



## Dear LSN Supporters

Mysticism is a minefield. Glossy new editions of centuries-old texts feed a growing popular fascination, while theologians argue more minutely about what mysticism is not, than about what it is. There are hard and soft definitions, exclusive and inclusive definitions, and a great deal of academic energy is expended on correcting the romantic, ill-informed delusions of the amateur.

Mysticism, it seems, is *not this, not this – neti, neti*. Above all what it is not, for some writers, is anything that can be remotely identified with contemporary *spirituality*.

Now of course we must know where the mines are buried. We must be wary of reading medieval mystical texts with 21<sup>st</sup> century spectacles and assuming that the words mean what we think they mean. In his book *The Darkness of God – Negativity in Christian Mysticism*, for example, Denys Turner suggests that the medieval mystics were saying *the exact opposite* of what we find when we look at them through our own filters and try to fit them into our own categories. Again, in *Power, Gender and Christian Mysticism*, Grace Jantzen argues that the construction of mysticism was determined by gender politics. And it's important to know that the very word *experience* – as in *spiritual experience* – is highly problematic, philosophically and theologically.

Important to know, yes, but important also not to get stuck in the intimidating and inhibiting academic discourse. My guide out of the treacle has been Dorothee Soelle, and her wonderful book *The Silent Cry – Mysticism and Resistance*, in which she explores the relationship between mystical experience and social and political behaviour. Her definitions are broad, but her work is as academically credible as any theologian you could name.

She seeks to *democratize mysticism* and in doing so, makes the link with contemporary spirituality explicit, and possibly prophetic. *What drew me to mysticism* she writes *was the dream of finding a form of spirituality that I was missing in German Protestantism. What I was seeking had to be less dogmatic, less cerebral and encased in words, and less centred on men. It had to be related to experience in a twofold sense of the word: how love for God came about and what consequences it has for life.*

The common criticism of contemporary spirituality is that it has no consequences for our social and political life, but this criticism is as lazy and ill-informed as loose talk about mysticism. It fails to recognise the many different strands and categories of contemporary spirituality, and fails to acknowledge the work not just of Dorothee Soelle, but writers like David Hay and Gordon Lynch, who are showing how progressive spirituality – or contemporary mysticism – does indeed give rise to social and political action, new forms of community and theological renewal.

As George Gispert Saux SJ has said, *all mystics are protesters but not all protesters are mystics.*

**Go well**

**Eley**

*But sometimes, when you've almost  
Ceased expecting it,*

*A flash of brightness  
Gives encouragement*

Eley will be talking about *Mysticism & Contemporary Spirituality* at a meeting of the Alister Hardy Society on Tuesday 5th May at 6.00pm (coffee followed by talk and conversation 6.30-8.30pm). The meeting is at The Essex Unitarian Church, 112 Palace Gardens Terrace, Kensington, London W8. Tickets £2 on the door for AHS members and anyone with a copy of *Living Spirituality News*, otherwise £4. More information from [johnfranklin35@hotmail.com](mailto:johnfranklin35@hotmail.com) or the LSN office.

## In This Issue:

- **Agenda for Earthlings**
- **The Passion of John Moriarty**
- **Watching for the Kingfisher**
- **LSN Gathering 2009 change of date!**
- **Are we still friends?**
- **Bookshelf**
- **Pinboard**

# Agenda for Earthlings: Cedric Mayson

***Cedric Mayson was deeply involved in the struggle against apartheid in South Africa. When the system was finally dismantled he returned to South Africa after several years in exile and became National Co-ordinator of the ANC Commission for Religious Affairs. He has recently, allegedly, retired to the bush, but continues to write and campaign in support of a major global re-think of spirituality, faith and ethics. These are extracts from his latest discussion paper, a complete copy of which is available from the LSN office. Cedric is keen to find conversation partners and activists around the world and can be contacted at [cedricmayson@vodamail.co.za](mailto:cedricmayson@vodamail.co.za)***

## **Earthlings**

We live in the bush. Sitting on our stoep on a dark night is a most enlightening experience. 100 kilometres from any urban glow, the sky is extravagantly speckled with stars, millions of miles away, first the planets of our own solar system, then our galaxy, and then millions more galaxies light years away in space. But we are the only place inhabited by life – as far as we know... We Earthlings, this community of human beings, are a unique and almost incredible reality which took several billion years to form and is only becoming aware of the wonder of itself in our life time...

## **Patches**

We grew up as patches of people. We lived in racial and national patches, doing the things of political and economic patches, dressing in the clothes of our patch, speaking the language and dialect of our patch, practising the customs of our cultural and religious patch, believing in the god of our patch and vying with the Earthlings on the other patches. Most of us still are: scurrying round like ants in and out of our heap, doing our national, racial, religious, financial, human thing, with no concept at all of our unique role as Earthlings inhabiting this incredible planet...

## **Prophets**

As Earthlings spread around the globe, visionaries appeared amongst them who were inspiring people to know. The prophets probed into notions of more than they could see, proclaiming spiritual concepts and values behind the feelings and motivations of the community. Though working within their own patches, the initiators of this great prophetic period had similar visions and messages, particularly regarding the spiritual underpinning of the life of human beings ...

## **Religions**

But followers of the prophets invented religions. The proclamations of the prophets led to the doctrines and superstitions of the priests. Although they originated from the concern of the prophets for the spiritual roots and vision of Earthlings, religious institutions became firmly tied to the economic and political elites of their particular patch... Many sensible people in our age find such 'religion' de-inspiring ...and many throw the spiritual baby out with the religious bath water...Religions need liberating.

## **The rhinoceros and the God question**

The God or no-God debate has confused many issues. People all over the world have pondered on God and Heaven and this has been expressed in most profound and sublime literature. Bishop Desmond Tutu shattered an audience in Lenasia in 1993 by saying God was not a Christian. *Why do you seem surprised?*, he asked. *Jesus was born only 2000 years ago – do you think God was doing nothing before that?* But who and what and where is this God? We cannot accept the idea of God being in the sky now we know the world is round, for where is UP? Nor can we accept a God who has chosen and un-chosen people, blesses slavery, the subservience of women, or apartheid. So what are the answers today? Much of our un-thinking and re-thinking takes place because we were reared in a pre-scientific, pre-modern, pre-educated, pre-democratic, pre-liberation pre-post-religious age. The patchwork generation did not realise how oppressed and oppressive it was. That way of life does not work anymore, and finding the way from patchwork living to being Earthlings is bound to be challenging.

## **The Agenda for Earthlings**

The Agenda for Earthlings to avoid the extinction of humanity this century follows closely on the hard facts learnt in African liberation: we must liberate ourselves from our Patches and their leadership, choosing Life together rather than Death. Earthlings are engaged in an epic struggle to save the planet, we are oppressors or liberators whether we like it or not. But can we liberate our minds from the worship of the Patchworks? Are we replacing nightmares of reality by daydreams that will never happen? ... For 30 years of the struggle against apartheid, the best known domineers were not the Moderators of

the Dutch Reformed Church which supported it, but the unfrocked C.F. Beyers Naude who led the inter-denominational and non-racial Christian Institute in opposing it. He wrote:

***The true power of change and renewal always emanates from the grassroots, from the rank and file of the thousands and millions of those whose names never become known, whose commitments to justice and peace are never sung in praises, but without whose support and action no meaningful change ever takes place.***

## Watching for the Kingfisher: Ann Lewin

It has been said that Ann Lewin's writing *illuminates reality with shafts of light*. Her poetry is widely loved, and used, not just by individuals, but in retreats and spiritual direction. Sadly, the Methodist Publishing House is ceasing to publish books under their *Inspire* imprint later this year and her existing collections will only be available directly from her. We have more information in the office but if you would like a copy of *Watching for the Kingfisher*, *Words by the Way*, and *Growing in Love*, please contact the poet at [alewin@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:alewin@tiscali.co.uk) or 47 Mead Crescent, Swaythling, Southampton, SO18 2JN

### Disclosure

Prayer is like watching for the  
Kingfisher. All you can do is  
Be where he is likely to appear, and  
Wait.  
Often, nothing much happens;  
There is space, silence and  
Expectancy.  
No visible sign, only the  
Knowledge that he's been there,  
And may come again.  
Seeing or not seeing cease to matter,  
You have been prepared.  
But sometimes, when you've almost  
Ceased expecting it,  
A flash of brightness  
Gives encouragement.

**Ann Lewin**



## The Passion of John Moriarty: Eley McAinsh

In the summer of 2007 I read an obituary in *The Guardian* that was so intriguing I cut it out to keep. I'd never heard of the Irish philosopher-poet and mystic John Moriarty and had no-one to guide me through the back-list of his writings provided by my local bookshop, much of which was out-of-print and only available in extremely expensive second-hand copies. The obituary and the list were filed away. A year later I met the artist Peter Clare – as the conversation progressed it emerged that it was Peter who had written John's obituary. He's one of those people is seeking to keep John's vision alive, and indeed to bring it to a new readership. There's now an excellent website [www.johnmoriarty.info](http://www.johnmoriarty.info) on which there are numerous tributes, a good deal of biographical information, but most precious of all, a radio programme called *The Passion of John* in which you can hear the poet express his vision in his own voice. *As Christians he says, are we maybe called not just to love, but beyond love, to passion and compassion, and beyond knowing to unknowing... The Christian invitation is an immense invitation. We must never set limits to how far we follow Jesus– can you imagine that Jesus might, for some people, be inviting them to follow him out of Christianity ... out of the dogmatic and doctrinal bounds of Christianity.*

John Moriarty was born in north Kerry in 1938 and went to school in Listowel. He gained a double-first in Philosophy and English Literature at University College Dublin and was widely considered one of the finest minds of his generation. In one of the tributes on the website Marie Hughes writes of John's early loss and later recovery of faith, of a profound spiritual experience which led to a period spent at

the Carmelite Priory at Boars Hill in Oxford. John O'Donohue writes of how, at one point, his friend gave up a brilliant academic career to become a gardener, and Peter Clare describes him thus: *A large, rough-hewn man with bright, deep-set eyes beneath a leonine mass of curls ... His pain at our blindness to the riches of our created world and the God who made us resonates through all his writing. A mystic and prophet in the Old Testament meaning of the world, his was an inspiring vision of a world and a culture that is truly healing... John sought a rebirth of Christianity that was inclusive of all religions and mythologies, and that took account of the deep and often dark dimensions of our turbulent humanity.*

A collection of cds of John Moriarty's talks and lectures called *One Evening in Eden* has been now been released by Lilliput Press, details of which are on the Moriarty website.

## LSN Gathering 2009

Due to circumstances foreseen but underestimated, we've had to change the date of this year's Gathering from Saturday 16th May to **Saturday 3rd October**. We're very sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you and hope very much that you will still be able to join us at Carrs Lane Church Centre in Birmingham, for a day entitled **Story & Meaning**. The speakers will be Gethin Abraham-Williams and Eley McAinsh, and further details and booking forms will come with the Summer newsletter.

## Are we still friends?


Enclosed with this edition of *Living Spirituality News* is a copy of our new and revised leaflet. We hope that once you've read it, you might pass it on to a friend who may be interested in what we do. We'd also like to know if we have your contact details correctly listed, and to give you the opportunity to request the newsletter in a different format. We fully intend to continue to produce a paper newsletter for all who want it, but some people may prefer to receive their news electronically. Please do take a minute to let us know your wishes. Thank you!

## Bookshelf

Readers may be interested to know that wherever possible all the titles mentioned in the Bookshelf section of *Living Spirituality News* will now be available for borrowing from the Willen Library. For further information contact the LSN office, or the Librarian, Barbara Merrifield, on 01908 242693, or [library@thewellatwillen.org.uk](mailto:library@thewellatwillen.org.uk)

**Patrick Woodhouse: Ety Hillesum: A Life Transformed** (Continuum £12.99) Anyone who was at Patrick Woodhouse's workshop on Ety Hillesum at last year's Retreat Association conference will have a sense of how illuminating this book is. A perfect companion to the diaries and letters of Ety Hillesum, collected in *An Interrupted Life* (Persephone Books), this new work is, in the words of Rowan Williams, *a clear and moving invitation to ... a deeper and more sustained reading of those letters and diaries. Anyone studying [Ety] with the help of these pages will emerge convinced that she can properly stand with Simone Weil and Dietrich Bonhoeffer and Maria Skobtsova as a signal representative of what has been called the 'death-cell philosophy' of the twentieth century: the discovery of a real and completely, powerfully transforming divine faithfulness, present even in the depth of the nightmare of totalitarian inhumanity.*

**Cynthia Bourgeault: The Wisdom Jesus: Transforming Heart and Mind - A New Perspective on Christ and His Message** (Shambhala £12.95) This is Elaine Perry's favourite book of 2008, and Elaine certainly knows her spirituality books! Regular readers will know that she is the owner of Vine & Fig Books in Vancouver, [www.vineandfig.ca](http://www.vineandfig.ca). I'm constantly indebted to her for her monthly recommendations, and *The Wisdom Jesus* is no exception. Richard Rohr says of this book: *There are few spiritual teachers who*



give us genuinely fresh insight, but even fewer who give us the tools so we can come to those insights for ourselves. Cynthia Bourgeault does both, and does them very well.

**John D Caputo: What Would Jesus Deconstruct?** (Baker Academic £8.99) Somebody kindly gave this book to the Willen Library just before my last visit there. Having so appreciated Caputo's *On Religion* (Routledge) I was tempted to sneak off with the library copy before it was catalogued! I resisted, and got another copy. The book requires concentration and attention, but its challenges are thrown down with humour and humanity. Caputo writes: *By asking what Jesus would deconstruct I am trying to be provocative, but I am also, as always, in earnest about this word 'deconstruction'... deconstruction provides a felicitous hermeneutic of the kingdom of God. It announces the good news about alterity, which it bears to the church. It has prophetic resonances that call for justice to flow like water over the land. Posed in the subjunctive, what would Jesus deconstruct, the question turns on the structure of the archive, of memory and repetition. How does the New Testament preserve the memory of Jesus?*

**David Boulton: Who on Earth was Jesus? - The Modern Quest for the Jesus of History** (O Books £14.99) Someone commented airily to me in a conversation last summer that the work of *The Jesus Seminar* had been seriously discredited in recent years. I didn't, at the time, have the information to form a judgement. Now, thanks to this extremely helpful book, I have a great deal of information to help me understand what has been questioned, and what remains valid in the Seminar's work and legacy. But the book covers far more ground than *The Jesus Seminar*, and Marcus Borg himself has said that it's *the best and most thorough account of the breadth and variety of historical Jesus scholarship*. He continues: *Boulton's writing is lively, his perceptions informed, and his judgements fair. Highly recommended.*

**Alison Webster: You Are Mine - Reflections on who we are** (SPCK £9.99) In her latest book Alison Webster explores what it means to be human: she looks at relationships, power, disadvantage in the face of dominant ideas of normality, faith and the way we encounter God, and how we grow and change. John Pritchard, Bishop of Oxford writes: *To read this perceptive and stimulating book is to go on a journey of exploration into ourselves and our relational world. We won't end the journey as we began. Using narrative as an interpretative key, Alison Webster examines the pitfalls and potential that reside in our 'one-offness' and ultimately she offers us the possibility of personal and social transformation.*

**Macrina Wiederkehr: sevensacredpauses - Living Mindfully Through the Hours of the Day** (Sorin Books £9.99) In Daniel O'Leary's DVD *Begin With the Heart* there's a beautiful section about the Angelus, where people are shown pausing, at the sound of the church bell, to reflect on the sacredness of their ordinary lives. Not many of us live within the sound of the Angelus bell today, but there are all sorts of daily practices and routines which help remind us, however briefly, of the sacred in our lives. This lovely book is a valuable resource for such practice. Using scripture, poetry, reflections, personal stories, and quotes from a rich array of spiritual teachers, the author helps her readers discover the archetypal images and special mood of each hour.

**Catherine McCann: New Paths Toward the Sacred – Awakening the Awe Experience in Everyday Living** (Paulist Press £15.99) Catherine McCann embarked on her doctoral thesis in her 70s, inspired by writer Nicholas Lash and a 19<sup>th</sup> century Japanese woodblock print designer Katsushika Hokusai. This book is the sequel to that thesis, and in it she develops and makes accessible those areas in her research about which she became most passionate: first, *to understand in greater depth the phrase 'personal experience'* and second, *to gain insight into how we can experience the Sacred within personal experiences*. One reviewer has said: *As the chapters unfolded, they gave me a deeper understanding of concepts that were previously unclear, and I saw that religious experience pointed to a path that was now open to me. I could again lift my hands in prayer with the trees, the stream, the sea, and all that gave glory to the Sacred.*

**Joycelin Dawes: Choosing Life - Embracing Spirituality in the 21st Century** (Quaker Universalist Group Pamphlet no 32 £4.00) This unassuming little booklet contains a great deal of quiet wisdom, hewn



from a rich, interesting, but above all, reflected-upon life. It's wide-ranging and well-informed but also personal and intimate. I can't recommend it highly enough, and we have three copies in the library!

**Jonathan Robinson: Grail Prayer - An Alternative Form for the Eucharist and Morning and Evening Prayer** (Copies from the author: Grail Barn, Great Argoed, Churchstoke, Montgomery, Powys, SY15 6TH (£5 inc p&p) For details of the Grail Barn Centre programme call 01588 620 779. I've been at CANA (Christians Awakening to New Awareness) gatherings where Jonathan has led us in the celebration of the Grail Eucharist, and have always found these occasions to be deeply moving and thought-provoking. This is a new edition of the Grail Liturgy and includes Morning and Evening Prayer. John Pritchard, Bishop of Oxford, says in his Foreword: *Here are liturgies which push the boundaries and which will hopefully engage the minds and hearts of many who find traditional liturgy operating in too narrow a framework. Jonathon Robinson has loved and laboured over these worship materials for many years. They have been tried and tested and enjoyed. They have carried the weight of people's sacred expectations and hopes. Now in revised form they are offered with love for the world, a love charged with a sense of sacred presence and a sense of sacred time.*

**If you don't have a specialist bookshop near to home**, the excellent Centre Bookshop at the London Centre for Spirituality, offers a wide selection of spirituality and theology titles, plus a range of music. With coffee available, the shop is in the Church of St Edmund the King, Lombard Street, London EC3V 9EA (020 7626 5031 or [bookshop@spiritualitycentre.org](mailto:bookshop@spiritualitycentre.org)).

## Pinboard

### Holy Week and Easter

**Many retreat centres and religious communities have special retreats and quiet days for Holy Week and Easter. Those known to us include Ammerdown** [www.ammerdown.org](http://www.ammerdown.org), **St Beunos** [www.beunos.com](http://www.beunos.com), **Tabor Carmelite Retreat House** [www.tabor-preston.org](http://www.tabor-preston.org), **the Othona Community** [www.othona-bb.org.uk](http://www.othona-bb.org.uk), **the Grail Barn Centre** (01588 620779), **and the Open Gate on Holy Island** [opengate@aidanandhilda.co.uk](mailto:opengate@aidanandhilda.co.uk)

**Communities and Centres closer to you will almost certainly have similar events planned and many are listed in *Retreats*, the journal of the Retreat Association.**

**Contact** [info@retreats.org.uk](mailto:info@retreats.org.uk) or 020 7357 7736

### Art & Spirituality Network

This network aims to provide a supportive and challenging space for people to find spiritual fellowship and nourishment through making art. Events are open to people of any faith and none, and those without artistic experience are every bit as welcome as experienced artists. Details of all events – in London and across the country – are available at [www.artandspirituality.net](http://www.artandspirituality.net) or from ASN, 48 Kenilworth Avenue, London SW19 7LW


### Spirited Exchanges UK

Jenny McIntosh produces a lively email newsletter for those who find themselves struggling with issues of faith and spirituality, and particularly those making a transition away from evangelical and charismatic traditions. She worked on a similar project in New Zealand, and co-authored *Church Leavers – Faith journeys five years on* with Alan Jamieson. See [www.spiritedexchanges.org.uk](http://www.spiritedexchanges.org.uk) or contact [jennymac50@gmail.com](mailto:jennymac50@gmail.com)

## April

**21: Sarum College, Salisbury: Franciscan Spirituality for Everyone** with Brother Samuel of Hilfield Priory. The relevance of the Franciscan vision to a world of environmental and social crisis.

See [www.sarum.ac.uk](http://www.sarum.ac.uk) Contact [aogden@sarum.ac.uk](mailto:aogden@sarum.ac.uk) or 01722 424826



**21, 22: Benedictine Centre for Spirituality, North London: Living with God's Dream and Making Wiser Choices.** One evening and one daytime course with Margaret Silf.

See [www.benedictinecentreretreats.org.uk](http://www.benedictinecentreretreats.org.uk) Contact [retreats@bcsuk.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:retreats@bcsuk.wanadoo.co.uk) or 020 8449 2499

**23-26: Othona Community, Dorset: Dance for Life.** Dance to beautiful world music and integrate mind, body and soul: weekend with Roger and Linda King. See [www.othona-bb.org.uk](http://www.othona-bb.org.uk)

Contact [mail@othona-bb.org.uk](mailto:mail@othona-bb.org.uk) or 01308 897130

**24-26: Turvey Abbey, Beds: Meister Eckhart – Inner silence and awakening.** A contemplative Christian/Buddhist weekend led by George Wilson and a Turvey Benedictine nun.

See [www.turveyabbey.org.uk](http://www.turveyabbey.org.uk) Contact Sr Lucy at [info@turveyabbey.org.uk](mailto:info@turveyabbey.org.uk) or 01234 881432

**25: St Marks Centre for Radical Christianity, Sheffield: The World to Come? ... Global Responses to Global Threats.** Day conference with Paul Rogers, Simon Barrow and Philip Austin.

Contact [info@stmarksccr.co.uk](mailto:info@stmarksccr.co.uk) or 0845 6434694

**26: Oxford: Pathways to Contemplation – A journey into Silence in the Company of Julian of Norwich, St John of the Cross, Rumi and other Mystics** with Prof Ursula King, Clare Goodrick-Clarke and Jay Ramsay. A Jupiter Trust event. See [www.jupitertrust.org](http://www.jupitertrust.org)

Contact Marigold Hutton, 01865 407490

**27 (-1 May): Loyola Hall, Merseyside: Film Retreat – Likeness of Human Being** with Una Coogan.

See [www.loyolahall.co.uk](http://www.loyolahall.co.uk) Contact [mail@loyolahall.co.uk](mailto:mail@loyolahall.co.uk) or 0151 426 4137

**29, 30 (and 5, 6 May): Salisbury Cathedral: Has society outgrown religion?** The 2009 Sarum Theological Lectures with Lord Harries of Pentregarth, the former Bishop of Oxford.

See [www.sarum.ac.uk](http://www.sarum.ac.uk) Contact [aogden@sarum.ac.uk](mailto:aogden@sarum.ac.uk) or 01722 424826

## May

**2: Tabor Carmelite Retreat House, Fulwood, Preston: Walking on the Edge – When religious structures no longer offer meaning and support.** See [www.tabor-preston.org](http://www.tabor-preston.org)

Contact [tabor@carmelite.net](mailto:tabor@carmelite.net) or 01772 717122

**8-10: Launde Abbey, Leicestershire: The Spirituality & Theology of Work** with Fr Dermot Tredget OSB of Douai Abbey. Contact [info@monos.org.uk](mailto:info@monos.org.uk) or Anthony Grimley, 01455 845390

**15-17: Armagh, Northern Ireland: The Sacred Weave of Life – Celtic spirituality as pilgrimage and journey,** with Ray Simpson of the Community of Adian & Hilda. See [www.aidanandhilda.org](http://www.aidanandhilda.org)

Contact Grace Clunie, [gclunie@gmail.com](mailto:gclunie@gmail.com)

**16: Glasgow Ignatian Spirituality Centre: Celtic Spirituality Day** with Fintan Creaven and Jane MacKichan. See [www.iscglasgow.co.uk](http://www.iscglasgow.co.uk) Contact [admin@iscglasgow.co.uk](mailto:admin@iscglasgow.co.uk) or 0141 354 0077

**22-25: Othona Community, Dorset: Springwatching,** with Dominic Couzens. If we tread carefully, what can we observe of the natural world enjoying warmer days? See [www.othona-bb.org.uk](http://www.othona-bb.org.uk)

Contact [mail@othona-bb.org.uk](mailto:mail@othona-bb.org.uk) or 01308 897130

**30: Mount St Bernard's Abbey, Leicester: Franciscan Spirituality** with Paula Pearce SFO, Franciscan International Centre. Contact [info@monos.org.uk](mailto:info@monos.org.uk) or Anthony Grimley, 01455 845390

**30: Tabor Carmelite Retreat House, Fulwood, Preston: Spiritual Pilgrims – Exploring Teresa of Avila and Carl Jung** with Julienne McLean. See [www.tabor-preston.org](http://www.tabor-preston.org)

Contact [tabor@carmelite.net](mailto:tabor@carmelite.net) or 01772 717122

**30 (-3 June): Holy Island: Re-envisioning God through Nature, Art and Contemplation** with Graham Booth and Charlotte Wright. Contact [opengate@aidanandhilda.co.uk](mailto:opengate@aidanandhilda.co.uk) or 01289 389222





## June

**6: Edenbridge, Kent: A Kaleidoscope of Prayer.** A day of workshops exploring different ways of praying, with the Sisters of St Andrew. See [www.sisters-of-st-andrew.com](http://www.sisters-of-st-andrew.com)  
Contact [thecentre@sisters-of-st-andrew.com](mailto:thecentre@sisters-of-st-andrew.com) or 01342 850 388


**6: Oxford: Affirming Liberalism – National Day Conference: A Credible Faith for Growing Churches** with Prof Keith Ward and Prof Martyn Percy. See [www.affirming-liberalism.org.uk](http://www.affirming-liberalism.org.uk)

**6: London: Understanding Consciousness and Spiritual Experience**, day conference of the Alister Hardy Society and the Scientific & Medical Network, with Rupert Sheldrake, Prof Ursula King and Prof Chris French. Contact [johnfranklin35@hotmail.com](mailto:johnfranklin35@hotmail.com) or 020 8858 4750

**12-14: Sarum College, Salisbury: The Yogic Journey** with Susan Stephenson.  
See [www.sarum.ac.uk](http://www.sarum.ac.uk) Contact [aogden@sarum.ac.uk](mailto:aogden@sarum.ac.uk) or 01722 424826

**27: Sarum College, Salisbury: Contemporary Spirituality and the Mystic Way** with Harvey Gillman.  
See [www.sarum.ac.uk](http://www.sarum.ac.uk) Contact [aogden@sarum.ac.uk](mailto:aogden@sarum.ac.uk) or 01722 424826

**30 (-3 July): St Mary's University College, Twickenham: Sources of Transformation – Revitalising Traditions of Christian Spirituality for Today.** Major international conference.  
See [www.smuc.ac.uk/spirituality2009](http://www.smuc.ac.uk/spirituality2009) Contact [spirituality2009@smuc.ac.uk](mailto:spirituality2009@smuc.ac.uk) or 020 8240 4183



## The Living Spirituality Network

The Living Spirituality Network exists for people who are exploring the meaning of spirituality, both within and beyond the traditional churches. The Network provides supporters with information, encouragement and contacts as they seek to understand and deepen their spiritual lives. We work with a wide range of individuals, groups and communities, many of whom find themselves on the edges of mainstream church structures. For further information on the Network, and the groups and communities with which we are in contact, please contact the office for a copy of our leaflet.

### Support:

The Living Spirituality Network relies on grants and donations from small communities, projects, networks, individuals and churches. Major support is gratefully received from the Society of the Sacred Mission.

**Living Spirituality News** is issued three times a year. If you know of anyone who would welcome a copy, please contact the Administrator. **It is issued free of charge but donations of £10.00-£15.00 pa would help considerably in off-setting our costs and would be gratefully received.** Please make cheques payable to: 'CTBI – Living Spirituality Network', and send them to the Administrator at the address given. If you are a taxpayer and are willing to **Gift Aid** your donation, please ask for a form to sign.

**A large type version is available on request.**

### Contact us at:

The Living Spirituality Network, The Well at Willen, Newport Road, Willen, Milton Keynes MK15 9AA  
Telephone: +44(0)1908 200675 email: [spirituality@ctbi.org.uk](mailto:spirituality@ctbi.org.uk)

**Staff:** Director: Eley McAinsh

Administrator: Win Kennedy

**Design:** Madeleine Frances

**Printing:** Murrays the Printers 01908 326560

---

LSN is a network related to Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, a company limited by guarantee. Registered in England and Wales.

Registered company no: 5661787.

Registered charity no: 1113299. Registered Office: 3rd floor Bastille Court 2 Paris Garden London SE1 8ND

Supported by the Society of the Sacred Mission