

This month's editor is
Shaykha Saleha Islam Bukhari



EDITORIAL

October is often viewed as a month of putting your head down and exerting your best efforts. Many of us did not expect September would be such an eventful month for the country; with the appointment of a new prime minister followed by the death of HM The Queen and the ascension to the throne of HM King Charles. Fiona and I had the honour of representing the Canary Wharf Multi-Faith Chaplaincy along with other Tower Hamlets faith and civic leaders at the All Saints Poplar service of commemoration for Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. What an incredible month in history to have been witness to! Our prayers and best wishes are with King Charles III as he assumes his new role and with all those who are returning to work with renewed roles.

This a month of new beginnings. Our thoughts are with all those parents who suddenly find their homes empty and their young ones all grown up and ready to venture out into the real world with a new job apprenticeship or university course. And to all young people who are moving towards becoming independent adults, we wish you all the very best. It's not easy to describe the mixed feelings of pride, joy and sadness for parents and young people experiencing this changing phase.

Furthermore, as the past month has seen new initiatives and projects launched, Chaplaincy is no exception, we welcome a new member of the team Revd Mark Ball who will be leading the Retail Chaplaincy team. I will also be sharing an inspiring conversation with Anselm Colom, deputy manager of Canary Wharf Waitrose, one of the largest branches in UK.

We are aware there is still an undercurrent of trauma in life that we all face at some time or another. If you or somebody you know feel that you are in this position, then come and have a coffee and chat with us in total confidence You don't have to face it alone and you might just feel comforted to learn that it's ok to not be ok.

SALEHA'S INTERVIEW'S ANSELM COLOM, DEPUTY BRANCH MANAGER, WAITROSE

I had the pleasure of meeting Anselm Colom who is one of the Deputy Branch Managers of The John Lewis Partnership here at Canary Wharf. Anselm has been working here since 2014 and given his many years of experience, I felt that this would be a great opportunity for us to learn about the importance of wellbeing and how the Chaplaincy supports businesses here on the Wharf.

Interestingly, The John Lewis Partnership is UK's largest employee-owned business and parent company of John Lewis and Waitrose and comprises of Partners who are members of staff in the John Lewis partnership. In other words, the Partners work for the business which they have membership of. Anselm shared an interesting fact that The John Lewis Partnership is one of the largest branches in the UK with approximately 500 members of staff, including full time and part time.

As one of the two Deputy Branch Managers of Waitrose, 500 is a substantial number of people to manage. Anselm is not only responsible for the welfare of all Partners in the branch but also for customer service, and profit and loss of the branch. Business is centered around satisfaction of customers and to achieve this focus, the wellbeing of partners is of utmost importance. Anselm stresses the core values of the business are to ensure "the safety & happiness of all partners".

Partners at John Lewis are supported internally by their branch managers like Anselm, but nevertheless value the additional support of the chaplains. If the branch managers identify a person needs help of a physical or mental nature, then they will be referred for wellbeing and be signposted for the relevant service required. The chaplains enjoy a good mutual relationship with Anselm. He finds it helpful to refer partners to chaplaincy, and occasionally chaplains might refer partners back to support available to them at Waitrose.

When asked what the presence of the chaplaincy has means and how it makes a difference, Anselm kindly shared his thoughts and commented, "It makes a difference to me. We have developed a good relationship and I enjoy our coffee time for catching up and talking. It makes a difference knowing there's someone there to talk to, someone there just to listen." I asked Anselm if there was a message he'd like to share with other businesses regarding the service. Taking a deep reflective sigh, he replies, "It is a facility that can benefit everyone and is tailored for individual or collective support for businesses if required".

To give you a flavour of our [BLOGS](#), if you have not yet discovered them, you can read Fiona's recent Blog "Confirming the importance of a Multifaith Chaplaincy." [here](#)



FAITH FESTIVALS – SEPTEMBER

HINDU 5 Oct Durga Puja-Dussehra
JEWISH 5 Oct Yom Kippur
MUSLIM 8 Oct Mawlid
JEWISH 10-16 Oct Sukkot
JEWISH 17 Oct Shemini Atzeret
JEWISH 18 Oct Simchat Torah
SIKHISM 20 Oct First reading of Guru Granth Sahib
HINDU 24-28 Oct Diwali
HINDU 24 Oct Lakshmi Puja
BAHA'I 25-26 Oct Birth of the Báb
BAHA'I 25-26 Oct Birth of Bahá'u'lláh
31 Oct Marks the end of the harvest season and the beginning of winter.

REMINDER – FOLLOW OUR VARIOUS SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS.

You are able to do this through a feature called Link Tree see the image - through this feature it is possible to choose which social media you want to follow from all of our different ones. You can either use the [weblink](#) or scan the QR code

CHAT WITH A CHAPLAIN

Just to remind you even if we are not always visible in Canary Wharf, we are still happy to catch up over a coffee either in person or virtually! [Talk to us](#)