Welcome to the new-look Healing Trust Council

You may have been aware of an invitation to you, as an HT member, to attend an on-line meeting of the Council of the Healing Trust, and wondered what this is and why you may have had this invitation.

Well, the Healing Trust Council is part of the long-time governance structure of the Healing Trust whose role is to be an interface between the board of trustees, who are running the charity, and the ordinary members. In fact, originally it had the formal responsibility to appoint the chair, secretary and treasurer of the HT. It is supposed to also advise the trustees about changes and developments they are planned, as well as feeding back members' concerns and wishes.

Back when the HT membership was many thousands, and the regional system was flourishing, the council was made up two healers from each region; an elected 'regional rep' and the region chair.

But, as we are all aware, HT numbers have declined greatly in the last few years, and only a handful of the thirteen regions have anything resembling a committee. Most functions previously undertaken by regions such as training, finance, student support, and panel organisation, are now handled centrally.

All this has meant that Council meetings have become poorly attended and no longer reflect the opinions and experience of our membership.

So, earlier this year the Council along with the Trustees decided to make the Council essentially open to all HT members who are interested to attend, want to interact with our trustees, or want to express views about how they want to see the HT grow and thrive again.

We all feel there is a wealth of good sense, experience and skills within our membership and it would be both wise and potentially exciting to begin to draw on that.

Our plan is to hold meetings on-line four times a year, where certainly there will be a business element and an opportunity to hear from the HT chair and other trustees and Team leaders about what's going on. But we hope to incorporate in each meeting a section where members can have a conversation, possibly supported by a short presentation, about a topic that may be important or stimulating. For instance, at our last meeting on 13th June, we had a very interesting discussion around the contentious area of our classic healing method involving pure attunement, as opposed to methods which involve mediumship elements or trance. It was a fascinating discussion, not intended to arrive at any conclusion, but just to explore the diversity of opinion and practice among our healing community and our real dilemmas about this.

Apart from that, we hope that by making the Council open to all, we will widen our acquaintance, and refresh supportive and sociable networks, that have declined so markedly with the old regions.

So please do think about coming along, and hearing what's going on in the HT and perhaps having your say.

In recent years, our HT trustees have been working very hard to renew our organisation and orientate us toward the future. By coming along to the Council meetings, you can also play your part and perhaps deepen your appreciation and enjoyment of being what still is one of the most well established and biggest energy healing groups in the UK.

Our meetings will generally be quarterly (January, March, June and September) on a Saturday morning from 9.30 to 11.30. It will be marvellous to see your there.

Robert Oulton – current chair of the Council of the HT