

# ENCOUNTER

Encounter Christ The Healer.

The Newsletter of Healing Rooms England & Wales



**April 2023**

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.”

**John 1:1-4 (NIV)**

*If you find this newsletter interesting, please pass it on to your friends who may have healing needs.*

## **Healing Rooms @ Costa**

Stoke on Trent Healing Rooms Costa @ Talke Update!  
God Encounters!

God opened the door.

Due to altered business opening times at Costa Affinity Talke, Stoke on Trent Healing Rooms were unable to reopen after COVID restrictions were lifted.



However, God opened the door for a Healing Rooms to begin at the Costa Drive Thru, Talke, just a few miles away from where the first Healing Rooms in Costa began in 2012. Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2022 saw the beginning of this Healing Rooms in a new Costa venue, Costa Coffee Drive Thru. Talke, ST7 1LP. On the first evening the Healing Room Team, along with some new members, were greeted by guests who were already seated, drinking coffee, waiting for prayer! There were smiles all round!

We've had a lovely welcome from a very young Costa staff who have made us feel comfortable and we are pleased to be there. One of our main aims is to bless the Costa business, to help increase their footfall whilst we are in situ and to give back to them as they willingly open their doors to receive this Healing Ministry on their premises.

There is ample parking outside and the café seating area is large which means both guests and customers have space and ministry is private and unobtrusive. The original Healing Rooms at Costa Talke was in a shopping mall, the current one is in a Drive Thru so the situation is quite different, but still good!

By giving God 'Elbow Room' a place to move, He moves and does what He wants to do - which is to touch people with His Presence, His love and His healing power. We believe everyone who receives prayer, who calls on His name, has an encounter with Him. It is very rewarding to see Him move and touch people, to see people respond to His Presence.

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### **One guest came with a Costa paper napkin**

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Over the past four months since Healing Rooms opened in this new venue, we've ministered to many guests, some are people who frequented the first Healing Rooms others are coming for the first time. One guest came with a Costa paper napkin on which a Bible verse of encouragement was written and given three years ago. This verse is still read each night and kept safe under a pillow.

We've had words of knowledge given and received. Words given in the spirit, lived out in the physical. One word for example was about someone having an enlarged heart, like the racing horse, Secretariat. For this person, an enlarged heart of love and compassion. It was physically true, this person medically has an enlarged heart.

Some guests are very local, others travelling quite a distance for ministry, one for instance from near Manchester, Cheshire. Another, one very cold icy evening, from the Peak District in Derbyshire.

It is a privilege to see guests touched by Holy Spirit, some are quietly moved, some visibly moved to tears. Whether they know God personally or are, as yet, non-believers seeking help, God meets with them all.

In these post COVID days we can continue to access ministry on Zoom as well as face to face, in situ.

God's message to us all today is 'Don't sit on the side-line, I want you on the front line!' Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever and He is still in the ministry of Healing!! We thank God for His open doors of opportunity, we thank Him for each person who comes to receive ministry.

This article is in the 'Encounter' Newsletter – God is in 'The Encounter Business!' We thank Him that each and every person who comes for prayer is never turned away – but receives a 'God Encounter.'

**Sue Davies**

**HR Regional Director**

(Details for each Healing Rooms' opening times, days and venue addresses are on the HREW website), [www.healingrooms.org.uk](http://www.healingrooms.org.uk)

## **Healing through the Creative Arts**

### **Creative Arts: Pebbles and Bottles Used as a Tool in Sharing the Gospel**

*Luke 19v40 "if they kept quiet, the stones along the road would burst into  
cheers!"*

#### **Deborah's story.....**

I live in a small village on the south coast of England called Milford on Sea with my beautiful daughter Charlotte for whom I am a full-time carer and our treasured little ball of fluff a doggie called Talullah.

I have always had a keen interest in the creative arts and crafts in many different forms including needlework, cookery and painting. About five years ago I was prompted of the Lord to start a hobby which involved painting designs, images and scriptures on pebbles and then on bottles.

It began as a result of my taking the gospel out to many homes in the village. I posted Christian leaflets through the doors of over 200 local residences. The leaflets were

intended as a form of evangelism. They explained about the ABCs of salvation and how the Lord would soon be returning to collect His believers.

I soon realised that the leaflets were not weatherproof. They quickly disintegrated and were easily discarded so opportunities to share the Lord with people were being missed because of the nature of using paper. There had to be another solution!



Milford on Sea village is a busy, lively yet traditional community. There are four churches. Regular events are held on the village green with something happening at the library and community centre every day of the week.

Milford is also blessed with many visitors and tourists, not just in the summer months but all year-round people come to enjoy the sea air, take advantage of the beautiful beaches and scenery, walk along the cliff top over the spit and around the marshes.

With evangelism in mind in 2018 I was prompted of the Lord to try applying paint to some pebbles I found in our garden. After a few trials and error to find the right medium, brushes, pens and glazes etc I started to have some success, so I gravitated to buying the pebbles in bags as they are more predictable in terms of surface finish and size. (We are not allowed to pick them up off the beach of course.)

I usually start off with a smooth pebble that sits nicely in the palm of the hand. This is so I can carry one in my pocket in case I meet somebody who the Holy Spirit leads me to give one to. I give them the 'good news' in the form of a pebble. I like to call them 'pocket preaching pebbles.' Each pebble is colourful, carries a scripture, a small message and an image. Unlike paper they are unusual, have a lasting quality, are something to be cherished and a keepsake.





1: I draw my design on the stone in pencil, then paint filling in the design. It might take two coats to obtain the right density of colour.

2: After the pebble is painted, I spray it with clear, glossy varnish which keeps it weather-proof.

3: Sometimes I will paint the top part of the pebble in a base colour and then draw my design on it, at the end I will finish it with varnish.

4: I also add glitter glue on some of the designs before varnishing.

As my confidence grew, I began to branch out a bit more and tried painting images and scriptures on clear glass bottles. During the summer I quietly leave a painted bottle on a bench on Milford village green or the cliff top. I occasionally put little solar fairy lights in the bottles so that people can use them in their garden in the summer evenings.



The pandemic opened up a whole new meaning and opportunity to reach those who are lost and hurting including those who lost loved ones during this horrific time. It is fascinating to see people's reactions when I give them a pebble, or they come across a bottle.

To date, I believe I have painted 6000 pebbles and probably about 100 bottles.

More importantly anybody can do this. With practice your painting will improve. A design can be as simple as applying paint to the end of a pen to make dot patterns into flowers or crosses.

We are living in turbulent times. We all need some form of relaxation inspired by our Creator - what better way is there to unwind using the talents the Lord has given us in whatever creative activity you are led to engage in to reach a lost and dying world.

I believe time is short, that we are living in the end times, with the imminent return of our beloved Lord Jesus meeting us in the air so there is no better time to share the gospel in whatever way He lays on our heart.



**Many blessings, Deborah**

If you have a testimony of how God has used your creative gift in healing or evangelism and you believe it will encourage others please get in touch by email [newforest@healingrooms.org.uk](mailto:newforest@healingrooms.org.uk)

**Sylvia Barnes**  
**Director New Forest Healing Rooms**  
**Regional Director South of England**

## **News from around the Regions**

### **A Note to all Regions**

If you have items that you think may be of interest for the monthly Encounter newsletter please forward these to Carole at HREW headquarters. Items of interest can be about your activities, testimonies, personnel, in fact anything that can be shared with the HREW family.

### **London Healing Rooms – 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**



The London Healing Rooms were the 2<sup>nd</sup> IAHR (International Association of Healing Rooms) to open in the UK after Halifax. They were started by Tom and Elizabeth (Betty) Burke in April 2003 at the Good News Shop in Leyton, London E10. Tom and Betty had been to Spokane in WA, USA to do the Healing Rooms training under Cal Pierce in 2002. Betty had been given a prophetic word many years previously that she would “direct rooms of healing”. When they came back to the UK they gathered a team around them and simply practiced praying and seeking the Lord’s healing for one another. Shortly afterwards in April 2003 they opened the rooms to the general public once a week on a Wednesday evening.

In June 2003 they put on their first New Team Training (NTT) which they have repeated initially three times a year, but in more recent times twice a year; in February and September. From these NTTs the team grew not just in number but also in anointing and experience. The demand grew such that the rooms were able to open three times a week, Monday mornings and Wednesday and Thursday evenings. At one stage there were over 70 team members ministering in around 800 to over 1000 sessions per annum.



To make physical space for these rooms, the Lord wonderfully arranged for a piece of “no-man’s land” at the rear of the Good News Shop to be allocated to Tom and Betty. On this strip of land they were able to put up three chalets as well as using an existing conservatory, two rooms above the shop along with a screened off area at the back of the shop, so that when the rooms were very busy it was possible to minister to 7 guests simultaneously.

The London Healing Rooms were also involved in birthing other Healing Rooms in the London and Home Counties areas and when invited, training prayer teams in a few churches.

A few years ago Tom and Betty took a step back from leading the London Healing Rooms. Jackie Richardson, Steve Rethon and Grant Davidson then took on the mantle as joint Co-Directors. Grant has since also taken a step back.

In March 2020 the coronavirus pandemic meant that physical Face-to-Face (F2F) meetings had to be curtailed. However as everyone started using Zoom to communicate with each other in their churches by May 2020 we were able to open London Virtual Healing Rooms on Monday mornings and Wednesday evenings. This is still the main way that we minister to guests, although since September 2021 we have also been providing a few F2F sessions by appointment at the Good News shop on Wednesdays. Currently we have about 28 team members ministering in around 500 to 600 sessions per annum.



Jackie Richardson



We also have a team of intercessors who pray for guests at the same time as the ministry teams and it is amazing how the Lord brings a word, a picture or a song to confirm what the ministry teams have been given for their guests.

The Lord has led the London Healing Rooms for all of these 20 years. It has been wonderful to see how He speaks into the lives of our guests and how he brings healing, wholeness and freedom to each person.

**Steve Rethon**  
**Director, London Leyton Healing Rooms**

## God is Moving!

### IAHM Miracles & Healings Nights

Following the success of the series of Miracles & Healings Nights that started in September 2020 HREW are pleased that we have engaged in a third year-long Healing School for International Association of Healing Ministries (IAHM) where we are providing monthly online ministry under their umbrella.

**2023**  
**20 April**  
**15 June**

Remember, your prayers are important. Please note the new season of Miracles & Healings Nights, ask for God’s sovereignty on the events, that there would be increased

numbers of guests and that much blessing would flow. Also note that the evenings have been moved to Thursdays.

In February HREW had 35 prayer ministers, 28 guests were admitted but due to technical issues only 18 guests were prayed for. The prayer teams had the great blessing of being joined by 9 prayer ministers from the Ukraine who were led by their pastor Dymtro Kostiantyn. Dymtro joined Ralph and Sylvia as an additional host for the evening and was able to assist any Ukrainian guests who were non English speaking.

They were very blessed times with some long prayer sessions that brought healing to many. The guests came from Holland, Germany, Moldova, Australia, USA, Latvia, Ukraine and the UK. The testimonies from this evening will appear in a later edition of ENCOUNTER.

In March HREW had 12 prayer ministers, 16 guests were admitted. The prayer teams were kept very busy and no teams came free before 9:00pm, the nominated closing time. There were a number of very blessed encounters and this was summed up by one team member saying “all who came left lighter”.

The guests came from Holland, Germany, USA, Switzerland, France and the UK. The testimonies from this evening will also appear in a later edition of ENCOUNTER.

If you were not able to see the latest or previous Miracles & Healings Nights the evenings can still be viewed on YouTube. The link to access this is on the IAHM website under the heading **Miracles & Healings Nights, select by date.**

[Miracles & Healings Night in English](#) (Ctrl and click)

## **Testimonies from February Miracles & Healings Night**

A lady wanted prayer regarding ongoing panic attacks. We prayed in the Holy Spirit and had 2 Cor 13 v 11 and the peace of God. A team member had the word agoraphobia and she said that it been going on from 35 years. She had joy and release and like a weight had lifted off and her shoulder released. We physically saw her being released and we clapped the Lord together for His wonderful love and freedom.

Another lady was feeling tired and we saw that it was a spirit of fatigue. She had felt all warm in her arm and was so smiling after we all prayed for her.

## **HREW Website**

If you have items of interest or photographs that you would like on your profile page please contact Derek Balsdon: [derek.balsdon@healingrooms.org.uk](mailto:derek.balsdon@healingrooms.org.uk)

As you know each Healing Rooms location has it's own profile pages attached to the main HREW website and these are there to hold key details of the location address, opening times and contact telephone numbers etc. plus any other information, latest news etc. that you want the public to know about you.



***You may find this interesting*** – There are always a high proportion of visitors to the website that look at the “Healing Rooms Near You” page. During the months of November and December 2022 there were 793 visitors to this page. From January 1<sup>st</sup> 2023 up to 19<sup>th</sup> February there were 856 visitors to the same page. What we can read into this is that there are several hundred persons per month looking for the locations of Healing Rooms. In this context it is important that your profile pages are both attractive, inviting and informative.

## **Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer (EWoAP)**



The team excitedly visited our land on a cold yet sunny day recently which also marked the 6th anniversary since we received the word from God about our [Heavenly Land](#).

We were thrilled to walk along the completed road leading to where the entrance of Eternal Wall will be in a few short years. Gone are the days of trudging through muddy fields to get to the land!

Finishing the road is a huge milestone. We're now moving to the next stage of the build!

### **Eternal Wall Testimony of the Month**

**“I immediately remembered my own need  
for healing...”**

**15<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

#### ***Answered Prayer #118,410***

I had suffered, ever since childhood, from a form of acid reflux. On 23 January 2023, I was watching a Christian TV programme (The 700 Club) in which the hosts were praying for healing, and I prayed along with them for all those who were also watching the programme and were in need of healing. When one of the presenters mentioned digestive disorders, I immediately remembered my own need for healing. I had lived with the condition for so long, I was almost resigned to having to put up with it for the rest of my life. As the hosts on the programme prayed, I thought to myself, 'Well, why

not me? Why not now?' At that moment I was struck by a strong sense of God's goodness, and His willingness to heal, and I knew in myself that He had heard my prayer and that I had been healed. The next morning, for the first time in my life, I woke up with no symptoms at all, and I have had none since.

For more information about the Eternal Wall of Answered Prayer see the website:  
[www.eternalwall.org.uk](http://www.eternalwall.org.uk)

## Featured Christian Artist - Sarah Bookless



**\*April Evening**  
*by Sarah T. Bookless*

The painting depicts an April early evening and as the spectator looks out of the window towards the hills, there are sheep and lambs grazing in the far distance.

Psalm 121 verse 1-2 comes to mind:

"I lift my eyes to the mountains - where does my help come from?  
My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

He will not let your foot slip - he who watches over you will not slumber;  
indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord watches over you - the Lord is your shade at your right hand;  
the sun shall not smite you by day, nor the moon at night.

The Lord will keep you from all harm - he will watch over your life;  
The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore. NIV

We thank God that Jesus has become our True Shepherd by dying on the cross for us so that we "may have life and have it to the full." John 10 verse 10.

"For you know that it was not with perishable things, such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect." 1 Peter 1 18-21.

In Isaiah 53 verse 4- 5 we read:

"Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him and afflicted.

But He was pierced through for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed." NIV.

In John 1 verse 29 we read that St John the Baptist declared:

"Behold , the Lamb of God ,who takes away the sin of the world" also Luke 3: 22 "and the Holy Spirit descended on Him in a bodily form like a dove and a voice came from heaven "You are my beloved son , in You, I am well pleased".

May the Holy Spirit descend also on all of us.

Lord Jesus, I pray you will also be pleased with us as we place all our hope in You and may the blessings of Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with us and grant us a Blessed Easter ..... Shalom my friends! Amen.

***Sarah Therese Bookless, D.A.***  
***Christian Artist***

*\*This picture is reproduced by kind permission of Sarah.*

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## **On a different note:**

Those found guilty of using too many commas will get a long sentence

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## The National Prayer Line

HREW are continuing to offer prayer at various locations and at present our dedicated teams will pray for you either online or over the phone. Some of our Healing Rooms that temporarily closed to comply with and support the Government guidance and legislation have now re-opened. Check 'Healing Rooms Near You' on the website [www.healingrooms.org.uk](http://www.healingrooms.org.uk) to find the ones that have re-opened and for more information and contact details. We have now resumed sending out prayer cloths on request via the website. We are a Christian charity and our members are trained and experienced prayer ministers from a wide range of mainstream Christian churches. It is our desire that all people find healing and wholeness. We aim to help those struggling with life's challenges be they physical, emotional, spiritual or relational. Calls are managed confidentially and are free (except your own call charge).

Prayer requests can be sent by e-mail to: [contact@healingrooms.org.uk](mailto:contact@healingrooms.org.uk)

To see testimonies of what God is doing nationally and receive the latest news about what is happening, follow us on Facebook and Instagram:

[www.facebook.com/HealingRoomsEnglandandWales](https://www.facebook.com/HealingRoomsEnglandandWales)

[www.instagram.com/healingroomsenglandandwales](https://www.instagram.com/healingroomsenglandandwales)

If you have a healing need or have a desire to join in this ministry, please make contact either via the website or as shown below:-

HR England and Wales:	The National Prayer Line Days/Times
<p>Please contact us by email:</p> <p><a href="mailto:contact@healingrooms.org.uk">contact@healingrooms.org.uk</a></p> <p>Danesford Community Centre West Road Congleton Cheshire CW12 4EY</p>	<p>Monday-Saturday 10:30am-12:30pm (excluding Bank Holidays)</p> <p>The number to call is:</p> <p><b>03300 889 336</b></p>

[www.healingrooms.org.uk](http://www.healingrooms.org.uk)

*If you find this newsletter  
interesting,  
please pass it on  
to your friends who may  
have healing needs.*