

ATTRACTIVE OPPORTUNITY FOR MINISTERS TO FILE THEIR TAX RETURNS ONLINE

Some ministers got caught out last year when it was discovered that the 'free' software for online filing of personal tax returns produced by HMRC did not include the *'Minister of Religion'* pages and then found that they were too late to file a 'paper' return. HMRC has confirmed that it has no plans to include the *Minister of Religion* pages in their software in the foreseeable future so on-line filing is only possible by using commercial software.

Philip Cooke, our honorary taxation adviser, has successfully negotiated a quite attractive arrangement with one of the commercial software suppliers, Keytime Software, which could be of interest to all ministers who are required to complete a self assessment tax return.

Keytime has set up a dedicated page for Baptist ministers on their web site which gives further details of the arrangement and how to register. The cost is expected to be £4 plus VAT – a fraction of the price normally charged by commercial software suppliers to individuals – payable direct to Keytime online by way of credit card.

Philip has had the opportunity to try out the software and is satisfied that it is fairly straightforward to operate and should remove a lot of hassle from the completion of the tax return. Keytime has a help desk which will be available in case of need and Philip intends to add further guidance to his notes on *Self Assessment and the Minister* (document F13 on the BU web site). It will, of course, also be necessary for any minister using the software to register with HMRC for online filing.

If you are interested in pursuing this further please go to the dedicated page at Keytime's web site at: www.keytime.co.uk/ministers

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