

AUTUMN/WINTER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Worship Returns to Carisbrooke Priory

Apart from the occasional visitor singing or tickling the ivories of our grand piano, and midday prayers three days a week, our Chapel has been silent now for almost eighteen months. With the restrictions surrounding the pandemic still in place until July's easing, we thought it best to hold off until we felt we could hold a service safely. The number of new cases here on the Island have continued to increase, and with many holidaymakers here now, that is likely to be the case for a while yet. All being well, however, we are hoping to recommence our worship meetings in September, initially planning to hold these monthly.

The temporary cessation of services has given us time to reflect on what we do, and we thought that it would be a good time to try something a little different, not least because we recognise that the pandemic and its resultant lockdown and restrictions may have created a different kind of 'need' in many. Our primary focus, therefore, will be healing in its many forms, with each speaker taking on a specific aspect of theme for the service.



The services will take place on the first Thursday of the month, and in September, we are pleased to welcome Rosie Deedes. I am sure that there are those among us who have lost loved ones during the pandemic, and therefore we have chosen healing our griefs as the main focus for our first service. Rosie has worked as

Chaplain at our local hospice, so is well qualified to speak on the subject. This service will be held on Thursday 2nd September 2021.

In October (7th), Anne Linington will explore the theme of healing our divisions. Whether high-lighted or exacerbated by the pandemic, society is exhibiting many divisions; race, creed, colour or even vaccinated or unvaccinated, and so we feel that this is another area where healing was an important objective.

In November (4th), Bob White will lead us as we consider ways to heal our planet. With the recent release of a major report on the subject, and climate change and its potential impact on us all increasingly in the news, this also feels like an important subject for us to consider. The COP26 global talks on the climate will be taking place at that time (1-12 November), being a really important pivotal moment for the planet. We pray that world leaders will take this opportunity to make significant changes in the way we live before it is too late.



With the approach then of Christmas, it is hoped that for December we will be able to look at family relationships—please look out for further announcements on our website or Facebook page.

The plan for Thursdays, certainly for the first few months, will be to open at 11 o'clock for refreshments, the service will take place at Noon as before, and then if you would like to bring a packed lunch, we can then continue our fellowship afterwards. This will enable those who use buses to have an opportunity to enjoy time here, in fellowship with each other or just reflecting in the garden or quiet rooms. As and when the availability of volunteers allows, we hope to provide lunch again at some point in the future.

We very much look forward to welcoming you back to worship here at Carisbrooke Priory.

Open Door Worship

Healing our Grief
Speaker: Rosie Deedes
Thursday 2nd September 2021
12.00 Noon (Priory open from 11.00 a.m.)

Carisbrooke Priory
39 Whitcombe Road
CARISBROOKE
PO30 1YS

Company No. 06624300 – Registered Charity No. 1126024

Our Quiet Rooms

Did you know that the Priory has always had rooms set aside for those seeking time and space to pray, reflect, read, or just enjoy some quiet time? Even after renting several of our rooms to the Salvation Army, we still have three such rooms, as well as our small Chapel and World Prayer Room set aside. Each of these rooms can comfortably seat up to 4 or 5 people, and have been/can be used by individuals and also small prayer groups at any time during our opening hours. If you are a member of the clergy, these rooms can be booked free of charge—for other groups or individuals there may be a small charge.

We hope to be able to refurnish the quiet rooms over the coming months, but as you can see from the pictures, they are quite welcoming now:



If you would like more information, or would like to book one of the rooms either regularly or as a one-off, please contact Maxine on 01983 523354.

Our Partners in Christian Healing UK



2,000 years ago Jesus was healing people in body, soul and spirit wherever He went, and the bible teaches us that He commanded - and empowered - His disciples to do the same. After His death and resurrection, the early church continued this ministry, and subsequent church history shows that the healing ministry of God's Church has continued.

Established in 1986 out of the vision of a local vicar, Canon Arthur Dodds, The Harnhill Centre of Christian Healing brings the healing love of Jesus to all who visit.

Today Jesus' power is still here, the command just as imperative, and the results just as exciting. The vision of the Centre is to encourage this ministry, and it seeks to do so as a resource for the Church and as a ministry to the individual.

The Centre is set within a 16th century manor house in the beautiful Cotswold countryside. It is staffed by a full-time community, led by Rev'd Kate Picot, who is the Director of Harnhill, supported by volunteers and administered by a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

Around 8,000 people visit the Centre each year through conferences, courses, healing services and residential stays. Anglican in foundation, Harnhill is ecumenical in its outlook and a warm welcome awaits all who visit.

The facilities at The Harnhill Centre are available for church groups, conferences, retreats and Alpha Holy Spirit days. Individual prayer ministry can be received either residentially or by appointment.

Harnhill Centre of Christian Healing,
Harnhill,
Cirencester,
Gloucestershire,
GL7 5PX



A Visit to the Priory in May 2021



What a day, so good to remember the heat, the food, the gardens and the company as we approach the autumn season. Our visit to the Priory was so special that day as we had been in lockdown for such a long time and just to meet

in the open air and enjoy fellowship together was so special. The gardens looked so lush and green with flowers and strawberries ripening. Everywhere we walked and looked we could see God's hand. I am a trustee at the Priory but with my other hat on I work for NACRO and am based in Newport Police Custody 4 days a week. This is a challenging role and I work with a great team where we interview and screen those who find themselves in custody. My role is to find out the needs of the client and get them support once back in the community. This can often be related to a housing need or a mental health crisis, or alcohol and substance abuse. Being in custody for some is a real wake up call and a cry for help, and it is often for many the start of their journey to recovery. I also work for Aspire in Ryde and look after a safe house for women. I have been doing this for over 5 years and over this time we have had many women come and go, and thankfully they have all moved on to live independent lives. The project is run through Aspire but with the foundation support of a charity called Hope into Action. The aim of the house is to provide a home for two women who have found themselves, through no fault of their own, being homeless. To have a home, a place to lay your head and engage with support, is the beginning of real change for these women. The house is also a house where prayer is very important and the team I work with are all Christians, who pray for the women and for the practical issues of running a safe house.



I was really excited in May when both the ladies I support agreed to come with me to the Priory for lunch. This was a real breakthrough as both women had anxiety about going out into the world, after nearly a year of being

isolated apart from my visits.

We arrived at the Priory and both ladies were so impressed with the building, and once inside we had a look around. Maxine kindly gave us a tour of upstairs and the history of the nuns and how they had lived and prayed in the Priory. It was amazing and both women agreed that they could feel something special in the building, and of course as Christians we understand that this was the Holy Spirit ministering to them. We all went into the garden and walked around and chatted to some of the volunteer gardeners, who were very happy to share their tips on how to get the best rhubarb and how to keep the slugs at bay! They were so friendly and both ladies really enjoyed talking to them.

Thank you to the team of wonderful and committed volunteers and staff at the Priory, you are all doing an amazing job.

Soon it was time for lunch and we were served beautiful quiches with salad and homemade potato salad. It was yummy. As we ate and talked and laughed, the tensions fell away and we all agreed that the Priory was something special. We felt wrapped in the peaceful atmosphere of the garden and the beauty of the setting, and we gave thanks to God for being able to share this lovely afternoon together.



Although we have all been through really difficult times it was good to remember that through all of this God has been with us. The Priory provided a place of comfort and healing not only for us that day, but all visitors and staff who walk through its door a place of comfort security and healing.

Geraldine

EVENTS THIS AUTUMN/WINTER



WALK THE WIGHT—Sunday 12th September 2021

As in previous years, Carisbrooke Priory will be open to welcome Mountbatten staff and volunteers, walkers and their supporters taking part in this year's Walk the Wight

Our Tea Room will be open from 9.00 a.m. until 2.00 p.m.

Come and fill your water bottle, or even enjoy some refreshment mid-walk!

Toilet facilities will also be available



Christmas Fair **Saturday 13th November 2021**

Tea Room open for refreshments and light lunches
10.00 a.m.—2.00 p.m.



Carol Service **Friday 17th December 2021** **7.00 p.m.**

With the Band and Songsters of the Salvation Army (TBC)

Please continue to check for more forthcoming events by visiting our website:
www.carisbrookepriory.org.uk—Or why not take a look at our Facebook page?

Please **keep in touch** by visiting our **website – www.carisbrookepriory.org.uk**
or contact the Administrator if you would like further details
on any of the items or articles above.

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