

*in His Healing Steps*

Summer  
2015

# Contents

- 04 Steve's letter
- 05 The third chapel at the CCHC
- 06 Signs of **HIS** Kingdom
- 06 In Thee do we trust
- 07 In support of Comic Relief
- 08-10 Easter Celebration 2015
- 10 Thanksgiving Day
- 11-14 Prayer Focus
- 15 Prayer Partners Weekend
- 16 What is Christian Healing?
- 16 Praying for Healing: 'Let's try it out.' Led by Steve Clark
- 17 Healing week with Bishop Graham Dow
- 17 After the pancakes: A journey through the wilderness (Lent Guided Quiet Day)
- 18 Songs of Praise: 'In Heavenly Love Abiding'
- 19 Let everything that has breath, praise the Lord!
- 20 Farewell to Diane, Head Cook
- 21 Garden News: Introducing Dave
- 22 What is the Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre?
- 22 Belated welcomes and introductions
- 23 Summer Programme
- 23 Weekend for the ladies!

# Editorial



*'We belong to the family of God, sons and daughters of our loving Father, praising together, now and forever!'*

When my daughter was little, this hymn (written by Patrick Appleford) was regularly sung in her school. With a catchy and cheerful tune, it reminded the children that they are part of God's wider family. In verses 2, 3 and 4, the word *praising* is replaced with *learning, serving and singing*.

As I remembered this song, it made me think of how the team at the Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre is like one big family, and much larger than the twenty paid staff responsible for administration, housekeeping, catering and site maintenance! Leadership comes from the three Chaplains, Steve Gendall, Steve Clark and Penny Button, and our valued Trustees (pictured below), who oversee the work at the Centre. Pictured right to left, they are: Jim Beveridge, Paul Raynor, Nigel Thonger, Martin Granger (Chair), Shirley Dawson, Jane Thomas and Mavis Williams.



We are also very blessed to have a number of visiting chaplains from across the Christian traditions, plus a large team of trained volunteers who help with individual prayer ministry and prayer at the rail in our twice weekly public healing services.

Over 200 'Prayer Partners' across the UK support our work by daily prayer. (On page 15 there is an article from a couple who attended the Prayer Partners Weekend in March.) We also have our 'Friends of Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre'. These are folk who have a love for the CCHC and the ministry that Jesus conducts here.

We rely on those who visit the Centre to publicise the work and supply them with publicity material to share with friends, family and churches. The enthusiasm of someone who has been blessed by God is the very best publicity we can have!

We also have a user friendly website, [www.crowhursthealing.org.uk](http://www.crowhursthealing.org.uk), where you can read the latest news and programme of events. Our Facebook page is updated regularly with current events and has lots of lovely photos. We can also be found on Twitter ([Twitter @Crowhurstchc](https://twitter.com/Crowhurstchc)).

Throughout the year we run free 'Taster Retreats'. Running from Tuesday afternoon to Thursday after lunch, they include our two public healing services, and you can get a very good feel over these two days of what goes on at the Centre. Many folk who have come to the Taster Retreats have returned for longer stays, having met with God in a new way, leaving refreshed in body, mind and spirit.



Continuing the family theme, as I write this in early May, many birds are busy feeding their young, and this cute picture of baby swallows shows what awaits every parent bird as they fly into the nest with food. I wonder what the little chick on the right is thinking? Captions welcome!



The birdsong is particularly beautiful at the moment. Ornithologists tell us that birds sing to attract a mate or to defend their territory, and almost dismiss their melodious God-given song! I like to think that the songsters are praising the God who created them! Whenever I hear the warble of a wren (Britain's second smallest bird), I am always amazed at how this tiny bird can produce such an incredibly loud song!

Spring and early summer are a lovely time of the year, as new life, both flora and fauna, burst forth. (The beautiful Peacock butterfly on the front cover was captured on camera by our pianist, Stephen Freeman.)

I always find it exciting as I look in my garden to see what has survived the winter weather, and what has randomly planted itself! Birds and the wind drop seeds into various areas all over the garden, which can be a blessing, or not if plants then grow in unwanted places!

From all the Crowhurst family, I wish you (and your gardens) a lovely summer.

Every blessing, *Mary*



# Steve's letter



*Dear fellow followers of Jesus*

***The grass is greener ... Whoever always looks for greener grass on the other side will never be able to appreciate the green grass that was right under their feet the entire time. (Unknown)***

Jesus has been found worthy of greater honour than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honour than the house itself. For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything (Hebrews 3.3-4).

Hebrews is a classic work of art, written to a struggling people; some had even abandoned Jesus and the Church but the author was encouraging them to hang on to Jesus! The writer wisely and carefully builds his simple argument; Jesus is better.

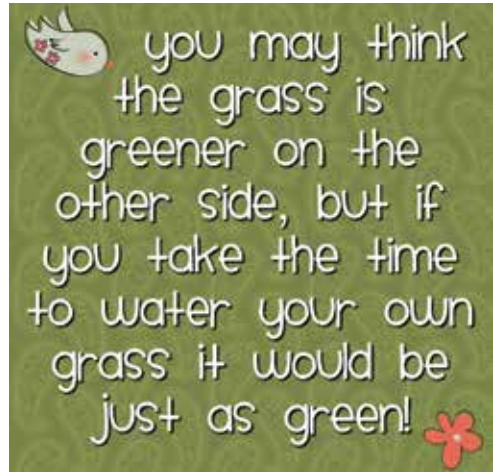
Follow the argument chapter by chapter; Jesus is better than everybody and everything. Jesus is better than angels; Jesus is better than Moses; Jesus is better than Joshua, and then Aaron. Jesus is better than the Old Covenant, and better than the Old Testament sacrifices etc, etc. The whole point is to show that Jesus is the way and you need nothing else.

I have been fortunate enough to spend time at two different Christian Retreat Centres recently and it's hard not to make comparisons - it seems to be something

people do. Was the restlessness for something more (better) built into us at creation or does it came about from our rebelling against God and making the shocking discovery that something (God) is missing?

As I praised the Lord for all we have here at the Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre (the staff, the grounds, the healing, hospitality and the peace), I was stirred by the truth that no matter how green our grass is (that we reflect something of the glory of God here), it does not compare with God himself.

Like you, I long for mountain top experiences, miracles and moves of God and I wonder if we would enjoy more of that sort of experience because we took up the challenge to live joyfully with Jesus, where we are now - rather than looking for it somewhere else?



From us all with love and prayers,

*Steve*

# The 'Third Chapel' at the CCHC



On the last morning of the 'Prayer through Painting' week at the end of February, our versatile new art room became a third chapel. There were two visiting church groups in the house on that particular Saturday and so the large and small chapels were both in use; consequently the art room was transformed into a chapel, with a table set for communion.

trees around the grounds. Most of the artists produced three or four pictures, which made a great display in the large chapel.



One person commented during the week that there is a special atmosphere in the art room and that it felt like a chapel. Sure enough, by the end of the week, it was!

*Mavis Williams*

Those who had been experiencing a very special art week sat in a semi-circle and were blessed with a brilliant backdrop behind the communion table - the beautiful view out of the window of winter trees - God's work of art. The theme chosen by our resident artist, Maggie, had been just that, i.e. winter trees!

Through prayer, lovely paintings were produced, many inspired by the magnificent



# Signs of **His** Kingdom!

We keep a 'Signs of the Kingdom' book, in the Chapel corridor where visitors write their testimonies of God's healings. Here are just a few of the many entries.

Today I leave after five days of prayer through painting. I am walking upright; the pain in my chest has almost gone and I am breathing with ease. I arrived so depleted that I had to go straight to bed. Three weeks ago I had a pulmonary embolism and thought my life on earth had run its course. I leave with body and spirit refreshed!

In January I found out that a neighbour of mine had been having treatment for about a year for breast cancer and she still hadn't been given the 'all clear'. I felt led to give her a Crowhurst magazine and I wrote her a card. She hadn't known anything about Crowhurst and was thrilled to receive the magazine.

About six weeks ago I prayed at the rail with one of the ministry team for my neighbour. Two weeks later I felt led once more to give my neighbour the Crowhurst spring magazine and again I wrote a card asking how things were going.

As I prepared to go to the Prayer Partners retreat in March, my neighbour's husband came over to me as I was getting in my car. He thanked me for the spring magazine, and told me that his wife had just been given the 'all clear' from the specialist. Thank you Father, you are wonderful! *Jan*

Thank you for coming close in my time of need and for driving fear from me and my home, and all that would harm me. Thank you for the very many blessings you have poured over me. *Tilly*

# In thee do we trust

While on a visit to the CCHC recently, I spotted these encouraging Bible verses, which had been written down by one of our guests in the Signs of the Kingdom book mentioned in the previous article. It was preceded by the title, '**I am going to trust the Lord**'.

This got me thinking about how much we need to trust in God at all times, not only in the bad times but also in the good, and to know that He has plans for each and every one of us. *For I know the plans I have for you,*" declares the Lord, *"plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."* Jeremiah 29:11.

The word 'trust' is featured in many Bible verses and when humanly we are unable to deal with a particularly difficult problem or issue, trust in the Lord for His intervention can often be our last resort (though of course trusting in Him is what we should do first!).

\* *He sees my every move: Psalm 139:7*

\* *He thinks about me: Psalm 139:17*

\* *He is with me: Joshua 1:9*

\* *He will fight for me: Exodus 14:14*

\* *He made me in His image: Genesis 1:27*

\* *He is my safe place: Psalm 62:6-8*

\* *He has a plan for me: Jeremiah 29:11*

\* *He is good: Psalm 119:68*

\* *He is freedom: 2 Corinthians 3:17*

\* *He is always with me: Matthew 28:20*

These are just a few of many encouraging words from the Scriptures. You may have your own; please do write in and share them with us. You can either email me directly on [marys56@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:marys56@hotmail.co.uk), or send by post to the office, who will forward them on to me.





The staff at the CCHC held their first Red Nose Day event on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March. The day was a great success, raising £147.63.

We held a sweepstake throughout the week which came as part of the fundraising pack.

Claire, who is part of the housekeeping team, baked cakes and biscuits for donations and the staff dressed 'funny for money'.



I have wanted to get the team involved in **Red Nose Day** for some time and this year we made it happen!

Thanks to all who helped and generously donated to this worthy cause.

Watch this space – ideas already coming for Sport Relief next year ...!

*Justine Wallis* (staff member at CCHC)



*Who knows (excuse the pun!) who is hiding inside the huge nose?*



*One of our guests 'clowning around'*



*Justine in a very smart hat, with Jayne from the office.*

# Easter Celebration 2015



*Shirley Dawson, one of our Trustees and volunteers, shares her experience of the Easter Celebration.*

## **Maundy Thursday**

We were asked to imagine that we were bringing a companion to the weekend and each of us picked a stone to represent them. We then washed the stone, as if we were washing our companion's feet. On Easter Sunday we placed these stones around the Thanksgiving Cairn in the grounds. Veronica led the evening session and we shared with Jesus in His Gethsamene moments, trying to imagine what He went through in the garden as He asked His disciples to stay awake with Him. We felt His acute disappointment when they failed to do so and His agony as He asked for the cup to be taken away if it be the Father's will.

## **Good Friday**

We spent some time thinking about a remorseful Judas, who regretted what he had done in betraying Jesus and how he tried to hand back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders.

We read how Jesus cried out from the Cross, and as He died, how the curtain was torn from top to bottom. And we recalled the powerful words of the Centurion, who said, "*Surely this man was the Son of God!*" (Matthew 27:54). We also reflected on the sorrow of the women as they watched Jesus die.

## **Easter Saturday**

Yvonne led a session on worship using banners, which was a new experience for some people. We were free for the rest of the day, when some of us went for a walk and others spent time in the art room.

In the evening we had some lighthearted fun playing 'bingo with a difference.' Prizes were given out for the winners.

## **Easter Sunday**

It was a beautiful morning as a number of folk gathered before sunrise around the large Cross (pictured below) along the Prayer Walk to remember that wonderful moment when Mary Magdalene discovered the empty tomb. The birdsong was loud and cheerful and a woodpecker could be heard drumming on a nearby tree. As you can see from the photo below, the rays of the rising sun shone through the Cross, creating a very special and memorable moment. Afterwards we gathered together in the lounge for drinks and hot cross buns, and later we had fun with an Easter egg hunt!





### ***And from some of the other guests***

A definite highlight of the Easter weekend was learning (and overcoming my fear, even contempt) of banners and flags. Tentatively we danced and waved, encouraged by Yvonne, in a gentle teaching slot on Saturday. And then on Resurrection Day – Hallelujah! There I was, banner waving in the Spirit - free at last of my long-held inhibitions. *Jules*



***Banner waving in the Spirit!***



We had never been on an Easter Retreat before, and it was such a blessing and a treat! To be able to spend the whole time focussed on Jesus' death and resurrection was very special, and to bring a 'companion' with us was a bonus. We had great fun, food and fellowship – thank you Steve G and Veronica for all the preparation and presentation, and thank you to all the other members of staff for their love and care.

I was utterly exhausted when I arrived. Now, after the insightful and revealing teaching, and the peaceful atmosphere at the CCHC, I feel renewed. A wonderful way to spend Easter with Jesus. *B Frigg*

During the time of 'soaking prayer' I was able to sit completely still for 45 minutes and had no pain. Thank you Lord.

Taking a 'companion(s)' with us on the Easter journey was a new concept and something I was quite looking forward to, but wasn't sure how it was going to work. As the journey went on, this became clear and it was a moving experience, especially washing our companion's feet, represented by a pebble, as well as giving 'our' brokenness to Jesus on the Cross. I thought that maybe my companion would have caught a glimpse of what Easter means at that moment. I hope my companion(s) were touched in some way by the Prayer Journey, as we interceded with 'all of Heaven.' God knows ... and perhaps one day I will have the privilege of seeing the fruit of the seed sown this Easter as the journey continues into the future. *Elizabeth*



***See page 10 for an explanation of this photo***



***Easter Sunday: Placing our pebbles (representing our companions) around the Thanksgiving Cairn.***

This was a truly blessed time – I shall never forget this Easter!

## Easter Celebration cont'd ...

### The Cross

Steve Clark made the Cross, which he covered with polyfilla. Folk chose some broken pieces of china from a box, prayed and reflected on the broken and sharp bits in their own lives, and in the lives of their 'companion.' They then pushed their pieces into the polyfilla on the Cross, creating this very powerful image.



### The butterfly

Maggie, our resident artist, had initially drawn a black and white outline, which, at this stage, no one knew was a butterfly. Folk were invited to colour or paint small pieces of paper that Maggie had placed on the table. Once they had left the art room, Maggie pasted their artwork onto the picture. As everyone gathered in the large chapel on Easter Sunday morning, all was revealed. Their combined work of art was a beautiful butterfly! Amazingly the eyes were almost identical, even though they were done by two different people!



## Thanksgiving Day Saturday 18th July

Our yearly celebration of the life, work and ministry of the Centre is always such a joyful occasion, when we meet together to give thanks to the Lord for all He does at the CCHC.

Coffee will be available from 10am and the morning service will begin at 11am. Our preacher this year will be the Bishop of Lewes, Revd Richard Jackson, pictured right.



There is an open invitation for everyone to share a simple snack lunch and as with last year, we will have a marquee.

The afternoon will focus on our 'Vision for the Future' and there will be feedback on activities that have taken place at the Centre over the last year.

Last year's Thanksgiving Day saw the creation of our Thanksgiving Cairn, which has grown considerably as folk have placed their stones during the year. We encourage all those intending to come to the day, to reflect on their own thanksgivings for all that God does at the CCHC, and to perhaps bring a stone to place on the Thanksgiving Cairn.





# Summer Prayer Requests

***Prayer Requests for Summer 2015***

***Please pull out and keep for the coming months***



# Prayer Requests for Summer 2015

## PRAYER FOCUS

*"Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture."* Psalm 100:3

## PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING

*"Give thanks to the Lord, call on His name; make known among the nations what He has done."* Psalm 105:1

## PRAYER

- Give thanks and praise for the dedication of all who serve at the CCHC. There have been some staff changes during the past months. Diane, our Head Cook, has been on sick leave since October and sadly, has decided to retire. She has been with us for fifteen years and will be greatly missed. Staff and friends gathered together in April for a farewell party to thank her for all the years she has spent organising and preparing our meals each day. Pray that her health will continue to improve and that she will enjoy a happy and blessed retirement. "Well done good and faithful servant."
  - Ian is now assisting David, our Head Cook.
  - Claire has returned from maternity leave, so Julian's contract has come to an end. We thank him for his faithful service while Claire was away. Pray for him as he seeks new employment.
  - We welcome Kim, who has joined the staff in the Maintenance Department. He will be taking over from Geof, who is reducing his hours.
  - The sound system is up and running, for which we give thanks and praise. We welcome John, who has the necessary skills to operate the system, and has volunteered to come and take responsibility for operating the overheads during the Thursday morning healing service. Praise the Lord!
  - We welcome Dave, who has volunteered to join the gardening team.
- "Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting. Let all the people say 'Amen!'"* Psalm 119:35

## June Prayer Focus

*"The Lord will keep you from all harm - He will watch over your coming and going both now and evermore."* Psalm 121: 7 & 8

## JUNE

13 Teaching Day: 'Forgotten Father: a healed relationship'.  
Led by Steve Clark

19 - 21 Healing Weekend

*"You are my refuge and my shield; I have put my hope in your Word."* Psalm 119:114



# July Prayer Focus

---

*"The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy." Psalm 126:3*

---

## JULY

- 1 Editorial Board meeting
  - 4 Guided Quiet Day  
*"Look at the birds!"*  
Bridget Jenkinson
  - 13 - 14 **Church Group: House closed**
  - 18 Thanksgiving Day:  
Preacher - Bishop Richard Jackson,  
Bishop of Lewes
  - 24 - 26 Healing Weekend
- 

*"Praise the Lord, O my soul. I will praise the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live." Psalm 146:2*

# August Prayer Focus

---

*"For this God is our God for ever and ever; He will be our guide even to the end." Psalm 48:14*

---

## AUGUST

- 1 Teaching Day  
*Praying for Healing: Let's try it out*  
Led by Steve Clark
  - 5 Guided Quiet Day  
*'Rooted deeply - growing freely: Reflections with the Father Gardener'*  
Led by Gill Payne
  - 11 Trustees Meeting AGM
  - 11 - 15 Prayer through painting
  - 21 - 23 Healing Weekend
- 

*"Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." Proverbs 19:21*



## Prayer for The Centre

### PRAYER FOCUS

*"Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe you have received it, and it will be yours."* Mark 11:24

### TRUSTEES' PRAYER REQUESTS

Martin Granger (Chair), Jim Beveridge, Shirley Dawson, Paul Raynor, Jane Thomas, Nigel Thonger and Mavis Williams.

- Give thanks for the Trustees Day of Prayer for the future. We were pleased to be joined by the two Steves and their wives, and Penny. The Word given was *"Be Still and know that I am God."* Please pray for us as we consider words and pictures given, and make decisions for the future.
- During the past months several members of staff and volunteers have been unwell. Steve G had a sense that we are under attack. Please pray earnestly for our protection from all assaults of the evil one.
- We give thanks for all who supported our Gift Days. It is only through the generosity of those who have a heart for the healing ministry that we can continue to grow, and reach out to the local area and farther afield too.
- Car parking is still a problem, especially on a Thursday morning. Quotes have been obtained and are under consideration. Please pray for wisdom and guidance with how to proceed.
- The completion of the new art room has been a great blessing. Please pray for wisdom as how best to use the old art room building.
- We feel that there is a real need to increase the number of Trustees to allow for absences that occur from time to time. Please pray earnestly for the Lord to provide people of His choice to join us.
- Continue to pray for the Lord's leading in all we do ... that the CCHC is His place. May we be obedient to His perfect will and timing.  
*"Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain."* Psalm 127:1

## Prayer for staff at The Centre

*"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."*  
Colossians 3:17

### CHAPLAINCY AND WORSHIP

Steve Gendall, Steve Clark, Penny, Andy, Brenda, Carole, Colin, David, Gill, Gwen, Helen, Hildegard, Jan, Jenny, John, Judith, June, Maggie, Margaret, Mike, Nigel, Olive, Pam, Pat, Paul, Pete, Peter, Phyllis, Pippa, Rachel, Roland, Stephen, Veronica, Vivien, Yvonne and Visiting Chaplains

### OFFICE

Chris, Jayne, Diane, Esther, Hilary, Jenny, Jo, Juliette, Maria and Rosemary

### HOUSE

Heidi, Abigail, Chrissy, Claire, David, Ian, Justine, Marion, Mavis, Sarah, Shirley and Steve

### MAINTENANCE AND GARDEN

Geof, Kim, Brian, Cliff, Dave, David, Desmond and Ronnie

### MAGAZINE EDITOR: Mary

*"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."* 1 Thesalonians 5: 16-18





## Prayer Partners Weekend: 3 - 6 March



This was only our second Prayer Partners Weekend and we arrived in time for tea and cakes, with anticipation for what proved to be an awesome time spent in God's presence!

Upon arrival, we felt immediately at home. What a joy it was to meet with friends old and new. Sharing the weekend with such a delightful group of people who have a great love for the Lord and each other, and with a heart for prayer, was what made the time so special.

The theme of the weekend was "Soaking in God's Kingdom." Rather than coming to prayer with a shopping list of requests, we were encouraged to 'soak in' God's presence. Individually and in groups we spent time resting, listening and enjoying Father God, and turning those reflections into prayer. We had come to 'do business in prayer' on behalf of Crowhurst and instead found ourselves drenched in God's Love.

It was not all resting however! We shared in the Tuesday evening and Thursday morning healing services and in the Wednesday evening prayer vigil with the Prayer Ministry Team. It brought home to us afresh what a privilege and responsibility it is to be part, in a small way, of the Ministry of Crowhurst by faithful prayer.

*Judith and David Barnes*

Having dedicated prayer partners wrestling against the spiritual forces of evil on behalf of the Healing Centre is wonderfully reassuring. During these weekends, our Prayer Partners seek God's heart for the Centre and also benefit from some time away from their busy lives to soak in God's presence.

In their article, Judith and David mentioned how 'Soaking' was the theme of the weekend. Steve G explains more below about soaking prayer:

*"In the healing ministry the idea of soaking prayer is an extended period of prayer where time is given to allow God to be poured into the person needing prayer."*

*We need to give real time to God to allow Him to soak into our wounds, diseases and memories that need healing. As water saturates a dry sponge, changing its very nature and appearance until it naturally overflows, so soaking is about being soaked and doing soaking. To enjoy and experience God's loving heart one fills up (being) and the other allows the infilling to be poured out (doing).*

*To use the words of St Paul; "Let God fill you to the measure of all the fullness of Himself" (Ephesians 3.19). Or to use our modern day speak, "Be soaked in God's presence."*



# healing prayer

*"Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed," James 5:16*

## What is Christian Healing?

*Healing can take many forms - physical, emotional, spiritual and relational. The words below have been included in past magazines, but this was over five years ago so I thought it worth including them again for those of you who may not have seen them before.*

**HEALING** is seeing Christ in all things, and all things in Christ.

**HEALING** is thanking God for what He has already given you.

**HEALING** is entering more deeply into the Kingdom of God within you.

**HEALING** is filling your mind with God's love and releasing all guilt.

**HEALING** is God's peace which overflows your body.

**HEALING** is being humble before God, but also being powerful in Him.

**HEALING** is freedom from past guilt and from anxiety over the future.

**HEALING** is a process of accepting God's truth and rejecting Satan's lies.

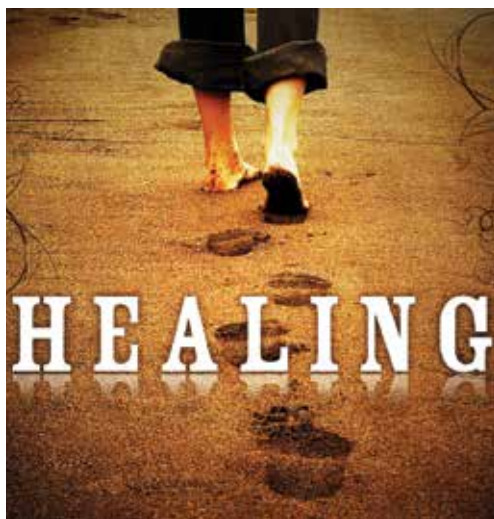
This list is not exhaustive and I am sure that many of you can think of other suggestions of what Christian healing means to you, so do write in and share your thoughts!

## Praying for Healing 'Let's try it out!' Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> August

This Teaching Day, led by our Deputy Chaplain, Steve Clark, is being repeated by popular demand! Come and join us for some theory and the practice of Christian healing prayer.

The day will provide an exciting vision of the Healing Saviour at work, leading to an experience of safely praying for others in Jesus' name.

The day will start at 10am and end around 4pm. Cost: £12 (includes morning coffee, lunch & afternoon tea). We invite donations towards the cost of teaching and use of the Centre.



# Healing week with Bishop Graham Dow Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October

Topics for this Healing Week will include:

- ◆ Laying the foundations of Christian Healing Ministry
- ◆ Physical Healing with practice
- ◆ Inner healing followed by groups
- ◆ Spiritual healing: confession and forgiveness
- ◆ The truth that sets us free
- ◆ Use of Spiritual Gifts
- ◆ Issues of suffering, death and why people are not healed

Bishop Graham writes: *"Just as Jesus entrusted His followers with sharing the Gospel and healing the sick, so it is good today for all Christians to find confidence to offer prayer for healing. Expect careful prayer ministry in a small group and a chance to learn simple skills offering physical and inner healing to others."*

Bishop Graham (retired) was the vicar of Holy Trinity, Coventry for eleven years before becoming Area Bishop of Willesden for eight years, and finally Diocesan Bishop of Carlisle for a further eight years. He was also Chaplain at St. John's College, Oxford, and lecturer in Christian Doctrine at St. John's College, Nottingham. He retired in April 2009.

Bishop Graham's interests include Christian faith and daily work, Christian healing ministry, Holy Spirit renewal and the development of lay ministry (he has written a number of publications on these areas). He is married to Molly and they have four children and seven grandchildren. His hobbies include railways, model railways, travel, music and political biographies.



## After the pancakes ... A journey through the wilderness

I visited the CCHC in February and took part in the Quiet Day on Ash Wednesday, led by Revd Colin Crook entitled, *"After the pancakes ... a journey through the wilderness."* We were encouraged to think about the Lent season ahead of us, and particularly to think about Lent as a wilderness experience. There were three short sessions led by Revd Colin, and after each one, we could find a quiet place to think, explore and pray.

*"God have mercy on me a sinner"* was one of the Lenten themes and as I reflected on this, I felt the Holy Spirit leading me into the wilderness to experience God's peace, to encourage and strengthen me. In the wilderness, the angels ministered to Jesus, and I felt the angels ministering to me too.

The wilderness can be a frightening and lonely place, but God always strengthens and restores us. *'Weeping might last for a night but joy comes in the morning'*, to quote Psalm 30.

We ended our Quiet Day with Holy Communion and there was an opportunity to experience *'Ashing'* where, with an ash cross on our foreheads, we *'remember we are but dust and to dust we shall return'*; an opportunity for us to stop and consider our journeys through life so far, and to pray for the future.

I came away with lots of thoughts and resolutions as to what I was going to do with my Lent, and with much material to help me.

I found the Quiet Day really helpful and very much enjoyed the peace and quiet that the chapels, buildings and beautiful grounds provide.

*Roger White*



# Songs of Praise

In the spring issue, our Associate Chaplain, Penny Button wrote about her favourite hymn, '*Great is Thy faithfulness*'. One of our readers, Ruth Pottinger, has kindly responded to my request for readers' favourite hymns and hers is the well known hymn, '*In Heavenly Love Abiding*.'

"It was in Maidenhead Baptist Church in the early 1950's that I first heard this hymn, which later became one of my favourites. I was representing the family at a service after my grandfather's funeral and we were singing '*In Heavenly love abiding, no change my heart shall fear*.' I was struck by the enthusiasm and confidence with which the person beside me was singing it; how I wished that I could really believe it! At the time I was '*sitting on the fence*'. But what joy there was when in 1959 I gave my life to Jesus and was able to sing it with similar enthusiasm and confidence!

Since then this hymn, especially the first verse, has been such a blessing to me. One day a message was brought to me in the middle of a class lesson to say I was to go home as my father was ill. To calm down before my three hour journey, I sat in the car in the school drive and slowly recited this hymn.

My father survived but two years later I received a call to say that he had died sooner than expected. I was a three hour journey away from home but once again I kept repeating this hymn all through the journey and God kept me safe and at peace. God knew the situation and He WAS beside me (verse 2).

**Verse one** was particularly helpful when in 1987 I faced many changes at the same time: early retirement because of depression, the loss of my father, decisions to make about where I was going to live, choosing and furnishing a suitable property, and getting involved in a new church. But I knew I was

safe in God's love, that whatever storms raged within me or around me, He was there with me and I needn't be discouraged.

**Verse two** again reassures me that God is with me. He guides me and He never sleeps. Then **verse three** gives hope for the future. '*Green pastures and bright skies*.'

I find such comfort, reassurance and peace through all three verses. *I will walk with Him*", (v2) and *He will walk with me.*" (v3)

\*\*\*\*\*

Thank you Ruth for sharing why this lovely hymn means so much to you. I did some research on its background and as with many hymns, it was written out of the writer's own personal struggles with life.

Anna Waring, a Welsh poet and hymn-writer, was 27 when she wrote the hymn. Her family were Quakers, but she later became an Anglican and was baptised into the Church of England in 1842.

An apparently shy lady, with a placid personality, literary interests were fostered by members of her family. She had two works published, which contained dozens of her hymns, with '*In Heavenly Love Abiding*' being the most well known.

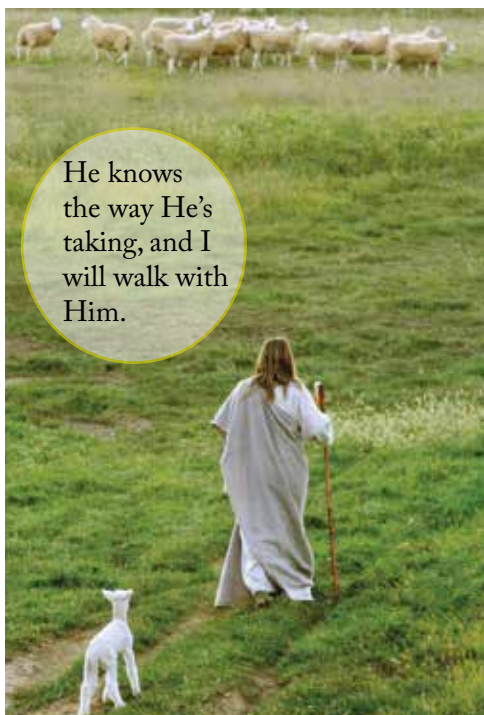
Apart from her writing, Anna was also involved in prison ministry. Her hymn texts, and particularly '*In Heavenly Love Abiding*', clearly reveal someone who was struggling with various challenges, but still she was able to reach out to those less fortunate through the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society.

Anna never married and the words in her hymns show someone who was at times lonely, but she drew strength from her writing and was enabled to look beyond herself and her own problems.

This hymn has been a source of inspiration and encouragement to Ruth and probably to many other people who have sung it over the years. I have printed it in full on page 19.

## In Heavenly Love Abiding: Anna Laetitia Waring 1820 – 1910 to the tune Penlan – 7676D

1. *In heavenly love abiding, no change my heart shall fear. And safe in such confiding, for nothing changes here. The storm may roar without me, my heart may low be laid. But God is round about me, and can I be dismayed*
2. *Wherever He may guide me, no want shall turn me back. My Shepherd is beside me, and nothing can I lack. His wisdom ever waking, His sight is never dim. He knows the way He's taking, and I will walk with Him.*



3. *Green pastures are before me, which yet I have not seen. Bright skies will soon be over me, where darkest clouds have been. My hope I cannot measure, my path to life is free. My Saviour has my treasure, and He will walk with me.*

## Let everything that has breath, Praise the Lord!

Praising God in song can really lift your spirits. The book of Psalms is THE praise book of the Bible and gives us many reasons why we should praise God. King Saul often summoned the young David to sing and play the harp to him when he was feeling melancholy, and this helped to lift him out of his depression.

Here are just a few of the many psalms of praise:

Psalm 92:1 *"It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High."*

Psalm 100:1-2 exhorts us to *"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs."* And verses 4-5: *"Enter His gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name."*

Psalm 148 is one big psalm of praise! Here are the first four verses:

### **Praise the Lord.**

*Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the heights above. Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His heavenly hosts. Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars. Praise Him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies. And last but definitely not least! I'm sure most people know that wonderful song based on Psalm 150.*

*"Praise Him on the trumpet and the harp, Praise Him on the timbrel and the dance, Praise Him with stringed instruments too.*

*Praise Him on the loud cymbals, praise*

*Him on the loud cymbals, let everything that has breath, praise the Lord!"*



# Farewell to Diane Baker, Head Cook

Diane, our Head Cook and one of the longest serving members of staff, sadly resigned in April for reasons of ill health. When the office announced on our Facebook page that Diane was leaving, they invited comments from people who had enjoyed her cooking. Here are just a few of the many tributes that were posted on the page.

- *We loved Diane's great food and she looked after George's gluten free diet requirements wonderfully. Bless you Diane and praying for healing for you. You will be missed. May*
- *Wonderful cook, who thought of every detail dealing with food allergies. Sharon*
- *Just to say that I remember when Diane arrived at Crowhurst. She has been so much a part of the place and her gifts in the kitchen have been very much used of the Lord. She will continue to be in my prayers. Jan*

Many friends attended Diane's leaving tea on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. It was good to see Brian Coward (former Chaplain) and his wife Eileen, former Warden, Trevor Blackshaw and his wife, Pamela and previous Chaplain, Peter McIntosh and his wife, Kay, to name but a few familiar faces who had worked with Diane during the last fifteen years.

'Creative, purple and hard working' were some of the words used to describe Diane and several folk paid tribute to her cooking and catering for those with special diets.

Penny presented Diane with a bouquet of beautiful flowers and Steve Clarke gave her a bowl (pictured below) that he had made from a Poplar tree that had fallen in the grounds last year.



## **Tribute from Steve Gendall**

I sometimes challenge myself and others to describe a person or situation in one word. If I were to do that with Diane, my one word would be 'WOW!'

Diane's experience here is not exactly a 'rags to riches' story, but the journey from beginning to end has produced that sort of radical transformation.

She started here as an assistant in the kitchen and over the years found her niche as the very competent, dedicated



# Garden News

Head Cook whose delicious meals are synonymous with the Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre hospitality. Her priority has always been the comfort and well-being of our guests, many of whom she regards as family. Just the hint of a celebration would find her mixing the ingredients for a surprise cake, and she has made a point of developing recipes to ensure that all could enjoy the experience, regardless of allergies or dietary restrictions. With typical thoughtfulness, she has meticulously passed her own self-taught skills on to others, so that our visitors can continue to receive the same level of care.

On a personal level, I have heard Diane speak of the transformation she has experienced over her years at the CCHC, and this is something I have witnessed myself. Diane was the first staff member I met at the Centre and in the last two years I have seen her grow both in personal confidence and in her relationship with the Lord, as she has testified in her writings.

I know that Diane celebrates this journey greatly, as we do, and her strength may best be seen in the tough decision to step aside from a family (CCHC) she loves in order to be able to take better care of herself and the health issues she still struggles with. (Please continue to remember Diane in your prayers.)

Diane has been a big part of the community here for nearly two decades and her contribution will be remembered well into the future. She has brought out the best in many of us and that is one of the joys of being a community like we are. Diane's story is quite incredible.

With all the community I wish Diane every blessing in her future journey. Diane you are delicious! Thank you very, very much.

To celebrate all Diane has done and achieved, I end where I started - WOW!

**We have a new gardener on the team.**

**Hello. I am the latest of several Daves to work at the CCHC.**



**I started volunteering to work in the grounds for a few days a week from early February. My wife is Margaret, who works as an auxiliary nurse, and we have a grown-up daughter called Miriam.**

**In 2009, we worked as Missionaries in Tanzania for the Anglican mission, Crosslinks. Three years later, we came home to help care for elderly parents and having seen them safely into a nursing home, worked for a year for Ellel Ministries at Glyndley Manor near Eastbourne. Then Margaret got a job managing a development for retired people in Brighton.**

**We have always felt drawn to Hastings, and last November seized the opportunity to join the church plant at Holy Trinity. We like it here for many reasons, but particularly because it's a great location for our hobby of cycling. As someone who has always been happiest outdoors, the icing on the Hastings cake for me is being able to work in the beautiful grounds at the CCHC with some extremely nice people - thank you for having me!**

*Dave*

## What is the Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre?



The CCHC is a friendly Christian Healing Centre where a warm welcome awaits all who come through its doors. Situated in an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, it is just four miles from the coast in the Sussex High Weald. The peace and comfort of this place creates an ideal setting in which to draw closer to God and experience His love.

The saving, healing work of Jesus is all about Kingdom come/coming. Every time a person is drawn out of darkness, slavery or dis-ease, it is a Kingdom moment; the Kingly rule and authority of Jesus breaking into our world. Every time we allow Him to be King in our life or in a situation around us, the Kingdom has come. The ministry of the Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre is a Kingdom ministry where we seek to cooperate with Jesus (as junior partners) in the bringing in of His Kingdom.

### OUR VISION STATEMENT

**The Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre is a non-denominational, residential place with a vision to grow the Kingdom of God by continuing the healing, preaching and teaching ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ, both at the Centre and in the wider context of the Church of Christ.**

## Belated Welcomes and Introductions

We have had a number of new staff and volunteers join us since last year but this the first time I have had room to write about them!

### Ian, Assistant Cook



Ian joined the team in June 2014, following a period of temping in February 2014. Locally born and bred, Ian's hobbies include narrow boating with a friend all over the country and in all weathers (he must be keen!). He loves travel abroad, and has visited Hawaii and Mexico. He will venture anywhere new with a cheap offer!

### Kim, Maintenance Officer



Kim joined the CCHC in September 2014 to assist Geof, our Maintenance Manager. He lives locally and has various hobbies, including scootering around on his Vespa scooter. He likes pre-2000 music and travelling, with Florida and California among some of the destinations he has visited. He and his wife, Estelle, whom he met when working in Greece, love theme parks, and particularly roller coaster rides, the scarier the better!

# Summer Programme

## JUNE

.....

13 Teaching Day: *'Forgotten Father: a healed relationship'*.  
Led by Steve Clark

19 - 21 Healing Weekend

## JULY

.....

4 Guided Quiet Day  
*"Look at the birds!"*  
Bridget Jenkinson

**13 - 14 Church group - House closed**

18 Thanksgiving Day:  
Preacher - Bishop Richard Jackson,  
Bishop of Lewes

24 - 26 Healing Weekend

## AUGUST

.....

1 Teaching Day  
Praying for Healing:  
*'Let's try it out'*  
Led by Steve Clark

5 Guided Quiet Day  
*'Rooted deeply - growing freely: Reflections with the Father Gardener'*  
Led by Gill Payne

11 - 15 Prayer through painting

21 - 23 Healing Weekend

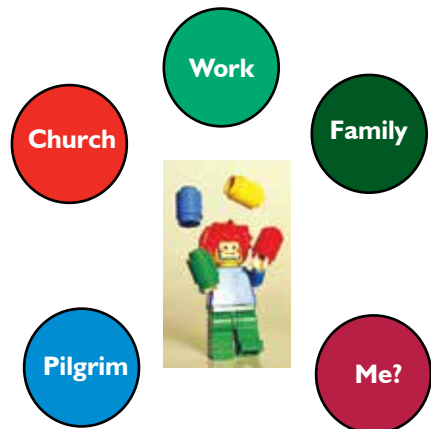
# A weekend for the ladies!

**Women's Weekend: September 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**Led by Revd Ruth Wyld, with**  
**Revd Sarah Chapman**



It's a well known fact that women are particularly good at multi-tasking - from work, church, family life and more and become very adept at 'juggling' to make sure everything gets done.

Does this sound like you? If so, why not come along to our first ever ladies weekend, and have an MOT with the Divine Juggler! It will be a time for fun, new friendships and will take a look at how we manage our busy lives. There will be times around the fire, a BBQ, craft & rural craft, dance, walking and more. Cost: £180 en suite: £170 non en-suite, full board.





# How to contact us

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

**Telephone:** 01424 830204

**Bookings:** 01424 830033

**Email:** [bookings.cchc@btconnect.com](mailto:bookings.cchc@btconnect.com)

**Email:** [crowhurstrectory@btconnect.com](mailto:crowhurstrectory@btconnect.com)

**Web:** [www.crowhursthealing.org.uk](http://www.crowhursthealing.org.uk)

The office is open from 9am - 6pm  
Monday to Friday and 9am - 4pm Saturday

For a brochure, programme or further  
information please contact the Secretary



Follow us on Twitter @Crowhurstchc

# Who's who

## **PRESIDENT**

Rt Revd Dr Martin Warner, Bishop of Chichester

## **CHAIR OF TRUSTEES**

Martin Granger

## **SENIOR CHAPLAIN**

Revd Steve Gendall

## **DEPUTY CHAPLAIN**

Revd Steve Clark

## **ASSOCIATE CHAPLAIN**

Penny Button

## **PRAYER PARTNERS CO-ORDINATOR**

Shirley Dawson

## **MAGAZINE EDITOR**

Mary Slater



*Published and distributed by: The Divine Healing Mission*  
*Registered Charity Number 208738*