

Buttercup Connections- Newsletter 37 March, April, May 2010



"To help people explore their lives and their links with others - to find a better way of living."

"Boys aged 3 must work more"

A Look at the Development of the Right and Left Sides of the Brain

'State-imposed child abuse' was how the heading 'Boys aged 3 must work more' of a letter in The Independent was described by another correspondent. I was delighted to read two further letters with strong comments under the heading, "Early Learning does not Work" in the issue on 7.01.10. One of them reads:

"It is not 'deeply depressing' that official data shows that more than 1 in 6 boys cannot write his name nor spell words such as 'dad' or 'cat' after a year in school

(leading article 29.12.09). But it is confirmation that little children should not be expected to write before the age of 7 because their brains are not ready to do so. They should be busy with creative play that is crucial to their development at this age.

Many of those force-fed boys now believe themselves to be stupid.

Scandinavian countries top the academic leagues because they understand early years dynamics and do not begin formal learning before the age of 7.

Wales recently revised its whole approach to education in the light of this knowledge. How long will it be before backward England catches up?"

Of course, there are many young children who can quickly grasp what is put before them – much to the satisfaction and ambition of parents, schools and governments. But that is not the point. Is it possible that we are pressurising little children – whose grey matter at that age, both right and left, is very Impressionable – into developing the detailed 'clever' **left** side of their brain too early? And by 'too early', we are meaning before the holistic, creative, visionary **right** side has had a chance to develop, unencumbered by letters, numbers and facts? For that only leads to top tables and cleverness over wisdom. Professor Lilian Katz, an authority on childhood education, says:

"Teaching younger children (to read) can look OK in the shorter term,

but in the longer term, children who are taught early are no better off.

For a lot of children 5 is too early, and it can have a more negative effect on boys.

But for children who see themselves as inept at reading early, it can be seriously damaging.”

Interesting, is it not, that she mentions the more negative effect it can have on boys? And it is mainly grown up boys who run the world! Have you noticed that many brilliant men - and some brilliant women too - are quite immature emotionally? There you have the answer. We need to bring back music, art, creativity, right brain activities and interests of the heart, at an early age, as soon as possible. We need to restore character and wisdom over show and cleverness. And it needs to start in the nursery, before the ambition of those parents, schools and governments – especially the latter – encourage the cleverness aspect, without sufficient balancing of left-brain creativity, in which the individual heart can express itself. In our Issue 32, we quoted Ben Okri:

“If we need a new vision for our times, what might it be?

A vision that arises from necessity, or one that orientates us towards a new future? . . .

One of our much neglected qualities is our creative ability to reshape our world.

Our planet is under threat. We need a new one-planet thinking.

“We must bring back into society a deeper sense of the purpose of living.

The unhappiness in so many lives ought to tell us that success alone is not enough.

Material success has brought us to a strange spiritual and moral bankruptcy.

If we look at alcohol rates, suicide rates and our sensation addiction, we must conclude that this banishment of higher things from the garden has not been a success.

The more society has succeeded, the more its heart has failed.”

So, how has this happened? Network Review, Journal of the Scientific and Medical Network, (Winter 2009/2010) contains the second part of an interesting article by **Iain McGilchrist** on his book: ***The Master and his Emissary: The Divided Brain and the Making of the Western World.**** He explains that recent advances in Neuroscience have revealed that not only is there a difference in the way the two sides of the brain work – the right side taking in the overall impression and the left being conscious of the detail; but that there is also a difference in their structure, the right side being longer, wider and generally heavier than the left.

“The right hemisphere” he says, “seems better able to appreciate existing things in all their uniqueness, where the left hemisphere schematises and generalises things into categories. . .

Broad vigilant attention must come *before* we can focus on one part of the field; we see the whole before we see the parts; we do not put the whole together from the parts. What the left hemisphere offers is a valuable, but intermediate process, one of ‘unpacking’ what is there and handing it back to the right hemisphere, where it can once more be integrated into the experiential whole. . .

I believe the world in which we live has become increasingly to reflect the view of the left hemisphere alone.”

On 24th November '08, Helena Park, our Administrator, gave us a talk entitled, “*Could Problems Experienced by Humanity be because we are Operating Primarily from the Left Side of the Brain?*” She described it as “. . . two ways of thinking: verbally in the left hemisphere and non-verbally in the right. Right brain function tends to be intuitive, free and holistic, while the left brain is used for intellectual activity and

is analytical and directed.” She obviously pre-empted McGilchrist’s book – or shall we say the idea has been hanging around on the ether for some time!

So here at last is a significant exposition on the subject by someone with a background in both Medicine and English Literature. The two sides of the brain need to function harmoniously together – of course both are needed. As McGilchrist says: “What the left hemisphere offers is a valuable but intermediate process, one of ‘unpacking’ what is there and handing it back to the right hemisphere, where it can once more be integrated into the experiential whole; much as the painstaking fragmentation and analysis of the sonata in practise is reintegrated by the pianist in performance . . . where he must no longer [consciously] be aware of it.”

Finally, dare we suggest that left & right hemispheres reflect archetypal male & female ways of thinking? We each have both sides but boys are perhaps naturally more left-brain orientated diving for the detail, while girls are inclined to be, naturally, more right-brained. Diving for the detail and consequently missing out on understanding the creative whole, could be a disadvantage for boys at that early stage of learning. An interesting thought, is it not?

AN

* Iain McGilchrist’s book, *The Master and his Emissary*, Yale, 2009, £25. ISBN: 978 0 300 1 4878 7

*“It is such a pity that they have withdrawn music from schools.
Through music one learns about integration – that everything is connected.”
Daniel Barenboim*

Feminine Energy in the Coming Aquarian Age

H-A channelled through Tony Neate 3.09.09

H-A: I have already spoken about the feminine energy becoming more dominant in the Aquarian age, as from 2013 onwards, and would like to clarify this statement as it could be misleading. I am not trying to suggest that there will be a supremacy of either the feminine or the masculine, but rather a bonding of the two energies, so that humanity can utilise both aspects and both genders to create a balance – neither energy being superior to the other.

In the past Piscean age, the shadow has used the masculine energy to dominate the feminine. In the coming age, the shadow will try to make the feminine energy dominate the masculine, so as to rule the planet. This is not what you need. What you do need to achieve is balance and harmony on and between both sides. This can only be done by listening to and hearing each other, without anger or prejudice. Ultimately, the only way to deal with the shadow is through unconditional love, forgiveness, respect, and an openness of heart and mind. The Aquarian influence will give humankind the opportunity to find that balance.

Light campaigners need to understand that it is important not to over-emphasise either the masculine or the feminine; and I would like to make this very clear. Also, it is not about different nations or religions. This balance needs to arise from the state in which any particular country is now, with respect to their cultural, tribal, religious, political and corporate functioning. It is all part of the spiritual journey through incarnation of different peoples and different countries.

Gaia is trying to help in this and it is one of the aspects of climate change that has not yet been fully explained. It is not just the abuse of the planet that is creating the problem. It is also about understanding that the way to solve climate change is by finding a proper balance in all things being enacted on the planet as it develops, and by every form of evolution. That includes the human and animal kingdoms, the bird and fish kingdoms, tree, plant and mineral kingdoms; they are all playing a part in what is going on.

At this moment in time, I feel it is important that my teaching goes out to reach as many people as possible. . . Do you have any questions?

Ann: At first I was a little concerned when you talked about the feminine coming into greater prominence, because astrologically, Aquarius is not a particularly feminine sign. It is a sign with the emphasis on individuation, the individuals in groups – all equally important – humanity, freedom etc. But when you talk about finding a better balance between the two energies of masculine and feminine, whether within ourselves or between the genders, that makes a lot of sense. Pisces is the more feminine sign, and I can see that the dominance of the masculine energy during the past 2000 years of the Piscean Age, is what brought it out of balance.

H-A: And we do not want to see the same thing happening again in the Aquarian age, with the feminine energy becoming out of balance by being too dominating. It is all about finding that balance.

Ann: I remember that you said many years ago, belligerence on the planet will gradually subside from 2012. But what about the animal kingdom? For instance, the cat family? They need to kill other animals in order to survive and many animals are carnivorous.

H-A: Yes, but then so does *homo sapiens*, generally, kill to eat. As I have said before, many spirits come into animals knowing that they are likely to be eaten as a form of sustenance, and with the evolution of the planet as it is, that is part of what is happening. But it is important to understand that when a large cat attacks another animal, it is not torturing that animal to death beforehand as *homo sapiens* is doing with many of the animals that are being prepared for food.

What I am also concerned about, very strongly, is the adverse effect of the chemicals and pesticides that are being used, both in animals and in food that is being grown. I am concerned that the spirits of animals *and* the spirits in plants, vegetables and fruits that are being sprayed and distorted for material gain, are rebelling at being controlled in this way by *homo sapiens*. This will eventually rebound on humanity.

That is why buying and eating organic food is so important. It is not just about products that are free from harmful pollutants and chemicals, but also about products - both animal and vegetable - that have been allowed to grow naturally and therefore do not, on a subtle level, experience anger and resentment at being forced to grow in an unnatural way.

You must appreciate that the spiritual level of the energies in all food is important. If that energy is upset, frustrated, it will affect the person who eats it on an energy and other levels.

Ann: Yes, I understand. Again it is about the light and the shadow, isn't it. Take animals: there are a lot of *good* things that human beings *are* doing for animals, aren't there?

H-A: Sure, there are two sides to the picture. A lot is talked about genetic modification. But in one sense that is already happening. There are many fertilisers and pesticides being used on the plant kingdom.

Ann: Yes, I can see that a lot of genetic modification takes place in order to get a beautiful bloom. Now whether that is justified or not, I am not sure.

H-A: Anything which is forcing another form of existence to change without its agreement, is of the shadow, not of the light. And this is why I have always emphasised so strongly that any form of healing should always be done with the

permission of the client. A blessing and thanks to your food before eating it does help. Remember, spirit functions on a thought wave level.

Ann: Thank you, that gives much 'food for thought.'

"I forgive, and so I am forgiven." H-A

WHY WE MUST ACT NOW

HRH The Prince of

Wales

. . . explains just how urgent halting deforestation is in an interview with

Jeremy Darroch, CEO

of BSkyB

You're working with businesses and governments to help reverse the destruction of the rainforests. What do you hope to achieve?

To halt tropical deforestation – as quickly as possible. The destruction, which is happening at the rate of 15 million hectares a year, is a major contributor to climate change. I was staggered when I first discovered it causes more greenhouse gas emissions than all the planes, cars, trains and ships in the entire world.

Why did you feel the need to redouble your efforts right now?

About 2 years ago, having listened to the urgent pleas of deeply concerned experts, I felt I had to do all in my power to help find some kind of solution to this incredibly complex issue before it was all too late. And this is when I decided to set up my Prince's Rainforests Project.

What do the experts you have consulted predict?

We have less than 100 months (8 years) to tackle climate change. So we need to buy ourselves time so that we can build the low-carbon economies central to our very survival. The best way we can do that is to stop deforestation, because in doing so we can have an immediate effect on emissions.

What are you doing to help?

My project's proposal, developed after 18 months of intensive research and consultation, is for an emergency funding package to help the rainforest nations embark on an alternative, low-carbon economic path.

Why does this remain such a personal passion of yours?

I suppose more than anything my motivation is that I do not want my children & grandchildren saying "Why didn't you do something when it was possible to make difference!"

With the world in recession, are you hopeful you can convince people to give financial help?

. . . whatever difficulties the world is experiencing now as a result of the global financial crisis, they are nothing compared to what will happen if the full effects of climate change start to materialise. On the bright side, there is also a growing sense that many countries are beginning to see the creation of low-carbon businesses as one of the best ways out of the recession – and that would be better news for climate change.

Jeremy Darroch (the interviewer) says: "To kick start this, we need to raise £4m. in the UK and Ireland over the next 3 years and we'd love your help. By donating just £10 you can save 500 trees – and I promise that Sky will match any donation you make to get us to our total. Go to sky.com/rainforestrescue to find out more and join in. Or call 0800 369 8422 rainforest rescue – working together to save the rainforest.

. . . and from the Soil Association . . .

At present the world's increasingly intensive and industrialised food systems are deeply unsustainable. They rely on high inputs of chemicals, fossil fuels, global sourcing and vast centralised processing and distribution contracts. Frighteningly, a handful of corporate multi-nationals have a vice-like grip on the means of both production and distribution.

These issues are powerfully explored in a new film: **'Food, inc.'**, directed by Robbie Kenner, which went on nationwide release in the UK on February 12th. . . We are the official charity partner for the film. I am writing to ask you to support our new campaign to develop food systems for the 21st century based on three principles – sustainability, security and resilience.

Patrick Holden Director

[Ed. And we need to encourage the film, **'Food, Inc.'** locally.]

The Prince of Wales has said:

"The soil's health is our health.

Yet we have eroded it and poisoned it and failed to replace lost nutrients. In one pinch of soil there are more microbes than there are people on the planet." (!!)

"Every 'now' moment is a gift from God, that is why it is called 'the present'." Neale Donald Walsh

MEDITATION ON LOVE AND LOSS

Jackie Pritchard 11.09

The feelings of love and loss are a precious evidence of life upon Earth, although it should be said that they don't disappear upon the great transition. Nevertheless they have a particular quality when walking the human walk of relationships, love and peace.

Love, you might say is the source of grief. Without love there can be no grief and therefore they are both deeply related and pull within the human heart in similar force and similar pain. Love is so often seen as joyful and of pleasure; and yet it is a deep and deeply felt emotion that has the quality of great tenacity which may lead into the depths of loss. It has an expanding and contracting quality and is self-protective as well as self-expansive in such a way that it proceeds from 'the one' to 'the all'. How can 'the all' be loved if there is no experience of 'the one' being loved to the deep centre of our being?

As love binds its tentacles and its gracious view of the object, it digs deep within the human frame. The heart of the one who loves becomes expanded and more and more complex in the way it sees and feels its own quality. The recipient may not know the depth, the roundness, the wholeness of the quality with their natural mind and heart; but their inner essence, their whole and subtle self, is very aware of the sustaining power of love which flows towards it.

How then shall love, or the heart, not feel grief and pain when the loved one is hurt, is absent, is gone? This deep and almost unruly emotion threatens to overwhelm the pulsing goodness of the love. And yet the saying is true, "It is better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all".

The strength of love is adaptable and full of nuance which can come closer or be more distant in its expression. It need not overwhelm its object but can be expanded upon through ripples to the near and the wider world. Love seeks to expand and send forth its goodness; it seeks this even when the loss is profound. Once love has found its way from the trapped confines of the hardened heart, it is free to explore and grow and, like the phoenix, rise again in yet more colour and power.

BOOK REVIEWS

SUPERnaturally True Smedley

Jenny

This is an unusual book in that it is a collection of uplifting and moving spiritual encounters. Her introduction begins: "How differently would you view your life, if you knew for certain, that death wasn't the end? How would it change you and the way you saw the world if you knew it all had a meaning, difficult though it is to see it sometimes? If you'd talked to loved ones who had passed over, and if you'd had spiritual encounters, proving to you that life after death was a fact, you'd live your life in a very different, much more optimistic way." This is what is so beautiful about this book.

I am a psychic myself and feel so much in harmony with all that she says. This opening up of your life enables you to find new levels of acceptance. Although many of you will already be in sympathy with the theme of this book, it is done in a refreshing way and is well worth renewing your beliefs and understanding. Many of the stories she tells may well bring tears of sadness and of joy, but I recommend it as a source of enhancement of your present beliefs.

Tony Neate

O Books. ISBN: 978-1-84694-231-0 UK £9.99 US \$19.95

BECOMING SARAH

Janine Grey

Sarah had become reclusive after a very difficult marriage and divorce. It was only when something inexplicable happened that her life began to change. This is her story of emotional recovery through spiritual awakening and the support of friends.

The author came to our courses at Runnings Park – she was known then as Jan Gardiner – so this, her first book, was for me an especially enjoyable read.

Well done, Jan!

Ann

Neate

www.januspublishing.co.uk ISBN978-1-85756-644-4 UK £8.95

HELIOS SCHOOL OF HEALING, 116 Judd Street, London, WC1H 9NS

The first group of budding therapists has just completed its two year professional training course with Helios and are moving into their graduate year which uses Tony Neate's book NEW DIMENSIONS IN HEALING as its base. Helios is a charity, based in London, and they work from their own premises near Kings Cross. The students have many opportunities to attend additional mini-courses on a wide variety of healing subjects, and to help out in the weekly clinic. An all-round training is the Helios way.

Every module has four tutors in attendance. Greg Branson presents the theory; Miqhey Kannemeyer provides practical guidance and the necessary understanding of the issues to be faced by a healer; while Natasha Malik and Robin Baldock introduce breathwork, yogic techniques and practical exercises for self-healing.

Students can become members of the Helios family, and receive help beyond the basic school curriculum. Charges are very reasonable and concessions are considered for people who are on benefits. Tony knows this organisation well and enthusiastically recommends the training programmes.

Contact Greg Branson on: heliosc@dialstart.net or 020 7713 7132 for further information.

A gentle reminder: if you haven't already sent it, your annual sub/donation for the Newsletter is due. [£10 or what you can afford.] Many thanks. Please send to our Administrator, [see bottom P.8]

UK CHURCH SIGNS . . .

Adam blamed Eve, Eve blamed the snake, and the snake didn't have a leg to stand on

Down in the mouth? Come in for a faith lift.

As you pass this little church, be sure to plan a visit,
So when at last you're carried in, God won't ask "Who is it?"

Speak well of your enemies. After all, you made them.

Happy Easter to our Christian friends, Happy Easter to our Jewish friends,
And to our atheist friends, Good Luck!

Buttercup Connections March/April/May '10

Meetings held at **THE BEACON CLINIC, Portland Rd., Great Malvern**

Admission £5 (or what you can afford).

Wednesday 17th March **7.00**

for 7.30

Should we control the Growth of Population or leave it to Nature?

H-A energy channelled through Tony Neate

Wednesday 24th March **7.00**

for 7.30

The Relationship between Psychology and Spirituality

Deborah Ackroyd channelling **Menat**

Monday 12th April

7.00 for 7.30

Feng Shui – The Power of the Land

'Follow the Form'. A presentation by **Tony Holdsworth**

Wednesday 21st April

7.00 for 7.30

Healing World Situations – Theory and Practice

A talk by **David Furlong**

Wednesday 28th April **7.00**

for 7.30

Inner Voice of New Zealand, Meetings with People, Legends & the 12th Nation of Peace (The Waitaha) A talk by **Tim Willcocks** who has just returned from New Zealand.

Thursday 13th May

7.00 for 7.30

Lessons from Plants – How we can learn from plants to heal ourselves

A talk by **Kelda White**, Homoeopath.

Wednesday 19th May **7.00**

for 7.30

Your Questions Answered

H-A energy channelled through Tony Neate

Thursday 27th May

7.00 for 7.30

'The Alchemical Magic' of combining Tuning Forks with Classical Acupuncture

A talk by **Dr. Martin Allbright**.

Thursday 10th June

7.00 for 7.30

H-A Development Group

Personal Inner Development work with **H-A energy** channelled through **David Furlong**

Monday 21st June

7.00 for 7.30 A Summer Solstice Evening Celebration with **Ann and Tony Neate**

SUMMER BREAK

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, free individual expression in relation to health and ecology, deep questions in our minds today.

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