

# The Board of ACC



**Rev. Tony Ruddle** is Chair of ACC. As a Baptist minister Tony has worked in Dallas, Texas; Chelmsford; London and Grantham. He has recently retired as Deputy Head of Chaplaincy for Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust based at St James's ("Jimmy's"). Tony's involvement in counselling is through his job and involvement in Pathways Counselling Services, Leeds. He has an Honours degree (London) and a Masters in Applied Theology (Wales) and holds a Graduate Diploma in counselling with York St John University. Tony is married to Maureen who is also an ACC Accredited Counsellor. They have two grown up children and are grandparents.

[Email Tony Ruddle.](#)



**Sue Monckton Rickett** holds the roles of Vice Chair, Company Secretary and Finance Director. Sue has been counselling for over 25 years, working within church settings and private practice and is a Registered Accredited Counsellor with ACC. Her training included Jungian sandplay and she is licensed to practice sandplay by the British and Irish Sandplay Society.

With her husband Chris, Sue leads an organisation called WINGS (Wholeness in God's Son), which provides counselling services, training for counsellors, pastoral carers (including being a Regional Trainer for PCUK) and prayer ministry and leading retreats. They have a particular concern for caring for carers and as part of this have established a support network for NHS workers.

She is a Fellow of the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants and a qualified Prince II Project Manager. She has worked in these roles in international banks in the City of London and in private practice for over 30 years

[Email Sue Monckton Rickett](#)



**Peter Barraclough** is on the core counselling team at United Churches Healing Ministry, Huddersfield where he trained, and also practises counselling privately in Sheffield where he lives. He used to work as a civil engineer in the public health field for a local authority and consulting engineers.

Peter and his wife are Trustees of the Terminus Initiative, Lowedges, Sheffield, a community based charity supported by local churches that is focussed around a café and shop on a local estate, as well as a Public Health Initiative Team and a conversation club for asylum seekers and refugees.

They are also companions of the Northumbria Community which is a dispersed network of diverse people from different backgrounds, streams and edges of the Christian faith who explore monastic spirituality.

Peter is a member of the Trauma and Abuse Group (tag) and has a particular interest in working with the legacy of childhood trauma and developing understanding in this area.

He also has a License in Theology through Lampeter University and has been particularly influenced by the writings of Stanley Hauerwas, Alasdair MacIntyre and Stuart Murray Williams. He believes that to develop counselling ethics we need theology and psychology to ask questions of each other.

He is concerned that Christians resist the temptation of reacting against contemporary politics but rather adjust to living on the margins of society, where Jesus lived among the powerless, and disavow Christendom which assumes the politics of power.



**Marlene Forsythe-Gidharry.** Over the last three years I have chaired ACC's RAP Committee and am committed to seeing ACC grow and flourish as an organisation and extend its influence in the field of counselling and psychotherapy. My experience in church ministry and professionally has involved the development, care and equipping of others for nearly 30 years now. My professional background is in education & I am a trained teacher with a broad range of experience, including secondary education, adult education & special needs education.

My work within education has provided valuable opportunities to develop management & leadership skills, to be involved in multi-agency & partnership working, and given me many opportunities to engage with people from diverse backgrounds. I have been a credentialed minister, in the New Testament Church of God, since 2010 & have recently become a volunteer Town Chaplain in my local community. In 2003, I took a 4 year career break from teaching to become a Missions Programme Co-ordinator, in a Christian sending organisation. I worked within mission personnel, providing member care, I selected & recruited short & long term overseas employees/ volunteers; provided induction & orientation training; developed and ran a short term overseas programme for older or retired volunteers; & did debriefing. My academic qualifications & study include Post-Graduate Certificate of Education, MA in Education & Development, National Professional Qualification for Headship and Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resource Management. My hobbies & interest include a love of travel and I have lived in Botswana for 2 years - teaching English. I love visiting historical & natural sights. I am a member of the National Trust & the Wildlife Trust. I enjoy working on arts & craft projects. Music is another of my areas of interest, both listening to it and being involved in my church worship team. Over the past year I have been learning to play the saxophone.



**Richard Johnston,** I have a BA (Hons) degree specialising in Marketing and Economics and worked in sales, financial services and marketing for 10 years.

In recent years I have developed a Marketing Consultancy business but my main area of work has been Christian Mindfulness. Christian Mindfulness was founded by myself but born out of over 20 years of mindfulness, meditation and contemplative practice.

The unique services I provide offer Christian Mindfulness, Christian Contemplation and Christian CBT materials in several formats. I have completed the UK Mindfulness Association Practitioner Certificate and Mindfulness Association Foundation Course.

I also have a Living Life to the Full CBT Practitioner Certificate with Five Areas Ltd. More information available at [www.christianmindfulness.co.uk](http://www.christianmindfulness.co.uk) and [www.rjmarketing.co.uk](http://www.rjmarketing.co.uk)



**Angie Petrie,** I am interested in using my experience & insights as an ACC student member for the benefit of Board meetings. Currently, I am undertaking my level 4 Diploma course with Barnabas in Therapeutic counselling. I have a fascination for the way our brain, body & spirit interact to give us a unique view on life. I became interested in studying to be a counsellor after a weekend counselling course. In my training I have developed an integrated counselling model with a core humanistic approach, alongside this I have found CBT to add some valuable practical interventions in looking at specific situations and allowing the client to work on truth and perceived truth. I enjoy working with aspects of Gestalt using the body's

unconscious movements to explore an action in depth.

I am at present meeting regularly as a befriender with a lady in Sevenoaks, I took the befriender course last year

I have just finished two years as the Chair of The Friends of Trinity School, where I was involved in a variety of activities from general and annual meetings to arranging social and fund-raising events as well as supporting some of the parents and staff.

I am an active member of Bessels Green Baptist church where I have attended for nine years.



**Fiona Sherburn**, My professional background is in human resources and organisational development and I have worked in a variety of roles in the civil service, further education and NHS for almost 30 years. I am currently the Deputy Director of HR /OD for a mental health and community services Trust in Bradford.

I am a member of Dayspring Christian Fellowship. I was also a Trustee for Leeds Faith in School for 12 years and I currently serve as part of Garforth's Churches Together Messy Church and provide HR Support to a small chain of cafes that are run as a social enterprise and provide work experience and employment opportunities to disadvantaged people.

My academic qualifications include: MA in HRM and a Post-Graduate Certificate of Education. I am also a trained coach and MBTI practitioner.

My hobbies and interests include open water swimming, walking and visiting the cinema.



**Helen Vipan**, I live with my husband and teenage sons in Leeds where we worship with a local Baptist Church and I am involved with the children's work at a missional congregation working in a deprived area of Leeds.

Before qualifying as a psychotherapist in 2014 I worked first in teaching, and subsequently for Scripture Union bookshops. I now work for Wellspring – a Christian Counselling Agency in Harrogate – where I work with clients using a relational model; and as Training Services Manager organising training in pastoral care, Mental Health First Aid and professional development for counsellors. I also have a private practice in Leeds, and work therapeutically with children for the charity Place2Be.

I enjoy connecting with others through my work with Wellspring and Place2Be. It's one reason I really appreciate membership of ACC. The training offered – both at regional events organised by the NE Network, and at the national Summer School & Conferences – has been excellent, and provided great opportunities to meet other Christian counsellors working in a variety of settings and using different models.

Through the training work at Wellspring we are able to resource individuals, groups and churches to care more effectively for themselves and others, and I am impressed by the passion and professionalism with which PCUK embraces this challenge on a national scale.

As ACC moves into a new phase as the holder of a PSA accredited register, and the work of PCUK develops, I believe there are exciting new possibilities for us both to serve and represent Christian counselling and Pastoral Care more effectively. I would love to contribute to that work & vision.



**Chris Williams** is an Integrative Christian Counsellor and Supervisor working in private practice, accredited with ACC and a member of BACP. He was in the Metropolitan Police service for 30 years, including 16 years in the rank of Inspector. His police service has meant that he has been involved with many individuals and groups from diverse ethnic and multicultural communities, schools and services. His work as an inspector included being responsible for community policing and he was also a representative of the London Branch of the Christian Police Association, establishing relationships between the police and church leaders in Camden and Brent.

Upon retirement he obtained a BA (Hons 2:1) Degree in Theology and Counselling 2005 London School of Theology (LST - Brunel University validated) and then worked as part of the administrative staff at LST from 2006 – 2009. Since then he has undertaken further counselling and supervision qualifications.

Chris values being a member of ACC for the affirmation of belonging to a professional association which allows expression of his Christian Faith, whilst not being cut off from the wider counselling world. As a board member, he brings his experience and skills learnt in his professional roles plus a commitment to team work in promoting ACC and ensuring that its professional standards and status are held in high esteem by colleagues in the profession, the general public and other counsellors and counselling associations.