

Autumn / Winter 2015

Newsletter



'Beauty from Ashes' Creative Art Day

In October, we held our first Creative Art Ministry Day, lead by Sandie Skyme.

Eleven ladies, took the opportunity to take time out and draw closer to God through expressive and creative art. The day was relaxed and informal focusing on Isaiah 61, with time to be quiet and reflect.

The morning was spent creating a beautiful personal canvas, by exploring mixed media, paint and collage (some had never done anything arty before)!



After a wonderful 3 course lunch, time was spent either, walking the Prayer Labyrinth, wandering with God in the grounds or weaving a prayer, using a peg loom.

All in all, it was a day very much anointed of God and His blessings were very evident.

One lady said ... "The day was an oasis of calm, creativity and time to just be. Gods presence was all around and Father would be so pleased to see the outpouring of creative work his children produced reflecting His glory"!

Ladies House Party

In November the annual Ladies House Party saw 55 ladies come together for the weekend. It was a time to come aside from the hustle and bustle of daily life and responsibility. There were opportunities to: relax, unwind, chat, laugh, have fun, eat lots of fantastic food, be pampered, dance, play games, enjoy a variety of crafts, go for a walk and be refreshed and renewed in the presence of the Lord. Jemma Ponsford our guest speaker, unpacked the theme of the weekend 'Set Apart Not Set Aside'. The

anointing of the Lord was upon her as she used the Word, her own experiences and practical exercises, to cause us to look at our lives, who we are, and our calling. It was a word 'in season' for many and the moving of the Holy Spirit was evident.

We are chosen daughters of the King. Thank you Lord.

Schools Work

We have had another exciting and fun filled season with all the schools that have visited Hill House. Eight of the visiting schools came under the 'Hill House Residential' banner and we had opportunities to interact with six other schools and colleges, either through team building activities, assemblies or providing the catering. It has been great to strengthen the links with those schools who are now 'regulars', meet new teachers and staff and obviously spend time with approximately 600 pupils.



The winter months provide an opportunity to review and assess ways to improve the programme: whether through a new team building activity; new topic, new assemblies; a different menu or increasing our own knowledge. As well as, visits to staff and pupils. Therefore, as we look to the future we are always thankful for the prayers and support we receive from many people.

Prayer Board

- **Winter Warmer** 12th Dec - a good response and we will continue to build links and relationships with the local community.
- **Creative Art Day** 16th Jan - that there will be a lot of interest and the Lord will continue to minister through creative and expressive art.
- **Trustees Meeting** Sat 9th Jan - to know the heart, mind and will of God as we look ahead to the coming year.
- **Summer Camp** - Week leaders, as they gather their team around them to plan and prepare.

Maintenance and Projects

Grounds:

With 6 full time staff, we can afford to spend more time nurturing and developing the grounds. Wood chip pathways have been laid through the woods to the various activities. The edging to the driveway around the front of the house has been re-established, enhancing the front of the property.

Decor:

The dishwasher area sees much activity and was in need of some tender loving care. So it has had a make-over and is now fresh and spacious.



The Meeting Room is next on the list and is due to be refreshed early in the New Year.

Projects:

We are currently considering how we invest in the infrastructure and facilities at Hill House. We would welcome your prayers regarding the building of a barn type structure, with hard standing for games and replacing the windows of the Main House.

The Webb Family 6 months on

We have settled well. The time has flown by and we've done our best to get stuck in to all that goes on here! Work wise, the job is really varied and we have been involved in a number of different tasks, depending on who we have staying and what needs doing about the place. Andrew concentrates mostly on grounds work whilst I am concentrating on house-keeping. It's also been great to assist the team with the school's work as well as to experience the Summer Camps.

Our family all feel like Hill House is home, and they also have been blessed to be involved in some of the activities that go on throughout the year. Reuben attended Week 2 and Lydia who isn't quiet old enough to stay on camp, still managed to join in with the fun. Katie our eldest joined in a little with Week 3. Although both Katie and Sam have full time jobs that keep them busy, they still appreciate the beauty of living here and we all feel very blessed!

Trustees

The Trustees are delighted to welcome Clare Cox to join them on the board of Trustees. Clare's area of expertise is in marketing and advertising. Clare says "Hill House is a very special place for me. It is where I got saved and met my husband and so it is an absolute honour to join the team".

'Winter Warmer' Christmas Fayre

Come and join us
Sat 12th Dec

If you would like to book
a craft stall (£10 per table)
please contact the office



Wedding Reception at Hill House



In June David & Jacqui's daughter
Natalie, married Mike Jones. The
reception was held at Hill House, a
perfect setting for a wonderful day.
A big thank you to: the Trust for
making it possible; Kay and her
team for providing amazing food
and for Steve, Jacob, Andrew &
Jacqui for working tirelessly.

Forthcoming Events:

**'Winter Warmer'
Christmas Fayre**
Sat 12th December
12.00 - 4.00pm



Creative Art Day
With
Sandie Skyrme
Sat 16th January 2016
10.00am - 4.00pm



**40 Years at Hill House
CELEBRATION**

**Weekend 14th - 15th
May 2016**



Details will be posted on the website
or contact the Office.

Summer Camp 2016

Week 1 24th - 29th July

Week 2 30th July - 6th Aug

Week 3 6th - 13th Aug

Week 4 13th - 20th Aug

Week 5 20th - 27th Aug

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Summer Camp

'Fun'

A few weeks ago, a new church was visiting Hill House and a young man introduced himself by saying "33 years ago I was sat in that (pointing) conference room on summer camp and was saved". How wonderful to hear those words and the Lord continues to change lives through this work.

Week 1 - It was great to join with 35 'campers' as team and share some fun, prayer, worship and teaching together. It was a real blessing for some of the 'campers' to lead our quiet time sessions and hear from various speakers in our daily seminars and evening sessions.

God was clearly at work over the week, speaking to many young adults about their discipleship journey and call to lead at camp, in their home churches, at uni and with their youth



Week 2 - Was entitled FOOD GLORIOUS FOOD! We took that theme into the programme and meal times. The evening sessions were focused on meals that Jesus had with people in the gospels.

The sense of community over the week: living, eating and worshipping together, was amazing. It was humbling to pray with the campers each evening and see their hunger and enthusiasm to know God more. Being part of the team was an amazing experience and felt like being part of a big family all working for the same goal.



Week 3 - We arrived at camp with a strong team of officers and a large group of campers and instantly got into the camp vibe. Tim Moody led the evening celebrations and engaged the campers in a series of talks including being risk takers and restoring humanity. Alongside the evening celebrations, we ran a series of workshops and seminars ranging from Big Questions to Self Worth, and Being a Christian in Sport

to Creative Writing.

It was a fantastic week where once again campers went back to their homes with stories to tell and eager to 'run the race'.



Week 4 - This year took on a Royal flavour with visits from many members of royal households from knights to princesses. We had 60 campers and a team of 31, many of whom were new to the team this year. In our teaching we thought about why Jesus is King, how we can be a son or daughter of the King and what that means for us. We praise God for another great year and for His faithfulness to all the work that goes on at Hill House.



Week 5 - Our loose theme was Stories. To share ours with them, and for them to share theirs with us and to throw in a few from the Bible and other people as well. We wanted each child to leave camp knowing that they are completely loved and fully accepted by God. The atmosphere in the week was relaxed, loving, accepting and affirming and we enjoyed getting alongside each other, campers and officers.



One leader has said "Camp is all about serving together, seeing the kingdom break into precious lives, doing this amidst laughter and chaos and doing all of that with people that you grow to love fiercely in a short, manic week. Praying as if it all depends on God, and working as if it all depends on us".



So this is how we treat our Camp Chairman!!