

From them will come songs of thanksgiving and the sound of rejoicing. I will add to their numbers, and they will not be decreased; I will bring them honour, Jeremiah 30:19 [NIV]



## CPA members recognised in the 2020 New Year's Honours List

We were so pleased to hear that Her Majesty the Queen has granted honours to three of our members. We add our congratulations to the recipients for this recognition, which are well deserved for all their services to policing.

### CPA President - Paul Netherton OBE

The award recognises Paul's contribution to civil contingency planning across UK policing and also recognises his role within the CPA. Paul is the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) lead for Civil Contingencies and also chairs the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. This work involves co-ordinating the police involvement with partners and ensures guidance and good practice is promulgated throughout the country, providing assistance to Forces in planning and responding to major emergencies.

On being notified of the award Paul told CPA that "I am delighted and honoured to receive this honour from Her Majesty. I know that this honour is not just for the work

*that I have done but for all the people I have worked with over the years to make this country a safer place. I am really proud to be a British Police officer and this honour recognises the work that countless officers and staff do, day in day out, without recognition. I am also pleased that my role as President of the Christian Police Association is recognised. My role in supporting Christians in the police helps to show how important our faith is and how it plays a part not just in our private lives but also our role at work. I also am really pleased that the Faith and Police initiative highlights how the faith community has the solutions to so many of those complex and perennial problems that takes up so much of police time, such as loneliness and addiction. I have received many kind words of support from so many of friends and colleagues and I thank you for those."*

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# On & Off Duty

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## Met CPA Branch Leader – Deborah Akinlawon (QPM)

Deborah Akinlawon is our Met CPA Branch Leader and is a Detective Constable within Central Specialist Crime-Major Inquiries.

The focus of Deborah's career has been working on major investigations, as a family liaison officer (FLO) specialist. In this role, she helps set the family liaison strategy, which is essential to any police investigation, and ensures the ongoing well-being and professional development of her FLO colleagues.

Deborah contributes significantly to improving the ability of the Met & UK policing to respond to mass fatality incidents, both in London and overseas. The Tunisia terrorist attack of 2015, the London Bridge/Borough Market terrorist attack of 2017 and the Grenfell Tower fire are events in which she displayed tenacity, professionalism and operational knowledge alongside her communication skills and empathy for all those involved.

As a Branch Leader of the Metropolitan CPA She organises and supports the many Met CPA events that take place across the year. Through the Met CPA she has attended meetings with the Mayor of London and attended the Houses of Parliament to speak before a number of MPs. As part of the Met CPA she has established strong links within the wider Christian community.

On being notified about her award Deborah said *"I am really honoured and incredibly humbled by this. I am still pinching myself. It hasn't been easy but all the way I want to thank*

*God for the pleasure of being in a job that's like no other job and for being able work alongside people, who work to serve others"*

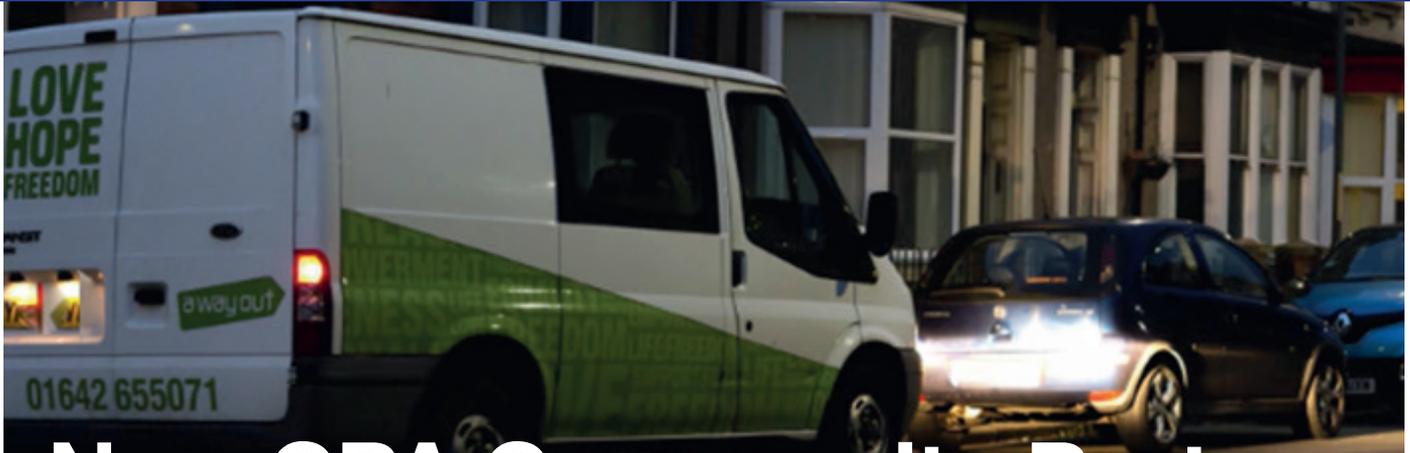
## Reverend Canon David Wilbraham – MBE

David is a very valued member of the CPA. He has received his MBE for services to Policing. David is the National Police Chaplain and has been instrumental in setting up the network of chaplaincy to the Police across the UK ([www.policechaplaincy.uk](http://www.policechaplaincy.uk)). David is also the Coordinator of National Police Memorial Day. Since 2004, National Police Memorial Day has been a day to recall the sacrifices made by officers since Policing began. It is also a time to remember those known to us personally and those who gave their lives in the previous twelve months. It is a public show of support, solidarity and commitment to fallen colleagues.

David is also a Trustee for the Police Roll of Honour Trust, which provides a record of all those Police Officers who lost their lives in a manner that dictates their name be added, historically or contemporaneously, to the United Kingdom's Police Roll of Honour.

Speaking about his reaction to being awarded an MBE David said: *"Policing, in one guise or another, has been my vocation and passion for over 40 years. I am humbled and thrilled to receive this recognition and award. Thank you to all, whose lives, over the years, have helped shape who I am."*





# New CPA Community Partner

– A Way Out – from Anita Burke (General Manager of A Way Out)

I am writing this article before preparing to join A Way Out's evening outreach team - a weekly presence in Tees Valley reaching out to women on the streets of Stockton and Middlesbrough; delivering an outreach, engagement and recovery service to adult women with complex needs, who are drug and alcohol dependent, socially isolated and involved in survival sex work. As we prepare the harm minimisation 'grab box' topping up supplies of condoms and needle exchange equipment; filling hot flasks and making sandwiches, outside it is dark, icy and wet and we know we will still engage with women who are exchanging sex for a roof over their heads, a sofa to sleep on - some sleeping rough, more than often to escape violence, abuse, or to fund their own or a partner's addiction.

A Way Out started in 2002 when our founder met a young girl walking the streets selling her body for sex. That brief encounter instigated a small group of local people, united in their faith and driven by Christ's example, to begin a project reaching out to these girls and helping them find "a way out". Their motivation was based on a belief in Jesus as the inspiration and foundation of this work. 18 years on we remain true to our original values - excellence, faith, hope, love, equality and diversity. We believe in the power of prayer and faith in our work amongst the most marginalised. We welcome staff, volunteers, supporters and service users from any faith and no faith, acknowledging that these values along with a willingness to see things through, whilst not exclusively Christian, are seen as values demonstrated by Christ.

A Way Out works in strong partnership with local police, probation service, prison service, Police Crime Commissioner initiatives, housing providers, drug



and alcohol recovery and other support agencies. Our services centre upon outreach, intervention and prevention; supporting women, young people and families across the region. We offer trauma informed support incorporating an 'asset based' approach; inspiring, encouraging and focussing upon individual strengths; to empower those we engage with to uncover elements of joy in difficulties and crisis.

Our priorities are to reduce harm, improve safety and enable women where possible to exit sex work and addiction. The need for A Way Out in the local area is great and the communities of Middlesbrough and Stockton face significant challenges. Plan International (2016 - The State of Girls Rights In the UK) identified Middlesbrough as the lowest of 346 local authorities in their 'worst place to be a girl' statistics. Public Health England (2015) statistics also confirm that difference in average life expectancy at birth between the most and least deprived areas in Stockton was the highest of any local authority in England at 10.9 years for women and 14 years for men.

The organisation is supported by national grant making bodies, trusts and by donations and prayer from local Christian supporters. Continued funding is crucial and a consistent challenge. For further information about the organisation please go to [www.awayout.co.uk](http://www.awayout.co.uk).

## Big Church Day Out - update from Clare McKnight

For the last five years I've had the privilege of leading the Safeguarding team each year as police officers and police staff from across the country join together in the Sussex countryside to provide an opportunity for families and friends to have fun, enjoy great music and do 'church' in an event for people of all ages.

Big Church Day Out takes place in West Sussex between the 23rd and 24th May 2020 with the Safeguarding team being on site from Friday 22nd till Monday 25th. Volunteers are asked to work just two shifts across the weekend of either 0800-1700 or 1600-2200.

From a team perspective, we start on Friday by greeting arrivals and being there not only for the occasional lost child but more often for the lost parents! We of course respond to any calls relating to Safeguarding and this year anticipate more demand with the inclusion of a new event, Big Church Youth, being also held on site specifically for 11-18 year olds. While some of the team camp in the team camping area, others prefer a more 'glamping' approach staying in local B & B's off site.

Being part of the team entitles you to free festival entrance and if you choose, camping for you and your immediate family/partner and children under 18, along with a free T shirt and water bottle and two meals each day you work. The CPA have been huge supporters of promoting safeguarding team opportunities at this event in the past,



as without such volunteers we would not be able to provide such a great service to BCDO, as they enable people to get closer to God.

Of the 2019 event Met CPA Branch Leader Inspector Graham Norman commented '2019 was the first year I volunteered for the BCDO Safeguarding team and found it brilliant fun! We were treated really well and had very specific roles, mainly responding to missing people. Although this was challenging it was also quite straight forward as everything was really well structured and run with lots of support. Working with like-minded people created plenty of time for plenty of laughs both on and off duty and I wish all my policing days could always be this good! I will definitely be volunteering again!'

For further information about the 2020 Safeguarding team contact [clare@bigchurchdayout.com](mailto:clare@bigchurchdayout.com) or go to [www.bigchurchdayout.com](http://www.bigchurchdayout.com) for further event information

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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](mailto: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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