

# Buttercup Connections – Newsletter 44 December 2011, January, February 2012



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



A GREAT GREY SHRIKE WITH ONLOOKER

There are many bird-watchers in this country – myself included. But have you ever heard of a human-watcher bird? I took these photos of a Great Grey Shrike (I have since learnt its name) on Fuerteventura – one of the Canary Islands – which, as you can see, is hot, bare and sandy.

We were a party of some 15 people sussing out energies, and had found what we felt was the heart centre of the island in a very isolated, dried up river bed. We had brought some sandwiches for a picnic lunch, when we suddenly noticed this smallish bird watching us intently, its head moving from side to side as we moved around looking for a suitable place to sit down. It flew from one thorn bush to another, but near enough to observe us. It seemed comparatively tame - you can see how close the onlooker and myself were.

The shrike was not interested in our offerings of pieces of bread – it was only interested in us! Apparently its prey are insects and small rodents and there are about 70 types of shrike. In one kind, called the boubou shrike, the male and female sing a duet together, performing alternate parts of a song.

After we left the area and returned to our cars, we drove up the hill and

decided to stop at a layby and look back down to the valley where we had just been. . . And who joined us on the railing? . . . The shrike! (Notice its beak).

## THE YEAR AHEAD – 2012

**Allbeing channelled through Tony Neate 17.11.11**

**Welcome to the coming year – 2012!** It is important that I talk to you about it at this time, to prepare you for what lies ahead.

It is going to be a year of tremendous change and it is interesting that you have the Olympic Games taking place in this country next year. It will be the culmination of much light and much shadow. So I say to you now, for both inner and outer preparation: it will be a year when the word TRUST needs to dominate your being, when you need to trust those higher energies that will be around to support, enlighten and broaden your vision of planet Earth and the universe.

It is a time for action on all spiritual planes – a time when you need to reach up and reach out. There will be attempted blockages on many levels, on financial levels (already started) and on political levels, hence the political upheavals taking place in so many countries. And this will increase in 2012.

But however strong the influence of darkness is, the brilliance of the light will be present, not to eliminate the darkness, but to create a balance to take you forward. It needs to be a year of acknowledgment in which true love is acknowledged on the deepest level. True love is not about sex or sexuality. It is, as I said, about acknowledging within what you feel on that deepest level, to really seek within in order to be able to reach out.

There are many spirits who have incarnated over the past 100 years that are coming together, knowing that they have been together before and have chosen this incarnation to help carry the planet forward into the age of Aquarius. It needs to be a time of rejoicing, not a time of despair.

I have come to work with this sensitive to help him and those around him to help take the planet forward into 2012, 2013 and beyond. And it gives me great pleasure now to be able to say that not only is this *not* the end of the world, but that we are successfully entering into a new era of understanding. So, dear friends, prepare yourselves, enable yourselves to hear what I am saying with peace, joy and freedom.

You are moving into an era where there will be no more spiritual, religious, cultural, tribal, or political control. It is time for a new understanding of money – your means of exchange - to surface; a time when all those who are inflicted with the need for greed and putting down, will find new levels of remorse and sorrow and will open their hearts and minds to the needs of their fellow beings on every level. And by that I mean all the other kingdoms that make up your world.

This message is delivered with Unconditional Love, Joy, Compassion, and Understanding, to encourage you to move forward and to let go of all those issues which chain you to the past. It is my first positive sharing on the coming year, 2012. Please give it your support and willingness and trust, moving forward with a greater understanding of all things. My love and blessings to you . . .

**Allbeing channelled through Greg Branson.** My energy operates through a duality which does not engage in the human way of division - the kind of separation that leads to fear and domination; but which expands out so widely, that the human individual cannot sustain itself in that way. Instead it has to surrender generously to its own unique nature and to the wide diversity that all beings have together, and that all levels of consciousness have together. It is the beginning of a kind of world government within the soul of humanity, where all people feel themselves at one with the divine

energy – and there is no need to assert the individuality as special. Of course, individuality needs to be present, but not in any way that is vulnerable to the forces that would destroy its balance and devotion.

This is the beginning of the full transformation of this planet into quite a new phase of collective experience, which has already been experienced on more advanced planets. But, even there, they have not experienced the totality in which many expressions and levels of planetary understanding have to co-exist; for when planets are superior in their minds to other planets, that creates division. This is a beginning, that will extend out, and extend out through time, and, indeed, each one of you will meet it again as other lives come along – for this is not a short term project. It is something that is the basis of the further evolution of the universe. . . Thank you.

*“Light must come from inside.  
You cannot ask the darkness to leave.  
You must turn on the light.”* Chuang-tzu

## **SILENCE IS GOLDEN – BUT WHERE HAS IT GONE?**

**“Ah yes, 'silence', remember that?”** says George F. Will in The Washington Post. “It's a luxury seldom allowed us in any public space in America, (or most countries I suspect) these days. If we're not being treated to background music or blaring televisions, we're having to listen to endless instructions, advice and warnings. . .

**“The moving sidewalk is coming to an end . . . please look down!”** declares the airport travelator helpfully, just in case you hadn't noticed the obvious and imagined the walkway went on forever. **'A train is arriving!'**, announces a voice on the platform, just audible over the sound of an approaching train. **'This is a no-smoking flight!'** they tell us, as if we weren't all aware that smoking on planes was banned a decade ago. **'Make sure you have all your belongings . . . If any unknown person attempts to give you any item . . .'**

“Almost all these messages are unwanted and unnecessary for anyone capable of walking around the block unsupervised, let alone catching a plane. This is the way the world will end, not with a bang, but with an environmental blitzkrieg of blather!” (Reported in *The Week* 5.11.11)

On somewhat similar lines, in 1995, I wrote an article in our (then) Runnings Park publication, *Pegasus*, entitled, **'What has Happened to the Pause?'** in which I complained that there were no gaps at all, not a moment's break between one programme, or part of a programme, and a noisy preview or advert before the next programme. And on the radio, news items come tumbling out one after the other, sometimes with hardly any inflection in the voice, even to indicate a change of subject. It all seemed to happen quite suddenly. We lost the gentle music signal that used to fill in the gaps and the relaxing second or so in speech between one item and another. An astrologer might say, “It's an Aquarian trait, this speeding up of everything, as we move inexorably into the Aquarian age.”

And what about the speeding up of certain music – faster and faster! I feel sorry for the orchestral players, particularly the violinists. I can understand the conductors' reason - that the overriding theme stands out more clearly. But, 'faster' often sounds like a runaway gallop; whereas 'steadier', even 'slightly steadier', actually sounds much more rhythmic and enjoyable.

Just a moment's respite is all we ask, especially where sound is concerned.

Composers know the importance of the pause, both during and between movements. So what about deliberately cultivating it in our lives.

This morning we had the two minutes' silence to commemorate those who have lost their lives in the wars, and I'm sure you will agree that those two minutes, when thousands of people are silently thinking together, are very powerful. So I would like to encourage you to find that pause in your life by giving you a very simple meditation:

<Settle yourself comfortably but upright, feet flat on the floor, head well poised on the top vertebra . . . Imagine a thread gently pulling the top of your head upwards . . . Centre yourself in your heart and breathe a little more deeply, relaxing - especially on the outbreath. . .

Allow all extraneous thoughts to drift away from you, releasing them, letting go of them as they float off. . . Become aware of an arc of light above your head, glowing, expanding, as you breathe from your heart centre . . . Hold each end of the arc with arms outstretched (literally or in your imagination) in stillness, tranquillity and peace . . . and 'just be'. . .

After a few moments, return to full consciousness, retaining that feeling of peace within you, and reconnect yourself lovingly to planet Earth beneath your feet. . . Take a deep breath and recentre yourself. . . Have a good stretch.> AN

---

**I have held on to the following letter for four years because every time I read it I collapse in laughter.  
See if it does the same for you. It is a genuine letter sent to the addressee below. . .**

Secretary of State, Dept. for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA),  
Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London SW1P 3JR.  
16 May 2007

Dear Secretary of State,

My friend, who is in farming at the moment, recently received a cheque for £3,000 from the Rural Payments Agency for not rearing pigs. I would now like to join the 'not rearing pigs' business.

In your opinion, what is the best kind of farm not to rear pigs on, and which is the best breed of pigs not to rear? I want to be sure I approach this endeavour in keeping with all government policies, as dictated by the EU under the Common Agricultural Policy. I would prefer not to rear bacon pigs, but if this is not the type you want not rearing, I will just as gladly not rear porkers. Are there any advantages in not rearing rare breeds such as Saddlebacks or Gloucester Old Spots, or are there too many people already not breeding these?

As I see it, the hardest part of this programme will be keeping an accurate record of how many pigs I haven't reared. Are there any government or local authority courses on this?

My friend is very satisfied with this business. He had been rearing pigs for forty years or so, and the best he ever made on them was £1,422 in 1968. That is, until this year when he received a cheque for not rearing any.

If I get £3,000 for not rearing 50 pigs, will I get £6,000 for not rearing 100? I plan to operate on a small scale at first, holding myself down to about 4,000 pigs not raised, which will mean about £240,000 for the first year? As I become more expert in not rearing pigs, I plan to be more ambitious, perhaps

increasing to, say, 40,000 pigs not reared in my second year, from which I should expect about £2.4 million from your department. Incidentally, I wonder if I would be eligible to receive tradable carbon credits for all these pigs not producing harmful and polluting methane gases.

Another point: These pigs that I plan not to rear will not eat 2,000 tonnes of cereals. I understand that you also pay farmers for not growing crops. Will I qualify for payments for not growing cereals to not feed the pigs I don't rear? I am also considering the 'not milking cows' business, so please send me any information you have on that too. Please could you also include the current DEFRA advice on set-aside fields? Can this be done on an e-commerce basis with virtual fields (of which I seem to have several thousand hectares)?

In view of the above you will realise that I will be totally unemployed, and will therefore qualify for unemployment benefits.

I shall of course be voting for your party at the next general election.

Yours faithfully,

\*\*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\*

***“We don't laugh because we're happy  
We're happy because we laugh.”*** Joe Hoare  
([www.joehoare.co.uk](http://www.joehoare.co.uk))

## **ARE WE BECOMING A PLASTIC PLANET?**

**Recently I read that during and after the Mexican Gulf oil spill,** much effort was given to finding a scientific way of mopping up or neutralising the oil. In the meantime, however, nature, in her wonderfully adaptive way, took a mere 3 days to produce a type of algae that fed on the oil.\*

So if that can happen, could it be possible to develop an algae, microbe or whatever, that could feed on plastic, which after all is made from oil? It breaks my heart to throw away so many different sorts of plastic paper – soft ones, crisp ones, torn ones, and great black ones to hold them all – to throw them away to landfill sites. Surely there has to be some way of dissolving, destroying, or even better, transforming and recycling them, for further use. What a challenge this could be for some cleverly inventive person, and what a service they would be doing humankind *and* the planet!

Many clever things are being manufactured these days. Take, for instance, the following: the sole ingredients of the tissues and toilet paper we are using at the moment are 90% sugar cane and 10% wood pulp! No bleach and no inks, dyes or perfumes. Alas, when I found out where they are made, it is China where, presumably, sugar cane grows.

So what about maize crops in this country? What happens to those great plants after the corn cobs are taken? This is a country renowned for its inventions, so I'm putting out the seed-thought for someone to come along & germinate it!

\* Sorry, I can't find where I read this info. It was probably an issue of *New Scientist*, now safely being recycled!

**AN**

## **NEWS ABOUT THE CONKER TREES**

**Do you remember our concern about the ailing chestnut trees (Issue 40)?** And In the following issue (41) we printed a letter from a supporter in London saying that her favourite chestnut tree had been chopped down because of disease. She was very angry because the following year many other ailing chestnut trees on Hampstead Heath had recovered.

Apparently, according to Wendy Carter, writing for the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust in *Worcestershire Now*, "(the guilty culprit). . . is a tiny leaf-mining moth that lays its eggs on the surface of the leaf in April and May. When the eggs hatch, the larvae burrow under this layer and create mines within the leaves. The larvae pupate in chambers in these mines and emerge in early July. The cycle then begins again and there can be up to 3 generations of moths in a summer. The mines cause the leaves to brown prematurely and it's not unusual for a badly infected tree to have lost all its leaves by mid-August.

"The good news is that the larvae only survive in the white-flowered trees, not the red ones, and it seems that an infestation doesn't cause long-term damage to the tree. . . (although) the conkers drop earlier and are smaller in size.

"These moths were new to science when they first appeared in Macedonia in 1985. By 1989 they'd colonised Austria and then spread across Europe arriving in England in 2002 and have since spread throughout England and parts of Wales.

"Should we be worried?" Wendy asks. "Probably not. There is little to show that the trees are suffering long-term damage, and trees that have been devastated one year spring back to life the next. Removing leaf litter during the winter months can be very effective in reducing local infestations. But it looks like the moth is here to stay." . . . How sad!

**AN**

## Book Reviews by *Tony Neate*

### **Writings from Oneness**

***Ian McCall***

I felt a real oneness with the author as I read his book. "The World needs love", he says in his introduction and he expresses it with openness. He quite rightly expresses his concern at some of the teachers who pride themselves on being clever, blasting or verbally assaninating their aspirants.

He expresses his passion for oneness in some beautiful short poems. He also feels that meditation is important, it is designed to help us realise what we really are. It helps us to realise: What we really are, What we really are not, What the ego is, What restricts us, What makes us happy, What makes us unhappy.

He concludes that "The world is in turmoil outwardly. Suffering may be illusion, but that is poor consolation to one starving or being tortured. The world needs love desperately" It needs truth as well, he concludes. A short and powerful book. Ian has taught meditation and self realisation since 1987. Published by O books UK £9.99 ISBN 978-1-84694-437-6

### **Philosophy of the Mind – MADE EASY**

***Deborah Webb***

This is a very clever and provocative book – although it certainly did not make it easy for me. She gently brings in the possibility of life after death, and certainly enjoys emphasising the importance of forming your own decisions and conclusions on all things.

She questions freewill in one sense, but emphasises it in another sense. Certainly a book to make you think – and to persuade you to become a philosopher of the mind!

I believe that having the freewill to release past historic concepts is important and I think she would agree with that. Some of her challenging questions include: What do angels think about? Is God a deceiver? How important is happiness? Do I exist? etc., etc. Published by O books UK £6.99 ISBN 978-1-84694-542-7

*The wise man does not govern men from the outside.*

*First he changes himself and then his influence spreads.*

*He strengthens nothing but his own abilities.*  
Chuang-tzu

## **The Evolution of Consciousness - A Wrekin Trust Forum**

We were some 46 people, covering a broad spectrum of the spiritual movement, and stretching our minds to take in many schools of thought. As someone said:

"The world is here in this room. What can we do about it?" And another: "Are we part of the Earth, or do we live on the Earth?" And a third thought-provoking question: "How do we balance spiritually and practicality?"

Just a few of the subjects covered and represented were: Working with Youngsters; Safe Childhood.com; Interfaith Imams; Sound Therapy; The Grieving Process; The Global Information Network; The Education of Children as Souls, not Economic Fodder; A new form of Steiner Education; 'What can I do that's different?' 'Is there a little habit we can drop, or perhaps take up?'; The avatar is in each one of us; Music is the only 'sport' where they play together instead of competing (true, that's why it is so important; "We need to focus, not so much on the causes of disease, but on the causes of health." Lady Balfour. As you can see, there was quite a range, and plenty more!

On the Saturday evening, we were treated to some poetry and an excellent talk by Jude Currivan on "HOPE – From Reductionism to Holism".

**YOUTH.** Wrekin Trust, in conjunction with Brahma Kumaris, is supporting an application, for recognition by the Olympic Committee, for the branding of a youth work development project entitled: **"Inspire – Choose, Change and Be"**.

The first event took place in September at the Brahma Kumaris Golbal Retreat Centre near Oxford, which brought **"a bunch of like-minded, intelligent, positive and powerful young adults together to explore brave new ways of operating, innovative ways of seeing, and positive ways of being."**

*"Yesterday I was clever, that is why I wanted to change the world,*

*Today I am wise, that is why I am changing myself."*  
Sri Chinmoy

**EDITORIAL.** Thank you to those of you who have sent in a £10 donation/ subscription for four issues per year. It would be helpful if those of you who haven't yet done so, could send it in by the New Year. If you can't

afford the full amount, send what you can, to Helena Park. (See bottom of page 8).

And you might be interested in the following . . . !

## **DISCOVER YOUR CREATIVE ABILITY THROUGH CHANNELLING**

A Safe Exploration of Psyche/Psychism to develop your Creativity  
and to learn to be more in tune with your Intuition and inner guidance  
for everyday living.

An Introductory weekend with

### **Tony and Ann Neate**

**Sat & Sun 3/4 December 2011**

at The Beacon Clinic, Portland Road, Great Malvern WR14 2TA  
Applications to BILL HEANEY, 1 Whiteholme, The Street, Kingscourt,  
Stroud GL5 5DN 01453 873045. admin@schoolofchannelling.co.uk

**Buttercup Connections Dec 2011, Jan, Feb  
2012**

**Meetings are held at THE BEACON CLINIC, Portland Rd., Great Malvern,  
WR14 2TA**

Admission £5 or what you can afford

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November **7.00**  
**for 7.30 Life after Death – the Passing of Living Consciousness from the  
Material Realm.** **Paul Mayo**, internationally  
acclaimed astologer, gives an inspirational talk on his lifelong interest in spiritual matters,  
having had many strange experiences & memories from between lives.

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December **5.30**  
**for 6.00 Winter Solstice Celebration led by Ann & Tony Neate** (No admission  
fee for this.) Come and join us on this auspicious moment.

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2012 **7.00 for**  
**7.30**  
**2012 and What it Means**  
**Allbeing Energy** channelled through **Tony Neate**

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January **7.00**  
**for 7.30 Serial Consciousness – a Deeper View of Reincarnation**  
A talk by **Greg Branson**, leader of the Helios Centre in London

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January **7.00**  
**for 7.30**  
**Peruvian Shamanism**  
Psychology defines us by our past; Shamanism by who we are becoming.  
An experiential talk on the Shamanic path by **Emma Savage**.

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January **7.00**  
**for 7.30**  
**The Light Within – a Personal Experience**  
**Jane Cox**, from The Fold, talks about her journey in becoming a Craniosacral therapist.

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February **7.00**  
**for 7.30**  
**Celebrate the Celtic Festival of Imbolc with Kelda White**

Time to tune into the awakening Earth & build bridges from our inner longings to outer actions.

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February **7.00**  
**for 7.30**

**Alien Abduction & the Spiritual Implications of this Phenomenon for our Time**

A talk by **Deborah Ackroyd**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February **7.00**  
**for 7.30**

**Love Continues – an Evening of Sharing**

Bring your poems and delights for sharing the joys of love with **Rick Banbury**

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> February **7.00**  
**for 7.30**

**Feel Good, Stay on Top - What Good Nutrition Can Do for You**

A talk by **David Barrie**, who has had 33 years' experience in the field of nutrition.

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March **7.00**  
**for 7.30**

**What has Transition done in Malvern?**

**Nathan Burlton** has been a member of Transition Malvern Hills for 3 years and has helped initiate a number of projects and groups.

**Editors: Ann Neate, Tony Neate (01684 893697)**

**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.

[www.channelling-online.com](http://www.channelling-online.com) [www.spiritualchannelling.com](http://www.spiritualchannelling.com)

**Administrator: Helena Park**, 16 Heathlands Close, Malvern Wells, WR14 4HR. 0787 203 8088

e-mail: [buttercupconnection@hotmail.com](mailto:buttercupconnection@hotmail.com) Web: [www.buttercupconnections.com](http://www.buttercupconnections.com)