



INSIDE THE COCOON

*A newsletter for supporters
of Chrysalis Arts Trust*

WINTER 2006



Jo Foster joins the team as Development Director

Jo was born and bred in Yorkshire in a Polish Christian family, graduating from Southampton University in Economics and Statistics in 1988. She then embarked on a career in Information Technology as a computer programmer, working for large conglomerates. Having discovered she wasn't actually very technical (and was struggling to programme the Video Recorder), she moved into IT Project Management about 10 years ago.

She has worked for the Boots Company, Dun & Bradstreet and Dixons Stores Group, and is now very proud to add Chrysalis to her C.V.

Jo has never really had a time when she hasn't known the Lord, but following a bit of a barren period after graduation, she met Steve, our very own drummer (on the hockey pitch), who asked her to come along to his local church. She re-committed her life to Christ at the age of 23, and married Steve soon afterwards.

They have two little girls, Sarah (5), and Nicola (1), and live in Chesham, where many of the team are based.



A Note from Mandy

I recently read that if you make a commitment to grow daily, it won't be long before you see real change. How challenging, exciting and thought provoking!

Here at Chrysalis, as another year draws to a close, we reflect on what has been an amazing year of commitment and change for our charity.

Thanks to all of you for the commitment and support shown through your prayers and gifts. They have enabled us to take on Jo as Development Director, take on more events, and grow as an organisation who remain committed to gently taking the truth of the gospel to communities in the UK through entertainment.

This work, with all its challenges, remains a privilege. We are all looking forward to next year to see how God wants us to grow as we commit every day to His leading - perhaps with a few more changes in store!

Thank you again for all your support throughout 2006. All that remains is for all of us at Chrysalis to wish you a very happy and peaceful Christmas and God's blessings for the New Year.

Cabaret team 'all things to all people' in October!

The Cabaret team had a busy weekend in early October, covering both the Arts Café in Maidenhead, a non-threatening environment for Christians to bring their friends to, and Hextable Methodist Church in Swanley, Kent, with a buffet meal and after dinner performance. The weekend was particularly busy for Mandy, who slotted in a matinee performance as Carlotta in the Phantom of the Opera at the West End in-between! The team performed the Aspects of Love programme at both venues, and were very well received. Nicki's honest and moving testimony, delivered in such a natural and down-to-earth manner, surely touched us all.

The Next Phase

When we unveiled 'The Big Picture' at Chesham Town Hall on 8th January, it was the culmination of months of meetings and management sessions led by our good friend Tim Stone. The Trustees and the Management Team had carefully worked through where we believed God wanted Chrysalis to go over the next 10 years. A charity can only grow to a certain size based simply on voluntary help. We realised that after 14 years Chrysalis had reached that point and would only be able to move on significantly with a Development Director on the staff.

Well we received two strong applications and following interviews in August the Trustees have appointed Jo Foster as our Development Director and we can now move Chrysalis 'up a gear'!

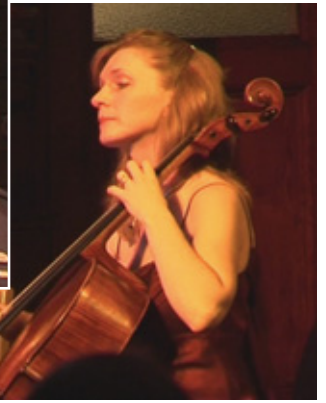
Jo started working on 5th October. She is being based in the office with Derek, and initially will be working a four day week. We are very excited about this appointment, and ask for your continued support and prayers for Jo as she settles into her new role.

The key objectives of the Next Phase will be to:

- increase our support base
- Increase our performer base
- Increase the number of gigs

These things are of course only stepping stones to achieving our main aim – bringing more people to know the Lord.

Keith Haward – Chairman of Trustees



Double Celebration at Broadway Baptist

by Lesley Roberts

Broadway Baptist Church in Chesham is the home church of several of the Chrysalis team and this year is their 300th anniversary. There have been a whole host of celebratory events throughout the year, particularly in the last 2 weeks of October, culminating in two Chrysalis presentations – a Classical Concert on 28th and the Main Chrysalis Team Show on the 29th. The two evenings were such a contrast – both being outstanding.

The Classical concert featured music exploring creation and the rhythm of nature. Highlights for me were extracts from 'The Planets' by Holst, beautiful pieces from Greig's 'Peer Gynt', part of Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons' and a marvelous rendering of 'Nimrod', from Elgar's Enigma Variations, all having been sympathetically adapted for the quartet of violin, viola, cello and flute. A thought provoking short talk linked nature's rhythm to our own, and how Christians live to God's rhythm, likened to the rhythm of a drum which beats louder when we stray too far from God's guidance and preferred lifestyle for us.

The Show on the 29th was an exuberant look over the past few decades with instrumentals and songs interspersed with interesting PowerPoint commentary and sketches. What can I say, other than it was Chrysalis professionalism at its best. Diverse pieces depicting every era and mood were faultlessly delivered between two medleys – the brilliant 'old faithful' of the 'Millennium Medley' and ending with the 'new faithful' Cliff Richard mix. This team really ought to be on New York 'Broadway' not Chesham Broadway – but America's loss is our gain!! A short reflection of how God's faithfulness helps Christians cope with an ever more uncertain world hopefully set people thinking.

I took guests to both evenings – one preferring the classical evening, the other the modern show – and all of us had a great time. Why not book both for your church and enjoy a weekend of contrasting styles, combining live music of a very high standard with a gentle introduction to looking at the spiritual need in all of us??



78 The Broadway, Chesham, Bucks HP5 1EG
Tel: 01494 581115 Fax: 01494 581114
E-mail: office@chrysalis.org.uk
www.chrysalis.org.uk



Congratulations

to Clive and Mandy Dunstall (nee Watsham) on the occasion of their wedding on Sunday, 27th August. A great day was had by all as Clive and Mandy (in her ruby slippers) tripped down the yellow brick road! Thank you to everyone for your cards, gifts, encouragement and prayers.

Derek's Desk

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The old Sankey gospel song does say, *Make the message clear and plain, Christ receiveth sinful men.*

Doing that is what Chrysalis is all about.

