

HARVEST

The Harnhill Centre Magazine

Summer/Autumn 2022



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Programme for July to December 2022

‘What a friend we have in Jesus’

Over many years, the staff and volunteers at the Harnhill Centre have worked together to serve and bless in many ways. This was evident again during preparations for the wedding of Joan and Joseph back in February. Joan was a member of the staff at Harnhill and her relationship with Joseph blossomed after a trip she made back to Kenya. We were delighted when the news of their engagement was announced last year. As Joan had lived as part of the residential team at Harnhill she was able to be married in the parish church of St Michael and All Angels next to the Centre, and the team hosted the reception.

Weddings are not regular events at Harnhill, and the planning commenced several months before. It was a real example of community and friendship (and a lot of hard work!), with many working together to prepare. The chef team created a wonderful menu, table decorations were designed and constructed, the Barn decked out with Kenyan-themed decor, garden pots were refreshed with seasonal flowers, the gravel in the grounds raked, and the wedding service prepared. On the day itself the sun shone brightly as everyone gathered in the church. One of the readings the couple chose for the service was Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NRSV):

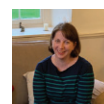
‘Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm; but how can one keep warm alone? And though one might prevail against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken.’

Although chosen for a wedding service, these verses are not specifically about marriage, but rather about friendship and how we all need good friends to help and encourage us. King Solomon wrote down his thoughts having watched some pilgrims travelling together, noticing two are better than one, because of the way they could support,

protect, and encourage each other during their journey. It is a reminder that true healthy friendship is a blessing. When we are alongside and supporting one another, we can find new strength, which is an important reminder as we face so much difficulty in our world.

The wedding was, of course, a joyful day at Harnhill, but I was acutely aware our celebrations were in sharp contrast to the early events in Ukraine, as the shocking news of the conflict was unfolding on our television screens. However, even though war was accelerated by one man, it has been heartening to witness huge numbers across the world extending the hand of friendship and support towards Ukrainians. Many are doing this together through prayer and practical means, by sending supplies and hosting refugees in their own homes. Members of the Harnhill community are part of this, alongside many other churches, individuals, and organisations. It is a reminder of how life should be, but also a reminder of how more kindness and friendship is needed throughout many situations in our world.

Jesus talked about radical friendship with his disciples. He spoke about there being no greater love than when someone lays down their life for their friends, which is exactly what Jesus did for each of us. His friendship is available to everyone in every circumstance. It is the most beautiful gift and the most important friendship of all. As life continues at Harnhill, our desire is to reflect the friendship of Jesus. In a world where friendships can be fleeting or surface-level, where hatred is so easily expressed, and where wars are started, we aim to build this community with our identity firmly rooted in the friendship and love of Christ. We desire His friendship to be reflected to all who visit the Centre, to those seeking healing from trauma and damaging experiences, and towards all needing rest and restoration



Rev'd Kate Picot
Director

A Harnhill Wedding



Joseph and Joan Gucu

The sun shone brightly and our wedding day began. Family and friends gathered to celebrate with us!

I must say there was a big build up in preparation. A lovely team from Harnhill worked tirelessly pouring love and devotion in preparation for the big day! We are so grateful for this family that rallied around us and demonstrated the pure love of Jesus through service!

Many of you are aware and have been praying with us in the waiting. There's nothing more we could say as we beheld the faithfulness of God and His love on and even months before our special day.

Joseph and I have known each other for a long time. We worshipped together at our church in Kenya. We lost contact after I moved to the UK. By God's Grace and His timing, He reunited us and we were able to meet during one of my visits to Kenya. Our friendship grew deeper and deeper and our relationship blossomed. We both love the Lord and have a passion to serve and bless others. We know that God has brought us together for a deeper purpose for His kingdom's sake.

We are looking forward with great anticipation for what lies ahead and knowing that in whatever challenges we go through in life we are not alone!

We thank each and everyone of you who prayed, served or supported us in any way. Blessings to you from our Heavenly Father.

Joan Gucu (née Rono)



Trustees of the Harnhill Centre

On February 24th the Trustees met with Kate for the day at Jill's home to talk and pray.

As a relatively new team of Trustees, it seemed important to have some unhurried time to get to know each other better, and to spend time talking and praying about the various aspects of Harnhill that we seldom have enough time to dwell on.

It was also a good opportunity to fill in a little of the back story of the Centre for those who have joined us more recently. You will see some new faces here and a brief personal profile of each Trustee. I thank God for the way He has called each one, and for their willingness to commit to the wellbeing, governance and ministry of Harnhill.

We have been considering over the last couple of years whether or not we should pursue becoming an 'Acknowledged Religious Community'. You may have heard Kate speak on our *Way of Life*, what it means to be a community, and we had wondered whether we should formalise that process, but after some prayer and discussion we agreed that we do not feel called to go further down this path, but to continue building community life as we currently are.

We are always looking at how best to staff the Centre in order for every member of the team to flourish and develop their giftings, and we are aware that as we come out of Covid-19 and the ministry builds up again, we now need to increase our numbers. We were fortunate to secure some funding recently for two ministry team members for the next 3 years.

We looked at how we might reform the marketing committee with a view to publicising the availability of our facilities for rent to support the ministry.

All in all we had a wonderful day, we felt God's presence and agreed that it would be very good to meet for a day on a regular basis, maybe twice a year.

Binnie Rank
Chair of Trustees

Rev'd Tim Hastie-Smith



Tim is Vicar of Bibury with Barnsley and Winson, and was formerly Vicar of Kempford. All of these villages, along with Harnhill form a part of the South Cotswolds Team ministry. Tim was National

Director of Scripture Union until 2019 and before that was Headmaster of Dean Close, Cheltenham. He is married to Joanne, they have three children, two grandchildren, and a three-year old labrador.

No stranger to disappointment Tim is a life long Tottenham Hotspur and Gloucester RUFC fan.

Tim is currently Diocesan Missioner for New Worshipping Communities, and Ambassador for the Sportily Project, which aims to establish new youth churches through the medium of sport.

He loves reading and the theatre and has been promising/threatening to write his first book for the last five years. 2022 might just be the year... He is profoundly deaf and relies for hearing on the miracle of cochlear implants.

Richard Hawes

I have had the privilege to have been involved with Harnhill since its beginning. My wife Nesta and I were part of helping with the auctions to raise funds to buy Harnhill and to help clear out the house ready for the alterations to begin.



Little did I know that four years later I would become ill with cancer and how important Harnhill would become for me.

One Wednesday evening service during worship God spoke to me personally and with the support from all the inner and outside teams got me through this most difficult time.

I know how very important Harnhill is for enabling others to find a relationship with God in their time of need.

Jill Kingston

I am married to Martin and we live in Kemble. We have three children and seven grandchildren.

In the past I have been very involved in Russia and Ukraine making church links and working with Christian drug rehabilitation centres. The current situation in Ukraine has caused me to reconnect with many people. More recently I have been involved in Ethiopia running conferences for women.



I first heard about Harnhill about 30 years ago and was so drawn to it and felt then God was saying I would one day be involved with it. So I was delighted to be asked to be a Trustee when we moved into the area, as I feel that what the Centre has to offer in terms of the time and opportunity to go deeper with God is so vital in our busy world.

Rev'd Lindiwe Maseko



Lindiwe was born in Zimbabwe and has lived in the UK most of her life. She studied Religion and Human Rights, and Theology. She has worked at Tearfund, a Christian International Development agency, where she was part of a team that empowered communities to lift themselves out of material and

spiritual poverty. She has just completed her curacy in South East London and currently ministers in a parish in Kingston. Lindiwe loves being a Trustee at Harnhill.

She enjoys reading, listening to audio books, sports, knitting and crocheting. She is looking forward to seeing what God has in store for Harnhill in the future.

Binnie Rank

I have been involved with Harnhill from the early days and I was honoured to be invited by Arthur Dodds to become a Trustee in 1988.

Since then, there have been many changes of team, volunteers and trustees, but the constant thread has been a community of Christians who love and want to serve Jesus. God has been faithful throughout the years.



Harnhill has been a place where I have often been challenged to take responsibilities which I would rather not have taken! I have felt out of my depth more often than I can remember, never more so than when I was asked to take on the Chair of Trustees when David Wells retired 5 or 6 years ago. I resisted as hard as I could, but in time realised that God knew who I was and what I was capable of, so I surrendered!

God has upheld the Centre by providing for us in every way - people, finances and new trustees. As you will see we have several who are relatively new to the Board and I am so grateful for each one.

Colin Rank

Born the second child of three with two sisters, I grew up in Sussex and was educated locally and in Somerset before leaving school at 18. I enjoyed three careers over 51 years. Firstly, in the food industry, then in the motor trade and finally in farming. Some consultancy work and charitable work followed before taking up a position as chairman of the Diocesan Board of Finance in Gloucester, a role I carried for 5 years.

My interests cover mechanical themes, from a love of aviation, cars, and motor bikes to playing drums, making films, sailing, skiing, and trying to live a life as an active Christian. I have been a school governor, a charitable trustee, and a synod representative.

I am married with three children and 10 grandchildren. I spend many happy hours maintaining the house and garden and mending anything that breaks for anyone who cares to trust me with their precious broken woodwork. I love turning wood and pottering around in my workshop.



Rev'd Scott Watts

Scott became a Trustee in 2021 and feels privileged to be part of Harnhill. He is currently team vicar in the Vale and Cotswold Edge Team Ministry and serves six parishes along the Cotswold Edge/Vale of Evesham.

Scott's background is in healthcare chaplaincy. Prior to his current post, he has served as a chaplain, initially in a hospice and then in a district general hospital. Scott is passionate about excellence in pastoral care



and has an interest in healing, wholeness and reconciliation. He is married to Ros and they are currently 'owned' by two Basset Hounds - Marigold and Hector!

Since this was written, we are very sorry to report that Rev'd Scott Watts, who joined us as a Trustee last year, has given us notice of his resignation as he is moving away from this area to a new job as a Hospital Chaplain. We have appreciated his presence at our meetings, his support and the commitment he has made to the life of Harnhill. He has made a considerable contribution in the short time we have known him. As much as we will miss him, we know he will be greatly valued in his next role, and we send him every blessing.

Rank

Binnie

From our Guests . . .

I came anxious, tired and hurting and I leave refreshed, expectant for the future and such a greater understanding of how much God loves me. - PE

The food was delicious and varied. - RH

The team have been very kind and welcoming. It has been lovely to be hosted, welcomed, cooked for and thought of. Thank you, it's been very refreshing staying here. - SE



Mental Health First Aid England (MHFA)

is an internationally recognised training programme which we are really pleased to be offering at Harnhill this year. The tranquil, nurturing environment at Harnhill is the perfect space to complete the training.

The MHFA instructors are Becca Faal and Helen Styles from Styles and Faal Safeguarding, a training and consultancy business. They have extensive experience around mental health and wellbeing. These courses are open to anyone with an interest in mental health who wants to support others more effectively in their local community or organisation.

One-day Mental Health Champion

28th June or 27th September 2022 £150

- Recognise the main signs and symptoms of common mental health issues.
- Provide initial support and guide a person towards appropriate professional help.
- Be mindful of your own wellbeing.
- Develop an understanding of how you can create and maintain a healthier workforce or community.

Two-day Mental Health First Aid

11th & 12th July 2022 £250

- Practical skills to spot the triggers and signs of mental health issues.
- Confidence to step in, reassure and support a person in distress.
- Enhanced interpersonal skills such as non-judgemental listening.
- Knowledge to help someone recover their health by guiding them to appropriate support..
- Be mindful of your own wellbeing.
- Develop an understanding of how they can create and maintain a healthier workforce or community.

During the day we will take some time to stop, reflect and focus on your own wellbeing using the beautiful grounds at Harnhill.

To book one of the above courses, please email admin@stylesandfaalsafeguarding.com.

There may be limited availability of accommodation at Harnhill for those travelling from further afield. Please contact the Harnhill Centre directly for more details.

How I found myself at Harnhill

I was relaxing in the garden of my previous home on a sunny day in the early Summer of 2012 when suddenly my peace was disturbed. A huge British Airways aircraft was flying overhead, at about 4,000ft, on its way into Heathrow Airport. It was so low that I could read the writing on the undercarriage! It was the start of 18 months of noise, disruption and eventual relocation.

After many months of unsuccessful searching for a new home, I said to a friend who had been helping with my search "Let's have day off and go out for the day. Where would you suggest?". Her response was "My mother always spoke highly of Bourton on the Water"; and so it was decided. We would go and take a look at this Cotswold attraction.

As my friend was a Blue Badge holder, we were able to park in the High Street. Standing on the pavement in front of us we saw, to our amazement, a stand of Christian tracts and cards. Getting out of the car and walking around the corner, I saw a sign for *Shalom*, a Christian bookshop and café. I realized that the stand must belong to them, although why it was standing on the pavement I have never discovered.

In Bourton we came across an Estate Agent with two properties that looked promising. The outcome was that I purchased one of the houses which is now my present home. Shortly after moving in, I visited *Shalom* for a coffee. On the table was a leaflet about the Harnhill Centre of Christian Healing. I tucked it into my bag where it remained for about 18 months. I always meant to read it but renovating the new house and finding a new Church took up all of my time.

One day the Holy Spirit prompted me to read the Harnhill leaflet. I attended the Friday morning communion services for a couple of weeks. One Friday I found myself sitting next to Binnie Rank (now Chair of Harnhill Board of Trustees) who asked me how I had come to Harnhill. I said I had come with a view to volunteering. She introduced me to the Director, Rev'd Kate Picot and an appointment was made for me to meet with Kate on Friday 30th October 2015. During our meeting, Kate said "Come and be among us for few weeks". Those few weeks have turned into 6 years, during which time Harnhill has changed and I have changed.

I used to live on the River Thames at Old

Windsor. For 36 years, I lived on Ham Island, three houses up from Old Windsor Lock and fed the swans who used to nest on the river bank. I now enjoy joining the tourists in Bourton, eating ice-cream and feeding the ducks on the Windrush.

I used to love the Runnymede Air Forces Memorial on the top of Egham Hill which looks across the Thames Valley to London. It commemorates the lives of 20,465 men and women from Allied air forces who lost their lives in the Second World War. As a Londoner, who was born in the City of London Hospital (within the sound of Bow Bells), I am by definition a Cockney. As Londoners, my family suffered during the Blitz so the Memorial was precious to me. I now live in Little Rissington village where the Parish Church is St. Peter's. Here the War Graves Commission tend the graves belonging to pilots from Little Rissington Aerodrome who lost their lives in that conflict. There is a memorial window to them in the Church. Smaller than Egham but equally beautiful and precious.

I used to have a beautiful garden where I grew flowers for the Flower Guild of my Church. I now have an area of the beautiful Garden at Harnhill which it is a privilege to tend, supported by the rest of the gardening team. In addition I have an allotment where I grow soft fruit and make jam, which some people say tastes okay!

And yet, in all of the changes in my life, some things have not changed. When I first came to Harnhill two things immediately struck me: the sheer beauty of the setting and the presence of the Holy Spirit. We know that God has revealed Himself to the people that He has made to worship Him. He has revealed Himself through His creation so that people looking at the wonder of His creation might see Him in it and through it. In addition, we experience the felt presence of the Holy Spirit when we slow down and give ourselves time to absorb His presence.

When I had to move God encouraged me with a verse from Psalm 16:6 'the boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places, surely I have a delightful inheritance'. He has put me down in the middle of the Cotswolds and allowed me the privilege of serving Him at Harnhill. I am so grateful and, as Harnhill continues to open its doors, I trust that many more people, like myself, will 'find themselves' at Harnhill.

Cheryl Laycock

When can I be just me?

by Sandy Aldworth

Lift off the heaviness in my heart
Your harsh words that shattered me
The tears, the pain, my heart hurts,
Oh God I pray, when will I be free?
What happened to the girl who once was me
and so happy being me?

He said I was stupid, he hates me
and has no respect for me
His words are killing me
Please help me God I cry,
his words are crushing me
Please help me and set me free
I long to be just me.

God gave me a path, go quickly you're out
Just keep your eyes on me.
Back in my childhood bedroom with my
mum who comforts me and makes my favourite tea.
You will be happy, I know you will,
She would always say to me.
Her love and prayers, she really cares
so nurturing to me.

Your cruel words, going around in my head,
Please stop controlling me
I long to be set free, please thoughts stop torturing me.
My eyes are swollen from crying
that I can hardly see

A broken spirit looks back at me
I have to go on and pretend to be strong
but I've forgotten how to be just me.
I want to feel safe and walk in the sun
and stop your voice from haunting me
You can't cook, you don't clean
you're a terrible wife
I don't want this life, why did you want to be with me?

My friends and family all around
so loving and kind to me
Be strong, be brave, put your trust in the Lord,
the words so encouraging to me
and remembering that I am free.

The first thing when I wake up,
your words would come to me
Belittled and brain washed, guilty as charged
What happened to the girl who once was me?
I'm scared but I am free
Oh God, somebody's hit my car
Why are these bad things happening to me?

Oh well, I'm finally free
and learning to be just me
My friends like me because I am me.

Hold your head up, be beautiful before your Lord
Thank God I'm finally free and love just being me.
All thanks to my creator, the chains are off
Jesus has set me free!



Book Reviews

Every Day Matters

Daily reflections on living as a child of God
by John Ryeland

(published by chm - www.healingmission.org)

John Ryeland was the main speaker at the Prayer Ministers' weekend at Harnhill earlier this year and I was so inspired that I bought this book, which in turn has transformed my daily times of reflection. I have felt encouraged, challenged but more importantly I have been drawn closer to Jesus in a love relationship.

Each day's reflection begins a verse of Scripture which John gently unpacks as to what the verse might mean. This lifts one's heart and mind to what can be gloriously possible with God at the centre of each day. He finishes the reflection with a thought which encourages the reader to put faith into practice. Throughout the daily theme you are given a heightened awareness of God's love for His children which is both comforting and stimulating at the same time. In one section he says.

"If we can find a new faith in His presence with us at all times, we will discover more of His glory in our lives ... His love, majesty and power."

In bite-size pieces John helps us to do just that.

I can thoroughly recommend this book to anyone who feels weary and is just going through the motions of a daily quiet time. The readings will simply revive you and give a new perspective to expect more of what Jesus has for you as well as showing His great love for you.

One commentator said that this book was a lifeline and I agree. This is heart food given in simple uncomplicated language (not theological jargon). It lifts the soul and takes intimacy with Jesus to a deeper level. It helps to make relationship with Him an exciting reality.

Review by Christine Burston

Be Still

A Simple Guide to Quiet Times

by Brian Heasley

(published by SPCK)

Heasley writes in a way which is accessible to many people - whether they have just committed their life to Jesus or have been walking with Him for many years. His writing is very user-friendly and even though he has developed a rhythm which works for him, Brian Heasley does not suggest that 'this is the only way'. His writing is honest and allows the reader a small insight into the journey that he has travelled in order to get to the rhythm of Quiet Times that works for him. He offers different suggestions on how to make the most of the time spent daily with God, some of which the reader may appreciate and others may feel less useful.

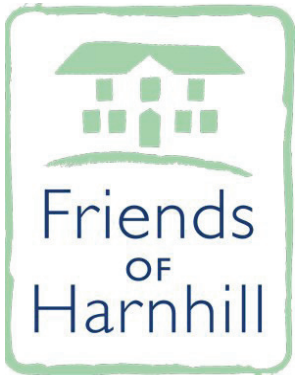
At the end of each chapter there is a summary of the points made, enabling the reader to pinpoint the particular things that they may like to concentrate on.

Pete Grieg writes the foreword to this book with a quote from John Maxwell: "You will never change your life until you change something you do daily. The secret of your success is found in your daily routine." There may be times and seasons where we sense that it is important to be more intentional to create time and space to be with God each day than others and Heasley offers suggestions and creative ways to do this.

Our Heavenly Father is incredibly gracious and honours the times that we spend with Him. To be able to embark on (or continue with) a daily rhythm of time with Him will only seek to change us as individuals but it will also enable us to enter into a deeper and more significant relationship with Him.

Review by Alison Goddard





The Friends of Harnhill share the vision of the Harnhill Centre and are welcome to get involved in a variety of ways

Friends' commitment to Harnhill:

Through Prayer:

Friends of Harnhill uphold the work of the Centre in prayer;

By Volunteering:

Friends are welcome to give their time and skills to participate in the smooth and efficient running and maintenance of the Harnhill Centre and its grounds; and

With Financial Support::

Friends may feel able to support the work of the Centre through financial giving or by leaving a legacy in their will.

Harnhill's commitment to Friends is to:

- Pray for you;
- Circulate a regular prayer diary;
- Circulate the Harvest Magazine twice yearly;
- Host an Annual Friends' Day to worship and pray together;
- Keep you up-to-date with the needs of the Centre; and
- Send you an invitation to the Annual Thanksgiving Day to celebrate God's faithfulness.

To become a Friend of the Harnhill Centre, you can sign up online at www.harnhillcentre.org.uk or contact the office by telephoning 01285 850283

Welcome ...

Hello. I am Angela, and I have joined the Accounts Team at Harnhill. I have a degree in accounting but have spent most of my working life as a Teacher of Mathematics or teacher trainer. I worked in Nottingham, where I was born, then in Wiltshire and Swindon before moving to Oxfordshire. I retired from teaching in 2019, after 35 years, working at the wonderful Chipping Campden School just prior to retirement.

Twenty years ago I lived in the Fairford area and was very happy in Gloucestershire. I was confirmed in Kempsford at that time, after deciding to strengthen my faith and have been journeying with faith ever since. I remember the Harnhill Centre of Christian Healing opening and resolved to visit one day. It took me many years, but I came to Harnhill on a personal retreat and have been longing to spend more time here since then.

Just before the first lockdown I was discussing becoming a Volunteer. Eventually, in June 2021, I joined the Volunteers on Reception and helped the Bursar with some finance tasks. I am delighted to have moved house, back to Fairford, and to have become an employee at the Harnhill Centre in January 2022.



I am a great lover of coffee. I spend time sewing, reading and walking when not at work or in a coffee shop somewhere!

*Angela Knight,
Finance Assistant*

From our Guests . . .

I was able to be free to relax and be 'me' here. - SEM

As always, I was totally amazed and overwhelmed with the way that God works so prayerfully here. - DR

During this calm and peaceful time God has really reminded me how to put things down that I don't need! - LD

Programme July to December 2022

“Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.” Mark 6:31

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.

July

28th June - 3rd July Personal Retreat
2nd Personal Retreat Day
6th - 10th Personal Retreat
9th Personal Retreat Day
12th - 17th Personal Retreat
16th - Personal Retreat Day
19th - 24th Personal Retreat
23rd Personal Retreat Day
29th - 31st Personal Retreat
30th - Personal Retreat Day

August

2nd - 5th Walking into your Healing Retreat
5th - 7th Personal Retreat
6th Personal Retreat Day
9th - 14th Personal Retreat
13th Personal Retreat Day
16th - 21st Personal Retreat
20th Personal Retreat Day
23rd - 28th Personal Retreat
27th Personal Retreat Day
30th - 2nd Sept Walking into your Healing Retreat

September

2nd - 4th Personal Retreat
6th - 11th Personal Retreat
13th Quiet Day
13th - 18th Personal Retreat
20th - 25th Personal Retreat*
*Thanksgiving Celebration on-site during this Retreat
24th Thanksgiving Celebration
27th - 30th Personal Retreat

October

4th - 7th Walking into your Healing Retreat
7th - 9th Personal Retreat
11th - 16th Personal Retreat*
*Training Day on-site during this Retreat
15th Training Course
18th - 23rd Personal Retreat*
*Painting and Praise Day on-site during this Retreat
22nd - Painting and Praise Day
25th - 30th Personal Retreat

November

1st - 4th Walking into your Healing Retreat
4th - 6th Personal Retreat
8th - 13th Personal Retreat
15th - 20th Personal Retreat
22nd - 27th Personal Retreat
29th - 2nd Dec Walking into your Healing Retreat

December

2nd - 4th Personal Retreat
6th Advent Quiet Day
6th to 11th Personal Retreat
13th - 18th Personal Retreat

Residential Retreats

Please refer to the Calendar overleaf for the Retreat dates

Walking Into Your Healing Retreat (Tuesday to Friday)

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.

Price: £330

All stays are from 3pm on the Tuesday until 2pm 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 at £85 per night. To ensure availability, it is advised that you request this with your initial booking. (Please note, we are unable to offer further prayer ministry during this weekend.)

Personal Retreats (2 - 5 nights from Tuesday to Sunday)

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. (For further information about Prayer Ministry and Spiritual Accompaniment, please see our website.)

Everyone is welcome to join in the rhythm of worship and prayer during their stay.

Personal Retreats offer flexibility depending on your needs.

Choose 2 to 5 nights (**Tuesday - Sunday**) to suit your time, availability and budget.

Prices: 2 nights - £195, 3 nights - £292.50, 4 nights - £390, 5 nights - £487.50

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

Prayer Ministry Training Day

'Tools for the Healing Ministry'

**Saturday 15th October
10am - 4pm**

This course, led by members of the Harnhill Team is the next step on from our 'Ministry in the Local Church' day course.

We will cover topics that will include forgiveness, how to listen well and handing over burdens to the Lord.

There will be practical opportunities within the sessions.

The cost is £35 per delegate.
Tea and coffee provided,
please bring a packed lunch.

Painting and Praise Day

led by Karen Grant

**Saturday 22nd October
10am - 4pm**

Join us for a day of painting while listening to live worship music with Matt and Tilly Taylor. Whatever your level of ability. It is a day to relax and engage in your creativity. For those with no experience there will be help on hand, while those more experienced may like to enjoy spending the day engaged in their own work. Watercolour is the suggested medium, but feel free to use your medium of choice. Please advise whether you will be bringing your own materials, at the time of booking, or if you would like them provided.

The cost is £40 to include lunch and refreshments.

The Dwelling Place

'How lovely is your dwelling place O Lord Almighty.' Psalm 84:1

There are different opportunities each week to step away from the busy-ness of life and enjoy the peaceful surroundings of Harnhill, including time to receive prayer ministry on Wednesday evening and Friday morning.

The Dwelling Place on Monday mornings 10.30am to 12.30pm

On alternate Monday mornings (10.30am to 12.30pm), come and join this group for a gentle and supportive time with chat, coffee and cake in the peaceful surroundings of Harnhill. Space is provided for you to work on your own craft projects, if you would like to. For further details and dates, please contact the Bookings Office. *(Please note, we are unable to offer personal prayer ministry during this time.)*



The Dwelling Place on Wednesday evenings 7pm to 9pm

On Wednesday evenings we offer a quiet space for personal reflection. Members of the Harnhill team will be available to pray with you from 7.30pm until 8.30pm when we will move into the night-time service of Compline.

The Dwelling Place on Fridays 10.30am to 6pm

On Fridays, the Barn will be open from 10.30am for personal prayer (tea and coffee is available). The Healing Service runs from 11am to 12pm, after which there is an opportunity to receive prayer with members of our Team.

Pre-booked lunches will be available in the Harnhill Café at 1pm. After lunch, please 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 5.30pm. You may book for the evening meal should you wish to do so. Please call the Bookings Office.



Morning Worship on Sundays 10am

At 10am each Sunday, join the Harnhill team for a traditional Morning Prayer service in Harnhill Church. Refreshments will be available in the Henly Room after the service. *(Please note that we are unable to offer personal prayer ministry during this time.)* You are welcome to book for Sunday lunch. Please call the Bookings Office.

Quiet Days

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

Retreat Days

Every Saturday in July and August
10am - 6pm

Come aside for the day and enter into our rhythm of prayer. Enjoy the quiet space of our Barn Complex and gardens. We suggest that this day is spent in quiet, but feel free to chat over lunch. If you would like to bring your own craft activity, you would be very welcome. *(Please note, we are unable to offer prayer ministry or spiritual accompaniment appointments.)*

Cost £25 to include lunch and refreshments

Quiet Day

led by Rev'd Christine Holzapfel

More details to follow, please see website.

Tuesday 13th September
10am - 4pm

£35 to include lunch and refreshments
£25 bring your own lunch, refreshments provided.
(Registration from 9.30 am)
(Please indicate which option at time of booking)

Advent Quiet Day

'The Waiting Room'

led by Rev'd Kate Picot

Tuesday 6th December
10am - 4pm

Advent is a season of waiting as we focus on the birth of Christ and look with anticipation to his return. Rev'd Kate Picot explores how we make room for God each day, so that our 'waiting' will impact our lives throughout every season.

£35 to include lunch and refreshments
£25 bring your own lunch, refreshments provided.
(Registration from 9.30 am)
(Please indicate which option at time of booking)

THANKSGIVING CELEBRATION

Saturday 24th September
Save the date!

We are pleased to invite you back to the Harnhill Centre for this year's Thanksgiving Celebration.

More details to follow...



The Chapel at Harnhill

Glorifying God

A testimony of healing

In November 2020 I felt a lump in my neck, I thought it was just glands. It, however, got bigger. After a visit to my GP I was referred to Cheltenham Hospital with suspected cancer of the throat. We prayed as a family and I asked close friends to also pray. Prayers were answered as things moved at an incredible pace - within 2 weeks I had a biopsy, three scans and a Peg fitted (which was a feeding tube inserted into my stomach). I began with chemotherapy on 18 December and on 20 December I started more than 30 sessions of daily radiotherapy which lasted until the beginning of February. I was diagnosed with Stage 4 throat and tongue cancer.

I asked for increased prayer for myself and family. Friends, family and people I met over the years were very kind and prayed. I received many messages of encouragement. I felt at peace, and didn't think I would die. I trusted that Jesus could heal me. Just as He did in the Bible stories in the Gospels.

I had wonderful support from the hospital, family and friends. My daughter Tania and granddaughter Sari came over from Texas and stayed with me for 3 months, looking after me and taking me for treatment to the hospital. The treatment was hard, however the radiotherapists were surprised that, towards the end of my radiation treatment, the skin of my neck hadn't started to blister and breakdown. It did when the radiotherapy stopped but prayer kept me going. At that stage I had no skin on my throat, my mouth was swollen and the skin was peeling inside my mouth. I had difficulty in swallowing liquid, although I needed to sip water. I was unable to eat food. The Peg was used to give me special liquid food and water. I lost a lot of weight and my voice changed. My Oncologist was amazed at my progress at that time because of the healing of my mouth and the skin of my throat. I kept thanking Jesus for my healing and all the blessings He was giving me.

Shortly after at one of my hospital appointments in July, my Oncology Consultant said after examining me, that he felt the cancer had increased in my throat. I had a scan which confirmed this. I was booked in to have surgery 2 weeks in advance with another scan 3 days before the surgery. I thought this gave me a chance to increase the prayer support as I didn't want surgery. I trusted Jesus to bring me through. So many people prayed for me during those 2 weeks. I was at peace and felt Jesus was going to heal me.

Early on the day of the surgery I had a telephone call to say that my surgery had been cancelled, and that an appointment had been made for me to see my consultant the next day.

I rejoiced and thanked God that I didn't need surgery to remove part of my tongue and the tumour in my throat. Then the thoughts came – 'was it that bad they weren't going to give me surgery?' I battled with these thoughts. Each time I would say to myself 'No, I trust you Jesus. I believe you are going to heal me'. At the appointment I was told that the cancer in my tongue had gone, but some still left in my throat. I didn't need the operation. I told my consultant that this was answered prayer as many people had prayed for me, including people at Harnhill and the Intercessors. My consultant looked at me, nodded and smiled. I have always witnessed about the prayer given for me. Prayer support and the radiation treatment continue to be working.

Earlier this year I was told that the cancer had also gone from my throat. I was cancer free! The Peg was removed. Jesus and I are still working through the side effects of the radiation. I believe I will be totally healed.

Ann celebrating the end of her cancer treatment



My healing journey continues. At a recent appointment with my Oncologist, I was told I am making excellent progress and as it was a year ago since my cancer diagnosis, I could now have a two monthly check-up rather than every five weeks.

Jesus has brought me through, and continues to do so, from a stage 4 cancer to where I am now. It is a miracle. Acquaintances, family and friends are amazed how God has healed me, strengthened me and given me hope for the future. The glory belongs to our God! He is same healer today as the one who walked with His disciples.



Ann Jones

Our Time at Harnhill

Changes of season in life can be taxing and sometimes almost like a bereavement. This has been the case for us when we finished our time as residential volunteers at Harnhill. We, however, know the Lord was in the start and in the finish of this.

It started when we retired from the parishes we had served in for 25 years. We had decided to worship at Harnhill while we waited for his direction for our next area of service. We were there when Kate arrived as Director. All we volunteered to do was make coffee once a month after the service as we travelled in from our home in Swindon. Unexpectedly, Kate asked us to see her and she asked us if we would live in house as volunteers for six months to see how it worked out. I had particular restrictions on what I felt able to do because of my health. Neither of us had lived in community and we were over 70 years old.

Obviously, our Father had plans we were not expecting! After three years that season was brought to an end because we found that whilst he had given us amazingly increased energy to do what we were able to as part of the overall ministry, that energy began to wane and so we concluded the season had come to an end.

During our time living at Harnhill, we had seen Him at work wonderfully in so many people's lives. We had been blessed with deeper levels of love, fellowship and humility from our brothers and sisters from both the ministry and volunteer teams, more so than we had ever previously experienced. We had grown closer to him and learnt so much including the joy of serving others (through washing up, setting tables, together with prayer ministry and leading worship).

An amazing transformation also took place in us in terms of significant improvements in our spiritual health and in my physical health. The latter is still ongoing.

We were sad to leave this "thin place" but it was clear His time for us in that role had ended. However, as we live relatively close to Harnhill, we can still volunteer in various ways and are able to support this work of the Lord by prayer and giving as we seek how we fit back in to service near our home.

We do not look back and long for what is passed. We believe Jesus has more work for us to do where we now live as well as at Harnhill. He has given us a taste of the love and joy of living in day-to-day fellowship with Him and His children. We long for the people living around us to experience that too.

Richard Burston

From our Guests . . .

My prayer ministers were wonderful. So much love and discernment, I felt enveloped in the Holy Spirit. - LS

There is great power in being led into God's presence. I came here 'stuck' and 'broken' and grieving my old life. I left restored with joy, hope, and peace and a new identity in Christ, a most precious daughter of the Father. Praise you God! - KL

Wonderful, friendly, caring staff who could not do enough to make my visit comfortable and happy. - BW



Christine and Richard Burston

Welcome ...

Martine Smith-Huvers in conversation with Harnhill's new Assistant Chef, Alison Godden

M - Please could you tell me a little about yourself and your family?

AG - I live in Cirencester. I have a ginger tom cat called Tommy and two daughters - Millie (24) who is a carer and Ede (16) who is preparing for her GCSEs. Some of my interests and hobbies are home cooking (I love adapting and creating new recipes), swimming, cycling, listening to music, going to concerts, and meditating through prayer, walking and being in nature. I walked The Cotswold Way during lockdown and thoroughly enjoyed it.

M - Where have you worked before you joined the Harnhill and when did you start here?

AG - I started working at Harnhill as an assistant chef to Mahlon on the 15th September 2021. Before coming here I was a supervisor at Kingfisher Treasure Seekers in Gloucester and before that a therapist.

M - At one of the Sunday morning services here at Harnhill, you shared with us that you were baptised fairly recently. Can you tell me a little about your faith journey?

AG - Christianity is a fairly new walk for me. I was baptised on the 22nd November 2021 at Kingfisher Church in Gloucester by Pastor Olly Bennett. Before I became a Christian I was very much into New Age beliefs and practices and gradually over time realised it was not for me. A good friend invited me to church about 5 years ago and I felt more and more drawn to going. That summer, I twice attended courses at Ellel Ministeries in Pierrepoint and in November I did an Alpha course in Worcester. My path now is most definitely a straight one! I have left a lot behind and realised that I have so much more to gain!

This is a walk, not a marathon. I have to remind myself of that frequently and be reminded. There is so much to learn and understand and I feel so excited about it. I just love studying, worshipping, learning and listening to podcasts especially Joyce Meyer. She is so funny and relatable and I feel humour is so important.

M - We often hear you and Mahlon singing while you are preparing meals for us. What is your favourite song and why?

AG - I have two! The first is by Lauren Daigle called *Rebel Heart*. I can really connect with the lyrics. It's about offering up your rebel (hard) heart to God and because of His love your heart of stone can be turned into one of flesh. It's deep and beautiful.

The other song is *Take me Back* by Dante Bowe, Maverick City Music. I got to know this song by Mahlon playing it in the kitchen. I just love the energy and vibrancy it conveys. The message is very powerful: a constant prayer for God to remind us of His faithfulness and His love in times of difficulty and challenge. In a world that is full of distractions, He would take us back to the garden where it was all simple and loving was easy ... Amen. This song is full of the Holy Spirit.

M - What do you enjoy most - cooking or baking?

AG - I just love both! A favourite dish that springs to mind is beetroot and fennel gratin with macadamia and hazelnut dukkah. I love finding sugar alternative recipes like almond and coconut balls. I am intrigued by the workings of the human body especially the gut and digestive health and its impact on health and well-being. Food nutrition is an important part of my life. I like to consider this when I am cooking.

I feel grateful for being part of the Team here at Harnhill. It is such a blessing!



Alison in the kitchen

Harnhill Friends remembered



Ian Campbell
1931 - 2021

Many supporters and guests of the Harnhill Centre would have met Ian in his role as treasurer of the Centre. There was so much more to Ian that helped to make the Centre the vibrant place created by the Lord Jesus. He and Ann had links with Arthur Dodds before the Centre was conceived so Arthur was led by the Spirit to invite them to head up the administration (just as Arthur was led to approach other members of the early team).

Ian was an accountant by profession. Having recently taken early retirement from a Gloucester practice, he and Ann were prepared to sell their house, find accommodation in Ampney Crucis, to fulfil that role of administrator and secretary. As the work developed, he was involved in many committees; instructed tradespeople in their tasks, and paid a full part in the life of the Centre. This meant leading early morning prayers at times; coming to Wednesday afternoon quiet times and joining in domestic duties such as washing up!

My own dear memories of Ian were being enthralled by the plays he wrote and put on at festive times. They were gospel based and the message was enhanced by the humour he put into each one. He also had a wise and prayerful heart in ministering to people as I experienced one day when he and I were designated to minister to a gentleman and the only available place to meet was the dovecote!

Our sympathies go to Ann and his sons. We all have treasured memories and much to discuss in heaven!

Hugh Kent



David Henson
12 November 1937 - 8 March 2022

*I have fought the good fight,
I have finished the race. I have kept the faith.*

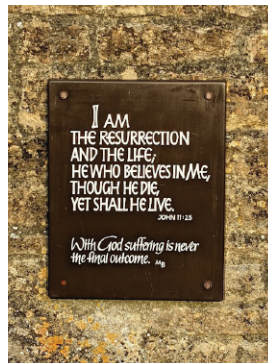
That verse from 2 Timothy could easily describe David, who after a long active Christian life went to be with Jesus..

David was a Friend of Harnhill, although his association with the Centre was fairly recent, after his marriage to Anna. Immediately he got involved, as one of the many background volunteers, initially driving weekly from Reading to be present at the Friday service and then helping to serve coffee afterwards. He and Anna were on the rota for prayer cover for guests staying at Harnhill. When they moved to Swindon they became regular members of the Swindon Friends' prayer meeting.

Despite being diagnosed with terminal cancer during the pandemic, David remained an active Christian preaching at his local church on zoom and helping to run a home group, indeed he last led the group from his hospital bed wearing an oxygen mask. He and Anna also remained faithful to Harnhill and attended the Friends' prayer meeting on zoom. His last meeting was in February the day after he had returned from a stay in hospital.

We shall miss his contribution and ask the Lord to be near to Anna during this time.

Christine Burston



From the Finance Office

We are all facing great uncertainty in what has begun as a tragically troubled year with crisis following crisis, the reach of which is touching all our lives in so many ways. Ukraine following Covid, few are beyond its consequential reach. Words are inadequate as we watch the news and read the newspaper accounts. For those of us of faith we place our trust in God and lift to Him the concerns we hold for ourselves and for others.

In the midst of all this, it seems difficult to write something for Harvest this time as our own circumstances seem unimportant by comparison. However, I will share with you some of what we are facing in financial terms.

We have just completed our financial year-end which we anticipate will show that at 31st December 21 the year ended positively, enabling us to retain funds called Reserves. Once again this is due to the kindness of benefactors leaving legacies to us in 2021. But Reserves are and will be essential in 2022.

We have had auditors on-site this April to scrutinise our financial practices and verify that we are conducting those affairs appropriately. Part of the requirement is to provide a budget for both the new financial year, and one following (to December 2023). In what is an unpredictable financial landscape this is quite a challenge.

So far this year, Harnhill has seen electricity costs increase by 143% following the end of a two-year contract. Insurance increased by 75%. We use somewhere in the order of 28,000 litres of oil a year to heat the house and barn, so for example during Covid in 2020 we spent £11,128 on oil with prices as low as £0.21 per litre, at this point in the year, we have had two deliveries so far totalling £7,548. Thankfully with foresight, we were able to avoid the peak, of £1.60 a litre but anticipate significant expense.

We are currently in discussion with energy efficiency experts who will come on site and undertake surveys in the coming weeks to consider options for "greening the site". This may require a significant investment to implement recommendations, but it will



undoubtedly include a mix of solutions from improving insulation to exploring alternative fuel sources. We will be seeking grant funding for any capital investment.

In December we received very positive news that another Charity was willing to fund two residential ministry team posts for three years. This was an amazing gift having hoped to secure funding for this for a couple of years. We will continue to seek grant funding where we can, to underpin the ministry of Harnhill, particularly in the immediate year ahead in which we must meet some significant building maintenance costs.

The list of maintenance works is quite extensive and although we will exercise discretion about what we do, much cannot be deferred and maintaining the buildings is essential. We anticipate expenditure of approximately £65,000. David Kingsley, Facilities Manager, has spent many hours looking into what is needed and sourcing contractors which is at times a thankless task with so many unable to take on more work post Covid, taking on a job and then withdrawing or simply not replying to enquiries. We are immensely grateful to David.

Working with the Estates Committee, David is working on projects for new boiler flues, replacement smoke detectors – we have 80 which each cost £65 linked to the fire system, external pointing of the Henly Room, boundary walls which are in disrepair, roofing works, car park gravel, chimney work, replacement gable windows in the Stable, kitchen gas pipework, a replacement for the recently failed house bathroom fan system and a solution for the increasingly unsatisfactory showers in the downstairs bedrooms, a solution for which (because of water pressure and electrical capacity complications in the building) may cost over £12,000 – this is one of our greatest challenges to resolve at present and David has spent a great deal of time talking to plumbers and electricians about what solution will really provide guests with a satisfactory shower.

We have also needed new floor covering in many areas for some time. The existing coverings are the originals from when the outbuildings were converted to guest accommodation. This is likely to cost about £10,000.

As alluded to earlier, this will need to be funded from Reserves and although this will significantly deplete them, we give thanks for the provision we have received.

I would like to finish this article with a word about donations in acknowledging how your support contributes to sustaining the ministry of the Harnhill Centre and how much we rely upon it. Over 50% of our income comes from donations and legacies.

Thank you for all you do for us.

Rachel L Severn, Bursar



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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