



SIBYLS NEWS

THE SIBYLS

Christian Spirituality Group for Gender Variant People

BM Sibyls, London WC1N 3XX

www.sibyls.co.uk E-mail: info@sibyls.co.uk

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. *1 Corinthians 15:3-5 (NIV)*

*Lo, Jesus meets us, Risen from the tomb!
Lovingly He greets us, Scatters fear and gloom.
Thine be the glory, Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.*

OUR MISSION

The Sibyls is a UK-based confidential Christian spirituality group for transgender people, and their supporters, offering companionship along the journey, and information/advocacy to churches. Sibyls pray, eat, and talk together, and seek to fulfil Christ's command to love one another.

OUR RULE

Members must respect the security of each and every other member, and must never jeopardise that security.

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS

All those who are contemplating or recovering from surgery,
all those who cannot for whatever reason take the course of action their heart desires,
all those known to us who are in any kind of need,
and those with disabilities or who are suffering from physical or emotional pain.

I have recently had some posted Newsletters returned with "*addressee unknown*" and some emailed Newsletters have been undeliverable.

Please do keep me informed of changes of contact details.

Thank you to all who help to keep cost down by receiving the Newsletter by email. Please let me know (rosie@sibyls.co.uk) if you would like to receive your copy by email. We will still send a paper version if you prefer.

Please note that views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the editor or of Sibyls in general.

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## Rosie's Jottings

Unfortunately this is a rather thin Newsletter as, apart from two items from Jay, I have received no other input. **PLEASE remember that this is YOUR Newsletter and most of the content is therefore dependent upon YOUR contributions.** I will be compiling the next Newsletter only when I have received some input so please send items for inclusion to me either by email to [rosie@sibyls.co.uk](mailto:rosie@sibyls.co.uk) or by post to Mrs Rosie Martin, 1 Woodruff Close, Christchurch, Dorset, BH23 4UN.

There is just **ONE** weekend planned for this year - at the Windermere Centre in May. The Windermere Centre (<http://windermere.unc.org.uk/>) is a very welcoming place of peace and tranquillity set in the midst of some of the most breathtaking scenery in the British Isles. If you wish to go to what I am sure this will be a wonderful weekend, complete the attached booking form and send it as soon as possible to Elen Heart.

The cost of the weekend is £135 and it could be some members feel that they cannot afford to come. Please do remember that a fund is available to help in such circumstances so please do phone Jay on 020 8763 0146 and discuss your situation with her in complete confidence. We really do want all members to feel they are able to fully participate and the weekends provide a valuable opportunity to meet with old friends and make new friends as we gather together in total security and freedom. Please do not be left out simply because you feel you cannot afford to come.

The next weekend that is booked is at Whaley Hall, Derbyshire in May 2013. Please let me know if you would like to act as host for this weekend or contact me to discuss what is involved.

Our thanks are due to Jay who is once again going to hold a Summer Garden Party in sunny Surrey on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July. I have no need to tell those who have been to previous events hosted by Jay how wonderful they are but for those who have never been, you are really missing a brilliant event!

Thanks are also due to Jay who, in her role as treasurer, has also provided a copy of the accounts for 2011. Jay continues to act as our Treasurer despite trying to find someone else to take on this important role. If anyone would like to take over as Treasurer, I am sure that Jay be delighted to hear from you so why not give her a call on 020 8763 0146 and discuss it with her?

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a wonderful Easter holiday and may you know the presence of the risen Christ as you continue on life's journey.

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SIBYLS LISTENING SERVICE

People prepared to listen to others are one of God's greatest gifts to us. We are fortunate in having some members who are happy to listen to you and chat with you. Please remember that we are not trained to give advice – but a problem shared in confidence often seems less of a burden. The listening service really does work so if you want someone with whom to talk with, why not call one of the following volunteers?

| | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Jenny Bond | 01623 836 662 | Jane Bowles | 01492 660 147 |
| Carol Moore | 01625 858 487 | Jenny-Anne Bishop | 01745 337 144 |
| Helen Mather | 0115 922 6450 | Jay Walmsley | 020 8763 0146 |

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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2012      Windermere Centre, Lake District  
(application form attached to this Newsletter)

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2012      Jay's Garden Party (see below for full details).

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2013      Whaley Hall, Whaley Bridge, Derbyshire

## REGULAR MEETINGS

**LONDON** a few members gather on the second Thursday of every second month at 5.30 for a Service at St Anne's, Dean Street, Soho, followed by a meal together. Future dates in 2012 are: 12 April, 14<sup>th</sup> June, 9<sup>th</sup> August, 11<sup>th</sup> October and 13<sup>th</sup> December.

**MANCHESTER** events in the North-West and North Wales are organised by Jenny-Anne [jennyannebuk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jennyannebuk@yahoo.co.uk) and Elen [elen.heart@btinternet.com](mailto:elen.heart@btinternet.com).

## **OTHER INCLUSIVE CHURCHES**

Metropolitan Community Church's throughout the world embrace diversity. In the UK there are churches in North London, South London, Manchester, Birmingham, Bournemouth, Dorchester, Torbay, Bath and Newcastle. See <http://ufmcc.com/> for contact details.

**CARDIFF:** City United Reform Church ([www.cityurc.org.uk](http://www.cityurc.org.uk)), Windsor Place, Cardiff, CF10 2BZ, 029 2022 5190, Sunday service at 10.30am.

**BRIGHTON:** Dorset Gardens Methodist Church ([www.dgmc.org.uk](http://www.dgmc.org.uk)), Dorset Gardens, Brighton, BN2 1RL, 01273 605 502.

**OXFORD:** St Columba's United Reformed Church (<http://www.saintcolumbas.org/>), Alfred Street, Oxford, OX1 4EH, Sunday service at 10.45

**EXETER:** Southernhay United Reformed Church (<http://www.southernhaychurch.org/>), Dix's Field, Exeter, EX1 1QA, Sunday service at 10.30am.

**LONDON:** St Luke's Parish Church (<http://www.chelseaparish.org/>), Sydney Street, London, SW3 6NH, 020 7351 7365.

Many other inclusive churches may be found by going to the Inclusive Church website (<http://www.inclusivechurch2.net/>) and clicking on Churches.

Please do let me know of any other inclusive Churches and I will do my best to include details in future Newsletters.

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JAY'S GARDEN PARTY – SATURDAY 7 JULY AT WHYTELEAFE

The garden party will be going ahead as usual and I hope that you will come along and enjoy it. Weather permitting, a time for summer dresses and shady hats. We start at about four o'clock with tea and cake, and I am delighted that the Rev'd Martin Kelly will preside over the communion service which follows. After that there will be the buffet with wine and good cheer. With luck the weather will be kind and we can be outside. The communion service under the trees with the sun slanting through the branches is particularly beautiful. Let's hope it will happen again.

All Sibyls and partners and friends are welcome, but for catering purposes, if you are going to come, please let me know: 020 8763 0146.

As you know not many people came last year. The January meeting was cancelled, partly because of the low attendance at the garden party but also because of the risk of bad weather making my lane impassable. The garden party is a gentle pleasant social occasion and I hope that enough people will be there to make it worthwhile continuing to hold it.

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**THE SIBYLS  
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT  
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2011**

|                                                           | 2011<br>£       | 2011<br>£              | 2010<br>£       | 2010<br>£              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Spring Meeting Whaley Hall, 2010 Windermere               |                 |                        |                 |                        |
| Receipts from members                                     | 2,125.00        |                        | 2,065.00        |                        |
| Use of group funds                                        | -               |                        | 65.00           |                        |
| Paid to House                                             | - 2,040.00      |                        | - 2,147.00      |                        |
| Other expenses                                            | <u>- 61.36</u>  |                        | <u>-</u>        |                        |
| Surplus/(Deficit)                                         |                 | 23.64                  |                 | - 17.00                |
| Autumn Meeting Holland House, 2010 St Columba's cancelled |                 |                        |                 |                        |
| Receipts from members                                     | 1,080.00        |                        | 760.00          |                        |
| Paid to house                                             | - 1,080.00      |                        | -               |                        |
| Refunded                                                  | <u>-</u>        |                        | <u>- 760.00</u> |                        |
| Surplus/(Deficit)                                         |                 | -                      |                 | -                      |
| Advance booking for Windermere                            |                 |                        |                 |                        |
| Donations                                                 | 404.90          |                        |                 | 635.00                 |
| Use of group funds for members to attend meetings         |                 | -                      |                 | - 65.00                |
| Newsletter duplication and envelopes                      | - 161.60        |                        | - 161.17        |                        |
| Newsletter postage                                        | <u>- 130.39</u> |                        | <u>- 81.70</u>  |                        |
|                                                           |                 | - 291.99               |                 | - 242.87               |
| British Monomarks box number                              |                 | <u>- 65.80</u>         |                 | <u>- 96.34</u>         |
| CASH SURPLUS                                              |                 | 205.75                 |                 | 213.79                 |
| Opening balance at HSBC Bank                              |                 | <u>1,509.14</u>        |                 | <u>1,295.35</u>        |
| Closing balance at HSBC Bank                              |                 | <u><u>1,714.89</u></u> |                 | <u><u>1,509.14</u></u> |
| Made up of:                                               |                 |                        |                 |                        |
| MEMBERS' FUNDS                                            |                 | 1,579.89               |                 | 1,509.14               |
| Windermere advance booking                                |                 | <u>135.00</u>          |                 | <u>-</u>               |
|                                                           |                 | <u><u>1,714.89</u></u> |                 | <u><u>1,509.14</u></u> |
| The movement in Members' Funds is made up of:-            |                 |                        |                 |                        |
| Opening balance                                           |                 | 1,509.14               |                 | 1,395.35               |
| Cash Surplus                                              |                 | 205.75                 |                 | 213.79                 |
| Advance booking included in surplus                       |                 | - 135.00               |                 | -                      |
| Loss of St Columba's deposit                              |                 | <u>-</u>               |                 | <u>- 100.00</u>        |
| Closing balance                                           |                 | <u><u>1,579.89</u></u> |                 | <u><u>1,509.14</u></u> |

These accounts are prepared on the receipts and payments basis, consistent with previous years.

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Christian Spirituality Group for Gender Variant People



12 Ffordd Las
Rhyl
Denbighshire
LL18 2DY

☎01745 337 144

WEEKEND AT THE WINDERMERE CENTRE, Friday 18th – Sunday 20th May 2012

Name

Required - Single/twin room (delete as appropriate)

Name of other occupant in room

Willing to share with

Address

.....

.....

Telephone No.

Email address

Please reserve for me the following number of places:-

Full weekend Friday night to Sunday lunch £135.00

Other (please specify):

*If you are not coming for the full weekend please telephone Elen
on the number above regarding costs.*

Cheque payable to “Miss J Walmsley – The Sibyls” enclosed..... £

Any special dietary requirements?

Any other special needs?

Do you need help with transport to The Windermere Centre?

Can you offer a lift to someone?

Please send this form with your cheque to Elen Heart, address above