



**Summer 2018**

2018 - A Celebration of God's Faithfulness



*This photo was taken on the 'Leaders who Followed' Open Day in April. Captions are welcome for what Hilary was looking at and what was amusing Penny, Ray and Peter! A copy of the book, 'To God be the Glory', will be sent to the winner of the best caption.*

*Here is one from Steve G to get the ball rolling: "Hilary saw it coming and Penny, Ray and Peter caught it!"*

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## To God be the Glory!

We are only half

way through our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year and it has already been full of much joy and celebration as we give God the glory for all His provision at Crowhurst since 1928.



In April the CCHC held a wonderful Easter Celebration with many folk saying it was the best they had been to, as Mary Hollingdale testifies below:

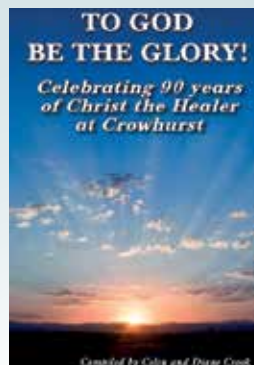
*"This was the best Easter ever! From Thursday to Monday was so moving and with lovely fellow pilgrims. Thank you Ministry Team and all the staff. I will never forget it!"* (See page 6.)

A week later we were rejoicing on our Open Day with former Wardens and Chaplains, who had gathered together for a special weekend called *'Leaders who Followed'*. And what a Holy Spirit filled day this was! It felt as if Thanksgiving Day had come early — well it had really because we gave thanks to God for the Wardens and Chaplains who have served the Lord at CCHC over the years, and also to everyone currently serving. (See page 16.)

Our next celebration will be **Thanksgiving Day, Saturday 7 July**, when we welcome John and Gillian Ryeland. John is the Chairman of Christian Healing UK (an affiliation of Christian healing organisations and healing advisors across the UK) and will be our speaker.

Thanksgiving Day is always such a joyous occasion, and an opportunity to meet friends old and new. Coffee will be served from 10 am and the service will begin at 11. The housekeeping team will be providing a buffet lunch for everyone after the service and the day will conclude with afternoon tea and cake.

This fascinating book, written by Colin and Diane Crook, is selling well but there are still copies available from the Centre if you haven't read it yet. The book, which costs £6.00, shows the development of the healing ministry in the early twentieth century, and how Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre played a significant part in that under the guidance of God. Using the extensive resources of the archives as well as individual testimonies, there are nearly 80 photographs as well as information on the life and the work of the Centre. There are a couple of Crowhurst Timeline 'snippets' in this issue.

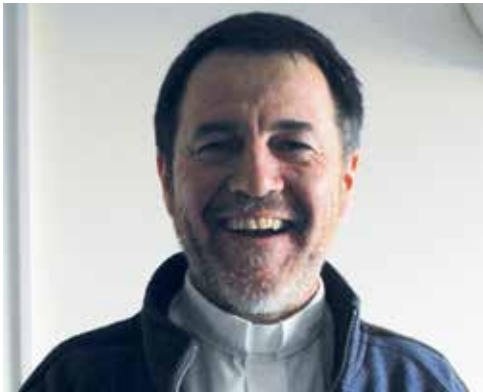


So as the year goes on, and beyond, we will continue to praise God and give HIM all the glory for His steadfast love and faithfulness through all those who have served, and currently serve in His place of healing.

Every blessing, *Mary*



# Steve's Letter



**D**ear All,  
Overflowing thankfulness!  
Try to imagine such a scene  
— a waterfall of gratitude, spilling over,  
sloshing about — oh, what a joy! Soaked in  
joyful delight.

We took the decision earlier this year to be OTT (over the top) with our thankfulness. Yes we had spent a year planning some events to celebrate our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary but we believe the Lord nudged us to do even more — to make it a year-long celebration. (Some would say the Lord is much more into parties than we believe — this may be proof!)

Since that nudge, we have balloons up, 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary badges on and bunting flapping. We are now reminded day by day that we have a good God who has been so faithful to the work He began under Howard and May Cobb in 1928 and continues to be so.

As I am pondering the idea of overflowing thankfulness, I have been reminded of a remarkable woman who visited here shortly after Veronica and I arrived.

She is a Zimbabwean grandmother called Joy (not her real name). Joy felt safe confiding in me the horrific persecution she and her family had suffered for standing up to the selfish and senseless leadership under which so many Zimbabweans were suffering. She was beaten a number of times but one occasion she recalled was when she was violently beaten, stripped and driven out of the capital into the bush and dumped — left to die. Joy had no choice but to flee the country or face certain death — as other members of her family had.

It was obvious that the stories Joy recounted, in the measured way that she did, revealed the trauma of those past experiences. Yet she repeatedly said how grateful to the Lord she was. This puzzled me so I asked her if she was disappointed with the Lord for the number of things she may have felt let down; family deaths, her own beating, being run out of her home and country, to mention just three. I've never forgotten her reply!

Joy said, *"In our family there are many children. We see them on the playground; we take them to the supermarket; we sit at table to share meals with them. The children that are the most pleasure to us parents are those who are ever thankful. Joy concluded, 'I want to be like one of those, for Father!'"*

Continue to pray for us please, with thanksgiving.

On behalf of all the dear thankful workers at CCHC,

*Steve*

# Crowhurst - A Chain of Special Jewels!



One of the many things I enjoy about being the magazine editor is the privilege of folk sharing their stories. During a recent stay, I got chatting to a lovely lady called Oriel, who has been coming to stay at CCHC every year since 1977. This being our 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, I thought she would have some good memories for the magazine, so we sat down together one evening after supper and the following is what she shared with me.

Oriel's vicar originally told her about CCHC so she could 'give her husband a bit of respite!' She has memories of several different Chaplains and has seen quite a few changes over the years. Right from the beginning she sensed an 'oasis of calm' in the house and describes the Centre as an ark and a place of refuge.

She remembers David Payne\*, who she said was particularly helpful to her because of his medical degree. She was able to talk to him about physical problems which then gave her the confidence to go back home and speak to her own doctor.

Oriel says her healing over the years has been gradual — 'infuriatingly gradual!' (I think many of us can relate to that!)

Oriel recounted a funny story during Ray Jones' time, of one day turning on the tap in her bedroom and all that came out was steam.

She called one of the staff to help and they said it was like entering a Chinese laundry. After that Oriel jokingly referred to herself as 'Wishy Washy'!

In 2013 God gave her what she describes as a 'decisive encounter' on the train to Crowhurst and the prayer ministry she received during her stay continued the healing that had been taking place over the years. She mentioned that lovely song, 'Such Love', particularly the words, 'Such love, paying the debt I owe'. God had healed what had been a difficult relationship with her son, and they now both have the most wonderful relationship following her healing.

One of her most significant healings here was during a creative art week. Having previously found a church with a much broader age group, who were very loving, caring and accepting of her, she said she felt comfortable among younger people, and during the week at Crowhurst, she felt so accepted (age is no barrier at Crowhurst!)

She summed up her chat by describing Crowhurst like a 'chain of special jewels' rather than a 'plain string of pearls'. What a great description!

## Crowhurst Timeline Snippet

*\*(David and Anne Payne served at Crowhurst from 1978 to 1984 and during his tenure he was joined by the first full-time Chaplain for some considerable time — David Howell. Their surnames caused much amusement as the Healing Centre was now run by — 'Howell with Payne' (extracted from 'To God be the Glory', page 37.)*





## Easter Celebration 2018

**H**ave you ever thought about doing laundry as part of your Easter vigil? No? Well you obviously haven't got 'auto-correct' switched on when typing your preparation sheet! (Steve's predictive texting produced this amusing word!) However, God has a way of using everything to work to His glory. So it was on Maundy Thursday that our programme had '*Laundry Thursday*' printed on it and believe me, we all did a considerable amount of washing of dirty clothes over the weekend!

We got to know one another, as we were gathered in the lounge, by washing each other's feet — funny I hear you say — not the usual way to introduce yourself to someone! The fact is it worked very well in Jesus' day, and as we discovered, it wasn't a religious act but an act of friendship, hospitality and love. We also considered the fact that the washed feet of Jesus would later be pierced by the nails which were used to crucify Him on the Cross.

Following the washing of the feet, we gathered in the Chapel of Christ's suffering (Small Chapel) for a Passover meal to share bread and wine with each other as Jesus did. On the table were other things as well as bread and wine, all symbolic of the journey we were embarking on.

The evening was not without incident and a small fire ensued on the table from a napkin accidentally dropped onto a naked candle. This was quickly put out with the jug of water but it became a very significant event as the weekend progressed. One of the team felt that God had said to them "*do not quench My Holy Spirit.*"



After the 'Last Supper' we gathered in the Chapel of Christ's Glory (Large Chapel) for a period of meditation on Gethsemane and the arrest of Jesus. At 9.30pm the cock crowed and the lights went out.

Good Friday was a time of personal pilgrimage. From 12 noon to 3pm we attempted to walk the way of sorrows. We had twelve stations of the cross around the house or in our programmes and we had time to allow God to speak to us, bring healing and refresh us. Each had a very personal and different experience .

Saturday was a special Sabbath. We considered the effects of the crucifixion of Jesus on the disciples, the women, the Jews and the Romans “*what did they make of it all?*”

### **Resurrection Day**

This was billed as ‘Holy Fools Day’. It was 1<sup>st</sup> April, so anything might happen today! 6.30am: The ‘Holy Fools’ all got up to watch the sun rise. Now, really was this likely? It had rained constantly for days and the sky was heavy with clouds, but ... how great is our God! We were standing by Shalom when we observed a break in the clouds; sure enough a huge red sun appeared over the horizon greeted first by a very loud shout from a guest called Mary. What a joyful moving experience it was.



Following the short Easter sunrise service, we went indoors to hungrily eat our hot cross buns.



At 10am we reflected on 1 Corinthians 15 (Paul’s account of the resurrection of Christ) and then followed a joyful service of Worship and Communion.

The day continued with our celebrations, including an Easter egg hunt (some cheating went on I might add!)

Later in the afternoon we met together and shared what God had done in our lives over the weekend.

On Monday, after breakfast, we shared in a special service of Holy Communion, which challenged us to seek the fire of the Holy Spirit in our lives and go back home to speak to those who do not know the Lord, in a language they will understand.

The weekend was just wonderful, but in that word there are many facets — challenging and life changing. Most of us had never spent an Easter like it and would not have missed it for anything.

Our heartfelt thanks to Steve, Veronica, and Suzanne for their love, care and much hard work in walking with us through these special days.

If any of you come to stay here, please do not forget to ask Steve about his Easter Day hole!

*Margaret Bundy*



# Faith Matters Teaching Day: March 2018

## Led by Steve Gendall

**F**aith is a huge subject and Steve's Teaching Day in March gave us all much food for thought. Steve had compiled a very comprehensive booklet full of helpful information and Scriptures relating to faith, so as to enable further study and reflection at home.

Printed in full was that inspiring passage on faith — Hebrews 11:1-40 (Message version).

There were three parts to the day:

Session 1: **Faith Matters;**

Session 2: **What weakens faith?**

Session 3: **What strengthens faith?**

For Session 2, Steve made use of Lee Strobel's book 'A Case for Faith', in which are listed eight objections that may impede our faith. There are too many to mention here but a few are, unanswered prayer, religious wars, doubt and suffering, to name but a few!

Steve also made reference to Bill Johnson, who describes disappointment as an *'enemy of faith that leads to heartache, pain, doubt and despair.'* Johnson suggests a four step healing plan:

- *Be honest with God*
- *Listen to God*
- *Receive God's peace*
- *Feed your heart correctly.*

Steve encouraged us to read God's Word and focus on what He **HAS** done in your life and not what he hasn't and this way we will feed our hearts correctly. Knowing Scripture, he said, was so important ... because, *"Faith comes from Hearing the message about Christ."* Romans 10:17.

Some helpful quotes from Steve's booklet:

- *Who is our faith in? Our faith is in Jesus, not in self. Our faith is in His wisdom, His power and His goodness.*
- *Faith is like a muscle — if is not used, it will atrophy and like every muscle, it needs to be exercised.*
- *It is not great faith you need, it is faith in a great God! (Tom Wright)*

Keen photographer, Pam Bygrave, who was also at the Teaching Day, said that the second verse of the opening hymn, *'Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of Creation'* got her thinking about a photograph of a seagull she had recently taken, spreading its wings over two other seagulls:

*"Praise to the Lord, above all things so wondrously reigning; sheltering you under his wings, and so gently sustaining."*



This is a brief account of a very in-depth and useful Teaching Day. I have enjoyed studying Steve's booklet, which has so many Scripture references relating to faith and other helpful suggestions regarding matters of faith.



# 'Young, Clean and Forgiven'!

**I**t's thirty two years almost to the day when I first came through the doors of Crowhurst.

I came in as a broken person — Crowhurst had been recommended to me by one of its Reps, Olive. She had been praying for me for quite a time and had given me books about CCHC. I had read them and thought that I might visit one day but that's as far as it went. However when a close friend of mine died I went to pieces and before I knew it, I was booked in for a week.

When I had unpacked I thought I was in some sort of convent! I felt very out of place and wanted to go home. Everybody was so spiritual but I wasn't. The first service in the Chapel made me cry and from then on I was getting more and more upset. Then John Simmonds (Warden at that time) and his wife, Janet, stepped in and arranged a time to speak with me. I was so scared but went and met with them.

After talking with me for some time I shared with them my true broken self, things that I had never dared tell anyone. They were so kind and loving, and accepting of me. I had always wanted to repent of the things I had done wrong but thought I would never stop crying. I thought that God would never forgive me.

John and Janet suggested a service the next day with which I could repent and they would ask God to heal me. I agreed to this but I must confess I was terrified!

The next day I didn't feel much better but went in at the allotted time. All I can say is that God met with me in the Warden's room and it was the best decision of my life. I was forgiven! If God had done only that for me it would have been enough.

When I came out of the room it was as if God had switched the light on and I felt as if I had been born again. Nature exploded before my eyes! I had felt so old and broken on the inside but now I felt young and clean, and indeed forgiven!

My Christian life since has been no picnic but God has kept me. I am so grateful to Him. I am also very grateful to Crowhurst and its ministers and ministry, and regard it as my spiritual home. I was, and am, one of Crowhurst's miracles!

*Odette*

## **Crowhurst Timeline Snippet**

*John Simmonds was appointed Warden on 29 October 1984 and lived at Crowhurst for five years with his wife, Janet and their two sons Keith and Malcolm.*

*The pastoral side of the work was strong under John's leadership and an enormous number of people were helped and had their spiritual lives deepened. Usually John and Janet ministered together.*

*You can read more about John and Janet Simmonds on page 41 of 'To God be the Glory'.*



# An Appreciation of Bryan Beggs



**M**aureen and I have known Bryan and Diana Beggs since 1978, when we returned to England from Malta to take up my appointment as Naval Director of the RAF Chaplains School in Ampert House, near Andover. Our home was a few doors away from the Beggs and we soon got to know each other as fellow Christians, followers of "The Way".

We joined their Home Prayer Group and worshipped in the same Church when Naval duties permitted.

It didn't take long to appreciate what a special man Bryan was. His day job was as a highly skilled Senior Helicopter Training Instructor at the Army Base in Middle Wallop, but his burning desire to serve our Lord in every way he could in the local Community led him to serve on the Council. He became the Mayor of Test Valley, Hampshire, and subsequently a long time member of Andover Charity Trustees, only last year initiating the transformation of the Alms Houses in Andover.

Upon his retirement he wrote many books, including history books for children, and as an accomplished photographer he published a book of photographs of every Church (75!) in the

Test Valley, with interesting commentaries on each one. The book, which was co-authored by Diana, was subtitled "A *photographic and historical odyssey*". The proceeds from the sale was shared between the two Hospices most closely associated with the area of Test Valley.

When a vacancy arose amongst the Trustees of Crowhurst I suggested Bryan be approached, and after careful, prayerful thought he accepted the invitation. He was a huge support in every way and saw the work, both Spiritual and practical, succeed through turbulent times, by his calm, logical, patient approach and faithful witness.

Bryan and Diana loved Crowhurst from the outset and stayed at least twice a year, often bringing with them someone in need of healing to experience the presence of Jesus in this lovely place. I can think of no better way to finish this tribute than to quote a prayer below, that Bryan wrote himself:-

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*"Dear Lord Jesus, help us as we individually make our way to the foot of Your Cross. Help us to leave with You there our burdens of pain, anxiety, resentment or loss, and then to walk ever onwards in Your strength, and the light of Your enduring love until we attain perfect healing and wholeness with You."*

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*Ray Jones*

# Summer Prayer Requests

*Summer Prayer Requests 2018  
Please pull out and keep for the coming months*



# SUMMER PRAYER REQUESTS

## PRAYER FOCUS

*“Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and 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 Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre 1928-2018, ninety years of Christ’s healing love.
- Give thanks and praise for the Easter Celebration, led by Steve, Suzanne and Veronica. After washing each other’s feet on Thursday evening we shared a very moving ‘Last Supper’ in the Small Chapel. We ended the evening in Gethsemane and saw Jesus arrested — then darkness fell. Good Friday was a silent day and Saturday between 12 – 3pm was also silent — a time to walk the ‘Way of Sorrows’. On Sunday we rose early and watched the sunrise outside ‘Shalom’. It was breathtaking. A truly blessed Easter. Hallelujah!
- Give thanks and praise for a weekend with former Chaplains, which was held on April 6 – 8. Past and present Wardens and Chaplains gathered for a residential weekend of recalling stories of God’s faithfulness over the years. On Saturday the house was open to all for worship and lunch. The large Chapel was full and we were delighted to meet past Wardens and Chaplains. Revd Ray Jones gave a very moving testimony and the worship time was wonderful to hear, with so many men singing!

*“Praise be to the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone does marvellous deeds. Praise be to His glorious name for ever; may the whole earth be filled with His glory. Amen and Amen.” Psalm 72:18 & 19*

*One of our guests, Georgie, captured on camera this beautiful albino squirrel who was frolicking in the trees of the Crowhurst grounds*



## 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

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 2       | Guided Quiet Day<br>Led by Rachel Fawcett<br><b>“Why I love Ignatius</b><br><i>Right brain, left brain, God gave us both. We all hear from the Lord in different ways. Come and explore your own unique way of listening to Him.”</i> |
| 5 - 9   | Prayer through Painting   |
| 12 - 18 | Healing Space   |
| 22 – 24 | Healing Weekend   |



## July Prayer Focus

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

### JULY

- 7      Thanksgiving Day:  
A Celebration of God's  
Faithfulness, with John & Gillian  
Ryeland.
- 8 - 14      Silent Healing Space
- 18      Teaching Day **'Brief Encounters'**  
Led by Steve Gendall  
*A day to equip you to pray for  
people, whether it be at the back  
of church, whilst out walking the  
dog, or in a supermarket aisle*
- 20 - 22      Exploring Prayer  
Led by Maureen Stringer

## 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

- 3 - 9      Healing Space
- 11      Guided Quiet Day  
Led by Gill Payne  
**"Through God's lens" —  
Refocusing on God and our  
journey with Him**  
*This is a chance to refocus on  
God, to remind ourselves how  
He sees and values us and to gain  
perspective as we journey on in life.*
- 17 - 19      Prayer through Painting

# 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

Nigel Thonger (Chair), Vivien Drakes, Revd Sally Dryden, Paul Raynor and Revd Denis Smith

- Sadly, Jim Beveridge has died after a long period of pain and suffering. He served for many years as a Trustee. Please pray for his wife, Jenny and the family in their time of bereavement.
- The work on the demolition of the bungalow and the rebuild of the new timber framed kit house has begun. Pray for fine weather so that the building can go forward without any stoppages for rain.
- Car parking can be a problem, especially on a Thursday morning. The recent heavy rains have added to the difficulties as the grass areas have become waterlogged and unable to be used.
- We continue to give thanks for the generosity of all who financially support the work of Christ's healing love at the Centre. The refurbished Prayer Rooms are now used for the 'drop in' prayer ministry on a Wednesday and 'Shalom' is used as a quiet place to meet with the Lord.
- Please continue to pray for the Lord's leading in all we do; 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, Suzanne Owen

Andy, Brenda, Carole, Chris L, Colin, David, Dee, Gill, Gwen, Helen, Hildegard, Jan, Jane, Jenny, John, Judith, June, Maggie, Margaret, Maureen, Nigel, Olive, Pam, Pat, Paul, Penny, Pete, Peter, Phyllis, Pippa, Rachel, Stephen, Vanessa, Veronica, Vivien, Yvonne and Visiting Chaplains

## OFFICE

Chris, Esther, Jane, Jayne, Jenny, Juliette, Maria, Pennie and Diane

## HOUSE

Heidi, Abigail, Atlantia, Chrissy, Clare, Ian, Justine, Luke, Marion, Rosemary, Sarah, Shirley and Zenith

## MAINTENANCE AND GARDEN

Kim, Desmond, David

## MAGAZINE EDITOR

Mary

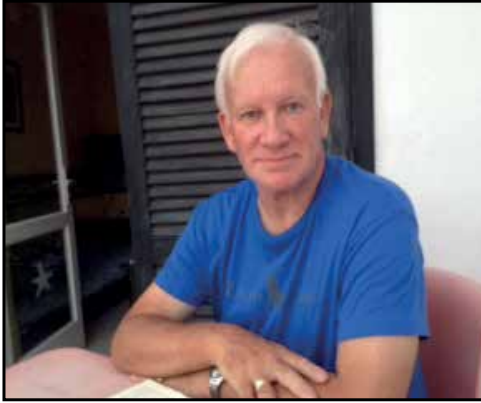
*"Not to us, O Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness."* Psalm 115:1

## OUR VISION STATEMENT

**Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre has a vision to advance the Kingdom of God. The CCHC vision is fulfilled by: providing a non-denominational residential space where people can be loved by God; continuing the healing, preaching, teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ worldwide; using our resources to encourage and teach people to grow in the power of the Holy Spirit.**



# Remembering Jim Beveridge



We keep Jenny and all Jim's family in our thoughts and prayers as they mourn his loss.

*Nigel Thonger*  
(Chair of Trustees)



I first met Jim when he joined the Board of Trustees in October 2005. He was a man with a deep faith and a heart for the healing ministry and he took on the role of Trustee with enthusiasm, eventually serving on the Board for twelve years.

Jim was a Chartered Surveyor by profession and worked for Hastings Borough Council as Estates Manager, so for a place such as CCHC, which has acres of land and many buildings to look after, he was an absolute Godsend.

His time, skills and humour were all generously given for the work at the Centre and he will be remembered for his wisdom and discernment over many years (as well as his friendly banter with the Accountants at the AGM each year)! He also helped in the ministry here, undertaking preaching commitments when his duties as the Pastor of Herstmonceux Free Church allowed.

Jim went to be with the Lord on 12 February 2018 just before his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday, after a long illness bravely borne. The Trustees had a time of silence at their last meeting to remember his contribution to the work at this place of Christ's healing.

The office regularly receives thank you notes from guests while others leave 'posts' on our Facebook page about Crowhurst. Here are a couple of posts from Facebook:

*"Crowhurst has an incredible atmosphere of the presence of God. The staff go out of their way 100% to make you feel safe, loved and accepted, without judgement. It's clean and the food is 100%; I would not go anywhere else! If you go by train, the entrance is just steps from the platform and once you are through the gate, it is less than a two minute walk to the house. You will not be disappointed. Lean back in God's arms; He will do the rest. If your heart is open, God will work in you; you do not need to strive. So love the presence of God when you walk in."*

*Karen*

*"Crowhurst is such a beautiful and peaceful place. The teaching and hospitality is great. I am well refreshed in body and mind. I will definitely go again!"*

*Jacque*

## *Leaders who followed weekend April 2018*



*Front row, left to right: Ray Jones, Peter McIntosh*

*Middle row, left to right: Hilary Clark, Kay McIntosh, Eileen Coward, Pamela Blackshaw*

*Back row, left to right: Steve Clark, Brian Coward, Trevor Blackshaw*

What an amazing day of praise and thanks this was! Over 120 people joined in with the celebrations and it was wonderful to catch up with those who have served the Lord at Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre over the years.

The Large Chapel was full, with some folk in the Chapel corridor and Little Chapel. We fittingly opened with

the hymn 'To God be the Glory' which immediately put the focus on God for all the things He has done at CCHC over the last 90 years.

Revd Ray Jones, who was Warden and Director from 1989 to 1997, gave a wonderful testimony of his early experience of the Lord's healing, which included him being healed of polio. He delivered his talk with honesty, humour and great teaching.

Ray was a Naval Chaplain and encountered many challenges during his ministry. During his time at CCHC, he would recount some amazing stories of how the Lord touched and healed the most unlikely of people and he shared one of these with us during his talk. Ray said that we needed to ask in faith, believe and trust that God WILL act, and we should thank Him in advance and anticipation. He reminded us of Paul's message that all things work together for good for those who love God.

Ray's testimony can be heard in full via our Facebook page, or via YouTube. It is well worth a listen!

Several folk that I spoke to during the day said that being among former chaplains and hearing Ray preaching took them back to their first time at Crowhurst, during difficult times in their lives, when they were in deep need of God's healing touch. The wonderful thing is that God is still healing and touching people's lives at Crowhurst today. Chaplains and staff have come and gone, but the Lord always remains!

A buffet lunch was provided by the housekeeping team, who also served up delicious cakes at tea time. As usual, the food was plentiful!

During the afternoon there was an opportunity to see photos displayed in Shalom of how the building had developed since its inception in 1928 and Kim, the Maintenance Manager, gave a very interesting talk of what he had been involved with in his three years working at CCHC.

A series of 'interviews' with the former Wardens and Chaplains were conducted by Esther and streamed live to Facebook. If you have access to Facebook, you can click on the links and hear the interviews.

*Sheila, Pam & Edgar enjoying the spring sunshine*



*Suzanne, Kim and Peter McIntosh*





*Above: Past and present Wardens and Chaplains, Visiting Chaplains  
and some members of the Ministry Team. Below, sharing fellowship with old friends*



# Growing the Spirit - God's Healing Touch

**A**t the 'Leaders who followed' event in April, I was delighted to meet Revd Ray Jones again, nearly thirty years after my first visit to CCHC.

I first came to Crowhurst in the early 90's, when Ray was Warden and Brian Coward was Chaplain. Unable to walk, I was a very reluctant visitor! I came with my Minister who had talked to me many times about Crowhurst and tried to persuade me that God would help me. One day she announced she had booked us in and the next day we were heading to CCHC!

My room was called the Walker room (God has a sense of humour)! The days that followed were joyous and amazing. Uplifting services, delicious food, beautiful grounds and a caring team. I soon realised that this was a house where God reigned! We worshipped, explored the grounds and spent much time in the old art room.

Then came the day of the Healing Service. (I was nervous and very reluctant!) While we were singing Ray suddenly stopped us and said, "*Come on, get up and dance around the communion table!*" I froze but before I could speak, two young men lifted me into the communion area and there I 'stood' propped up on my crutches singing happily and swaying to the joyous music like everyone else. Back in my chair again, it was time for the laying on of hands, but not before the Prayer Ministers had laid hands on each other first.

As people went forward, the sound of prayer filled the Chapel and before long I felt myself being lifted to the rail. I received prayer ministry and was anointed with oil. It felt as if I was glued to the rail and I couldn't move. Then I sank to the floor and had no idea of what was happening, but I felt absolutely wonderful!

I slept peacefully that night but was woken by moonlight flooding into my room. I sat up in bed and there in the light stood Jesus, smiling. He told me I would walk again.

As the sun rose, I went out into the garden. I stood up on my crutches and threw them onto the grass, much to the surprise of the Chaplain, Brian Coward who told me to go and tell my friend the good news.

Thank you Jesus. I should have believed what I knew about your healing power. Thank you to everyone at Crowhurst, and an especially huge thank you to my Minister because had it not been for her persistence, I would never have gone to Crowhurst!

*Denise*



*Denise and Ray at the Wardens and Chaplains Open Day in April*

## Seeing through the Lord's eyes!

During the 'Leaders who Followed' Open Day, some of us heard Ray tell an amazing story of how someone he had once ministered to at CCHC had painted a picture of what he saw during the laying on of hands. Ray had a print of this painting with him and allowed it to be photographed for inclusion in the magazine. This fascinating story as told by Ray, follows below:

*"A clergyman in great distress had come for healing on a Monday evening healing service. While hands were being laid on the man, he had a vision of what was taking place during the prayers. The following morning, the man felt led to paint a picture of what he had seen while hands were being laid on him. The colours in the painting are amazing, especially so because the man was colour blind but what was also amazing was that the vision the clergyman had seen didn't include the minister but only the hands that were being laid on him."*



(If you look very closely at the painting, you will see the hands on the man's head.) It is often said at the healing services that the prayer ministers are God's vessels through which He works; it is the Lord who heals and not the minister who is praying. This wonderful painting showing just the hands on the man's head certainly confirms this.

## 90 Hours for our hearts to sing Wednesday 3 to Sunday 7 October

As I write, it has been a wonderful start to our 90<sup>th</sup> year and a joy to welcome back past leaders to Crowhurst. Now I want to tell you about an exciting event we shall be hosting later this year.

Worship underpins all we do at CCHC and plays a key role in all our Christian lives. This has long been the case since the Bible tells us that King David “*danced before the Lord with all his might ... and all the people of Israel brought up the Ark of the Lord with shouts of joy and the blowing of rams’ horns*” (2 Samuel 6:14-15). This suggests that worship is an important vehicle for ushering in the Kingdom of God and all His works.

The title of our event mentions singing but of course this is only one form of worship. We’ve already noted that David danced before the Lord. One definition of worship I really like is “*to honour with extravagant love*.” This is an opportunity for people to come and offer extravagant worship to the Lord, enthrone Him with our praises, and thank Him for His faithfulness over 90 years. How we shall do this is ... any way you wish! In addition to playing different instruments, singing and dancing, we could use Bible readings, drama, poetry, banners, and art. We might not manage the rams’ horns but someone may have a trumpet! There will be outside activities as well, for example song walks with banners and instruments, and praise times in the art room.

In case you are wondering about the timing — yes we do mean **90 hours**! The aim is to have a continuous round of worship and praise throughout the day **and night**, over and above our normal



rhythm of services. In addition to Stephen and I leading worship and playing or singing, we are hoping that people staying in the house might sign up for brief time slots — maybe an hour or half an hour. Perhaps you are a musician yourself or you may wish to simply read out joyful Psalms for ten minutes. We shall also have some musical time slots dedicated to particular things, for example a Stuart Townend hour, a Taize hour, a Graham Kendrick hour and a ‘requests’ hour. Sometimes there will simply be gentle, reflective music to listen to.

Given the limited space in the house, there will be opportunities to welcome people from outside. Some public access during the day will enable as many people as possible to join in the offering of worship.

This will be the finale to our Special Year! We hope you’ll agree it is going to be a wonderful opportunity to glorify God, so let’s rise to the challenge and make a joyful noise unto the Lord!

*Pippa Dunn*



# Grounds News

After a slow start to the growing season, all is looking promising. The grass had its first cut at the beginning of April.

With this being the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year, there are plans afoot to develop the grounds but a decision has yet to be made as to what changes will occur.

It has already been a very busy start to the year. The old and rotten fencing surrounding the pond has been replaced with far more substantial chestnut fencing, which looks fantastic (see photo right). In addition, a complimentary field gate has been installed to replace the old one on the Drovers' road.

The concrete paths from the sun corridor and Chapel corridor have been sympathetically resurfaced with a modern and attractive resin and stone topping (see photo bottom right). It certainly does improve the appearance of the area and will make it safer to walk on.

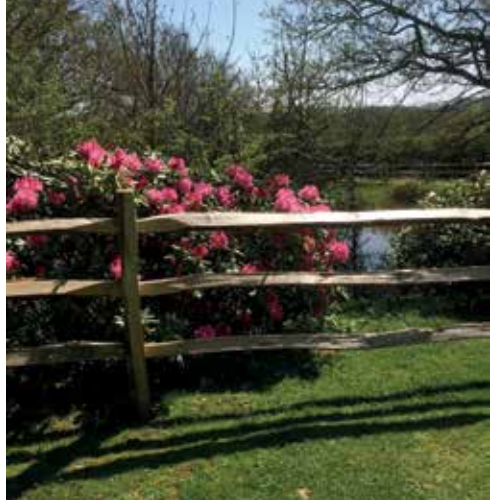
The big news of course this year is the replacement of the Deputy Chaplain's bungalow with a new timber-framed building. The demolition has now been completed and the new foundations are due to be put in imminently. Approximately 60 tonnes of concrete from the existing base has been removed already. There was a fair amount of heavy traffic until during mid-May, and with that, additional noise and dust. Apologies for any disturbance or inconvenience that the lower car park became a building site!

A new oak signpost will be erected after the building work on the bungalow has finished (the builders were concerned it might get knocked down by lorries), but the matching signs for the Art Room,

Prayer Rooms and 'Shalom' are now in place.

So as summer approaches and the days warm up, the grounds and maintenance team are already looking forward to the next season!

Blessings, *Kim*



# Upcoming Events

Wednesday 18 July  
**Teaching Day: ‘Brief Encounters’**  
Led by Steve Gendall

A day to equip you to pray for people, whether it be at the back of church, whilst out walking the dog or in a supermarket aisle.

.....  
Friday 20 - Sunday 22 July  
**Exploring Prayer:** *Drawing closer to the Lord through Scripture, creation and creativity.*

Led by Maureen Stringer  
Maureen writes: *“During the weekend we will explore different prompts, styles and ways of praying to find those which resonate with each one of us individually, from the practices of the cloister to contemporary play! This is about our personal prayer; that which nourishes our spiritual life and ministry.”*

Maureen has led retreats and quiet days for many years and is particularly interested in encouraging people to find their own individual prayer style. During the day there will be opportunities to experience and explore a number of different ways of praying. For more information, her website can be found at [www.livingreflectively.com](http://www.livingreflectively.com)

.....  
Saturday 11 August  
**Guided Quiet Day**  
Led by Gill Payne  
**‘Through God’s lens’ — Refocusing on God and our journey with Him.**

This is a chance to refocus on God, to remind ourselves how He sees and values us and to gain perspective as we journey on in life.

*Gill has been leading quiet days at CCHC since 2008 and is part of the Chaplaincy team.*

**6 - 9 September**  
**Free weekend for youth workers**  
**Led by the Crowhurst Team**

After the excitement of Soul Survivor and other summer festivals, youth workers/pastors can look forward to a **FREE** bespoke weekend at CCHC. We want to bless those called to work with young people by offering them a chance to "lighten up" in order to receive from God.

.....  
: And finally ... Our magazine is not :  
: only a great outreach resource, it is :  
: also a real blessing to those who were :  
: once regular visitors but for various :  
: reasons are now unable to visit. :  
: Pat Wilmshurst, one of our Prayer :  
: Partners writes: :  
: “I do value your magazine so much :  
: as I am now in Camberley and at 92, :  
: I feel the journey is too much. But I :  
: read every word of your magazine :  
: and am always enriched by it. I love :  
: the letters and all the info on courses :  
: and the photos. My daughter Tish and :  
: I have started a prayer group here at :  
: Collingwood Grange. There are seventy :  
: residents in a beautiful house and :  
: grounds. I would guess only five of us :  
: have a deep faith. I know very clearly :  
: what the dear Lord wants me to do and :  
: I pray for each room as well. It would :  
: be lovely if Collingwood Grange could :  
: be occasionally mentioned with your :  
: prayers.” :  
: So please do keep Pat and her :  
: fellow residents of Collingwood :  
: Grange in your prayers as she keeps :  
: Crowhurst in her prayers. :  
: .....  
:

# How to contact us

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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



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While this magazine is issued free of charge, an annual donation of £10.00 to cover costs is most helpful. If you are able to Gift Aid your donation, this adds another 25p for every £1 you give.

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*Pennie, Denise, Brenda and Mary at the 'Leaders who followed' Open Day in April*

