

Wessex Research Group Network Newsletter

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Warch 2018 and the latest article to be added to the Wessex Research Group Network on-line literary archive is *UFO's and the Cosmic Koan* by Betty Wood. www.wessexresearchgroup.org/literary_resources_05.

The Beginning of Self Understanding

By Harold Blair

History begins when man ceases simply to follow instinct and respond to his reflexes and starts to reflect on the past. Not only on his own past, but on the past of his ancestors which has been handed down to him by what we call tradition. Not only on his own family tradition but on what he learns from his companions by means of the development of language: this which begins with a small vocabulary dealing with actions and things gradually expands into the realm of ideas.

Ideas are built on things and events remembered, reflected on and finally issuing in action of a creative kind. Ideas are not physical but grow organically. They are produced by reflection but they are not themselves totally rational. Reason can prepare the way for them and can check them after they have flashed into the mind: but reason itself cannot create them, any more than an official committee can create a poem or a symphony.

Words and language register those ideas as best they can, check them and pass them on in the form of instruction; but the instruction does not pass on the idea itself. It gives guidance on how to use it. The idea itself is in the realm of imagination; that is the part of the mind which interprets ideas and expresses them in images of poetry, religion, art, dance, music and games. By use of these images the idea itself is not passed on, but to those who are sensitive to any of those channels imagination and atmosphere is created; and in this atmosphere the inexpressible idea can pass from mind to mind.

In an over busy world today there is little or no time for reflection or indeed for anything that is not obviously of practical use. Scientists are allowed to have ideas which try to answer questions beginning with "How?" or even "Why?" but not "What for?" if they should be questions in the human dimension. All ordinary questions can be properly asked and answered in the world of artefacts. How do I use a spade? Why do I use a spade? What is a spade for?

We make spades and know why and how to use them and what they are for. When the Scientist enters the



human dimension – the historical dimension he can give a reasoned opinion how things should have been done to benefit society; he can give a half answer to the question "why those things should have been done for society; but he can give no scientific answer to the question "what is society for?" Until he changes his gown for that of a philosopher and reflects or of the theologian and meditates – or of the poet who makes word images out of his imagination, which flow into your imagination and mine at a sub conscious level.

These are probably not new images, although the poet or prophet expresses them in new terms; they come from what CG Jung calls the archetypes and their importance lies not in themselves but in the forces and ideas they symbolise. Who first saw life as a springing fountain? Or guilt as dirt that needed to be purged away? When did favourable deity begin to be an irradiating light or divine sanctity a jewel wrapped by a veil within a veil? The poets do not tell us what life is or guilt or God, or holiness but they give us hints.

But it is not only poets and prophets and public speakers who use metaphor and simile to create an atmosphere in which their ideas carried in type-images, can travel still unexpressed from mind to mind. We all use metaphor as a vehicle to carry to our companions an idea which if badly expressed would be at once killed."He lost his temper" states a fact, but "He was in a towering rage" presents an image which conveys an idea. Metaphor does not describe things: it evokes the atmosphere in which the thing exists. Diaphenia like the daffadowndilly" does not describe my lady love: if anything it describes me, or at least the atmosphere that surrounds me when Diaphenia is near. Metaphor is like the Buddhist 8 Fold path it is not the truth but a way to the truth.

The Beginning of Self Understanding Continues on page 4.

Wessex Research Group Network

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Glastonbury WRG Jacqui 07516816915

Weymouth & Dorchester Roma 01305 816644

Dorset Earth Mysteries www.dorsetmysteries.org

Bristol Dowsers www.bristoldowsers.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.angellight.co.uk

Taunton Association for Psychotherapy www.taplimited.org.uk

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

Bath PLG

bathpositiveliving.co.uk www.networkofleyhunters.com

School of Energy Healing Educational Trust www.energyhealing.co.uk

Wellspring – Rode Tel. Caroline 01373 831046

Network of Leyhunters www.networkofleyhunters.com

EVENTS

Glastonbury 10 Mar Knights and Princesses Faery Fayre and Ball www.faeryevents.com

Grimsargh 10 Mar Mysterious Earth Conference www.megalithictours.com

Forres 10 Mar Spiritual Retreat Week www.findhorn.org

Glastonbury 20 Mar Spring Equinox Celebration www.chalicewell.org.uk

TALKS

Aston Ingham 1 Mar Holy Sites Sacred Places Adrian Incledon Webber Tel.01765 658487

DEMG at Stapehill 1 Mar Secret Places of Dorset Louise Hodgson Tel. Dave 07977 144147

Frome 1 Mar Evening of Mediumship Joanie Goddard Tel. Marina 01373 465848

Glastonbury PLG 1 Mar Grail Found Rory Duff Tel. Samia 07930 007419

Rode 1 Mar Gong Bath Sound Transformations Tel. Caroline 01373 831046

London 2 Mar Pleased to Meet You the New Consciousness Crystals Judy Hall Tel. 0207 589 3292

Chichester 3 Mar the Secrets of Healing Your Home Adrian Incledon Webber Tel. 01765 658487

Fareham 5 Mar Dragons in Symbolism Myth and Landscape Peter Knight Tel. 01249 823287

London 6 Mar the Anthropology of Angels and Interdimensional Beings Elizabeth Wood Tel. 0207 589 3292

Glastonbury 7 Mar Meeting of the Glastonbury Pagan Moot Tel. 07747 897 621 Glastonbury PLG 7 Mar When Magic and Fiction Meet Paul Weston Tel. Samia 07930 007419

London 9 Mar Spring Gong Bath Olaf Nixon Tel. 0207 589 3292

Godalming 9 Mar Dowsing the Linear Landscape Nigel Twinn Tel. 01252 541639

London 10 Mar Heartbeat Drumming Collective Olaf Nixon Tel. 0207 589 3292

Chulmleigh 13 Mar Animal Communication Ann Lodygowski Tel. 01363 877352

London 13 Mar Repetitive Rhythms and Altered States of Consciousness William Rowlandson Tel. 0207 589 3292

Weymouth 14 Mar Music as Healing Magdalena Atkinson Tel. 01305 816644

Glastonbury PLG 14 Mar My Introduction to Unicorns and their Effect on My Life Bitten Salin Tel. Samia 07930 007419

Bristol 16 Mar Talking to Trees Gordon Field Tel. Rory 07748 734127

London 16 Mar Day of the Waning Crescent Moon Soundbath Diana Vernon Tel. 0207 589 3292

North Hill 19 Mar Roseland Observatory Brian Sheen Tel. 01566 774902

Crewkerne 19 Mar Demonstration of Clairvoyance Mitch Garlington collingridge1@sky.com

Woodshaw 19 Mar Dragons in Symbolism Myth and Landscape Peter Knight Tel. Bea 01793 694943

Bath 19 Mar Bath Storytelling Circle Tel. David 01225 482170 Box 20 Mar Dartmoor Mindscapes Revisioning a Sacred Landscape Peter Knight Tel. 01249 823287

Ryde PLG 20 Mar Medicine Cabinet Makeover Charlotte Benz Tel. 07879 021521

Glastonbury PLG 21 Mar Hemp in Avalon Spring Equinox Celebration the Temptation of Free Love Cannabis Tel. Samia 07930 007419

London RILKO 23 Mar the Origin of Life A New Understanding from an Ancient Knowledge David Ash Tel. 0845 2260 531

London 23 Mar the Wholeworld View of the Cosmic Hologram Jude Currivan Tel. 0207 589 3292

Glastonbury PLG 29 Mar Turning the Wheel of Your Zodiac Soul. 12 Gateways to Wholeness John Wadsworth Tel. Samia 07930 007419

Ruishton 29 Mar Herbalism Laura Carpenter Tel. Sarah 07703 660884

WORKSHOPS & COURSES

Axminster 1 Mar Mindfulness Kath Woods Tel. 01297 32331

Glastonbury 1 Mar the Geometry of Nature and the Cosmos Tom Bree Tel. 01458 831154

Belfast 3 Mar Seven Steps to Angelic Spiritual Enlightenment Chrissie Astell Tel. 01223 969858

London 3 Mar Grounding and Protection Lucy Aumonier Tel. 0207 589 3292

Wimborne 3 Mar Connecting to Nature and Self Scania, Heike, Gaby Tel. 01202 841522 Horton 3 Mar NLP Master and Practitioner Training Sarah Frossell Tel. 01202 885294

London 4 Mar Dowsing Christopher Strong Tel. 0207 589 3292

Glastonbury 4 Mar Shekinashram Divine Union Soundbath Dean Carter Tel. Dean 01935 389655

London 4 Mar Courting the Cards Understanding Tarot Cards Avril Price Tel. 0207 589 3292

London 5 Mar Healing Your Throat Chakra with Kundalini Yoga Gemma Bliss Tel. 0207 589 3292

Byron Bay 5 Mar 5 Gateways Retreat Chris Bourne Tel. 01458 830443

Stroud 5 Mar Beyond Conflict Using Conflict and Diversity for Group Transformation Ana Rhodes Tel. 01453 759034

Wimborne 9 Mar Women's Wellbeing Weekend Jo Rae Tel. 01202 841522

Frieth 9 Mar Train as an Angel Teacher Chrissie Astell Tel. 01223 969858

London 10 Mar Foundation Course in Dowsing Matthew French Tel. 01458 250465

Brading 10 Mar Dance of Awareness Wendy Tel. 01983 641653

London 10 Mar 3 Minds Technique and Remote Viewing for Quantum Healing Elizabeth Wood Tel. 0207 589 3292

London 10 Mar Introduction to Vedic Astrology Teresa King Tel. 0207 563 9817 Forres 10 Mar Life Purpose Jeena Griffiths & Susan Miles Tel. 01309 690311

London 11 Mar Secret Doctrine Study Day Janet Hoult & Tony Maddock Tel. 0207 563 9817

South Petherton 11 Mar Divine Union Soundbath Dean Carter Tel. Dean 01935 389655

London 11 Mar Connecting with Your Spirit Guides and Guardians Kristin Bredimus Tel. 0207 589 3292

Glastonbury 16 Mar Return to the Garden Working With Chalice Well Essences Natasha, Casey, Susan & Sophie Tel. 01458 831154

Holwell 16 Mar Healing and the Shamanic Arts Module 1. Keys to Self Knowledge. Bands of Power and Protection Rites Elaina Harvey Tel. 01963 23468

York 17 Mar Kriya Yoga Swami Aliyananda Pramahansa Tel. 07852 365229

London 17 Mar Soul Body Mind Sarah Tyler Walters Tel. 0207 589 3292

Forres 17 Mar Eldest Daughter Retreat Tel. 01309 690311

London 17 Mar Anatomy and Physiology for Healers Part 3 Doe Warnes Tel. 0207 589 3292

Dorchester 18 Mar Divine Union Soundbath Dean Carter Tel. Dean 01935 389655

London 18 Mar Mediumship Heart to Heart Life to Life Gary Wright Tel. 0207 589 3292 London 18 Mar the Ageless Wisdom for Everyone Edward Archer Tel. 0207 563 9817

Stroud 22 Mar Strategies for Communicating Your Green Message Caroline Aistrop Tel. 01453 759034

Holwell 22 Mar Cauldron of Mysteries Elaina Harvey Tel. 01963 23468

Wimborne 23 Mar Sivananda Yoga Retreat Michelle Oliver & Barefoot Yogini Tel. 01202 841522

London 23 Mar Journey Intensive Brandon Bays Tel. 01656 880038

Wimborne 23 Mar Zenways Meditation and Mindfulness Teacher Training Module 1 and 2 Zenways Tel. 01202 841522

Langport 24 Mar Foundation Course in Dowsing Matthew French Tel. 01458 250465

London 24 Mar Seven Steps to Angelic Spiritual Enlightenment Chrissie Astell Tel. 01223 969858

Forres 24 Mar Practical Shamanism Bridging Ancient Wisdom into Everyday Life Astrid Gude Tel. 01309 690311

Hurst Green 24 Mar Healing Your Home (part 1) Geopathic Stress Adrian Incledon Webber Tel. 01765 658487

London 25 Mar the Way of the Sun Cosmic and Human Susan Bayliss Tel. 0207 563 9817

Oborne 25 Mar Angels of Sound Voice Playshop Dean Carter Tel. Dean 01935 389655

Wessex Research Group Network

www.Mindspiritnetwork.com

Bath Storytelling Circle.
Tel. 01225 482170
Earthstars Sacred Space
www.earthenergynetwork.co.uk
www.body-spirit.co.uk
www.fire-in-the-head.co.uk
www.chalicewell.org.uk
www.unicorncentre.co.uk
www.thamesvalleydowsers.org.uk
www.libraryofavalon.org.uk
Glastonbury PLG
www.glastonburyplg.co.uk
www.positivelivinggroups.org.uk
www.theosophical-society.
org.uk

www.fisu.org/en
www.faeryevents.com
www.openhandweb.org
www.stargaia.com
www.RILKO.net
www.Psychic-Sanctum.co.uk
www.Enneagram-uk.com
www.sacredconnections.co.uk
www.networkoflight.org
www.megalithictours.com
www.gauntshouse.com
www.educationaid.net
Sea Spirit Centre
http://spiritual-courses.co.uk
www.collegeofpsychic studies

.co.uk Wyvern dowsers Bea Menier 01793 694943

www.energeticsolutions.co.uk www.kabbalahcentres.com www.caduceus.info

www.ihs.ac

newhumanitymovement.com www.waverleydowsers.co.uk www.tamar-dowsers.co.uk

www.midsummersearthhealing .co.uk

Aller Park Dartington David 01803 867145

www.devondowsers.org.uk

Society of Leyhunters www.leyhunters.co.uk

Beaconsfield 25 Mar Animal Communication and Healing Ann Lodyowski Tel. Susan 01494 813 214

Oborne 25 Mar Divine Union Soundbath Dean Carter Tel. Dean 01935 389655

Glastonbury 29 Mar the Geometry of Nature and the Cosmos Tom Bree Tel. 01458 831154

London 29 Mar Using Crystals to Rejuvenate Your Chakras Valerie Pitts Tel. 0207 589 3292

Horton 31 Mar NLP Master and Practitioner Training Sarah Frossell Tel. 01202 885294 Forres 31 Mar Living Your Purpose Enneagram Retreat on Soul Calling and Life Purpose Robert Holden Tel. 01309 690311

LIGHTWORKER GROUPS

Global Meditation Event 1 Mar 9pm www.networkoflight.org

Penzance (Tuesdays) Kriya Yoga Tel. 01736 362 371

Aller Park (Weds)
Angelic Adventures
Group Meeting
jayne.pearl60@gmail.com

New York

Transforming Planetary Consciousness Webinar UN Meditation as Planetary Service UN@aquaac.org

Bournemouth (Alt Thursdays) The Spiritual Exchange www.meetup.com Aller Park (Thurs) EFT Group Tel 075392 69887

Totnes (Fridays) Astrology Group Meeting Tel. 01803 867145

Axminster (Fridays) Spiritual Awareness Group Tel. 01460 221522

Axminster (Saturdays) Awakening Meditation Tel. 01297 32331

Poole (1st Sunday) Dialogues of the Heart Tara Divina Brown Tel. 01202 604340

London

Why Are We Here Group Tel. 0207 223 2917

TRIPS, TOURS & VISITS

Postbridge 17 Mar Dowsing at Bellever Paul Rendell Tel. 01363 877352 Lake District 17 Mar Lake District South and Coast Tour Megalithic Tours Tel. 01772 728181

Dorset 18 Mar Spring Equinox Walk along the Fleet Roma Harding Tel. 01305 816644

Bristol 19 Mar Harmony Period Castle Park Meditation Bristol Dowsers Tel. Rory 07748 734127

North Wales 24 Mar Ancient and Mystical Sites Weekend Megalithic Tours Tel. 01772 728181

Wiltshire 24 Mar Avebury under the Stars Peter Knight Tel. 01249 823287

Wiltshire 31 Mar Full Moon Gathering at West Kennet Longbarrow Peter Knight Tel. 01249 823287

The Beginning of Self Understanding (continued)

Simile is different because it is less concerned to convey an atmosphere and more concerned to begin to describe. Diaphenia is like the daffadowndilly perhaps in being tall and slim and graceful but there the description ends and although the word "like" tells us that Henry Constable is using simile it is quite clear that he is also using metaphor for his next line introduces two other images. "She is white as the sun, fair as the lily". Description fails and the poet introduces feeling. Whose feeling? Not Diaphenia's but the poets and therefore his readers feeling too, if he has successfully communicated it along both simile and metaphor. The poet is in love with Diaphenia but so are we. The simile has given us an outline of an idealised lady love, which the metaphor has given an atmosphere: she is not a single flower; she is the creator of a scene which includes sunshine, lilies, lambs, roses, songbirds and bees. The importance of her is the love which her scene arouses and which inspires the poet to use non-descriptive images. These images touch vulnerable points in those who possess them but who will always be a minority: that is whose channels of communication are open to images which belong to Euterpe, who is the muse of lyric poetry and the archetype of the "light touch" in the approach to a particular type of love. It begins with the love of beauty, but it goes on at once to the wish to protect; then to be

enclosed in fragrance, to be inspired with a new power; a metaphorical springtime. Throughout it is light-hearted, not passionate. What then is the inner meaning which the poet has successfully conveyed in eighteen delicately phrased lines of simile and metaphor?

Has the poet told us a secret about himself? Indeed he has told us no secret for it is a secret that cannot be told. It can be shared and we are invited to share it, but it is too light a thing that we should suppose that it is about the poet, for it is a secret about ourselves and something beyond ourselves. The poet has shown us one way into the undiscovered country which goes by many names. It is the "second sight" the "sixth sense" the "collective unconscious" - that home of all archetypes. It is nostalgia for paradise, the memory of a glimpse of perfection by the heavenly charioteer during that moment when he has risen above the clouds of confusion and complexity. There are no words to describe it, but the poet, shaman and the prophet have discovered within the five senses the various means by which that indescribable secret can be conveyed. These include not only poetry, myth and drama but art and ritual, music and dance: all that religion and the nine Muses between them can tell us about that country which is beyond the known self and therefore beyond utterance; and yet if we will only listen, there is news for us from that country we have never visited.

To promote an event or submit a contribution to the newsletter email Robert at robertmulliss900@uwclub.net or log on to www.wessexresearchgroup.org