

# MAIDSTONE CHRISTIAN CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

## NEWSLETTER – JUNE 2018

We are glad to report that the group continues to do well, with attendances nudging 20 at most meetings, and with new contacts being made. There is also, of course, pastoral ministry especially for those unable to attend. Some of those connected with us are in a serious condition and are continually in our prayers.

Each month we aim to have one guest speaker, and in the near future will welcome Clive Jones, former pastor of Staplehurst Free Church, on 18<sup>th</sup> June, and the Rev Lorraine Apps-Huggins on 16<sup>th</sup> July. She is the assistant chaplain of The Living Well which is a centre for healing and wholeness based in Nonington ([www.the-living-well.org.uk](http://www.the-living-well.org.uk)). In the autumn our speakers include Brother Christopher OGS, the director of the Loseley Christian Cancer Help Centre, and the Rev Colin Terry who is setting up an Anna Chaplaincy in partnership with the Heart of Kent Hospice. Other ministry is shared between Christine and Andrew.

And – an outing! We have arranged a visit to Beech Court Gardens, Challock on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July (2.30pm), and will have exclusive access to the grounds as well as a full cream tea. Transport will be by car, and we will try to arrange lifts where needed. Members of our group can come at a special rate, but we will be very pleased for anyone else to join us for £10, which is still lower than the normal cost. Get in touch with Andrew (contact details below) by Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. If possible, we would prefer pre-payment as we are committed to pay for bookings whether people come or not.

The new data protection regulation is now in force and we have had an excellent response with about 70 people asking to be on our mailing list. If you want to be added and receive information from time to time just let us know. We would also be delighted to welcome visitors to one of our meetings so that you can see first-hand what we do. We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month at Linton Road Free Church (near Linton crossroads); bring a snack lunch for 12.30pm, which is followed by an informal service.

We keep in touch with Helen Jones who has a network of cancer prayer groups around the country ([www.firmroots.org.uk](http://www.firmroots.org.uk)). Andrew and Ann will be going to the Firm Roots national conference in October. Her work is due to be featured soon in the Women Alive magazine. Another media note: A recent BBC 1 Songs of Praise (3<sup>rd</sup> June) was on Christianity and Cancer. It was brilliant – with faith-inspiring yet very moving and honest stories of those who are handling the cancer experience. You can get it back on BBC iplayer until 3<sup>rd</sup> July.

Thank you for your interest, prayers and the generous donations we have received that will enable us to work without financial concerns for quite a while.

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