
in His *Healing* steps

Spring 2012

If the LORD delights in a
man's way, He makes his
steps firm. Psalm 37:23



Crowhurst† Christian Healing Centre
a place of Christ's healing

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Editorial



I write this in mid January on a gloomy, damp day but we have been blessed this year with very mild conditions to date, and even if we do get hit with bad weather in the coming weeks, at least

we are on the right side of the winter! Spring bulbs have been emerging for a few weeks now and my winter flowering cherry tree has been blooming several weeks earlier than usual. Even the animals think it is spring already!

These magazines seem to come around so quickly! It feels like I have only just finished the winter one and here I am, still in the middle of winter, preparing the spring issue!

It takes nearly two months to assemble and produce the magazine, which begins with the Editorial Board meeting (see below), when among other things, we discuss possible articles for inclusion and pray about the next issue.

After this meeting, folk have two weeks to get articles and photographs to me. I then have two weeks to put it all together and submit my first draft to the publishers. They assemble it and return their draft to me ten days later for



proof reading. I am assisted with proof checking by Colin and Diane Crook, for which I am very grateful as you can often read mistakes several times!

Changes/amendments to the design, colours or typography are then discussed with the publishers, and it can take a further week before the final proof is ready for printing. It is not unusual to have several proofs going back and forth until the magazine is ready for its final print. I always ask God for His help when I embark on each magazine as I certainly don't do it in my own strength!

IN THIS ISSUE

Kath and David will be retiring in June after spending five years at the CCHC. We will miss them both very much and give thanks to God for all that they have brought to the Centre.

All are welcome to come to a special farewell service of thanksgiving, which will be held in the large Chapel on Saturday 2nd June starting at 10.15am.

We have a full and varied programme for 2012 but do make a note of two particular dates. One is our Healing Conference in May and the other is our annual Thanksgiving Day in July.

The Healing Conference 'I am the Lord who heals you' takes place from Monday 14th to Thursday 17th May. Last year's Windows onto Healing and Wholeness Conference was a great success and attended by many people. Once again, we expect a large number at this year's Conference so do book up quickly. See page 19 for further details.

Saturday 21st July is our annual Thanksgiving Day, when we get together to give thanks to God for all His goodness over the past year. See more on page 17.

In this issue we are starting a regular feature on life at the CCHC for our staff and volunteers, all of whom are so important in making the Centre such a special place to visit. Each person is integral to the running of the Centre and all are part of a wonderful team who make visitors and guests feel so welcome and valued. 'A Day in the Life', on page 20 asks two of the staff six questions about their working day.

In January we had a 'buy one get one free' offer, which invited one full paying person to bring a friend for free. This was very popular and the house was full during most of January, with many folk coming for the first time.

There are various retreats advertised in this issue, but you can view our full programme by going to our website www.crowhursthealing.co.uk, or if you phone the office they will send you a copy.

Every blessing, Mary Slater



Our Senior Chaplain Writes...



Dear friends

Spring is here! And although every season of the year has its own beauty, I have to say that spring is my favourite season. As the trees burst into leaf and the delicate

spring flowers push their way through the earth, brightening up the drabness of winter, I am reminded of God's faithfulness and of His promise of New Life and New Beginnings, and I feel alive and expectant.

"See I am making all things new." (Rev 21:5) says our God.

Easter of course is celebrated in spring and with that celebration comes the promise of New Life through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Alleluia!

As David and I move into retirement in June of this year, and as the Trustees seek to appoint chaplains to undertake the work the Lord has ordained for this Healing Centre, holding on to this promise of New Life and New Beginnings is essential for us all.

One Scripture that has been foremost in our thoughts for a number of years now is:

"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43: 18.19)

For all of us, if we are to move into the 'New Thing' the Lord wants to do in our lives, it is necessary to let go of the old. The old has been instrumental in shaping us and is to be

treasured, but moving on is not an option - it is essential if we are to experience what God has planned for us.

Two years ago, when I took on the role of Senior Chaplain officially, God called me to 'consolidate' and 'to build up the gifts in your midst', and this I have endeavoured to do. What a joy and delight this has been, especially to see people developing and blossoming in their own ministries. God has truly blessed this season in my life and in the life of this place, but now the time has come to move on under the vision and direction of new leadership. What that leadership is going to look like we do not know at the present moment, but we are trusting our God for the right people to be appointed at the right time. Your prayers would be valued.

In the meantime the life and work of this Healing Centre goes on as usual, and we trust that our varied programme for the year will continue to attract new people to discover this place of healing and renewal.

Last year we held a joint conference with the team from Burrswood, a healing centre near Tunbridge Wells. This certainly attracted new people and we hope the same thing will happen again as we hold another conference in May. Building on what we did in the previous conference, we hope to provide a varied programme that addresses a number of the subjects suggested by those who attended last year.

Alongside this conference we continue to offer regular Healing Retreats, teaching days and themed weekends, all on aspects of the healing ministry, as well as providing the quiet space for meeting with our Healing Lord. This place

has always been a Healing Centre, so everything we offer is designed to enable Christ's healing ministry to continue.

Although our God tells us He is doing a 'New Thing' He also tells us this, as recorded by the prophet Malachi, ***"I the Lord do not change"***.

There will be New Beginnings but our God is - the Lord who heals - and whatever the future holds for this Healing Centre, one thing we know for certain is that the Lord's healing work will continue.

With God's blessing

Kath



Revd Bridget Jenkinson Visiting Chaplain



It is my privilege to come to the Centre to serve as one of the visiting chaplains. I first experienced the healing work of Christ at the Centre when I came on retreat while I was in pastoral ministry. One thing leads to another, as is often the case in Christian service! I was invited to lead a Quiet Day and then gradually to become a member of the team of visiting chaplains. At the moment I am at the Centre about once a month for a week or so.

I feel as though Crowhurst is in my blood. I began my school life at the primary school in Crowhurst village and remember an early school photograph being taken with me underneath the huge plane tree that stands in the school grounds. I lived at this time with my parents and sister, dogs, goat, ducks and snails in a cottage called 'Newstead', on Catsfield Road. This cottage still stands, though somewhat altered, particularly inside, I guess. My first contact with the Christian faith was through the Sunday School at St George's Church in the village. I enjoyed walking the mile downhill from the cottage, up the steep church path, past the ancient yew, to be welcomed by God's people. It was uphill going home!

Before training for Christian ministry I was in teaching for many years. I taught in London and at various schools in Essex. Music has always been important in my life. I often bring my clarinet with me to the Centre and enjoy contributing to the 'Music and Pictures' evenings organised by Maggie and Stephen on Thursdays. Mind you after an evening meal breath control can prove a trifle difficult! I have been known to serenade the birds and rabbits in the field to the east of the Centre. In the winter I am more likely to tootle in 'Poustinia'.

I have had two pastoral appointments in churches in Essex. I live in Chelmsford and am currently a member of the Chaplaincy team at our local hospice.

Bridget

Prayer Partners Gathering 24th to 28th October 2011

Twenty one of us met for our autumn gathering.

After the welcomes and introductions, we went into a time of worship in the large chapel, led beautifully by Kath, our Senior Chaplain. Here we were encouraged to have some personal space, to be quiet and to wait on the Lord.

Tuesday was a day of seeing what it was to be a guest and was a day of quiet reflection.

On Wednesday we had Worship and Communion and an update on the needs of the Centre, and we got together to pray in groups of four.

If you have ever wondered if God speaks today, I can say 'yes he does!' The groups had so many words and pictures from the Lord, all so apt for the ongoing work of the Centre. That evening we had a prayer vigil, which was followed by night prayer, led by Shirley.

On Thursday morning we had a packed healing service with joyfully sung hymns. Mavis, one of our Trustees, danced to the hymn 'Majesty', using one of the banners that are kept in the Chapel.

In the afternoon, the annual 'Beating the Bounds' (Prayer for protection for the house) took place. The two groups in the grounds prayed around the wider area, including the Prayer Walk.

That evening we had a real treat in Stephen playing, Maggie singing and Bridget playing the clarinet. This was followed by Stephen's wonderful photography on the overhead screen.

On Friday we received Holy Communion along with the 'sending out' and anointing.

My own impression of the gathering in this blessed place of God's healing love was the assurance of the Lord's pleasure over all that is being done, and will be accomplished in the future.

Before we left, Shirley said with feeling, 'What an amazing time we have had!' It was indeed!

We will meditate and pray more intelligently in the days ahead, for where love is, there God is! Shalom.

Some of the words and pictures given were:

**When you feel the boat rocking,
Jesus is not asleep! (Matt 8:23-27)**

Our times are in His hands. (Psalm 31:15)

Be strong and courageous (Joshua 1:9)

**Nothing is too difficult for Him.
(Jeremiah 32:17; Genesis 18:14)**

**Unless the Lord builds the house, the
labourers labour in vain. (Psalm 127:1)**

**God knows the plans He has for us.
(Jeremiah 29:11)**

Hymn: God is working His purpose out.

God is a God of surprises.

**In his heart a man plans his course, but the
LORD determines his steps. (Proverbs 16:9)**

**Now you are the body of Christ, and each
one of you is a part of it. (1 Cor 12:27)**

Patience - Wait for the Lord (Psalm 27:14)

Stand firm (Ephesians 6:14)

Sylvia Rust

The Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre A place for all seasons!



I stayed at the Centre in December for a few days.

I was booked on the Creative Day of Music and Art on 14th December but stayed the night before and after to get the most from the day. I had never been to the Centre in the winter before and was expecting

the grounds to be bare and very boring. I was pleasantly surprised that on arrival the sun was going down and the colours of the trees and shrubs seemed to have a golden hue. There were still some leaves on the trees and the shrubs were splendid.

I had walks in the grounds and saw the gardens in a new light. The weather was very stormy but the room was warm and the bed so comfortable. It was nice to hear the wind and rain on the window and be really safe and snug inside.

The music and art was extremely good. The team of Maggie, Stephen and Pippa were inspiring with amazing music and worship, and there was time to be creative in the art room. It never fails to amaze me how people can express themselves through art in a really unique way and even when people say they are not artistic, the results are so good.

I got to know some new guests and also met up with some old friends. As usual the meals were really good and the fellowship around the table was so uplifting.

The timing of my break was perfect because I left feeling much more able to deal with the preparations for Christmas. I would recommend a stay whatever the season!

Marion

Lucky 13!

Do not be afraid!

Marion also shares her thoughts on how superstitious beliefs are incompatible with being a Christian!

I was having lunch with some friends in London that I had met at the CCHC. We were looking at the programme and said it would be nice to go again together sometime.

Myself and Tricia liked the sound of the Healing in the Psalms retreat in January.

The date of the weekend began on Friday 13th and when I commented on this everyone said I should not be superstitious because I was a Christian. However, deep down I was superstitious and it made me feel uncomfortable.

I rang the office to make the booking and was told there were only two places left; the rooms available were room 12 and 13!

I decided to have room 13 as it was too much of a coincidence that they were the only rooms left. I felt God was telling me to face my fear and get over it.

As the day got closer I spoke to Tricia and we agreed to meet on the way. I checked the train times and the train I had to catch to meet her at Tonbridge left at 13.00 hours. This made me laugh!

We arrived at Crowhurst safely. Room 13 was really lovely and roomy, with a double bed.

The weekend really was a blessing, I received healing in the most unexpected way and can say now with hand on my heart, that I am truly over my superstitions!

New Year Retreat 2011

Many thanks to all the staff for making our stay so enjoyable. We came to be pampered and uplifted and we were not disappointed. The wonderful services have uplifted us to go out into the new year. We feel so very grateful to you all for such love and kindness. We are full to the brim! The Centre is a place so very special; we will tell all to future friends and of course our own friends.

Margaret

These few days have been a time of surprises, challenges, revelations, direction, healing and fun!

Lynda

The most uplifting New Year I have ever experienced. The presence of the Lord was with us. Thank you to all who gave their time to enable us to come and rest awhile.

DD

A wonderful time full of the Spirit. A chance to let go of the past and move on with confidence into the future that God has planned. All this, and for fun, food, fellowship, we thank you Lord. Hallelujah!

JMW

A lovely time. I experienced the Holy Spirit, good company, good fellowship and good worship. Thank you so much for giving your time. The food was excellent; thank you to the cooks and those who served it.

A time of blessings, relaxing, praising the Lord. Good fellowship, good food and a challenging walk!



The singing in the Chapel was uplifting; all voices soaring in praise of God. There has been so much happening that we can only say, thank you God!

I had a really blessed time, especially at the 11pm thanksgiving service for the old year, when I realised how much God had given me, laying down a particular burden which I had allowed to become an idol over the past year.

Symbolic washing, then lighting a candle for my hopes and dreams in God for 2012. Ann Clifton



Thanks to Ann Clifton for putting this lovely montage together.

Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest (Mark 6:31)

The Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre is a place where you can come for a few days or up to two weeks for rest, retreat, healing prayer and ministry.

The daily programme revolves around Christ-centred worship, Holy Communion and twice-weekly healing services - on Tuesdays at 7.30pm and Thursdays at 10.15am. Lunch is available after the service on Thursdays, but do phone the office to book first. These two healing services are also open to the public. Each day concludes with the service of Compline, at 8.00pm.



You can stay upstairs in the house, from which you can see lovely views onto the grounds, or in the wing, where the doors open out onto the patio and gardens.



There are also two rooms on the ground floor which are suitable for those with a disability and these too have patio doors which open out onto the beautiful grounds.



The Art Room is open every day except Sunday and Monday, and guided tuition is available for those who would like some guidance in exploring their creative side. We

also offer Prayer and Painting weeks throughout the year.

Weekend Healing Retreats are for those who are seeking more than just a peaceful place to stay. They include insights into Christian Healing, Christ-centred meditation, individual confidential prayer ministry, worship and a Healing Service. Read more on page 18.

We also hold Guided Quiet Days once a month, which cover a particular theme. These quiet days are an ideal opportunity to come to the Centre for a day and rest in the presence of the Lord, while being gently led in prayer, reflection and Scripture readings. Lunch is held in silence so that everyone can quietly reflect on the morning session and prepare for the afternoon. The day concludes at 3.45 with afternoon tea and the chance to share fellowship with one another. The cost of the day is £17.00, which includes morning coffee, lunch and afternoon tea.

Newcomers to the Centre usually return again. Once you have experienced just what the place offers, it is hard to stay away! Our feedback forms regularly have comments from guests who have been touched and healed by God in many ways. Here is just a small selection.

Coming to the Centre changed my life. The Lord removed much hurt, sadness and pain that I had been carrying with me for so many painful years

I found the peace I needed. I was able to relax and recover from the stress I had been under.

The healing of my spine started at the Centre along with some emotional family baggage wounds. I left feeling emotionally renewed. The healing continued and for the first time in my life I felt the full force of the Holy Spirit at the healing service in my own church – the result of which has meant NO OPERATION.

So why not give the Centre a try if you have never been before, or spread the word if you have!

Prayer Requests for Spring 2012
Please pull out and keep for the coming months

Prayer Requests for Spring 2012

PRAYER FOCUS

Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain." (Psalm 127:1)

PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

"Rejoice in the Lord always ... Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. (Philippians 4:4-6)

PRAYER

- Give thanks and praise for the Lord's protection of the house and grounds while it was closed to guests during December.
- Give thanks and praise for the completion of the strengthening of the floor in the lounge and pantry. Our grateful thanks to Geof and his team who ensured that there was minimum disruption to the daily life at the Centre.
- Give thanks too for the way in which the staff and guests adapted so graciously to the changes in the normal routine while work was in progress.
- Continue to pray for protection and good health for the staff at the Centre. Strengthen and uphold them when they are called upon to work extra shifts, sometimes at short notice
- Give thanks and praise that the urgent prayer link e mail for prayer partners is up and running. May all those who have made a commitment to be part of this ministry be truly blessed.

In His heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps. (Proverbs 16:9)

March Prayer Focus

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men." (Colossians 3:23)

MARCH

- 6 - 11 Prayer and Painting week
- 16 - 18 Ordinands' Retreat
- 21 Trustees Meeting
- 23 - 25 Healing Retreat
- 28 Editorial Board Meeting
- 31 Guided Quiet Day
'Sunrise To Sunset', led by Revd Paul and Mrs Olive Deeming

"Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord, the Lord, is the Rock Eternal. (Isaiah 26:4)

April Prayer Focus

"You didn't choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit - fruit that will last." (John 15:16)

APRIL

- 5 - 8 Easter Retreat
- 14 Teaching Day - Release the Captives
- 18 Art, Music and Reflection day
- 20 - 22 Listening to the Heart of God
- 21 Strategy Day
- 27 - 29 Weekend Healing Retreat

"I have set you an example, that you should do as I have done for you." (John 13:15)

May Prayer Focus

"I am the Lord your God, who teaches you what is best for you, who directs you in the way you should go." (Isaiah 48:17)

MAY

- 2 Guided Quiet Day - Treasure from cracked pots, led by Gill Payne
- 3 - 7 Discovering my shape and envisioning my future
- 8 - 13 Prayer and Painting week
- 14 - 17 Healing Conference
- 19 Teaching Day - Listening: A tool for those involved in the healing ministry
- 26 Creative Movement in Worship
- 30 Guided Quiet Day
One to one. Discovering treasures in Psalm 121, led by Revd Bridget Jenkinson
- 30 Trustees Meeting

"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer." (Matthew 21:22)



Prayer for The Centre

PRAYER FOCUS:

"Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and your plans will succeed." (Proverbs 16:3)

PRAYER FOR THE TRUSTEES

Colin Crook (Chair), Jim Beveridge, Shirley Dawson, Martin Granger, Lillian Mumme, Jane Thomas and Mavis Williams.

- The next three months are very crucial for the Trustees and we value your earnest prayers. Sadly, Kath and David Batte will be leaving us in June. Therefore in January, we advertised for a Senior Resident Chaplain, a Deputy Chaplain, also resident, and a Centre Manager. Interviews for the Centre Manager will take place in February/March. Interviews for the Senior and Deputy Chaplains will take place in April - interview dates are still to be decided.
- Please pray earnestly that the Lord will bring the persons of His choice to the interviews, and that the Trustees will have the wisdom and discernment to be guided by His good and perfect will.
- Continue to pray for a replacement for John Lyttle, who retired as a Trustee in October.
- Give thanks for the Lord's provision for all our needs. We give thanks for all those who support the ministry of Christ's healing love so generously. May they too be richly blessed. May we continue to be good stewards of our resources, especially during the present economic climate.
- Continue to pray for Charles Hooper and his wife, Prim. May they know the Lord's healing presence with them day by day.

"Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; His greatness no one can fathom." (Psalm 145:3)

Prayer for staff at The Centre

"Now you are the body of Christ and each one of you is a part of it". (1 Corinthians 12:27)

SENIOR CHAPLAIN: Kath

ASSOCIATE CHAPLAIN: Penny

MINISTRY TEAM: Andy, Carole, Gwen, Hazel, Hildegard, June, Lorna, Maggie, Margaret, Nigel, Pippa, Stephen, Vivien and Yvonne

CENTRE MANAGER: David Batte

BOOK KEEPER: David Podevin

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR: Jayne

HOUSE MANAGER: Heidi

MAINTENANCE MANAGER: Geof

OFFICE STAFF: Esther, Gillian and Juliette

HOUSE STAFF: Clare, Justine, Steve, Sue, Zanetta, Sharon, Chrissy and Katie

COOKS: Diane and Sophia

GARDENER: Desmond

PIANISTS: Pippa and Stephen

FLAUTIST: Vivien

VOLUNTEERS: Christine, Evelyn, Jenny, Rosemary, Shirley, Yvonne, Mavis and Cliff

MAGAZINE EDITOR: Mary

"Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour in the Lord is not in vain." (1 Corinthians 15:58)

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Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. John 20:1

EASTER RETREAT Thursday 5th to Sunday 8th April

This Retreat is always very popular and many folk come to it every year.

It begins on Thursday with the events of the Last Supper and re-enactment of the washing of the disciples' feet, which is always a very moving and humbling experience. We remember Our Lord's anguish in the Garden of Gethsemane, His loneliness as His friends one by one failed to keep watch with Him, and His betrayal by Judas.

On Good Friday, after breakfast, we enter into a day of silence. During the services we follow Our Lord's harrowing journey to His death on the Cross.

The Sunday morning sunrise service, usually around the water feature, sees the early risers gathering together to remember how the women discovered that the stone had been rolled away and Jesus' body had gone. We meet in silence as we reflect on this scene.

Following the Scripture reading we sing songs of

celebration and wish each other Easter greetings. After the service is over, we are treated to delicious, warm hot cross buns in the lounge, which keep us going until breakfast!

After breakfast, we join together in the large Chapel to celebrate the joyful Resurrection and share Holy Communion. The weekend concludes with the usual delicious Sunday roast!

This Retreat offers a time for reflection, relaxation, sharing, good teaching, praise and thanksgiving, and plenty of space to enjoy your own renewal.

One of the many comments from last year sums up this Retreat.

What a wonderful journey from sorrow to joy. The peace and love was overwhelming, as was the closeness to Jesus.

As the magazine goes to print, there are still some rooms available, but don't leave it too long to book as this retreat will soon be full. (£230)

A Bible Study

Keep it in the Family - Matthew 20:20-28

Jesus is on His way to Jerusalem with His disciples. He takes them away from the crowd and speaks to them. He tells them bluntly that He is going to be betrayed and killed. Next He is approached by two of His disciples who want Him to do something for them.

This incident occurs both in Mark's gospel and in Matthew. But Matthew shows that the mother of James and John was present.

If you love doing logic problems then here is one. Matthew, Mark and John all name the women who stood at the foot of the cross when Jesus was crucified. Matthew tells us that the mother of Zebedee's sons (James and John) was present. In John's gospel we learn that the sister of the Virgin Mary was present – so we know that Mary had a sister and that she was supporting her during the agony of the crucifixion. And from Mark's account we can deduce that her name was Salome. So added together we know that Salome was the wife of Zebedee, the mother of James and John and the sister of Mary. If this is correct then this made her an aunt of Jesus. And in turn James and John were the cousins of Jesus.

So this throws a new slant on what happened. There is Salome – an astute business woman. She was concerned about the family fishing business. This had been hit by the departure of the two boys from it. She was now out to get the best deal she could. It was certainly a joint exercise and premeditated. The three of them presented themselves to Jesus - and the deal was this. James and John wanted the best places in heaven - one to sit on each side of Jesus in glory. Here was a touch of nepotism. After all they were family and why not keep the best places in heaven for the cousins! Clearly there was an expectation of personal reward and personal distinction.

Jesus challenged Salome, James and John. "You don't know what you are asking. Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptised with the baptism I am baptised with?" Remember Jesus had just told them what would be happening to Him in Jerusalem. He had only just told them that He would be betrayed, mocked, flogged and killed. Their reply was to say – "We can."

What they failed to understand was that Jesus referred to His crucifixion. There was one on His right and one on His left, but they were criminals. It was not the place of these brothers to share in His crucifixion.

James of course did later drink that cup of suffering. He was the first apostle to be martyred, and died by the sword at Herod Agrippa's direction. John, on the other hand was the only apostle to die naturally – in old age. His cup of suffering was the constant struggle of the Christian life over many years, and to see many of his contemporaries martyred.

But this is far from the end of the story. The other ten disciples felt indignant at this. These boys needed to be brought down. Jesus stepped in long before things could get out of hand. ***"You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead whoever wants to be great among you must be your servant."***

Some years ago when I was a parish priest I had an attack of the POM's. (POM stands for Poor Old Me.) I was muttering and moaning about the lack of appreciation in the parish. I was working all hours that God gives and doing a tremendous amount of work behind the scenes, and basically nobody in the congregation was telling me that I was doing a good job.

At the end of my ranting to the Lord about it He said just one word – "So?" That word came so clearly into my mind. "So?" Then I suddenly realised that all my work was being appreciated by the One who saw all that was going on. It was Jesus that I was really serving and He was with me every inch of the way. It didn't matter that people in the parish were less than appreciative. In an instant the POM's vanished and I have never forgotten that experience.

So Jesus looks for the servant heart. He looks for people who are willing to serve without expectation of great glory, power and authority. And He doesn't expect anything of us that He was not prepared to do Himself.

"Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give His life as a ransom for many".

Colin Crook

Words of Encouragement

'But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds,' declares the LORD. Jeremiah 30:17

A man with leprosy came and knelt before Him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." Jesus reached out His hand and touched the man. "I am willing," He said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy. **Matthew 8:2 and 3 and 16 and 17**

When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to Him, and He drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. This was to fulfil what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah: "He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases." **Matthew 18:18 and 19**

THANKSGIVING DAY

21ST JULY 2012



Come to our annual day of Celebration and Thanksgiving to God for the life, work and ministry of the Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre. It is always a day of wonderful praise and worship, and an opportunity to thank those who have worked so tirelessly for the Centre over the past year.

This year the Reverend John Ryeland, Director of the Christian Healing Mission, will speak during the Morning Service and then again in the afternoon.

Bring your picnic lunch (tea and coffee are provided) and enjoy the beautiful grounds (weather permitting!) Share fellowship with friends old and new, and meet new people at the same time. If you have a long way to travel, why not book yourself in for a few days and take the opportunity to really relax.

Arrive early as the seats in the Chapel fill up quickly! The day begins at 11am and finishes at 3.45pm with tea and delicious home made cakes.



Early morning Holy Communion service in the large Chapel



Weekend Healing Retreats

Our weekend Healing Retreats provide an opportunity to come aside for personal reflection and renewal of body, mind or spirit. They are open to those of any church denomination, or of none, seeking Christian healing and wholeness.

The retreat begins on Friday at 3.45pm with tea and cakes, followed by welcomes and introductions, although you may arrive any time after 2.00pm. There is a time of quiet worship to settle you into your time away.

After an evening meal we have an hour in which we explore what is meant by Christian 'healing', looking in particular at the variety of healing stories and events told in the Gospels so that we might be able to identify our own healing needs today.

On Saturday morning there is an optional Communion service before breakfast, after which we look further at the need for healing and what can rob us of wholeness in our life experiences. After coffee there is a guided meditation in which you are given the opportunity to relax in the presence of the risen Jesus.

Saturday afternoon is taken up with prayer ministry when retreat participants are given the opportunity to pray confidentially with a member of our experienced ministry team so that issues can be addressed and healing found. There is also time to explore the gardens and grounds or to go for a walk in the surrounding countryside. There is a fully equipped art room for you to enjoy and the lounge and library also provide comfortable places for your own relaxation.

After dinner the day concludes with Night Prayer and a reflection on anointing as we prepare for the healing service on Sunday morning. The weekend concludes after lunch on Sunday.

Numbers taking part are usually held to about fifteen to give plenty of opportunity for personal space and peace. We look forward to welcoming you to this God given place of healing and renewal.

A Story of Healing

I'd had problems with my knee for almost ten months. I had undergone five sessions of physiotherapy, keeping up the various exercises daily at home. I had been using a walking stick since August.

After prayer in October at the Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre on the Sunday morning, my leg has been fine and I no longer need to use my walking stick. I am so thankful for this and praise God for answered prayer.

I had also been suffering from labyrinthitis (inner ear problem affecting my balance) for five and a half weeks. Taking tablets helped but it was still persisting, so I also asked for prayer for my ears.

Amazingly my ears have also been fine since that Sunday morning when I was prayed for at the Centre.

A combination of medical treatment and prayer has healed my ears and leg. I am so thankful for answered prayer.

Helen Smith

Healing Conference

I am the Lord who heals you

The **journey** from **brokenness** to **wholeness**

from **14th May 2012** at **5:30pm**
until **17th May** at **2:00pm**

Teaching days on the Christian Healing Ministry for church leaders, healthcare professionals and all involved in pastoral care

Venue: Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre, The Old Rectory, Crowhurst Battle, East Sussex TN33 9AD

Led by a team from Crowhurst and Burrswood with visiting speakers.

Speakers include: Revd Kath Batte, Revd Christine Garrard, Dr Gareth Tuckwell, Steve Talmage MBACP (Accred), Sue Pople Grad Dip Phys MCSP, Revd Andrew Procter and Angela Seaton-Mills.

These few days will provide space to explore together the opportunities and challenges for those living out Christ's call to heal those who are sick, as well as space to reflect on our own journey into wholeness.

Subjects covered include:

- Guidance on Christian prayer ministry
- The Church's Ministry of Deliverance
- When our past disturbs our present - a Counselling perspective
- Praying for healing when there is no cure

There will be a chance for those attending to:

- Experience God's love and the healing ministry of Jesus
- Find emotional, spiritual and physical renewal
- Experience prayer ministry

Costs and accommodation:

3-day attendance, including full-board accommodation: En-suite room £250
Non en-suite £220

3-day non-residential attendance, including lunches and evening meals: £110
2-day non-residential attendance, including lunches and evening meals: £78
1-day non-residential attendance, including lunch and evening meal: £39

A day in the life of the Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre

We asked the following six questions to Sophia who is one of our cooks and to Gill who is one of our booking secretaries.

1. *How long have you worked at the Centre?*
2. *What does your day include?*
3. *What gives you the most job satisfaction?*
4. *What makes you smile?*
5. *What would you like other people to know about this special place?*
6. *Anything else you would like to say?*

I have worked at the Centre for two and a half years and my working day includes lots of cooking, baking and preparation of meals for guests and staff.

What gives me most job satisfaction is when people say they have enjoyed the food that is prepared.

I have worked at the Centre for six years and my working day includes, taking guest bookings, raising invoices, welcoming guests on arrival, taking guests to their rooms and opening the mail.

What gives me most job satisfaction is seeing the guests benefit from their stay at the centre.

What makes me smile? Just being here.

I would like people to know that the Centre is a safe place and that it's perfectly ok to come alone, as you will soon feel relaxed because it's so friendly and welcoming.

I would like to say it's the best job I have had so far. I enjoy coming to work and it is a privilege to work here.



Sophia

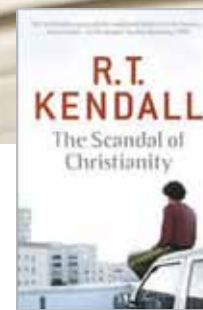
What makes me smile? When my cooking doesn't go wrong!

I would like people to know that it is different to anywhere else I know; that it's a very friendly, homely place and has a personal touch.

I would like to say that it's a lovely place to work.

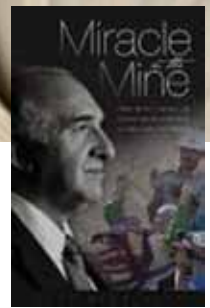


Gill



*'The Scandal of Christianity' by R.T. Kendall
Hodder & Stoughton,
ISBN 978 0 340 96415 6*

Book Reviews



*Miracle in the Mine by Jose Henriquez
ISBN number is
978-0-310-3394-1*

R T Kendall keeps drawing my attention, because his writing continues to have a dew-like freshness, and bears the handprints of God's Spirit over it.

It is true that he repeats himself with lines that are virtually identical with those in his other books, yet there is always a strength of conviction and relevance to the subject being considered.

In 'The Scandal of Christianity', RT once again proves that he is a man with an urgent message for our times. His basic premise is that we have a wonderful Saviour who has redeemed us by willingly enduring the shame of crucifixion. Our Christianity has become tame indeed if we are failing to see that the cross will always scandalise the world. By its logic, the powerful are not meant to be humiliated and shamed. As followers of Christ, are we prepared 'to suffer shame for His Name' and rejoice in doing so? (Acts 5:41) Of course it is a matter of depending entirely on God's grace in order to simply begin.

R T shares, with touching honesty, where he has grasped opportunities in his life to witness to the Lord; though often not without a struggle. He points out the consequences of failing to do so – an existence spiritually sterile and fruitless. This book is a call for wholehearted, valiant hearts who want to see God get all the glory for the death of His Son.

'When we accept the stigma that comes with the territory of obedience to God, we do not know how things will turn out. As we have seen, some escaped death "by faith", while others "by faith" went to their torturous death. As I said, we sign a blank cheque to God and let Him fill in the rest.' (Page 59)

Ronnie Carless

On October 13th 2010, 33 Chilean miners were rescued from 2,300 feet under the earth, while millions of people around the world watched in amazement. In this book the leader of the group, Pastor Jose Henriquez, tells of the terrifying ordeal that he and his fellow miners went through, and of their miraculous rescue. But this is not just the story of the miners' rescue; it is also the story of how Jose came to find God many years before his gruelling underground ordeal, and of how God had prepared him to face the terrifying situation that he and his colleagues found themselves in.

Jose hadn't always been a Christian and his life was directionless until he discovered Jesus. He had been in danger many times before and believes that God had prepared him for what he was to face down the Chilean mine. His courage and strong faith brought many of the trapped miners to Christ.

This is a fascinating account of one man's unshakeable faith and trust in God during life's trials and in a situation which must have seemed like a certain death sentence. I read it over a couple of days (most unlike me!). It was very gripping and very inspirational! There are many colour photographs in the centre of the book, which brings the reader even more into this amazing story of human strength, courage, hope and divine intervention! Highly recommended!

Ed

Garden News Events



AND FROM CLIFF

After replacing two new heads and a handle, our leaf clearing equipment will be as good as new and can be laid to rest until the autumn. The leaves are being turned into mulch to aid the growth of existing perennials and to nourish the annuals which will adorn the grounds in the summer months. A variety of colourful flowers will greet our many visitors and guests whose welcome arrival is indicated by the sound of their luggage on wheels, whether by road or rail.

I always feel a presence whilst working here and am often watched by a robin or blackbird who rarely go away hungry! So with the ground preparation now in progress, a feast awaits!

Blessings, Cliff



After the dull and sometimes relentless winter days, new growth has been lying dormant underground, with their roots patiently waiting for the right time to burst into life and announce the arrival of spring.

There is much work to do as spring draws nearer. Desmond's plans are hedge tidying, strimming and lawn edging. Hanging baskets and tubs are to be planted up with summer bedding and various areas mulched. Roses will be sprayed and fed with spring food so that their beautiful summer foliage will be strong and disease free.

The grounds will be tidied in readiness for Easter and summer beds will be planned. We look forward to a bright and colourful summer in the grounds of the Centre!



Calendar of Events

March

- 6 - 11 Prayer and Painting week
- 16 - 18 Ordinands' Retreat
- 23 - 25 Healing Retreat
- 31 Guided Quiet Day

April

- 5 - 8 Easter Retreat
- 14 Teaching Day - Release the Captives
- 18 Art, Music and Reflection Day
- 20 - 22 Listening to the Heart of God
- 27 - 29 Weekend Healing Retreat

May

- 2 Guided Quiet Day
- 3 - 7 Discovering my shape and envisioning my future
- 8 - 13 Prayer and Painting week
- 14 - 17 Healing Conference
- 19 Teaching Day - Listening: a tool for those involved in the healing ministry
- 26 Creative Movement in Worship
- 30 Guided Quiet Day

Tuesday 8th to Sunday 13th May Prayer and Painting Week

There are four of these weeks during the year. Come and enjoy a few days painting or drawing under the expert tuition of our resident artist, Maggie, who is on hand to encourage you if you need it, or you can just allow the Lord to minister to you while you sit and sketch, paint or model clay. The quiet music that Maggie has playing in the background helps to create a very peaceful and creative atmosphere. On a nice day you can sit outside and take in the beautiful views of the grounds. This week is for everyone, beginners and the more experienced, and includes time for worship and prayer.

A truly creative experience for all (£400).





How to contact us

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The office is open from 9am - 6pm
Monday to Friday and 9am - 5pm Saturday
For a brochure, programme or further
information please contact the Secretary

Who's who

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CHAIRMAN OF TRUSTEES

Revd Colin Crook

SENIOR CHAPLAIN

Revd Kath Batte

ASSOCIATE CHAPLAIN

Penny Button

CENTRE MANAGER

David Batte

PRAYER PARTNERS CO-ORDINATOR

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CROWHURST REPRESENTATIVES CO-ORDINATOR

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