

**Max Payne becomes an Honorary Member**

One of our Vice-Presidents and former Chair of Trustees, **Max Payne**, has become an honorary member in recognition of his many years of service to the Network. Max is, as far as I know, the only member from the original list, having been invited by one of the founding group, Dr Peter Leggett, then Vice-Chancellor of Surrey University. Current Chair of Trustees, **Janine Edge**, presented him with a certificate signed by all the Board Members and Trustees along with a 40-year old bottle of Port.

**Network Book Prize 2013**

The 2013 Network Book Prize has been awarded to **Anne Baring** for her book *The Dream of the Cosmos*, reviewed in the Summer *Network Review*. Anne will be speaking at the 2014 Annual Gathering, for which a leaflet is enclosed. Two other books were close runners-up, *One Mind* by **Dr Larry Dossey** and *Evolution-Involution*, an epic poem by **Philippa Rees**. Both of these remarkable books are reviewed in this issue.

**NEW MEMBERS SINCE AUGUST**

SURNAME	FIRST NAME	LOCAL GROUP
Acarturk	Hande	Turkey
Alcaide German	Marisa	Spain
Andrade	Jacob	Australia
Banks	Melvyn	UK
Bartlett	Ross	UK
Bridges	Mary	UK
Byrne	Maria	UK
Christie-Brown	Margaret	UK
Christie-Brown	Jeremy	UK
Currier	Julie	UK
Edge	John	UK
Fielding	Robert	UK
Gerzi	Yehoshua	UK
Goubareva	Iya	UK
Hatcher	Joanne	UK
Hunt	Teresa	UK
Jordan	Robin	Ireland
Kapit	Richard	USA
Kieniewicz	Paul	UK
Kieniewicz	Amber	UK
Layton	Ruth	UK
Leach	Val	UK
Martin	Kevin	UK
McKenzie	Elizabeth	UK
Nicholls	Elizabeth	UK
Oakes	Deborah	UK
O'Reilly	Mary	UK
Parks	John	Canada
Phippis	Dilys	UK
Playford	Vanda	UK
Price	Leslie	UK
Purcill	Elita	Australia
Riddell-Carre	Andrew	UK
Salvaris	Ann	Greece
Slater	Lucy	UK
Smith	Pat	UK
Staunton	Paula	UK
Steyn	Martie	South Africa
Stork	Johnny	Canada
Tarcan	Adrian	Romania
Thomas	Gareth	UK
Tietavainen	Amanda	UK
Webster	Sue	UK
Weightman	Paul	UK
Wheeler	Anne	UK
Wilson	Rachel	UK
Wood	Daphne	UK
Wood	David	UK
Young	Venetia	UK

**MEMBERS WHO PASSED AWAY IN 2013**

Dale Beckett	John Gordon	Anthony Pilkington
John Bockris	Stuart Gray	William Rees-Mogg
Henri Bortoft	Jonathan Harvey	Elke Storch
Ann Brocklehurst	Gillian Kean	Christopher Williams
Arthur Cox	Geoffrey Nicholl	
Patricia Gibson		

**MEMBERS' NEWS****Rupert Sheldrake and Wikipedia**

*Rupert writes:* a group called Guerrilla Skepticism on Wikipedia has been subverting Wikipedia in areas concerned with spirituality, psychic phenomena and complementary medicine. A squad of guerrilla skeptics has captured the Wikipedia page about me, and have controlled it ever since, editing it in the most biased possible way. Several other editors have tried to restore a more neutral point of view, in accordance with Wikipedia policies. I have written a blog about this, Science Set Free, on my website. Wikipedia has strict rules against editors working in groups and against people advocating a particular point of view. The Guerrilla Skeptics have been flouting these rules for more than two years, coordinating their groups through secret Facebook pages. It's time their activities are brought to a halt, because they are undermining the basic principles of Wikipedia, and rendering hundreds of entries untrustworthy.

**Dr Kim Jobst – Editor of Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine**

Twenty years on, CAM therapeutic modalities and their mechanisms of action are better understood, and integrative medicine is incorporated into a growing number of hospitals and medical centres. We are very pleased to announce a new collaboration with the Consortium of Academic Health Centers for Integrative Medicine. *The Journal of Alternative and Complementary Medicine* will publish the full abstracts from the International Research Congress on Integrative Medicine and Health, a meeting convened by the Consortium, which will be on held May 13–16, 2014. In addition, the Journal will publish several exclusive podcasts with keynote speakers and other opinion leaders in advance of the Congress.

We are delighted to continue our affiliation as the Official Journal of The Society for Acupuncture Research and an official journal of the International Society for Complementary Medicine Research (ISCMR). The Journal has very wide global readership and impact, with readers in over 40 countries and 106 low-income countries, in collaboration with the World Health Organisation. Articles in the Journal have high visibility—there are over 10,000 full-text downloads per month and nearly 20,000 abstract downloads per month.

**Richard Bright – The Interalia Centre**

'The Interalia Centre is in the process of creating and developing a monthly online magazine dedicated to promoting inquiry into, and open-minded discussion about, the interactions between the arts, sciences and consciousness. It will offer knowledge and inspiration from the world's most exciting thinkers to a community of the curious to engage with ideas and each other. An important aspect of the magazine will be to foster news ideas and promote further discussion. To get this project off the ground Interalia are running a Kickstarter Crowdfunding campaign.

Info and details are at <http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/950053754/interalia>

Please share this campaign and, if you are feeling generous, make a pledge to help us achieve our funding goal.'

**Hilda Reilly – Guises of Desire**

My latest book, *Guises of Desire*, is now available from Amazon, both in paperback and Kindle format. *Guises of Desire* is a biographical novel based on the life of Bertha Pappenheim, aka Anna O of Freudian fame. It explores the case from a fresh perspective and brings into question the foundations of psychoanalysis, as well as suggesting how Bertha managed to transform herself from bedridden invalid to pioneering Jewish feminist and social worker. As such, it should appeal to anyone whose profession or interests begin with 'psy', or indeed anyone interested in immersing themselves in the Jewish culture of fin-de-siècle Vienna.

Further information is available on my website ([www.hildareilly.com](http://www.hildareilly.com)) and on Amazon at <http://www.amazon.co.uk/Guises-Desire-Hilda-Reilly/dp/0992683505>.

**Ulrich Kramer – The Future is Yours**

Ulrich's new book is now on sale in warehouses, bookshops and Amazon.

[http://www.amazon.de/Future-Yours-effectively-including-ebook/dp/B00G3MU2G6/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books-intl-de&ie=UTF8&qid=1383073047&sr=1-1&keywords=rolf+u.+kramer](http://www.amazon.de/Future-Yours-effectively-including-ebook/dp/B00G3MU2G6/ref=sr_1_1?s=books-intl-de&ie=UTF8&qid=1383073047&sr=1-1&keywords=rolf+u.+kramer)

**Milly and Zara Lorimer – How to look after your Human**

The editor's black Labradors have written a book that may be of interest to readers' dogs. If your dog would like to read and review the book, and perhaps add their own comments about how they look after their humans you can direct the dog to: [www.lookafteryourhuman.com](http://www.lookafteryourhuman.com)

**Ted Falconar Website – www.creativeinfinitymind.com**

There are two parts to the site: the great minds using infinity mind and solving the most difficult problems of Quantum Physics and Science. And the beautiful minds that in poetry, art and music produce the most beautiful ideas. The first comes from Einstein, studied by Korzybski in "Science and Sanity". The second comes from oceanic poetry and Dr Kathleen Raine's Temenos - the worlds of Imagination. Both use infinity mind and not words. The greatest ideas and poetry come from the super-conscious, which is manifested in the hissing of the brain leading to this poetry being called oceanic: eg Rumi, Kabir, Y.Suhrawardi. In India is the name Kundalini; in Europe the Mystery Ceremonies taught it in caves using the hissing Syrinx (Greek pan pipe) from the God Pan, which trained students that Leaders of the Mysteries thought they were changing from humans into gods. Our minds are far the greatest mechanism we can ever possess yet we hardly take notice of it. It is our 'Play House of Infinite Forms' of Tagore. This is the marvellous choice we can make in life. The greatest and the most beautiful mind.

**LOCAL GROUP NEWS****Sydney****Sydney SMN Group Meeting Report for Sunday 24th November 2013****By Jo de Groot, Co-ordinator**

Six people gathered at Polding Centre for an afternoon of some general discussion and socialising while also tuning in to the topics to be finalised by sociologist friend, **Lindsay Mell**. Lindsay covered material from Sheldrake's chapter 'Are Memories Stored As Material Traces?' (p. 187 ff) of 'The Science Delusion' which was sporadically linked to the work of Russian thinker, Leontiev. Lindsay read quotes from researchers into memory such as Pavlov, Lashley, Kandel, Weiss and colleagues. Although the materialist viewpoint assumes there must be a storage place for memories, Sheldrake's concept is connected with the notion of resonance, 'memories may depend on morphic resonance from an organism's own past. The brain may be more like a television set than a hard-drive recorder.' Lindsay covered the five kinds of memory and spent some time on habituation in particular. This was a rich and stimulating topic. The group was delighted to hear about the imminent visit by UK member and Network Review editor, David Lorimer in January 2014. Arrangements were enthusiastically discussed on the promotion and organisation of David's talk for the Sydney SMN on Sunday 26th January.

**London****Claudia Nielsen – 0207 431 1177, [claudia@cnielsen.eu](mailto:claudia@cnielsen.eu)**

To read reports from other meetings, go to the '**Summaries of Previous Events**' page of the London Group page of the Network's website. If you don't live in London but wish to be advised of London events please drop me an email and I shall add your e-address to the circulation list.

In August we welcomed **David Rousseau PhD** who entitled his talk *The Dimensions of Spirituality*. David has a high profile presence in a number of academic institutions in the UK and comes from a background of Systems Engineering. For his PhD thesis he used his 20 years experience in high technology project management to analyse problems in philosophy of mind and the scientific study of spirituality through the lens of systems analysis. He is currently doing research into the ontological foundations of moral intuition. This evening he introduced his theory that spiritual intuitions are reactions to qualities we apprehend in nature and are therefore part of the natural order. Being spiritual is as natural as being physical. David's argument was supported by a variety of scientific studies in different disciplines, which have increased dramatically over the last decade. He pointed to the sharp increase in interest in the field of spirituality as shown by the numbers of papers on the topic in academic databases which in the 70s were counted in their tens and have risen to thousands in the last decade. Most of the money spent on research is at present being channelled towards studies on objective spirituality aiming to demonstrate that spirituality can lead to better health and better lives, ultimately saving money to the tax payer.

Going through different categories we learned that the area of ontological spirituality is the most fund-deprived. Here the idea would be to explore the objective existence of the transcendent and our personal relationship with it, potentially leading to objective perhaps even technological benefits derived from it. Ontological spirituality is predicated on intuitions of a moral kind which are inherent in the human as well as other species. Space does not allow me to expand on this but David pointed to studies showing that animals too have a moral framework. This leads to the question, where do these moral intuitions come from? If intuition is authentic then there must be something that grounds it. Spiritual experiences facilitate a direct contact with that 'something' and research into those have been taken much more seriously in the last few years as well. Between 1987 and 2000 the number of people who have reported having had spiritual experiences has increased dramatically which shows that people are more willing to disclose their experiences nowadays which must also mean that we as society are more willing to accept these experiences as real. It was a most fascinating and inspiring presentation, and David will absolutely have to come back to expand on this and on his other studies.

In September we were privileged to host a talk by **Prof George Ellis**, Professor Emeritus at the University of Cape Town. George specialises in general relativity theory and cosmology, and works also in complexity theory and the way the mind works. He entitled his talk **Emergence, Top Down Causation and Reductionism**, a subject at the heart of philosophy and of interest to anyone who wonders how the world works! We are used to hearing about the bottom up process of causality, where lower levels are building blocks for higher level properties and processes. Not dismissing this reality, George made a powerful case for the consideration of the reverse process, by which lower levels are in fact determined by properties of higher hierarchical levels, which create possibilities by constraints. As an example, if gas is constrained by its environment, it will change its state to liquid or solid. This outcome (which also results in increased order) has been effected not by a bottom up but by a top down process. George gave us a wealth of examples from physics, cosmology physiology as well as computers, society and others, showing outcomes causally determined in top-down hierarchical processes.

Taking the example of computers he explained that there are over 10 hierarchical levels of programming all independent from each other. It is the highest level however, the software, that determines how the lower levels within the computer operate. Top down causation in some cases changes the nature of constituent parts. For instance cells in a foetus start off undifferentiated but will have their task allocated

by the higher level – the organism. Higher level causality is also shown when lower levels cannot exist without the higher level context as with cells which can only exist naturally inside the higher hierarchical level, the body. Following the many examples in support of his theory, George tackled Crick's statement in his *Astonishing Hypothesis*, that "a person's mental activities are entirely due to the behavior of nerve cells, glial cells, and the atoms, ions, and molecules that make them up and influence them". Too many influential higher level properties have been left out for this consideration to be true, but what I found particularly interesting was George's critique of the random choice of bottom line as cells, atoms and ions. The truth is that we don't know what the bottom line is. As the constant discovery of new particles and their behaviour shows, we may never know for sure what the bottom level is and the preferential but arbitrary choice of one does not make for good science. In the discussion that followed, many in the audience showed their interest and familiarity with the subject and we had stimulating comments and queries.

October brought us **Prof Richard Tarnas**, professor of psychology and cultural history at the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco, where he founded the graduate programme in Philosophy, Cosmology, and Consciousness. Rick is also the author of the *Passion of the Western World* and *Cosmos and Psyche* which in 2006 won the SMN Book Prize. Rick entitled his talk **The Role of 'Heroic' Learning Communities** in the Postmodern Era and started by explaining what he means by 'Heroic' learning communities. The term was borrowed from Charles Taylor's work *Sources of the Self*, in which he describes the make-up of the Hero and his journey. The Hero archetype breaks into new territory seeking the transcendent wisdom of a higher truth. This is the characteristic of all the great characters of the Axial Age, Buddha, Lao-Tsu, Jesus, Socrates etc. 'Heroic' communities are to society what the Hero is to the individual. Rick described the world in which we live in the West as one in which the post Enlightenment disenchantment of the world, led to an objectification of reality. The Cosmos no longer embodies the spiritual domain. Nothing is sacred any more. The utilitarian mindset empowers the centres of Power and Profit as twin drivers of society. Spiritual hunger however still exists and this is pacified by consumerism which as an end result, cannibalises the Planet because people cannot get enough of what they don't really need. Heroic communities are those holding on to our ontology and epistemology as spiritual beings. They have a common language and are helping us to go through this deconstruction of our old identity, this dark night of the soul - and identify a source of meaning and purpose to carry us into a new reality. Amongst such 'Heroic' communities are organisations such as the SMN, IONS, the Anthroposophic Rudolph Steiner Institutes, the Wrekin Trust, Findhorn and so on.

In November **Chris Clarke**, former professor of Applied Mathematics at the University of Southampton, and since 1999 free lance researcher and writer, came to talk about the subject matter of his new book *'Knowing, Being and Doing'* published by Imprint Academic in October 2013. Chris entitled his talk **The Psychology and Physics of Consciousness** and started his talk by explaining what he means by consciousness. He referred to Nagel who famously wrote about 'What it is like to be a Bat', referring to consciousness as the qualitative aspect of *me-ness*, or 'what it is like to be me' – for an organism. It is an entirely subjective experience, no formula possible. He pointed to the work of Teasdale, Barnard and McGilchrist who amongst others identify a dichotomy of who we are. McGilchrist focuses on the workings of the right and left brain, Teasdale and Barnard expand on the implicational and propositional aspect of thought, Heidegger the Being and the Doing, Buber the I-thought and I-it relation and so on. In quantum physics the dichotomy is the aspects of consciousness/observation, and field/state (characterised

by logic). From those dichotomies, the focus is on the first mentioned in the above list, (in his presentation, the left column) which can be defined as the subjective, experiential aspect. He further called on philosopher Kant who famously said that we cannot know a thing itself, or *das Ding an Sich*, implying that all knowledge is a combination of self (and all the subjectivity this means) and what is offered by the universe. The upshot is that we can continuously enlarge our perception but this will always be anchored on who we are and what we (from where we are) observe. From the physics side Chris showed how the thinking on quantum theory evolved from early 20th C to the point in which scientists became aware that the observation itself has an effect on the observed. The element of observation is carried out by consciousness, which is where quantum and consciousness intersect. Although no theory of the interrelation is possible, no facts can be proposed but the connection can be evaluated by modelling, by describing how consciousness affects a quantum system. Chris takes a panpsychic view of the universe, by which everything it in has a degree of consciousness. We had a lively discussion after the presentation, with some interesting perspectives observed.

#### Lampeter and West Wales – Eric Franklin

The Lampeter and West Wales Group of the SMN is new. For information email the coordinator at <erf678@gmail.com>.



SMN's 'tenancy' in West Wales began on 12 October 2013 with an inaugural lecture by **Dr Howard Jones** on Sir Alister Hardy. Howard's exposition was clear and his slides perspicuous, including diagrams of Hardy's invention, the Continuous Plankton Recorder, and reproductions of some of Sir Alister's watercolours. Howard outlined Hardy's life, education, Antarctic research, his proposal of marriage to

Sylvia Garstang by radio telephone from the 'Discovery', while still at sea, and described, for the technically-minded, the plankton recorder, also showing the postage stamps issued in honour of Hardy. Howard himself is a keen stamp collector. He showed Hardy's paintings at appropriate moments, and mentioned Hardy's hypothesis that humans had an aquatic ancestor. A photograph showing a baby of a few months happily swimming under water and apparently breathing the water intrigued us and evoked questions and discussion afterwards.

Howard's next slide showed two paintings of temples in the far East and noted Hardy's vow to seek a coherent single understanding of science and the spiritual nature of man. Howard pursued the emergence of spiritual consciousness to the present day, mentioning Bede Griffiths, John Selby Spong, John Robinson, Raymond Moody, George Trevelyan, then (and one hopes they do not mind) Bernard Carr and David Lorimer, with some detail of the origins of the SMN. The Network's copyright was infringed by a showing of the cover of an issue of *Network Review*.

Finally, Howard detailed Hardy's lectures and books, and the Religious Experience Research Unit, which he set up at Manchester College, Oxford, and which is now the Religious Experience Research Centre in Lampeter. Later, we learned that Sir Alister's niece was in the audience, and she learned from us that some of his paintings are on display just over the road from our venue, at the Khalifa Building of the university.

Our CD of Dr Jones's lecture, complete with his colour slides and the question-and-answer session which followed, is now available, at a highly-subsidised price.



On 13 November 2013 **Dr Bettina Schmidt**, newly-appointed Director of the Religious Experience Research Centre, described her research of spirit possession in Sao Paulo, Brazil. She does not attempt to define what spirit possession is, but is a neutral observer. She mentioned the negative image the phenomenon has in Europe, and wished to balance this by stressing positive aspects.

Bettina recounted how a student who invited her to visit a ceremony at a small religious centre was himself possessed. She then outlined the demographic frequency of the Christian denominations, but stressed that it is common to participate not only in the religious activity of more than one denomination but also in what we might in Britain call 'occult' phenomena. Curiously, few Brazilians acknowledge spiritism, yet it is indigenous, deeply embedded in the culture. She recounted a meeting which demonstrated this, and the sensitivity of many professionals regarding the subject. She interviewed the founder of a hospital, who denied that there is such a thing as spirit possession, yet eventually admitted that every evening he has a session with 'his spirit', including automatic writing and other phenomena.

Candomblé, based on West African Yoruba traditions, is the commonest spiritist practice. A core belief is in orixa, African minor deities who control, but do not speak through, those they possess. God created the world, but the orixa wield power in our lives, and must therefore be respected. Umbanda, the other major belief system, is less African, a mixture of African, christian, spiritist, and some indigenous influences. These indigenous spirits of the caboclo speak through those they possess and perform automatic writing using compliant mediums.

Brazilians do not regard possession as dangerous attack by demons but as a good experience. Training of aspiring mediums is required, and the spirits themselves judge whether a trainee can be accepted as 'qualified'. A good conscious medium can prevent evil spirits taking control, and the spirits give advice and answer questions from the audience. Enquiries about health are common, and usually the advice is to go to a doctor.

A CD of the lecture is in preparation.



**Alan Underwood**, who spoke to us on 4 December 2013, was a naturalist, studying geology and earth sciences, but discovered Jung while at university, and found him the first writer whose views paralleled his own inner experience. We always attempt to record experience, and often form inner maps of our spiritual progress not unlike our maps of the physical world, and we also try to project beyond what we know into unmapped, unknown spiritual areas.

Despite being scantily mapped, our inner world is very real. Early experiences led Alan to value the inner mind's world, and he spoke from his experience, not from academic reading. Life is confusing and mysterious, but inner and outer phenomena relate since both are part of a single world 'as it is'.

No map is completely accurate. Only the territory itself is 'perfect'. Nonetheless, maps are useful. However, in our society the inner and the outer are too strongly contrasted, and this causes the inner world to be neglected. We often picture our spiritual journey as a path through territory, but Society's spiritual map is blank because it is content to remain unaware of its own inner world. Only experience of the

unknown inner journey frees one from each religion's error of claiming that its unique map is correct for all time. The Freudian Ego provides each person with a surface map of the mind, but deep inner knowledge is analogous to a geological map.

Moving to the question of the relationships between ego and unconscious mind Alan said that his experience with dreams had been profoundly influential for him, just as myths, fairy stories, and the like relate to historical events such as the flood, subliminally remembered. The awakening of our need to follow a path of spiritual discovery, and the stages of that path, are illustrated by the pictures of the ten bulls, which Alan described. We are not satisfied with this world, believing there must be something better, and embark upon our spiritual journey on account of suffering. The important thing is that there IS a path.

A CD is being prepared.

## MEMBERS' ARTICLES AND ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Available for download from the site

### SCIENCE/PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE

#### Rupert Sheldrake and the Evo-Devo Revolution

Frank Visser on [www.integral-world.net](http://www.integral-world.net) with detailed reply from Rupert on <http://www.integralworld.net/sheldrake.html>

### MEDICINE-HEALTH

#### Effect of Microwave Radiation on the Central Nervous System

W. Bergman, 1965 – abstract 4 pp. Full paper is 82 pp.

#### Naval Medical Research Institute Bibliography of Reported Biological and Clinical Effects of Microwave Radiation – 106 pp. from 1971.

#### The Drama Triangle and the Four Agreements – Helping Maintain Professional Detachment in the Consultation

Dr Andrew Tresidder MBBS MRCGP (1 p)

#### EM Pollution and Electromagnetic Stress – Advice Sheet

Dr Andrew Tresidder MBBS MRCGP (1 p)

### PHILOSOPHY-RELIGION

#### Harvard Students and Chinese Philosophy

Christine Gross-Loh (6 pp., from the Atlantic)  
See article referred to below in News and Notices

#### Involution and Quantum Mysticism

P.A. Rees (2 pp.)  
A brief explanation of the hypothesis of this new book reviewed below.

#### Interview with Ravi Ravindra (7 pp.)

#### Letter to Pope Francis

Matthew Fox (6 pp, from Tikkun Magazine)

#### Spiritual Science

A talk by Alan Hammond (4 pp.)

#### The Eternal Quest for Wellbeing

Rev. Peter Owen Jones (8 pp. from *Beyond the Brain* 2013)

#### The Four Agreements

Dr Andrew Tresidder (1 p)

The Toltecs were native South Americans. They had a well-developed system of wisdom about life and how we should live it.

It is said that four key points were these "agreements"

- Be Impeccable with Your Word
- Take Nothing Personally
- Make No Assumptions
- Always Do Your Best

#### A Wish for Life – thoughts on gratitude

*Dr Andrew Tresidder* (1 p)

#### A Family is..

*Dr Andrew Tresidder* (1 p)

#### The Old Ceiling becomes the New Floor

*David Karchere* (4 pp.)

*Reflections on an inspiring Wrekin Trust weekend.*

#### PSYCHOLOGY-CONSCIOUSNESS STUDIES

##### Chiron – the Wounded Healer: an Astrological Perspective

*Mary Bridges* (6 pp.)

#### ENVIRONMENT

##### The True Cost of Food

*Patrick Holden, CBE interviewed by Liz Earle* (6 pp.)

##### GM Debate between Paul Horgen and Thierry Vrain (6 pp.)

Thierry Vrain is a Canadian biologist who has changed his mind on the safety of GM foods – see item about Seralini article retraction below.

##### Owen Paterson and UK Government pro-GM Position

There has been an exchange of letters between the Minister and the Alliance for Natural Health, which you can find on [www.anh-europe.org](http://www.anh-europe.org) - it is well worth signing up for their updates. Their September 18 issue contains an article by biology student Charlie Maitland about the pro-GM stance in his course. Peter Melchett has also written an excellent piece that can be found on the Soil Association website. In the meantime GM and food companies have been pouring vast amounts of money into anti-labeling campaigns in the US. In the meantime it seems that TED is now supporting the pro-GM position. See: [http://www.naturalnews.com/042112\\_TED\\_conferences\\_pseudoscience\\_GMO.html](http://www.naturalnews.com/042112_TED_conferences_pseudoscience_GMO.html)

##### Harmonics and Resonance Issues with Wind Power Plants IEEE PES Wind Plant Collector System Design Working Group (8 pp.)

##### The Potential for Beehive Fences as a Human-Elephant Conflict Mitigation Method for Small-Scale Farmers in Sri Lanka

*Dr. Lucy E. King* (12 pp.)

I am a Trustee of the St Andrews Prize for the Environment and Lucy King's project in Kenya was the winning entry.

#### GENERAL

##### Creation – Another Perspective

*Florence Meyer* (1 p)

A perspective on life through gratitude, joy and the Feminine.

##### Nelson Mandela – A Jewish Perspective

*Rabbi Michael Lerner* (4 pp. from Tikkun Magazine)

##### The Workplace, the Transpersonal, Spirituality and Values

*Professor John Drew* (12 pp.)

##### Online Articles by Anthony Judge –

[www.laetusinpraesens.org](http://www.laetusinpraesens.org)

##### Indifference to the Suffering of Others

*Occupying the moral and ethical high ground through doublespeak*

<http://www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs10s/indiff.php>

##### Being a Waveform of Potential as an Experiential Choice Emergent dynamic qualities of identity and integrity

<http://www.laetusinpraesens.org/musings/waves.php>

##### Encountering Otherness as a Waveform In the light of a wave theory of being

<http://www.laetusinpraesens.org/musings/waves2.php>

##### Global Security from an Interplanetary Perspective Interplanetary Security Council – Resolution on Planet Earth

<http://www.laetusinpraesens.org/musings/syriares.php>

##### Psychosocial Implication of Without Within Enjoying going solar for oneself

<http://www.laetusinpraesens.org/musings/within.php>

##### Forthcoming Major Revolution in Global Dialogue Challenging new world order of interactive communication

<http://www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs10s/revolu.php>

##### Playing the Great Game with Intelligence Authority versus the People

<http://www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs10s/greatgam.php>

##### Affinity, Diaspora, Identity, Reunification, Return Reimagining possibilities of engaging with place and time

<http://www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs10s/diaspora.php>

##### Civilization as a Global Configuration of Silences Recognizing silence of a higher order

<http://www.laetusinpraesens.org/musings/silence.php>

##### Imagining Attractive Global Governance Questioning possibilities and constraints of well-boundedness

<http://www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs10s/quesglob.php>

##### Metaphors to Die by Correspondences between a collapsing civilization, culture or group, and a dying person

<http://www.laetusinpraesens.org/musings/dying.php>

#### NEWS AND NOTICES

##### Alfred Russel Wallace (1823-1913) Resources

The Wallace Memorial Fund's life-size bronze statue of Wallace (see front cover) was unveiled by Sir David Attenborough, OM, FRS on the afternoon of 7th November at the Natural History Museum (<http://wallacefund.info/statue>).

The Wallace Facebook Page (lots of news about Wallace. You don't need to join Facebook to use it): <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Alfred-Russel-Wallace/50145041283>

The Wallace100 Events Calendar (list of all Wallace-related events we know about worldwide): <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/science-of-natural-history/wallace/events/index.html>

The Wallace100 Website (lots of links etc to other Wallace-related resources): <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/nature-online/science-of-natural-history/wallace/index.html>

Wallace Letters Online (images and transcripts of Wallace's correspondence, plus other documents such as notebooks): <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/wallacelettersonline>

##### The Food Revolution Network

*Ocean Robbins* writes: 'The outrageous reality is that all around us, it's considered normal to eat highly processed food-like products that have been genetically engineered, doused with chemicals and pesticides, contaminated with antibiotics and hormones, and stripped of fibre, vitamins and minerals. These same foods are often the products of unspeakable cruelty to animals, exploitive conditions for farm workers, and are totally unsustainable for our planet. We have a medical system that pays no attention to food, and a food industry that pays no attention to health. And hundreds of millions of people are sick or dying because of it. In short,

we need a food revolution.' See [www.foodrevolution.org](http://www.foodrevolution.org) - the Food Revolution Network recently hosted an online GMO mini-summit with leading speakers and attended by over 40,000 people.

Two other related pieces of news: there has been a huge outcry against the award to a Monsanto executive of the World Food Prize. Their close links to the US government include key people such as Hillary Clinton, Donald Rumsfeld, the US Secretary of Agriculture, the US Secretary of Commerce, and senior officials at the USDA, the FDA and the EPA. The second outrage is the retraction of Prof. Seralini's paper (Séralini G-E, Clair E, Mesnage R, Gress S, Defarge N, Malatesta M, Hennequin D, de Vendômois J-S. Long term toxicity of a Roundup herbicide and a Roundup-tolerant genetically modified maize. *Food and Chemical Toxicology* published online September 2012. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.fct.2012.08.005>) as a result of industry pressure. Prof Seralini himself is standing firm against the retraction and is prepared to resort to legal measures. The study replicated a published Monsanto study but over 2 years rather than 90 days. See report: [www.i-sis.org.uk/Retracting\\_Serallini\\_study\\_violates\\_science\\_and\\_ethics.php](http://www.i-sis.org.uk/Retracting_Serallini_study_violates_science_and_ethics.php) A letter protesting against this (link on site) has been signed by 524 scientists and 926 (soon to be 927!) non-scientists.

##### Merck falsifies Vaccine Efficacy Results

Merck knowingly falsified its mumps vaccine test results to fabricate a '95% efficacy rate' according to former Merck virologists Stephen Krahling and Joan Wlochowski in an official False Claims Act document. In addition, it turns out that most children who succumb to mumps and measles are those who have already been vaccinated! Among the mumps and measles studies cited, between 77% and 97% of cases were in children already vaccinated and in the UK 70% of those infected by swine flu had been vaccinated. These figures give effective vaccine failure rates. Worse still, some 2009 batches from Baxter International contained live viruses that actually cause flu! To learn more: [http://www.naturalnews.com/042864\\_measles\\_outbreak\\_mumps\\_vaccines\\_scientific\\_fraud.html#ixzz2nf3DVEMd](http://www.naturalnews.com/042864_measles_outbreak_mumps_vaccines_scientific_fraud.html#ixzz2nf3DVEMd)

##### Alliance of Natural Health – Summary of 100 years of healthcare

- Once it was recognised that infectious diseases could be controlled by antibiotics like penicillin, they were soon seen as a panacea
- This spawned the drug-based healthcare paradigm that has been dominant for the last 60 years or so. The business model for the pharma companies was driven by profits made from patents on new-to-nature drugs
- Drugs delivered impressive results for some infectious diseases, but antibiotic resistance and drug side effects soon proved that healthcare systems based on drugs alone would not be sustainable
- Drugs also showed much lesser effectiveness against the emerging chronic disease and mental health epidemics
- The expiry of patents on blockbuster drugs, and the deprived pipeline for new drugs, encouraged research on non-drug therapies
- Improved understanding of the human genome and epigenetics inspired better understanding of the role of diet and lifestyle in both the development and prevention of diseases.

And that's essentially where we are today.

##### Free Meditations – [www.freemeditations.co.uk](http://www.freemeditations.co.uk)

As the name suggests, on the website there are a number of free downloadable meditations available as MP3s in the 'Meditation Room', which you are very welcome to download

and listen to. On only the second day there were 83 download requests from the USA, Thailand, Canada, Germany, Sweden, Holland, Brazil and Bulgaria to name a few. Simon Rowe will be creating and uploading meditations regularly to the site. Here is a link to the sign up page <http://eepurl.com/Gblv> if you would like to stay in touch. We would also welcome any reviews of the meditations you try.

##### Harvard Students turn to Chinese Philosophy

*Christine Gross-Loh* writes in *The Atlantic*: Picture a world where human relationships are challenging, narcissism and self-centredness are on the rise, and there is disagreement on the best way for people to live harmoniously together.

It sounds like 21st-century America. But the society that Michael Puett, a tall, 48-year-old bespectacled professor of Chinese history at Harvard University, is describing to more than 700 rapt undergraduates is China, 2,500 years ago.

Puett's course Classical Chinese Ethical and Political Theory has become the third most popular course at the university. The only classes with higher enrolment are Intro to Economics and Intro to Computer Science. The second time Puett offered it, in 2007, so many students crowded into the assigned room that they were sitting on the stairs and stage and spilling out into the hallway. Harvard moved the class to Sanders Theater, the biggest venue on campus. For full article, see Members' Articles.

#### ATTENTION MEMBERS!

##### Personal Numbers and Office Procedures

Please help your administration office to run smoothly and so help you efficiently:

- when your details change (address, telephone number, email address etc.) please make sure we know
- use your membership number whenever you contact us, and write it onto all correspondence, conference booking slips, subscription forms and orders for books, services etc.
- book early for conferences - it helps you get a place
- ensure cheques are made out correctly to Scientific & Medical Network; for conferences and orders: always add (legibly!) details of what it's for and membership number on back, even when accompanied by a booking form
- remember we're a network, and it often takes time for all relevant people to be contacted so when making requests give us time to respond helpfully (and always remember to tell us who you are - we sometimes get forms back with no name at all!)
- help us save money; whenever possible pay in £ sterling, use autobill and gift aid for your subscriptions - it maximises funds available for more important things

Office hours are 9am – 5pm Monday – Friday and there is normally someone to answer the telephone between those hours, with an ansaphone otherwise.