

CENTRE OF HOPE HEALING COMMUNITIES
Saturday 16th June 5 – 8pm
Friends Meeting House
9 Rickfords Hill, Aylesbury
Bucks HP20 2RT

**'This entire mission will be created with love, managed with love and
designed to love every single courageous soul with Cancer
and their loved ones who walk through its doors'**

Origins

This mission is born out of my life-changing, challenging and enhancing, personal experience of Cancer. Cancer has been my nemesis and my gift at the same time, the worst thing that could have happened and also the best thing that has happened.

'Hidden Gifts - an abuse survivor's triumph through cancer', published by Austin & MacAuley, encapsulates my personal journey.

Cancer

The shock of a Cancer diagnosis itself is enough to shake your whole world, your values and all you hold dear. The immediate, ensuing onslaught of challenging, relentless treatment leaves you little time to recover emotionally and spiritually as you attempt to cope with what was your life. Life has changed and will not be the same again.

The impact and ramifications of Cancer upon an entire family can be endless physically, emotionally and spiritually.

People live with Cancer every single day no matter who they are, where they are, what they have or what they do and regardless of what stage they may be at on their journey, whether diagnosis, treatment, remission or even 'all clear'.

Current Support

Currently there is face to face support in the form of monthly localised support groups, hospital based breast care nurses, some hospital-based support centres, sponsored events, annual conferences, referrals for counselling etc. There is also telephone support through Information and Advice Centres etc.

This support is immensely valuable. However it is limited in accessibility as the onus is on the person with Cancer to make phone calls, go on-line to seek out information, wait for monthly support meetings on specific dates etc.

They almost have to wait to heal!

The Person with Cancer is Lost!

The person suffering from Cancer can be consumed by all of this and become more of a pro-active machine than someone with a potentially life-threatening disease who needs 'Care'!. The person him/herself gets lost, hence the 'Cancer Patient'.

Basis of My Vision for Centre of Hope Healing Communities

As part of my own personal journey through Cancer, I wanted more!

I felt guided to The Issels Treatment Centre in Tijuana, Mexico. Somewhere I could ‘let go’ and ‘receive’ for a change as opposed to trying to juggle my life whilst having Cancer too. I needed ‘hope’ in the chaos that was supposed to be my ‘life’..

I want to focus on the emotional and spiritual healing community aspect of this experience as I feel this is what is lacking here.

Standing out boldly on the warm dining room walls are the words from Corinthians: ‘and now these three remain - Faith, hope and love and the greatest of these is love’ embodying the healing that takes place there.

It felt like a loving hotel to me. Essentially the patient came first and was treated with faith, hope and love.

Welcoming, ‘beaming’ staff lovingly prepared and served quality vegetarian food with freshly squeezed vegetable and fruit juices. People with cancer from all over the world sat around circular tables chatting about their cancer experiences with humour and great spirit – the energy and life force almost palpable. Initially this seemed surreal yet it was refreshingly and wonderfully normal.

Wonderful individuals with Cancer and their loved ones gathered together morning and evening in the healing room, sharing their stories, worries and concerns, receiving healing, thanking god, singing from their hearts and praying together. This precious time was humbling and immensely uplifting.

This ‘whole’ person experience changed my attitude to and my experience of Cancer, my belief in God and my innate inner strength and power to live my life fully again. Here I belonged.

A wonderful friend whom I met during my stay there summed it up in a nutshell upon her return home to the UK:

‘We are all a community in Mexico but back here in UK we are all a bit lost’

Mission

I want to create the essence of that same community here in the UK (Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire initially) - Nurturing, Emotional and Spiritual Healing Centres based on the guiding principles of Faith, Hope and Love where brave individuals with Cancer, on any stage of their challenging journey, are warmly welcomed with their families and loved ones during any week and weekend to share time together whether that is pouring their hearts out, counting their blessings, sharing healthy food and drink together, singing and healing together.

If you feel ‘touched’ by what you have read, Come along on 16th and lets’ spend some time altogether and see where this takes us!

Directions to Friends Meeting House

Rickfords Hill is close to the town centre and just 5 minutes walk from the railway station and a public car park. There are some parking spaces in the street outside the Meeting House.