

KZN-DRAK CHRYSALIS

EGL

Emanate God's Love

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Issue 12



WELCOME BUTTERFLIES OF FLIGHTS 36 & 37

What a privilege to say a **HUGE WELCOME** to all the new butterflies who have joined our community! I think its safe to assume you all had a special time on the flights in July and now know what all the hype is about and all the mysteriousness and secrets and stuff. Its exciting stuff hey?

As always, I can honestly say, it was a massive personal blessing to be involved with the flights. Being an ALD for the first time, I have to admit that it was an even greater blessing for me to be a bit in touch with the boys flight as well because it meant that I was more aware of how God was moving differently in the different flights but moving never the less. Its so amazing when you see prayers answered in front of you! Such

an inspiration. But here's the thing, now you are members of the community and its time for you to take up your own responsibility as such. Actively start thinking who you can sponsor for the flights next year and start talking about it because the board has decided to be very pro-active and start filling flights early this year. Pray hard and then be confident in your decision.

Also consider working on team. We had an awesome turn out of new faces on team these flights and I think they'll all agree as to how much of a blessing it is to serve on team. Both caterpillar sponsorship forms and team application forms are on your cds so take a peek and pray about it.

And please keep in touch, guys. PLEASE add us on facebook – Kzn-Drak Chrysalis - chat on there bearing in mind that it's an almighty support base. Another cool thought is that if you post a prayer request on there, you can mobilize over 100 folk to pray for you—now that's a pretty powerful force to be reckoned with!

Also, please write stuff for the newsletter! It belongs to us as a community not us as a board, I'm sure you're sick of only reading our thoughts. Send in anything - thoughts, pictures, suggestions, anything that springs to mind! Everything will be welcome!

But most importantly, **WELCOME TO THE**



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Angels can fly because they take themselves lightly.—G.K. Chesterton

The Scenery to come — Chris Kenchenten

Those of you that fish, hunt or travel a bit, will know what I mean by saying we really do have a beautiful province and country. Be it the green and sandy coast or the koppies and doringveld of the platteland, all stunning and a treat to see. God really did make a beautiful work of art. I'm sure you will agree... I mean we all have that special place where we want to live or retire at someday.

Just think, all this stunning creation

around us, and it's just earth. Imag-



ine what heaven must look like if this

is what we are treated to in our lifetime here on this earth. Pretty interesting & exciting thought I reckon.

So like we all save our pennies and leave days at work to go see all of this and go on holiday, all excited about it, let's live our lives in God the same way, doing His work now and being all excited about that final spot to retire at... that special spot, more beautiful than we can imagine. HEAVEN!

Lay Director's feed back on flight 36—Greg Conolly

Hi there all you fourth day (next steps) travellers.

Its been nearly two months since the flights took place - how time flies. As the saying goes, 'time stands still for no man'. Let us take that saying and remember that God continues to knock at the door of our hearts. God continues to speak to us, let us be obedient and remember to listen and do as he says. Don't waste time.

To all those people that were involved in the flights, what an awesome privilege it was to be able to serve these young men and youth with you. However we might see

the result, know this, that God already knew, he had everything planned. The weekend was great—filled with joy. I look back and stand amazed at how God works in our lives and those of the youth.

What an amazing gathering we had, I just forgot my horse. To see the numbers that arrived was just wonderful; to see the new butterflies and those old one's was just awesome. Let us stay united and strengthened in Christ. Let us stay committed to this ministry. To those folk that were involved with the arrangements, thank you, thank you, thank you. So look forward to the next one.

I hope and pray that all of you have experienced God filled fourth days (Next steps). I continue to pray for all of you. I know that some day's are difficult, some are tough, some are bumpy, but through all of them continue to seek Christ and turn to Him in all that happens in your life. He will restore you, He will guide you, He will continue to bless you, He will continue to love you no matter what.

Take much care, God bless you all and continue to FLY WITH CHRIST.

Greg (Happy)

Lay Directors feed back on flight 37—Di Kyle

Who can believe that the flight happened almost two months ago and that our gathering is also a thing of the past? Time simply flies. I sit here looking at the speaker's cross and I reflect on Flight 37. I loved it. All you Flight 37 butterflies were really great – such different characters with so much depth and enthusiasm. It struck me that many of you are well off the starting blocks on your own spiritual journeys but my sincere prayer is that you all took a few more steps during the weekend.

Our musos who played so competently – enthuising us all with a passion for Christ but never allowing us to forget the reverence and holiness with which we need to approach Him. What fun we had singing some of the songs and at other times how close they brought us to God.

Candlelight is always a delight – what a privilege to walk through lines of community who are singing a welcome to you. Folk who, at great expense and effort,

have come to simply pray for you, welcome you and make you feel special; the wonderful sound of their voices as they line the pathway and light up the surrounds with their candles and voices. Then in the chapel, the beautiful voices of combined flights joining to sing recognition and thanks and love to the community in return. WOW.

Sadly, our closing ceremony came too soon. Listening to your testimonies; watching your faces; sharing in communion; praying; being presented with the speaker's cross; watching the excitement and energy as you met with parents, sponsors and community; saying goodbye to new friends – what an amazing, moving end to an amazing, moving journey together.

As always I feel so blessed and humbled to have been a part of the wonderful team who helped you new butterflies to experience God during the weekend. A very special aspect of being on team is that every last team member has as important a role to play as any other one. God has it all in hand. He assigns the team their weekend tasks and oversees it all so that the caterpillars can hear thought provoking talks and meet with Him during the chapel services. The prayer that we are covered with during the weekend is so important and such a

blessing – what a gift to be able to offer someone – to intercede for the flight and each caterpillar and team member by name.

Now, my prayer for butterflies and team alike, is that you continue to fly with Christ. Remember the covenant that you made? "Christ is counting on you" and "I am counting on Christ". Think back on your experience: re-read your agape letters and look at all your little agape gifts and remember that it reflects the love of the community for you. Read 1 Corinthians chapter 13 vs. 13 where Paul tells us "And finally these three remain : faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love."

I so look forward to the prospect of getting to know you all better in years to come. Consider working on team on future flights- it is an awesome experience. Try also, to make a point of attending the gatherings and in that way we can grow together and become an even more effective Chrysalis community.

May God bless and keep you. With love

Di



Personally the prospect of winter has never thrilled me with joy! In fact I think I spoke on the subject last year as well. It's just such a drab time of the year in every respect. Perhaps in parts of the world where it snows a lot it might be entertaining and fun. But here in the S of A there's not that much to look forward to the more outdoorily inclined among us. For a start its too flipping cold to get up to much, water related pastimes are out, there are not enough daylight hours outside of working hours during the week and generally on the weekends a cold front has moved in if you were lucky enough to think of something to

Leaves and magic—in the

do. As you've probably gathered, I'm not a fan. But looking out my window at the two huge fig trees there I am forced to look at a bigger picture. The leaves are all in the process of dropping, giving

*It reminds us of the scripture
"For everything there is a
season, a time for every activity
under the heaven." Ecc.3:1*

poor old Shomo cause for consternation cause he no sooner rakes them all up

when a new gust of wind blows down a new bunch! The branches that are now bare create a stark outline against the hazy blue winter sky, dramatic and bleak! But on the end of each branch is the beginnings of a bud and that is where the magic and wonder of it all comes in. Come spring time those buds will be swollen to full size and when God drops the flag on spring they will burst out in the most glorious and iridescent display of colour and life imaginable! And that is why you have to stand in awe of our Creator-King, only He could pull a stunning surprise out of the hat at just the right time!



Hillcrest Hospital—Di Kyle

A few weeks ago I had a life changing experience. A friend was volunteering at the local Hillcrest Hospital and gladly accepted my offer of additional hands. The hospital caters to folk who have chronic debilitating diseases or who suffer from some degree of physical disability due to many and various reasons and are unable to be cared for at home.

Our task entailed simply going to the wards, enquiring as to whether anyone wished to attend the chapel service being conducted by Rev Jackson from the Hillcrest Methodist Church. Identifying them, some by means of a grunt or raised finger, you simply manoeuvred their wheelchair through all the beds and cupboards and along the corridors until you reached the chapel. Subsequently, my admiration for carers who regularly help folk in wheelchairs has risen enormously. Either the wheels have a mind of their own, or the occupant's limbs don't stay

put and end up in severe danger of being bumped or hurt, or the chair tears away from you down the steep ramps!

While waiting for the service to begin I looked around the congregation of about forty and did a mental comparison of the outward appearance of the folk gathered in that tiny chapel and the people I usually worship with. No-one wore clothes that fitted them; everyone wore socks – not one matched either in colour or size; many wore head coverings – again none matched any other article of clothing; one poor soul was in tears due to the fact that her favourite jersey had been tumble dried and had retained bad creases and was now a horribly mis-shapen garment; some were unable to look down due to the way their poor bodies were contorted; many had to be propped in position and were unable to get their limbs to respond to anything they wished them to do and the list goes on and on BUT every single one of them wanted to be there in order to worship their Lord.

Rev Jackson announced our first of five hymns and what a moving experience it was. Some of the congregation were unable to read, some couldn't see, some couldn't hold their hymn sheets and some simply couldn't make any intelligible sounds but everyone "sang" and I could almost see God smiling down on us in love - with a host of angels desperately singing along with us in order to make it a "joyful noise"!! We sang "To God be the Glory" and one man with a strong looking torso but severely scarred arms and completely dysfunctional legs, clearly knew the chorus. He simply beamed, opened his mouth and roared out, "praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice; praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice..." It brought a lump to my throat and tears to my eyes watching his face light up as he sang to His God. The good reverend remarked on the "excessive joy" he displayed and we sang it right through all over again.

The sermon we listened to was about being united as one church, simply loving one another with the love of God that Jesus demonstrated to us. My reading that morning had been about the same thing and I truly felt it was a very pertinent message to all of us, but me in particular.

At the end of the service was taken back to their wards or left in a communal lounge area where lots of folk were busy with puzzles, watching TV, reading, attempting to do crafts or cutting out pictures. One particular lady asked me whether I had time for her to introduce me to her

We do our very best but sometimes its not good enough. We buckle our seat belts, we wear a helmet, we stick to the lighted paths. We try to be safe. We try so hard to protect ourselves but it doesn't make a bit of difference, cause when bad things come, they come out of nowhere. The bad things come suddenly with no warning but we forget, that sometimes that's how the good things come too. - Grey's Anatomy

Patriarch's Ponderings—Craig Wells

It is unbelievable how quickly the year flies by. We are on the cusp of spring, again, and now its a downhill charge to the year end.

After two very successful flights and a even more successful gathering our community has grown by more than 60 wonderful people.

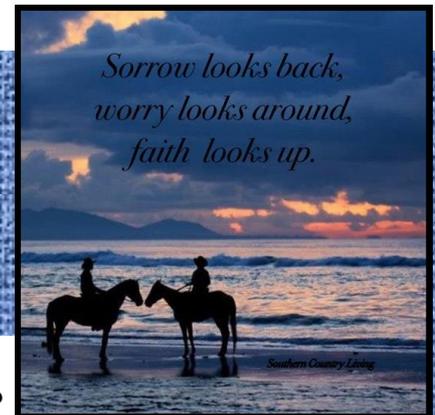
So now what's left for our community to do before the year comes to an end?

Firstly team applications will open later this year, so now is the time for you all to seriously consider serving on team for flights 38 & 39.

And the other equally important task, is to start prayerfully considering suitable candidates to sponsor on our next flights.

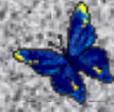
It is all of our responsibility to take ownership of this truly amazing ministry .

God bless



ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER:

- We send out an issue every quarter
- Anyone is welcome to write in to it. Anything is welcome, photos, stories, poems, thoughts, anything! Please do!
- If there's anything you'd like to know about please send in a question and we'll get it answered.



ANDILE NKOMO Chrysalis has made my life "groovy" and made me realise the God is good all the time. I also learnt that we are all equal in God's eyes and that no one is better than the other. It has made me grow and also confirmed and enhanced my walk with Christ.

SANDILE MKHIZE I loved being with other people who were just as keen as I was to learn more about Jesus and what He wants for my life. I learnt about unity, and also about rebuilding my relationship with God to the next level.

NADINE MARE I went to Chrysalis knowing that I went there with a purpose; I wanted to fix the bond between God and myself.

At first it felt like I couldn't get through to God, there was something stopping me, "a black wall" and at that moment I just thought, well this is not for me.

As we sat in the Chapel, having our silent prayer, one of the spiritual directors, Ron Hall, came up to me asked me if he could pray for me. So he started praying and he told me he can't get through to me and I told him about the black wall. He prayed again and all of a sudden I felt this warm feeling in my heart knowing that God is busy fixing my life.

I struggled to get a proper job and my mom and I never got along, I asked God to help me, as I prayed God told me that he will help me and I should not worry.

That night I went to my dome and read my letters, it all started to make sense what my mom wrote to me and I realized what an amazing bond we had.

On our way back home the Sunday afternoon I had this joyful feeling in my heart, the feeling of knowing something good is going to happen.

When I arrived at home I received a phone call from an unknown number, it was a phone call asking me to come in for an interview the Monday and so I went there and I got the job.

Just there I realized how amazing God is and that He's always there for us and he always answers your prays.

From the Chrysalis weekend my life has changed so much and I have an amazing bond with God. After all these years I truly know who God is and I wouldn't change it for anything in the world

SBUSISO MKHIZE My Chrysalis weekend was a very blessed weekend for me, I learnt a lot more about God. I also felt the love of God and I can now express the feeling of love of God to the people and my family. Chrysalis has changed my life and I am moving forward.

FROM FLIGHTS

& 37

JESS FULLER I had always been a Christian, I had grown up in a Christian home and I knew God, in fact, I had given my life to Him a couple of years ago. Although, after that, studying my Bible and praying to Him became something that I had to check off of the list of chores for the day. God became someone that I spoke to only when something was wrong and then He was forgotten for a while.

I knew that I needed to get close to God again, but I still could not find the motivation to pick up the Bible or talk to Him. That's why Chrysalis was good, it challenged me, gave me new perspectives and also encouraged me.

I realise now that it's not like everything magically changed, I still have to try hard and make time for Him, but Chrysalis made me fall in love with Him all over again.

EMMA HUBBLE Coming to Chrysalis, I was very unsure about what it was all about but when I arrived, I was overwhelmed by the warmth displayed by everyone there and began to feel very at home. I began to open up my heart to God and was amazed at what He did for me. I realised that I only have to give just a little and He will always give much more than I will ever need. I learnt to lean on God as my support instead of trying to do everything by myself and my way. He showed me that He has a special plan for my life and that I don't need to worry about what I'm going to do after school because He won't leave or abandon me.

After coming home from the Chrysalis weekend, I planned on reading God's Word way more often than I had been and to try and be a light shining for God in my family and school. I found it difficult to go back into the world that had just stayed the same when I had been so radically transformed, but remembered to call on God to get me through. I've tried to pray more and talk to God throughout my day, as well as learning more about Him through the Bible and fellowship with other Christians. God showed me that He has big plans for me and there's no way I would want to stop them!

GIRAFFE SITHOLE You know, somehow praying out of routine about something you are promised, helps. Its happened now for the past 2—3 weeks, where I have a bad weekend, and I'm fed up or angry about something or what not.. And every time on the Sunday, I feel this TREMENDOUS amount of strength, in my spirit, and I feel powerful and get the urge to pray for and protect and also to serve... I go down on my knees, on the side of my bed, and I start Praying.. And I Pray.. And I Pray.. And I start crying... I become sort of united in and with my Prayer... I Pray about the joy of knowing about this promise, about His Glory and Grace that I have and see in my life... Then I just bring in my tribulations, and talk about my life and then that specific week... Explain what I feel saying and telling Him about the things that I feel I need etc.. then I just take a moment of silence.. At the end of it all I say, "and I know that it is done, in Jesus' name, Amen"



BARN DANCE & gathering

III

I think we will all agree that the post flight gathering was a yeehawing success!

So well attended and so much fun. It was such a blessing to have Emmaus muso's lead us in a rousing session of praise and worship and we really thank them for that. It was also so special to have Emmaus community members joining us and we hope they really enjoyed it and will be back, we certainly really appreciated their coming. After a very rousing time of praise and worship Andre gave us a simple but profound message which was followed by a communion that felt pretty powerful - maybe it was just having it in the old barn with the smell of hay and good old earthy dust, but it had a bit of oomph to it.

Following on from that was free time which can be read as "snacking" time. By now our donated skapie was on the spit, and the tables were bending under the rich pickings that generous folk had brought for tea. Fellowship just happens when we all get together. It was SUCH fun. I dunno how much "deep" stuff was shared; I mostly heard laughter and messing about - but laughing together is just as important as anything else when it comes to building community and I think we all had a pretty grand time. A few brave folks took a stroll down to the dam and around the walking trail, otherwise people just parked off fiddling around, looking at the birds and chilling. By dark our evenings entertainment had rocked up and we



were beautifully serenaded by Mistery Nobby and Travis Clark. They cut dashing cowboy figures with their guitar and banjo while playing and singing country music for us. Thanks so much to them for that. Then came a very important interlude for eating. Most enjoyable as always, we can honestly say the sheep did not die in vain and neither did the chickens! Thanks to all the volunteers who helped make dinner happen. You did not go unnoticed and your willingness was most appreciated! After munchies we had a very cool little message from Nobby and Trav's guest, Dewet Swanepoel, who is on an amazing mission for God. He is carrying a cross throughout South Africa. He gave us a really moving and powerful message about his travels and the reason for it, his passion was tangible and touching. We thank him for that and for being willing to do it on such short notice.



Then good ol' Marius Radyn, (not only faithful but also fantastic) played us some beautiful old western tunes on his guitar. It sounded so fitting having him tonkeling away and inspired folk to hop up and prance/stagger around the dance floor. Following him was Guess who? - Dolly Parton and Kenny Rogers!! They bore a striking resemblance to Sonja and Uncle Greg...! Anyway, this striking duet yodelled an awesome rewritten version of Islands in the Stream, accompanied by Marius. A few more songs happened and then the evening descended into chaos when Shells took the stage as our caller and we lined up for some line dancing! What a gemors—but WHAT fun! Hehe! And dang it by the end of the evening we were in grand form. Admittedly Achy Breaky just flat out beat me, but

the rest got it right and we were all styling such classics as the Grundy Gallop, Crunchie Joe and the winner of the night was dear old Cotton-Eye Joe which entailed much giggling, bad timing, and clapping, stomping and galloping down the middle! It was a real blast though and I think will be repeated in future—so remember the steps friends! At about 10.30 we were all pretty exhausted, so called the dancing a night, and adjourned to the bonfire that was happily crackling outside in the brazier. Two packets of marshmallows met their demise along with the rest of the leftovers from tea earlier in the day. With everyone refuelled we gathered the troops and headed off to the arena for a powerful little message by a single candlelight about being the light of the world which Chris read for us.

The moment of reflection was well timed and profound after all the fun, giggling and carrying on... just to gather and refocus was all in the dark stars made er our thoughts them on what it about. Being out under a million it very special.



Dewet





Then we trickled back to what the adults hoped was bed but honestly they should have known better. It also happened to be a certain someone's birthday which called for a rousing rendition of happy birthday and of course a face-full of shaving cream! And it pretty much went way downhill from there! A certain upstanding and faithful member of the community and board is rather well known for being the supplier of "squidgies" which mysteriously started raining down on everyone.



Soon enough the shaving cream which had started off in responsible hands, that would only apply to deserving faces (namely our two beloved Lay Directors from the flights), found its way into the hands of the riffraff and chaos descended. It was pleasing to see how the Biblical principle of equality was upheld. You see, certain members of the company thought they were above such childish antics, but were soon proven otherwise!! A long time later most of us collapsed into bed for a welcome bit of shut eye. Some, however, braved the whole night around the fire chatting the night away. We all woke up for rusks and coffee at 6.30 or so. By 8:00 we had gathered on the arena for some praise and worship and a message from Mike followed by a tender communion service conducted by Rev Neville Pike. Sitting in the sun, overlooking the Valley of a Thousand Hills, in the company of friends and in the presence of God. Powerful stuff.



We then gathered on the veranda for bacon and egg rolls and a bit more chatting before slowly trickling off homeward. Many stayed to watch the bird show that Shan kindly let us watch for free. Then we quickly packed up and cleared up and as the dust settled from the last car rolling out I think we all agreed that it had been a GREAT SUCCESS!



So the last thing that needs said is thanks. Special thanks to The African Bird of Prey Sanctuary for letting us use their barn and facilities for free. Thanks to Emmaus for their commitment, thanks to those who donated food, thanks to those who helped set up and break down, and special thanks to EVERYONE who attended and entered into the spirit of things and made it the fantastic event it was. Dunno about the rest of you, but I for one am KEEN for the next one!



Pray! - Answers happen!

Recently I was chatting with a friend about how a prayer I've prayed for a long time has been answered and how detailed and specific the answer really is. I caught myself thinking how it's like God was really actually listening and it rather disgusted me to think that! She laughed and reminded me of the story in the Bible where Peter was locked up for spreading the gospel and all his friends gather upstairs to pray for him. Miracles happen, prison doors open and he arrives at the door of the house that they're all praying in and knocks at the door and the servant who opens it slams the door in his face because she doesn't believe that God

could have answered their prayers! (Acts 12) It was quite comforting to know that I'm not the only one. But it's scary how we proclaim our faith and promise to pray for people and tell each other how God is powerful and able to answer prayers and all that, but when it comes to ourselves and our own situations we seem to decide that it's not relevant! We still pray, but if we really believed then why are we surprised when we get what we pray for? I dunno, maybe I'm just talking to myself here, but then please take it from my personal experience! He does listen and He does answer our prayers, sometimes exactly how we ask!

A mother looked out her kitchen window and smiled as she saw her little boy playing "Church" with the family cat, preaching up a storm while it sat in the sun listening obediently. Next thing the mother heard some fierce-spitting and hissing coming from outside so she looked again and there the little fella was, dunking the cat in a basin, she rushed out and asked what he was doing and he said that he was baptising it! The mother explained that cat's don't like water very much to which the little fella replied "Well, he shoulda thought of that before he joined my church!"

Haha, ah, not being the greatest fan of cats I found that a most amusing little story!

Anyway friends, I trust you were genuinely inspired by those testimonies and that you realise once again what an amazing and unique ministry this really is. It can only work through our own participation though, so I encourage you all (old butterflies and the new recruits) to get involved in every way possible - you only get out what you willing to put in at the end of the day. Thanks everyone who contributed, can't tell you how much I appreciate it. Until next edition. Keep flying and shining. Love, Kirst



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