attend Modern Slavery awareness sessions organised by Bucks County Council. Our Chaplains met together regularly to share experiences and pray together.

The Autumn training day was well attended with delegates enjoying the



environment at the canal basin, and learning about how we care for others and ourselves, as well as some Defuse training, looking at difficult situations and how to avoid escalation.

In July, our volunteers and guests enjoyed a lovely meal together as a Thank You event.

All our volunteers are invited to attend an annual review meeting with Mark & Catherine; this gives them time & space to reflect on their work with us as well as the wider work of the organisation.

Finances & other support

We received funding from 16 church groups; grants from the Mid-Bucks Association, Tesco Bags4Life and Aviva Charity Foundation. Two churches allow us to use office and /or meeting space, and we have a Friends scheme. With this and following decisions made during the year, we ended the year in a good position, but Trustees continue to monitor this situation, as our expenditure exceeded our income. *(detailed accounts are available on request)*

	Total	Restricted	Unrestricted
	2018		
Carried forward	16,759.61	3,528.71	13,230.90
Income			
Churches Total	9,229.70	0.00	9,229.70
Individual donations (inc Friends)	7,449.00	302.25	7,146.75
Gift Aid	1,452.75	0.00	1,452.75
Grants Total	1,850.00	750.00	1,100.00
Local authorities total	0.00	0.00	0.00
Thames Valley Police	21.41	0.00	21.41
Total	20,002.86	1,052.25	18,950.61
Expenditure			
Communications total	147.00	20.00	127.00
Equipment total	515.67	451.03	64.64
Hospitality	0.00	0.00	0.00
Insurance	354.62	120.00	234.62
Office total	925.76	0.00	925.76
Staff costs total	19,101.25	5,001.44	14,099.81
Street Angels consumables	364.54	364.54	0.00
Volunteer costs total	783.33	538.60	244.73
Healing On The Streets	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	22,192.17	6,495.61	15,696.56
surplus	14,570.30	-1,914.65	16,484.95

About Aylesbury Town Chaplaincy

Aylesbury Town Chaplaincy was formed as a charitable trust in 2011, governed by a trust deed (dated 15/09/2011) and registered with the Charity Commission in July 2012.

Its main objects are:

a/ to bring the Christian ministry to people living, visiting and/or working in the centre of Aylesbury in the county of Buckinghamshire, by the provision of pastoral care, including but not limited by the formation of a chaplaincy service

b/ the relief of need and provision of good health in Aylesbury by the provision of advice and support.

It must have at least 3 trustees, who are usually appointed to serve for a period of 3 years at a time, by a resolution passed by the existing trustees at a special meeting.

It employs 2 part-time members of staff.

During 2018 there were 5 trustees meetings.

Trustees, as at 31st December 2018:

Andrew Henderson (Acting Chair),
Adebola Ajayi
Paul Hulcoop
Revd Doug Zimmerman

We are members of the SA-CNI network & the Association of Town & City Chaplaincies (ATCC)

Registered Charity Number: 1147949

Aylesbury Town
Chaplaincy
serving the heart of our town



How to contact Aylesbury Town Chaplaincy:

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Staff:

Chaplains & Street Angels Co-ordinator: Mark Knight

Operations Manager: Catherine Turnbull-Ross

