

## Science and Philosophy of Science

***Hidden Histories of Science* by Oliver Sacks, Jonthan Miller, Stephen Jay Gould, Daniel J. Kevles, R. C. Lewontin. Granta Publications Ltd 1995, 193 pp., £7.99, p/b.** Five essays by well known writers like Stephen Jay Gould, Jonathan Miller and Oliver Sacks on the ways in which science is influenced by culture. Also documents some forgotten and neglected discoveries that were later taken up and developed by subsequent researchers. Covers hypnosis, evolution, genetics and cancer research.

***The Craft of Research* by Wayne C Booth, Gregory G Colomb, Joseph M Williams. The University of Chicago press 1995, 294 pp., £10.25, p/b.** An invaluable guide to the whole art of research. Gives a background to research methods, advice on planning the project and turning it into a series of questions, on how to make claims and support them with evidence, and on how to prepare your draft and revise it. The process is not in fact a linear one, as the authors make clear; at each stage they take account of the reader and the way in which the final product is likely to be understood. The book is a thorough checklist for the seasoned reader as well as being a comprehensive introduction.

***Feminism and Science* by Evelyn Fox Keller and Helen E. Longino. Oxford University Press 1996, 289 pp., p/b.** An excellent volume of essays that summarizes the state of the art in the feminist perspectives on the philosophy of science. Evelyn Fox Keller is well-known as a pioneer in this field, which emerged in the 1970s after the initial fundamental questioning of scientific objectivity by Kuhn and others during the previous decade. Essays consider gender, science and epistemology, laying bare the assumptions underlying current Western science and its cultural shaping. No one concerned with a deep understanding of science can afford to ignore this perspective and this book is the ideal overview.

## Medicine and Health

***What doctors don't tell you* by Lynne McTaggart. HarperCollins Publishers Ltd 1996, 376 pp., £8.99, p/b.** A controversial book of the same title as the newsletter documenting the dangers of modern medicine and based on hundreds of letters received by the author. Contains sections on diagnosis, prevention and treatment, with special sections on vaccination, prenatal testing, miracle cures and dental medicine. Wide ranging and full of alarming case histories.

***Pocket A-Z of Natural Healthcare* by Belinda Grant Viagas. Gill & Macmillan 1998, 322 pp., £7.99, p/b.** A comprehensive and accessible guide to natural healthcare options with helpful indications of further reading and addresses for the various therapy organizations. Includes items of spirituality, laughter, home remedies and meditation.

***Maternal Personality, Evolution and the Sex Ratio* by Valerie J Grant. Routledge 1998, 222 pp., £14.99, p/b.** Assesses the hypothesis that dominance as a feature of the mother's personality has an influence which sex will be conceived and examines in particular studies suggesting that female testosterone levels could play an important role in conceiving male offspring.

***Absolute Beauty* by Pratima Raichur. Bantam Books 1997, 418 pp., £9.99, p/b.** Subtitled 'radiant skin and inner harmony through the ancient secrets of Ayurveda', this book is much more than a simple beauty manual. It examines the nature of beauty, the key role of balance and types of imbalance, then sets out both external and internal methods of Ayurvedic skin

care. These latter include the role of nutrition, massage. Aromatherapy, colour and sound. Then the final part looks at breath, meditation and soul purification. A comprehensive handbook.

***Morality & Health* by Allan M Brandt and Paul Rozin. Routledge 1997, 416 pp., £15.99, p/b.** A fascinating series of essays written in the shadow of the AIDS epidemic. One comes to appreciate how the two notions of morality and health have been closely intertwined both historically and culturally. This is apparent from the first essay by historian Sir Keith Thomas. Issues covered include explanations of suffering, risk and choice, sugar, food, alcohol, drugs, smoking and public health, and 'lifestyle correctness' (LC?) in the light of the new secular morality.

***Kombucha Tea For Your Health and Healing* by Alick and Mari Bartholomew (SMN). Gateway Books 1998, 186 pp., £8.95, p/b.** As founders of the UK Kombucha Tea Network, the authors are in an authoritative position in the field and have written an in-depth guide not only to the immediate subject but they show a profound understanding of the issues involved in holistic health and healing. The tea is made with a culture and seems to have had a beneficial effect on a wide variety of conditions, judging from the A-Z index and the detailed case histories. Can be recommended both to clinicians and as a self-help manual.

***Safe as Houses* by David Cowan & Rodney Girdlestone. Gateway Books 1995, 212 pp., £8.95, p/b.** A two-part study of ill health and electrostress in the home. The first part is written by Rodney Girdlestone and deals with effects of electromagnetic fields from electricity supplies, computers, microwaves and power lines. The second complementary part, by David Cowan, draws on his experience of earth energies and geopathic stress. Contains practical guidance to enable readers to examine their own situation.

***Stress and Health* by William R Lovallo. Sage Publications Ltd. 1997, 202 pp., £17.99, p/b.** An exemplary introduction to the concept of psychological stress, its physiological mechanisms, and its effects on health and disease. Ideal both for students and professionals who want to review the field of stress and health. Each chapter contains a summary and list of further reading. There is an interesting historical section as well as sound treatment of current research. His thesis is that we are 'living beings whose behaviour is not separate from our physical makeup and whose health is not separate from our thoughts and emotions'. In Larry Dossey's terms, it reaches into Era 2 of mind- body medicine, but not into Era 3 of non-locality.

***Pragmatic Women and Body Politics* by Margaret Lock & Patricia A Kaufert. Cambridge University Press 1998, 364 pp., £17.95, p/b.** A cross-cultural, critical perspective on women's responses to biomedical and other technologies affecting reproduction and health in general. Challenges the assumption that women are generally passive recipients of technology and shows that their reactions are often based on pragmatism.

***Care in a Confused Climate* by Paul Goodliff. Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd. 1998, 272 pp., £12.95, p/b.** Subtitled 'Pastoral Care and Postmodern Culture', this book examines pastoral care against the backdrop of our cultural and social upheaval, looking at both patterns and priorities in the field. Particular themes include creating relational health and healing the wounded soul.

***The Tibetan Art of Healing* by Ian A Baker. Thames & Hudson Ltd 1997, 192 pp., £17.95, p/b.** An exquisitely illustrated account of the Tibetan art of healing with a preface by the

Dalai Lama and foreword by Deepak Chopra. Presents the history of the Tibetan medical tradition with its close connection to Buddhism, with chapters on the body, disease, diagnosis, healing and liberation. 'Awakening the body of light' is the ultimate healing and freedom from suffering.

***Chronic Fatigue Syndrome* by Gill Jacobs (SMN). Element Books 1997, 129 pp., p/b.** Part of the 'Natural Way' series endorsed by the BHMA and AHMA, this book gives an informative overview of CFS, analysing causes and risk factors, conventional treatments and a range of complementary approaches on various levels. Case studies illustrate ways in which various approaches to treatment have been applied and experienced. Essential reading for those with the condition and their close relatives.

***Reflexology - The Definitive Practitioner's Manual* by Beryl Crane. Element Books 1997, 442 pp., £35.00, h/b.** This book is exactly what its title suggests - comprehensive and authoritative enough for novices and professionals alike. It contains a history of reflexology, an analysis of the holistic approach, basics of consultation, diagnosis and treatment, chapters on the hands and the feet, an A-Z of disorders of the body, special sections on the skin, stress and nutrition, plus advice on setting up a practice. If your library only has one book on the topic, this is it.

***Whole Foods Companion* by Dianne Onstad. Chelsea Green Publishing Company 1997, 528 pp., £19.95, p/b.** This is an extraordinary work of dedicated research: more of an encyclopaedia than a companion! It grew out of the author's combined interests in organic gardening, cooking and holistic health. It is divided into fruits, vegetables, grains, legumes, nuts and seeds, herbs and spices. Each entry contains information on the plant's botanical name, and the food's history, folklore, culinary use, health benefits and nutritional data. Did you know that there are 150 varieties of nectarine, that it was first mentioned in 1587 and that it used to be called a Persian nut? The author also gives buying tips. Quite indispensable for anyone with an interest in whole foods.

***Lead and Public Health* by Erik Millstone. Earthscan Publications Ltd 1997, 216 pp., £12.50, p/b.** An authoritative guide to the whole range of toxic effects of lead on children's health. Analyses the threats to health, ways of measuring lead levels, then the prevalence of lead in such mediums as air, water, paint and food, both in the US and the UK Government policies are scrutinized and recommendations advanced for future guidelines.

***The 12 Secrets of Health and Happiness* by Louse Samways. Penguin Books 1997, 340 pp., £7.99, p/b.** Despite the hype and populist title, this book contains a wealth of useful insights and techniques. We all secretly want to know what might be contained in a book of this sort! The author is an experienced clinical health psychologist who integrates her professional experience into a helpful and accessible manual. I know many members who are already applying the secrets without realizing it!

### **Philosophy and Religion**

***Teachings of Yoga* Translated and edited by Georg Feuerstein (SMN). Shambhala Publications Inc 1997, 236 pp., \$13.00, p/b.** A beautiful and inspiring book of readings on yoga from traditional sources, annotated and explained by the author, who is one of the foremost exponents of the yoga tradition. In a recent interview he voiced his concern about the superficiality of much modern interest in the tradition - this book provides sound guidance for entering more deeply into the spiritual life.

***The Hiram Key* by Christopher Knight and Robert Lomas. Century, 1996, 384 pp. £17.99 h/b.** Written by two practising masons, this book began with the search for the origins of freemasonry and comes up with some interesting findings. It traces the central masonic ceremony back through the Templars to the original Jerusalem church led by Jesus' brother James; from there the story goes back to Egyptian times to the murder of a king and the disappearance of the initiatic knowledge about king-making. The argument occasionally runs ahead of itself, but the ultimate test of the thesis will be when the vaults of Rosslyn Chapel are unearthed: Are the secret Templar scrolls about the Jerusalem Church to be found there?

***The Second Messiah* by Christopher Knight and Robert Lomas. Century 1997, 259 pp., £16.99, h/b.** The sequel to 'The Hiram Key' that fills in some of the missing history of freemasonry in Scotland and makes the case it is the imprint of the face of Jacques du Molay, the last grand master of the Templars, which is to be found on the Turin Shroud. His story is certainly heart-rending. The book builds on the previous one by introducing the argument that the main characters who founded the Templars were from 'Rex Dei' families with a genealogical connection with Jesus.

***The Templar Revelation* by Lynn Picknett & Clive Prince. Bantam Books 1997, 432 pp., £17.99, h/b.** Follows up on the authors' book arguing that the Turin Shroud was faked by Leonardo to examine the origins of Christianity and the history of its underground heresies. A central theme is the role of Mary Magdalene and the sacredness of sexuality embedded in the alchemical tradition. Without being a scholar in the field, it is hard to assess this kind of book other than on the consistency of its arguments, but it is certainly intriguing and well written.

***Bloodline of the Holy Grail* by Laurence Gardner. Element Books 1996, 489 pp., £16.99, h/b.** A scholarly yet explosive work by a man who is the Jacobite Historiographer Royal and has had as such unprecedented access to European archives. He traces the lineage of the Blood Royal from the sons of Jesus and James down through the House of Stewart. Like 'The Templar Revelation', this book casts similar light on the role of Mary Magdalene. It is one of a number of books, some more reliable than others, that are reshaping our understanding of the origins and history of Christianity.

***The Nostradamus Encyclopedia* by Peter Lemesurier. Thorsons 1997, 287 pp., £19.99, h/b.** Not another book on Nostradamus! Yes, but this is undoubtedly the one to have if you only want a single volume. It describes his life, profession as a physician (not many people know this), sources of his writings and reactions to them. It has a gazeteer, a complete text of the major prophecies and a concordance. Also profusely illustrated.

***An Artist's Life After Death* by Kenneth Evans. Ken Evans prints 1996, 67 pp., £9.99, p/b.** Post-mortem commentaries on a series of paintings by Kenneth Evans, who communicated to his wife after his passing. The paintings are stunning and beautifully reproduced and the text full of fascinating insights about the nature of light and art.

***The Gospel of Thomas* by Richard Valantasis. Routledge 1997, 221 pp., £12.99, p/b.** A scholarly interpretation of the Gospel of Thomas that steers clear of reading it in the light of the synoptic gospels or as an expression of fully formed gnosticism. It considers both the early Greek fragments and the later Coptic text with a full commentary on each saying. Can be strongly recommended to any reader interested in the development of early Christianity.

***The Illustrated Book of Sacred Scriptures* by Timothy Freke. Thorsons 1998, 175 pp., £15.99, p/b.** Bears the aesthetic mark of Godsfield Press and is therefore beautifully produced with some stunning colour illustrations. Chapters on universal spiritual themes such as the Self, the Good Life, Love and Service contain both commentaries on aspects of the theme as well as carefully chosen passages from the scriptures. A wonderful bedside book.

***The Hermetica - The Lost Wisdom of the Pharaohs* by Timothy Freke & Peter Gandy. Judy Piatkus (Publishers) Ltd 1997, 160 pp., £12.99, h/b.** An edited selection of key passages from the writings attributed to Hermes. The text is poetic and powerfully evocative. The selection draws from extant editions, including Nag Hammadi texts. The chapters contain an introduction explaining the content, but the text speaks for itself as an authentic expression of the perennial wisdom. Egyptian motifs in the margin add to the overall impression.

***Zen Wisdom - Daily Teachings from the Zen Masters* by Timothy Freke. Thorsons 1997, 127 pp., £12.99, h/b.** An illustrated yearbook of quotations from Zen sources following the pattern of the traditional tale of the ten bulls. As I write on March 7th, the entry is from Christmas Humphreys: 'Our lives are based on what is reasonable and common sense; truth is apt to be neither'. Another worthwhile addition to the bedside table, although one would not want to read a koan last thing at night!

***Elementary Systematics* by J.G. Bennett. Bennett Books 1993, 116 pp.** Subtitled 'A Tool for Understanding Wholes' and edited by Member David Seamon, this book explains a conceptual tool that draws on the symbolic meaning of number to disclose pattern and order. The lectures deal with the reconciliation of the quantitative with the qualitative approach to number, examining the numbers one to five. Full of fascinating insights and connections that will intrigue anyone concerned with sacred dimensions of number.

***Religion and Science* by Ian G Barbour. SCM Press 1998, 368 pp., £17.50, p/b.** A new and revised edition of this magisterial work on science and religion, formerly entitled 'Religion in an Age of Science'. There is a completely new section on religion and the history of science with chapters on Physics and Metaphysics in the 17th century, Nature and God in the 18th century, and Biology and Theology in the 19th century. If you only buy one book on the science-religion interface, this should be it.

***The Gift of Peace* by Joseph Cardinal Bernardin. Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd. 1998, 153 pp., £7.95, p/b.** A touching record of the last three years of the life of the Cardinal Archbishop of Chicago, during which time he was accused and cleared of sexual abuse only to be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer a few months on. The facsimile letter at the beginning of the book makes one feel more personally involved in the story as it unfolds and the spiritual reflections arising from his position.

***How to Use the I Ching* by Stephen Karcher (SMN). Element Books 1997, 184 pp., £8.99, p/b.** Stephen Karcher has researched the IChing for 25 years and is the co-editor of the major new translation of the text, already reviewed in 'Network'.. An excellent and accessible introduction to the oracle - a good place to begin if the idea of the larger work seems a little daunting.

***Gone but not Forgotten* by Philip Richter & Leslie Francis. Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd. 1998, 192 pp., £10.95, p/b.** A book about church leaving and returning, whose interest for readers of 'Network' lies more in the response to the questionnaire on which the book is

based insofar as this indicates modern patterns of belief and spirituality. For instance, in a table giving reasons why people over and under 20 left the Church, under 20s are ahead on the following items: teachings of the Church are hard to reconcile with modern science (72 per cent vs. 37 per cent) and awareness of alternative ways of thinking (72 per cent vs. 45 per cent).

***In Search of the Cradle of Civilization* by Georg Feuerstein, Sabhash Kak and David Frawley. Quest Books 1995, 341 pp., \$24.95, h/b.** Recasts our understanding of history and the place of India in it as the cradle of civilization. The authors realize that our vision of the past is shaped by, and in turn shapes, our vision of the present. Questions the foundations of our present civilization with its false sense of superiority and its emphasis on practical to the exclusion of ultimate knowledge. Proposes that the philosophy of the Vedas might provide the basis for a global spirituality consistent with the spirit of science and embracing a return to the sense of the sacred. An outstanding piece of revisioning work.

***Magi - The Quest for a Secret Tradition* by Adrian G Gilbert. Bloomsbury Publishing plc 1996, 328 pp., £6.99, p/b.** Retells the story of the Magi as members of a brotherhood that has been guiding civilization for at least 5,000 years. Argues that Christianity had its roots in Egypt, Mesopotamia and Persia, and that a secret initiatory tradition has been passed down to modern representatives in the form of Gurdjieff and Ouspensky.

***Metaphysics* by Michael J Loux. Routledge 1998, 240 pp., £11.99, p/b.** An advanced introductory textbook of university metaphysics that gives a good overview and a summary of differing arguments with respect to the themes treated.

***Zen Soup* by Laurence G Boldt. Penguin Books 1997, 190 pp., £6.99, p/b.** This book of quotations is arranged around twenty-five themes from Zen, introduced by the editor. Themes include wonder, work, mindfulness, compassion, responsibility and 'Be Here Now'. The quotations themselves are drawn from many different traditions and illustrate the principles in a lively and stimulating fashion.

***The Sacred World of the Celts* by Nigel Pennick. Thorsons 1997, 141 pp., £15.99, h/b.** A guide to Celtic spirituality and mythology with chapters on culture, history, arts and crafts, landscape, the Celtic church and the rhythm of the year. Well informed and beautifully illustrated.

***Faith and Uncertainty* by John Habgood. Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd. 1997, 248 pp., £9.95, p/b.** A volume of sermons, talks, lectures and articles by the former Archbishop of York. Always lucid and topical, he covers a great deal of ground in an informed and balanced way. A substantial part of the book is devoted to issues in faith and science, including his two Idreos lectures in Oxford. There are also delightful portraits of William Temple and Gerald Priestland. And poignant reflections on some of the familiar issues of the past few years. Overall an astute presentation of the public face of faith.

***God and Science* by Arthur Peacocke. SCM Press 1996, 103 pp., £7.95, p/b.** A short work based on lectures by one of the leading thinkers in the science-religion field. Its approach is 'understanding seeking faith' and it covers themes involving Nature, God, Human Being, Meaning and Human Becoming. Argues for the reasonableness of Jesus Christ as an incarnation of a God whose fundamental nature is best conveyed as love, and contends that such faith needs to be fed by prayer and worship if it is to be more than an intellectual exercise.

***Many Paths One Horizon* by Kit Constable. Maxwell Turville Publishing 1997, 144 pp., £8.95, p/b.** Subtitled 'the story of mankind's spiritual awakening and the part we play in it', this book seeks to foster a deepening of our understanding about ourselves, our history and our purpose, which the author sees as spiritual growth. Takes the reader through psychology, astrology, world religions and ethics, then through the gates of death to our recognition of our essential nature. It is a wide-ranging personal philosophy which many readers will find congenial and stimulating. Available from the publisher at £10, Studio 1, Garden Cottage, Itchen Stoke, Alresford, Hants SO24 0QU.

***The Bridge - P.D. Ouspensky Commemorative Issue* by Colet House The Study Society 1997, 259 pp., £5.** A special issue of the Study Society journal devoted to P.D. Ouspensky. Contains about fifty articles, poems, tributes and impressions from a wide range of people who knew him or have been influenced by his thought. Essential reading for anyone interested in learning more about this remarkable figure or looking for a broadly based introduction.

### **Psychology and Parapsychology**

***The Case of the Cottingley Fairies* by Joe Cooper (SMN). Simon and Schuster Ltd. 1990, 238 pp., £5.99, p/b.** Paper edition of Joe's 1990 book published to coincide with the release of the film 'Fairytale: a True Story'. Written with verve and sympathy, the book retells the story, interviewing the two protagonists 70 years after the event. The tale relates their confession of fakery but leaves open the possibility that nature spirits not only exist but have been genuinely seen.

***Athene - Image and Energy* by Ann Shearer. Penguin Books 1996, 310 pp., £9.99, p/b.** A fascinating history of Athene and the goddess theme in Western culture. Shows how interest in the feminine was maintained underground in Gnosticism, alchemy and the cult of the Black Virgin. Brings the story up to date with modern psychology, especially Jung, and enlivens the reader's understanding with evocations of her image.

***Creating Your Future* by David B Ellis. Breakthrough Enterprises Inc 1997, 208 pp., \$14.95, p/b.** I found this book in San Francisco at the State of the World Forum. It is a readable and carefully thought out book about creating your future using exercises and visualization. Chapters are commit, create, construct and carry out. Many of the ideas are tried and tested, but not many of us get round to them. We are too busy with the immediate demands - like writing this piece!

***Narrative and Psychotherapy* by John McLeod. Sage Publications Ltd. 1997, 180 pp., £13.99, p/b.** Professor McLeod argues here that all therapies are narrative therapies and that the counselling experience can be understood in terms of telling and re-telling stories. The story must be heard for progress to be made. He explores this narrative approach in relation to the nature of truth, the concept of the person, the relationship between therapist and client, and the knowledge base of psychotherapy.

***Sacred Pleasure* by Riane Eisler. Element Books 1995, 495 pp., £16.99, h/b.** A challenging work by the author of *The Chalice and the Blade*. Applies her dominator/partnership model to an analysis of the history of Western attitudes to sex, pleasure and gender relations. The book makes one realize how deeply embedded our attitudes are and how difficult it is to bring about real change in the sex-spirituality debate. It looks at the present, past and future of sex and its connection with the sacred in the larger context of our biological and cultural

evolution. A tour de force reaching into our subconscious and the roots of such unfortunate connections between, for instance, sex and violence.

***The Singular Self* by Rom Harré. Sage Publications Ltd. 1998, 192 pp., £14.99, p/b.** A technical work drawing on psychology, philosophy, anthropology and linguistics that develops a structured concept of personhood. Acknowledges the symbolic and physiological aspects of our being and argues for a singular concept of the self despite varying contexts. Does not stray into transpersonal or sub-personality realms.

***The Way of the Tarot* by Karen Hamaker-Zondag Piatkus Books 1995, 271 pp., £12.99, p/b.** A thorough and scholarly approach by a Jungian analyst with experience in astrology and parapsychology. Argues that Jung's archetypes appear in the major arcana as well as giving the historical background and a comparative study of Tarot symbolism.

***The Essential Internet* by Anthony LaBruzza. Jason Aronson Inc 1997, 202 pp., £19.95, p/b.** Subtitled 'A guide for psychotherapists and other mental health professionals', this is a superb resource, much of which is relevant to those with a general interest in the Net. The history and structure of the Net are described, along with clear explanations of technical terms. Then there is a sixty-five page guide to sites of interest to mental health professionals.

***The Origins of Human Potential* by Ken Richardson. Routledge 1998, 217 pp., £14.99, p/b.** A useful assessment of the nature-nurture debate that questions the assumptions on both sides - the nature of genes, evolution, cognitive ability and IQ tests. The picture emerging offers a far greater role for self-organized individuals and creativity.

#### **Futures Studies, Economics and Ecology**

***Vital Signs* by Lester R Brown, Michael Renner, Christopher Flavin. Earthscan Publications Ltd 1997, 165 pp., £12.95, p/b.** The latest edition of this book about environmental trends that are shaping our future, and which is compulsory reading for all concerned global citizens. Samples can be found on [www.worldwatch.org](http://www.worldwatch.org) The overview is followed by a section on key indicators on food, energy, agriculture, the atmosphere, the economy, transport, society and the military. The second section contains special reports on topics such as the ageing of world population, fall in arms production and the rise of the electric car.

***Dictionary of Global Culture* by Kwame Anthony Appiah and Henry Louis Gates Penguin Books 1998, 717 pp., £25.00, h/b.** The first dictionary of global culture to emphasize the contributions of non-Western writers and artists. It has been compiled with the help of local experts and so ranges widely over Middle Eastern and Latin American sources. Many entries are biographical but there is no list of further reading. A useful resource nevertheless.

***Children's Participation* by Roger A Hart. Earthscan Publications Ltd 1997, 208 pp., £18.95, p/b.** An exposition, published by UNICEF of the theory and practice of involving young people in community development and environmental care. Covers conceptual issues, examples of practice and other suggested methods. The underlying thrust is to encourage the development of participatory democracy and the emergence of societies based on ecological sustainability. Admirable and inspiring.

***Worldviews and Ecology* by Thomas Berry, David Ray Griffin, Jay McDaniel, Charlene Spretnak, Brian Swimme, Larry Rasmussen, Tu Wei-Ming and others. Orbis Books 1994,**



**p/b.** Subtitled 'Religion, Philosophy and the Environment', these essays fill out multiple perspectives on the theme but take the view that no one tradition has all the answers. Many writers in the volume are well known and the contributions provide concise introductions to their thinking: Brian Swimme, Thomas Berry, Charlene Spretnak and David Ray Griffin.

***Webonomics - Nine Essential Principles for growing your business on the WWW* by Even I Schwartz. Penguin Books 1997, 244 pp., £11.99, p/b.** An unusual book outlining nine principles for growing your business on the web. Advises on design, strategies, adaptation and presentation of information. Also sketches the background of economic transactions on the web.

***Tough Choices* by Lester R Brown. Earthscan Publications Ltd 1996, 259 pp., £9.95, p/b.** The third in a series of books from the Worldwatch Institute (the first two were on population and the issue of feeding China) that looks at the challenge of food scarcity. It argues that shortage of food may be the first economic manifestation of an environmentally unsustainable global economy. The analysis applies in particular to fish stocks, supplies of irrigation water and to crop yield in response to fertilizers. The other factor is growth in demand caused by a combination of population and economic expansion, coupled with a rising consumption of grain-intensive livestock products in countries like China.

***Eco-Pioneers* by Steve Lerner. The MIT Press 1997, 462 pp., £21.50, h/b.** This book is a compendium of best practice from the US, containing the stories of twenty-five 'eco-pioneers', practical visionaries who are engaged in sustainable ways of life that might point towards larger scale transformations of the social and economic climate. Covers power generation, house building, species protection, waste reduction and many other avenues.

***How Many People Can the Earth Support?* by Joel E. Cohen. Norton and Co Ltd, 1996, 532 pp., h/b.** A magisterial work hailed as the definitive work on world population. The author argues that the question is incomplete, since answers depend on the meaning of 'support' - what are the conditions, what kind of technology is implied, what level of well-being is specified, what kind of environment, what kind of cultural values? Analyses past and future population growth as well as critically evaluating previous estimates of maximum carrying capacity.

***The Way Forward* by Felix Dodds. Earthscan Publications Ltd 1997, 284 pp., £15.95, p/b.** Five years on from the Rio Summit, this volume assesses progress made towards realizing the targets set in 1992. It details the agreements made, groups involved, the state of various projects, and the immense amount of work left to do. At government level there has been relatively little agreement about the way forward and even a retrenchment of aid from \$65 to \$55 billion while Third World indebtedness remains the same. However, NGOs have been very busy and there is a growing awareness at grass roots level that issues of environmental stability and social justice must be addressed together, and that the North cannot indefinitely continue with 'business as usual'

***Evolving Order: Critical Path to Human Survival* by George Richter. 1996, Yin Yang Books, 1479 Grasshopper Road, Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006, USA.** A multidisciplinary examination of the prospects for human survival as a species, looking at Freud, aggression, group dynamics and the question of free will from the angles of biology, physics and neurophysiology. Concludes that we do have the innate capacity to avert disaster.

***Changing Visions* by Ervin Laszlo, Robert Artigiani, Allan Combs, Vilmos Csanyi.**

**Adamantine Press Limited 1996, 133 pp., p/b.** Traces the past, present and future of human cognitive maps of reality, showing how past maps have been revised and enlarged. Contains a succinct account of current changes in our maps or world-views at both individual and collective levels, encouraging readers to become more aware of the nature of their own maps and their adequacy in relation to the nature of reality.

***Vision in Action* by Christopher Schaefer & Tyno Voors. Hawthorn Press 1986, 256 pp.,**

**p/b.** A new edition of a highly acclaimed book published in 1986 subtitled 'working with soul and spirit in small organizations. The three parts deal with the historical and organizational context, ways of building the organization, and visions for the future. There are extensive helpful exercises and techniques from authors with hands on experience of consultancy. Chapters include the initiating phase, funding, vision, mission and long-range planning. I shall be applying some of the insights to our position in the Network.

***The Enterprise of the Future* by Friedrich Glasl. Hawthorn Press 1994, 117 pp.,**

**p/b.** Subtitled 'moral intuition in leadership and organizational development, this book consists of two lectures on the ways in which companies develop, using the economic framework put forward by Rudolf Steiner. The four phases described are pioneer, differentiated, integrated and associative. Introduces an integral ethical perspective and will be of interest to anyone working with or in developing companies.

***Who Owns the Sun?* by Daniel M Berman & John T O'Conner. Chelsea Green Publishing**

**Company 1997, 331 pp., £12.95, p/b.** A radical analysis of solar energy and its possible emergence. Considers the underlying political and economic power structures of our current energy supply and shows how a solar based energy supply could also lead to much greater participatory democracy.

### **General**

***A History of Civilizations* by Fernand Braudel. Penguin Books 1995, 600 pp.**

Translation of Fernand Braudel's magisterial work on the history of civilizations, or their grammar, as the French title suggests. Braudel believed in bringing in a number of social sciences into his historical perspective and opposed the traditionalism of much French history teaching. The value of the book lies in its scope and histories of different civilizations ranging from Muslim to Chinese, American as well as European. He works from a theory of underlying structures including geography, social hierarchy, collective psychology and economic need, eschewing grand theories in the style of Toynbee and Spengler.

***A History of Western Political Thought* by J. S. McClelland Routledge 1996, 810 pp., h/b.**

A real tour de force of a book that ranges from the Greeks to Michael Oakeshott. Brilliantly written and spiced with witty asides - Jefferson's slaves were apparently glad to see him on his return from Paris - it depicts the grand sweep of political ideas over the past 2,500 years and contains informative short biographies of the principal players in the unfolding drama.

***Tom - A gift in disguise* by Henrietta Rose. Findhorn Press 1997, 130 pp., £9.95, p/b.**

The story of the Rose family and their journey through the life of bringing up Tom, their son with special needs. Henrietta gives a wonderfully vivid and candid account of the trials, joys and tribulations they have been through together. She recounts many episodes of his life in graphic detail and makes no attempt to disguise her feelings at the time, which makes the book so compelling and admirably honest. One interesting feature relates their coming to

terms with Tom to the stages of grief and mourning. The important message of this highly readable book is that we must strive to accept each other as we are rather than how we would like others to be.