



INSIDE THE COCOON

A newsletter for supporters of Chrysalis Arts Trust

WINTER 2008



HATCHING INTO NEW PHASE

Since Nicki and Mandy became 'Mums' in 2007, it has become clear that national (or international!) Chrysalis tours were no longer so practical for them.

Some years ago they had felt a leaning towards presenting Chrysalis locally on a more regular basis in the Trust's home town of Chesham to establish a working reality of this type of relational evangelism. Now they feel God is again calling Chrysalis to engage more with the local community just as it did when it started back in 1992.

Nicki and Mandy got thinking and praying to see exactly what God had in mind for them and Chrysalis. Several ideas came out that were developed and brought to the Trustees to consider. The Trustees were encouraged by all the ideas, and after more prayer, they decided to proceed with the local choir proposal. (see separate item)

With this new initiative, the Trustees had to look at the role of Development Director. The change in focus from national expansion to more local work, meant that going forward, a Development Director was no longer a necessity. Consequently the difficult decision was made to not renew Jo's Contract when it expires in January 2009. It was some relief when Jo admitted that she had been contemplating becoming a full time Mum as both her girls will be at school/pre-school from next year.

So the Classical Team will continue to tour and work alongside local churches in the UK. The Cabaret and main teams will not completely cease to exist but whilst not touring as regularly as they have done, they will be available for certain projects and people will be advised to ring the office if they are interested in using these teams. Chrysalis Rocks is still 'in the wings' but we hope they are on the road in 2009.

We do believe that Chrysalis is now 'hatching' into our next phase. We are all excited by the Community Choir, and other local projects. We believe God has great plans for Chrysalis. Thank you for your backing in the past and we would ask for your continued prayers as we move towards these new ventures.

Keith Haward – Chairman of Trustees.

FLAT PACK BOXES....

We are excited that the contents of these little Chrysalis 'piggy banks' are starting to come in! However that half full box on your shelf doesn't help us until we receive it. Please make every effort to 'Fill'em up and send 'em in!'

Check out how your little box is doing, and if you would like a replacement box, please let us know. Thank You!



Goodbye from Jo



It is with real mixed feelings that I will be leaving Chrysalis at the end of this year. It has been a great privilege to work with such talented and professional musicians and staff, all with a real heart for sharing the wonderful news of the Gospel. I have also really welcomed the opportunity to work with so many people (many over the ether or the phone) from different churches across the country, and sharing in their exciting outreach activities. I now look forward to being a full time Mum to my two lovely little

girls, and to spending more time losing at Monopoly, and making interesting objects out of pipe cleaners and sticky back plastic.

I wish Chrysalis every blessing in their future ventures.



THE CABARET TEAM AT RICKMANSWORTH

On a lovely warm summer's evening (yes, there were one or two this year!) the Cabaret team, comprising Mandy, Nicki and Elaine with the addition of

Steve Foster on drums, played at an open-air gig in Rickmansworth as part of a 20 hour 'Relay for Life'.

This was aimed at raising awareness and money for Cancer Research UK. The whole event was opened and closed by Fiona Castle. With over 300 people listening, the Chrysalis team performed a range of songs based on the theme "Aspects of Love". This was followed by a moving 'Candles of Hope' Ceremony, where candles were lit around the track at dusk, in memory of those no longer with us, and in celebration of cancer survivors.

The event raised over £45,000 and everyone present seemed to enjoy the live entertainment during their relay around the running track with very positive feedback from the organizers and sound crew.

DIARY 2008

- Nov 28th Community Choir at Victorian Evening, Chesham,
- Dec 7th Christmas at Twilight, featuring the Chrysalis Community Choir, Chesham
- Dec 14th Christ Church, Barnet - Cabaret Team

Chrysalis Community Choir

The Community Choir is a brand new initiative for Chrysalis and we're really excited about it! Choirs have become really popular of late especially thanks to TV programmes like Last Choir standing, The Choir and so on.

We realised the amount of singing opportunities for people to flex their vocal chords have diminished over the years and this offers people a chance to do just that in a relaxed, friendly environment! We put out a few feelers and had such a positive response from people in the town that said they would love to join if we started such a thing...so we did! At our first rehearsal we had 52 people come along and

at least 10 people had called to send their apologies as they would be missing the first rehearsal! It was great fun – a fantastic atmosphere and the sound wasn't bad either considering many hadn't sung since schooldays!

The aim of the choir is for people from the local community from inside and outside the church, who love to sing, to get together, meet new friends and have fun whilst singing a variety of styles including Gospel and Musical Theatre. Whilst hopefully fulfilling the Chrysalis vision to meet people where they are at and breaking down barriers and misconceptions that people have about Christianity.

The choir will be working alongside the Chrysalis main team and the first performance will be entitled 'Christmas at Twilight' on Sunday 7th December at 4pm at Broadway Baptist Church, Chesham. Seasonal tuck will be served and choir members will be bringing their families along to enjoy an entertaining evening and Christmas craft activities for the younger members!

Please pray for this brand new project that it would continue to be a real positive community venture and that relationships would grow out of it.



EAST LEAKE

We would like to thank Chrysalis for a memorable Saturday night, when we welcomed many people from the community to join us. The food was delicious and the entertainment by Chrysalis was superb. The very talented ladies sang on the theme of 'Aspects of Love', ending with their testimonies on Christ-like love, the best love of all. The professional musicians provided music on



keyboard and strings, and it was a real pleasure to hear. The stage lighting was arranged by two very able technicians who came with the group too. The ministry of Chrysalis is to break down the barriers and misconceptions about Christianity, and they ask for your prayers to be able continue.

CLASSICAL TEAM - AT HOME AND AWAY



The new look Classical team, with Rebecca Pullman succeeding Dave Hart on flute, were pleased to accept an invitation at the end of September from the Baptist Church in the Polish town of Lodz (pronounced Woodge!).

The visit was as part of the celebration of 140 years of Baptists in the city marked by a weekend of events in the

church. The building itself has had a chequered history having been a communist militia cinema before the Church succeeded in overturning an illegal expropriation to re-acquire it in 1994.

As well as a lengthy presentation on the history of Baptists in Lodz, the celebrations included two choral concerts and our presentation on the Rhythm of Life. Although music cuts easily across languages, the task of translating a very English poem in the presentation proved challenging and one or two last minute changes were made with the assistance of the pastor!

For us, the weekend finished with a Sunday service which included a moving tribute to the elder members of the congregation.

Please pray for God's guidance as to future opportunities for the team to return to Poland next year for an extended tour.



MALVERN

As the newest member of the Classical Chrysalis team our trip to Poland after only 3 rehearsals had felt a bit like a baptism of fire. But as we arrived at Malvern on a blustery Sunday lunchtime I found I was slightly more sure of what I was doing and what music would be over the page! After a rehearsal interspersed with tea and lighting checks, we had a magnificent meal provided for us, 2 lovely dishes to cater for everyone's needs and lots of hot drinks!

The team had already been to Malvern and had loved the warmth and participation of the audience there. Our programme was different this time but they were still warm and friendly. Jill gave a very powerful testimony relevant and suitable for both believers and non-believers in the audience. During the interval and afterwards people were quick to tell us how much they had enjoyed the images, music and testimony. Then it was a very quick pack up and a speedy return to London to catch the last tubes!

Becca Pullman



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