



Wessex Research Group Network *Newsletter*

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 8.

August 2018

August 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

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 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

The latest addition to the on-line lecture archive www.wessexresearchgroup.org/digital_25.html is *We Are Love* by Ann Hughes

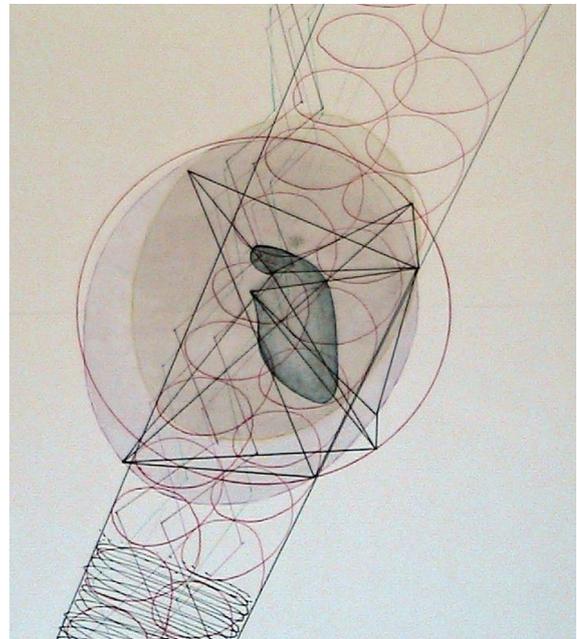
Education – A Life Long Quest

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

Penzance (Tuesdays)
Kriya Yoga
Tel. 01736 362 371

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

Bournemouth (Alt Thursdays)
The Spiritual Exchange
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 (1st 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
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

fifthdimensionalnetwork.net

www.networkoflight.org

www.megalithictours.com

www.gauntshouse.com

www.educationaid.net

Sea Spirit Centre

<http://spiritual-courses.co.uk>

www.collegeofpsychicstudies.co.uk

Wyvern dowsers

Bea Menier 01793 694943

www.energeticsolutions.co.uk

www.kabbalahcentres.com

www.caduceus.info

www.ihf.ac

newhumanitymovement.com

www.waverleydowsers.co.uk

www.tamar-dowsers.co.uk

www.midsummerearthhealing.co.uk

Burnham on Sea Pagan Group
Sue 07776 306125

www.devondowsers.org.uk

Society of Leyhunters

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 or log on to www.wessexresearchgroup.org