

## Network News

Dr. Peter Fenwick

After 15 years of dedicated and distinguished service as Chair of the Network Council, DR. PETER FENWICK has stepped down. The Annual Gathering presented him with a specially commissioned painting by THETIS BLACKER, which is reproduced as this year's Network Christmas card. Peter thanked all those who generously contributed to the painting, which will hang in their house in London. I would like to use these columns to record not only my personal appreciation of Peter's work and remarkable human qualities over the period during which we have worked closely together, but also to extend the thanks of the whole Network to his wife ELIZABETH, who has been tremendous support to individual Council members over the years, not least in her delicious cooking following many long Council meetings held at Herne Hill. Peter will spend the autumn as a visiting professor in Tokyo, but we look forward to his continuing involvement as one of our Vice-Presidents.

*Peter Fenwick writes:* The Annual General Meeting was a great success with contributions from Europe, Australia, India, New Zealand, and America. It culminated, for me, in the presentation of a magnificent retirement gift. I had no idea this was going to happen and considering how many people must have known about it I am amazed that not a word about it reached my ears. The painting by Thetis Blacker, of an old eagle renewing itself at the Fountain of Life, is as beautiful as it is appropriate. Both Elizabeth and I would like to thank everyone who contributed to such a wonderful gift. Thetis has been our favourite painter for many years, and to have one of her pictures - and I think everyone who saw it agreed that it is one of the loveliest she has painted - will be an enormous pleasure to us both for years to come.

My fourteen years as Chair of the Network, working closely with David (David did all the work, I just encouraged him) were exciting, stimulating, and a source of wonderful friendships. During this time the Network has grown out of all recognition, and I am happy now to be able to hand on a thriving organisation to Chris Clarke. The future looks bright and under Chris's leadership I am sure that the Network will be able to achieve the next step of its true destiny. For those astrologers among us, the new Chair was born at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday July 16th in the middle of Dorset, and I look forward to hearing what the stars foretell!

Prof. Chris Clarke assumes the Chair of Council

Prof. CHRIS CLARKE became acting Chair of the Network Council at the Annual Meeting. His appointment will be confirmed at the first Council meeting in the autumn. Chris is Visiting Professor at the University of Southampton, where he was formerly Professor of Applied Mathematics. He is also currently Chair of the Association of Creation Spirituality and author of the acclaimed book *Reality Through the Looking Glass*. Chris will be writing a special editorial for the next issue.

Geoffrey Leytham

GEOFFREY LEYTHAM has retired from his position as Vice-Chair and Treasurer of the Trustees. He has been a Trustee since the Network became a charity in 1986 and has done much essential administrative work behind the scenes to keep the Trustees' work ticking

over smoothly. Geoffrey was also nominated as a Vice-President at the Annual Meeting and we extend our gratitude and warmest good wishes to him and his wife DOROTHY.

David Lorimer

I shall be redefining my responsibilities in relation to the Network from 1st September, when I shall formally cease to be Development Director of the Network, but shall continue my editorial and programme work on a consultancy basis. The time has come, after 14 years of full time involvement, to extend my activities into other areas while still retaining close connections with the Network.

Network Council

PROFESSOR ARTHUR ELLISON, one of our Vice-Presidents, has retired from the Council, on which he has served for more than 25 years since the inception of the Network. His counsel has been invaluable, and we are immensely grateful to him for his sustained contribution. We extend our warmest wishes to him and his wife MARIAN. DR. ANDREW POWELL is retiring from the Council after six years of service, having recently launched the Spirituality interest group within the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Andrew's sensitive wisdom and caring presence will be greatly missed in the Council. At the AGM elections, DR. JULIAN CANDY and DIANA CLIFT were re-elected, and we are delighted to welcome DR. BO AHRENFELT, who organised our recent successful meeting in Sweden and who becomes the third Continental Member of the Council. Bo is a medical doctor who runs IFLA, a network of professionals, body therapists and management consultants. ALEX SABELL was also elected, and will happily reduce the average age of the Council. Alex has a background in maths and cognitive science and is embarking on a career as a parapsychology researcher.

Network Book Prize

The Network Book Prize for 2000 will be awarded at the end of the year to the book or books which, in the opinion of the judges (Max Payne, John Kerr and myself) make the most significant contribution to advancing the fields of interest to the Network. I have noted the following books received so far this year, all of which will automatically be entered:

Mikel Burley - *Hatha Yoga*

Roger J. Callahan - *Stop the Nightmares of Trauma*

John Clarke - *The Tao of the West*

Roger Coghill - *The Book of Magnet Healing*

Paul Devereux - *Ancient Earth Mysteries*

Larry Dossey - *Reinventing Medicine*

Neil Douglas-Klotz - *The Hidden Gospel*

Sally Goerner - *After the Clockwork Universe*

David Ray Griffin - *Religion and Scientific Naturalism*

Jonathan Harvey - *In Quest of Spirit*

Stephen Karcher - *Ta Chuan*

Martin Lockley - *The Eternal Trail*

Keith Mason - *Thoughts that Harm, Thoughts that Heal*

David Peat - *The Blackwinged Night*

Stephen Phillips - *ESP of Quarks and Superstrings*

Karen Ralls-Macleod - *Music and the Celtic Otherworld*

Ravi Ravindra - *Science and the Sacred*

Theodore Roszak - *The Gendered Atom*  
Sampooran Singh - *God in Science*  
Grant and Jane Solomon - *The Scoble Experiment*  
Nick Thomas - *Exploring the Implications of Negative Space*  
Max Velmans - *Understanding Consciousness*  
Neale Donald Walsh - *Friendship with God*  
Danah Zohar and Ian Marshall - *SQ*

#### The Blaker Foundation

*Max Payne writes:* The Blaker Foundation was set up in April 1999 as an educational venture. It was intended that it would provide a program of activities on issues central to Network interests and it would be aimed at the general public but also specifically at the rising generation of science and medical students. The Trustees invested £21,000 in the program in the hope of there being a financial return. In October 1999 the Trustees ceased funding the Foundation. Much hard and valuable work had been done, but the program did not seem to meet the original wishes of the Trustees, the marketing strategy did not appear to be effective, and there was no immediate hope of financial return. Nevertheless the S.M.N. is determined to have an educational outreach, particularly in relation to the rising generation. Much can be achieved building on past experience. Members with interest, involvement, or ideas in education are asked to get in touch with the office.

#### The Spirit of Science

*The Spirit of Science* has recently been published in Spanish, and a German edition is forthcoming. In addition, Floris Books have agreed to publish a book from the Beyond the Brain conferences in time for next year's conference. It will make a good companion for the earlier book!

#### Jamaica Conferences

Leaflets are enclosed for the next two symposia to be held at Frenchman's Cove in November this year and February of next. We already have 20 bookings for the November meeting but therefore still have plenty of space. The February meeting will adopt a new format, which will potentially enable you to escape the rigours of the northern hemisphere winter for over three weeks! PROF. RAVI RAVINDRA will teach the first week, from 4-10 February (arriving on the 1st), then there will be a week free, followed by one of our Vice-Presidents, PROF. BRIAN GOODWIN for the final week. It will be possible to arrive earlier than February 1st but another meeting will be coming in on February 25th, so that there will be little or no flexibility to extend your stay at the end of the meeting.

#### Science and Esoteric Knowledge Group

The SEK group continues to meet and is now working on an important new project - a Manifesto for an Integral Science of Consciousness. The basic thrust of the document is to call for the inclusion of varieties of inner experience in a science of consciousness. We have spent two full days on it so far and will be meeting again during the autumn to refine it. The manifesto will then be posted on the web site so that Members can sign up to it, and it will be printed in the December Review. We will be considering further outreach during the autumn.

Leonard Shlain Video - The Alphabet vs. The Goddess

LEONARD SHLAIN was unable to attend the Mystics and Scientists conference this year but sent a very good video instead (forty copies were sold at the conference). It recapitulates and beautifully illustrates the thesis of his recent book, reviewed in the December 1999 issue. This is available to members from the editorial office for £15 including p & p (add £1.50 for overseas postage).

Dr. Christian Kjel - Misuse of Members' Directory

I am afraid that a number of members received an email proposition from Network Member DR. CHRISTIAN KJEL, which, despite his protestations to the contrary, has been identified by the US authorities and the Bank of England as a well-known scam whereby huge commissions are promised for laundering money and your account is then emptied by your correspondent or his associates. We have removed Dr. Kjel from the database and requested immediate return of his Directory. Should any other members receive this offer, please bin it! As you know, the Directory is confidential and for the use of Members only and should not be used for commercial reasons or mail shots without the prior consent of the Office.