LIVING WITH LOSS – “TEA ROOM GATHERING”
Monday 13 – Friday 17 July 2020 (5 days / 4 nights)
Cloverley Hall, Whitchurch, Shropshire, SY13 4PH
Hosted by Abi and John May

No matter how many times you have been to a Living with Loss retreat or workshop, you are welcome to join us in what is becoming our Annual Gathering – a chance to relax in beautiful surroundings amongst people who understand and can relate to you.

The “Tea Room” in the title refers to the illustration of a retreat being somewhat like a Tea Room you might find on a long walk - somewhere to pause, to speak with other people about their experiences, to get refreshed and rested, perhaps to pick up some useful information – before each of us continue our own journey onwards. And that’s what this Gathering is all about – a time to rest, reflect and be in the company of others who are also living with loss.

This is more relaxed than a typical Living with Loss Retreat. More details of the programme below.

Who’s attending?

This event is only open to those who have already participated in a “Living with Loss” retreat. We are prepared to welcome up to 20 participants, though the number is not fixed. Nevertheless, we recommend you book early to be sure to get a room.

Those who reserve a place will get periodic emails with updates about the event, be able to contribute ideas & requests, and also see who else is attending.

Cloverley Hall

Cloverley Hall is a Christian Conference Centre in North Shropshire. There are more details about the location on our webpage here: https://wp.me/P9Z9IU-2F

You can also have a look at the Hall’s website www.cloverleyhall.org to get an idea of the facilities, including an indoor games room with billiards and table tennis, plus outdoor sports. The Hall is set in beautiful grounds with woodlands and a rose garden, and plenty of opportunities for walking near or far.

We have been to visit the property and it felt very welcoming. It is a Victorian Hall and is quite grand as you approach it. Inside, some areas are oak-walled with flagged flooring; other parts are carpetted. This is not a luxurious place but it is clean and perfectly adequate. There are plenty of spaces for us to use, both inside and outside.

All the rooms are comfortable, heated and well-lit. There are 9 ensuite rooms available. Rooms without an ensuite are within easy reach of shared shower and bath facilities. There are a very limited number of accessible rooms on the ground floor.

The meals are freshly prepared, and all diets are catered for. There will be a cooked breakfast and two course lunch and evening meal, plus snacks between.

There may or may not be another group using the Hall, but if so, we will have our own private meeting and dining rooms.

Programme

- Arrival on Monday afternoon from 4 pm onwards. Tea and coffee will be waiting for you and we will be there to greet you. Our evening meal is at 6:00 pm so please do try to be there by then.

- Departure on Friday morning at 11:00 am (after breakfast and a short ‘farewell session’)

- The programme will be looser than at other Living with Loss retreats. There will be a devotional/reflective session at the start of each morning, a short structured session, and something organised for each evening, including a candlelighting remembrance. The rest of the time will be a mixture of optional activities including crafts, discussion groups, walks, excursions or simply relaxing. (See our page for ideas about some of the possible excursions in the area: https://livingwithlossbereavementsupporevents.wordpress.com/gathering-2020/)

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• All activities will be optional and you will be welcome to rest, reflect and/or head out to explore if that is what you prefer. We are not expecting that everyone will want to do everything all together, but there will be enough organised that nobody needs to be alone unless they choose to be.

• Discussion topics: We will be sending around a questionnaire beforehand, closer to the time, to find out the themes you would like to discuss. We can also revisit topics from previous retreats, by request. (At that time we will also find out who is interested in the swimming pool, etc.)

• There will be opportunity during the week for those who wish it to have an individual pastoral chat with Abi or John.

Costs

• **The cost for this retreat is £305, or £295 for ‘early bird’ bookings (deposits paid before the end of 2019).** This includes all meals, snacks and activity materials.

• There is a limited number of ensuite rooms available for a supplement of £28 per room.

• We are sorry that we are not in a position to offer **bursaries**, as this charge is only sufficient to cover our expenses, but if you really want to attend and can’t afford the whole amount, please get in touch and we will see what we can do to help.

Other information

• For those who are driving, there is plenty of space to park. (Please see directions on the last page.)

• If you’re travelling by train to Whitchurch, we can arrange to pick you up and drop you off at the station. We’re asking for £8 to cover the cost of this (£4 each way, about 15 minutes). If possible you should time your arrival for between 3:00 to 4:00 pm and your departure after 11:20 am on Friday. However, if this is complicated for your train times, we can figure something out. You could also take a taxi or Uber.

• **Towels are not usually provided**, and you will need to bring your own hand and bath towels plus toiletries. However, if you are travelling by public transport, the Hall can provide you with towels to cut down on what you need to pack and bring with you.

Booking

• Unlike most retreats where the host location took care of the administration, for this event we are taking care of the bookings. **All communications should be sent directly to Abi, and not to Cloverley Hall.**

• Please use the **enclosed booking form** to reserve your place. There are details about how to make the payment on the form.

• We need to receive confirmed reservations as soon as possible, to make sure there are enough people to run this event. (Minimum 10). **There is a reduced ‘early bird’ deposit of £50 for those who book before the end of 2019. After this, the deposit is £60.**

• Your deposit is **non-refundable** (as we have to pay a non-refundable deposit to secure our use of the Hall). However, if we do not reach the minimum of 10 people and have to cancel the event, we will return your deposit and any other monies you have paid. *(We will keep you informed. At this point, judging from survey responses, we think it is most likely that there will be plenty of people.)*

• **We will need to receive the balance of your payment by 31st May 2020.**

• If you have any problems with payment and/or you need to cancel, please do let us know as soon as possible.

• If you have any questions, please ask by email livingwithloss@btinternet.com, or phone Abi on 07740 645003 or 0845 643 0484.

**We look forward to welcoming you to the Living with Loss ‘Tearoom Gathering’ 2020!**
GETTING HERE
Postcode: SY13 4PH

https://cloverleyhall.org/location/how-to-find-us/

Cloverley Hall is situated in North Shropshire near the village of Calverhall, mid-way between the towns of Whitchurch and Market Drayton.

Rail: The nearest railway station is at Whitchurch, approximately 18 minute train journey from Crewe, which is a major hub.

Driving: When navigating by post code, some navigation systems will direct you to Cloverley Farm, with which we share the same post code

- It is best to just follow your SatNav until you reach Calverhall.
- Then, with the Olde Jack Pub and the Church on your left hand side, continue south-east for a further 200m until you reach Cloverley Lodge and the entry gates to Cloverley Hall on your left hand side. Enter through these gates and continue up the tarmac drive for approx 1/2 mile until you reach the hall, where you can park in the rear car park.
- If you should end up at the farm, then return to the village of Calverhall and follow the above directions.

MORE ABOUT CLOVERLEY HALL (FROM THEIR BROCHURE)

Cloverley Hall has been a Christian Conference Centre since 1968. Our Victorian country house is set in 9 acres of private grounds and is surrounded by green farmlands.

Tucked away in the corner of North Shropshire, Cloverley Hall Christian Conference Centre offers peace and quiet, yet remains easily accessible by road. Our grounds provide a safe haven for all, with the opportunity to enjoy the sports facilities or simply relax in the Shropshire countryside. Guests can enjoy taking a walk amongst the mature trees in our private woodland.

The main building’s ground floor, with its oak panelled entrance hall, contains the lounges, shop, dining rooms and Coach House conference room. Across the cobbled courtyard is the Stables conference room, crèche and games room. Apart from 3 ground floor rooms, accommodation is located on the upper floor.

Guests with special dietary requirements need not worry about receiving “bare minimum” catering – we endeavour to make your stay as comfortable as possible. Whether you are vegetarian, vegan, gluten free, wheat free, dairy free, nut free or a combination of the above, let our catering team know your needs in advance of your stay and we will do our best to accommodate you.