



Dr Larry Dossey becomes an Honorary Member

Dr Larry Dossey was awarded Honorary Membership while speaking at the Mystics and Scientists this year. I read his first book *Space, Time and Medicine* with great excitement in 1983 – here was a physician who had understood the nature of nonlocality was steeped in David Bohm, whose work *Wholeness and the Implicate Order* I had also recently read. Since then he has produced a series of best-selling books and is a leading voice in mind-body medicine although he himself has moved beyond this label to nonlocal medicine.

Larry is an internal medicine physician, former Chief of Staff of Medical City Dallas Hospital, and former co-chairman of the Panel on Mind/Body Interventions, National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine, National Institutes of Health. He is executive editor of the peer-reviewed journal *Explore: The Journal of Science and Healing*. He is the author of twelve books on the role of consciousness and spirituality in health, which have been translated into languages around the world. His most recent book is *ONE MIND: How Our Individual Mind Is Part of a Greater Consciousness and Why It Matters*. He lectures around the world. Dr. Dossey lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA, with Barbara, his wife, who is a nurse-educator and the author of many award-winning books. www.dosseydossey.com



Prof Marilyn Monk becomes a Vice-President

Marilyn Monk is an academic research scientist in the fields of molecular biology, early development and cancer. She is Emeritus Professor of Molecular Embryology at UCL London and, previously, Honorary Professor at University of Melbourne, and Adjunct Professor at Monash University in Australia. Her research covers DNA replication and repair in bacteria, cell signalling and aggregation of slime mould amoebae, and gene expression and its regulation by epigenetic modification in mammalian development. Among her discoveries are mechanisms of epigenetic programming of gene expression, deprogramming and re-programming in development, epigenetic environmental adaptation (Lamarckian inheritance), and embryonic gene expression in cancers.

Her group developed a wide range of single cell molecular techniques to study gene expression, gene modification, and gene mutation at the sensitivity of the single cell. Clinical applications include early diagnosis of genetic disease, stem cells and regenerative medicine, and a search for a possible cancer vaccine targeting embryonic gene expression in cancers. In addition to her scientific career, she has a longstanding interest in the arts, psychology and mysticism. She is qualified as a Psychosynthesis Counsellor and an Alexander Technique Teacher. Marilyn has been a member of SMN since the 80's, a member of the SMN Board for 7 years, and a regular contributor to the SMN review.

MEMBERS' NEWS

William Bloom - Breakthrough in Spiritual Education



With colleagues in the Spiritual Companions Trust and the Crossfields Institute, William has recently received approval from Ofqual for their new qualification called **Diploma in Practical Spirituality and Wellness**. Its focus is experiential and practice-based. It is aimed at everyone

interested in spirituality and wellbeing, from archbishops to hairdressers, and of course everyone involved in education, care and development. They want to normalise spirituality so that it is as natural a part of everyday culture as diet or exercise.

The course is structured into four units;

- Context and Science
- Person-Centred Spiritual Practice
- Reflective Practice
- Spiritual Care

At its heart is daily practice: connecting with the energy/wonder of life, mindful self-management and service. On top of this foundation of daily practice, we then build an understanding of the science of the health and wellbeing benefits, how to communicate about these benefits and how best to give spiritual care in daily life. www.spiritualcompanions.org



Conversations with Higher Consciousness

David and Jean Ingman

We are David and Jean Ingman, a retired professional couple living in Sydney, Australia, where we co-ordinate the Sydney section of the Network. We lost our son in 1994. A series of happenings shortly afterwards convinced us that somewhere, somehow, he still existed. Twenty years of research and personal experience have followed. The material contained in the website <http://realityandyou.com/> is the result.

The material contained in this site is in book form and was received during thirty-five hours of conversation on an interviewer, interviewee basis between Jean and David, with Jean asking questions and David "speaking" the answers.

The main theme is that the "I" is a perception, from the "observed" position, of a projection of an idea by a conglomerate of consciousness acting in concert, the observer, which results in a sense of self - from the implicate to the explicate.

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 and remember to gift aid when you make a payment (subscription, conference fees, etc..) - it maximises funds available for more important things.

Office hours are 10.00am to 5.00pm Monday - Friday. Please leave a message if no one is available to take your call. We will get back to you as soon as we can.



Martin Lockley – The Island Artist

Martin and his half sister Ann have produced a charming book about the artist Doris Lockley, who was Ann's mother. Doris and their father lived on a remote island off the coast of Pembrokeshire during the 1930s. The book describes their simple life among the birds, a successful documentary made about a neighbouring island and the various publications of their father Ronald with illustrations and initial sketches. As they say, it evokes a bygone age and a rugged way of life. Further information from Martin on martin.lockley@ucdenver.edu



Andrew Bell – Words, Words, Words

Like many readers, Andrew has spent much of his life on a spiritual journey. I enjoyed his collection of poetry, of which a short sample follows:

Morning

*A late awakening
it was, this morning:
caught up
in the mind-net
I call
my private world;
lost
but willing, once again
to surrender;
to hitch a light-shaft
to the edge
of all this knowing;
to fall
into the holy ground
where nothing begins
and nothing ends;
where the constellations
play through the life
and all is praise.*

Peaceful Reflections 1994-2015 – Eric Gladwin

Eric is now in his 99th year and can no longer come to our meetings in person. These healing poems and prayers act as an expression of Creation's invisible drives for healing and peace. You can see more of his poems on the web at: www.ericgladwin.com

Just...Dandelions and a Blue Sky

*The sky was deep clear blue, free of scarrings by men
And the thrush poured out song in sheer gladness of Being
Pure in the innocence we once had, you see.
And the dandelions I held gently were a sharing of this
With precisioned gold petals holding smaller, within:
And one had its seeds ready, to soar high on the wind,
As perfected expressions of the Maker of All!
And I felt humbled as the Sun's love poured down
As I, just a 'man-scrap' shared THIS, of God's Whole!!!*

Then it flew....



LOCAL GROUP REPORTS

LONDON GROUP



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To read reports from other meetings, go to the **REPORTS** 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.

2016 January

We started the year with a presentation by SMN Board member **Paul Kieniewicz**, who is a geologist, astronomer, novelist and the author of *Gaia's Children* and, with Andrew Glazewski, *Harmony of the Universe*. The subject of this evening's talk was *Andrew Glazewski*, priest and physicist, who was seminal in the founding of the *Scientific and Medical Network*. An energetic and charismatic person, Glazewski was interested in the **Science of the Human Field** – which was the title of Paul's talk. He had personal experience of interacting with this field as a healer and wrote a series of papers on the science of this phenomenon.

We heard that Glazewski was born in the Ukraine into a landed gentry family, who had to flee their home during the First World War. Nevertheless, he received the finest education including a degree in physics. He was fond of the good life, which included ladies and parties, but had a religious experience during a retreat at a Carmelite convent, and decided to become a priest. It took him some time to convince his parents of this change of plans, but they eventually gave in. He came to England and during the war was mobilised as a chaplain to the troops and did sustain war injuries. Upon his return to Britain, he took up a post of chaplain to the Polish community in Newton Abbot. During this time, he wrote a number of scientific papers on his theory of the Human Field and submitted them to Dr. Patrick Shackleton, Dean of Postgraduate Medical Studies at the University of Southampton. At some point he heard about George Blaker, and realised that both men shared with him an interest in the greater reality of which the material world is only a part. Realising the benefit of a meeting, he put the two men together and that was the very first step towards the founding of the SMN in 1973. Unfortunately, Andrew died a short while after, following an unexpected and massive heart attack.

Paul first met Glazewski as a young man, on a retreat and although he was a priest, Paul was surprised to hear no mention of God for the first few lectures. This was because Glazewski's focus was first and foremost on human psychology. He talked about the unconscious, which he called *George*, and the 'overconscious', which he called *Peter*. He explained those concepts and expanded on the need as he put it, of dialogue between *George* and *Peter*. Amongst other benefits he would say, this allows for an integration of our intuitive abilities. Turning to the physical body, Glazewski identified three modalities of the biological field which all living beings possess: the electromagnetic field, the sound (acoustic) field and the electrostatic field. Underpinning and interconnecting everything, he postulated a non-local, primary field, with which to explain ESP distant healing etc. To understand how we can interact with these fields, his theory maintains that we distinguish objects with our perception of the *proportionality* of those objects. Music can explain the basic concept; the notes form a set of proportions and as we listen to the flow, we can distinguish the *proportionalities* of the various tones which create the musical harmony. In healing, the use of imagination enables the healer to focus on the *proportions* of a particular person, or something belonging to this person. Based on these *proportionalities*, even at a distance, the healer uses his imagination and feelings to perceive the smooth flow of energy from an inner organ to the field and back again. When this flow is interrupted, there is disease. Healing therefore is about clearing blockages. Distance healing is possible because of the interconnection of the primary field and because our mind is non-local. The language of the Implicate Order of David Bohm he says, is the best way of understanding the theory of this process.



February

This month we welcomed **Max Velmans** who is Emeritus Professor of Psychology at Goldsmiths, University of London and the author of *Understanding Consciousness* (2009) and *The Blackwell Companion to Consciousness* (2007) as well as some 100 publications on the

topic of consciousness. This evening Max explored the question - *How do we Know What is Real?* and started by pointing out the two basic ways we use to apprehend reality, direct experience and rationality. Bertrand Russell described it as *knowing by acquaintance* and *knowing by description*. But these modes of knowing can be challenged: which of them is more trustworthy? The tradition of this dual mode of knowing goes back to the ancient Greeks where the camp was divided between the rationalists and empiricists. In reality as we know, we need both modalities.

One further perspective on how we know what we know looks at where we place our attention. If our attention is placed outside of ourselves, we see that knowledge as 'objective'. And if inside, the knowledge is 'subjective'. Either way, says Max, we are one step removed from reality. We make a representation of the external world, and to explain his point, Max went on to show the model he developed, in which a subject observes a cat in the outside world, and relies on the representation of the cat in his mind (shown in the model, as his brain) to apprehend the observation. So we could say that we only know the world through the representations we make, which for most people, most of the time, is fine. The problems however, arise with experiences which are fleeting, or illusory, such as hallucinations, psychotic experiences etc. We then have to face the question, are they real? And this leads to a more generalised question, *what is real?* Ultimately we must accept that our cognitions can be incomplete, inaccurate etc. Accepting this to be the case, must we however always doubt the veracity of anomalous experiences? When neuroscientists look at correlates in the brain to these subjective experiences, they do so with a view to solving the problems of subjectivity in a materialist way.

The weakness of this approach however is that brain states cannot be reduced to subjective experience. Neuroscience cannot access someone else's experience or its antecedents. Correlation does not get us causation. The world we experience is a construction of the physical world we see in our internal psychology at that time. These experiences are real and cannot be reduced to brain states. At the centre of this discussion are mystical experiences. How real are they? For the people who have them they are more real than everyday reality. These states, however, are unexpected and for that reason cannot be subject to rigorous research procedures. They are however ubiquitous and Max went on to quote William James, who described mystical experiences as having the qualities of ineffability, a noetic sense, meaning, imparting knowledge, transience and passivity. So the message is that rational, awake consciousness is one type of consciousness but there are others, and we may make a mistake if we go through life thinking this is the only one credible, and much will be missed if we ignore all the other types and states of consciousness. In our questions sessions we heard two people's interesting, meaningful and profound experiences in altered states, which for them were not only real but transformative. A very interesting discussion followed.



March

We were delighted to host a talk by **Oonagh Harpur** this month, not only because Oonagh is a trustee of the SMN, but especially because her talk brought an unusual and not frequently considered perspective on an important aspect of life, business. She entitled her talk ***Love and Integrity in Business***, a word combination which she says, may be understood as an oxymoron. Oonagh is an accomplished business woman who first became a CEO in 1989 and has served on company boards for over 25 years in executive, advisory and non-executive roles, as CEO, as non-executive Director and as Trustee in the private, public and not for profit sectors. She has worked in the UK and USA in local and global organisations in the energy, health, and financial and professional services sectors.

This evening we were a small group and so started by introducing ourselves and saying something about our interest in the topic of the presentation. Oonagh then asked us what we did during the day with a view to show us something about our understanding of what constitutes work. She then explained the concepts by using a model devised by Hazel Henderson which shows the different types of work in the form of a cake in which the monetised type, incorporating the private and the public sectors, occupies the top layers, and the non-monetised type, including the love economy, the work we do because we care, child care, housework etc. the bottom ones. In between the two, we find the underground economy, cash driven and non accountable. The idea of love as an intrinsic impulse in work, including the monetised sector, occurred to Oonagh in the early 90s and she noted that this principle, manifested in business ethics, community investment, sustainability etc., which made

business more productive and more enjoyable. The way it manifests however, can be contradictory. For example, whilst working in a law firm many years ago, she noticed that figures were not shaping up as expected, ringing alarm bells. She went to the Board and advised them that the business was becoming unsustainable. The executives in the organisation, acknowledging that the company, rather than the employees were the ones who had failed, let go 25 people, not however, before helping each one of them to find an alternative job. This shows that love is also about not keeping people when this will sink the whole. The tone of a business she pointed out, comes from the top.

A few years later Oonagh set up *Love and Integrity in Business Network*, an organisation as the name implies, to explore the impact of these concepts. She invited executives to discuss the topic and learned the following from the chairmen that participated:

- They set direction. They inspire the workforce through purpose and values and align the corporate strategy with it.
- They have a line of sight. They incentivise values-based leadership and behaviour and evaluate those values through the behaviour of the workforce.
- They provide ethical leadership. They use ethical values to guide decisions and promote values-based leadership.

Oonagh went on to explain to us the attitude to staff and business of companies who work along those lines, and used the examples of *Old Mutual Wealth*, *Unilever* and *Walgreens Boots Alliance*. Stanford University, who undertook a long term research (over 40 years), found that companies who operated on the basis of such values outperformed those who did not.

We had a good discussion on the topic, which included hearing about personal experiences which members of the group had of working within companies which did and did not operate with the value of love and integrity in business.

Oonagh has a TedX talk with the title, *Love and Integrity in Business*.

April

In April we hosted a talk by **Dr. Vasileios Basios**, who came especially from Brussels for the occasion. Vasileios is a senior researcher at the Physics of Complex Systems Department of the University of Brussels, conducting interdisciplinary research on self-organisation and emergence in complex matter as well as aspects of the foundations of complex systems. In his early years he worked in the team led by Nobel Prize winner Ilya Prigogine.

This evening Vasileios explored complexity, in a talk titled **What Emerges from Complexities? (the first harvest)**.

Mechanistic reduction is a useful tool says Vasileios, but it is limiting as a dogma. In this post materialistic era, we have exhausted this dogma, and complexity offers us a radically new approach to science. It reflects on its own foundation and accepts that reality is multifaceted. The world that emerges from this approach is an interconnected and organic whole. It sees the universe as a mindful cosmos rather than as a machine. Vasileios describes it as the third scientific revolution, coming after relativity and quantum physics.

The first move towards complexity can be identified as being the introduction of the concept of the field, which allowed for connection over distance, movement in non-linear way. As part of the wave of new discoveries of the 19th C is Faraday's electromagnetic induction and Maxwell's electromagnetic theory of light. Since then various scientists contributed to the development of the science of complexity, and we heard about and saw some representations of their work on screen. Amongst them there was Poincaré and Hadamard (on dependence on initial conditions of non-linear systems), Zhabotinsky and Belousov (on complexity in chemistry), Mandelbrot (fractals), and Goedel who developed the concept of self-referential non-linear thinking. We watched a fascinating demonstration of this principle based on one of Escher's work and then the beautiful example of self-organisation of flocks of birds in which each individual contributes to the chaotic and reassembly motion of the whole over and over.

Going beyond science, Vasileios used the metaphor of the blind men and the elephant to illustrate the problem we sometimes find when an insight about a part is taken as the truth about the whole. Complexity with its inclusiveness and holistic stance overcomes this difficulty

because it is based on dialogue and consensus. It overcomes for instance what has been called the *Tragedy of Commons*, in which people participate in a communal resource, with the aim of taking out as much as they can without thought for others. This mindset for example, caused the financial crash of 2008. Complexity operates according to different principles, which include reflection, dialogue, holistic thinking. On a personal note, Vasileios gave us an example of complexity in operation by describing a group he participates in, which comes together to share ideas and their implementation. They meet in an old mill near Brussels bringing their individuality in the service of the whole. They call it Mycelium as symbolic of the process envisaged.

In short, Complexity is a new kind of science, a new approach to problem solving. It allows non paradigmatic thinking, with validation and dialogue across disciplines. Metaphor can guide research, such as the idea of an ensouled cosmos. It requires awareness of assumptions, keeping in perspective the origins, nature and aims of the research.

GRAMPIAN GROUP – NICOLA MILLER AND PAUL KIENIEWICZ

15th January

Unearthing the Past: Orkney's Wartime Aerodromes; Ley Lines; and a Short Participative Demonstration

2016 kicked off with a passionate presentation by members of the B. A. Dowsing Team. **Allan Downie** (team leader) began by introducing Jim, Charlie, Mike, and Andy, highlighting their different contributions which, in addition to dowsing, included interests in Ley Lines, photography, and historical searches and surveys, necessary before each dowsing session. Allan's interest in dowsing stems from watching his father dowsing for water on the farm where he grew up, and seeing the dowsing rods hit his father in the face! We learnt that dowsing, which dates back to early Egyptian times, is used in attempts to locate water, buried metals, ores, gemstones, and other objects as well as energy or ley lines: Dowsing 'tools' include twigs, metal rods of different lengths and widths, and pendulums.

The main focus of the presentation was the Team's visit to the Twatt Aerodrome in Orkney during 2013 and 2014 (<http://www.ba-events.com/ba-dowsing.htm>). However, before going ahead with the talk the speaker described meeting White Eagle at a dowsing conference in Canada and hearing him talk of inviting ancestors to dowsing sessions, demonstrating first their absence and then their presence with dowsing rods—a practice the team have since adopted.

In Orkney, the B.A. Team worked alongside the Aviation Research Group who were also working on the airfield. We heard about using a pendulum and map to locate a lost Barracuda aircraft in the Scapa Flow (found just one degree out); two spirits at the entrance to Twatt Control Tower; a German bombing raid and a love affair between a wartime cinema projectionist and a Wren who lost her life (Christmas 1943); the importance of using dowsing to locate where to start digging; and, the discovery of part of a spitfire wing and many other artefacts. During the questions that followed we were told of the importance of asking clear concise questions when dowsing, and that success is less likely if the dowser is feeling tired or unwell. We also heard that dowsing is possible without rods or pendulums—that our ancestors had the ability to feel energy in a way that is largely lost to most of us today—a form of energy that is not yet understood. The ensuing discussion touched on a variety of subjects including Feng Shui, the rich distribution of energy lines in Aberdeenshire, stone circles, sacred wells, energy balancing and church consecration ceremonies, and earth acupuncture. The meeting ran well over time and was followed with more discussion and opportunities to try out the dowsing rods. The scientific rationale behind dowsing is limited and there is no undisputed scientific evidence that it is effective. However, the participative session was fascinating and the collective observations of those present await a full explanation.

13th February

Traditional Chinese Medicine

At the beginning of the Chinese New Year, the year of the monkey, we welcomed **Dr Bisong Guo** as our speaker. Dr Guo, trained in Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and Western Medicine, founded the Shen Foundation in Forres in 2009 (<http://www.shenfoundation.net/>). She has extensive interests, at local and global levels, ranging



from sustainability, leadership, and qigong, to personal and global transformation. She is also author of *Internal Alchemy a New Perspective*, and co-author of *Listen to Your Body—The Wisdom of the Dao*.

The evening began with Dr Guo leading a meditation. She began her talk with a discussion about energy or Qi, and the similarities between

TCM and other Eastern practices (e.g. prana or "life force" in Hindu philosophy). This paved the way for the main topic of the evening, the importance of Qi and meridians in TCM. To illustrate her talk Dr Guo used animated diagrams to show the flow of energy along different meridians which she likened to a road map with its main highways and lesser routes. She discussed how energy flow might be blocked as a result of scar tissue following surgery—particularly following mid-line incisions which involve "main highways", and how energy flow may be blocked by bottling up emotions resulting in, for example, migraine headaches. We heard how TCM practitioners are alerted to site of blockages and their possible origins by the appearance of parts of the body such as the feet, fingers and ears and Dr Guo illustrated this with a case history; a past history of miscarriage and its management at the time. The importance of accurate documentation by TCM practitioners was highlighted: careful record keeping is a long tradition in TCM that has facilitated the recognition of associations between patterns of symptoms and particular energy flows.

From Qi and meridians, Dr Guo turned our attention to Yin and Yang, their relationship to the time of the day and the importance of Yin-Yang balance. The aim of TCM is to support the body in its natural processes and, when necessary, healing. According to TCM, for example, it is better to exercise in the morning because later in the day the body is winding down.

Dr Guo's talk prompted many questions. She was, it was said, making "big claims" for TCM, but did it ever fail? Yes, was the answer, but when it did, there was often a reason why; someone may have been responding well but, because they felt better, they stopped the exercises aimed at improving the flow of energy. Another question led Dr Guo to highlight an important principle in TCM which is to be open to treatment and not to have a closed mind—a mind-set most often found in individuals who have come to an appointment because they have been sent by someone else! Many of those present were keen to find out more and of the 20 books she brought with her, all except one were sold.

In March, **Frances Milne**, a diplomate in Analytical Psychology (Zurich) and a Jungian analyst in private practice in Aberdeen, gave a talk on *C.G. Jung in Aberdeen – July 1914*. In July 1914 Jung attended the annual meeting of the British Medical Association in Aberdeen and gave a lecture entitled, "On the Importance of the Unconscious in Psychopathology". A few days after his lecture war was declared in Europe, an event barely mentioned in the Aberdeen press. This was a pivotal time in Jung's life as only a year earlier he had broken with Freud and as a result of the break up entered a long period of profound disorientation. He had a series of vivid dreams and visions that indicated an upcoming catastrophe engulfing Europe. Were those dreams portents of the coming war or did they indicate Jung's personal psychic crisis? Frances Milne suggested that the latter is a more likely explanation. She illustrated the talk with images from *The Red Book*, written and beautifully illustrated by Jung during those critical years, in which he documented his visionary experiences that later became the basis for his collected works. The meeting, which was very well attended, reflected the depth of the continuing interest in Jung and his ideas today.

WALES GROUP – ERIC FRANKLIN

The **Revd Don MacGregor** spoke to us on 23 February 2016 about epigenetics, intentionality, and the power of the mind, relating these to the Christian message.

A newly-emerging paradigm links quantum interconnection and spiritual philosophy. There are radical implications for the healing of body and mind. Diagnosis today is aided by magnetic resonance imaging, for example. Diseased and healthy tissue have different electromagnetic emissions. Jesus was evidently able to raise the energy levels of those around him, so healing them. Don raised the question of the way the simple and identical cells of an embryo know how to differentiate, and answered with the hypothesis, now gaining ground, that there are morphogenetic fields which have this function, and healing can come via the same route.

Intention seems to be central to this healing process. Much research has, accordingly, been done on intention, and the effects, though small, are real and consistent. Statistical analysis shows an effectiveness of 37%, far above chance. Expectations affect the results. The more the objective mattered to the intender the more likely that the desired effect would show. Of course, this implies also the effect of bad thoughts, voodoo, curses, but, using the same power of intention as a defence, it is possible to visualise a protective shield, and this is one and the same in its nature as calling upon God for help. The apostle Paul's "putting on the whole armour of God" describes this.

The simplistic view is that the DNA determines everything, that we are totally helpless victims of our own genes. We now know that the reality is far more complex. The study not of genes themselves but of the way in which they do their formative work, shows that the epigenetic process is not deterministic. DNA is like a library of genes, but unless a gene is unlocked it will have no effect. The unlocking of a gene depends on protein 'switches' around the gene, which is ultimately switched on by the environment of the cell, acting in two ways. First are direct chemical influences, such as hormones. Secondly, some operations are influenced by electro-magnetic radiation itself, and these more subtle influences are thought to be the means of change by intentionality. Bruce Lipton has been a prominent researcher in this field. The revolutionary implications have not yet been incorporated into accepted scientific theory. So 'mere' thoughts can turn genes on and off. Lack of self-esteem, for example, can cause poor health.

The indispensability of the immune system is shown by its ceasing to operate at death. Within hours, decomposition occurs. But the immune system can be compromised during life, by lack of nutrients or by stress. Attitudes and emotions affect our own health. Candace Pert's research, resulting in her book 'Molecules of Emotion', showed this. She found it difficult to get her ideas accepted, but a new body of theory and practice, Psycho-neuro-immunology, eventually resulted. Emotions produce, and are influenced by, chemical substances, whilst meditation is the best means to release stress, so intentions affect the working of such processes. The Apostle Paul wrote to the Philippian church advising that our thinking should centre upon good things, which he specifies. The placebo effect is real. Belief is far more effective than some of the drugs on the market. People with slow-healing wounds often have negative thought patterns. The power of prayer clearly relates to all these facts. Prayer is restorative, bringing back what ought to have been the body's status quo, and research shows that it does work. 'Healing intention' is a suitable synonym for 'prayer'. The effect is measurable, and it is found that without love or compassion there is little effect. Indeed, feeling is importantly involved. Buddhists acknowledge that their chanting aims to generate a feeling.

We need a full understanding of the New Testament records. We lose much in translation. For instance, the original Aramaic used to express the well-known advice to "ask and you shall receive" means also "be enveloped in what you desire", a far more comprehensive and meaningful state of feeling. Asking is to be done in an envisioning way. This is intentionality again. Effective prayer is to imagine the problem already resolved, but always with compassion, and it is not restricted to Christianity but is in all religions. The practical problem is that we don't know how to harness it as yet. Jesus was a fully developed human being, so his message has mostly been misunderstood. There should be an awakening to God, an awareness of the one Consciousness which contains us all. The word 'salvation', the objective of every Christian, is concerned with health.

Don told us that he loves to see the coming together of science and spirituality, a thought with which we all empathised. But science changes slowly. It was as long ago as 1899 that Planck discovered how the atom works, yet it has taken a century for the ideas involved to reach the majority of the population. Finally, and we were glad to allow him this, Don said that copies of his book 'Blue Sky God' (which your convenor has read and recommends) were on the side table, and were available for purchase.

CAMBRIDGE GROUP – RICHARD MICHELL

At our last meeting on March 10, Richard Michell described his experiences with the Radiac appliance, whose design came from the universal source of wisdom tapped into by Edgar Cayce in the 1920s. This remarkable device, based on a technology unknown in our culture, apparently balances the body's subtle energies, taking its input from the body and returning its energies in harmonised form. It is charged by exposure to sunlight and activated by being immersed

in ice-water for half an hour before use. Richard found that it cured his perennially cold feet, enhanced his regular meditation as well as the quality of his sleep and dreaming. According to many user reports, it is likely that other beneficial effects on health will ensue after a longer period of use.

The evening's experiential theme was taken up by new member Sarah Kearon, who briefly described her "spontaneous enlightenment" and its ongoing after-effects. We plan to give her the opportunity to expand on her theme at a future meeting.

MEMBERS' ARTICLES AND ARTICLE OF INTEREST

Available from the Editor or through links, dl@scimednet.org

SCIENCE

WISE Journal December 2015 (World Institute of Scientific Exploration)
(127 pp., downloadable from <http://instituteforscientificexploration.org>)

Mach's Principle, Gravitation & Matter Distribution *Nicholas Greaves (20 pp.)*

These are three separate but related papers containing conjectures of Cosmology.

1. Mach's Principle and its correlation with gravitation & inertia.
2. Why the universe appears homogeneous & isotropic, and the manner in which the speed of light might be variable, and its resulting relation with the passage of time, and some similarities of these proposals to the Absorber theory.
3. A further conjecture by the inversion of paper 1 to demonstrate negative gravitation and other resulting implications.

PHILOSOPHY-RELIGION

Laing Lecture - What Brains can and cannot Tell us about God
Dr Iain McGilchrist (25 pp.)

Laing Lecture – The Power of No
Dr Iain McGilchrist (25 pp.)

This Neglected Faith – World as Sacrament: a Model for the Sanctity of Nature
Rev John Maxwell Kerr (28 pp.)

Premodern Inter-faith Dialogues with Special Reference to Nicholas of Cusa
Michael Langford (32 pp.)

Fascinating analysis of 11 such dialogues showing a great variety of interactions.

The Four Spheres – Healing the Split Between Mysticism and Science
Paul Hague (a book of 228 pp.)

CONSCIOUSNESS STUDIES

Emerging Adulthood, Early Adulthood and Quarter-life Crisis: Updating Erikson for the 21st Century
Dr Oliver Robinson (20 pp.)

Attunement Experiences Reported by UK Mediums
Chris Connolly (6 pp.)

GENERAL**Blake Society Annual Lecture
Dr Iain McGilchrist (15 pp.)****Some Hidden Truths About Banks
John Tomlinson (24 pp.)**

Depositors face an onslaught from both banks and governments. As depositors, we put our money into a current or cheque account at our bank for safekeeping. Yet, we find our deposits are placed at risk and subject to loss rather than stored safely for us. Instead of protecting depositors, government 'bail-in' legislation has increased that risk. The banking system is no longer fit for purpose.

**Speech at Jubilee Centre Oxford Conference
Prof Richard Pring (8 pp.)**

Some engaging and amusing reflections on character and virtue education.

**Greed Costs Money
Dr Edi Billimoria (3 pp.)**

This article is the outcome of my reflection upon Maria José Pereira's thoughtful and persuasive paper 'Integrating Money, Love and Virtue: A New Humanism'. I cite three examples to develop her principal theme of the need to regard industrial and commercial life as an organic part of our entire personal and social life – not as a detached area of activity divorced from human values.

Gated Development**Report by the Global Justice Foundation (56 pp.) Download from www.globaljusticenow.org.uk**

Asks if the Gates Foundation is always a force for good and takes a critical view of its influence in health and agriculture: 'Analysis of the foundation's programmes shows that it has an agenda – it is a specific ideological strategy that promotes neo-liberal economic policies, corporate globalisation, the technology this brings, and a long outdated view of the centrality of 'aid' in helping the 'poor'.

**Smart Metering Risks – a Review of the Evidence
Ingrid Dickenson (13 ppt slides)****Refugee Aid: A Vision of International Solidarity - statement following reports from our co-workers in Lesbos
Dieter Duhm (3 pp.)**

A passionate plea for a more humane policy: 'Alongside the globalisation of violence, following a yearning that we all carry inside ourselves, a globalisation of compassion and solidarity could now come into being. The establishment of this new movement requires a more long-term perspective, powerful communities and a compelling shared goal.'

Online articles by Anthony Judge**Radical Localization in a Global Systemic Context**

Distinguishing normality using playing card suits as a pattern language

<https://www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs10s/radicapy.php>

Starvation Imagery as Humanitarian Trump Card?

Counterproductive emotional blackmail engendering worldwide indifference

<https://www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs10s/trump.php>

Variety of System Failures Engendered by Negligent Distinctions

Mnemonic clues to 72 modes of viable system failure from a demonic pattern language

<https://www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs10s/failure.php>

Global Incomprehension of Increasing Violence

Matching incapacity to question the reason why

<https://www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs10s/understa.php>

Reversing the Anthem of Europe to Signal Distress

Transcending crises of governance via reverse music and reverse speech?

<https://www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs10s/reverse.php>

Evaluating the Grossness of Gross Domestic Product

Refugees Per Kiloton (RPK) as a missing indicator?

<https://www.laetusinpraesens.org/docs10s/refukilo.php>

NEWS AND NOTICES**Institute for Venture Science – call for grant proposals**

The Institute for Venture Science (IVS) has opened its first round of pre-proposal competition for scientific grants. The IVS funds promising ideas that challenge conventional scientific thinking. The organisation seeks to identify ideas with the highest potential to replace paradigms that have outlived their usefulness. All areas of natural science are considered. Dr. Gerald Pollack, the Executive Director of the Institute commented, "We do not fund technology development, but only fundamental science – the more fundamental, the better. We are seeking proposals with the highest capacity to shake the earth."

A key aspect of the IVS plan is to fund multiple laboratories worldwide that follow the same theme. That approach helps build a critical mass, assuring that promising new paradigms cannot be easily ignored. Challengers will have a fighting chance to gain traction. This approach is expected to facilitate major breakthroughs, possibly even scientific revolutions. Pre-proposal instructions are available at <http://www.theinstituteforventurescience.net/#!preproposal/cifs>.

Further information on the Institute can be obtained by visiting www.IVSCI.org or by email to admin@ivsci.org.

GITAM Journal of Gandhian Studies

This is an interdisciplinary, international journal of Gandhian sourcing practices, peace and nonviolence, that comes out twice a year and amounts to about 500 pages a year. It is good value at \$30 including airmail postage. (www.gitam.edu)

The second issue for 2015 is mainly devoted to Ahimsa, beginning with a 100-page compilation of Gandhi's own views on the topic. Perhaps the fundamental thought is that the law of love is the law of life and that ahimsa upholds both love and life using peaceful means. Those who adopt this position need to be fearless and self-disciplined – it is not for the faint-hearted and exemplifies karma yoga, as Ramakrishna Rao shows in his contribution. I was struck by the way in which his life reconciles a number of opposites, of which non-violence is one example and practical idealism another. A very worthwhile publication for any reader seriously interested in Gandhi.

All about Heaven

Allaboutheaven.org is a not for profit multi-faith site whose aims are:

- To prove that a spiritual world exists by using spiritual experiences, of which there are now tens of thousands on the site, classified by type e.g. near death or out of body, and showing the activities used to achieve that experience as well as the meaning of the experience. To this end we cross reference The Universal Symbol System also on the site with its definitions
- To explain how spiritual experience works - what is happening in the mind during an experience
- To describe the 'spiritual path' and why we are here.
- To help people lose all fear of death, by describing what exists in the realm that awaits them and providing examples of what the dying experience
- To provide numerous examples of well known people who have changed the world, - poets, painters, scientists, philosophers, adventurers, leaders, geniuses, writers, mystics and magicians, who believed in the spiritual world, along with their spiritual experiences.

**Helene Reeder Memorial Fund for Research into Life after Death
Announcement for grant 2016 – deadline 15th October**

The Helene Reeder Fund is pleased to announce the availability of grants for small and medium sized scientific research projects concerning the question of Life after Death. Grants will be awarded in the range of €500 – €5000 maximum. The topic Research into Life after Death should constitute the main objective of the project.

For further information, please apply to edg.muller@comhem.se