

## press release

7 November 2011

### **Evangelical patronage trust appoints new secretary**

The Rev John Fisher has been appointed as the new CPAS patronage secretary.

As well as being an Anglican mission agency, CPAS is the UK's leading evangelical patron, with involvement in appointing new clergy to over 500 parishes. CPAS patronage churches stretch from St Silas in Glasgow to Landewednack in Cornwall, and include several well known churches such as St Nic's Nottingham (which was recently featured on 'Songs of Praise') and Holy Trinity Brompton, home of the Alpha course.

'It's a wonderful privilege to work alongside clergy, parishes and dioceses, exploring what is the right path and discerning the call of God for local churches,' said John. 'The overall ethos of CPAS means we are very keen to appoint leaders with a vision to grow Bible-based, gospel-centred churches fit for mission.'

'With CPAS patronage churches in every diocese, this is a significant and strategic leadership ministry within the Church of England, as our work not only helps find good leaders for the next stage in the life of a parish, but also ensures an evangelical presence in communities up and down the country.'

John served in parish ministry for 15 years following his ordination at Wycliffe Hall. He also has experience as an area dean and UCCF travelling secretary. His most recent role was with CPAS, as a leadership development adviser, where he was involved in training and supporting clergy, and helping local churches to be more effective in mission.

The Rev John Dunnett, CPAS general director, said: 'We are delighted at John's appointment. He brings enormous experience of leadership in the evangelical church and community, and will enable us to maintain our commitment to the highest quality of support for churches through patronage.'

CPAS will continue its work bringing together other evangelical patrons through the Evangelical Patrons Consultative Council, which provides a network to match evangelical clergy seeking a position with churches in a period of vacancy.

John Fisher succeeds the Rev Canon John Alderman, who is retiring having been involved in the appointment of over 350 vicars and team rectors to churches since taking up the post seven years ago.

CPAS also has a broader ministry of developing leaders and disciples for mission through leadership training and resources, and Ventures and Falcon Camps, which are Christian holidays for children and young people.

## Ends

For further information please contact Hazel Lancefield at CPAS on 01926 458430 or [hlancefield@cpas.org.uk](mailto:hlancefield@cpas.org.uk).

## Notes to Editors:

**CPAS** ([www.cpas.org.uk](http://www.cpas.org.uk)) is an Anglican evangelical mission agency working with churches, mainly in the UK and the Republic of Ireland. It enables churches to help every person hear and discover the good news of Jesus Christ.

CPAS has sole or joint responsibility for nominating candidates for appointment to clergy posts in 511 benefices in the Church of England. The Rev John Fisher takes up the post of patronage secretary on 1 January 2012.