



# E-NEWSLETTER

## September 2013

Faith in older people promotes a better understanding of the importance of spiritual care, as an integral part of person centred care



FiOP is delighted that our previous Chairman, Christopher Davies, was honoured in the Queen's Birthday Honours in June with a British Empire Medal for his contribution to charity and community work.

Our warmest congratulations.

### Updates from Previous Events:

#### Malcolm Goldsmith Lecture – 8<sup>th</sup> July 2013

'Maintaining the fabric of the world: Spiritual gifts of persons with dementia'  
by Susan H. McFadden, Ph.D.



*Susan McFadden, John Swinton and Elizabeth Mackinlay*

This was the third Malcolm Goldsmith Lecture and all three speakers attended the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Ageing and Spirituality in July. The text and audio clips of their Keynotes are available on the conference website: [www.fiop-mha.events-made-easy.com](http://www.fiop-mha.events-made-easy.com)

## 5th International Conference on Ageing and Spirituality July 2013

This was a wonderfully active event which was held during the second week in July when we benefited from beautiful weather. It was a collaborative effort with Methodist Homes (MHA) and the Centre for Theology and Public Issues, Edinburgh University. We were very grateful for the support of the Scottish Government Joint Improvement Team; ACTS; NHS Education Chaplaincy Development; the Pilkington Trust and the Christian Council on Ageing.

This conference attracted participants from all over the world to share practical ideas and research on the importance of spiritual care to the well-being of older people. The focus of the conference was on creativity in meeting the spiritual care needs of older people. The keynote speeches widened our perspectives and the parallel sessions enabled participants to discuss issues in more detail. During the conference everyone was encouraged to contribute to the 'Conference Quilt of the Tree of Life' so we did not just talk of creative approaches but contributed as well. Art, poetry and singing were key ingredients.

The keynote speeches and other papers together with some photographs are available on the website [www.fiop-mha.events-made-easy.com](http://www.fiop-mha.events-made-easy.com) and the site will be promoted through the participants, FiOP Newsletters and our networks. Discussions are underway about the organisation of the next conference with a view to it taking place in the USA. The Conference Quilt will be passed on to the next conference but will be kept at MHA Auchlochan Village. It is hoped to have a formal handover later in the year.

## Survey of the work being undertaken by faith communities in support of older people in Scotland

This work was commissioned by the Scottish Government Joint Improvement Team and the analysis of the questionnaires was undertaken by a master's student, Samantha Luker, and incorporated into her dissertation. The work was supervised by Dr. Liz Grant, Edinburgh University. The survey was in relation to the Reshaping of Care for Older People and the contribution to and awareness of faith communities in relation to this policy.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/1095/0097691.pdf>

The preliminary results were presented by Samantha and Maureen at the International Conference and to the working group convened by the Joint Improvement Team on 26<sup>th</sup> August. A summary of the findings will be available shortly. The discussion at the working group was constructive with several suggestions as to how to keep up the momentum.

## Training:

FiOP has just appointed a new Training/Development Co-ordinator, Derek Morrison, who will be taking up the post in early October. This post is supported by a grant from the Scottish Government to enable FiOP to further develop its training capacity together with our loyal associates.

### Journeying Towards Death

Explore responses to issues around death and dying and strengthen your ability to provide support to your family and members of your congregation.

To be held in Glasgow on: 24<sup>th</sup> October 2013 and 28<sup>th</sup> November 2013

Venue: Ignatian Spirituality Centre, Glasgow G3 6PE

**Aim:** To enable participants to explore responses to issues around death and dying and to strengthen their ability to provide support to their families and members of their congregation:

- To increase understanding of living with and dying from an advanced progressive disease
- To consider issues around bereavement
- To develop an understanding of how to communicate effectively

**Cost:** individual sessions are £25, or the cost of both days is £40

Further information and online booking are on the website: [www.faithinolderpeople.org.uk](http://www.faithinolderpeople.org.uk)

## Forthcoming Projects:

### St. George's House Consultation

#### The Church and Age: Enabling the Spiritual Growth of Older People



Canon James Woodward & Maureen O'Neill

This was a very stimulating two day consultation which brought together a group of people who are involved in the development of work with and for older people in the UK.

Some key issues emerging were (*extract from the draft report – the final report should be made available shortly and will be on the FiOP website*):

#### Recognising the Changing Nature of Congregations and Responding Appropriately

We don't seem to be up to speed with the idea that, as our older population increases and lives ever longer, we might be going through a social revolution with implications for all age groups and hence the Church as a whole. We need to grasp that there is a 'growth' trajectory of ageing which runs counter to the 'decline' trajectory that many live by. How do we encourage churches to open their eyes to the age profile of their communities and stop feeling they are failing if they're not full of children and young people?

### Draft conclusions (extract)

Many of us now feel reassurance that we are on the right track in working on ageing and in trying to get 'old age' viewed not as a notionally discrete part of life but an integral part of the continuum of being alive.

- We need to make ripples. We should commit personally to agitate for change, work together, and use people with influence whom we know and can talk to in order to make things happen.
- Partly owing to the nature of our ministry, we must work locally outwards on this big issue. Some of us can find ways to engage better with the Church (of England) and to shift the focus of our own church from youth and children to the actual demographics of the diocese.
- We can work out how to make more safe spaces for storytelling, to value the voice of age.
- We should take care to find out what older people actually need and want to know in terms of spiritual growth, rather than assuming it.
- At the same time, we need better theological bases for much practical work and ministry, and a sense of at least positive alignment of missions with the Church of England.
- Those of us who can should find out how to influence research and policy agenda.
- Others of us can help initiatives grow, starting by asking those engaged in successful projects with older people to provide news of replicable spiritual-life projects for funding.
- Recognition of the support community that does already work for older people is important. We could look at how to provide that recognition.
- We ought to remember to play

### **Life Changes Trust – Longitudinal Study**

FiOP is pleased to be a partner in this important project with Edinburgh University funded by the Life Changes Trust. The aim of the 18 week project is to undertake a scoping exercise to establish the focus of a longitudinal study on the issues for people with dementia and their carers. The work is well established and meeting the timescales required by the LCT. The final report will be submitted to the Life Changes Trust in October.

### **The Annual Report 2012-13**

This is now available. Please click here to [Download Annual Report 2012-2013](#)

### **FiOP Trustees**

At our recent AGM the following Trustees retired by rotation –  
Margaret Stevenson, Sandra Carter, Christopher Davies and John Starr

We are enormously grateful to them for guiding a small organisation from its establishment six years ago.

We will be welcoming new Trustees in December.

## Events and Resources by Other Organisations:

### Service User and Carer Involvement in Social Work Education

The University of Edinburgh are looking for new members for their Service User and Carer Forum. The forum meets three times a year. Participation is on a voluntary basis and travel expenses are paid.

The aim of the Service User and Carer Forum is to ensure the perspectives of service users and carers are included on all of the social work courses at the University of Edinburgh. It is the view of the group and the faculty that by including these perspectives social work students will develop greater empathy with service user and carer experiences and will be encouraged to keep the wishes and views of service users and carers central to their work.

Service user and carer perspectives are included on the course in a variety of ways:

- Through the use of video
- Through the use of research outlining SUC views
- Through face to face presentations from service users or carers themselves

If you would be interested in joining this group please contact Dr Autumn Roesch-Marsh:  
Lecturer in Social Work, Rm 2.08, Chrystal Macmillan Building, 15A George Sq, Edinburgh EH8 9LD  
Tel: 0131 651 3870 Email: [a.roeschmars@ed.ac.uk](mailto:a.roeschmars@ed.ac.uk)

### 3rd National Conference on Bereavement in a Healthcare Setting

To be held in Dundee, on Tuesday 25 September.

Under the title The Many Faces of Loss, the conference will be chaired by Professor Scott Murray MBE, and opened by Ros Moore, Chief Nursing Officer for Scotland. The programme includes Keynote Addresses from Dr Kenneth Doka, Professors Margaret Stroebe and Henk Schut, and Professor Tony Walter, along with a wide range of breakout sessions.

For those unable to travel to Dundee, a live interactive webcast will be available (registration required).

Visit the Conference Website at: <http://www.ncbhs.org.uk/>

Visit the Scottish Grief and Bereavement Hub at <http://www.griefhub.org.uk/>

### Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care Annual Conference 31st October 2013: Palliative Care in Many Guises

October 31, 2013 - Royal College of Physicians Edinburgh

Exploring the variety in contemporary palliative care the event will:

- provide an opportunity for learning relevant to practice and workplace
- provide an opportunity for networking and the sharing of information and good practice
- challenge, inspire and energise

The event will feature a mix of outstanding speakers and delegate participation.

**Cost:** £95 members, £105 non-members

## **Independent Review of the Liverpool Care Pathway**

Click here to view the [Independent Review of the Liverpool Care Pathway](#)

## **Spiritual perspectives of Black Caribbean and White British older adults: development of a spiritual typology in later life**

EUAN SADLER, SIMON BIGGS and KAREN GLASER

Ageing and Society / Volume 33 / Issue 03 / April 2013, pp 511 538

DOI: 10.1017/S0144686X12000074, Published online: 14 March 2012

Link to this article: [http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract\\_S0144686X12000074](http://journals.cambridge.org/abstract_S0144686X12000074)

## **Aging, Dementia and the Faith Community - continuing the journey of friendship**

Author: John T. McFadden M.Div. - Chaplain, Appleton Healthcare Center (Appleton, WI)

**All Hands On Deck** This think piece sets out emerging conclusions on how best to involve the full range of stakeholders in health and social care integration. This is not formal Scottish Government guidance. It is, however, together with the recommended work with JIT and other partners to follow it up, likely to inform such guidance over the coming months.

Click here to view [All Hands on Deck](#) (see reference to 'Dying well' on page 6)

**Seminar on Equality and Rights** Edinburgh Interfaith Association, Edinburgh & Lothians Regional Equality Council (ELREC), People First and RNIB/Deaf Action are organising a half day event – Seminar on Equality and Rights, on Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at the Main Council Chamber, City Chambers, Edinburgh from 12pm –4pm. The event aims to celebrate fifty years of the historic March on Washington by discussing its legacy on Equality, Justice and Rights at a broader scale. There will be table discussions around issues of diversity, culture, cohesion, and Justice. The event is FREE, but places are limited so please confirm your attendance as early as possible. You can book online <http://equalityandrightsinedinburgh2013.eventbrite.co.uk/> or contact us on (T) 0131 556 0441 (E) [admin@elrec.org.uk](mailto:admin@elrec.org.uk)

## **The Blessings of Aging eCourse with Joan Chittister: 7<sup>th</sup> Oct - 1<sup>st</sup> Nov 2013**

**Click here to subscribe** and to see the full course outline (cost is \$49.95)

**Tilia Gardening** Ann Kelly gardens with older people and is interested in the transformational potential of gardens in the lives of older people. She holds a Masters degree in Theological Ethics from New College and further information on Ann's work is available on her website:

<http://www.tiliagardening.co.uk/>

**Training** is a core activity for FiOP and we have continued to provide a range of training for congregations, health and social care staff and volunteers in different parts of Scotland. These have encompassed dementia; memory boxes; communication and death and dying with a focus on the spiritual care element. Please contact [info@fiop.org.uk](mailto:info@fiop.org.uk) to discuss your training requirements, which we can tailor to meet your specific needs.

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