



# IACAC NEWSLETTER

International Association of Civil Aviation Chaplains

**May 2013**

**President's letter**

This last weekend in May has for the UK been a very busy one as it is the Bank Holiday weekend, the government decrees that the banks will not open on the following Monday and we all get a day of work. Of course this doesn't apply to the airports as we are working all 365 days of the year.

This last one in May coincides with Whitsun (also Whitsunday, Whit Sunday or Whit) This is the name used in the UK for the Christian festival of Pentecost, the seventh Sunday after Easter, which commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Christ's disciples. In England it took on some characteristics of Beltane, which originated from the pagan celebration of Summer's Day, the beginning of the Summer half-year, in Europe. This year Pentecost was the weekend before the holiday weekend and the feast this weekend was Trinity Sunday.

Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday after Pentecost in the Western Christian liturgical calendar, and the Sunday of Pentecost in Eastern Christianity. Trinity Sunday celebrates the Christian doctrine of the Trinity, the three Persons of God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Trinity Sunday is celebrated in all the Western liturgical churches: Roman Catholic, Anglican, Lutheran, (most) Presbyterians, Methodists, and many churches within the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Our Buddhist Chaplain, Rick Heybroek, was also busy taking a service on the Friday before marking 'Vesak', ( Buddha Day), the anniversary of the Buddha's birth, and the Enlightenment and Passing Away (Theraveda). Rick also mentioned that in the UK there is a national network for Buddhist Chaplains. Does anybody know if they have the same in their country and also do we have a Muslim Chaplains Network in the UK?

I have also been contacted by someone from the Hindu faith who says "I was searching for the Bhagavad Gita or any other Hindu scriptures in the chapel but couldn't find one. I'm associated with ISKCON (International Society for Krishna Consciousness), which is a monotheistic tradition within the Vedic and Hindu cultural traditions. Hinduism, with about one billion followers, is the world's third largest religion, after Christianity and Islam. As the Chapel was interfaith, I thought of serving them by supplying the Chapel with scriptural literature and religious material, which could help those who are hurting in their time of need by helping them increase their love for God. This is a wonderful idea and perhaps you might like to approach them for material in your chapel?"

As you know I have a passion for the Inter-Faith work within the IACAC and that is what I have tried to concentrate on as your President over the past four years. My time of Office is finishing in September and I pray that all non-

Christian chaplains have been encouraged and felt supported over this time. I sincerely wish more would come to the IACAC Network meetings around the world and the International Conference in September. We value your presence there and need your help to become a truly Multi- Faith Organisation. So I wish you Namaste, God's Blessings, Shalom, Asatri Akall. A Sallam Alaikoum! Peace be with you, from Jonathan your President



**Rev. Fr Jonathan Baldwin.**  
**The Chaplaincy, London Gatwick**  
**Airport, West Sussex RH6ONP. UK**  
Phone +44 [0] 1293 503 857.  
Mob. + 44 7799 478788.  
Email:  
[jonathan.baldwin@gatwickairport.co](mailto:jonathan.baldwin@gatwickairport.co)

### **IACAC 2013 Annual Conference**

This year's annual IACAC Conference and Post Conference Tour is to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, USA. Details about the conference program and tour are to be found on our website [www.iacac.info](http://www.iacac.info) Just a reminder that all conference registrations and payments are to be made online through the website. Remember to check if you require a visa to enter the USA if you are not an American citizen. Please book by the 1<sup>st</sup> July. A late booking fee of \$50 will apply for bookings received after this date. For inquiries about the conference please contact the Rev Chester Cook [revdrcook@bellsouth.net](mailto:revdrcook@bellsouth.net) at the Atlanta Chaplaincy. We look forward to seeing you in Atlanta in September.

### **Membership of IACAC**

One of the strengths of IACAC is the breadth and diversity of its membership,

each chaplaincy bringing different experiences and so widening the understandings of all members. This year, 2013, the IACAC Board is offering members who are behind in their subscriptions, the opportunity to only pay the 2013 fee and become financial members again.

New members are always very welcome and membership forms can also be accessed on the website.

Our payment options have become easier by logging onto the website [www.iacac.info](http://www.iacac.info) and following the Paypal instructions for payment of membership subscriptions.

Payments can still be made by electronic bank transfer, bank draft or by cash payment at the Annual Conference. Please do not hesitate to contact the Secretary or Treasurer if there is any way we can assist you.

### **News from Our Chaplaincies**

The British Isles and Ireland Airport Chaplains Network met at Glasgow Airport on the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> May. Congratulations to the Rev Charlotte Osborn from Newcastle International Airport who was re-elected as the Network Coordinator. Their network conference enjoyed the warmth of a Scottish welcome, which compensated for the wet windy weather. Those present were challenged by the speakers to reflect on their ministry.

Our friends at Lubumbashi International Airport, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, send their greetings to everybody. They are hoping to bring a team to the Atlanta Conference and are praying they will all be granted visas to enter the USA.

### **Thought For The Month**

Faith is taking the first step even when you do not see the whole staircase.

Martin Luther King Jnr 1929-1968