

Press Release

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A New Director for the Foundation for Church Leadership

The Trustees of the Foundation for Church Leadership have appointed Julie Farrar as their next Director. She is currently Director of The Farrar Consultancy Ltd. The appointment brings someone with international experience of leadership, consultancy and training to work alongside senior leaders and their teams in the churches of Great Britain.

The Foundation for Church Leadership was founded in 2003 to support, inspire and encourage church leaders as they tackle the difficult strategic issues facing the churches today. With eight trustees drawn from senior leadership in the private, public and faith sectors the Foundation, working through its first Director, Canon Malcolm Grundy, has organised national and regional conferences on church leadership, commissioned research and published a series of booklets on leadership. Following research among senior leaders a first book, *Transforming Conflict* was published in November 2008. Resources on conflict transformation were made available for the Lambeth Conference of bishops in July 2008.

With previous experience in the John Lewis Partnership and the British and Foreign Bible Society, Julie is currently involved as a consultant to a number of leading commercial, public sector and faith-based organisations and is an active member of Malmesbury Abbey, her local church. She will lead the work of the Foundation from May 1st as it begins Phase II of its activities.

Julie will be introduced to church leaders and diocesan officers at the Foundation's national conference in King's College, London on March 3rd. On this occasion, Sir Philip Mawer will review the work which FCL has done so far and Dame Janet Trotter, Chair of FCL will outline plans for the future.

Speaking about her appointment, which followed open advertising, Julie said, 'I am delighted to have been offered this exciting post in an organization which, in a very few years, has done so much to raise the profile of leadership in our churches'. Dame Janet Trotter says, 'Julie comes to FCL at a crucial time when we have been fortunate to obtain the resources to offer further significant leadership support to church leaders'.

Julie follows Malcolm Grundy who is the founding Director of FCL. Retiring from full-time work in the church he goes to develop the consultancy group *Live-Wires Associates* and to become Chair of the TEAL Trust, originators of the church leadership website with the highest number of international visitors.

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