

HARVEST

The Harnhill Centre Magazine

Summer/Autumn 2021

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Your kingdom come

Your will be done

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Your kingdom come, Your will be done

Matthew 6:9

During the past year we have all had the opportunity to deepen our trust in God. There has been a great deal of uncertainty and it is these kinds of experiences which test our faith, expose our vulnerabilities, and stretch us in new ways. At the beginning of the first lockdown, someone shared a comment with me, that “the world will never be quite the same”. It certainly feels like that, especially now as we take stock of the ongoing impact of the pandemic and lockdowns, not only on a personal level but also throughout this country and the world. Nothing will be quite the same. However, as much as this could feel challenging, I and others whom I have spoken to, are anticipating new and unique opportunities for God’s Church, including here at the Harnhill Centre. The vision growing in our hearts is to open the Centre in new ways, making changes to enable more guests to come and soak in God’s presence and to access support and prayer ministry. We desire to build relationships and deepen our life together, called ‘to be a healing community before God: seeking to be healed and to minister healing’ (The Harnhill Centre ‘Way of Life’ (see page 20)). We are praying with team members who feel called to reach into their local communities, finding ways to share their experience and minister the healing love of Christ and to gather others who may be called to this ministry.

However, as a community and organisation, we have faced uncertainty and needed to hold onto our Lord throughout. I think back on many times in morning prayer during these past months, where one of us has exclaimed – “This is the day the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it!” (Psalm 118:24). As a community we have chosen to trust God through the challenges and look for signs of his kingdom breaking through in our everyday lives. He has not let us down! God’s mercies are new every morning and although many of our old routines have changed and we still face an unpredictable situation together, we continue to seek God’s presence and leading. We have made the most of the opportunity to tackle significant practical tasks, undertaking numerous maintenance projects and updating other areas of our work, such as the infrastructure of our administrative, finance and IT systems, which has been necessary to prepare for the future of this ministry. We have been developing and offering online prayer ministry and recording podcasts to share how we sense God’s leading regarding the Harnhill ‘Way of Life’. All of this has been underpinned by taking time to pray and listen together for God’s calling during this next season and our prayer remains the same - Lord, your kingdom come, your will be done.

As we have looked ahead at life for this healing community, we have been getting ready to respond in a world where things will never be quite the same - to be more widely available to support and pray for people who have been the hardest hit by what's happened, those for whom the aftermath of the past year has left them feeling vulnerable and broken, and others who remain anxious about the future. This is all in addition to the many other challenges our guests face, which prompts them to pick up the 'phone to us or come and visit. The bottom line is people need to know and experience the healing and saving love of Christ and we desire to enable guests to have the space and time to receive God's grace in this way.

As we have been preparing to reopen the doors, we have been doing the groundwork, effectively tilling the soil as a gardener or farmer would, aiming to provide an environment ready for God's kingdom-seeds to grow. This has been a season of 'getting ready for the next bit', for what God is calling us to, whether on-site at Harnhill or through different forms of outreach. However, we do need help. There is much we believe God has placed on our hearts for the future of the ministry at Harnhill and (as always) we are reliant on Friends and supporters who might be willing to offer time and their gifting. I know that for many of you, this past year will have been a time of reflecting and re-prioritising too. Perhaps you feel a nudge to consider how you are being called to be part of the healing community at Harnhill for the next season, joining with us as we continue to respond to the needs of those seeking healing and renewed hope.

May God's kingdom come; may his will be done in all our lives.

Opportunities to volunteer: Please contact office@harnhillcentre.org.uk if you are interested in any of the following –

Reception Team

We are looking to build our current team who volunteer to work in reception. Do you have good people skills and a heart for welcoming others and the ability to work well with others? If so, please do get in touch. The days we require help in reception are every Thursday and Friday.

Café and Kitchen Team

Do you have an interest in preparing food and the opportunity to work alongside our chef? Some kitchen experience would be beneficial, but if you are quick to learn and are interested, do let us know. The days of the week we will most likely need help are on Friday and Sunday.

Or perhaps you have experience in hospitality and would enjoy serving guests? Maybe you love clearing and washing up. Please let us know if this is you and you would like to help!

Gardening Team

Gardening is proven to be good for our mental health and well-being and we could really do with some help to ensure that our gardens are maintained to a wonderful standard and be a blessing to those who visit. Would you be interested in joining our happy band of volunteer gardeners?



*Rev'd Kate Picot
Director*



From our Guests . . .

Thank you so much Harnhill Team. You mirror to me God's love, peace and joy - JG

The setting is gorgeous and the chance to be quiet, to reflect and to hear God was very restorative - JM

Goodbye ...

Martine Smith-Huvers in conversation with Denise Hyde following her retirement from Harnhill . . .

M - When did you join the Harnhill Centre?

D - I joined the Harnhill Centre in August 2000. My children, Peter and Lizzie, left home to study at Oxford Brookes University and the other as a nanny at Manchester. I applied for two jobs, the one here at Harnhill and the other in Fairford. I was offered both. I first decided to take the job in Fairford. Then Paul Springate, who was the Warden at the time, telephoned me to offer me the job of Booking Secretary here at Harnhill after I returned from a holiday. I didn't really know much about the work of Harnhill and didn't want to have anything to do with healing ministry, all I needed was the job! But God had other plans!

When I first joined Harnhill I was very timid but discovered that I had a telephone ministry. In my previous job I was told to answer the phone with a 'smile in your voice', which helped. I feel that one can start building relationships with that first telephone call and I will miss that very much. I enjoy providing support by chatting and praying on the telephone. God has certainly brought me on a wonderful journey during my time at Harnhill. I would never have thought of ordination for a start.

M - You will have seen many changes over the 20 years that you have served the Lord at Harnhill. Is there anything that stands out or is memorable?

D - This is a difficult one to answer, as I have seen many changes over the years. I have seen many members of Team come and go and there have also been several major building projects in the Centre. One of the major projects being the bedrooms in the main house which were made en suite. We lost half the accommodation for some time, but it was worth it. As with all things, the Centre has evolved and grown over the years. In the early days, there seemed to be more volunteers than staff but now the staff team has grown.



M - Your beautiful guide dog Remy is always by your side. What have you learnt from her and what will she miss not coming to Harnhill every day?

D - Remy, I know, will certainly miss the fuss everyone makes of her. She has her own ministry being a comfort to many. She will especially miss Becky's treats! She is the first guide dog I have ever had and came to me in 2015. I spent two and a half weeks being trained! Remy springs into action the minute I move. Having Remy has helped me to have a better and deeper understanding of what trust really means. When I take hold onto the handle of her harness, it is like putting my hand into the hand of Jesus. I have complete trust in her as I do with Jesus. One can liken the harness to Jesus. Remy is always happy and loves her work and she gets excited when I put the harness on her, but I think she really loves her free runs better.

M - You are a Canon in the church – what is that and how did it come about?

D - I was made an Honorary Canon of Gloucester Cathedral in Gloucester by Bishop Rachel Treweek on the 4th October 2018. It was something that came out of the blue and I could not quite believe it when I received the email inviting me. I was made a Canon for my dedicated ministry in the Diocese. Canons are ambassadors of the Diocese to the Cathedral and ambassadors of the Cathedral to the Diocese. I even have my own stall, number eight, in the Cathedral. As a priest I am licenced

to the South Cotswold Team Ministry and based in Fairford.

M - Can you recall a special occasion or event at Harnhill that made an impact on your life?

D - The 25th Anniversary celebrations of Harnhill Centre in 2011 was such a special day. There was a wonderful atmosphere. Everyone involved with Harnhill - past and present - were there including people whom we hadn't seen for years. We had a marquee on the 'tennis court' lawn and I made the celebration cake. There was such excitement that day, the morning started off very foggy but then the sun came out, God bathing us in His glory. We all felt very blessed.

M - What is your favourite passage of Scripture and why?

D - I have two favourite passages of scripture. The first is John 1:1-14 which tells us how Jesus came to be in our lives giving a firm foundation to our faith and the other is Psalm 139 which is so affirming especially when you feel down. It reminds me that "God enjoys who you are".

M - With which disciple do you identify and most and why?

D - That will be Peter, the Rock. He shows human frailty. He denies knowing Jesus yet Jesus still loved him. He is very human and not on a pedestal. I think where I differ from Peter is that I try to reflect before speaking whereas Peter reflected afterwards!

M - What are you going to do during your retirement?

D - Firstly, I am going to try not to take on too much! I have been working here at Harnhill and also the church and it has felt a bit top heavy. I want to explore other things, reaching out to others in a different way. I would like to join some of the various clubs and societies that Fairford offers such as U3A and the WI, also new hobbies such as learning how to crochet. I shall explore the possibility of being involved with the Anna Chaplaincy (part of the Bible Reading Fellowship) which offers spiritual ministry to older people. Also offering my services again as volunteer for an organisation called Retina UK which supports people with an inherited sight loss like the one I have.

When I was furloughed this year, I realised how extremely busy my life had become over recent years and it gave me an opportunity to step back and reflect on this. I imagine a lot of people have felt the same way.

M - We are going to miss you very much. What will you miss most and what won't you miss about coming to work every day?

D - I know I shan't miss the busyness that my life had become, but I definitely will miss the wonderful Christian fellowship and friendships. Coming to work and participating in the Christian life that Harnhill offers, which gave a rhythm to my day and life. I would like my pace of life to be slightly slower, perhaps even having a lie in now and then! Also having that flexibility to visit family, my daughter Lizzie who lives in Miami and Peter, my son, who lives in Bournemouth with his wife Sarah and daughter Liberty. Both places are great holiday destinations and also by the sea.

During the whole of my time at Harnhill I met so many people, from so many different walks of life, all of whom enriched my ministry at the Centre. I am so grateful for this and I will hold all those treasured memories close to my heart. Thank you so very much.

*Article by Martine Smith-Huvers
Member of the Residential Ministry Team*



Taking Time to Pause

I have been aware over the last few months that it is very easy to become distracted from God and His sovereignty and goodness, and instead focus on things that have allowed fear and, at times, disconnection to creep in. This has been especially relevant during the pandemic when 'normal' rhythms of life have been taken away.

In order to remain focused on God as the centre of everything, I have found some resources helpful: a combination of reading Scripture, books and reading or listening to a couple of 'Apps'.

The 'Lectio 365' App (which is available to be downloaded for free on both Android and Apple platforms) is a particularly helpful tool. It was devised by Pete Grieg (of 24/7 prayer) and focuses on the pattern of P. R. A. Y. (Pause; Reflect/

Rejoice; Ask; Yield) as a way of entering into God's presence. Each day's devotion is about 10 minutes long and can be either read or listened to and is a great way to start (or end) the day.

Continuing with the theme of focussing on God in all things, John Eldredge's book *Get Your Life Back* guides the reader through different ways of slowing down and developing simple practices to restore your soul. Two particular tools Eldredge uses, which I have found particularly helpful, are 'Benevolent Detachment' and the 'One Minute Pause'.

Have you ever felt that you are carrying the weight of the world on your shoulders? Feeling responsible for everyone/everything? Benevolent detachment is a means of letting go and allowing God to take the brunt of those things. It takes practice but is incredibly freeing.

Alongside this book, John Eldredge has developed an App called 'Pause.' This is an extra tool which can be used alongside the 'One Minute Pause'. This is a means of stopping (for a minute, or more) during the day to focus on God and re-centre. Again, very simple, but very effective!

*Alison Goddard
Member of the Ministry Team*



Janet cheerfully digging up the ground elder

What is ground elder?

'What is ground elder?' was one of the first questions I asked Simon Brigham when he was initiating me into the work of being a voluntary gardener at Harnhill. Now, about 9 months later, I'm an expert in recognizing ground elder from its leaves, its stems, its flowers or even its roots! Unfortunately, ground elder loves the garden at Harnhill as much as I do.

I would definitely not describe myself as a gardener! But one of the things which lockdown has taught many of us is to be open to new things. During the first lockdown, I was unable to be involved in many of the activities and voluntary work which I normally do, and so I needed some new ways of using my time constructively. When I received the email from Kate in which she mentioned the need for volunteer help in the garden, I thought 'Is this for me?'

I love God's creation, and I love being outdoors, but there was one potential problem. Although I am fit and active, I did have spinal surgery in 2014, and I wondered if my back would allow me to garden for a useful length of time. However, after praying, I decided to volunteer and give it a try. Since that time, I have spent about 5 hours at Harnhill almost every Friday. Amazingly I am able to keep gardening for that length of time, just with breaks for coffee and for a tasty lunch provided by Joanne or the Team. I have to eat my lunch alone because of COVID-19 restrictions but I do enjoy the short chats I have from time to time with staff members, and also, in the intervals between lockdown, with various visitors.

During many weeks of lockdown, Friday is the highlight of my week. It is the lovely peace and sense of God's presence which I am sure we have all experienced at Harnhill. I enjoy listening to the birds singing, and watching the changes in the garden in the different seasons. I still don't know the names of many of the plants in the garden, but I love the colours of the flowers and on the whole, I know which are the plants and which are the weeds! Recently I've enjoyed the snowdrops coming out telling us that spring is around the corner, and now I am looking forward to the daffodils. I must say I also enjoy the soak in a hot bath when I get home to soothe my tired body.

Ecclesiastes 3:1 tells us that "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven." For me, COVID-19 has, amongst other things, been a time for gardening, and I thank the Lord for providing this opportunity to serve Him in a new way.

*Janet Parke
Volunteer Gardener*

Simon Brigham writes: We are so grateful and would like to thank all those who have helped keep our gardens so lovely since Lockdown began last spring – Janet Parke, Sue Korda, Helen Cain, Richard & Christine Burston, Graham & Jo Giddens, and Geoff & Hope Price.

If anyone is interested in volunteering in the garden please contact Simon on 01285 850283 or send him an email: bookings@harnhillcentre.org.uk

Kevin of all trades

Since I married Kate in 2018 and moved to Harnhill, I have split my time between work needed at the Centre and my jobs working with men in recovery from addiction and with young people at an outdoor-pursuits centre.

The pandemic has, of course, changed everyone's lives and since the first lockdown last March it hasn't been possible to do all of my usual work. There is, however, always plenty to get on with here at Harnhill. Over the past 12 months I've been able to continue with painting and maintenance work, as well as completing the PAT testing and a variety of other tasks. This has very much been a team effort and with the mix of skills within the on-site team, it has meant that we've been able to tackle a wide range of projects and made significant progress during the lockdowns.

During the many hours spent painting, I've had the opportunity to put on headphones and listen to some great online teaching and preaching. A particular favourite during this season has been listening to talks by Timothy Keller. The lockdown for me has been a time of deeper learning and, combined with other prayer groups, attending church services online as well as the regular pattern of prayer in this community, has helped my relationship with God and deepened my knowledge of His love and the power of grace.

Of course, with all the practice, my painting skills have also developed! It has been great to contribute to the Centre and community in this way and feel part of what God is doing here. When you next come on-site, if you see me working on another project with a paintbrush in my hand, do come and say hello!

Kevin Derham



*Kevin painting
the bookshop*

Goodbye ...

Great is His Faithfulness

As I write this, I can't help but praise God for His faithfulness to me. He has been so good over the years, and I promise to not forget all His benefits.

My journey at Harnhill started just over two years ago. I knew that the Lord was leading me here for a period of transition from community life. For those who know my history, I served and trained with Ellel ministries for 9 years before going to Lee Abbey for a year. I felt that season was to train me for healing ministry and to serve others.

When I came to Harnhill, I knew that I was moving out into 'the outer world' after being in community for so long. Just as an eaglet has to leave the nest at some point in its development, I feel that it's time for me to move out of the nest of community and pursue the new season He has placed ahead of me.

At the end of 2019, I went on a mission to Maasai Land in Kenya, with grateful thanks to all who prayed for me! During that time, I met up with a friend I had known since high school. We rekindled our friendship and upon my return to the UK we decided to keep in touch. After a few months, Joseph and I realised that our friendship was developing into a relationship. Over the lockdown last year, we spent time praying (over the internet) and asking God to lead us in our new relationship and sought His will for us. So, we both were looking forward to meeting up again to see where things would lead.

In December last year, I travelled to Kenya for two weeks. Miraculously while Europe and the world was closing borders and flights were being cancelled, I made it to Heathrow for a last-minute flight to Kenya where my beloved was waiting for me. We spent time together and met each other's family. Eventually Joseph proposed to me at the airport just before my flight back to the UK and I said a big 'yes'!

Joseph is a man who loves the Lord and is committed to Him. We feel we have embarked on a journey of adventure with God as we see Him doing miraculous things since we last saw each other. For us to be able to move into our future and get married,

I am required to meet a certain income level before Joseph can be invited to come to the UK so that we can 'tie the knot'. God has miraculously made that possible by providing a job that not only meets the income requirement, but also provides accommodation for us both and a job offer for Joseph when he comes over.

We strongly believe that God has opened this door for us. We are looking forward to keeping connected with the ministry at Harnhill, and in the future to volunteering and being part of this vision as the Lord allows us. We are waiting to see how that will be!

God has and will always be faithful! Thank you for being such an amazing family to me!

*Joanne Rono
Former Assistant Chef*



Joanne and Joseph in Kenya

From our Guests ...

I have been given back a sense of calm and of leaving everything in God's hands - AS

Delicious food and generous portions - BA

Time alone with Jesus, away from distractions. Time to read, think, rest, absorb, re-prioritise - GN

Programme May - December 2021

'He brought me out into a spacious place; He rescued me because He delighted in me.' Psalm 18:19

We are pleased to be able to offer you a range of residential and non-residential retreats to enable you to enter into the presence of God.

May

18th - 23rd Personal Retreat

25th - 30th Personal Retreat

June

1st - 6th Personal Retreat

8th - 11th Walking into your Healing Retreat

11th - 13th Personal Retreat Weekend

15th - 20th Personal Retreat

22nd - 27th Personal Retreat

26th - Friends' Day

29th - 4th July Personal Retreat

July

6th - 9th Walking into your Healing Retreat

9th - 11th Personal Retreat Weekend

13th - 18th Personal Retreat*

* Singing Workshop happening on-site on Saturday

17th - 'A Time to Sing' Workshop

20th - 25th Personal Retreat*

* Quiet Day will be happening on-site on Saturday

24th - Quiet Day

27th - 30th Personal Retreat

30th - 1st Aug Silent Weekend Retreat

August

3rd - 6th Walking into your Healing Retreat

6th - 8th Personal Retreat Weekend

10th - 15th Personal Retreat

17th - 22nd Personal Retreat

24th - 29th Personal Retreat

31st - 3rd Sept Walking into your Healing Retreat

September

3rd - 5th Personal Retreat Weekend*

* Private booking in Barn complex on Saturday

8th - 12th Personal Retreat*

* Thanksgiving Day will be happening on-site on Saturday

11th - Thanksgiving Day

14th - 19th Personal Retreat

18th Ministry of Healing in the Local Church

21st - Quiet Day

21st - 26th Personal Retreat

28th - 1st Oct Walking into your Healing Retreat

October

1st - 3rd Silent Weekend Retreat

5th - 10th Personal Retreat

12th - 17th Personal Retreat

19th - 22nd Personal Retreat

26th - 29th Walking into your Healing Retreat

29th - 31st Personal Retreat Weekend

November

2nd - 5th Personal Retreat

5th - 7th Retreat Weekend for 20s and 30s

9th - 14th Personal Retreat

13th Ministry of Healing in the Local Church

16th - 21st Personal Retreat

23rd - 26th Walking into your Healing Retreat

26th - 28th Silent Weekend Retreat

30th - 5th Dec Personal Retreat

December

7th Advent Quiet Day

7th to 12th Personal Retreat

14th - 19th Personal Retreat

Residential Retreats

Walking Into Your Healing Retreat £295

These Retreats are aimed at those who are beginning their healing journey or feel that they need a fresh start. The teaching focuses on how we journey with Christ as we seek His healing. These Retreats are for 3 nights and you will receive two Prayer Ministry appointments, teaching and times of reflection and worship during your stay.

All stays are from 3 pm on the Tuesday until 12 pm on the Friday and includes full board.

Special offer! If you would like to extend your stay following your Walking into your Healing Retreat, there is an opportunity to book for 1 or 2 nights (where the programme allows) for a reduced price of £80 per night. To ensure availability, it is advised that you request this with your initial booking.

Personal Retreats

Come and step away from everyday life to spend time in the presence of God. Enjoy a spacious place to be renewed and restored.

These Retreats are aimed at those who want to take time away from everyday life or those who have attended a Walking into your Healing Retreat and wish to continue their journey of healing. We are pleased to offer one Prayer Ministry or one Spiritual Accompaniment appointment during your stay - please request at time of booking. Everyone is welcome to join in the rhythm of worship.

Personal Retreats offer flexibility depending on your needs. Choose 2 to 5 nights to suit your time, availability and budget.

Prices: 2 nights - £190, 3 nights - £285, 4 nights - £380, 5 nights - £475

All stays are from 3 pm on the day of arrival until 2 pm on the day of departure and includes full board.

Silent Weekend Retreats £190

These weekends offer an opportunity to step away in silence to spend time with God. There will be daily reflections offered by our Team but the weekend will be mostly self-directed, with an opportunity to have an appointment with a member of our Team for Spiritual Accompaniment.

Stays are from 4 pm on Friday until after lunch on Sunday and includes full board.

Retreat Weekend for those in their 20s and 30s £190

This is an opportunity for those who are in their 20s or 30s to step away from modern day life. This time is suitable for both 'seasoned' and 'novice' retreaters.

Stays are from 4 pm on Friday until after lunch on Sunday and includes full board.

Please refer to the Calendar overleaf for the Retreat dates

Not able to stay residentially?

There are a number of opportunities available to re-charge for a few hours ...

Please note, due to COVID-19 restrictions, all places will need to be pre-booked via the website or by phone.

Prayer and Compline (Wednesday evening)

This will be a very quiet time of reflection. The Barn will be open from 7 pm. Members of the Team will be available to pray with you from 7.30 to 8.30 pm when we will move into the night-time service of Compline or Taizé at 8.30 pm until 9 pm.

Healing Service and the Dwelling Place (Friday)

There is an opportunity to step away for a few hours each week to enjoy 'The Dwelling Place' in the peaceful surroundings of Harnhill.

There will be a **Healing Service at 12 noon**, after which there will be an opportunity to receive prayer for healing. The Barn will be open from 11 am for personal prayer and quiet reflection. (Please note, this is not a Communion Service and you will need to book to attend via the website or by phone). Pre-booked lunches will be available in the Harnhill Café* at 1 pm. After lunch, feel free to enjoy the garden or local footpaths or simply sit quietly in the Barn. We will close this time with evening prayer at 5.30 pm.

** Prices for lunch and all other refreshments will be available via the website.*

Morning Worship (Sunday morning)

At 10 am each Sunday, join the Harnhill Team for a traditional Morning Prayer service in the Barn or Harnhill Church. Refreshments will be available in the Henly Room after the service.

Please note that we are unable to offer personal prayer during this time.

Quiet Days

The following days have been planned for the coming few months ...

'Reflections in the book of Ruth'

**led by Rev'd Christine
Holzapfel**
Saturday 24th July
10 am - 4 pm

'Ruth' reminds us that, even when life isn't working out as we might have hoped, and in the face of life's many challenges, God is constant, working out His plans in the lives of His people, a story that leads on from Ruth to the life of Jesus and into our own lives.

£25 Bring your own lunch,
refreshments provided.

(Registration from 9.30 am)

'Walking with Wonder'

**led by Rev'd Paul &
Bryony Springate**
Tuesday 21st September
10 am - 4 pm

Walking with Jesus from Jerusalem to Emmaus and discovering the freedom and joy that enables us to run back with a story to tell.

£25 Bring your own lunch,
refreshments provided.

(Registration from 9.30 am)

Advent Quiet Day 'Light in Desolation'

led by Rev'd Paul Hunt
Tuesday 7th December
10 am - 4 pm

A day allowing some space, sharing and silence as we hear the Spirit speaking to us through the prophecy of Zechariah (Luke 1:78-79)

£25 Bring your own lunch,
refreshments provided.

(Registration from 9.30 am)

Training Opportunities

'The Ministry of Healing in the Local Church'

Online on Saturdays:
18th September and 13th November
10 am - 4 pm

The day is ideal for healing ministry groups and individuals with an interest in the Healing Ministry. The course will include theology of healing, the 'health' of the prayer minister and practical advice. We are currently only offering these courses online.

£20 Online only

Annual Events

Friends' Day

Saturday 26th June 2 - 4 pm

This event will be held online. The event is open to everyone who has signed up as a Friend of Harnhill. It is an opportunity to catch up with one another, worship and pray together, and spend some time being updated with all that is happening at the Centre. The Zoom link will be sent out nearer the time.

If you would like to become a Friend of Harnhill, please complete the online form on our website.

Thanksgiving Day

Saturday 11th September

A day of giving thanks for the Harnhill Centre.
Details to follow. Please save the date!

Booking Terms & Conditions

Residential Bookings

Full board includes breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Tea-making facilities are available in your room.

Payment terms:

- Where your intended stay is 8 or more days in advance of your arrival, a deposit of 50% of your stay cost is required within 5 days of receipt of invoice for your stay.
- The balance of your booking fee will be payable before departure.
- Where your intended stay occurs within 5 working days or less in advance of your arrival, the full value of your stay is payable upon receipt of invoice.

We need to receive your deposit (or full payment if your booking is within 5 working days of your intended stay) as set out above to confirm your stay. Please Note: If we do not receive your payment within this time frame, we will cancel your booking.

Cancellation by us – we reserve the right to cancel any booking at our discretion in certain or unforeseen circumstances. In this eventuality you will be offered an alternative date for your booking or a refund.

Cancellation by you – we ask for the earliest possible notice of cancellations so that any vacancy can be offered to others. Notification of cancellation must be received either by telephone or email to bookings@harnhillcentre.org.uk.

Refunds are calculated in line with the amount of notice of cancellation given, as follows:

- 28 days or more before your stay starts. The Centre will return your payment in full less an administration charge of 10% of your booking fee.
- Between 14-28 days before your stay starts. The Centre will refund 50% of your booking fee.
- Between 7-14 days before your stay starts. The Centre will refund 25% of your booking fee.
- Under 7 days before your stay starts. No refund will be given and your booking fee will be payable in full.

Under special circumstances and at the sole discretion of the Centre we may offer a one-off transfer to a similar residential booking. Arrangements for any agreed transfer must be made at the time of the transfer being agreed. Additional fees may apply and subject to an administration charge of £10.

Day Event Bookings

Cancellation – we ask for the earliest possible notice of cancellations so that your place can be offered to others. Notification of cancellation must be received either by telephone or email to the Centre's bookings@harnhillcentre.org.uk. For any cancellations made within 5 working days of the event, a refund of the event fee paid less £5 to cover administration costs will be made. No refund will be given for cancellations made within less than 5 working days before the event date.

Cancellation by us – we reserve the right to cancel any booking at our discretion in certain or unforeseen circumstances. In this eventuality you will be offered an alternative date for your booking or a refund.

Car Park: We have two car parks available in addition to disabled parking spaces. Cars are parked at the owner's risk.

Insurance: Guests are responsible for the insurance of their own effects while at the Centre. We strongly recommend guests take advantage of travel insurance to cover cancellations where possible.

COVID-19 Booking Conditions

Please contact us immediately on 01285 850283 during office hours if prior to your planned visit -

- You have symptoms of COVID-19; or
- You are isolating because you or a member of your household has been in contact with someone experiencing these symptoms; or
- Your locality is subject to a local, regional or national restriction.

COVID-19 Precautions while required

We are taking every precaution on-site, but you will need to understand that we are unable to guarantee a virus-free environment. Guest numbers will be limited each week and our small residential Team will be looking after guests to ensure we can maintain 2-metre social distancing at meal times and within communal rooms. Masks must be worn in accordance with the prevailing government regulations. Please remember: **HANDS - FACE - SPACE** NHS Test & Trace QR Codes are available on-site to register via the NHS Test & Trace App.

The Team will also ensure a regular cleaning regime of any communal spaces with particular attention to high-touch areas. Meal tables will be sanitised between mealtimes and the Butler's Pantry where we would normally serve drinks and snacks will be closed for the duration of your retreat. Contactless payment is facilitated up to the prevailing limits per transaction.

Appointments

During times of prayer ministry, we will need to maintain social distancing in a well-ventilated room or in an open space, weather permitting.

Bookshop

Our bookshop will be open, but we ask that you maintain social distancing and do not handle the books or merchandise until you have decided to purchase an item. Any items you have touched but decide not to buy must be put into the quarantine box. These items will be removed from sale for 72 hours.

The Friends of Harnhill



The Rev'd Christine Holzapfel, Chair of the Working Group, shares news about the 'Friends' and all they are currently involved in.

Many of you reading this will be Friends of Harnhill and some will have been Friends for a long time. You will have seen the life and work of Harnhill develop over the years, as facilities have changed, staff have come and gone, and the ministry has evolved. From the very beginning the Centre has depended on and very much appreciated in its calling and ministry, the support of our Friends.

In the past, the emphasis for Friends was on fundraising. In recent years, that emphasis has shifted to prayer with a strong belief and a great deal of evidence that God will meet all our needs, including financial ones, through our bringing them to God in prayer. It is often through prayer that God prompts us to give.

One of the changes in Friends' administration in recent times is to no longer require an annual subscription to belong. And registering to be a Friend is now possible online through the website. We remain deeply appreciative of all the regular giving by Friends to the work of the Centre and also generous gifts that have enabled us to undertake building improvements.

One piece of work initiated by Friends in recent years has been to produce a leaflet encouraging people to think about leaving a legacy to Harnhill in a will. The Centre has greatly benefitted from such legacies.

Our Friends live all over the country (and the world) and the monthly prayer request letter that is sent to them keeps them in touch and equips them to offer informed prayers to God for the work of the Centre and its people.

It also endeavours to share news of where prayer has been answered and encourages them to express thanks for this. In pre-COVID-19 days, a monthly prayer meeting was held in the Barn at Harnhill after lunch on a Friday and there was also a group that met every two months on an evening in Swindon. These meetings, however, could only be attended by a handful of people who lived locally and who were available at these times. Since January of this year, our meetings have been on Zoom and we have been joined by around 40 people, from all over the country, each time. As I write, we are preparing for our first Friends online social gathering on a Friday morning, an opportunity to catch up with old friends not seen since the first lockdown last year and to make some new ones.

Each year we have held an annual Friends' Day at the Centre, with a time of worship, fellowship, prayer and hearing how the work of the Centre has progressed over the year. It wasn't possible to meet last year because of the COVID-19 restrictions, but we are very much hoping that we can do something for Friends' Day this year. The success of our Zoom meetings has encouraged us to look at possibilities of organising a Friends' Day event that will include an online element that will enable Friends who are unable to travel to Harnhill to join us for this day. We will let Friends know what is planned and when in due course.

For some time, we have thought about how we can support our Friends in their own lives and ministries and encourage a deeper sense of connection with the Centre. Development of 'The Harnhill Way of Life' and the monthly production of podcasts to inform and illustrate this have been well received by those who share Harnhill mission and values. All Friends also receive 'The Harvest', a current programme of activities and events and a simple prayer diary.

A small Working Group undertakes to listen to God for inspiration and guidance in the activities of the Friends, to produce the prayer request letter, organise meetings, including Friends' Day, and to read and respond to the emails that come into Friends email box. We meet every couple of months and the Group comprises Andrew Mann (secretary), Rev'd Audrey Martin-Doyle, Geoff and Hope Price, Christine Burston, Martine Smith-Huvers (staff representative), and me as chair. Martine undertakes the administrative work of registering and welcoming new Friends and Matt Goddard, Development Officer, sends the twice monthly mailings.

If you would like to become a Friend, you would be most welcome; and if you are already a Friend but you are not able to access the emailed information and you would like to, please do let us know, through the website www.harnhillcentre.org.uk or by emailing – friends@harnhillcentre.org.uk or by phoning the Centre on 01285-850283.

Testimony

This month marks the 4th anniversary of when I first came forward to receive prayer at a Friday morning Healing Communion Service at Harnhill.

My mother had been diagnosed with liver cancer, our daughter was awaiting surgery for her gall bladder which had been larger each time it was scanned, so could be malignant, and I was having surgery for my bile duct which I had been told was distended and blocked, so was almost certainly cancerous. I had also been told that a scan had revealed patches in both my lungs, so it looked like it had already spread. All three of us had problems in the same area of our bodies at the same time. I received prayer and was anointed with oil for myself and on behalf of my mother and daughter. I felt peaceful and reassured. As I walked past the bookstall afterwards, a prayer journal grabbed my attention. The words 'Faith, Hope and Love' on the cover summed up us three. My mother was grounded in faith, Hope is my name, and my daughter is full of love! I had just filled my previous prayer journal, so I had to buy it and it is still the one I'm writing in today.

As planned, I had the major surgery which involved creating a new bile duct from a section of my small bowel. On my last visit to my mother, I took her to see her doctor who asked her what she wanted to happen if she deteriorated. Mum said: "I don't want to go to hospital again. I want to go to heaven". She needed an increasing amount of care during the time I was in hospital, and was very keen to see me. Geoff, my husband, drove me to visit her 10 days after my operation even though I felt weak. Holding my hands and those of my brother's, she said "I'm ready to go, please ask the Lord to take me". We prayed and recalled Bible promises. Early the next morning, her prayer was answered, with our son and me holding her hands and praying her into heaven. We thanked the Lord for such a peaceful ending after a faith-filled life.

Ten days later, I was given the good news that an examination of my bile duct showed that it had been blocked by scar tissue - the result of previous surgery and was not malignant. My lungs continued to be monitored but a scan a month later showed a large tumour on the thyroid which was potentially cancerous and had to be removed as soon as possible.

At exactly the same hour on the same day as my thyroid operation in another hospital, my daughter was undergoing gall bladder surgery. Her histology reports and mine were all benign, so we were both in the clear - praise the Lord! The patches on my lungs did not change and were not considered problematic.

Geoff and I went to Nicholaston House Christian Retreat Centre on the Gower coast soon after the good news about the thyroid tumour. The speaker asked for a volunteer and everyone invited the Holy Spirit to show words or pictures about me. The Holy Spirit showed one lady (who didn't know me at all) that I was climbing a steep cliff, mounting each crag revealing more cliffs beyond still to climb. It had certainly felt like that for the previous 7 months - since my bile duct had first been investigated, then three diagnoses of certain or probably cancer; alongside supporting my daughter in her waiting and my mother through her dying. Then the lady's face brightened and she said, "Now I can see you're at the top - in the sunshine!" What a blessing! This confirmed that the Lord had brought me through the testing times to victory.

The next time we were at a Friday service at Harnhill, I went forward to a prayer duo. They asked what they could pray for me. I replied:

“I have come to rejoice and give thanks!
My daughter and I don't have cancer, and
my Mum had a peaceful ending to a fulfilled life.”

We gave thanks together to the Lord for bringing us through those roller-coaster months.

All glory to Him!

*Hope Price
Spring 2021*



Hope, Naomi and Mum

Thinking about setting up a Prayer Ministry Team in your church?

We are running our training course
***The Ministry of Healing
in the Local Church***

Online on Saturdays
18th September and 13th November
from 10 am to 4 pm

The cost is £20 per delegate.

Book online or telephone 01285 850283
or email bookings@harnhillcentre.org.uk

The Touch of the Father's Hand

During the first lockdown I came to realise that for me creativity and faith are closely linked. I have always loved colour, texture, nature, and the changing seasons.

Several years ago, in November, I saw a poppy growing in the guest car park. It was odd as poppies are normally found growing in the summer months. I love poppies and seeing this delicate flower made my day. I felt that this was a little creative nugget that the Lord gave me. We need to have our eyes open wide not to miss things. Now when I remember that moment in my mind's eye, it is like a black and white photo with a scarlet poppy in the middle of the car park. I can recall that image and savour it.

In February when we experienced the sub-zero temperatures, a friend mentioned that the lower lane out of Harnhill had beautiful icicles dangling in the hedgerows by the side of the road. So after work we went to have a look at these icicles. I really didn't know what to expect. As cars had driven along the lane, puddles in the road had splashed up on the bushes and grasses and the droplets of water had frozen where they had landed. The spectacle was something I had never seen before. The hedgerow looked like it had been sprayed with a fine translucent shimmer. It was a stunning sight. I was once again overwhelmed with God's incredible gift of beauty to us. These gifts of beauty and creation are around us each day. The ordinary, with the touch of our Father's hand, is turned into the extraordinary. The dirty road puddles sprayed onto the overgrown weeds at the side of the road were transformed into bejewelled frozen works of art. This is the Lord's gift to us.

*Janie Cameron
Member of the Residential Ministry Team*



Fundraising and Finance

In the last Harvest magazine I shared something of the financial experience of COVID-19 up to that time, and how we had been blessed with financial support in so many ways. As we approach April 2021, we are now preparing for the audit for the financial year ending 31st December 2020, which takes place just after Easter.

We have been safely held through this pandemic beyond our hopes and protected from some of the immensely hard decisions that many have been faced with having to take. This has been due, in no small part, to benefitting from another legacy received at the beginning of this year. That, in addition to generous donations and Government funding is ensuring that we will be able to open our doors again and welcome our furloughed staff and guests back on-site when we are permitted to do so.

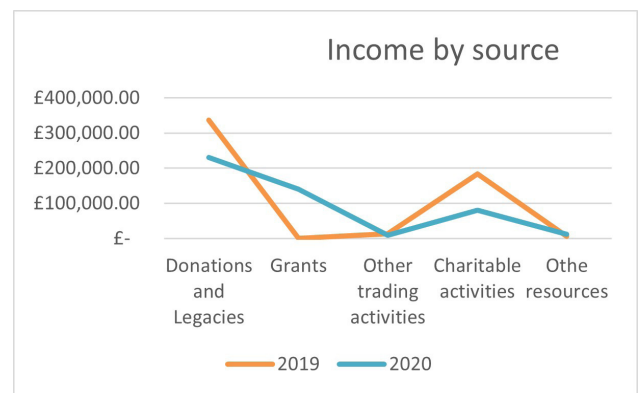
So, what of the impact of COVID-19, a year on from the first of what have been three closures for the Centre?

Well, despite a sense that perhaps all we could do was stand still and hold things safely through God's grace, much has continued to evolve. We have felt God leading us in areas in which we should focus energy and resources for the future. The Café continues to be a real aspiration and Matt Goddard is now actively seeking funding to bring this to fruition. Having reflected hard and prayed about the possibilities, it has been decided that the Caravan Certified Location, which was spoken of in the last edition, is not the right thing for us right now. We will continue to discern how we can use our land in ways which can benefit the Centre, its guests and the environment.

We have kept expenditure as low as possible, done as much as we could in-house, asked for the continued perseverance of many of our staff enduring furlough for far longer than any of us could have imagined, and explored more ways of securing funding and income for the future.

The pandemic opened up new avenues for delivering ministry via technology and this has been

a blessing in unexpected ways, enabling us to reach people who would otherwise have remained out of reach. We were fortunate to receive a small grant to enable us to convert some of our programme content to formats deliverable online in the early part of the pandemic, and that facilitated the online teaching days, the licenses required to offer online meetings and the introduction of the recent podcasts about Harnhill's Way of Life, all of which have been so well received and we are grateful to all who have made this possible.



Last year we undertook the five-yearly quinquennial survey of the property. Fortunately, this didn't identify any undue surprises. The report outlines, over a period of five years, the works required to ensure the buildings are maintained satisfactorily. Prepared on the basis that no maintenance is routinely undertaken, the total projected cost is eye watering. However, we have been, and continue to be, good stewards of the Centre. Many things identified are taken care of year on year in our rolling programme of maintenance undertaken both through the skills of those who work within or volunteer for the Centre, and a network of contractors we call upon for skilled work.

As it is, we do face:

- needing some roofing work done on the main House and Barn;
- repairs to the boundary stone walls;
- potential underground drainage work;
- replacement windows in the Stables;

and that does not include our beautiful Dovecote which we look longingly at, imagining all the ways we could use it if we could renovate it!



View of Dovecote across the lawn

Through age, the computer systems at the Centre have become increasingly unreliable and at risk of falling over completely. We will need to invest in an upgrade to enable us to work efficiently and continue to deliver the ministry as widely as possible.



Looking ahead, we are exploring how we might be able to make Harnhill a “greener” site, reducing our carbon footprint, with a particular wish to improve the heating system which is reliant upon several aging oil-fired boilers. Heating in the last 10 years has cost over £250,000.

And then there are smaller things - David and Kevin really need a new shed to store the ride-on mower; Simon needs a maintenance workshop; and we want to improve the insulation in both the Barn and the House.

It goes without saying that we are immensely grateful for all the regular donations, but for the small stuff, and if you purchase through Amazon as many of us do, would you consider using 'Smile Amazon'? Amazon donates to a chosen charity a small percentage of your order value. We have registered Harnhill as a recognized charity to support. Log into 'Smile Amazon' <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/> and choose to support the Harnhill Centre.

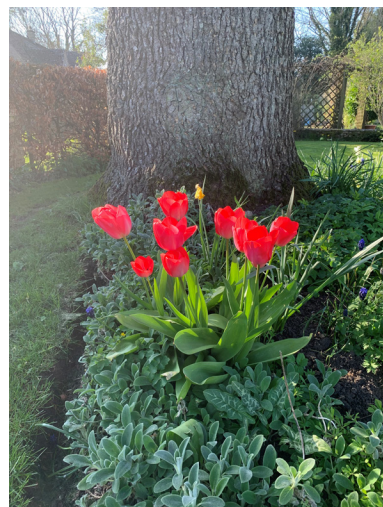


Rachel L Severn
Bursar

From our Guests . . .

I am overwhelmed by the generosity of spirit in those who give their time and attention to praying for others through healing ministry - CR

This is a special place where we have time to hear from God. ...As ever; I go back home with more than expected - MV



'Arts and Crafts'

**Come and spend some time
at Harnhill working on
your own art or craft project**

Saturdays 2 - 5 pm
19th June
21st August
16th October
18th December

Bring your own materials

Individual work areas will be available
in the Henly Room and Barn or in the garden.

Refreshments will be available
to purchase in the Café

Book your place on the website.



Thinking of a Church Away Day?

Thinking of a Church Residential Retreat?

Does your Diocese hire facilities for a day or Residential Team or Group Retreats?

Could you help the Harnhill Centre kickstart bookings for 2022 by coming to the Centre and using the facilities here?

Home from Home

The Manor House can be hired for weeks and weekends by churches or groups on a full board basis. The residential complex of seven twin-bedded rooms and six single rooms, all of which are en-suite gives the Centre a 20-bed capacity.

The Barn, a full-equipped conference facility, is the perfect location for small or large church groups looking for a completely self-contained venue. The Barn is available to hire with the Manor House or separately. The Barn can hold up to 150 people (COVID-19 restrictions permitting) and is equipped with multimedia facilities. Both the Barn and the Manor House have fully-equipped kitchens.

Teaching and training

If you don't plan to bring your own speaker/s with you, the Team at Harnhill can provide input for your group in terms of talks, worship and prayer, on the healing ministry and its associated subjects.

For more detailed information and rates, please contact the bookings team on 01285 850283.



*View of the
Manor House*

Welcome ...

I was brought up in South Africa in a Christian family and gave my life to the Lord when I was 16. Everyone in my family is a Christian and my parents and I were deeply involved in the ministry of music within the churches in which we have worshipped. When I was nearly 13, we moved from one part of Johannesburg across the city to a completely different suburb. We joined a Presbyterian Church and both Mum and I sang in the choir. My Dad was approached to lead the choir and play the organ which he did until he died in 1998. My mother, who is an accomplished pianist, valiantly took over from Dad on the organ bench. Music has played a big part in my life ever since. I led the small choir in my local church for many years.

I completed my first degree at the University of the Witwatersrand and then moved to Cape Town where I pursued graduate studies in biblical and religious studies. After graduating, I first worked as a research assistant at the University of Cape Town (UCT) and then for the Labour Law Unit based at UCT. I met my late husband in the St George's Singers, a chamber choir in Cape Town. We shared a love of choral music. Once a month, the St George's Singers sang a setting of the liturgy with orchestra and soloists as part of the communion service. I learned to sing various settings of the mass - by Haydn, Mozart, Dvorák, Bruckner and many others. Each year, at Easter time, we would perform either the St Matthew or the St John Passion by JS Bach. We also performed many Requiem settings, namely Mozart, Brahms, Britten, Fauré, Duruflé amongst others. It was a wonderful time and I learnt such a lot. I very much enjoy sharing my love of music with the Team at Harnhill and more widely, and recognise that it has played and continues to play an important part in my spiritual journey.

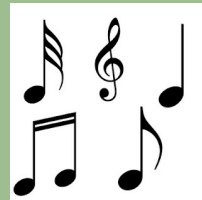
My late husband, Timothy, and I moved to the UK in 1989 after spending some time living in New Zealand. For the first few years in the UK, we lived in various counties eventually settling in Oxfordshire. For the last 28 years I worked at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies as the academic registrar. My role at OCHJS changed over the years and I thoroughly enjoyed working with students and academics. I made many lasting

friendships and very much appreciated the stimulating academic environment. I met some of the people whose books I had read and research I had referenced in my own essays and dissertations! In 2000 I joined the Oxford Bach Choir and hope to continue to be a member of the first sopranos. I cannot wait to be singing in person again.

A sense of vocation has been with me for many years, but it remained without shape or identity, just a prompting which did not go away. A sense of calling to Harnhill and the healing prayer ministry has taken time to discern and mature. I first had a sense of calling to the healing ministry after my first visit to Harnhill in 2011 which was a transforming experience. From this grew a sense of identity and vocation. I applied to take part in the mentorship programme here at Harnhill and David Wells was assigned to guide me through. I became a volunteer prayer minister and it was a privilege to come in house over the weekends to help out. I hoped and prayed that there would be an opportunity to apply to be part of the Residential Team. When a vacancy came up, I had a sense that God was nudging me to 'step out of the boat'. I feel that this move is like a piece of a jigsaw slotting into place. I have a heart to listen and to walk alongside God's people who are hurting and suffering in mind, body or spirit. To be part of Harnhill, the Ministry Team and to journey with the guests is an amazing privilege and blessing.



*Martine Smith-Huvers
Member of the Residential Ministry Team*



'A Time to Sing'

Singing Workshop with Sue Perks

17th July
10 am - 4 pm

£25 Bring your own lunch,
refreshments included
(Registration from 9.30 am)

Please see the website for further details.

The Harnhill Community

‘A Way of Life’

VALUES AND MISSION

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| Called to healing | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We are called to be a healing community before God: seeking to be healed and to minister healing |
| In Christ | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our identity is in Christ: what we do reflects who we are |
| The Body of Christ | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We are the Body of Christ: each part is of equal value |
| Committed to love | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We are committed to building safe and supportive relationships with one another, living into God’s calling with unity |

We seek to be:

ROOTED and GROWING in GOD through:

- Humility
- Prayer
- Trust

BLESS OTHERS through:

- Hospitality
- Service
- Listening prayer



Bringing healing and wholeness through Jesus Christ

Please contact the office for reservations and bookings or visit our website for more information.

The Harnhill Centre of Christian Healing

Harnhill

Cirencester

Gloucestershire

GL7 5PX

Tel: 01285 850283

Email: office@harnhillcentre.org.uk

Web: www.harnhillcentre.org.uk



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