



# INSIDE THE COCOON

A newsletter for supporters of Chrysalis Arts Trust

SPRING 2006



## A NOTE FROM MANDY

**G**reetings! We hope you enjoy the new-look newsletter showcased this month. Thanks so much to Faith, our new editor, for her input and creativity - great to have you on board! Thanks also to Elaine for all her hard work as the previous editor.

In 1954, evangelist Billy Graham met with then Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill.

After some conversation, one of the greatest leaders of the 20th Century turned

to the famous American and said; 'I do not see much hope for the future, unless it is the hope *you* are talking about, young man. We must have a return to God.'

How true those words were then, and perhaps even more so now - some 50 years later.

Jesus Christ is still the hope of the world.

*Mandy Watsham*  
Chrysalis Co-founder

## Sylane Mack makes an impression

**O**n 13<sup>th</sup> November, Chrysalis hosted American speaker Sylane Mack at Broadway Baptist Church in Chesham.

The evening programme, entitled "More than Conquerors," began with several musical selections, including a rendition of jazz classic *Summertime* sung by Mandy Watsham.

Continuing with the theme of the night, Sylane shared the harrowing story of her abusive childhood. After leading the audience through an emotional re-telling of the cruelty she suffered at the hands of her own family, Sylane shared how she cried out to God as a twelve year-old, begging him to deliver her from peril.

She testified to God's faithfulness in helping her to forgive her abusers and overcome her victimization. Now, happily married with two teenage daughters and a powerful ministry, Sylane is a true testament to how we can be "More than Conquerors" through Christ.



## Christmas programme a success

**T**his year's Christmas show was a hit! The programme, entitled "Christmas Memories," featured the Chrysalis team

performing traditional Christmas favourites.

The band delighted the audience with tunes such as Cliff Richard's *Mistletoe and Wine*, and Brenda Lee's *Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree*.

Attendees were invited to reminisce over Christmas past as clips from much-loved Christmas films were shown throughout the

programme. Perhaps the most moving excerpt was the final scene of Jimmy Stewart's *It's a Wonderful Life*.

The programme was presented at Broadway Baptist Church and St. Mary's Church in Chesham, and St. Thomas's Church, Holtspur, in Beaconsfield.



## Upcoming Events

### March

- 1 Management Meeting
- 4 ACTIVATE Conference (Coventry) - Main Team

### April

- 7/8 EASTER PEOPLE (Torquay) - Main Team
- 11 Trustees' Meeting
- 22 EASTER PEOPLE (Scarborough) - Main Team

### May

- 6 Wedding at Chesham
- 18 Priors Centre (St. Neots) - Classical Team
- 20/21 Milford-on-Sea Baptist Church - Cabaret Team

### June

- 10 Banstead Baptist Church - Cabaret Team
- 30 Warrington AOG Church - Classical Team

### July

- 1 Fulwood Free Methodist Church (Preston) - Classical Team
- 8 Women for Christ Conference (Bury St. Edmunds) - Cabaret Team

# Chrysalis events put seekers at ease

Janice Mayne pens a letter telling how Chrysalis provided an 'informal and friendly atmosphere' in her search for Truth

I expect that all Christians can recall many influences on their journey to faith.

My neighbour, Sue Brooks, invited me to various events at Broadway Baptist Church. One was a women's daytime meeting called "Pop-In" where invited guests spoke of their faith over coffee and cake. I found those meetings very helpful.

I was also invited to a number of Chrysalis events during 1992 and 1993. I recall that the first was at Chesham High School. After that, a number were held at

Chesham Football Club and the Elgiva. I particularly recall the evening at Chesham High where a local person gave a testimony about how her faith had helped her to cope through difficult personal circumstances.

One of the highlights for me was the music *'Chrysalis [was] an influence on my journey to faith...'* at the Chrysalis events. I found that I often bumped into people that I knew from elsewhere and all that, coupled with a non-threatening environment, made

the evenings very enjoyable.

I think it was particularly good that the bar was open at the meetings at Chesham United, which made for a relaxed atmosphere.

Above all, I believe that it was the informal and friendly atmosphere that encouraged me to return on a number of occasions and I would not hesitate to invite non-Christian friends to events like these.

I would say that the Chrysalis events were certainly an influence on getting me started on my journey to faith and for that I am grateful.



## Meet the Team

Nigel Gordon - Trustee

After growing up in the suburbs of London, Nigel started work in a sign manufacturing company as a designer and eventually moved up to the position of director.

Nigel came to faith in Jesus Christ in 1979. Just four years later, he joined the staff of Luis Palau's Mission to London. Nigel served as Publications and Promotions Manager at CWR before joining Luis Palau Evangelistic Association in 1988, overseeing all LPEA and Next Generation Alliance® ministry in Europe.

Nigel and his wife, Evelyn, live in Chesham, Buckinghamshire, and have two married children and three grandchildren.



Nikki Matthews addresses those at the stakeholders' meeting

## Candlelit jazz makes for a mellow mood in the aisles

On Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> October, Chrysalis Arts Trust hosted a Big Band Jazz Event at

Broadway Baptist Church in Chesham.

The audience enjoyed refreshments at small, candlelit tables while listening to the mellow sounds of classic standards, as well as some original tunes by featured soloists from Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club in Soho.

Scott Wilcox and The Good News Band provided instrumentation, and Scott took a moment between numbers to share some thoughts on faith and music.

The atmosphere and music put everyone 'In the Mood'!

COMING SOON



AN EXCITING NEW PROGRAMME FROM CLASSICAL CHRYSALIS

CALL OFFICE FOR DETAILS

## Derek's Desk

Two extremely good friends of Chrysalis recently had the opportunity to visit the city of Rome. Among the sights they encountered was the great St. Peter's Cathedral.

Almost overcome by the height of the place and the beauty of the ornate paintings, the wife turned to her husband to see how impressed he was by it all. Ever the practical one, he gazed at the ceiling and remarked, 'I wonder who changes the light bulbs?'

As we go into the New Year, perhaps there is a parable here for us. If we are enjoying the beauty and privilege of worship

ought we not to spare a thought for those whose practical service in leadership, or behind the scenes, brings us so much blessing? Maybe we should offer to change the light bulbs!

On the office wall, there is a notice which states *'It's not the Church of God which has a mission, it's the God of Mission who has a Church'*. We all can have a part in that in 2006.



## Our vision: past, present, and future

On January 8th, Chrysalis Arts Trust held its first ever stakeholders' meeting, which came out of the months of envisioning meetings led by Tim Stone in 2005.

We invited people to come along to share in the next chapter of our ministry as we looked at the past to see how and why Chrysalis started, where we are now, and where we feel God wants us to move in the future.

There was live music, a presentation of the brand new ten-year vision, and merriment at the changing fashions and

hairstyles of Chrysalis personnel – all followed by a slap up tea!

Enclosed with this newsletter is a leaflet, which was given out on the day and sums up the whole presentation. We were thrilled and touched that so many made the effort to come and share in the seed-sowing dreams of Chrysalis on a cold Sunday afternoon! Thank you! Thanks also to those who wanted to come but were unable.

Please continue to pray as we seek God's guidance so that – together - we can make a difference for Christ in the UK.



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