

Network News

'Promotion' of John Miller

It is very sad to have to announce the rather sudden death of Dr. John Miller in early May. He had just completed five years and fifteen issues of producing Network. Only those members who joined before our annual meeting at La Bussière in 1993 will remember how basic the layout and feel of our newsletter was. I used to create one long paginated file of single column text and output it for camera-ready copy. John changed all that and gave us an increasingly professional look and feel to the Review, which culminated in our move last April to a magazine A4 format. We all benefited from his eye for detail, his knowledge of syntax and etymology, his layout and computer skills and his sheer enthusiasm for the work. I can hear his voice and laugh as I write. He was a terrific stickler for consistency and grammatical exactitude. When I asked him at the proof stage of the last issue why he had not corrected 'analyse' to 'analyze', he explained that the Greek root did not allow such a modification! His funeral in Cheltenham was an uplifting if melancholy occasion. I shall miss John a great deal. The best tribute we can pay him is to maintain the high standard he set for our Review. Our thoughts are with his family and close friends.

Network Chair and Council

Dr. Peter Fenwick announced his intention at the Annual Gathering to step down from the Chair of the Network Council after the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in 2000. He has served as Chair since 1986 and feels that it will by then be time to move on.

This year's AGM also unanimously approved the creation of the post of Vice-Chair of the Network from within the Council, a post that is renewable each year but that will normally be held for a period of up to five years, with a possible renewal for a further three. Dr. Yvonneke Roe has stepped down from the Council after a three-year term. We owe her a great deal for her lively presence and practical good sense at Council Meetings. Prof. Chris Clarke, Anne Miller and Dr. Andrew Powell were all elected for a further three-year term and Dr. Chris Lyons was elected in place of Yvonneke Roe.

Chris works as a GP in Lancashire and also has a business background. His main interests are in consciousness, mysticism, healing, parapsychology and the transpersonal psychology of Stanislav Grof.

News from the Office

The main news since the last issue is that we have embarked on a major restructuring and reorganisation within the office, in order to catch up with the results of chronic under-resourcing over a number of years. The layout has been improved and a professional filing system is being created under the guidance of our secretary and now office manager Joyce Langlands. We have taken on Lester Carter as an assistant over the summer before he returns to university in the autumn. He is playing a major part in setting up files for each member, so that we will be able to retrieve information you may require without having to phone you back the next day when we have eventually located the missing piece of paper! Roddy McNeil joined us as our new book-keeper in mid-May, and is also in the process of redesigning the database. He has a background in the RAF and is an expert on IT. We are now well on our way to catching up with financial backlogs. Once we have our new office systems in place, this will free up more time to devote to developing our work. As part of our

new system, we are now asking members to quote their unique numbers on correspondence and on the back of cheques, as this makes things easier for us to administer.

New Directory and Revised Subscription Rates

There was considerable discussion at the AGM this year about the future format of the Directory but there was an overwhelming vote to continue with the paper version next year. The on-line version will continue to be the most up to date. You will be receiving an update form in the December mailing. In addition, you will be receiving a subscription request for 1999 as we have decided to put back the due date from April to February in order to improve our cash flow. The most expensive time of the year falls around the April mailing as we have to pay a large postage bill (£4,000) and printing bills for the Directory (up to £6,000 next year) and the Review (over £3,000). The new rates, agreed by Members at the AGM, will be: Sustaining £75 (£60), Support £50 (£45), Standard £37 (£32) £33 (£30) if paid by standing order Concessions and Associates £24 (£20), Developing rate \$10, Students £11.

Annual Report

We will not be printing and circulating the annual report this year but it will be available on our web site, or copies can be ordered by sending a SAE to the office.

Web Site

I reported in the last issue that we now had the Directory on-line. This is updated monthly and has a facility whereby you may update your own entry by email. The Directory is available only in the private Members' Circle area of the web site, so I would encourage you to apply to the office for a password so that you can use this resource. The current mailing lists on the web-site are the following:

Network Ethos (ethos.smn)
Discussions on the aura: (smn_aura)
Bohm Dialogue (bohm_dialogue)
Consciousness (consciousness.smn)
Chinese Medicine (smn_chinese)
Dowsing: (smn_dowsing)
Eco-Environment (healthy_planet)
Education (smn_education)
Energy medicine (energy_medicine)
Psychology & Spirituality (psychospir)

By far the easiest way to join (or remove yourself from) any of these mailing lists is to visit the Mailing Lists page in the Members' Circle (<http://www.cis.plym.ac.uk/Private/p52.htm>). If you don't have access to our web site, you can send a one-line email message

ADD listname
to
listname-request@cis.plym.ac.uk

In both cases, you must substitute the word 'listname' with one of the mailing list words given above in brackets. So, your email message might look like this:

You will receive an automated email reply confirming your joining the list and detailing all server commands that you can use. Once you have joined a mailing list, you can send

messages to all other members of that list by addressing your email to: listname@cis.plym.ac.uk (that is, without the '-request' part of the email address you used above!). The Consciousness mailing list is particularly active at present, with contributions from members round the world. A new mailing list for those interested in Traditional Chinese Medicine and Acupuncture (smn_chinese) was set up following a member's request.

New List on Sex and Spirituality

This new discussion list is being convened by Barry Constable, who can be reached on constable@clara.net The S&S address is s_and_s@cis.plym.ac.uk

Appeal

The money in the Appeal Account has now passed the £50,000 threshold, which has triggered the matching donation of the same amount. The account is still open, however, and matching amounts will be released by our anonymous donor up to the amount of interest earned by the original deposit, which currently stands at around £17,000.

Silver Jubilee

About sixty Members and friends joined a memorable boat trip on May 16th up the Thames on a vessel dating back to 1910. We had supper aboard and were able to enjoy the fine evening on the river. Speeches were ruled out as the noise of the engines combined with an antiquated sound system made it impossible to hear from one end of the cabin to the other. However, a message from the President George Blaker was read out when the engines had been switched off at the end of the trip.

Plans for the Silver Jubilee book are proceeding well and we hope to be able to announce the publication of the book in the next Review. It is planned to launch it at the Christmas Party in early December.

Network Media Forum

Charmian Wylde and Kevin Ashbridge write: The media is so powerful, the biggest messenger on our planet, yet the Network, as a body, essentially ignores it.

Society is filled with positive experiences that translate that into a vast resource for change. But our media reflects mostly negativity, sensationalism and shallowness. This must be affecting the basic 'consciousness' and direction of our lives. The messages transmitted by our media affect us personally. What are we, the Network, going to do about it?

We are buffeted between extremes. The evening news often leaves the viewer helpless. A deep-probing documentary jolts our awareness, empowers us. A film moves us, or re-moves us! And Page 3? Well... film, television, radio and the print media are our playground. We hope to bring together all members interested, professionally or otherwise, to stimulate awareness in the alternatives. We shall be looking at how the media dominates our perception; it forges consensus, manipulates as well as educates. What would it be like if we had a media that lifted us, transformed us, beyond our current perceptions? And finally, what is the message the Network would give to the world?

We shall begin cleaning the airwaves, resetting the type, beginning 17th October at Colet House, London. Our group will be proactive and involving. So, sign up NOW! Remove the Emperor's news clothes!

Contact Charmian Wylde (0121-445-3312) or Kevin Ashbridge (01727-865-241) for details. If you can't be in London, join our email list via the SMN web site (smn_media).

1998 Network Book Prize

Entries effectively received for the Network Book Prize so far are listed below. If your book is not on the list, we probably have not received a review copy. A short list will be presented to the Council in November and the winner announced at the Christmas Party:

Midwifery of the Soul Margaret Arden
Zen and the Brain James Austin
In Search of Security Pratima Bowes
UFOs and Ufology Paul Devereux
The Long Trip Paul Devereux
Lucid Waking Georg Feuerstein
Unsnarling the World Knot David Ray Griffin
The Cosmic Game Stan Grof
Conceptual Foundations of Modern Physics Dipankar Home
Discovering the Soul Robert Jarmon
How to Use the I Ching Stephen Karcher
The Spirit of Fire: The Life and Vision of Teilhard de Chardin Ursula King
Asoul The Story Continues Joyce Kovelman
Into the 3rd Millennium Ervin Laszlo
Soul Therapy Joy Manné
Why People Don't Heal and How They can Caroline Myss
Time and the Soul Jacob Needleman
On Love Jacob Needleman
Infinite Potential The Life and Times of David Bohm David Peat
Yoga and the Teaching of Krishna Ravi Ravindra
Kitchen Table Wisdom Rachel Naomi Remen
Beyond the Dependency Culture James Robertson
Breakthrough Cornelis Slenters
Science and Human Transformation William Tiller
Solarian Legacy Paul von Ward
Morphism of the Void Keith Wakelam
Rewiring the Corporate Brain Danah Zohar

Consciousness Group

The group will be holding two more meetings this year in London. The first, on Saturday 26th September, will be an opportunity to share experiences with meditation techniques. The second, on Saturday 5th December, will look at precognition and synchronicity. Let us know if you would like to attend these meetings and are not already on the mailing list.

Science and Esoteric Traditions Group

The Group held a successful open meeting on 20th June, attended by over 40 people. Paul Folca is writing a report for the next issue. If you are interested in the tapes, please consult the inserted sheet or phone Philip Royall on 01453-766411.

Energy Medicine Group

The weekend meeting in Dorset was a great success, and another is planned for the end of July. On June 6th there was a meeting in London on the topic Energy What is it? Professor Med Thring's presentation on 'Levels of Energy' generated such interest that members thought that he should produce a book on the subject. There has been a continuing inflow of new people and ideas into the group. July activities included evenings with Mark Woodhouse and Brian O'Leary, members from the US. Mark also gave a day on 'Head, Heart and Healing', while Brian's topic is the coming energy revolution. We are hoping to feature a review article on new developments in energy research in a forthcoming issue. In September there will be a one day meeting on 'Integrated Models of Energy Medicine' (date to be confirmed).

Jazz Rasool, email facilitator for the group, maintains his own web site at <http://members.xoom.com/empower2000>. There are two reports there. One on producing standards in integrated complementary medicine and the other on the Year 2000 computer bug and how its influence on the technology of the NHS will affect the practices of alternative and complementary medical practitioners. All feedback should be mailed to Jazz Rasool, 53 Broomgrove Gardens, Edgware, Middlesex, HA2 5RH, UK. Email: empower2000@hotmail.com

Egyptian Energy Medicine Group Conference

This is a preliminary announcement of this meeting scheduled provisionally for April 1999. It will be a three day meeting on 'Energy Medicine: Past, Present and Future', including dawn meditation at the Grand Pyramid in Giza. To be included on the mailing list for this conference when details are confirmed/finalised, please contact Energy Medicine Founder-Co-ordinator Naomi Calligaro, 6 High Street, Berkhamsted, Herts, UK. Tel:+44-1442-873545 or Pamela El-Hosaini on email: pamela@slinky.netkonect.co.uk

Network Ski 99 Wengen Switzerland. Saturday 13th Sunday 21st February

The 1999 Network ski trip will be held at Zentrum Waldegg, a chalet style hotel and holistic course centre in Wengen, Switzerland. The centre is in a good location and has several features that should make for an excellent meeting. It is located on a ski slope beside the car free village of Wengen, under the Jungfrau and Eiger. A ski lift is only two minutes walk away. The 18 local lift systems of mountain railways, cable cars, chairs, drags etc. extend into the Jungfrau region with its 45 transport systems and 200 km of pistes. Both downhill and cross-country skiing are available. Accommodation is mainly in twin and double rooms although some single and larger rooms may be available. Food is vegetarian.

To allow flexibility in travel arrangements you may come for as many days as you like and book on a daily basis at approximately 70 Swiss francs (about £29) per person for 3/4 board and approx. 80 Swiss francs (about £4 more) for full board. While as usual this will be an informal meeting we will have a room in the evenings for discussions and any questions/presentations/workshops participants may bring. Other facilities include: meditation room; massage (several of the staff are qualified), and Yoga, Tai Chi and Tao Yoga can be arranged. This is an open meeting for members and friends who are sympathetic to the networks aims and methodology.

Whilst it is expected most will make their own travel arrangements there may be a group travelling together from the UK. To give an indication of costs from Stansted UK it will be

about £360 including flights, transfers and six days at 3/4 board. A full ski pass for 6 days will be about £100. For more information contact Christopher Price +44 (0)181 363 2453, or pricecc@angedc6.agw.bt.co.uk

Alexander Imich Essay Prize, \$1,000 Science and the Paranormal

Member Dr. Alexander Imich is kindly sponsoring an Essay Prize, which will be open to all Members of the Network. The prize will be worth \$1,000 and the subject is Science and the Paranormal. Would those interested in competing please write into the office for details. Closing date is now 31st December 1998. The winning essay will be published in Network.