The Chaplaincy Annual Report

2012-13





Outdoor Ceilidh, with Soweto Melodic Voices, Edinburgh University Music Society, UoE students and staff, and members of JustFestival.

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The Nature and Vision of the Chaplaincy

The University Chaplaincy serves those of

- all faiths and none and provides for
 - both students and staff.

The Chaplaincy also serves alumni, members of the public, and, when appropriate (as in times of bereavement) families of University members. In addition, the Chaplaincy provides a bridge to local and international communities, and to the faith- and community-networks of its extensive team of Honorary Chaplains and Belief Contacts.

The Chaplaincy is invited to submit an Annual Report that speaks most directly to the student experience, and it sits within the structure of Student Academic Support Group (SASG). However, 30-40% of our activities concern support for, or initiatives with, University staff. Because the Chaplaincy serves the entire University, as well as non-University members, this Report places the student experience in the context of the Chaplaincy's wider work. Students benefit from the Chaplaincy's breadth of remit and its accompanying neutrality; in Chaplaincy activity students come together with staff and members of the public for a variety of common purposes and on a wholly equal footing.

Chaplaincy aims to model equality and inclusivity, hospitality and integrity, dignity and respect at all levels of its provision. It seeks to promote social justice through its volunteering outlets, support for social-welfare and campaigning societies, exhibitions, drop-in donations, and discussion groups. It promotes an awareness of the values that drive our endeavours, as individuals and as a university community. It provides opportunities for spiritual enrichment, and for increased understanding of diverse religious and belief traditions. The Chaplaincy provides teaching, guidance and the overall umbrella for the University's religious and belief societies, and also provides advice and training in religious literacy to University staff and departments. It operates under the view that universities are best served, and best able to serve their members and communities, when they are well- informed about matters of religion, and able expertly to engage with them.

Feedback is collected by Chaplaincy from unsolicited emails and letters, questionnaires distributed about the service, and student-run focus groups. Quotations from these sources are presented in boxes within this report.

We would like to thank the Chaplaincy Committee and its out-going Chair, Vice-Principal Lorraine Waterhouse, for their support and advice throughout the year.

1. Quality of Student Support Opportunities

1.1 KEY FEATURES OF THE CHAPLAINCY PROVISION

The Chaplaincy is for students and staff of all faiths and none.

We offer:

A DEDICATED STAFF-TEAM and an INCLUSIVE and DIVERSE HONORARY TEAM (see 1.1.1)

SPECIAL SITES in the CENTRAL AREA and KB (see 1.1.2)

BREADTH OF ENGAGEMENT (see 1.1.1, and 1.2.2)

- a large multi-faith-and-belief team, affording the University links with religious and humanist communities in and beyond Edinburgh
- promotion of social welfare activities and awareness
- an umbrella for, guidance to, and interaction between religious, humanist and social justice societies
- University-wide projects and Series, engaging students and staff from all Colleges and Support Groups (e.g. 'What's the University For?' Series; Compassionate Care conversations, Soweto-Fringe Festival Project)
- Exhibitions linking local and global artists and community projects with the UoE community.
- Annual Multi-Faith Public Conversation
- provision for University formal events, including the Opening Ceremony and Graduations.

WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY (see 1.1.3)

- a social hub: a free drop-in space with hot drinks, comfortable seating, and a mix of regular and new users
- community meals
- staff lunches
- places for society meetings and events
- invitations to discussion groups and community conversations

WELFARE SUPPORT (see 1.1.4)

- one-to-one support
- group support for Schools, year-groups, peer-groups, societies or departments who are facing particular situations
- emergency support, and out-of-hours cover
- bereavement care for families of University members

- mediation and conflict-resolution assistance
- training for Personal Tutors, SSOs, HR advisors on aspects of support for students and colleagues
- support through weekly programme of practices for self-care and wellbeing

RELIGIOUS EXPERTISE, SERVICES AND SPIRITUAL PRACTICES (see 1.1.5)

- a Sanctuary in Bristo Square, and, prayer rooms and spaces for reflection across the UoE.
- daily services and spiritual practices, including Tai Chi, Mindfulness, Taizé or Celtic Prayer and Holy Communion.
- One-one sessions in spiritual accompaniment
- Religious Literacy training and resources to UoE staff and students
- teaching, discussion and reflection groups, within and across diverse traditions.
- retreat opportunities for students and staff
- annual services, including for Remembrance Sunday and the Christmas Carol Service, and to mark and beginning and end of the University year.
- Festivals and Events with student societies, including for Diwali, Eid, Holocaust Memorial Day, and Chinese New Year.

1.1.1 A DEDICATED STAFF-TEAM and an INCLUSIVE and DIVERSE HONORARY TEAM

Staff Team

The Chaplaincy staff-team comprises two full-time Chaplains, two part-time Administrators and a semester-time Receptionist. The Service is maintained by 3.75 post-holders. In Semester 1 of 2012-13 there was a period of staff-recruitment overlapping with staff-illness, which meant that the Chaplaincy was operating at full-pelt with the capacity of 3 post-holders, whilst introducing new Administrators into the role. This placed a strain on all staff. The Service to users was well-maintained, and the Receptionist was nominated for, and awarded, a Contribution Reward in recognition of the extra work-load that she carried across the year.

The University community is numerically the size of a middle-sized town, such as would be served by multiple paid ministers, celebrants, religious houses, and their support staff. In providing for the University, the Chaplaincy is greatly enabled by the genuine sense of owned responsibility and "yes we can" attitude of the small paid staff.

Honorary Team

The Chaplaincy is also hugely enabled by the goodwill of our voluntary team of Honorary Chaplains and Belief Contacts. This is a broad and diverse team from Baha'i, Buddhist, Christian (Church of Scotland, Episcopalian, Free Church of Scotland, Methodist, Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and United Reformed), Daoist, Hindu, Humanist, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, Quaker, and Unitarian traditions.

The Honorary Team was expanded in 2012-13 in order to meet current and future discernible needs arising from the UoE's changing and growing student body, and increased international engagement:

- Three new Muslim Members: Sheikh Osama Zaki from the Central Mosque as new Muslim Chaplain, and Nasim Azad and Umar Malik as Muslim Belief Contacts
- A new Baha'i Contact, Irene Cotugno, who is also an HR advisor in the UoE
- Two new Jewish Chaplains: Rabbi Yossi Bodenheim (Jewish Chaplain); Rabbi Dr Mark Solomon (Liberal Jewish Chaplain)
- A new Roman Catholic Chaplain, Fr Robert Verrill, serving alongside
 Fr Dermot Morrin and Fr Lawrence Lew
- A new Daoist Contact, Rachael Zi Jiao
- A new Humanist Chaplain, Tim Maguire, who had previously been the Humanist Belief Contact.

Plans are put in place to appoint an East Asian contact who together with the Daoist Contact will help to provide for the many UoE students from the Far East.

The full team of Honorary Chaplains and Belief Contacts at the end of 2012-

13 was as follows:

Anglican Chaplain: Rev Canon Ian Paton

Baha'i Contact: Irene Cotugno

Buddhist Chaplain: Ani Rinchen Khandro

Catholic Chaplains: Fr Dermot Morrin, Fr Lawrence Lew, Fr Robert Verrill

Church of Scotland Chaplains: Rev Richard Frazer, Rev Jared Hay

Daoist Contact: Rachael Zi Jiao Hindu Chaplain: Naren Sood Humanist Chaplain: Tim Maguire

Jewish Chaplains: Rabbi Yossi Bodenheim, Rabbi Mark Solomon

Labyrinth Chaplain: Rev Frances Burberry Methodist Chaplain: Rev Geoffrey Baines Muslim Chaplain: Sheikh Osama Zaki

Muslim Contacts: Ms Nasim Azad, Mr Umar Malik

Orthodox Chaplain: Fr Raphael Pavouris

Quaker Contact: Sarah Martin Sikh Chaplain: Trishna Singh Unitarian Contact: Rev Maud Robinson

United Reformed Church Chaplain: Rev Fiona Bennett

Volunteer Lay Chaplain: Mike Sinclair

1.1.2 THE CHAPLAINCY SITES in the CENTRAL AREA and KB

The Chaplaincy maintains two sites:

- The Chaplaincy Centre, Bristo Square
- Chaplaincy Rooms, King's Buildings

The Chaplaincy also assists with provision of prayer or reflection spaces in other UoE sites: Moray House, Easter Bush and New College.

1.1.2.1 The Chaplaincy Centre, Bristo Square

The Chaplaincy Centre in Bristo Square is the Chaplaincy's main venue, and houses its

- Offices and consultation rooms
- Social drop-in
- Newly designed Sanctuary
- Society meeting rooms
- Events space
- Resource Centre and study space
- Contemplation Room

The spaces in the Chaplaincy Centre are frequently up-graded and considered for their suitability, so as to enable us to provide a warm welcome to a broad and mixed group of students and staff. **2,500-3,000** people pass through the Centre's doors each week for:

- The drop-in: tea, coffee, newspapers, comfy seats and a piano
- quiet reflection, and individual use of Contemplation Room or of the Sanctuary
- Services, meditations and spiritual practices
- study
- the exhibitions
- use of resource centre
- personal support
- religious- and other student- society meetings
- language cafés
- fund-raising activities
- Fair-trade café
- "Curry in a Hurry", the Sikh Sanjog curry lunch
- Amnesty letter-writing and other social-welfare initiatives
- Use of the piano.

In the Chaplaincy Centre auditorium we also host larger-scale events such as:

- 'What's the University For?' Colloquia and workshops
- film-showings, debates, workshops, and themed events
- Multifaith-and-belief meals with presentations, music or drama
- Social Functions, such as Thanksgiving Meals, Christmas parties for children and for older people.
- the annual Multi-Faith Public Conversation
- services to respond to particular events, including Memorial Services
- services that are a provision for the local community, including the annual Sick Kids memorial service
- Festivals (religious and other) Diwali, Eid, Chinese New Year, Holocaust Memorial, Green living, Food Festival
- Fund-raising events held by student societies and groups

The Chaplaincy Centre is fully booked in semester time, and we aim each year to make space for some new groups.

Usage Statistics

We conduct foot-fall counts, collect numbers of those attending Society-meetings, and numbers attending for pastoral reasons or for discussion groups. This particular count pertains only to the Bristo Square site, during weekdays, and not to those using the chaplaincy service at other Chaplaincy sites, other University venues, at weekends, or by email.

Number of People Coming into Bristo Square Chaplaincy Centre in an average week

2009-10: 2414 2010-11: 2372 2011-12: 2748 2012-13: 2686

We estimate a further 200+ footfall in the KB Prayer Rooms. Much of the prayer-rooms usage is private in nature, apart from Friday prayers. The social use of the rooms has increased throughout 2012-13, with users creating a table-tennis area, and having more space to eat together. We have organised a footfall counter for KB, but have moved between different sets of temporary accommodation in 2012-13, so have not installed it yet.

Much Chaplaincy work happens away from the Chaplaincy Centre, including:

- planned activities at Kings Buildings and Easter Bush
- services, support of Ministerial students, workshop facilitation and teaching, at New College and in the Crystal MacMillan Building
- planning of new initiatives with students and staff at Moray House,
 Easter Bush, and ECA
- pastoral visits to individuals and departments (such as following the death of a student or colleague)
- General Council meetings
- Committee meetings and Steering Groups
- Development and local community work with the Honorary Chaplaincy team, in various ministries in Edinburgh
- major events at other venues, including the Carol Service, Remembrance Sunday, the Graduations, the Anatomy Service, and the annual Services at Greyfriars Kirk. These events collectively involve several thousand people, such that gauging Chaplaincy usage becomes a very elastic matter
- retreats

An increasing amount of work happens over the internet, including email pastoral care.

1.1.2.1a Online engagement

Our Facebook fans have increased from 66 on 1st September 2012 to 184 on 31st August 2013. We also have over 150 followers on Twitter.

Over 8000 estimated unique visitors to the Chaplaincy website (of whom over 50% are from Edinburgh) indicates that we are achieving good penetration on our target demographic.

The total number of pageviews on the Chaplaincy website for the academic year 2012/13 is 58,180 – an increase of over 50% from the previous year.

Compare this to the pageviews in previous years:

	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Chaplaincy	20493	38999	38529	58180
Website (all)				
Staff &	3534	10155	10614	15795
team				
Religion	2280	3585	5816	13294
Support	894	2024	5161	14348
Events	4987	6641	13594	15664

Page views have increased by over 50% in total, and by over 50% in most categories – the Events pages haven't seen such a dramatic jump this year, but in 2011/12 there was concentration on enhancing the Events page, and as a result its views doubled between 2010/11 and 2011/12. The same concentration has now been applied to the rest of the site, with similarly improved results.

1.1.2.1b The opening of the new Sanctuary

The Sanctuary is a unique provision within the Chaplaincy Centre. It is a quiet area, set aside for worship, spiritual practices, and individual use. The area had previously been designated a Chapel, and was not very visible to users of the Chaplaincy Centre. In 2011 we commissioned the artist Donald Urqhart, from ECA, to redesign it. Donald specialises in multifaith spaces, and had designed the Sanctuary at the Royal Edinburgh Infirmary. He has brought to the space a greater connection with nature, improved use of colour and light, and an entrance way that draws the eye and feels easily accessible. The work in recreating the space was successfully completed in the summer of 2012, in time for the new academic year 2012-13.

A Dedication and Opening Ceremony was held in Semester 1, 2012-13, attended by the Principal and large numbers of students and staff from

across the University, and with dedications from student representatives and Chaplains of all the world faiths.

"One of the best things about the Chaplaincy is that it is separated from the hustle and bustle and general stress/panic associated with the George Square buildings. It is a relaxing "sanctuary" as opposed to a stressful university building. The sanctuary, contemplation room, study area etc. work really well because they are in a relaxing place."

(from the Chaplaincy comment box)

"I have made occasional use of the sanctuary and it's chilled. Love it." (from comments gathered for a marketing exercise)



Promotional leaflet for new Sanctuary

1.1.2.2 The Chaplaincy Rooms, King's Buildings

The KB Chaplaincy Rooms are the main provision for Muslim members of the University in that part of the City, and are also used by other members of the University. They comprise:

- Muslim Prayer rooms for men and women
- Ablution areas
- A common room for social meetings and for other religious meetings
- Kitchen area

These KB rooms are in daily use for Muslim prayers (five times a day, with a constant stream of individuals coming and going) and in corporate use by Muslims for Friday Prayer, for weekend socials, and for particular ceremonies. They are also used for a weekly Rosary Group run by the Catholic Student Union, Christian Union breakfasts, Quaker meetings, weekly mixed-faith meditations, and as a common room for Chaplaincy events (including staff lunches), and for midday/midweek prayer meetings held by students and staff.

The rooms in 2012-13 were receiving some upkeep awaiting a move to improved accommodation. A team of users met with the Chaplains and E&B team in order to clarify requirements for new accommodation. After an incident of vandalism, the old rooms were closed, and temporary accommodation found in Semester 2, which is likely to remain in use until the summer of 2014. The temporary accommodation is larger, with more social space, and as a result the users are increasing the usage of the building by encouraging people to study there, to play table-tennis, attend social events, as well as different groups meeting for prayers, spiritual practices or yoga. This more spacious set of rooms has encouraged growth of usage, most particularly by the Saudi and Malaysian communities.

The Chaplaincy has worked with E&B to provide good furnishings, kitchen facilities, and the necessary fittings for Muslim prayers and ablutions. We are still awaiting news on both permanent, and interim medium-term accommodation.

1.1.2.3 Inclusivity and Accessibility

The Chaplaincy aims at the highest levels of inclusivity, and is remarked upon for its welcoming ethos and the wide mix of people who engage with us.

We do not control the location or quality of access to our buildings, but we ensure the greatest access possible to all events. The Chaplaincy Centre in Bristo Square is regularly used by students with disabilities, and where wheelchair access is required to the upstairs areas of the Chaplaincy Centre, we facilitate access via the EUSA lift. On occasion we relocate events to increase access. For public events in the auditorium we hire a PA system and sound technicians. The Chaplaincy Centre has an induction loop.

In the summer of 2013, the Chaplaincy took part in the UoE hosting of 10 undergraduate students with disabilities/2 support students/3 staff from Delhi, led by an Equal Opportunities Cell from Delhi University.

"I work for disabled students and I always introduce them to the Chaplaincy. All the students use the area in different ways depending on their disability. For those with autism it gives them a quiet space to study or to just get away from the confusions and buzz of university life. For those with physical disabilities it is an ideal inclusive space to work with their tutor groups, read, have lunch etc. As a member of staff I use the space between lectures and with students as it is a 'neutral' area. I cannot express fully how important the space is and how helpful the staff has been to my students and to myself. It is truly an oasis in the otherwise busy and sometimes frantic world of university. This separateness is one of its unique values."

(A comment put in the Chaplaincy comment box)

We model and promote equality and diversity at every level of Chaplaincy provision. We are a service through which people of diverse cultures, faiths, political passions and ideologies come together, often with their passionate beliefs uppermost in their minds, and we model a way for all to come together with dignity and respect. The Chaplains keep themselves in regular training to increase their skills in handling dialogue, conflict, and issues regarding diversity, equality and tolerance.

Table 1.1 Groups using Bristo Square Chaplaincy Centre, 2012-13

University Religious/Spiritual/Meditation Societies/Groups

Anglican Society

Bahá'í Society

Buddhist Society

Christian Union

Christian Union Small Groups

Christians in Sport Meeting

Humanist Society

Islamic Society

Jewish Society

Medic Students Prayer Meeting

Orthodox Students Society

Student Christian Movement

Vedic Society

External Religious Groups/Events

Chinese Church Student Bible Study Group

Ismailis

Other Religious/Multi-faith Initiatives

Capacitar Tai Chi

Chaplaincy Freshers' Fair

Counselling & Spirituality Workshops with Hon Chaplains & Contacts

Diwali Celebration with Vedic Society

EU Carol Service

EU Children's Christmas Party

EU Christian Union Events Week Meetings

EU Christian Union Gospel Readings

EU Multi-faith Public Conversation

Holocaust Memorial Event with Jewish Society

Holy Communion

Honest to God Event with Frances Burberry

Honorary Chaplains' Meetings

Indoor Labyrinth Walks

Labyrinth Walks at Pollok Halls

Interfaith meals

Launch of new Chaplaincy Sanctuary

Midday Prayer in the Celtic Tradition

Mindfulness and Meditation

Morning Meditation

Multifaith Forum

Qi Gong Sessions (new)

Religious Literacy Event (new)

Reflective Walks at Kings Buildings (new)

Retreat in Daily Life (new)

Sharing our Spiritual Treasures/Exploring our Scriptures (New)

Sikh Sanjog Curry Lunches (New)

Spirit in All Things Course (new)

Walking Meditation at George Square Labyrinth (new)

Non-Religious University Societies

African & Arabic Dance Society (new)

Amnesty International Society

Amnesty International Letter Writing

Ballroom Dance Society

Bollocks to Poverty Society

Create Society (new)

Fair Trade Society

Female Voice Choir

First Aid Society

Global Health Society (New)

Hellenic Society Dance Group

LEO Linguistics Society

Les Escogriffes Society

Modern Dance Society

People and Planet Society

Save the Children Society

SocieTEA

Sunday's Child Play Rehearsals

Tai Chi Society

Yoga Society

Internal/External Non-Religious Groups/Events

Amnesty International Guerrilla Cinema Event

Amnesty International Shattered Homes Exhibition

Anne Frank Trust Ambassador Training

Book Club

Buddha Relics Travelling Exhibition

EUTIC Meeting

National Day of Romania Celebration by Othodox Students Society

Celebration of Chinese New Year

Chaplaincy FundRaising Events for Soweto Melodic Voices

- a) Porridge Fundraiser in George Square
- b) Cake Sale in Chaplaincy Centre x 2
- c) Ceilidh

Conversations about Counselling, Spirituality & Faith Workshop

EUSA International Women's Day Event

EUSA SAABS meeting

EUSA Societies Council Evaluation Meeting

EUSA Tandem Language Café

EUSA Tandem English Language Café

EUSA Volunteers Older Folks Christmas Party

EUSA Wellbeing Week Events (3 events)

EU Charity Fashion Show Swop Shop

EU Chaplaincy Staff Coffee Mornings

EU Chaplaincy Staff lunches

EU Fair Trade Fortnight Meet the Producer Talk & Cake Bake

EU Fair Trade Steering Group Meetings

EU Freshers Ethical Free Food Buffet

EU Freshers Trade Fair

EU Green Living Festival

EU Hearty Squirrel Society Food Workshop

EU ICare Society FundRaising Event

EU Innovative Learning Week – Stress Busting Workshop

EU International Students Centre Dessert Night

EU Mary's Meals Society World Porridge Day Event

EU Music Society AGM

EU Retired Staff Association

EU South Asian Student Association Talk

EU Students Homelessness Project – Robert Burns Play Fund Raising Event Rehearsal

EU Student Recruitment & Admissions Workshop

EU Syrian Students Aid Convey Drop Off Days

EU Syrian Students Dine for Syria Meetings

EU What's the University For Events

Fran Law Exhibition (including opening and talk)

Fringe Festival

Linguistic Research Project

Oor Mad History Mental Health Exhibition (including opening event)

PostGraduate Network Gathering

Sick Kids Memorial Service

Thanksgiving Meal with EUSA & International Office

University of the Third Age Committee Meetings

Yoga Workshop (facilitated by Associate Chaplain)

We are also able to host students with their families, particularly at the Multifaith Meals, International evenings hosted with the IO, the Thanksgiving Meal, Diwali, and the Children's Christmas party. We welcome families, but clarify to all users that children are the responsibility of their carers at all times in the Chaplaincy, and must not be left with Chaplaincy Centre staff, servitorial staff or other Chaplaincy users.

1.1.2.3a Equality, Diversity and Religious Literacy

The Chaplaincy is a channel of advice to members of the University on matters related to religion and faith. The extensive Honorary Team brings expertise from most traditions. The Chaplaincy is sometimes called upon to advise specifically on matters of religious literacy, for example regarding timings of lectures and exams, need for prayer space (particularly for

Muslim students), accommodation issues, and alcohol use. We are planning to make further religious literacy expertise available to the University.

In order to provide a service to the University in ensuring excellency in Equality and Diversity in relation to religion, the Chaplaincy hosted a day on Religious Literacy Leadership in Higher Education, in May 2013. This day conference was attended by heads of services across the UoE and from other Scottish universities. Plans are in place, emanating from this conference, to establish a Religion and Belief Working Party at the UoE.

1.1.2.3b Distance Learning Provision

For distance learning students, the Chaplaincy received a DEI budget in 2012-13 of £2,219 which it used to buy particular equipment and pilot some schemes:

- Web cams in all the consultation rooms, to enable skype consultations.
- Recording of Chaplaincy Series and Annual Events, including the 'What's the University for?' Series, 'Women and Religion' panel, and the Annual Multi-Faith Public Conversation, in order to extend access to distance learning students and indeed to all who cannot attend events on the day.
- Separate generation of 'What's the University for?' initiative specifically tailored to distance learners, and managed by Amy Woodgate.
- Live-streaming of the University Carol Service, to provide access to those who are off-campus. This was appreciated not only by distance learning students, but also by those who are abroad, and by alumni, and by families of students who enjoyed watching form home whilst the students were in the McEwan Hall. Live-streaming will now become core Chaplaincy practice.

'I just wanted to let you know how much we enjoyed watching the Carol Service online. I don't know whose idea it was to live stream it, but it was very well done and came across to us beautifully in Canada...we do not have access to similar services without doing the 2+ hour trek to Toronto. So, thanks to all!' (Email sent to the Equine Science Base and forwarded on to Chaplaincy)

1.1.2.3c Sustainability and Fair Trade

The Chaplaincy joined the EUSA Sustainability Awards in 2011-12, and received a Bronze Award for raising awareness within the Chaplaincy of green issues as well as increasing our attentiveness to environmental concerns within the Chaplaincy. In 2013-13, the Chaplaincy was awarded a EUSA Special Award, in recognition of the promotion of sustainability

through The Green Living Festival, the 'Spirit in all things' course, KB Allotment group, and the 'What's the University for?' Series.



Chaplaincy staff and users receiving the Sustainability Award

The Associate Chaplain is planning further Sustainability initiatives in 2013-14, including a two-day trip to Pishwanton, and a Peace and Environmental awareness pilgrimage walking the Camino.

The 'What's the University for?' Series worked extensively with SEAG in 2012-13, and will continue to develop joint-initiatives in 2013-14.

The Chaplaincy now regularly hosts events for Fair Trade fortnight, and in 2012-13 hosted an event together with the Fair Trade Steering Group, invited fair trade producers, and with contributions from the SocieTea, Fairtrade café, and Hearty Squirrel, and Vegetarian soc.

1.1.3 WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY

"The Chaplaincy is an amazing and incredible space. I sometimes call it my second home."

"The drop in/social space is very highly valued by those who use it. In my opinion it is the most pleasant area on campus to spend time with friends and study. The staff is all very friendly and helpful."

"Chaplaincy has been at the centre of my university experience for the past three years. It's the one space at the university which has a strong sense of community."

The full spectrum of University members use the Chaplaincy, as do visitors to the University. The Chaplaincy extends hospitality, on behalf of the University, to families of University members and to members of the public.

Categories of Chaplaincy Usage by University Community

- Students Undergraduate, Postgraduate (PG) Taught and PG research
- Staff
- Religious and Belief Societies
- Other University societies
- People wanting a relaxed drop-in
- People wanting meeting or prayer space (Bristo Square Chaplaincy Centre, K.B., Moray House, Easter Bush)
- International Students
- Vulnerable Students and Staff
- Students and Staff seeking non-alcoholic space for social meeting
- Alumni and Former Staff

Our social drop-in is at the heart of Chaplaincy life, and we prioritise creating a welcoming atmosphere. The Receptionist greets people as they come and go, and shows new users where to get themselves drinks, and what the Chaplaincy Centre offers. News about the drop-in spreads by word-of-mouth, and the environment is friendly, highly diverse, and non-threatening to newcomers. Many users are not religious, and before coming to the drop-in had assumed that one would need to be religious to use it, or to like it! Our regular users like to get the message out to others that this is not the case, and they have interviewed for The Student on this subject, and engaged in Facebook chat about it. At the same time, they like the Chaplaincy to be a bit of a 'secret', as it already becomes over-full, especially at lunchtimes when we frequently run out of seats.

"The Chaplaincy Centre is where a lot of interesting people come, people who are interested in sustainability and ethical issues, and I've made most of my friends here. It's a great place to hang out, where a shared interest in social justice matters more than differences of opinion on matters of faith, or lack of it" (Quotation from student user in an article in "The Student" written by Tim Maguire, Humanist Chaplain and journalist)

Those who use the social drop-in in the Chaplaincy Centre auditorium include:

- students and staff who read the papers, work and socialise there, and who appreciate that 'there are no strings attached' to being there;
- campaigning societies such as Amnesty, who letter-write during the drop-in;
- creative societies, such as the knitting circle;
- fundraisers, such as Save the Children, WaterAid, Mary's Meals, and Syria appeals;
- Fair Trade Café, which operates weekly during the drop-in;
- 'Curry in a Hurry', curry lunches, new in 2012-13, initiated by the Sikh Chaplain;
- EUSA staff and sabbatical officers who regularly hold ad hoc planning meetings in the drop-in area, or bring in guests;
- International students, who value the opportunity to meet with home students, and who use the drop-in as a venue to hold Tandem language cafés and to try out new initiatives, such as the Chinese Linguistic Study Group.
- Student groups from medicine, law and increasingly diverse range of Schools, who make regular weekly use of the drop-in to hold study-sessions.

"The Chaplaincy is a great place to socialise with people of diverse beliefs and backgrounds but also a place for quiet, rest and study." (from comment cards)

We make particular provision for post-graduate students, who are often working in more isolated conditions than other students, and for international students, some of whom have approached Chaplaincy to ask for assistance in meeting home students (see 1.2 for partnerships with EUSA Global and the International Office). We continue to operate the Post-graduate Student Network, originated in 2010, which students are choosing to use as a gateway to Chaplaincy and other activities (rather than maintaining a discrete postgraduate group).

1.1.4 WELFARE SUPPORT

Those who make use of the Chaplaincy's welfare provision include:

- distressed individuals: students and staff
- University departments under collective pressure (e.g. from bereavement of colleagues or students, departmental change, financial cuts, etc)
- other groups seeking collective support or collaboration, including students on protests and campaigns

- bereaved families and friends of University members
- those seeking guidance or mediation assistance after particular events
- those seeking spiritual advice or religious counsel.

The Chaplaincy is able to offer a quick response to students and staff seeking support. There is a welfare drop-in service, and if a Chaplain is not available straightaway, the Receptionist takes details and direct contact with a Chaplain is made within 24 hours. To enable us to keep up this rate of response, the Chaplaincy has increased its provision in Bristo Square by bringing a Lay Chaplain (and retired Social Worker) on to the team, who is based at the Chaplaincy Centre two days a week. We also have the capacity to draw more extensively on the Honorary Team, which we do in particularly busy times.

The Chaplaincy works in partnership with many other services in providing for the well-being of UoE members, and this partnering is integral to our welfare provision. See 1.2

By its nature the Chaplaincy is a 'holding' space for many students and staff who are on waiting lists elsewhere. This is enabled through Chaplaincy hospitality, the possibility for conversation with the Chaplain, and the welcoming space. Chaplaincy is often considered a safe space, and yoga, tai chi and mindfulness, which can help to relieve stress, are available weekly.

"The chaplaincy is a vital space for the community. It is a safe space unlike any other and even though there are other communal areas, the atmosphere the chaplaincy makes is unique and it deserves its own space." (from comment cards)

1.1.4.1 Emergency support, student deaths and staff deaths

The Chaplaincy is at the front-line of support in the event of a student death (following the UoE Student Death Protocol), and in relation to many critical injuries. The Chaplaincy is also centrally involved in relation to emergencies at a national or international level that may affect UoE members, such as natural disasters and outbreak of conflict. We work in partnership with other UoE Services and with relevant Schools (see 1.2), and take on a coordinating role in ensuring that all relevant parties are informed of developments.

The Chaplain sat on the Emergency Response Group Sub-Committee, which was convened in 2012-13 to survey and make recommendations regarding UoE response to emergencies.

In the event of student or staff death, the Chaplaincy provides primary support for family members, and often also of friends, peers, and colleagues. The Chaplaincy is able to see people individually, and is also on hand to offer advice to UoE Schools and departments, including on how to let people know of a death, ways of gathering people together, making books of condolence, putting together a funeral or memorial service, connecting the different parties involved. Chaplains bring knowledge of how the university community can best assist, and skills of accompanying people through grief and shock, and of understanding the role of ritual. One of the Chaplains will often officiate at the funeral or memorial service, and in these instances the Chaplaincy administrators are also integrally involved in making bookings and service sheets, arranging technicians and caterers, and covering other practicalities.

At present there is no Staff Death Protocol to mirror the Student Death Protocol, and the Chaplain is in discussion with HR so as to develop a document and provide training for HR Advisors.

1.1.5 RELIGIOUS EXPERTISE, SERVICES AND SPIRITUAL PRACTICES

The University of Edinburgh Chaplaincy provides the largest university chaplaincy team in the UK. Its two full-time chaplains are assisted by over twenty Honorary Chaplains and Belief Contacts, covering all of the world faiths and humanism. The team is on hand to offer spiritual counsel to individuals, and also religious advice to Schools or line-managers enquiring how best to make a particular provision. The Chaplaincy provides on-going training to all Chaplains in order to maintain our expertise, for example in relation to good campus relations and freedom of speech, hate-crimes, and mental health. Through the Religious Literacy initiative (see above), the Chaplaincy has raised awareness within UoE of the sorts of cases where Chaplaincy might be able to advise on suitable provision in order to ensure good Equality and Diversity practice.

The Chaplaincy also offers teaching and reflection, in the form of regular courses, discussion groups, lectures and events. Many of these bring people of diverse traditions together, including the Annual Multi-Faith Public Conversation, and regular Multifaith meals with outside speakers. New in 2012-13:

- fortnightly 'Exploring Scriptures' and 'Sharing our Spiritual Treasures' meetings
- 'Spirit in all things' weekly evening course.

There is a weekly programme of religious services and spiritual practices, which are provided in Bristo Square, KB and New College. In 2012-13, these included:

Labyrinth walks (George Square Gardens)

Morning meditation sessions

Tai chi

Mindfulness (offered on main campus and at King's Buildings)

Holy Communion (on main campus and at New College)

The Chaplaincy also provides annual services for the University including:

- The University Service to mark the beginning of the Academic Session
- The Graduation and Thanksgiving Service
- Remembrance Sunday Service, in conjunction with Napier, Herriot Watt and Queen Margaret universities
- Christmas Carol Service
- The Anatomy Service, which is a Memorial Service provided annually with the Medical School, for those who have left their bodies to science.

In addition, the Chaplains provide Reflections at the University Graduations, and Prayers, Reflections or Benedictions at other functions including the Opening Ceremony, Installation of the Chancellor and Rector, and meetings of General Council.

1.1.5.1 Provision of retreats and pilgrimages

Retreats and pilgrimages are key areas of growth in religious and spiritual activity worldwide. The Chaplaincy recognises the benefits, and is developing opportunities for people to engage in both retreats and pilgrimage. The Associate Chaplain headed up several initiatives in 2012-13:

- took two North American students on funded places to a retreat in New Mexico in July 2012, who then exercised leadership in Multifaith activities and initiatives for spiritual growth in 2012-13, to the benefit of the wider University community
- led two international retreats on Iona
- began planning for a pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, to take place in 2014, which will be multifaith and with a focus on peacemaking and the environment
- introduced a retreat-in-daily-life, which involved intensive reflective one-one work over a 3 week period, for UoE students and staff, and drew upon the expertise of internal and external spiritual directors.

The Church of Scotland Chaplain, Red Dr Jared Hay, took students to the ecumenical Taizé Community in France.

1.1.5.2 Religious and spiritual users

Those who use the Chaplaincy for its faith and belief provision include:

<u>The University's religious and belief societies</u>, all of whom come under the umbrella of the Chaplaincy for provision and guidance.

Anglican Society
Bahá'í Society
Buddhist Society
Christian Union
Christian Union Small Groups
Christians in Sport Meeting
Islamic Society
Humanist Society
Jewish Society
Medics Prayer Group
Quakers
Romanian Christian Orthodox Group
Student Prayer Group
Tai Chi Society
Vedic Society

These societies benefit from the opportunity to use the meeting rooms, Sanctuary and contemplation room, and hence to develop their own autonomy. They also acquire insights and skills from coming together across traditions, in a range of large and small meetings and workshops facilitated by the Chaplains.

In addition to members of the religious societies, there are others of all faiths and none who look to the Chaplains, the teaching programmes and the special events to inform their understanding of religion.

"The great thing about the chaplaincy is the mix of people and the atmosphere they produce – warm, inviting, respectful and cozy."

Priority is given to the religious and belief societies for bookings of the Chaplaincy Centre rooms, and after that to social-justice groups and creative groups.

Those who use the Chaplaincy for teaching, discussion and reflection include:

- Members of religious and belief societies
- Students and staff who participate in particular initiatives such as Exploring Scriptures, and Sharing our Spiritual Treasures.
- Students and Staff attending Chaplaincy lectures and panel events
- Academics, artists and health-care practitioners from Edinburgh and around the UK who come together for Conversation days on Dying Well, and Compassionate Care.

Those using the Chaplaincy for religious services and spiritual practice include:

- Students, staff and members of the public who come for midweek services and meditations
- Members of the University and of the public attending services in response to particular needs, such as services for peace, and the Sick Kids Memorial Service
- All who benefit from the annual services put on by the Chaplains in various venues, such as the Christmas Carol Service, which has an annual attendance of c 1,300 people, and the Anatomy Service, attended by c 700 people annually.

1.2 KEY FEATURES OF PARTNERSHIPS

1.2.1 CHAPLAINCY COMMITTEE

Chaplaincy partnerships are reflected in the Chaplaincy Committee, which ratifies appointments to the Chaplaincy team, promotes the work of the Chaplaincy, and shares thoughts and advice regarding Chaplaincy planning. The Committee is made up of UoE students and staff across the breadth of the institution, in order to ensure good representation.

2012-13 committee

Staff members:

Prof Lorraine Waterhouse, VP Equality & Diversity (Social Work)

Prof S Jay Brown (Divinity)

Dr Hannah Holtschneider (Divinity)

Dr Fanney Kristmundsdottir (Biological Sciences)

Dr Hamish MacLeod (Higher Community Education)

Dr Peter Moles (Management & Economics)

Dr Sara Parvis (Divinity)

Mr Robert Lawrie (Registry)

Ms Jo Holtan (International Officer, EUSA)

Prof Wilson Poon (Astronomy)

Prof Hugh Goddard (Alwaleed Centre, Islamic & Middle Eastern Studies)

Ms Jean Grier (SASG)

Prof Mike Mineter (Geosciences)

Angi Lamb (Information Services)

Hazel Robertson / Nadia Mehdi (EUSA Equality & Diversity)

Student members:

Mark MacLeod

Briana Pegado

Astrid Bunne

Audrey Chia

Ruth McElroy

Hazel Marzetti

Keziah Berelson

The Committee will expand in 2013-14 to include more staff members of diverse faiths (some invitees were on sabbatical 2012-13), and members of the Global Academies, the International Office and the International Student Centre.

1.2.2 BREADTH OF ENGAGEMENT

The Chaplaincy works in partnerships in order to initiate or collaborate on events and programme, including (fuller details appear later in the Report):

- EUSA, on events, support for Societies, and closely with EUSA Sabbs and EUSA Global, including in marking Black History Month, International Women's Day, LGBT History Month, and developing Global Citizenship workshops
- The International Office, on UoE events, meals for international students and their families, support of individual International students, and responses to situations overseas or involving international students
- IAD, on training for PTs and SSOs, 'What's the University for?', and Religious Literacy provision
- Registry, for graduations
- Protocol, for Carol Service, Opening Ceremony, Installation Ceremonies, and VIPs
- Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Group, and Fair Trade Steering Group, including marking Fairtrade Fortnight, supporting Fair Trade Café, developing Sustainability initiatives with students
- Equality and Diversity, regarding Religious Literacy and plans to develop a Religion and Belief Working Party
- General Council, in supporting the Business Committee, and discussing matters of shared alumni and student interest
- Development and Alumni, in alumni events and relations, and hosting Soweto Melodic Voices
- Festivals and Corporate Services, in bringing Soweto Melodic Voices to the Edinburgh Fringe
- Particular schools and academic departments, including
 - the Divinity School in teaching, seminars, religious services and on Multifaith Events
 - o The Alwaleed Centre, in Multifaith work
 - ECA in redesigning spaces
 - the Vet School on expanding Chaplaincy provision and developing initiatives
 - the School of Health in Social Science, in supervision and shared initiatives
 - Medical School, Law School, IASH and others in 'Compassionate Care' conversations
 - o the School of Social Sciences on Sustainability
 - Centre for African Studies, School of Music, and CHSS office, in work with Soweto Melodic Voices
 - Palliative Care Group, in 'Dying Well' conversations and festival initiatives
 - Global Health Academy in multiple initiatives

Chaplaincy works with UoE students and staff across all Colleges in its development of the 'What's the University for?' Series.

Breadth of Chaplaincy partnerships is further reflected in the social-justice, creative and cultural societies with which Chaplaincy works. These include:

African & Arabic Dance Society (new) Amnesty International Society **Amnesty International Letter Writing Ballroom Dance Society Bollocks to Poverty Society Create Society (new) Fair Trade Society Female Voice Choir First Aid Society** Global Health Society (New) **Hellenic Society Dance Group LEO Linguistics Society Les Escogriffes Society Modern Dance Society People and Planet Society Save the Children Society SocieTEA Sunday's Child Play Rehearsals** Tai Chi Society **Yoga Society**

Table 1.1 lists the range of events that Chaplaincy held with these and other groups in 2012-13, as well as the range of external partners that use Chaplaincy.

In 2012-13 Chaplaincy embarked on new ways of working, in facilitating cross-society gatherings and initiatives. Notable among these were the

Chinese Lantern Festival, involving

- Chinese Society
- Burmese Society
- Taiwanese Society
- Malaysian Society
- Vietnamese Society
- North American Society

Soweto Melodic Voices fundraising and hosting, including

- Edinburgh University Music Society
- Rock Revelation Gospel Choir
- EUSA, in Porridge Fundraiser
- Vegetarian soc
- 'Panic at the Ceilidh'
- African and Caribbean Christian Fellowship

- New College students and staff
- Edinburgh Marathon Festival team
- CHSS office
- Careers, Counselling and Disabilities, Quiz Night
- UoE Corporate Services, and Procurement
- JustFestival
- City of Edinburgh schools, churches and community projects (see below on Soweto Melodic Voices Tour Report)

Green Living Festival, involving

- Buddhist Society
- Hearty Squirrel
- Vegetarian Society
- Chill Out Society (massage)
- Yoga Society
- Street Kids Society
- Sustainable development group
- 'Spirit in all things' Chaplaincy group



Green Living Festival poster

The Green Living Festival is planning to link up with the Soweto project in 2013-14, in order to raise funds to bring Soweto Melodic Voices back to Edinburgh in 2014.

Chaplaincy users span the full spectrum of the University and City community, including those who attend such diverse events as (to give a few examples):

- The Multi-faith Public conversation
- Diwali Celebrations and Eid Celebrations
- Art and charity exhibitions
- Children's Christmas party
- Post-Gifford Lecture discussions
- Film-showings
- Christmas party for older people (a Volunteer initiative for Senior Citizens)
- Volunteer Fair (involving numerous local charities and programmes)
- International Students orientation days
- Remembrance Sunday Service
- Thanksgiving Meal, Multifaith meals, and Cultural evenings

All of these events bring together old and new users of the Chaplaincy, students and staff, religious and non-religious people, and many of these events also serve members of the public.

"I take this opportunity to thank the Chaplaincy Centre for its hospitality towards me, a citizen of Edinburgh, very much concerned about education in general and the right of every citizen to take part in one way or another in the educational process" (letter sent to the Chaplain)

1.2.3 WELCOME AND HOSPITALITY

The Chaplaincy Centre drop-in is our daily form of welcome.

"Chaplaincy is a great place, and very unusual (for an exchange student from France)."

"The chaplaincy is a haven of peace in the midst of a busy university area. The microwave and kitchen facilities mean a lot for students trying to eat on a budget. The space is so appreciated, and every person engaging as part of the Chaplaincy is friendly and welcoming." (comments from cards)

We form partnerships with other services for particular events and forms of hospitality, such as partnering with ECA for an ECA staff event, or with Moray House to assist with integration of students from the Far East into the wider UoE.

We work particularly closely with the International Office and EUSA Global, and since 2012-13 also with the International Student Centre, in order to host opportunities for bringing international and home students together. Initiatives include welcome lunches and teas for freshers and re-freshers (in January), International Desert Night, Thanksgiving Dinner, and the hosting of Tandem cafés, alongside additional hosting of international fairs and inductions.

Chaplaincy also provides staff-hospitality, including regular lunches, coffee mornings, and events with the Honorary Chaplaincy team, and these events are attended by staff from all three Colleges.

1.2.4 WELFARE SUPPORT

The Chaplain sits on Welfare Committee, and Emergency Response Group. The Associate Chaplain sits on the Mental Health Sub-Group.

The Chaplaincy receives referrals from

- PTs or other relevant persons in Colleges and Schools
- line-managers or colleagues referring distressed staff.
- other student services, notably
 - o Counselling,
 - Disabilities
 - The Advice Place

In 2012-13 Chaplaincy worked with other key services — Counselling, Disabilities, Accommodation, CSE - to develop a network of information and practices for promoting mental health and well-being across the UoE. The Chaplaincy also increased its own provision of Mindfulness, Tai Chi and other practices that promote mental health and well-being. The Chaplaincy programme, 'Return to the Centre', ensures that a practice is provided daily, and that other Services, the SIPS, and the Library, know to make this information available.

Other Chaplaincy partners in relation to Welfare support include:

- Accommodation Services, in general provision at Pollock Halls, and in cases of student emergency
- Registry, in cases of student death, and financial hardship
- Security in relation to student deaths, and to certain high-profile events where peace-keeping or mediation may be required
- HR in relation to staff deaths

1.2.5 RELIGIOUS EXPERTISE, SERVICES AND SPIRITUAL PRACTICES

Chaplaincy partnerships in religious and spiritual provision are extensive. They begin with our Honorary Team of Chaplains and Belief Contacts (see 1.1.1), which brings to the University connections with local, national and global communities and networks. Ways in which the Chaplaincy drew on these networks in 2012-13 include:

- finding hosts for international students, for the IO hosting programme
- providing volunteering opportunities for students, including through the Grassmarket Community Project and the Sikh Sanjog
- accessing advice and training on Mental Health (via URC Honorary Chaplain, whose church provides a weekly mental health drop-in)
- providing panellists, speakers and chairs for events
- extending mindfulness provision to UoE Services and Schools
- Christian Aid Tax Bus event in Bristo Square
- developing links with Edinburgh schools, churches and community projects and the educational, health and peace-keeping work of Soweto Melodic Voices.

The Chaplaincy also works closely with

- the Edinburgh Interfaith Association, on whose board the Associate Chaplain sits
- the Scottish Interfaith Council
- JustFestival, their community meals, Civic Café's, and Fringe Festival
- the Edinburgh International Centre for Spirituality and Peace
- the Alwaleed Centre
- Iona Abbey
- Epiphany Group of spiritual accompaniers
- Ignatian Centre for Spirituality, Glasgow
- Capacitar Training (International network for healing and wholeness committed to communities affected by violence, poverty and trauma)
- Edinburgh Peace initiative
- Ghostranch Conference Centre committed to ecumenical and interfaith relations, New Mexico, USA
- European Ecumenical Study Centre in Josefstal, Bavaria, Germany
- Old Town Clergy network, to provide best practice in the Centre of Edinburgh
- Edinburgh Churches Together
- the Doctrine Committee of the Scottish Episcopal Church, of which the Chaplain is the Convenor
- Building Bridges, the Archbishop of Canterbury's International Muslim-Christian Dialogue



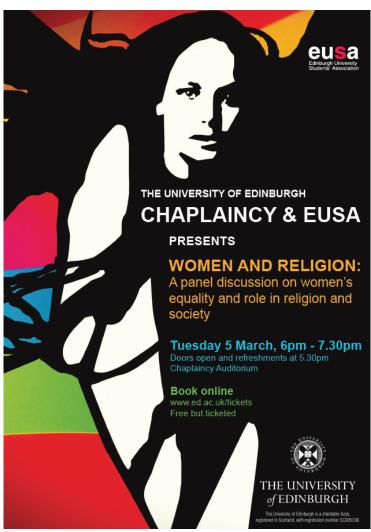
Buddha Relics exhibition

In September 2012, the Chaplaincy had the honour of hosting the Buddha Relics. This is only the second time that the relics have been to Scotland during their 11-year world tour, and the first time that they have come to Edinburgh or the Central Belt.

Events involving these partnerships in 2012-13 included:

- Buddha Relics Travelling Exhibition, in conjunction with The Edinburgh International Centre for Spirituality and Peace
- Multifaith Meals and conversations
- International Women's Day panel event on 'Women and Religion'
- Retreat in Daily Life, intensive retreat across 3 weeks for students and staff
- International ecumenical and interfaith retreats led by Associate Chaplain on Iona and in New Mexico involving students from UK and USA.
- Representation at an ecumenical week in Josefstal, Germany by Associate Chaplain with 35 participants from 20 countries in Europe
- Involvement in facilitation of training in Capacitar healing and wholeness practices. Associate Chaplain offered taster courses in Aberdeen University and Edinburgh
- Plenary lecture by the Chaplain at the Archbishop of Canterbury's Building Bridges Consultation, King's College, London
- Soweto Melodic Voices, brought to the UK by the Chaplaincy, and performing at JustFestival

- Dialogues, Workshops, and talks provided by the Chaplain and Chaplaincy, as part of the JustFestival 2013 programme in the Edinburgh Festival Fringe:
 - Peace and Reconciliation workshop (with Joyce Seroke, member of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Chairperson of the Commission on Gender Equality (CGE) from 1999-2007; holder of The Order of the Baobob in Gold)
 - Women in a Democratic South Africa (with Joyce Seroke and Elizabeth Sonti)
 - African Issues in Palliative Care (in conjunction with Dr Liz Grant, Deputy Director of UoE Global Health Academy)
 - I am Here (combating stigma of HIV/AIDS, with Waverley Care and Soweto Melodic Voices)
 - Sounds and Rhythms of Soweto
 - A Beginners Guide to World Faiths
 - Music from the Street (University Chaplain interviewing Africa Entsha and Soweto Melodic Voices)
 - Muslim-Christian Encounters (with the Alwaleed Centre)



"Women in Religion", a multi-faith panel discussion

The 2012-13 MULTIFAITH PUBLIC CONVERSATION: BUILDING BRIDGES brought together 3 panellists from 3 faiths to discuss the diverse experiences of building bridges in situations of life and death, tolerance and prejudice, peace and conflict.

Dr Liz Grant (Deputy Director, Global Health Academy), Rabbi David Rose (Edinburgh Hebrew Synagogue and Interfaith Initiatives) and Mona Siddiqui (Chair of Islamic and Inter-Religious Studies) were interviewed by Laura Winterton, a former journalist and current UoE doctoral research student working in Cape Town prisons.



Poster for Multi-Faith Public Conversation

1.3 EVALUATION OF THE SERVICE PROVIDED

For two years running, the Chaplaincy has been the subject of favourable articles in The Student Newspaper:

"... the Chaplaincy does not impose itself with grand gestures of definite serious or righteous grandeur, it exists as a place to go for those who seek or stumble upon it, as a familiar friend or a brand new ally, a champion of broadmindedness in which faith is shared but not neutralised" (Feb 28, 2012)

"As society becomes ever more secular, people think the Chaplaincy's kind of uncool," says [Chaplaincy regular, and in-coming EUSA VPS]. "But when they come here, they think it's the coolest place ever! There's a real sense of community because it's like nowhere else. It's a hidden gem." (article in the Student by Tim Maguire, 26th March 2013)

Response to Feedback from users and non-users

We gather satisfaction levels and feedback from regular and new users of the Chaplaincy, non-users whom we encounter across sites, and newcomers to Events.

We heard that the term 'Chaplaincy' is off-putting to some people, or leads them to think that you need to be religious to use, or to like (!) the Chaplaincy.

Our response

We revisit annually the pros and cons of the label, with various focus groups: student-led groups of users and non-users, staff groups of users and non-users, and the Chaplaincy Committee, staff and Honorary Team. We return each year to the conclusion that we cannot do without the word, and that no other term conveys the all-round provision of sanctuary, hospitality, faith and spiritual provision, confidentiality and social inclusion. However, we therefore have to work hard to convince people that the Chaplaincy is equally available to people who are not religious. Bringing our Humanist Belief Contact into an Honorary Chaplain's role has had a beneficial effect in this regard, with a number of staff, in particular, engaging with Chaplaincy activity as a result (Humanist students were already engaged).

"I have always associated the word, Chaplaincy, with the Christian faith so I naively assumed it was a place for Christians. I wasn't aware of it as a social, spiritual and practical place for all."

We are planning a series of focus groups in readiness for a branding exercise in 2013-14, to enable us to convey the local/global, faith/no faith, individual/communal nature of the Chaplaincy.

We heard that the Chaplaincy Centre in Bristo Square is not easy to find.

Our Response

We have responded with large bright posters, and requests for additional signage for the outside of the building and above the door. We have put maps to the Chaplaincy sites as a primary link on the webpage. We are planning a new advertising and branding exercise for 2013-14, and in the meantime have a range of large, bright banners to help show people where we are. At the same time, it remains the case that most people find us through word of mouth.

We heard that people would like to have attended events had they known about them in time.

Our Response

In 2012-13 we began using Twitter and Facebook more to help with this, and have streamlined our communication with the societies that use the Chaplaincy. We now promote one another's events more effectively. The Chaplaincy twitter account now follows over 300 others, and we cross-promote events on Facebook and Twitter.

We continue to use Myed, the Chaplaincy web-page, posters, flyers, screens, and email lists in addition to the above.

We have been granted much appreciated publicity by the communications team at CHSS, particularly in relation to the visit of Soweto Melodic Voices. Our thanks to Kathryn Dunlop and Alexandra Wingate, who made this film about this Chaplaincy-Festival project:

http://vimeo.com/73294380



In 2013-14 we will include articles on the Chaplaincy and Soweto Melodic Voices in the Student Newsletter.

Assessing standards

There are no national guidelines for Chaplaincy provision, but the International Student Barometer and Edinburgh Student Experience Survey provide some benchmarks.

International Student Barometer

In the Autumn 2012 ISB, Faith Provision was one of the five categories in which Edinburgh performed farthest above the benchmark (4% above the benchmark). 86.9% of international students were happy with worship facilities, placing us 7th in the Russell Group and 2nd in Scotland, and this has been achieved without the existence of a university chapel or designated place of worship.

15% of international students had made use of faith provision facilities provided. 99% of those who responded on faith provision were happy with it.

Edinburgh Student Experience Survey

8% of respondents had never heard of the Chaplaincy, and 63% had heard of it but not used it.

Of the respondents who had used the chaplaincy (29% of students):

0% rated it "very poor"

1% rated it "quite poor"

32% rated it "neither good nor poor"

36% rated it "quite good"

31% rated it "very good"

There were 3661 responses, so the 29% who used the chaplaincy represents around 1100 students, of whom over two-thirds rated the chaplaincy as "quite good" or "very good".

The Religious and Belief Societies estimate the following percentage mix of home, Rest of UK, EU and International Membership of their Societies:

Society	Scottish	Other UK	EU	Outside EU
Hindu	10	10	10	70
Humanist	37	26	16	21
Christian Union	20	65	5	10
SCM	20	60	5	15
Bahai	0	20	20	60
Buddhist	5	15	50	30
Jewish Society	10	30	10	50
Sikh	10	30	10	50

1.4 THE EXTENT TO WHICH CHAPLAINCY SUPPORTS AND DEVELOPS STAFF TO ENHANCE ITS EFFECTIVENESS IN SUPPORTING STUDENTS

The Chaplaincy promotes the development of its own staff and of its Honorary team and belief contacts through regular internal and external courses and supervisions, staff Away Days, and input from invited experts.

In providing discussion groups, workshops, religious literacy support, well-being and mindfulness practices, the Chaplaincy also enhances the understanding and well-being of other University staff, to the benefit of students.

The Chaplain conducts or oversees annual reviews of all Chaplaincy Centre Staff, and holds annual reviews with the Honorary Chaplains and Belief Contacts.

Supporting the Receptionist and hence the Chaplaincy welcome and orientation

The Receptionist is the front-face of the Chaplaincy, and is key to maintaining the ethos of the Chaplaincy, and especially its drop-in, ensuring that users are respectful of the common space and shared resources. She began with the Chaplaincy in March 2010, and brings with her much experience of Administration, Events management, and organisation of volunteers. Her skills in these areas are hugely beneficial within a service that provides a very wide range of events, some at short notice and in times of crisis, which runs a multi-purpose venue, and which is keen to nurture the goodwill, capacity and interests of students.

The Receptionist is supported and line-managed by the Chaplaincy Coordinator, who holds both scheduled and impromptu meetings with her to ensure that she has all she needs. She receives additional support from the Chaplaincy Administrator on days when the Coordinator is not in the office. Due to staff illness and changeovers in 2012-13, the Receptionist took on a lot of extra duties to ensure the smooth running of the Service. Her excellent work was recognised with a Contribution Award.

The Receptionist receives University training as and when required. Chaplaincy in-house planning and training takes place in Semester-time as the Receptionist holds a Semester-time only post, and we provide cover to ensure that the Receptionist can participate in Away Days and other staff development initiatives.

'The Receptionist is great, it's nice to have a friendly contact' Comment dropped into Chaplaincy Centre comment box.

Administrator development

The Administration of the Chaplaincy has been altered in 2012-13 to enable greater emphasis upon Coordination of the team's administration, and on effective communication and use of IT. The Administrator Job-share posts have been replaced by two distinct part-time posts: Chaplaincy Coordinator (2 days a week) and Chaplaincy Administrator (IT) (3 days a week).

Both post-holders are line-managed by the Chaplain, who meets with them each of their working days to discuss workload, needs and progress. Both receive regular UoE training to use UoE systems, and to receive support for such activities as maintaining professionally run social media, keeping Chaplaincy correct on matters of health and safety, data protection, and HR matters.

The full-time Chaplains

The University Chaplain came to UoE in 2010-11 with many years of diverse University work-experience and with national and international multifaith and ecumenical experience. She has trained on a number of University induction and management courses, and seeks advice from professional management trainers in developing particular initiatives, working with small teams, and managing change. She keeps up-do-date on matters of Dialogue, Conflict Resolution, Multifaith work through international projects including the Fellowship of Reconciliation, and the Public Conversations Project. She participates in the Religious Literacy Leadership in Higher Education Programme, which is a HEFCE-funded initiative for England and Wales. The Chaplain has brought this initiative to Scotland, hosting a workshop and training at the UoE Chaplaincy. She also received training from Health-in-Mind, both at their premises and through bringing their training to the University, in order to be better informed in matters of mental health. She seeks professional advice from Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations particularly in expanding the Honorary Chaplaincy Team.

The Chaplain maintains her own theological, philosophical and multi-faith work to ensure that high quality teaching and guidance is offered through the Chaplaincy. She was appointed Honorary Fellow of the Divinity School in 2011, and she provides lectures and seminars for Divinity students. In 2012 she was appointed Convenor of the Doctrine Committee of the Scottish Episcopal Church, with whom she has worked on four publications: on Incarnation, Marriage and Human Intimacy, The Art of Dying Well, and Church and Scottish Identity. She heads up inter-disciplinary conversations on 'Dying Well', which enhances the understanding and the networks of University staff, edits a Philosophy of Religion series for Ashgate, and participates in the Archbishop of Canterbury's Building Bridges

International Muslim-and Christian Seminars. In 2012 she was the invited Chair of the Modern Church Conference on Women and Religious Authority, timed to coincide with Church of England deliberations over Women Bishops. She received a nomination in the EUSA 2012/13 Teaching Awards.

The Associate Chaplain, Revd Ali Newell has been in post since 2011, and comes with strong and diverse chaplaincy experience and international experience. She is a Church of Scotland minister and a trained counsellor. She was formerly a Chaplain at McMaster University in Ontario, Canada, a co-warden at Iona Abbey for the Iona Community (1988-92), and a prison Chaplain at Edinburgh prison. She worked in social responsibility for the Anglican diocese of Portsmouth, and as Director of the Ecumenical Spirituality Programme for Scottish Churches Open College. Before she began at Edinburgh University, she spent 12 years working in the field of spirituality, teaching and offering spiritual accompaniment at the Ignatian Spirituality Centre in Glasgow and leading ecumenical and interfaith retreats with her husband Philip Newell on Iona and at Casa del Sol in the high desert of New Mexico.

The Associate Chaplain is line-managed by the Chaplain, who meets with her at least weekly to discuss plans, resources and support needs. Since 2011, the Associate Chaplain has developed extensively the multifaith work of the Chaplaincy, and brought greater integration between the social welfare, peace and sustainability work of the Chaplaincy and its faith-and-belief work. She has also developed the Chaplaincy provision for mental and spiritiual well-being, and made connections between the provision of Chaplaincy and that of other UoE Services. The Chaplaincy supports the Associate Chaplain in these endeavours by providing time and/or funds for her to train with the Natural Change initative, to receive additional Mindfulness training, and to take time to lead and engage with retreat work and Capacitar Training.

Support and development of the wider Chaplaincy team

The Chaplaincy runs Away Days both for its Chaplaincy Centre Staff and for its Honorary Chaplains Team. It also connects with the other Scottish Universities in providing training for all of its Honorary Chaplains and Belief Contacts. In addition, the Chaplaincy invites experts in particular areas to speak to its Staff and Honorary Chaplaincy and Belief-Contacts Team, and encourages the Team to attend University seminars. Invitees in 2012-13 included Health-in-Mind, and the Religious Literacy in Higher Education Project leaders.

The Chaplaincy also invite Directors and staff from other University Services to meet the Honorary Chaplaincy team in order to

- increase awareness of one another's work
- improve referrals between Services when appropriate
- find additional ways of working together.

In 2012-13 we met with Directors of Equality and Diversity, Development and Alumni, EUSA Sabbatical officers, and Resident Life. We regularly meet with members of the Counselling Service, Disabilities Service and the Advice Place.

Both the full-time and Honorary Chaplains attend training days, including those run by Inform in London, and multifaith Projects in Manchester, concerning new religious movements, Equality legislation, religious violence, multifaith spaces and UKBA regulations.

We are ever-mindful of the gift that the Honorary Chaplains make of their time and resources to the University, and we support them in their own development where possible.

On expansion of the Honorary Chaplaincy Team see **1.1** above.

Development of other University Staff

The Chaplaincy assists in the development of other staff of the University through provision of teaching, discussion and reflection groups, pastoral support, religious services and hospitality.

The key initiative in this area in 2012-13 has been the introduction to the UoE of the goals of Religious Literacy in Higher Education. The Chaplaincy hosted a workshop for staff of UoE and other Scottish universities, which is being followed-up by training days and by the setting up of a Religion and Belief Working Party (hopefully in 2013-14).

Through the 'What's the University For?' Series, the Chaplaincy provides opportunities for staff and students to learn from one another about their experiences, hopes and ideas for the University, and to explore avenues to implement ideas.

The Chaplain assisted IAD with SSO and training in 2012.

The Chaplaincy is planning training with HR on responding to critical illness and death amongst staff.

2. Management of quality and standards

2.1 The Chaplaincy's approach to setting and maintaining standards

The Chaplaincy operates according to a pattern of:

- planning with clear aims and objectives
- de-briefing on all events
- maintaining a clear organisational, line-management structure
- maintaining effective communication and quality planning through weekly staff meetings
- maintaining good team-work and strong pastoral cover for the University through weekly meetings of the Chaplains' team
- keeping ourselves updated on all pertinent legislation (including Equality, Human Rights, Health-and-Safety, Immigration), University policy, and initiatives from Higher Education Institutions regarding 'faith on campus' (e.g. Islamophobia, Anti-Semitism, hate-crimes, intolerance, freedom-of-speech issues)
- regular refresher training internally and externally for all staff on matters of policy, law, technical knowledge and other areas of expertise
- maintaining high standards of presentation and of publicity
- prioritising a swift response to all enquiries, and immediate response, wherever possible, to those in distress.

2.2 The extent to which the Chaplaincy takes account of external reference points

There is no national standard against which to rate university chaplaincies, and no board of accreditation. All members of the Chaplaincy Centre staff are familiar with models of good practice in setting and maintaining standards as outlined in **2.1**, from their breadth of work experience, and from workplace (including University) training.

The Chaplaincy team of full-time and Honorary Chaplains is made up of accredited individuals, all of whom have their own professional accrediting bodies, and whom have been recommended by both senior members of their tradition (be they senior ministers, bishops, councils) and by their congregations. As a result, the Chaplaincy's network is vast, and is local and global, and there are numerous bodies to which the Chaplaincy is able to turn when appropriate.

The Chaplaincy takes note of the International Student Barometer, and in this the Edinburgh University Chaplaincy compares very favourably to other institutions (see **1.3**).

The Chaplain meets regularly with Chaplains of other Higher Education institutions, particularly the other Scottish Chaplains, and this provides informal bench-marking for the Edinburgh University Chaplaincy. It transpires from these meetings that Edinburgh University Chaplaincy is distinctive in holding fortnightly (as opposed to monthly or twice-a-Semester) meetings of the Honorary Chaplains team, and in ensuring that the team members meet staff from across the University. We meet so frequently so as to:

- learn from and support one another, and thus to maximise the benefit of being an ecumenical and multi-faith team, and to develop the ways in which these benefits are shared amongst University members;
- train one another up, in sharing insights, and visiting one another's places of ministry
- plan events;
- and ensure quality pastoral cover across the whole University (its diversity of members and of sites).

The collegiality and team-strength of the Honorary Chaplains was particularly noted at the 2012 Special Meeting of the Chaplaincy Committee (which is the Annual Meeting to which Honorary Chaplains report).

In assessing UoE practice, the Chaplaincy makes regular use of its contacts with the Edinburgh Inter-Faith Association and Scottish Inter-Faith Council, and with the networks of its own Chaplaincy team. The full-time Chaplains and relevant members of the Honorary Team are also members of network of those in City Centre Ministry, which further develops our links with the local community, and enables us to share good practice.

For more on the outcome of liaising with other Chaplaincies and external bodies, see **3.2**.

The Labyrinth Chaplain and other Labyrinth facilitators are trained by Veriditas, which is a US-based not-for-profit organisation, and which is the leading international accrediting body for labyrinths.

2.3 The effectiveness of the Chaplaincy's approach to monitoring and quality assurance

We ask for and make use of feedback on all areas of provision, in ways appropriate to that provision. For example, on the hospitality of the dropin, students are invited to submit anonymous comments to the Receptionist. On teaching and discussion groups, participants are invited to give comments, by email or anonymously if they wish, and facilitators also offer feedback to one another. On events planned with students, we hold sessions in order to provide mutual feedback with the students involved. In Semester 2 of each year a general request for feedback is posted up in the Chaplaincy, to which people respond on all manner of matters, including the nature of the Chaplaincy Centre, and the provision of Welfare support. We de-brief on all events, as a matter of good-practice, and, when relevant, in conjunction with co-organisers, such as the International Office and EUSA.

We have introduced questionnaires about the Chaplaincy Centre in Bristo Square, with questions on the horizon about future UoE buildings. These enabled us to collect further data on the Chaplaincy Service. That the Drop-in area is regarded as 'very important' to 96% of users, was no surprise. That the Sanctuary is regarded as 'very important' to 45% of users and 'somewhat important' to 43% reflects its increased usage since it was redesigned and reopened in November 2012. The study area is regarded as 'very important' to 74% of users, and is particularly appreciated for its multifaith resources: 'The library (resource area) is valuable for faith societies who meet in the chaplaincy whose members often want some introductory reading

regarding different faiths' (comment added to questionnaire).

We have expanded our monitoring practices by providing short questionnaire cards at drop-in, by fuller consultation on numbers with those using the KB prayer rooms, by collecting data on website usage (see 1.1), by increasing our feedback conversations with students and all users across the University sites, and most recently by encouraging focus groups that are led by non-Chaplaincy staff, and which contain non-users of the Chaplaincy.

"Personally, I only began using the space this year. I have always associated the word, Chaplaincy, with the Christian faith so I naively assumed it was a place for Christians. I wasn't aware of it as a social, spiritual and practical place for all."

Since the Chaplaincy is involved in many and diverse aspects of University life, our monitoring and quality assurance is conducted in conjunction with many representatives from the University, including: student users, EUSA staff, the International Office, IAD, Servitors, Heads of Protocol, the Rector, the Minister of the University Church, the Principal's Office, Presidents and officers of student societies, student volunteers, the Chaplaincy Committee (which is itself made up of students, and academic and non-academic staff, and is chaired by the Vice-Principal for Equality).

3 Enhancement and sharing of good practice

3.1a The extent to which the Chaplaincy takes deliberate steps to manage quality enhancement

The Chaplaincy is taking deliberate steps to respond to presenting needs that have come directly to Chaplaincy, and some of which cohere with needs identified by the University, including the needs of international students to be welcomed in to the host culture, and the needs of post-graduate students in their relative social and academic isolation, the needs for Chinese students in majority-Chinese course groups to meet with others across the UoE, the needs for students to have a sense of belonging at the UoE.

The Chaplaincy is now profiling and monitoring the work with postgraduate and international students carried out by members of the wider Chaplaincy team. All of the team work with Post-graduate students. The Vedic Society is largely made up of Postgraduate International students, and they meet weekly with the Hindu Contact. The Anglican Chaplain facilitates a postgraduate, University-and-City discussion group. The Catholic Chaplaincy postgraduate students set up the St Albert the Great Graduate Society (STAGGS) which organises events once a fortnight.

Examples of ways in which the wider Chaplaincy team works with international students.

- The Catholic Chaplaincy has c 130 students at weekly Sunday evening Mass, up to 50% of whom are not from the UK. Each year in the second semester there is an "International Mass" where readings and prayers are in the various language of the student body.
- The Church of Scotland Chaplain near Pollock Halls facilitates English-language sessions with spouses of international students.
- The Jewish Society is strongly International, with large numbers of students from North America and Europe, and a small number from Israel, and meets weekly or fortnightly with the Jewish Chaplain.
- The Vedic society is predominantly International, with most of its students coming from the Indian sub-continent, and meets weekly with the Hindu Contact.
- The Daoist Contact, who trains regularly in China, enables initiatives with Chinese and other students.
- The Orthodox Chaplaincy enhances provision for many students from Eastern Europe; the Orthodox Church being also a cultural centre for Greeks, Russians, Romanians, and others.

 The Sikh Chaplain enhances provision for those of Asian heritage, and has plans to develop cultural and community links between Sikhs within and outwith the University.

The Chaplaincy has taken deliberate steps to manage quality enhancement of provision of prayer rooms and Multifaith spaces in Bristo Square, Kings' Buildings and New College. The successful Opening and Dedication of the new Sanctuary in Bristo Square is our flagship enterprise in this respect, and is inspiring development plans elsewhere, and providing impetus to achieve a similarly high standard of provision at KB.

King's Buildings Chaplaincy rooms and provision

The King's Building Chaplaincy Rooms continue to be used throughout most of the day for individual Muslim prayers, with group prayers happening at lunchtimes, and with a range of other users coming in at different times of the week.

At the beginning of 2012-13, the building that housed Chaplaincy rooms was no longer fit for purpose, and the Chaplaincy was in discussion with Estates and Buildings about immediate and longer-term provision. After an incident of vandalism, in which the roof was damaged, the rooms were closed immediately, and Chaplaincy provision was created in the old College Office. We are now awaiting a move to robust temporary accommodation, which will serve for 3-5 years, while new permanent rooms are provided at KB.

We have worked consistently with E&B to ensure appropriate provision to meet the needs of the diverse Chaplaincy users at KB. We have suitable provision for ablutions; we worked with Muslims brothers and sisters to equip to their prayer rooms, we have improved the kitchen and social facilities. However, the temporary nature of this accommodation has meant that some matters, such as adequate signage and Wifi installation, has made uncertain progress, and this is not satisfactory to the Chaplaincy or our users.

The new Associate Chaplain appointment in 2011-12 included a brief to extend provision at KB. The Associate Chaplain has developed networks of Muslim, Quaker, Environmental, Catholic, Christian Union and Buddhist contacts. The key initiative in 2012-13 has been the development of the temporary building. This facility now provides places for the Malaysian society and the Saudi Society to meet, with extended premises for social activity, a table tennis room, and provision for cooking.

For 2013-14 a series of 'Faith, Science and Ethics' talks at KB are planned. Chaplaincy also plans to work with the yoga society, to enable them to meet at the KB Chaplaincy premises.

Staff lunches were well attended, as were planning meetings with the Muslim KB Chaplaincy users regarding current and future Chaplaincy premises.

A weekly lunchtime meditation group forged good relations across faiths.

The Associate Chaplain worked alongside the allotment society at KB to put up their new green house and encourages awareness about this opportunity to fruitfully engage with University land and to be involved practically in sustainable growing and permaculture.

The Chaplaincy is continuing to run a series of improvements to the Bristo Square Chaplaincy Centre throughout 2012-13,

- new signage and posters
- new pictures
- new internal paintwork

We are looking to acquire new furnishings and a new ceiling for the Auditorium in 2013-14.

The Chaplaincy has noted a gap in opportunities for families to gather or share involvement in aspects of University life. We work to welcome families at particular managed events (such as Diwali celebrations, the Multi-faith meal, and the Thanksgiving dinner). The children's Christmas party was new in 2010 and has now become an annual event.

"Thank you. We've enjoyed coming again to the children's Christmas party, and we are glad it is good fun, games and a sing-along, and hasn't been commercialised." (email to the Chaplaincy)

3.1b The extent to which the Chaplaincy engages with external reference points to enhancement

Whilst there is no accrediting body for chaplaincies, the Chaplains have availed themselves of various means of bench-marking, receiving training, and sharing good practice with external bodies, both inside and outside the University (see **2.2**, **2.3**).

The Chaplain finds it particularly helpful to share ideas with the Chaplains of other Scottish Universities, including in the areas of policies for Honorary Chaplains and Belief Contacts, how to vet, or prepare for hate-crimes on campus, responses to crises around the world, including how to think through parity of response, or appropriate levels of response, to tragedies or conflict in different countries. We share ideas for Services in response to tsunamis, earthquakes, fatal accidents, conflict in the Middle East. We share ideas around cultural exchange and student experience, such as responding to students who seek advice regarding arranged marriages.

3.2 Overview of good practice for dissemination

In addition to the procedures and outcomes discussed above (2.2, 2.3, 3.1b), the Chaplain and Associate Chaplain identify and share good practice within a range of external networks.

As well as being part of the network of Scottish University Chaplains, the Chaplain is also involved in networks of UK University Chaplains, of FE Chaplains, and of Workplace Chaplains. She is also an external examiner and moderator for a number of institutions that train for ministry or otherwise provide theological and religious education, including the universities of Chichester, Durham, and Gloucestershire, and has previously overseen courses at the University of Exeter's Department of Life-Long Learning, North Thames Ministry Training Course, and South West Ministry Training Course.

The Chaplain's management of the ecumenical Chaplaincy team is enhanced by her ecumenical work on a national and international level. She sits on the Tri-partite talks between the Church of Scotland, Church of England and Scottish Episcopal Church, participates in discussions between the churches of the Porvoo Agreement, and is the Episcopal representative on ACTS (Action of Churches Together in Scotland). She is Convenor of the Doctrine Committee of the Scottish Episcopal Church, in which capacity she is heading up work on matters of current social interest: 'Marriage and Human Sexuality', and 'Dying Well in the Twenty-First Century', and 'The Church and Scottish Identity'.

The Chaplain keeps up her theological, philosophical and multi-faith understanding, to the benefit of students, and so as to maintain high-quality provision of teaching, discussion and reflection at the Chaplaincy. She is currently co-editing a volume on *Atheisms* for Ashgate, and is the invited author of the volume on Christianity for an Acumen Series on new approaches to philosophy of religion. She is currently commissioned to write a number of chapters on fundamentalism, which is her main area of specialism, and frequently acts as a peer reviewer for publishers and journals. Her understanding of religious fundamentalism is particularly relevant to a number of high-profile global concerns which are affecting students in Edinburgh.

The Chaplain has initiated workshops at the University on Dying and Affliction, bringing together academics, health-care practitioners and artists from Edinburgh and across the UK. This project is on-going, and the network is growing to include ECA film-maker Amy Hardie, plus a number of medics and writers. The Chaplain has joined three advisory panels on this subject as a result of these workshops: a film-making project with a hospice; a science-theology consultation for the Edinburgh Science Festival; and she is a Network Partner for a successful AHRC grant application to

research 'Living with dying', based at the University of Liverpool. She will also be asked to contribute to consultations on a further Assisted Suicide (Scotland) Bill, if and when a further Bill is produced.

In maintaining a high quality of discussion in the 'What's the University for?' Series, and in thinking through the future of theological education with the Scottish Episcopal Church, the Chaplain is also active in thinking through philosophies of higher education, and educational practice. She was one of twelve invited participants of a Convivium on Professionalism, Education and Academic Disciplines, hosted on Papa Westray in 2013, and funded by a National Teaching Fellowship grant obtained by the UK Higher Education Academy. Outcomes of this Convivium will be published in book form in 2013-14.

The Associate Chaplain maintains an extensive network of retreat leaders, spiritual guides, mindfulness practitioners, Tai Chi, yoga and Capacitar trainers, and medical practitioners. She keeps up her connections with justice, peace and sustainability networks, internationally and locally, and brings the benefit from these in to the study groups that she facilitates in the Chaplaincy. She also keeps up her connections with art-therapy networks and plays in a music group which has created CDs for chanting and meditation. Her networks greatly enhance the capacity of the Chaplaincy to provide extensive multifaith and well-being opportunities to students and staff, and afford opportunities to reflect on issues of sustainability and peacemaking both locally and globally.

4 Projects and drivers

4.1

The drives to **Widen Participation** and ensure **Equality and Diversity**, provided some of the impetus to the Chaplaincy to introduce Religious Literacy training to the UoE.

4.2

The constant aim to provide a good **student experience** has been a key driver in the development and growth of the 'What's the University for?' Series. The students on the planning team for this Series in 2012-13 were particularly exercised by the UoE Graduate Attributes, and a key outcome of the Series in 2012-13 was the production of an alternative set of attributes that gave greater attention to the development of character. The alternative attributes have been taken to the Employability Strategy Group and the Central Management Group.

The student-developed graduate attributes are:

Graduate Attributes for a sustainable future

1. Systems thinking

The ability to see how things are connected, especially environmental, social and economic dimensions.

2. Future-orientation

The ability to think into the future, to handle complexity and uncertainty and to create long-term solutions to current problems.

3. Ethical thinking

The ability to explore ethical questions and make and critically evaluate ethical decisions.

4. Self-reflection

The ability to reflect on yourself and your impact on others.

5. Academic responsibility

The ability to understand how an academic discipline impacts upon the world and to engage with the discipline in a sustainable and socially responsible way.

6. Empathy

The ability for trans-cultural understanding, respect and solidarity.

7. Bridge-building

The ability to collaborate and bring people together for a common cause, including the ability to mediate conflicts.

8. Change-making

The ability to enable change that supports sustainable development in personal, institutional and other social contexts.

'What's the University for?': the story so far

Since January 2012, this Chaplaincy co-ordinated Series, in collaboration with IAD, EUSA Global and a growing number of partners, has been expanding.

The intent:

- to bring students, academic and non-academic staff together, across sites,
- for fundamental reflection on the purpose of the UofE
- via different visions or philosophies of the university (Mediaeval/community of scholars, liberal arts, Humboldt/blue sky research, Napoleonic- functional)
- In order to ask ourselves:
 - 1. What sort of university we have?
 - 2. Why do we invest so much of our lives, time, and resources in it?
 - 3. What do we hope for it and from it?

The panellists at the original event:

- Vice-Principal Sue Rigby, on University vision and funding
- Paul Parvis on John Henry Newman's The Idea of a University
- Cecelia Clegg and Liz Bondi on care and virtue in University teaching, from the perspectives of both tutors and students
- Rector, Peter McColl on universities and the social good.

The planning team for the on-going Series includes students for the Edinburgh Manifesto, students and staff from the Central Area, Moray House, KB, and Easter Bush, the Rector, members of EUSA, Institute for Academic Development, International Office, Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Group, Student Admissions and Recruitment, Distance Education Initiative, and the Research and Projects Officer for Vice-Principals.

Themes that keep coming to the fore:

- Concern that the UofE serve the common good, locally and globally
- Desire for innovative teaching and learning methods that foster collaboration over competitive individualism
- Experience of the University as 'too big'; a wish for a stronger sense
 of belonging or community within UofE, whilst acknowledging
 potentially oppressive aspects of communities

- Awareness of students' diverse reasons for being here: 'to get a
 job'; 'to develop oneself on every level'; 'to contribute to future
 global well-being'
- Appreciation of Vice-Principal input that 'anything is possible'.

Examples of feedback on what we want for and from the University:

- A sense that it's here for the students first and foremost.
- Social relationships between staff and students, departmental gettogethers and informal interaction.
- A base: a geographical building where one's subjectcolleagues/friends can be found.
- A sense of being useful for the University, for our fellow students, for the environment and for the communities as a whole.
- More scope for students to share their work with one another across disciplines. More co-ordination of activity.

Some outcomes in 2012-13:

- a proposal for more broadly conceived graduate attributes that more clearly support character development, social and emotional intelligence, commitment to sustainability, taken to Employability Strategy Group and Central Management Group.
- an off-shoot initiative for Online Learners
- perspectives to feed into training for Personal Tutors, Student Support Officers, and class reps
- development of new student-tutor initiatives in particular schools
- examples of good practice in bridge-building
- increased empathy between students and staff.

4.3

A number of drivers and projects lie behind the Chaplaincy's work with Soweto Melodic Voices, including **Internationalisation**; work with the Global Academies; cultural engagement with the **Festivals**; local and global **partnerships**; social responsibility; and **enhancing student experience**.

Please see the Appendix for the Soweto Melodic Voices Tour Report and follow these links to two films made about Soweto Melodic Voices in Edinburgh 2013:

http://vimeo.com/73294380

http://edinburghunichaplaincy.wordpress.com/2013/10/01/excellent-film-of-smvs-edinburgh-visit/

5 Forward Look

Key priorities for the coming year

Ensuring good quality Chaplaincy rooms at the King's Buildings

See 1.1.2.2 and 3.1a above

Religious Literacy, and Religion and Belief Working Party

The Chaplaincy provides advice on Religious Literacy when occasion arises, and in 2012-13 more formally made available in Scotland a Religious Literacy programme that has been developed in England and Wales. Potential benefits include enhanced student satisfaction, widening participation, a reduction in equality-related litigation, increased understanding of international students, improvement in campus relations, and consideration of the active contribution that faith communities can make to the university and the wider community.

For further information about the Project see http://religiousliteracyhe.org/

In order to continue this work, we plan to establish a Religion and Belief Working Party, together with Equality and Diversity.

Increased Pilgrimage and Retreat opportunities

The Associate Chaplain heads up this area of work, and has made available to UoE students and staff retreat opportunities on Iona, and in New Mexico. In 2012-13, she initiated a Retreat in Daily Life, to enable students and staff to benefit from the guidance or a retreat, whilst still within a University semester. This was well-received and will be repeated in 2013-14. A new addition for 2013-14 will be the offer of a Multifaith Peace and Environmental Awareness pilgrimage, walking the Camino way in Spain.

Further nurturing of religion and belief societies

Endeavours are underway, with our new Sikh Chaplain, to begin a Sikh Society in 2013-14.

The Vedic Society has shrunk in this past year, so the Associate Chaplain is working with the Hindu Belief Contact and EUSA Global to help inform students of the Society's existence and potential. Plans are in place to link up with other relevant student societies in 2013-14.

The Chaplaincy will appoint a new East Asian contact in 2013-14 to help with the growing numbers of students from the Far East.

Increased mental-health and mindfulness provision

The Chaplaincy continues to increase and diversify its meditation provision in order, to meet the growing demand for mindfulness practices. We now employ a freelance practitioner, and the Associate Chaplain offers additional sessions (in the Central Area and at KB). The Chaplaincy has strengthened its coordination with the Counselling Service, CSE, Disabilities, and The Advice Place so that these opportunities to practice mindfulness are now made available through other Student Services. In 2013-14 the Associate Chaplain and our Mindfulness practitioner will take provision out to particular schools, student societies and other departments, in response to demand.

The Chaplaincy will host some 'Paws for Stress' opportunities in 2013-14, where students come to spend time with especially trained dogs, as an aid to relieving stress.

Festivals, and local and global partnering, Soweto Melodic Voices

The successful visit of Soweto Melodic Voices in 2013 has given impetus Chaplaincy and our partners in this project to work for a repeat visit at the Festival Fringe 2014. To this end, fundraising is underway. The University Principal has agreed to cover the cost of the Choir's accommodation. The Development Trust have awarded a further £2,000, and a number of grants and initiatives are coming in. Together with the Principal's Office, the Chaplaincy is working to put on two large-scale events with the Choir:

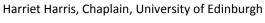
- a University Reception to which all partners will be invited, including EUSA societies, participating City schools, Waverley Care, Edinburgh Peace Initiative, Global Health Academy partners, and to which special invitations will be issued to the Principal of the University Johannesburg, and heads of secondary and primary schools in Soweto
- a Special University Fringe Festival Service, the first of its kind, to be held at Greyfriars Tolbooth and Highland Kirk

Other Soweto initiatives for 2013 and beyond, all open up to UoE students, include recording and film-making opportunities, work with schools in Edinburgh and Soweto, public health and community resilience work, peacekeeping and the arts work, opportunities to become fundraisers, or do fieldwork in community music, in Scotland or South Africa.

APPENDIX

SOWETO MELODIC VOICES

Tour Report, Edinburgh 2013













'We sing when we're happy and we sing when we're sad'

The University of Edinburgh Chaplaincy has worked collaboratively for three years with Soweto Melodic Voices, to bring this award- winning youth choir to Edinburgh. In August 2013, we achieved our goal with the help of students and staff from across the University, local churches and community groups, and with essential grants from the University of Edinburgh Development Trust and the Scottish Episcopal Church Overseas

Committee. In South Africa, the Choir were generously supported by the University of Johannesburg and by individual donors.

Soweto Melodic Voices made Edinburgh their home and performed with JustFestival at St John's Episcopal Church for the duration of the Fringe. Their impact was more inspirational and far-reaching than even their fundraisers had anticipated. In 2009 Soweto Melodic Voices were selected to represent South Africa at the Confederations Cup. They also toured Le Reunion at the invitation of the French Government that same year. In 2010, the Choir was funded by the South African Government to tour Oxford and to sing at the 400-year celebrations of Wadham College. Since this first trip to the UK, the Choir has aspired to perform in Edinburgh, within the largest set of arts and cultural festivals in the world, in order to increase its international profile. In these ways, the Choir draws attention to, and gains support and an income for, its work of improving the lives of young people in Soweto. While doing so, the Choir greatly enhances the lives of those who hear and meet them, teaching us much about hope, community and resilience.



The men from the Choir, at a Reception in honour of Soweto Melodic Voices, hosted by the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh, Sir Professor Timothy O'Shea, in the Playfair Library, 14 August 2013.

Supporting Soweto Melodic Voices', and their links with the University of Edinburgh, is enabling achievements in at least three important areas.

1. SUPPORTING the AIMS of SOWETO MELODIC VOICES

Soweto Melodic Voices are a choir of 15-25 year olds, founded in 2005 under the directorship of Neria Madikane. They make up the Choir of the Anglican Church of Christ the King, in Sophiatown, where Trevor Huddleston preached and Archbishop Thabo Makgoba served; a church that stood in the eye of the storm when Sophiatown was bulldozed in the apartheid era and its black residents forced out to make way for a whitesonly suburb. The Choir members are finding their way through the aftermath of Apartheid, and the ongoing realities of HIV/AIDS, through song and dance. They travel with a strong message of peace and reconciliation, supported by a video-message from Desmond Tutu, made especially for their 2013 Edinburgh tour. The Choir's aims are to provide social, emotional and spiritual nurture to young people in Soweto, to increase their educational opportunities, especially in relation to traditional music and dance, and to provide an extended family for its members, who come from disadvantaged backgrounds and some of whom are orphans. 'We sing when we're happy and we sing when we're sad', they say, and their music and ethos inspire all who meet them.

Their top priority is to improve the educational opportunities for themselves and other young people in Soweto. To this end, they teach music in schools, and seek support in moving into tertiary education.

We now aim to cultivate a range of cultural and educational links between the Universities of Johannesburg and Edinburgh, and to foster links between the two universities and the cities and regions that they serve, particularly in relation to schools, and to community choirs, and health programmes. With this aim in mind, Soweto Melodic Voices visited schools in Edinburgh during August, and held a wide range of musical, health, and political and cultural exchange workshops, more details of which are given below.

2. GIVING the CHOIR a PLATFORM to PERFORM, and CREATING a SUCCESFUL EDINBURGH FRINGE PHENOMENON

Soweto Melodic Voices specifically aim to develop the natural talent of young people in Soweto, and to educate them in traditional music and dance. The Choir has had a phenomenal run, performing with JustFestival as part of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, receiving 4- and 5-star reviews, and keeping Facebook and Twitter busy. They sang a range of traditional and modern songs, most of them arranged by Neria Madikane, and in seven different languages, and accompanied by drums, marimba and piano. They also performed a wide and very energetic array of dances, including gumboot and tap dancing, and traditional Zulu and Botswani dances.

'Soweto Melodic Voices: This may be the most uplifting and melodic hour you will spend this festival; don't miss it' (Music Fringe Review 2013)

'What a joy. Soweto Melodic Voices are a talented and inspiring group of young people who will fill you with emotion and wonder' (Broadway Baby)



On stage at St John's Church, Princes St.

Here is a sample of tweets sent by Festival goers who saw the Choir perform:

- Historylecturer (@Historylecturer) tweeted 12/08/2013 09:54
 @EdinSpotlight Soweto Melodic voices at St John's. Heard them yesterday. Brilliant!
- Clare Nelson tweeted <u>14/08/2013 21:42</u> Had a lovely day <u>@edfringe</u>. Saw the magnificent Soweto Melodic Voices. Everyone should go to see them. Amazing.
- Neve McIntosh tweeted <u>21/08/2013 17:34</u> Go see Soweto Melodic Voices!! Just out and still dancing
- Edinburgh Places (<u>@EDNBRGHPlaces</u>) tweeted<u>22/08/2013 11:20</u> St John's Episcopal Church is buzzing: <u>sch.mp/0JCKv</u> - RT <u>@EdUniMedia</u> The incredible Soweto Melodic Voices perform <u>@justFestival</u>
- Ian Saville tweeted 23.8.13 'privileged to be at last performance of Soweto Melodic Voices. Life-affirming, wonderful stuff'

Actors Touring Company selected Soweto Melodic Voices as one of only two international choirs (the other being from USA) to appear in *The*

Events (photograph below) by renowned Scottish writer, David Greig, at the Traverse Theatre, a Fringe First Award-winning show. The Director, Nick Williams, writes:

When we discovered SMV in the Fringe programme we were excited by the possibility that they might be willing to sing with us...They did not disappoint!...The sound was amazing!... Their performance was full of energy and charm, and we loved their choice of opening song from their own repertoire. The audience responded hugely positively to their performance and we loved working with them. I hope that if we bring the show to South Africa in the future, we will be able to work together again.



Soweto Melodic Voices on stage in The Events.

3. ENABLING SOWETO MELODIC VOICES to ENHANCE LIVES within EDINBURGH and among its MANY VISITORS

During their time in Edinburgh, Soweto Melodic Voices inspired and enhanced the lives of those who encountered them: those who heard them singing in the street and became their friends and supporters; staff of eateries and bars (they sang everywhere they went) who kept inviting them back to 'do a turn'; festival goers who returned to see their shows 4 or 5 times and came bearing gifts for the Choir; high-school children who clamoured to the railings to clasp their hands as they said goodbye after performances at their assemblies. We are promoting links between these Edinburgh schools and schools in Soweto.

Tudor Morris, City of Edinburgh Music School Director, described the Choir's visit to the Music School and Broughton High School, emailed to say:

We had a wonderful morning when the Soweto Melodic Voices joined us at Broughton High School.

Students leaving the morning assembly told me that it was the best assembly they had ever been to in Broughton. The Music Specialists then spent some time with our new friends from Soweto and they all took part in a relaxed musical sharing that worked so well... Myself and all the students are looking forward to working with Soweto Melodic Voices again in the near future.

http://panther.directrouter.co.uk/~brough/images/Soweto%20Melodic%20Choir.pdf

Soweto Melodic Voices also visited Prestonfield Primary School, whose head-teacher, Fiona Murray, writes:

We were incredibly lucky to have a visit from the Soweto Melodic Voices... I can honestly say it has been the most powerful and wonderful visit I have ever experienced in a school.

The performance that Soweto Melodic Voices treated us to was vibrant, uplifting and truly wonderful ...and before we knew it, children were coming up and dancing and singing with the choir. Our new Primary 1 children were particularly impressive, picking up the rhythms and actions so quickly...

A truly inspirational and affirmative experience for us all, demonstrating the power of partnership and community. (For accompanying photos go to http://www.prestonfield.edin.sch.uk/)

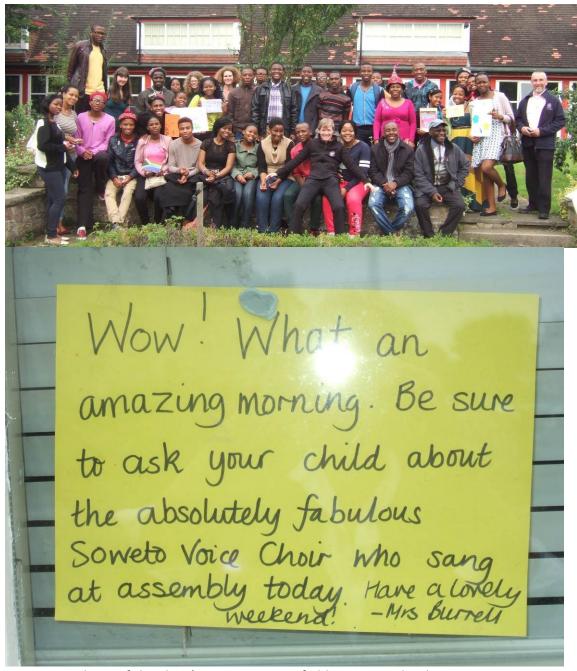


Photo of the choir's visit to Prestonfield Primary School

The Choir enjoyed musical and cultural exchange workshops with Edinburgh University Music Society (EUMS), which ended with an impromptu Ceilidh at the foot of the Castle with African drums and Irish fiddle. The treasurer of EUMS, who helped organise the event, said 'The spirit and camaraderie of the Choir is very special. The individual friendships that I have made and links that have been set up are things that I will treasure all my life.'

The Choir also taught the rhythms of Soweto to Festival goers, communicating the power of music and dance to transform lives.

Alongside their singing and dancing, Soweto Melodic Voices provided workshops with Waverley Care, and with Edinburgh Global Health Academy with Dr Liz Grant, on matters of HIV/AIDS and attitudes towards health, illness and dying. Travelling with them was the distinguished Joyce Seroke, who had been a member of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Vice-President of the World YWCA, and Chairperson of the Commission on Gender Equality. She led workshops on Peace and Reconciliation, and Women in a Democratic South Africa, and sang protest songs of the apartheid era. It was an immense privilege to hear her speak and sing, and as one participant puts it: 'a wonderful opportunity for Edinburgh that really brought home the reality of prejudice based on ignorance and fear'.

A range of guests came along to introduce the Choir at different performances, including the Rt Revd Lorna Hood, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Rt Revd John Armes, Bishop of Edinburgh, the Very Revd Susan MacDonald, Dean of Edinburgh, Prof. David Fergusson, Professor of Divinity at the University of Edinburgh and Principal of New College, and Kirsty MacDonald, Director of Development and Alumni who facilitated the grant from the University Development Trust.

A PhD student at the University of Edinburgh, and a JustFestival volunteer, writes this about the visit of Soweto Melodic Voices:

Soweto Melodic Voices has been one of the most meaningful experiences that I've had since I arrived in Edinburgh one year ago. The gift of their presence has touched me in an unexpected and irreversible way. Beyond their incredible performance, their endless vital force and their overwhelming talent, beyond the striking beauty of their music and their dance, I perceived the irreducible moral dimension of the entire event. I wish that everyone, by watching their performance, could see beyond the entertainment, perceiving the sense of responsibility emerging from sharing the same human condition. At the end of every show, I always had a strong feeling that clapping our hands is not enough as a response to their performance, that we should do much more than just clapping our hands and going back home unchanged. The proper response to their one hour show should be, in my view, a life-long commitment. We are all entitled to overcome suffering, and so we are called to recognize and support the others on their way to a more content and fulfilled life.

His words express how many people responded to the Choir, and why so many people would like to bring Soweto Melodic Voices back next year.

Two final 'thank yous'

Soweto Melodic Voices received significant financial backing from the University of Johannesburg, to fund flights and visas, and we are most grateful to the Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Prof Ihron Rensburg, for making this possible, and also to Ms Y. Macozoma' Ms L Mojela', Councilor K. Moroka, Dr M. Kwini, ad Mrs A. Mokoena.

The Choir also had the personal backing of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who made a video-message to Edinburgh Festival goers, especially for the Choir's performances. His support gave the final encouragement needed to bring Soweto Melodic Voices here in 2013.

Church Moderator (@moderatorchurch) tweeted 09/08/2013 08:11
#SowetoMelodicVoices Wonderful intro piece from Desmond Tutu.
Forgiveness & reconciliation only hope for a divided world. Pray for that today

The total that the Chaplaincy raised from donations for SMV's 2013 visit was £19951.97

£9451.97 (fundraising) + £2500.00 (Festivals rental) + £8000.00 (donations from previous years).

Total expenditure was £24,500, some of which came from the Chaplaincy's operational budget because it was related to development of UoE local partnerships and student opportunities.

The Choir's income for their JustFestival performances and workshops in 2013 was 50% of £24,678 (the other 50% going to JustFestival).

Related sites:

http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/chaplaincy/soweto-melodic-voices

http://www.justjust.org/

http://www.ekklesia.co.uk/node/18798

http://www.informededinburgh.co.uk/whats-on/fringe-review-soweto-melodic-voices/

We would like to thank the many generous sponsors who made it possible for Soweto Melodic Voices to perform in Edinburgh in 2013

In Scotland:

The Overseas Committee of the Scottish Episcopal Church The University of Edinburgh Development Trust St Baldred's Episcopal Church, North Berwick St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral, Edinburgh

Prestonfield Parish Kirk
The African and Caribbean Christian Fellowship

Students and staff of the University of Edinburgh, the JustFestival Team, and citizens of Edinburgh who undertook fundraising activities, and our friends around the world who supported these.

In South Africa:

The Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Johannesburg, Prof Ihron Rensburg
Ms Y. Macozoma
Ms L Mojela
Councillor K. Moroka
Dr M. Kwini
Mrs A. Mokoena

We thank all those who collaborated on workshops and musical activities with Soweto Melodic Voices:

Edinburgh University Music Society
Joyce Pilson-Seroke
Dr Liz Grant of the Edinburgh Global Health Academy
Waverley Care with Rev Marion Chatterley and Voice of Hope
Robin Chapel
Broughton High School and the City of Edinburgh Music School
Leith Academy
Prestonfield Primary School

And we thank all those who provided for the choir during their stay in Edinburgh:

Richard Dlamini

Leslie Madikane

Yvonne Magabela

Hendry Merckel, pianist

Elizabeth Tukulu

Karen Bowman

Juliet Conway

Donna Dalgetty

Rev Markus Dünzkofer

Jean Grier

Sarah Patrick

Janet Rennie and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Edinburgh

Daniel Thornton

St John's Episcopal Church, Edinburgh

The JustFestival Team

The University of Edinburgh Accommodation Services

The University of Edinburgh Chaplaincy Team

Wardie Parish Church