

Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1:6 [NIV]

CPA member recognised in the 2021 New Year's Honours List

Reverend Glynne James, Principal Police Chaplain for South Wales, and the first Police Chaplain in Wales, was recognised in the New Year's Honours list with the British Empire Medal (BEM) for dedicating more than six decades of his life to serving his country and community. All at the CPA add our congratulations to Glynne for this well-deserved recognition.

The award recognises 63 years public service for the former Police Inspector who was drafted into the Armed Forces aged 18 and served his country in the Arctic, Middle East and Far East as an aircraft electrician in the Fleet Air Arm.

Glynne applied to join the police whilst in the Fleet Air Arm. He was taken off active service in 1964 and he flew home and donned the uniform of Swansea Borough Police which became a part of South Wales Police in 1969.

Reverend James (81) who is originally from Pembrokeshire, was ordained as a priest in 1985 while serving as an Inspector and became a curate in the Parish of Gorseinon in Swansea where he has served for 36 years.

In 1996 Glynne retired after 32 years as a police officer before becoming a police welfare officer for 9 years, and the first officially appointed Police Chaplain in Wales. When he retired as Welfare Officer nine years later, he retained his role as Force Chaplain.

Reacting to the honour, Reverend James said: *"When the Cabinet Office contacted me, I thought they had come to the wrong person. It was a pleasant shock which left me speechless and I feel touched and humbled that people have that trust, faith and belief in me."*

Writing in the Diocesan News for The Church in Wales, Archbishop of Wales The Most Reverend John Davies said he was delighted to hear that Glynne was to receive this honour and that he had *"interwoven his faith, his ordained ministry and his secular roles in such a way as to emphasise that faith is not (something) to be*



Reverend Glynne James with HRH The Prince of Wales at South Wales Police HQ in 2019

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compartmentalised but should infuse all aspects of life, and run through them like a golden thread" and "That his careful and prayerful support of so many officers in so many ways has been recognised in this very public way is richly deserved".

On & Off Duty

John Dawson – CPA member – an international journey

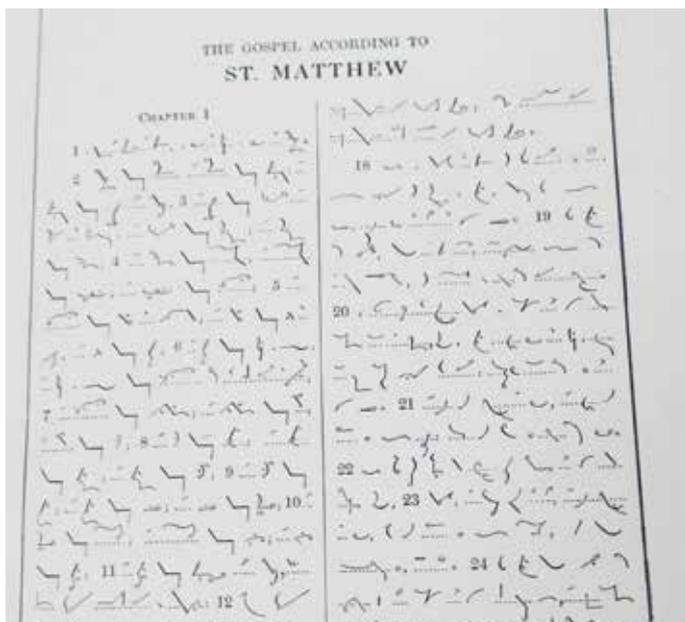
Many CPA members will know John Dawson, who is a loyal member of the CPA. He regularly attends our National Conferences and is always active in the debates that take place. When I read an article about John in a recent issue of Life and Work Magazine, I asked permission to use their interview with John, for the benefit of our wider CPA Membership. I am sure that you will agree that John has had an amazing journey. Lee Russell – Executive Director

John Dawson is a member of St Columba's in London, and has attended Crown Church of Scotland in Covent Garden since 1985. Every week when he goes to the services, he carries a Bible – but it's one that not everyone can read. It's in Pitman's Shorthand. John was recently elected as President of the Incorporated Phonographic Society (www.the-ips.org.uk), the oldest society of shorthand writers in the world, and has met some of the Pitman family in person.

John had always enjoyed office work and wanted to do it really well, so he studied shorthand, book-keeping and typing and shorthand got a real grip on him. "I was just fascinated by it," he said. "This strange language of lines and squiggles that conveyed so many words in



John Dawson with shorthand bible



Pitman shorthand bible page

such a short time. I used it all the time. After school I went to college and graduated in 1974. I applied for a job at the OECD (the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) which was based in France. After an interview in London, I was offered a job, and off I went to Paris!"

John came to know Justin Welby, now the Archbishop of Canterbury, and he attended his wedding at Holy Trinity Brompton, London in 1979.

After several years working in France and Switzerland, John decided to return to Scotland and then moved to London to work at HM Treasury. Two years later, he was off to Strasbourg to work at the Council of Europe. He never imagined, while he was at school in Ayrshire, that shorthand would take him round the world. "After Strasbourg, I worked with British Gas for about eight years, then I joined the Civil

Service and became a police civilian worker. I joined the Christian Police Association, and I'm proud to be a member to this day," he says. His skills brought him to the notice of Parliament – first in the House of Lords, and then working for a number of MPs in Westminster. John is currently senior caseworker For Nickie Aiken, MP For the Cities of London and Westminster.

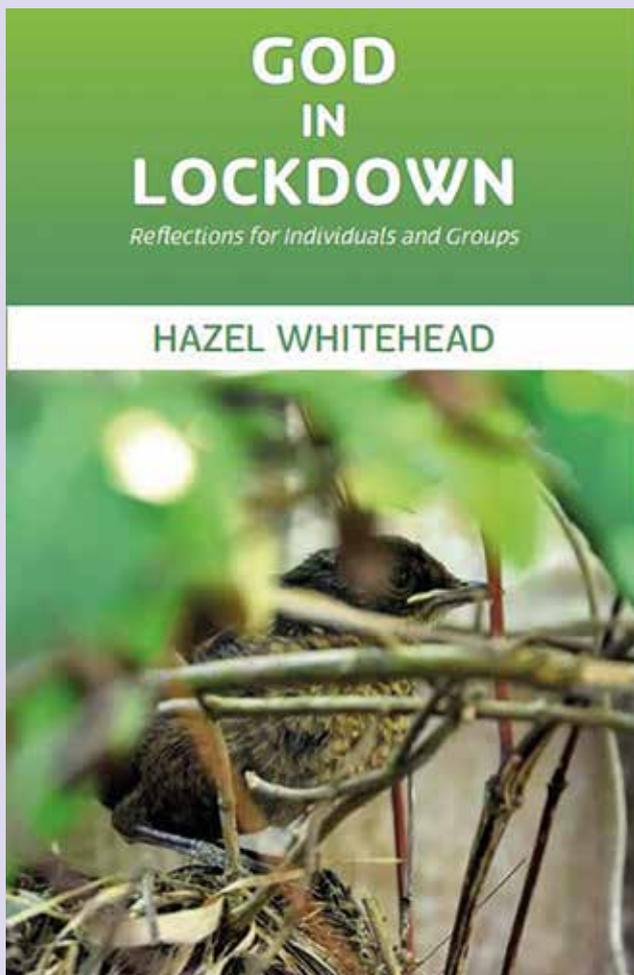
John says "I simply thank God that I have been blessed with the ability to write Pitman's shorthand and I have met so many friends and experienced so many happy, exciting and wonderful times through my use of shorthand and I can honestly say that I have no real regrets and I have had a very interesting and fruitful life and I am very happy and content with my career.

"Throughout my life I have always maintained a very close bond and deep faith in God and my Christian faith.

Things have not always been easy and I have had many dramatic, challenging and hurtful times but with my faith in God and love and friendship from others I have always been able to pull through and help others in any way I can. I have been blessed with wonderful friends and family throughout the low and distressing points in my life and I have always found time to pray to God to help me through and he has never let me down".

To conclude, John says "few realise that my Bible is written in Pitman's shorthand. They're hard to come by, but I love mine!"

*This article has been summarised, with kind permission, from an extended interview of John Dawson by Jackie Macadam, Features Writer, Life and Work magazine, Church of Scotland. The full article can be found by subscribing to Life and Work Magazine via www.lifeandwork.org



God in Lockdown

Canon Dr Hazel Whitehead is a Police Chaplain in Hampshire and a member of the CPA. She has recently written a book called God in Lockdown. Here is what Hazel says about her book:

"When I was much younger, I used to think about life and wonder where God fitted in to it, and what God was saying and thinking. Much later, I was taught to call this natural activity Theological Reflection and had to learn and teach different methods and give names to the various stages.

*It doesn't matter whether you have studied the theory and read the academic books or not but my hope is that, by engaging with some of the 50 reflections in **God in Lockdown** you might catch a glimpse – through the twigs of a nest or in the flight of a goose – of God in Lockdown.*

This book is for individuals and small groups and emerged from the Thoughts for the Day which I and others were writing during Lockdown in 2020. Every reflection is followed by three questions which are starters for ten for further conversation. They can be used in on-line meetings as well as the more traditional face to face groups (when legal.) With titles such as Tiny, happy people, Following the Crowd, and Priscilla and Aquila, Ampliatius and who? there is something for everyone.

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Lee Russell (Executive Director of the CPA) says "Having read this book, a particular sentence struck a chord with me. The author asserts that each individual person will know what it was that taxed their faith the most during the pandemic and that the naming of this issue or issues and sharing it will serve to enhance your faith and enable you to do whatever it is you have to do now. The author also states that it could help you cope with a problem or a fear should it ever

occur again, or be a witness to somebody else in a similar situation (extended from Chapter two).

I believe that this book, and the reflections will definitely help the reader to explore such issues, and, perhaps even more importantly, encourage the reader to discuss these issues with others."

God in Lockdown is available to order priced £5.99 from <https://www.ypdbooks.com/non-fiction/2197-god-in-lockdown-reflections-for-individuals-and-group-YPD02468.html>

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OUR MISSION is to

- Be a National Voice for Christians in Policing.
- Encourage and support Christians in the Police Service.
- Communicate in words and action, the truth, message and hope of the gospel of Jesus Christ to colleagues and the community we serve.
- Build bridges between the Christian community and the Police.

OUR VISION is to see

- The CPA as a national charity which actively leads on issues relevant to Christians in Policing.
- An active and growing branch of CPA in every Police Service in the UK and every Christian in the Police Service to fulfil their potential in Jesus Christ.
- Colleagues and those we serve to know Jesus Christ personally.
- Police and Churches working together in every community to reduce crime and improve quality of life.

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ON & OFF DUTY is the CPA monthly digest of news and articles. We also update a monthly Prayer Diary intended to inform and encourage those associated with the CPA. Please forward any items to office@CPAuk.net by the 20th of each month.

NB. All articles published will also be available for unrestricted viewing via the Internet. The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the CPA Council.

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