



# Wessex Research Group Network *Newsletter*

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 8.

August 2018

**A**ugust 2018 and we welcome the Burnham on Sea Pagan Group to the Wessex Network. For further information about the group and its activities contact Sue by emailing [derwen73@gmail.com](mailto:derwen73@gmail.com)

We also welcome the Osiligi Maasai Warriors from Kenya who will be performing tribal song and dance in Glastonbury. For further information log on to [www.osiligiwarriors.co.uk](http://www.osiligiwarriors.co.uk) or contact the Speaking Tree Bookshop in Glastonbury on 01458 835974

August also sees an exciting new three-day festival for Glastonbury, to celebrate the life and work of visionary British artist, poet and printmaker, William Blake. FFI contact Samia at [dancingsam1@gmail.com](mailto:dancingsam1@gmail.com)

The latest addition to the on-line lecture archive [www.wessexresearchgroup.org/digital\\_25.html](http://www.wessexresearchgroup.org/digital_25.html) is *We Are Love* by Ann Hughes

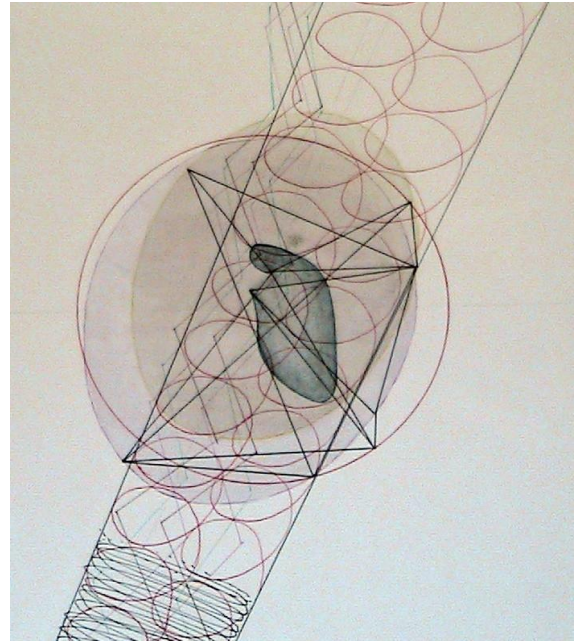
## ***Education – A Life Long Quest***

**By Nigel Blair**

The curve of known factual material is rising at a daunting rate; the knowledge gained in the last few years is equal to the entire body of knowledge that existed up to modern times. Web based technology makes information readily available.

Despite the “instant” availability of information our reaction to this should not be to abandon the quest for understanding for the world altogether, or to throw out well tried and tested techniques and turn exclusively to divination process divorced from the outer world, or to say that the factual content of a subject does not matter but only the mental processes to which it gives rise. This is the way of illusion that leaves people wrapped up in their own thoughts and unable to understand and help others. This destroys the true balance of the educational process. There must be discipline as well as inspiration; application as well as creation; receptivity to the true expert as well as imagination; an input as well as a drawing out; an outer directed concern for others as well as the equally vital inner expression. The development of these skills is a life-long process.

“Educare” was the word primarily used for education by the Romans especially when it meant what we usually mean by it – the education of the mind. Its meanings were to “bring up, rear, foster, train or educate” or (in poetry or post-Augustinian prose, referring to plants and animals) to “nourish, support or produce”, or (in Vergil) to “possess, hold”. They imply a sustained input from those who have trod a little further along the path of life,



or the particular part of life in question (“train”); a loving guidance for a limited period with a view to later independence (“bring up”, “rear”, “foster”); a vigorous development of this material and wisdom by the recipients own inner resources “nourish” -- one has to digest food oneself once it is given, and transform it into life giving energy, by which time it is unrecognisable!; the continuing practical assistance of the educators through all the difficulties (“support”); and finally to endurance to maintain it (“possess, hold”) against possible adversity and put into practice (“produce”).

In other words here we have the vital balance: the intake and the output; the receptive principle and the initiative - taking principle; or as the ancient Chinese philosophy would put it “the Ying and the Yang”. Between these two and combining both is the essential process of nurturing, of organic natural development, of endurance; of the trial and error of life illuminated by the flashes and eventually the steady flow of inner guidance or intuition. Although helping to draw out the inner resources of the person is an important part of education.

The true ancient wisdom classical and earlier, never said that facts, learning, outer things and public life were of no account: the intellect is a divine gift---attempts to short cut are a denial of our divinity and destroy our balance.

What was stressed by ancient and modern sages was the need to regard intellect as a tool and not the end; to develop inner intuitive processes to give guidance,

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Frome WRG  
Marina 01373 465848  
Glastonbury WRG  
Jacqui 07516816915  
Weymouth & Dorchester  
Roma 01305 816644  
Dorset Earth Mysteries  
www.dorsetmysteries.org  
School of Energy  
Healing Educational Trust  
www.energyhealing.co.uk  
Bristol Dowzers  
www.bristoldowzers.co.uk  
Joyous Isle workshops  
www.joyousisle.com  
Axminster Awareness Centre  
www.awarenesscentre.org.uk  
Stoneseeker Tours  
www.stoneseeker.net  
Centre for Pure Sound  
www.centreforpuresound.org  
The Martinsey Isle Trust  
www.martinsey.org.uk  
Hawkwood College  
www.hawkwoodcollege.co.uk  
Angelight  
www.angelight.co.uk  
Taunton Association for  
Psychotherapy  
www.taplimited.org.uk  
Wrekin Forum  
www.wrekinforum.org  
Theosophical Society in Scotland  
Findhorn Foundation  
www.findhorn.org  
Dowsing Spirits  
www.dowsingspirits.co.uk  
www.theswa.org.uk  
Aquarian Age Community  
www.aquaac.org  
Totnes Astrology Group  
David 01803 867145  
The Gift of Sound  
www.thegiftofsound.co.uk  
Crewkerne Awareness  
anacolourastro.wordpress.com  
Ryde PLG  
Dana 07879 021521  
Wellspring – Rode  
Tel. Caroline 01373 831046  
Network of Leyhunters  
www.networkofleyhunters.com  
Bath PL  
bathpositiveliving.co.uk

**EVENTS**

**Arlingham** 1 Aug  
Spirit of Awen Festival  
[www.spiritofawen.jimdo.com](http://www.spiritofawen.jimdo.com)  
**Chepstow** 2 Aug  
the Green Gathering  
[www.greengathering.org.uk](http://www.greengathering.org.uk)  
**Oxfordshire** 2 Aug  
Wilderness Festival  
[www.wildernessfestival.com](http://www.wildernessfestival.com)  
**Lutterworth** 8 Aug  
Tribe of Doris Festival  
[www.tribeofdoris.co.uk](http://www.tribeofdoris.co.uk)  
**Glastonbury** 8 Aug  
William Blake Festival  
[www.glastonburyplg.com](http://www.glastonburyplg.com)  
**Wimborne** 9 Aug  
Gaunts House  
Summer Gathering  
[www.gauntshouse.com](http://www.gauntshouse.com)  
**Hawaii** 11 Aug  
32<sup>nd</sup> World Congress on  
Illumination  
[www.eraofpeace.org](http://www.eraofpeace.org)  
**Brecon Beacons** 16 Aug  
Green Man Festival  
[www.greenman.net](http://www.greenman.net)  
**Wimborne** 16 Aug  
Vital Development  
International Summer  
Meeting  
[www.gauntshouse.com](http://www.gauntshouse.com)  
**Sussex** 17 Aug  
Wildheart Gathering  
[www.wildheartgathering.com](http://www.wildheartgathering.com)  
**Bristol** 18 Aug  
Pillars of Wisdom  
Summer School  
[theosophicalsociety.org.uk](http://theosophicalsociety.org.uk)  
**Northamptonshire** 23 Aug  
Shambala Festival  
[www.shambalafestival.org](http://www.shambalafestival.org)  
**Edenbridge** 24 Aug  
into the Wild Gathering  
[www.intothewildgathering.com](http://www.intothewildgathering.com)  
**Glastonbury** 25 Aug  
Chalice Well  
Healing Weekend  
[www.chalicewell.org.uk](http://www.chalicewell.org.uk)  
**Stroud** 28 Aug  
Kabbalistic Summer School  
[www.hawkwoodcollege.co.uk](http://www.hawkwoodcollege.co.uk)  
**Wimborne** 31 Aug  
Breathe  
A Festival of Life  
[www.gauntshouse.com](http://www.gauntshouse.com)  
**TALKS**

**Glastonbury** 1 Aug  
Lughnasadh Celebration  
Tel. 07747 897 621

**DEMG at Stapehill** 2 Aug  
Entwining of the Occult with  
Mainstream Organised Religion  
in 18<sup>th</sup> Century France  
Madeleine Despencer  
Tel. Dave 07977 144147

**Frome** 2 Aug  
Is It Time for Sirius Renewal?  
Mark Herbert  
Tel. Marina 01373 465848

**Bath** 8 Aug  
Bath Storytelling Circle  
Tel. David 01225 482170

**Bristol** 17 Aug  
Ley Lines, Templars,  
Druids and Destiny Amid our  
England Landscape  
Mark Herbert  
Tel. Rory 07748 734127

**Woodshaw** 20 Aug  
A Positive Approach to  
Complex Times  
Andy Thomas  
Tel. 01793 694943

**Crewkerne** 20 Aug  
Cosmic Ordering  
Nicole Dyke & Lisa Cole  
[collingridge1@sky.com](mailto:collingridge1@sky.com)

**Glastonbury** 24 Aug  
Osiligi Maasai  
Warrior Dance  
Tel. 01458 835974

**Glastonbury** 26 Aug  
Full Moon and Music  
Ravi Ji and Special Guests  
Tel. 01458 831154

**Glastonbury** 27 Aug  
Osiligi Maasai  
Warrior Dance  
Tel. 01458 835974

**Burnham on Sea** 28 Aug  
Our Sacred Places Your  
Sacred Places  
Phil & Sue  
Tel. 07776 306125

**Stroud** 31 Aug  
A Life without Suffering  
Ravi Ravindra  
Tel. 01453 759034

**WORKSHOPS &  
COURSES**

**Stroud** 3 Aug  
Simply Women on Purpose  
Summer Retreat  
Michelle Preston  
Tel. 01453 759034

**Forres** 4 Aug  
Animal Communication and  
Nature Connection 1  
Jacqueline Buckingham &  
Leslie Downie  
Tel. 01309 690311

**Thakeham** 4 Aug  
Fairy Painting Workshop  
Justine van de Weg  
[justine@angeldivinity.com](mailto:justine@angeldivinity.com)

**Iona** 4 Aug  
Summer Retreat Week  
Tel. 01309 690311

**Stroud** 9 Aug  
Qi Gong and  
Meditation Retreat  
Andy Preston  
Tel. 01453 759034

**Forres** 11 Aug  
the Authentic Investor  
Findhorn Team  
Tel. 01309 690311

**Forres** 11 Aug  
Whole Body Mindfulness  
Increasing the Power of  
Your Intuition  
Alex Maunder  
& Susan Miles  
Tel. 01309 690311

**Stour Row** 11 Aug  
Angels of Sound  
Playshop  
Dean Carter  
Tel. Dean 01935 389655

**Stour Row** 12 Aug  
Sound Bath  
Dean Carter  
Tel. Dean 01935 389655

**Forres** 18 Aug  
Embracing Change  
Open Floor Movement  
Workshop  
Deborah Jay Lewin  
& Bettina Jespersen  
Tel. 01309 690311

**Iona** 18 Aug  
Summer Retreat Week  
Tel. 01309 690311

**Holwell** 24 Aug  
Healing and the Shamanic  
Arts. Module 3.  
Gifts of the Seer Kawak  
Gifts of the Seer  
Elaina Harvey &  
Sandy Pennell  
Tel. 01963 23468

**Stroud** 24 Aug  
Icons of the Heart  
Painting our Sacred Images  
Caitlin Matthews &  
Felicity Wombwell  
Tel. 01453 759034

**Forres** 25 Aug  
Life Purpose  
Jena Griffiths  
& Susan Miles  
Tel. 01309 690311

**Stroud** 27 Aug  
Kabbalah Quantum Physics  
and New Biology  
Mike Bais  
Tel. 01453 759034

**Stroud** 31 Aug  
Yoga Philosophy for Self-  
Transformation  
Ravi Ravindra  
Tel. 01453 759034

**Stroud** 31 Aug  
Rest and Restore Retreat  
Mel Skinner  
Tel. 01453 759034

### LIGHTWORKER GROUPS

**Global Meditation Event**  
1 Aug 9pm  
[www.networkoflight.org](http://www.networkoflight.org)

**Penzance** (Tuesdays)  
Kriya Yoga  
Tel. 01736 362 371

**New York**  
Transforming Planetary  
Consciousness Webinar  
UN Meditation as  
Planetary Service  
[UN@aquaac.org](mailto:UN@aquaac.org)

**Bournemouth** (Alt Thursdays)  
The Spiritual Exchange  
[www.meetup.com](http://www.meetup.com)

**Totnes** (Fridays)  
Astrology Group  
Meeting  
Tel. 01803 867145

**Stroud**  
Rising Women  
Rising World  
Monthly Gorup  
Tel. 01453 759034

**Axminster** (Fridays)  
Spiritual Awareness Group  
Tel. 01460 221522

**Poole** (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday)  
Dialogues of the Heart  
Tara Divina Brown  
Tel. 01202 604340

**Axminster** (Saturdays)  
Awakening Meditation  
Tel. 01297 32331

**Wanstrow** (alt Tues)  
Lightworker Group  
Tel. Marina 01373 465848

**London**  
Why Are We Here Group  
Tel. 0207 223 2917

### TRIPS, TOURS & VISITS

**Glastonbury** 4 Aug  
Sonic Pilgrimage  
Dean Carter  
Tel. Dean 01935 389655

**Scotland** 4 Aug  
Ancient Orkney  
Shetland Isles  
and the Recumbent Stones  
of Aberdeenshire  
Megalithic Tours  
Tel. 01772 728181

**Wiltshire** 16 Aug  
West Kennet Longbarrow  
Full Moon Gathering  
Peter Knight  
Tel. Peter 01249 823287

**Portugal** 19 Aug  
Megaliths of Evora and  
Temple Torna Tour  
Megalithic Tours  
Tel. 01772 728181

**Glastonbury** 26 Aug  
Sonic Pilgrimage  
Dean Carter  
Tel. Dean 01935 389655

**Dartmoor** 31 Aug  
Guided Walk  
Peter Knight  
Tel. 01249 823287

## Education – A Life Long Quest (continued)

discrimination and purpose in life; to be wary of dogma, belief systems and apparent facts; to have service to others as the prime motive; to realise that the physical world of our five senses is only a tiny part of reality; in general, to see that all is not what it seems is the real

education, and that this involves the whole of life, not just the teaching process (though that that has its place). We are constantly put into real life situations where we have to learn hard lessons and that goes on until we are highly self-trained way showers to help others find their way in the world and discern the light within themselves.

There is a need for discrimination and balance. To achieve balance does more than create symmetry and variety. Here again the influence of our classical heritage becomes evident: for the word “kaleidoscope” comes from the Greek “kalos” (beautiful), “eidos” (form) and “scorpion” (observe, behold). By weaving in many diverse strands

from widely separated people, we not only bring them and their ideas together, but in so doing we create a new whole and can observe the “beautiful form” of varied experience separated in space but united in spirit, that results. The idea of a complex balance is not often associated with beauty, but in fact is central to it, as anyone who has observed the intricate patterns of nature or the stars, will readily appreciate. It also arms people with an overall view which enables them to discriminate between the many and varied philosophies, ideas, projects, groups and fields of study on offer, without either missing the immense wisdom in the best of them or getting ensnared in the dangers of the worst of them. The young explorer on a quest for truth in a strange land needs to encounter some of the local inhabitants, who know by their own particular areas well, whose expertise

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## Wessex Research Group Network

[www.Mindspiritnetwork.com](http://www.Mindspiritnetwork.com)  
Bath Storytelling Circle.  
Tel. 01225 482170  
Earthstars Sacred Space  
[www.earthenergynetwork.co.uk](http://www.earthenergynetwork.co.uk)  
[www.body-spirit.co.uk](http://www.body-spirit.co.uk)  
[www.fire-in-the-head.co.uk](http://www.fire-in-the-head.co.uk)  
[www.chalicewell.org.uk](http://www.chalicewell.org.uk)  
[www.unicorncentre.co.uk](http://www.unicorncentre.co.uk)  
[www.thamesvalleydowsers.org.uk](http://www.thamesvalleydowsers.org.uk)  
[www.libraryofavalon.org.uk](http://www.libraryofavalon.org.uk)  
Glastonbury PLG  
[www.glastonburyplg.co.uk](http://www.glastonburyplg.co.uk)  
[www.positivelivinggroups.org.uk](http://www.positivelivinggroups.org.uk)  
[www.theosophical-society.org.uk](http://www.theosophical-society.org.uk)  
[www.fisu.org/en](http://www.fisu.org/en)  
[www.faeryevents.com](http://www.faeryevents.com)  
[www.openhandweb.org](http://www.openhandweb.org)  
[www.stargaia.com](http://www.stargaia.com)  
[www.RILKO.net](http://www.RILKO.net)  
[www.Psychic-Sanctum.co.uk](http://www.Psychic-Sanctum.co.uk)  
[www.Enneagram-uk.com](http://www.Enneagram-uk.com)  
[www.sacredconnections.co.uk](http://www.sacredconnections.co.uk)  
[fifthdimensionalnetwork.net](http://fifthdimensionalnetwork.net)  
[www.networkoflight.org](http://www.networkoflight.org)  
[www.megalithictours.com](http://www.megalithictours.com)  
[www.gauntshouse.com](http://www.gauntshouse.com)  
[www.educationaid.net](http://www.educationaid.net)  
Sea Spirit Centre  
<http://spiritual-courses.co.uk>  
[www.collegeofpsychicstudies.co.uk](http://www.collegeofpsychicstudies.co.uk)  
Wyvern dowsers  
Bea Menier 01793 694943  
[www.energeticsolutions.co.uk](http://www.energeticsolutions.co.uk)  
[www.kabbalahcentres.com](http://www.kabbalahcentres.com)  
[www.caduceus.info](http://www.caduceus.info)  
[www.ihf.ac](http://www.ihf.ac)  
[newhumanitymovement.com](http://newhumanitymovement.com)  
[www.waverleydowsers.co.uk](http://www.waverleydowsers.co.uk)  
[www.tamar-dowsers.co.uk](http://www.tamar-dowsers.co.uk)  
[www.midsummerearthhealing.co.uk](http://www.midsummerearthhealing.co.uk)  
Burnham on Sea Pagan Group  
Sue 07776 306125  
[www.devondowsers.org.uk](http://www.devondowsers.org.uk)  
Society of Leyhunters  
[www.leyhunters.co.uk](http://www.leyhunters.co.uk)

## **Education – A Life Long Quest** (continued)

can help him to avoid pitfalls and find those who provide helpful paths and who can also provide rest, refreshment and pastoral care. They should warn against dangers and give advice, but they should not simply tell the explorer the way, for the essence of his life's education is to develop his own powers of decision, discrimination and perseverance: in any case who ever heard of an explorer who was told which way to go at every turn? The essence of exploration is to be presented with many paths and a free choice between them: the one or more paths chosen then becomes a sacred and highly personal commitment, until superseded by others. Besides which knowledge is conceived from mystery not explanation because mystery woos the mind to love what is achieved through it as history in all fields of discovery amply demonstrates.

To deny this exploration to the young on the supposed grounds that it is sensation seeking is often done by adults, is not merely counter-productive but is suppressing a basic human instinct and obstructing the quest for truth, with very serious consequences. It arises largely from the frequent temptation in adults to think that they know the way in which the young should go, and that the received body of knowledge is the only acceptable one. Young people now days know better than to accept this: they will go to wherever the evidence points and be quite rigorous about wanting to know the logical conclusion of the evidence, rather than general adult opinion. They rapidly see through the conventional answers and go straight to the point and we must meet them there on their own ground, offering bread rather than stones. It is clear in fact that we no longer have any choice in the matter once the questions have been asked, and that the young are furnished with the material and advice to come to their own synthesis, which will then be the platform to launch the next stage of the quest.

The quest for the truth is rather like a life scale drama or detective story. Most of the elements are there: the mystery, the complex plot, the characters portraying certain aspects of human nature, the thin threads of evidence, the almost invisible clues: the combination of logic, experience and intuition required to put them together in a new way: the dramatic interaction of personality and the sudden unexpected resolution, often as the result of apparent accident: with the uncanny feeling, especially in Greek drama or in Shakespeare, that there is some intelligence or fate guiding it all. It is no accident that our English culture has excelled in drama and detective fiction, also in historiography, science fiction and fantasy epic writing, which will bring out similar qualities.

In life we are the characters, and the plot is a set of experiences we are put through to learn life's lessons. As in the detective novel, it is deliberately made difficult to arrive at the truth in order to test our discrimination

and make us grow in our mind and character. No one group, theory, philosophy or system has more than a piece of the jigsaw of truth though some have more pieces than others and some in a microcosm are more representative of the whole than others. Each a true but not exhaustive: a possible path for the journey but not the only road: a piece which can interact with others: a scenario but not the whole scene: invaluable perhaps as a stage, but not the ultimate. If anyone did have the whole truth or the perfect techniques, it would be far too easy for its adherents: they would have arrived without effort, and would simply be served up with solutions to life's problems. This is not what life is about. It is not only what the truth is but what the quest for it does to us that matters. The truth is a moving target that recedes as we approach it. We don't arrive at it but travel with it.

We must travel with the young, not to make sure that we arrive safely but because the whole of life is a journey and a quest. As Homer said of the Odyssey – it is really the story of the soul. It is the soul whose discovery and education is the real priceless pearl or shining light, or Golden Fleece, or Holy Grail to quote the myths and parables of old. The work of Carl Jung and others has demonstrated how fundamental is the wisdom of these ageless myths and symbols in the collective and individual human psyche, appearing frequently in our unconscious mental processes and dreams and giving us guidance at crucial points. We must not forget the idea of the soul's journey among all the pressures, the competition, and the information explosion in our modern age. If we do we will be engulfed by the sheer mass of materialism and self-seeking. If we remember these pressures will only test and strengthen us: life itself will become our education.

Life like all good education is to be enjoyed and there is no joy quite like that of quest and discovery. We have to go on the quest anyway, sooner or later: the eternal divine part within each of us will see to that. We can try some other way the apparently easy way by opting each time a challenge arises for the comfort of the status quo, the convenience of family and friends, the security of the accepted view, the authority of the orthodox expert opinion, the economy in time and money that appears to go by not setting out to change things or to reach out to others. This is the "peace at any price" option: but it is not really inner peace, as the teachings of Jesus make abundantly clear. It leads to an inevitable struggle against inner guidance and ultimate tension and suffering as our inner self which is linked directly to the universal Christ forces, puts us in ever more stressful situations in order to shake us out of our complacency. The only real safety and peace paradoxically comes through courage, enterprise and unselfish initiative. Armed with these, we are choosing the invigorating, joyful conscious way by stepping out boldly on the path. Life's problems are then transformed in to opportunities and life itself becomes the supreme adventure.

*To promote an event or submit a contribution to the newsletter email Robert at [robertmulliss900@uwclub.net](mailto:robertmulliss900@uwclub.net) or log on to [www.wessexresearchgroup.org](http://www.wessexresearchgroup.org)*