

Members' News and Notices

Obituaries

Alan Mayne

David Lorimer writes: Alan Mayne was a creative visionary who believed in people's capacity to transform themselves and their future. He thought that governments should give people the opportunity to make a constructive contribution to society rather than follow the often uninspired proposals emanating from quangos and committees. He was one who could rise above the intellectual fog and clearly discern the positive possibilities lying ahead. His thinking was broad and deep: anchored in a profound understanding of the inner life but well informed about the trends of the day across a wide range of interests. He was an innovative synthesiser of new ideas but equally concerned to see them applied in what he called a unified practical philosophy.

Alan James Mayne was born in 1927 and was a scholar of both Winchester College and New College, Oxford, where he took a First in mathematics and obtained a research degree in mathematical statistics. He was a contemporary of Shirley Williams and William Rodgers. In the course of a varied career, Alan held a number of university posts: Research Fellow in the Electronic Computing Laboratory in the University of Leeds, Part-time Lecturer in Statistics at the LSE, Research Fellow at the Transport Studies Group at UCL and Senior Research Fellow in the Department of Computer Science, also at UCL. He became self-employed in 1981 and pursued his enormous range of interests with great vigour and determination. He continued his meticulous work in transport with the Transport Research Laboratory until his death.

Alan strongly believed that technology should be the servant and not the master of mankind. In the early 1980s, long before the Internet was in the public domain, Mayne was deeply involved in a number of early computer groups, including Netreach. Using EIES (Electronic Information and Exchange System), these groups were connected to the ARPA network, a precursor of the current Internet, and addressed the practicalities of conference networking, search engines, intellectual property rights and small-scale financial transactions.

Alan's work in computer networking was strongly influenced by the prophetic writings of H.G. Wells in the 1930s, in which he set out his vision of what might now be termed world knowledge. Recognising the importance of these little-known articles, Alan, with the support of the H.G. Wells Society (of which he was a founder member), compiled them into a single volume for which he wrote a scholarly introduction. This was published as 'World Brain: H.G. Wells on the Future of World Education'.

In the last ten years of his life Alan wrote and edited a number of books, most of which required an encyclopaedic grasp of detail across a range of disciplines and all of which were oriented towards a positive vision of the future. With Brian Burrows and Paul Newbury, he was author of 'Into the 21st Century: A Handbook for a Sustainable Future'. He then struck out on his own and produced a prodigious volume 'Resources for the Future: An International Annotated Bibliography for the 21st Century'.

His last book - 'From Politics Past to Politics Future: An Integrated Analysis of Current and Emergent Paradigms' - was his most ambitious and visionary. It expressed his profoundly held view that human problems are so intricately interconnected that they cannot be solved in isolation, but must be addressed as a unified whole, taking full account of their complex mutual interactions. Although he analyses what he calls Pessimistic and Piecemeal Scenarios, he was entirely committed to bringing about the Optimistic Scenario that entailed

radical modifications to existing trends. This reflects his passion for developing a unified practical philosophy based on science, inner knowledge and human experience. Alan was an active member of the many groups to which he devoted his energies. He was International Chairman of Mensa International in the late 60s; he was on the National Co-ordinating Committee of Scientists for Global Responsibility; he was a founder member of the Scientific and Medical Network and helped edit its Silver Jubilee book, 'Wider Horizons'; he was honorary secretary of the British Association for the Club of Rome where he had joint responsibility for liaison with the European-Atlantic Group, all all-party Parliamentary Group whose politically and militarily oriented dinner-discussions he regularly took part in; he was a founder member in 1954 of the Society of Metaphysicians and Chairman of its Research and Education Committee; and he was a founder member of the recently formed Alternative Defence Forum, set up with the conviction that existing defence arrangements were demonstrably failing to provide humanity with any real sense of global security. Alan was serious in his interests but boyish in his enthusiasms and had a puckish sense of humour that was never far beneath the surface. He was a careful thinker and listener, an inveterate note-taker and a brilliant synthesiser. He had a remarkable capacity to digest prodigious quantities of information and summarise it in a readable form, for instance in the editions of his 'New Paradigms Newsletters'. Always utterly natural and simple in his ways, he behaved with sensitivity, consideration, good humour and generosity of spirit in his dealings with others, whether in his personal or professional life.

Nick Roles

12th June 1933 - 28 December 2000

Richard Larcombe writes: I first got to know Nick when we moved to Bucks in 1981. We found ourselves talking about singing, and I said that I was looking for a local choir. "Ah!" he cried, "You can take my place in the Woburn Singers - I've just left!" Behind the timely and generous offer, there was a twinkle in the eye; a teasing and affectionate hint of " ...if you're good enough!"

Later I joined the Laleham group which met first at Rosemary Drew's house, and then at Pat Grazebrook's. Nick and Wendy were tremendous contributors, and I began to realise the enormous knowledge that Nick had of the Society's Record. Together they played a major role in bringing forth two of the Society's most loved publications - "Good Company", and "The man who wanted to meet God".

Nick and Wendy loved singing, and we managed to perform some trios together at Colet House on appropriate occasions. One Christmas we found a lovely Monteverdi carol for soprano, tenor and bass. Now Nick and I were both baratoners, and a certain amount of posturing went on as we each assured the other that " *you'd be a better tenor than me!* " Nick gave way, with his usual good grace, and of course made a marvellous job of it.

My greatest privilege was working with Nick on papers for the large Sunday meetings. His religious scholarship was prodigious, and his knowledge of a wide range of sources enriched our work on Sanatan Dharma and on Maya. Nick introduced me to the writing of Al Ghazali when we worked on Gratitude, and he had a magic insight and touch which helped our drafts to balance the way of knowledge with the way of love. He was a benign counsellor in editorial matters. He would consider a paragraph of mine with a smile and say: "That's very interesting, Dick". I soon learned that his subtext could be: " *That's self-indulgent, not very clever or funny, and has no place in this paper* ". But he never asked me directly to take anything out - I just found myself doing it as a result of his friendly guidance.

Nick was a man of great depth, good humour and generosity of spirit. He also possessed a

mischievous streak that was irresistible. At one of our Laleham meetings, Pat Grazebrook in a commanding mood asked me: "Dick, can you remember that prayer of St So-and-so?" And Nick added from behind her: "And if not, why not?"

Thank you, Nick, for all the friendship, wisdom and joy that you allowed me to share. You will be sorely missed, and fondly remembered.

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Prof. Jon Kabat-Zinn - Mindfulness and Stress Reduction

Member Jon Kabat-Zinn has produced a substantial Resource Manual for his course in Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction held at the Center for Mindfulness, Health Care and Society at the University of Massachusetts Medical School in Worcester, Mass, USA. Jon is a microbiologist who has taken a lead in the now-widely-accepted idea that there is a close connection between mental and physical phenomena in human experience and that, in particular, the practice of meditation can have a powerful influence in the treatment of physical and emotional problems.

Jon founded the Mindfulness Center more than twenty years ago and since then more than 10,000 patients have been through his 'stress reduction program' and similar programmes have been developed in other centres around the world. Aimed at anyone from senior executives to the retired, grandmothers and blue-collar workers, the course has not only produced good results among patients, it has also published scientifically-respectable documentary results demonstrating the effects achieved by meditation and other practices. Dramatic reductions in symptoms are regularly and reliably reported.

Further details from: Center for Mindfulness in Medicine, Health Care, and Society, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Shaw Building, 55 Lake Avenue North, Worcester, MA 01655, USA, tel. (USA) 508-856-5849

Dr. Bart van der Lugt

'Hospital as a Temple' Conference 'Silence, Soul and Mindfulness'

Saturday and Sunday 20 and 21 October 2001

At IONA Building, Driebergen (near Utrecht), The Netherlands

The 'Hospital as a Temple' is a series of three conferences, with the purpose of reaffirming concern for the soul and restoring its prior dignity within medicine as a healing art. These three conferences have been organised in alliance with the 'Scientific and Medical Network' and 'The Bristol Cancer Help Centre'. This conference will build on the first two which addressed 'the integration of the sacred in medicine' and 'creating a healing environment'. It will bring a new concept of clinic and hospital. This third conference will focus on the role of silence and mindfulness for making the right choices for healing the whole person.

In organising this conference, to reintegrate the sacred and the scientific into a cohesive whole, we also hope to facilitate the forthcoming 'Science, Religion and Conscious Project' and the 'Spirituality and Health Project'. These projects will be organised in the next few years in Great Britain by a collaboration of 'The John Templeton Foundation' and 'The Scientific and Medical Network'. These projects will foster among others a new vision of medicine as it might be practised in the 21st century.

Invited and confirmed contributors:

Therese Schroeder-Sheker (Musical Thanatology), Mark Thurston (Atlantic University, Virginia Beach), Rosy Daniel and Pat Pilkington (Bristol Cancer Help Centre), Chris Clarke (chairman of the Scientific and Medical Network), Sati Santorelli, Tjerk Huppes (Professor of IT, CD-rom 'You can live with cancer'), Kaz Tanahashi (Zen artist). During the afternoons there will be workshops with the speakers. Music, art and poetry will be an integral part of the

conference. Post-conference residential workshops with some of the speakers in a quiet, Buddhist Centre in the dunes close to the seaside, are being organised. For further information please read the enclosed brochure or contact Davidhouse by phone (00 31 10 4123442), fax (00 31 10 4149271 or e-mail (davidhuis@hetnet.nl).

Dr. Peter Mansfield - The State of our Food - Health UK

Member Peter Mansfield has written a short book subtitled 'straight answers to hard questions about food, food quality, nutrition and food supplements, which is essential reading for those interested in the topic. He points out that modern farming methods have reduced the presence of minerals and vitamins in food, but that one also needs to address the nutritional quality of supplements. He discusses the food industry then moves on to what he calls the new biology to include two additional characters of food: the radiance of its vitality field and the quality of its cell structure. It is these qualitative factors that really distinguish organic food and which can be illustrated with Kirlian chromatograms - the results of eating it are translated into much better health. This takes Peter on to soil and the cultivation of health, which starts with the choices we make. Available at a discount for £4.50 post paid (UK) from Good Healthkeeping (to whom cheques should be made), PO Box 6, Louth, Lincs LN11 8XL. Overseas enquiries to callcentre@good-healthkeeping.co.uk Peter also publishes a newsletter, entitled *Health UK*, on behalf of Good Healthkeeping. Topics treated briefly in the latest issue (No.12, December 2000) include Blood Clots and Long Journeys, BSE and CJD, and Parkinson's Disease. The newsletter is for members of Good Healthkeeping only, but for information about the organisation you may telephone 0906 802 0 803 for a full introductory pack. The call will cost 60p per minute.

Dr. Sam Parnia - Horizon Research Foundation

This is the new incarnation of the UK International Association for Near-Death Studies with Dr. Peter Fenwick as President and David Lorimer as Vice-President. Some readers may be aware of the considerable publicity exposure given to Peter and Sam in the UK newspapers recently, which has raised a lot of interest. See Members' articles section for their recent paper. Anyone interested in finding out more and indeed supporting the Foundation should write for further details to Mail Point 888, Southampton General Hospital, Tremona Road, Southampton SO16 6YD or consult the web site at www.horizon-research.co.uk

Savely Savva - Homeopathy Research

Savely Savva, editor of the *Newsletter* of MISAHA, the Monterey Institute for the Study of Alternative Healing Arts, is excited about the lead article in the latest number of his publication (July-December 2000.) Russian Biochemist Elena Burlakova, with help from sceptical scientists concerned to disprove the effects of superlow doses of biologically active substances, writes up in detail her experiments with truly minute quantities of antioxidants on the electric activity of grape-snails. Encouragingly for homoeopaths, Burlakova and her team seem to have established that smaller doses of the antioxidants are both less toxic and more effective. The implications of this research include the possibility of new less harmful medicines as well as putting homeopathy on a respectable scientific ground. See www.whps.com/misaha/

Dr. Antony Sutton - Resources on Cold Fusion

Subtitled 'the secret energy revolution' and billing itself as an introduction to hidden events that will shape your life in the coming century, this publication documents the scientific background and politico-scientific reaction to the research. Such has been the dismissive roar of establishment science that few people are aware that the process has been

replicated in 100 laboratories worldwide, including those of two oil companies. The real issues are as much philosophical, political and economic as scientific: cold fusion contradicts current assumptions; funding available to high energy physics would be under threat, technologies that eliminated fossil fuels in short order would cause massive dislocation of existing economic interests. He reckons, though, that these technologies will be dominant by 2050. The rest of the booklet contains a wealth of technical information. Available from FTIR Publications, PO Box 2903, Sacramento, CA 95812, USA. \$24.95 plus \$3 postage.

Dr. David Peat - News from the Pari Centre for New Learning

Spring has arrived in Pari, the days are now warmer, the trees are in blossom and people are picking wild asparagus in the woods. The people of Pari are now looking forward to the annual picnics and coach trips.

The Centre has just completed its first conference of the year, on the application of ideas in chaos theory and the arts to the structure of organizations and businesses. The Centre is also making plans for additional conferences to be held over the next three years. These will include roundtables and workshops on Science and the Arts and on Social Responsibility in Psychotherapy.

David Peat's New Science/New Paradigms

We are gearing up for David Peat's course on 23-28 May. David is in the final editing stage of his latest book "From Certainty to Uncertainty" with Joseph Henry Press so his course will contain plenty of new ideas. A second book, "The Return of the Sacred" is also with his editors. David is also putting together audio material for the course based on interviews and conversations with David Bohm, Paul Dirac, Werner Heisenberg and other thinkers.

There is still time to register. Visit www.paricenter.com. Or email us at info@paricenter.com Don't forget. The Web site also contains details of other courses.

Prof. Wangari Matthai - Email helps secure quick release from detention

Wangari is well known for her ecological work for the Green Belt Movement in Kenya and has recently spearheaded a campaign against the excision of 167,000 acres of forest from a country whose forest cover is only 2% - well below the 10% recommended for sustainable development. The country has experienced a prolonged drought for the last two years, which has forced the government to ration water and electricity. Wangari was arrested on 7th March on charges of inciting the public to violence and was to be charged the next day. Meanwhile the email machine sprang into action and the Kenyan Government was flooded with protests from around the world. She was taken from her cell to the court on the 8th but returned an hour later without any charges being preferred and was told she could leave unconditionally!

Prof. Peter Stewart - Remote Perception Seminars

Peter will be giving his weekend seminars and workshops on remote perception throughout 2001. The Level 1 course covers teaching and practical work on psychometry, remote viewing, telepathy and dowsing. Level 2 work is more advanced and includes direct cognition. Dates for Level 1 course: May 5-6, June 30-July 1, September 8-9, October 6-7. Cost is around £250 including accommodation and all meals. Early booking is recommended as places are limited to 20 to ensure individual tuition. Details: 9 Beaufort, Harford Drive, Frenchay, Bristol BS16 1NP. Tel: 0117 956 5700.

Prof. Henryk & Juanita Skolimowski - Towards the Sculpture of Light

This is the title of a beautiful new book-catalogue with poems by Henryk and sculptures and

inscriptions by Juanita. Henryk writes in his preface: 'We come from light and shall return to light. The most important manifestations of life, and especially of art, are but transformations of light - through new forms, new expressions, new depth'. He also writes that the purpose of art is to save the world and that beauty is necessary for the human person. The forms and poems are both simple and direct, reminding us of the essential in life.

Dr. Ikram Azam - Peace Plays and Poems

The prolific Ikram Azam has sent through a number of books recently, among them his 'Peace Plays and Poems'. He urges readers to pursue peace by protecting freedom and gives his own refreshingly non-Western diagnosis of the causes of war in the introduction. The poems contain a reverence for life and passion for peace, while the plays vary in length and explore the philosophical and political issues raised by war. Address: PFI, House 37, St 33, F8/1 Islamabad, Pakistan.

Dietrich Gumbel - Cosmo-Therapy

Dietrich Guembel, a German member, has developed a holistic view of the cosmos that is both spiritual and scientific; it is based on the idea that the whole of creation came into being by light vibrations. He calls the synergistic and synchronic stimulation of all sensory organs, by colours, tones, essences, gemstones and so on Cosmo-Therapy. To become a holistic (or whole) human being with health and well-being we need to bring together spirit souls and body as they are integrated into the cosmos. Further information can be found in his English-language book: *Principles of Holistic Therapy with Herbal Essences*, Heidelberg: Haug, 1994, 2nd ed. (ISBN 2-8043-4002-3).

Dr. Jacob Liberman - Illuminating Our Life Schedule

Jacob's work with light has developed considerably over the last ten years as he has deepened his insight into the way people react to light. He writes that 'viewing the colours a person feels comfortable with draws them into a "hidden harmony" within themselves. Looking at the colours a person feels uncomfortable with leads them to aspects of themselves they have kept "in the dark"'. As people become more comfortable with the colours they once disliked and embrace light's full spectrum, Jacob has found that they embrace life as a whole. Jacob's European schedule during June and July includes Austria, Germany, the UK and Spain. For details phone Patricia Farchy on +44 1273 472226 or email lightworks@pavilion.co.uk

Dr. Peter Reason - Responsible Management

Peter Reason, head of the Centre for Action Research in Professional Practice at the University of Bath, is developing a website at www.bath.ac.uk/management/carpp Members will be interested to see information there about conferences, publications and an MSc in 'Responsibility in Business Practice' at Bath. This last is 'an innovative management degree addressing social, environmental and ethical issues', which gives a flavour of the thinking about responsible business practice that is at the heart of the centre.

Peter Dawkins - Zoence

Member Peter Dawkins has sent us the Zoence Diary for this year, 2001. Peter is an architect and a recognised authority on the Baconian-Rosicrucian philosophies and Ancient Wisdom. Zoence, so-named because it aims to be the science of life, is a western equivalent of Feng Shui and is interested in the wheel of life, the cycle of nature and the energy patterns of the cosmos. Zoence organises a programme of public lectures in London - on Wednesdays

between 7pm and 9pm, admission £5 including refreshments. For further information contact Caroline McGilvery tel. 020 7226 6526, Email: mcgilvery@canonbury.ac.uk For information on training workshops organised by Zoence contact Roses Farmhouse, Epwell road, Tysoe, Warwick, CV35 0TN, UK, tel. 01295 688185, Email: events@zoence.co.uk

Eric Gladwin - The God of All Ages

Eric will be known to readers who attend the Mystics and Scientists conferences as the conference bard. This is his latest fine collection and is divided into a number of sections - Love, the Golden Rule, Peace, Health, Immortality. His writing is always evocative, sensitive and based on universal principles and a great love for the Earth. Details from Eric at 3 Victoria Mead, Thame, Oxon OX9 3HY. Email: eric@epgladwin.fsnet.co.uk

Geoffrey Farthing - Theosophy

Member Geoffrey Farthing has written a short introduction to Theosophy, Theosophy: The Truth Revealed, published by the Theosophical Publishing House, 2000. Well laid-out and illustrated this small book will serve as a basic primer for those interested in the theosophical movement.