



FIRE SERVICE CHAPLAINS

INFORMATION HANDBOOK

The Fire and Rescue Service Chaplain



This booklet is designed to give you some information about the services of the Fire Service Chaplain – services which are available to personnel at all levels in the Fire and Rescue Service.

A Fire Service Chaplain is an unpaid volunteer. He/she may have another job or ministry, but at any time may be called to respond to a particular request for service. You don't have to wait for the Chaplain's visit to the Fire Station. If you would like to have a talk with him/her about something that's on your mind you can contact the Chaplain by phone and arrange to see him/her at a mutually convenient time and place.

In the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Fire and Rescue Service there is the continuing process of providing a Chaplain for every station in the brigade, all of whom are available to every member of the Service.

What Does a Chaplain Do?



Visiting

All Chaplains try to visit the stations in their area as often as possible. Some visit at regular hours on set days. For others this would present great difficulty, and they visit the stations as time and opportunity permits.

There is no substitute for visiting if a Chaplain is to get to know the personnel and become known to them in turn. Simply being seen around the place, and getting to know as many folk as possible, being a familiar figure in the watch room, the parade ground, the offices or the canteen ensures that when the Chaplain is called on for some particular service it is at least known who they are.

The object of the many informal contacts and conversations is to build bridges and make it easy for those who want to approach him/her about something that's on their mind. Many people prefer not to discuss such matters with a total stranger, and it is the aim of every Chaplain to be available to all Service personnel.

Personal Support

Every Firefighter is aware that any day and at any time they may find themselves face to face with a situation of extreme danger and distress. The macho image of the Firefighter, used to any and every emergency situation, however horrific, is one that most Service personnel recognise is little more than a media myth. The reality is that we are all human, and these things can affect us at the very deepest level of our being, and because they are part and parcel of the reason why the Fire and Rescue Service exists, we all have to find ways of coping with them. We may be left with deep and perplexing questions that we may want to talk through with someone.

The Chaplains are there to be part of the personnel support system. They would claim no exclusive rights to a cure for trauma, but they would claim that they are a resource that can and should be used.

If at any time you would value the services of the Chaplain he/she would be pleased to meet up with you. As always, the strictest confidentiality will be observed and no one need ever know that you have spoken to him/her. The basis of all the support which the Chaplain offers is friendship and listening both of which demand sensitivity to, and respect for the other person.

Other Pastoral Services

The Chaplain is always available to visit Service personnel who may be in hospital or in times of crisis at home or perform other pastoral and ministerial services for members of the Service. With regard to such functions as weddings, baptisms and funerals, Chaplains are always careful to ensure that these services are only undertaken after appropriate consultation with local church leaders who are often quite happy for Service Chaplains to be involved.

If you have a problem or a query in connection with a wedding, a baptism or a funeral, the Chaplain will be able to advise you about the proper course of action.

Attendance at Incidents

Chaplains may be invited to attend incidents, but then in only very special circumstances, especially when there may have been a loss of life. This would only be on the invitation of the officer in charge of the incident or the Chief Fire Officer.

Referrals

One thing common to all Fire and Rescue Service Chaplains is an awareness that there are limits to the assistance which any one of them can give in any particular situation, and they may suggest a referral to others of whose expertise they are aware. Such referring, however, is only done with the complete agreement of the person concerned.

It cannot be over-stressed that there is complete confidentiality about the conversations with the Chaplain, who will try and offer pastoral support to all.





The Chaplain Is There for You



For All without Exception

When the Chaplain pays a visit to a station, some perhaps imagine that their real interest may be first of all in the people from their own denomination. Some may even be wary, since they don't normally go to Church and may not even be particularly religious, and don't want anyone to 'ram religion down their throats', nothing could be further from the truth.

The Chaplain is there with a care for everybody without exception, including uniformed and non-uniformed personnel, and all those connected with the Fire and Rescue Service including members of the Combined Fire Authority. The Chaplain may be an Anglican or a Roman Catholic Priest, or a minister from the U.R.C., Methodist, Presbyterian, Baptist, Congregational or other tradition, but as a Chaplain represents the whole church irrespective of denomination.

Serving a Diverse Workforce

In our multi-cultural and multi-faith society the Chaplain well knows that there are people from other religious traditions, and they will be sensitive to that. If someone wants to meet someone from their own faith tradition the Chaplain will help them to do that. Generally, though, the Chaplain is there because of their belief that people matter irrespective of who they are, what they are, or what their particular beliefs may be, whether they are Church members or not.

The Chaplain is there to share the concerns, the interests, the problems and the opportunities of Fire and Rescue Service personnel in their working lives, and to make a positive contribution to the life and well-being of everyone involved.

Supporting Independently

It is often said that the Chaplain is “in the Service but not of it”, which simply means that although the Chaplain may be seen around the station, in the canteen or the offices or wherever (and to that extent in it) he/she is independent of the Service’s rank structure (and thus not of it). Chaplains tend, naturally, to identify with the particular Fire and Rescue Service to which they are attached, and may be seen on official occasions very closely identified with it, but as the Chaplain they always retain their independence, available to all, irrespective of rank. Long ago the Fire and Rescue Service realised the value of such an appointment.

The Chaplain is there to be a friend to all, someone who is ready to listen, to support people at every level, and in all kinds of circumstances, which is why it is important that the Chaplain stands outside the formal rank structure.

Although the Chaplain is officially appointed to a Fire and Rescue Service there is a sense in which his/her status is more akin to that of an invited guest and the Chaplains would not wish it otherwise.

Postscript

What you have read in this booklet might lead you to believe that the Chaplain is solely around for the problems and the difficulties, but that is only half the story. He/she takes as much joy as you do in all the successes, promotions, engagements, holidays, hobbies and everyday working experiences that are also part of your life in the Service.

It is the Chaplain’s privilege to be part of the Fire and Rescue Service family, and to make a contribution to the quality of its life.



<i>Station Details</i>	<i>Chaplain Name and Address</i>	<i>Telephone and Email</i>
/ HEADQUARTERS (Inc Ctrl/Stores/Workshops) 12 Geoff Monk Way Birstall, Leicester LE4 3BU	REVD. JOHN BIRD (Main Contact/Co-ordinator) 8 Buckingham Drive Thorpe Acre, Loughborough LE11 4TE	E: john-fireman@sky.com T: 01509 234 962 M: 0771 434 2205
18 CASTLE DONINGTON Building 97, Beverley Road East Midlands Airport Castle Donington, DE74 2SA (Wholetime)	VACANT	
19 BIRSTALL 1 Birstall Meadow Road Birstall, Leicester LE4 3BS (Day Crewing Plus)	KERRY EMMETT (Address N/A)	E: kerryemmett1946@gmail.com T: 0116 319 4736
20 LOUGHBOROUGH Epinal Way Loughborough LE11 3GE (Wholetime)	REVD. JOHN BIRD (See top of page for contact details)	
21 MELTON MOWBRAY Nottingham Road Melton Mowbray, LE13 ONP (Wed 19:30 – 21:30hrs) (On-Call/Day Crew)	DR. TED HUTCHIN (Reader) 35 Wilcox Drive Melton Mowbray LE13 1HH	E: tedhutchin@gmail.com T: 01664 567 786 M: 07850 764 536
23 EASTERN Hastings Road Leicester LE5 0HL (Wholetime)	VACANT	
24 WESTERN Aikman Avenue New Parks, Leicester LE3 9PW (Wholetime)	VACANT	
25 COALVILLE Broad Street Coalville LE67 3PU (Wholetime) (On-Call Tues 19:00 – 21:00hrs)	VACANT	
26 ASHBY Wilfred Place Ashby De La Zouch LE65 2GW (On-Call Tues 19:00 – 21:00hrs)	REVD. TIM PHILLIPS Holy Trinity Vicarage 1 Trinity Close Ashby De La Zouch LE65 2GQ	E: office@trinityashby.net T: 01530 412 339 T: 01530 412 970

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- 28 **SHEPSHED**
Charnwood Road
Shepshead, LE12 9QE
(Wed 15:00–17:00hrs)
(On-Call Thurs 19:00 – 21:00hrs)
- REVD. JOHN BIRD**
(See top of previous page for contact details)
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- 30 **CENTRAL**
Lancaster Place
Leicester
LE1 7HB
(Wholetime)
- CHRISTINA MOTTRAM**
53 Scraftoft Lane
Leicester
LE5 2FD
- E:** cj.mottram@ntlworld.com
T: 0116 221 3066
-
- 31 **WIGSTON**
Bull Head Street
Wigston, LE18 1PG
(Wholetime)
(On-Call Thurs 19:00 – 21:00hrs)
- REVD. STEPHEN BAILEY**
St. Paul's House
Hamble Road
Oadby, Leicester
LE2 4NX
- E:** vicarstpauloadby@gmail.com
T: 0116 271 0519
-
- 32 **BILLESDON**
Rolleston Road
Billesdon
LE7 9AA
(On-Call Wed 19:00 – 21:00hrs)
- REVD. FELIX SMITH**
20a Weare Close
Billesdon, Leicestershire
LE7 9DY
- E:** revfelixsmith@gmail.com
T: 0116 259 9508
-
- 33 **OAKHAM**
South Street
Oakham
LE15 6BQ
(Day Crewing Plus)
- VACANT**
-
- 34 **UPPINGHAM**
10 Ayston Road
Uppingham, LE15 9RL
(On-Call Wed 18:30 – 20:30hrs)
- JILL CANNINGS**
"Crossways"
1 Ayston Road
Uppingham, Rutland
LE15 9RL
- E:** jill.cannings@hotmail.co.uk
T: 01572 821 870
M: 07551 595 891
-
- 35 **KIBWORTH**
Fleckney Road
Kibworth
LE8 0HQ
(On-Call Mon 19:00 – 21:00hrs)
- REVD. LUDGER FREMMER**
The Rectory, 25 Church Road
Kibworth Beauchamp
Leicester
LE8 0NB
- E:** ludger.fremmer@tiscali.co.uk
T: 0116 279 2294
-
- 36 **MARKET HARBOROUGH**
Fairfield Road
Market Harborough
LE16 9QJ
(On-Call Wed 19:00 – 21:00hrs)
- VACANT**
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- 37 **LUTTERWORTH**
Gilmorton Road
Lutterworth, LE17 4DZ
(On-Call Thurs 18:30 – 21:30hrs)
- VACANT**

38	HINCKLEY Leicester Road Hinckley, LE10 1LW (Wholetime) (On-Call Tues 19:00 – 21:00hrs)	VACANT	
39	MARKET BOSWORTH Station Road Market Bosworth CV13 0LT (On-Call Tues 18:00 – 21:00hrs)	REVD. JOHN BIRD (On a temporary basis only.) (See previous page for contact details)	
40	SOUTHERN Meridian East Leicester LE19 1WZ (Wholetime)	REVD. JOHN BIRD (On a temporary basis only.) (See previous page for contact details)	
	BUDDHIST Chaplaincy Service	CAROLINE BRAZIER SULAKHAN SINGH DARD 120 Humberstone Lane Leicester LE4 8HE	T: 0116 286 7476 M: 0779 643 8333
	HINDU Chaplaincy Service	DAVE LALIT (Hindu Priest) Leicester General Hospital	E: maharajlalit@hotmail.com M: 07720 889354
	JEWISH Chaplaincy Service	RABBI SHMULI PINK (Jewish Rabbi)	E: rabbipink@btinternet.com T: 0116 270 6622 M: 07813 714 188
	MUSLIM Chaplaincy Service	BHULA DAWOOD (Muslim Chaplain) Leicester General Hospital	E: dawoodbhula@hotmail.com M: 07801 843 640
	SIKH Chaplaincy Service	VACANT	