

Buttercup Connections – Newsletter 15

October / November 2004



*“To help people explore themselves and their links with others -
to find a better way of living.”*

Come and join us for our Day Event – Saturday, 30 October 2004

9.45am coffee for 10.15 am start – Finish at 4.30 pm approximately

Jan Ayers, local concert promoter, will start our day by talking about

Power of the Word – ‘Reconciliation’ and What it Means

Language is one of our most powerful tools and sourcing the origin of words and the original power behind them can sometimes shine light on the cause and effect happening to and around us.

We shall then move on to your collective ideas and you will be able to select for discussion the subjects you are particularly interested in. We shall divide into smaller groups to discuss particular themes of your choice and there will be opportunities to join more than one group. If you would like to attend, please fill in the enclosed application form as soon as possible and, also, do feel free to invite like-minded friends and family who you think might enjoy the day. This is a unique opportunity to take part in the organisation of Buttercup Connections – we welcome your participation so that we can plan ahead with future ideas and activities.

A New Planetary Epoch

Nigel Blair

We are living in exciting and crucial times. Great enterprises are being brought into being, and others long planned are coming to fruition. People are being brought together in extraordinary and meaningful circumstances by synchronistic guidance, as if a hidden intelligence were arranging things behind the scenes. We can guess at the inner meaning of such events, but there is no way we can fully understand the intricate web which links us invisibly together, much less divine our ultimate destinies.

Yet the constantly emerging outcomes of these mysterious links reassure us continually of the magnificent inspiration behind it all. We – through our own free choice – are part of the planning process, and of some sort of chain of command, but necessarily are only dimly aware of the overall scheme. The Network of Light is a way of externalising, or manifesting in the physical, the *great operation that is now under way on Planet Earth*. This is nothing less than the rebirth of the human, animal, plant and mineral kingdoms of the planet on a new, higher level.

The old infrastructure will not suddenly cease to be. All that is positive from the past will continue to be relevant and operative, and will stand as a pillar of support and inspiration throughout times of crises and trial. But the new must be given space to come in and prepare the way for the next phase of humanity's evolution here on Earth. This phase is the beginning of what the Tibetan Teachings of Shambhala have sometimes referred to as *the age of the Heart*, and we in the West often as *the age of Aquarius, the age of the group or of the consciousness soul*.

Essentially, this is the epoch in which we humans come together in inspired groups in a spirit of unconditional love, with no dogma or binding attachments, but in free and open gatherings of goodwill and sacred resolve. In this way our power for good is multiplied many times. It has been said that there is no limit to the good we can do if we don't care who gets the credit. Concepts such as credit and debit belong properly to a bygone age. They belong to the limited paradigms of profit-making, retributive reckonings and

numerical assessments.

Let us now move on to a new and invigorating era of open decisions openly arrived at, shared inspirations, creative visions, universal compassion and unobstructed spiritual ideals. Only in this way can we do any sort of justice to the great epoch into which Mother Earth, and the very Solar System of which it is part, are inexorably moving.

“Now our image of the goal changes: not Enlightened Man who sees, the seer; but Transparent Man, who is seen and seen through, foolish, who has nothing left to hide, who has become transparent through self-acceptance; his soul is loved, wholly revealed, wholly existential; he is just what he is, freed from paranoid concealment, from the knowledge of his secrets and his secret knowledge; his transparency serves as a prism for the world and the not-world. For it is impossible reflectively to know thyself; only the last reflection of an obituary may tell the truth & only God knows our real names.”

James Hillman, taken from *The Myth of Analysis – 3 Essays in Archetypal Psychology*.

(Nigel Blair runs the Network of Light, the Wessex Research Group Network, the Schools and Universities Network (SUN). Tel: 01935 812353 after 3.0 pm or email: paul@avalonhealing.com)

Are Religions in the Melting Pot? *Excerpt from H-A's lecture 7.7.04*

“**.Many religions are now very powerful** because they have become political and have used fear to control their followers. However, I want to put that into perspective because I do not wish you to read or hear my talk and say, ‘There he is, condemning religions!’ I am not condemning them. What I am saying is that when they first came onto the planet, the type of approach that they offered was needed at that time. But things have moved on since then and I believe that the big challenge for all religions is to ask themselves if they are prepared to change.

“God does not judge, God does not tell you what you should or ought to be doing. He only offers you encouragement, energy, the dynamics and the will. He wants you to see that love can overcome fear. Yet, you see, sometimes it is difficult to acknowledge love without fear and it is difficult to acknowledge fear without love. It is like the light and the shadow: you cannot see the light without the shadow, and you cannot see the shadow without the light, because they are the opposite polarities of expression. And within each one of you there is a polarity in every emotion that you have.

“With this Aquarian impetus behind the media, your Internet, your computers, are bringing to the surface hidden things about religions and sects, groups of people that hitherto have been kept under cover. That is one of the good things about your media. There are many good things, of course, but they tend always to look for a story that they think will sell space. God does not sell space; God is God.

“So you can see that the Aquarian age is going to pose extreme challenges for established religions. And those that I would forecast will come through and grow, will be those that are offering a broader understanding; those that are about love, not recrimination. And I think it is important that religions should offer that kind of advice. There is the

opportunity for every religion and every belief to survive and grow in the coming age, but the challenges they will have to face are their own fear, their need for power over their followers, and the political implications of what they are trying to achieve. If they can meet those challenges then they will not only survive but will grow and help to bring about peace on the planet. Because, and I have to say this, any belief that teaches revenge, retribution and punishment, is not of God.

“Remember, we are all on a journey, we are all seeking and trying to find the best way to seek. I would advise you to keep a totally open mind and to allow yourself to make changes in the way that you understand and view God. One of the difficulties that humankind has come up against is that with the type of physical evolution that has taken place on your planet, everything has become terribly complex and complicated; whereas true spiritual truths are very simple. They are the opposite to the complexities of modern scientific thinking. So there again is another challenge. But I believe it is one that will be overcome because many people within the scientific community, whether they be doctors, scientists, psychiatrists, whatever, will slowly begin to see that there is another dimension of understanding; and that to find wholeness, to find more total solutions, one has to go into that other dimension.”

Channelled through Tony Neate

and now . . .

A COURAGEOUS LADY

Abridged from *The Independent Review* 5.05.04

Irshad Manji is a Canadian Muslim who says her religion is stuck in the Middle Ages. She has written a book entitled, *The Trouble with Islam – a Muslim's Call for Reform in Her Faith*. She is a key figure in the civil war within 21st century Islam. It is a wake-up call for honesty and change. She says, “What I want is an Islamic reformation. Christianity did it in the 16th century. We are long overdue. If there was ever a moment for our reformation, it's now, when Muslim countries are in poverty and despair. . . What was true for ninth century Mecca and Medina may not be the best interpretation of Allah's message today. . . At this stage, reform isn't about telling ordinary Muslims what not to think. It's about giving them permission to think.”

Johann Hari explains in his article that the core concept in Manji's thought – and that of all progressive Muslims – is **'ijtihad'** – a simple idea and powerful. It allows every Muslim to reconsider the message of the Koran for the changed circumstances of the 21st century. She says, “We Muslims have to understand our own history. Ijtihad isn't some wacky new idea. When Muslims were at their most prosperous, innovative and respected, was when we practised ijtihad in Islam's golden age, from 750 to 1250 CE. . . It was the closing of the gates of ijtihad that led to disaster for Muslims, not the Crusaders or the West or anything else. Sure, they were all bad, but the decline started with us. It's the refusal to believe in independent reason that has created a totalitarian culture in the Muslim world. Of course if Muslims can't reason for themselves they become dependent on mullahs and outside authorities.”

What a breath of fresh air! But that is not to say that we, the rest of the world, and especially those of other religions such as Christianity, are exonerated from the suffering caused down the ages. “He who first casts a stone . . .” As Paul Vallely puts it in *The Independent* 11.9.04 : “Just as Muslims are acknowledging the evil in their midst is not the

time for Christians to do the reverse. . .” He quotes Martin Luther King: “*Through violence you may murder the hater, but you do not murder hate. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.*”

Abdel Rahman al-Rashed has said on the TV station *Al Arabiya*: “It is a certain fact that not all Muslims are terrorists, but it is equally certain and exceptionally painful, that almost all terrorists are Muslims.” This is the sad effect of this polarisation today and the reason why we all need to know as much as we can about other beliefs.

Buttercup Connections is starting a series of evenings entitled, “Understanding Other Perspectives” in which we are inviting speakers of other faiths to speak about their religion or belief. (Please see back page 8). So far we have not found a speaker for the Islamic faith but are very keen to do so. We believe that **understanding** is the only way through and will be printing a report on each of these evenings. Certainly, Irshad Manji is a very brave lady indeed and symbolic of the age we are moving into. *Ann Neate*

and another brave lady . . .

Healing the Brighton Bomb – A Journey of Reconciliation **Jo Berry and Patrick Magee in Public Dialogue**

Jo tells us: “On October 12th 1984, the IRA attacked the Tory Party Conference in Brighton, killing five people, including my father, Sir Anthony Berry, MP. In that moment, my life changed forever. I knew that I had to find something positive in the tragedy and resolved to do all I could to build bridges for peace. I set out on a journey of understanding, which would take me away from blame, bitterness and resentment.

“In November 2000, I met the IRA man convicted of planting the bomb, Patrick Magee. Although our meetings have sometimes been difficult, our shared commitment to dialogue has brought us valuable learning and healing.

“On the 20th anniversary of the Brighton Bomb, Pat and I will have a public dialogue at St. James’, Piccadilly, London, where I sought solace in the immediate aftermath. We will share our respective stories and discuss what we have learnt about violent conflict, recovery from trauma and peace building. There will be an opportunity for questions and answers.”

7.30 pm October 12th 2004 at St James’s Church, 197, Piccadilly, London, W1

Tickets: £8 on door (concessions available) – Refreshments afterwards. Further details:

info@buildingbridgesforpeace.org www.buildingbridgesforpeace.org

Please recommend this important evening to your friends

“The courage of love is far more powerful than the cowardice of hate.”

Jonathon Sachs

Bloodline of the Holy Grail

Have you read *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown?

Edmund Marriage

The current publicity given to the subject of Jesus’ marriage to Mary Magdalene and subsequent children, by the publication and over 10 million sales of the novel *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown, gives us a good reason to put the genealogical record straight. The source for this information comes from the scholarship and research conducted by Laurence Gardner and documented in his book – *Bloodline of the Holy Grail* – published in 1995.

It is important to remember that the one secure record, which has survived the ravages of

time, persecution, library fires and wanton destruction, are the family trees of the many related branches of families all over Europe, from the time that people first cared about their ancestry. Genealogical research has therefore provided the most reliable means of cross referencing the wealth of records on this subject, in order to establish the genealogical truth.

In this area of research, together with his exceptional links and knowledge through picture restoration, Laurence Gardner has established a reputation which is second to none – His work also highlights the importance of, and the essential links between, the tradition of Monarchy, the Grail Code, and Good Government. His books, which blend so well with the O'Brien scholarship are featured on our website www.goldenage.org.uk and are available from the website bookshop.

The Patrick Foundation – Golden Age Project patrickfound@btopenworld.com Tel. 01935 816944

Book Review **Dark Nights of the Soul by Thomas Moore**

This is a book that not only helps humankind to face itself, but also encourages each individual to acknowledge the need to face their own spirituality in his or her own way. "Your dark night need not be tragic. You can see through it and beyond it." Thomas Moore is the author of the best seller *Care of the Soul*. He lectures extensively throughout the world and having read his book, I can understand why.

This book is a *must* for all Aquarian age seekers. Moore examines every aspect of the dark nights of the soul including rites of passage, religion, the moral pollution of history, and love, sex and relationships: explaining that sex is not only personal but an aspect of cultural life, and that one's sexuality can be a means of connecting one to the world. One issue he raises is that the US has never really dealt with its guilt in handling its native people so savagely. It hasn't fully owned up to and sought forgiveness for slavery - an important issue for many countries, including our own, with past issues that need to be addressed.

I resonated with his comment: "Everyone without exception, has what Jung calls 'an instinct for creativity'. You must find a way to put yourself out into the world and be present as a unique person." And near the end he says: "The best way to deal with the dark night of the soul is to use the emotional and intellectual darkness to help you see your own luminosity, to discover exactly how you shine when you are at your best."

I recommend this important book without reservation to all psychotherapists, hypnotherapists, counsellors and anyone dealing with emotional/spiritual problems on a personal or therapeutic basis. (Published by Piatkus ISBN 0-7499-2557-4 £10.99) **Tony Neate**

In Memoriam – Jane Jones

Jane Jones, Campaign Director of the National Pure Water Association (1938 –2004), died from cancer on Friday, September 3rd, 2004. For ten years, Jane waged war on those who would attempt to violate the basic human right of every human individual to refuse medication or treatment via fluoridation of the drinking water. She continued to work while in pain and weakened by cancer, until three weeks before her death. Her battle was symbolic of much broader issues of HUMAN DIGNITY, HUMAN RIGHTS and JUSTICE for all people.

Fluoride Alert for Children – Sunday Express, July 18.

"The problems outweigh the possible benefits to their teeth."

"Tap water could be lowering children's intelligence", leading experts have warned.

Dr. Peter Mansfield, a GP and director of Good Health Keeping at Louth, Lincolnshire, has studied more than 100 children with behavioural problems. Once the fluoride was taken out of their diet, they got better. He said, "this is very worrying. Fluoride is toxic and could cause mental problems. It could be that thousands of children are under performing as a result... In some cases they were hyperactive, lacked concentration and were unhappy all

the time. We tested them and quite clearly demonstrated that fluoride was causing their problems... Nothing like enough work has been done on this and no one is checking – it's very worrying." His findings are borne out by a UNICEF backed study of 769 schoolchildren in China. It found that those with mental retardation or low IQ levels had excess fluoride in their systems.

The study concluded that the chemical makes mental health problems worse by interfering with the central nervous system. Another study carried out in America found that rats behave like hyperactive children when given a comparable amount of fluoride.

Some experts, including Dr. Vyvian Howard, an expert in chemicals and infant health at Liverpool University, also fear that fluoride is fuelling rising obesity levels. They think it interferes with the body's hormone balance, especially the thyroid gland which controls weight gain. He said, "Fluoride was once used as a medicine to treat thyroid overactivity." Medical author Dr. Barry Durrant-Peatfield says, "Fluoride disrupts the hormones that control the thyroid gland. This causes an underactive thyroid which leads to obesity, tiredness and depression."
Don't toy with Fluoride – Sunday Express 'Opinion'

"Listen to your Heart. Value your Imagination above all else. It is you in your Oneness – in your Divinity! It is *your* love, *your* wisdom, and *your* truth; *your* beauty and *your* joy. Through it discover the Oneness of all. Discern the process that is within you, and trust it. Embark upon your journey with the enthusiasm of explorers, open to wherever your Imagination takes you. Be open to others, each in their own exploring, and share with them."

Extract from *IMAGINE – Changing your Mind (and the World)* by John Newson

An excellent booklet in which the author "sees ourselves [humanity] at a new stage of development, not as passive victims of change, but as active, conscious participants in the human story."

An inspiring read.

Available from *The Healing Reality Trust*, Hebblethwaite Hall, Sedbergh, Cumbria, LA10 5LX, at £5 (UK), £5.50 (EU), £6 (rest of world). Email: jnewson@hebblethwaite-hall.fsnet.co.uk

The Age of Transformation

Having printed Tony's review of *The Radical Prince* by David Lorimer about Prince Charles' work in Issue 11, I was delighted to hear of two young people whose lives have been turned around by the support given them by the Prince's Trust. One is a 25 year old lad who came from a chaotic home of beatings and drugs, and became a drug addict, a drunk and a thief himself. "No one in my life had ever wanted me back or given me a second chance. Positive feedback was brilliant and gave me a lot of confidence. He now works for the Trust, encouraging and helping others to make a new start.

The second is a girl, an asylum seeker from Kenya whose parents and sister had been murdered. Landing in Glasgow, she suffered attacks, racial abuse and loneliness, and felt she was falling apart. Today she has a full-time job, her own home, a future and 'a voice.' It is uplifting to hear of these stories, 2 amongst 2000 in Scotland alone.

I would also like to praise *The Sunday Post* in which I read the article, which covered the general news from a balanced perspective, with many heart-warming articles into the bargain. Also, it's the smaller and more manageable size. I've now ordered a copy every Sunday. **Ann Neate**

"Every blade of grass has its Angel that bends over it and whispers 'Grow, Grow'." The Talmud

The Sirius Foundation

Congratulations to Brian Hammond who is starting a Buttercup Connections group in Lincoln. It is called The Sirius Foundation and offers spiritual healing, meditation and spiritual development for those in need and for those who are seeking. Brian also channels an energy called Genesis, which has a distinct feeling of the energy from Sirius, and who is

interested in helping the planet in the period ahead. H-A has also had much to say about this new energy – but more on this in our next issue. If you would like more details to support Brian, please ring: 01522 829125.

Whoops!

A couple from Minneapolis, during one particularly cold winter, decided to go to Florida for a long weekend to thaw out. They planned to stay at the very same hotel where they spent their honeymoon 20 years before. Because both had jobs, they found it difficult co-ordinating their travel schedules. So it was decided that he would fly to Florida on a Thursday and she would follow him the next day. Upon arriving as planned, he checked into the hotel. In his room there was a computer, so he decided to send his wife an email. However, he accidentally left out one letter in her address and sent the email without realising his error.

In Houston, a widow had just returned from her husband's funeral. The dearly departed had been a minister of many years who had been called home to glory following a heart attack. The widow checked her email, expecting messages of condolence. Upon reading the first message she fainted. Her son rushed into the room and found his mother on the floor. The computer screen read:

To: My Loving Wife
Subject: I've arrived.

I know you are surprised to hear from me. They have computers here now and you are allowed to send emails to your loved ones. I've just arrived and have been checked in. I see that everything has been prepared for your arrival tomorrow. Looking forward to seeing you! Hope your journey is as uneventful as mine was. PS. It sure is hot down here.

Adverts

HEALTH, DOWSING and FENG SHUI

If you think that the house you live in might not be supportive to your health or other aspects of your life, you might like to have it looked at from a Feng Shui, Dowsing and Earth Energy perspective.

Ced Jackson is a certified practitioner with the Feng Shui Society and has recently moved to Malvern. Information on his work is at www.FengShuiFutures.com

You can always ring Ced up to discuss the possibility of a consultation on 01684 560265

Have you recently looked at Tony and Ann's updated website? Offering:

- Regular updated H-A lectures through Tony Neate & David Furlong – ample archive material.
- As ever, plenty of wonderful H-A quotes.
- Breaking news on the latest developments of the Spirit Release Foundation.
- Helen Lees' meditations and access to her website.
- Access to School of Channelling and College of Healing pages and websites.
- A product section introducing recommended books of relevant interest, mandalas, details of Cytoplan products, Balens ethical insurance and financial services and a fascinating Links page. www.channelling-online.com

And what about our own Buttercup Connections website?

Have you looked at it recently? If not, have a look at it today – It contains all our past newsletters, details of our present Diary of Events and much more. Your opinion and suggestions would be welcomed. We would be happy to include your details of what you do as a therapist and suggest that you offer us, in recompense, what you consider is a fair contribution. www.buttercupconnections.com

“Maybe when the door of happiness closes, another opens, but often times we look so long at

the closed door that we don't see the one which has been opened for us." Anon

Buttercup Connections Events

Meetings are free, although donations to Buttercup Connections are appreciated.

Please note times

carefully

Friday 1st October

Spirituality and Sexuality

7.00 for 7.30

Deborah Ackroyd channels Menat *at 13 Dilmore Ave, Fernhill, Worcs. Please ring 01905 455484, if coming.*

Monday 4th October

First Steps in Astrology – Part 1

7.30 for 8.00

A 3-part series led by Ann Neate. (Please bring your birth chart or ring me on 01684 893697)

Thursday 21st October

Understanding Other Perspectives 1 – Buddhism

7.30 for 8.00

Brian Ackroyd discusses this philosophy of Enlightenment

Thursday 28th October

Can I link into the Christ Energy?

7.30 for 8.00

H-A energy channelled through Tony Neate

Friday 29th October

7.00 for 7.30

How can we manifest Abundance?

Deborah Ackroyd channels Menat *at 13 Dilmore Ave, Fernhill, Worcs. Please ring 01905 455484, if coming.*

Wednesday 3rd November

7.30 for 8.00

Relationships and Spiritual Growth

How relationships reflect inner dynamics which help us understand ourselves. Exploring true feelings and vulnerabilities in open discussion, facilitated by Tony Roeber.

Monday 15th November

First Steps in Astrology – Part 2

7.30 for 8.00

A 3-part series led by Ann Neate (Please bring your birth chart or ring me on 01684 893697)

Thursday 18th November

How can I discover my Psychic Sensitivity

7.30 for 8.00

H-A energy channelled through Tony Neate and David Furlong.

Thursday 25th November

Understanding Other Perspectives 2 - Judaism

7.30 for 8.00

Marilyn Freedman, Derek Sakol & Cherry Wolfe look at traditional and modern day practise.

Monday 6th December

First Steps in Astrology - Part 3

Led by Ann Neate

7.30 for 8.00

Cancer Self-Help Group (Of interest to all, with or without cancer)

7.00 till 9.00

Fridays: 9th October, 12th November – all free as the room has been generously donated.

BUTTERCUP CONNECTIONS is an 'idea in action' – a coming together of free spirits who wish to connect spiritually in a way that is relevant for today, to discover through open hearts the freedom of choice to reawaken our true Self within. We explore further ideas, thoughts of a new paradigm, and freedom of individual expression in relation to health, ecology & deep questions in our minds today.

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(The Enigma Suite is situated in the car park of the Railway Inn. Please park on the road outside)

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