

Penhurst News

Winter 2020

Welcome to the Penhurst winter newsletter - the first since the leadership handover from Richard and Storm to us! Change is a constant part of life - from the seasons of nature to our personal lives, and also here at Penhurst. As we approach the end of one year and the start of another, we invite you to join us in looking back and forward at some of changes here at Penhurst. One of the changes we also celebrate at the time of year is the difference the gift of Immanuel, God with us, makes in our lives.

With every blessing,

Joanna + Dinei

Nearly six months on...

Joanna, Centre Manager writes: As with any change, there's been lots to learn and adjust to, but what a special place Penhurst is! It's been such a joy to meet many of our retreat leaders already, welcome regular and new guests, and be part of what the Lord is doing here. I look forward to the new year and meeting many more of you. Thank you for your ongoing prayers.



Nicci, Centre Host, writes: What a busy and blessed time it's been! Penhurst has something that I've not experienced elsewhere as strongly as I have felt here – peace and joy of Father's presence. My prayer is that many more people will come to Penhurst to experience this peace and joy and all that the Father has for His beloved children. I would like to thank everyone for their faithful prayers in upholding Joanna, me and the team – you are very much appreciated.

Trustees update - more change!

The last few weeks have seen several changes on our Board of Trustees:



Firstly, Martin Lee has stepped down as Chair of Trustees and Tim Herbert has been appointed to take on the role.

Tim writes: "I would like to thank Martin for all his hard work and commitment to Penhurst over nearly two decades as Chair. He has been tireless in his leadership, energy and enthusiasm, taking us on the journey from a fledgling Trust to the established charity we

are today. Without his skills and hard work we would not be where we are now. We will all miss him and we wish him well for the future."



Mary Flitton has also stepped down as a trustee, and Tony Collins has been appointed as a trustee.

Please join us in giving thanks for these and all our trustees, and praying for these transitions.

Looking forward to 2020...

The 2020 retreat programme and brochure have arrived from the printers. Let us know if you'd like copies for yourself, friends and/or your church. The full programme is also available on the website - bookings are open and some retreats are already filling up!



There is also still space for a retreat before Christmas or at the start of the new year... We currently have rooms available 10-20 December 2019, and 3-5 January 2020.

Seeking Shelter - 14 December 2019

This quiet day with Christine Strohmeier invites you to come, slow down and step aside for a day in Advent. In this season of waiting on God come and ponder what helps us find shelter in God's love and what it means that God is seeking shelter amongst us.

Grace Space - 17-20 February 2020

Led by Jack and Sandra Telfer, 'Grace Space' is an opportunity to spend time with the God of all grace, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, take time to reflect on His grace and our response in the various circumstances we face.

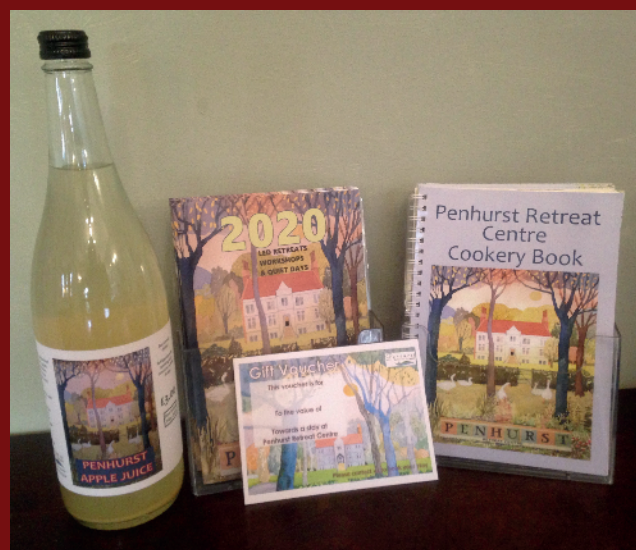
Book online or contact the office on info@penhurst.org.uk or 01424 892088.

Gifts galore

Jay has done a fantastic job refreshing our gift area over recent months with new stock from local, ethical and Christian suppliers.

There's also plenty of Penhurst favourites as well... including this year's Penhurst Apple Juice - we've tasted it and it's good!

If you looking for Christmas gifts, why not pop in and put together a few Penhurst items such as a gift voucher, bottle of apple juice and the ever-popular Penhurst Cookery Book?



Shopping online

Are you shopping on Amazon? If you use the following link, Amazon donates to Penhurst Retreat Centre at no extra cost to you!

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1060>

Advent thoughts...

In the four weeks leading up to Christmas Day, every Sunday a candle is lit to help guide us into the season of anticipation of the gifts that Jesus Christ brings. The first is the Prophecy Candle symbolising **hope**. The second is the Bethlehem Candle symbolising **faith**. The third is the Shepherds Candle symbolising **joy**. The fourth is the Angel's Candle symbolising **peace**. There are different traditions, there are even colours attributed to each candle that all help us see that the greatest gift of all is Jesus, the Saviour of the world. The fifth is white and is called the Christ Candle, lit on Christmas Day. This year, let's take time to really ponder on those who bore witness to the truth and on the gifts each candle symbolises – which one will stand out for you and which one will you carry with you into the new year?

~ Nicci



We hope you have a
Blessed and Peaceful Christmas



From us all here at
Penhurst

December and January opening

Our team will be having a well-earned break over Christmas, but we hope to hear from and see you soon.

Mon 9 Dec: Closed for staff training
Fri 20 Dec: Centre closed by 4pm
Sat 21 - Sun 29 Dec: CLOSED
Mon 30 Dec: Office open 8.30am - 3pm
Tues 31 Dec: Office open 10am - 3pm
Wed 1 Jan: CLOSED
Thurs 2 Jan: Office open 8.30am - 2.30pm
Fri 3 - Sun 5 Jan: Open as normal and rooms currently available.
Mon 6 - Thurs 16 Jan: Closed to guests, but office open as normal for bookings.
Fri 17 Jan onwards: Open as normal.

Our Contact Details:

Penhurst Retreat Centre,
Manor House, Penhurst, Battle, TN339QP

T: 01424 892088
E: info@penhurst.org.uk
W: www.penhurst.org.uk