



## Chaplaincy Prayer Letter

### July 2023

We want to give thanks for Malcolm Read, a chaplain from the start of the chaplaincy in Basingstoke, who has died. His thanksgiving service in Winklebury was a joyful occasion, remembering all the blessings he brought to people and, in particular, his dedication to being a chaplain. He will be greatly missed in the bus station and a number of drivers and managers came to the service. He also had a lot of friends among the shopkeepers and stall-holders at the Top of the Town. Please remember his wife Barbara, as she adjusts to life without him.

The Magistrates' Court has many people in it, witnesses, victims, supporters and staff, alongside those who are called to attend the Court. Chaplains help people understand what is happening in the courts and to cope with the situations they find themselves in. They often speak of forgiveness and repentance. Staff often have to manage people expressing strong emotions, distraught or fearful, and hear unpleasant things. Chaplains can support them too. Pray for chaplains in the Court on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings, that they will wisely support people and share Good News.

Pray for the Chaplains' ministry to all who make the town centre function, especially the bus drivers, shop assistants, security staff and cleaners. Chaplains meet many of them as they visit shops and talk to people in the streets.

The Discovery Centre (the library) hosts a range of activities and we will be joining at least one of the discussion groups in July. Pray that we can encourage people and draw them to Jesus.

We need more chaplains! Please pray that God will challenge people to join; consider whether you could be a chaplain, or suggest it to someone in your church to consider. We provide taster sessions and we give training and support.

As you pray that others are blessed, may you be blessed too.

### **John**

John Hayward

Chair of Trustees



Judith at the Discovery Centre

## Please give thanks:

- for the life of Malcolm Read and remember his family in this time of loss.
- and pray for those who keep the town centre functioning, safe and clean.

## And pray:

- for wisdom and the right words for Chaplains in the Magistrates' Court.
- for opportunities to share God's love and to draw people to Jesus.
- for Christians in Basingstoke to see what Chaplains do and consider whether God is calling them to reach out to others.



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