

News and Notices

Ecology

LEAD International

A great web site on Leadership for Environment and Development. Its philosophy is rooted in the ethical value of caring for the planet and the life that it sustains. It is committed to building a global society based on mutual obligations and responsibilities in which development patterns will satisfy the shared needs and aspirations of all people while respecting the Earth's living systems and natural resources. It provides selected leaders around the world with training designed to enhance their leadership capacity and knowledge of issues related to environment and development. It also has a set of basic principles and a code of conduct. Web: www.lead.org or email info@lead.org or address 700 Broadway, 3rd floor, New York NY 10003, USA

EarthAction

The web site (www.earthaction.org) invites you to join a global tidal wave for change. EarthAction is building a global action alert network which can mobilise people simultaneously around the planet to speak out for a better world. It was launched at the Earth Summit in 1992 its network now includes 1,800 citizen groups in over 150 countries. Its mission is to educate organisations, citizens, journalists and members of parliament about key environment, social justice and peace issues on the international agenda. Then it mobilises large numbers of groups and individuals to maximise the chances of effective international action to solve global problems. Its action kit includes planet postcards to send plus sample letters to send to MPs on particular issues. International office: 17 The Green, Wye, Kent TN25 5AJ. Email: wye@earthaction.org.uk

Earthtimes

Earthtimes.com is an online daily newspaper on environment, natural resources, sustainable development and social issues. The home page includes a list of columnists with their articles, plus a navigation feature to special areas. Headlines and a few lines of stories are given, then one clicks to go to the whole article. A small 'Did You Know?' gives a snippet - as I write, it was a statistic saying that Indian carbon emissions had increased by 55% since 1990. Anyone walking round Delhi would have no problem believing this!

Medicine/Health

Water Fluoridation

Doris Jones writes: The Government's White Paper ***Our Healthier Nation***, published in July 1999, contains details on their plans to extend existing water fluoridation schemes, at present mainly in Birmingham, the Midlands and North East (ca.10% of the UK) to other parts of the country (p112). - The NHS Centre for Reviews and Dissemination at York University is currently carrying out an up-to-date scientific review on fluoride and health. If this confirms that there are benefits to dental health from fluoridation and no significant risks, the government intends to introduce legal obligation on water companies to add fluoride to water supplies at 1 part per million (this is reputedly the optimal level to help prevent tooth decay in young children), provided there is strong local support for this measure. Local authorities will then have to undertake public consultations on fluoridating the area water supplies, and this may happen within the next six months. Fluoridation is a highly controversial issue, as much documented evidence points to severe

health problems resulting from even low-dose exposure to fluoride. Members Dr Peter Mansfield, Dr Sheila Gibson and Earl Baldwin of Bewdley are representing those who feel the proposed extension of water fluoridation schemes to be ill-advised and far too hazardous. Meanwhile more evidence has emerged which endorses the dangers of fluoride. **Andreas Schuld**, Head of **Parents of Fluoride Poisoned Children (PFPC)**, Vancouver, BC, Canada, runs an information service and has provided over 100 scientific references on the effects of fluoride on the thyroid gland to the York Review Committee. Regrettably this resulted in a further narrowing of an already extremely narrow protocol (a wide range of documents is excluded from this review and fluoride ingestion from all sources is not taken into account). As a result of this further narrowing of the protocol, all references provided by Andreas Schuld are also excluded. - Meanwhile a most interesting article Entitled *A Nutrient/ Toxin Interaction Theory of the Etiology and Pathogenesis of Chronic Pain-Fatigue Syndrome* by **Julia Laylander** has been published in the Journal of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, Vol.5(1),1999:67-126, in which she argues that many problems seen in CFS/FMS/GWS can be explained by an interaction of magnesium deficiency and fluoride excess. -More alarming information emanates from Prague, where **Professor Anna Strunecka** of Charles University, Prague, has made an amazing discovery, i.e.a link between aluminium and fluoride (or fluorine), details of which she has published first in an article *Alumino-fluoride complexes: new phosphate analogues for laboratory investigations and potential danger for living organisms* (Cesk Fysiol, 1999;48(1):9-15) and then in another more easily readable article *Aluminium plus fluoride: a new, deadly duo in AD* (The News in Dementia, Feb,1999). More information on PFPC: <http://www.bruha.com/fluoride/index.htm> and on water fluoridation: Nat.Pure Water Assoc., 12 Dennington Lane, Cragglistone, Wakefield, WF4 3ET, UK, Tel: +44(0)1924 254433, Fax: +44(0)1924 242380.

Health Committee Report.

The Health Committee of the UK House of Commons has prepared its Sixth Report on **Procedures Related to Adverse Clinical Incidents and Outcomes in Medical Care**, published in two volumes (549-1+2) on 23.11.1999, available from The Stationery Office. Details are also obtainable through the internet on the Parliament's website: www.parliament.uk/commons/hsecom.htm

White House Issues Alternative Medicine Policy

On March 8th, President Clinton released an executive order establishing a White House Commission on Complementary and Alternative Medicine Policy. The Commission will make legislative and administrative recommendations for assuring that public policy maximises the benefits of complementary and alternative medicine. The recommendations will address:

- Educating healthcare practitioners in CAM
- Co-ordinating research
- Providing healthcare professionals with reliable and useful information about CAM
- Guidance for appropriate access to and delivery of CAM

You can read the order on this site with a very long address! www.pub.whitehouse.gov/urires/12R?urn:pdi://oma.eop.gov.us/2000/3/8/13.text.1.

General

Two Decades of PEAR

The Princeton Engineering Anomalies Research (PEAR) group, spearheaded by Brenda Dunne and Bob Jahn has just celebrated its 20th anniversary with a conference last June. 'Two Decades of PEAR' brings together 15 of their seminal publications in one volume and covers all their major areas of interest including PK, remote human-machine interaction, REG data, information and consciousness, and an essay on the science of the subjective. There is a catalogue of other publications as well. The book is priced at \$20 plus postage - about \$9 to Europe, and payment will be required by cheque or international postal money order. Enquire in advance with your order to Arnold L. Lettieri, Jr., PhD, Communications Director, PEAR Lab, C 131, E Quad, School of Engineering and Applied Science, Princeton University, Princeton NJ 08544. Fax: (609) 258 1993. Email: amlet@princeton.edu Web: www.princeton.edu/~pear/

Research on a Qualitative Understanding of Number

Matthew Watkins has sent me details of his research in this field. His starting point is a book by Marie Louise von Franz, *Time and Number*, where she argues that our culture has fallen into a grave imbalance by denying the qualitative understanding of number. His own work concerns the deeper significance of the distribution of prime numbers. This can be followed up initially on www.archetype.web66.com/zeta/quotes.htm

His researches so far indicate that the familiar 'shape' of the prime sequence is the result of some sort of hitherto unacknowledged self-organising dynamic/evolutionary/growth process and that the various mysterious analytic properties of the primes turned up by modern mathematics are 'clues' or 'relics' of the nature of the actual process involved. On this basis he is suggesting a 'creation myth' and has turned up some fascinating research which can be found on www.archetipo.web66.com/zeta/briefintro.com

A set of notes attempting to provide a coherent mathematical framework for his 'evolutionary hypothesis' can be found at www.archetipo.web66.com/zeta/evolutionnotes.htm Email: drsyntax@hotmail.com

Platonic Geometric Atomism in Mediaeval Design

Mike Bispham has been working for a number of years on the purpose of geometric polygons that underlie the composition of many mediaeval and renaissance paintings. He found the same principles reflected in Gothic architecture in the systems called 'ad triangulum' and 'ad quadratum'. This led to his conclusion that these two systems of design order churches, cathedrals and paintings according to the neoplatonic view of matter given by Plato in the *Timaeus*. The act of creating a temple is regarded as an exact replica of the original act of creation. A further consequence is that cathedrals have a crystalline appearance precisely because they are built in the same way that crystals are formed. See details on www.fupro.com/plat or write to Mike at Sunnybank, Church Path, Great Mongeham, Deal, Kent CT14 0HH. Tel: 01304 361311.

Transparency International (TI)

TI is a civil society organisation dedicated to curbing international and national corruption. Its concerns are humanitarian, democratic, ethical and practical. They focus on building systems that combat corruption and have compiled a Corruptions Perception Index that has triggered meaningful reform in many countries. Their National Integrity Source Book provides a standard reference book for reformers with practical steps and extensive best practice documentation. London address: Unit 6, 16-18 Empress Place, London SW6 1TT. Web: www.transparency.org

Manifesto 2000

Manifesto 2000 is a manifesto for a culture of peace and non-violence proposed by the Brahma Kumaris and drafted by a group of Nobel Peace Laureates. It is supported by the UN and UNESCO and will be presented to the UN General Assembly in September. You can obtain details of this from Brahma Kumaris, Global Co-operation House, 65 Pound Lane, London NW10 2HH. Email: iycp@bkwsu.com or you can sign on line at www.bkwsu.com/manifesto2000

Prince's Foundation Course on Islamic Arts

The Prince's Foundation is offering higher degrees in Visual Islamic & Traditional Arts. There are three types of course at MA level, each lasting two years: practical, project and degrees by thesis. Students are also encouraged to develop their art-craft through the study of the living traditional arts in ceramics, glass work, wood-carving, or painting. Students produce innovative work while observing time-honoured principles and techniques. All attend classes in calligraphy, geometry, arabesque and other skills. Details: VITA Administrator, Unit 6a, 44 Gloucester Avenue, London NW1 8JD.

The Psychic Pioneer Project

Launched in 1999, this project intends to make available again a wider range of source material by and about earlier workers in the psychic field, together with new scholarship. The first two booklets are *Occultism and Spiritualism*, a book review by Stainton Moses on A.P. Sinnett and the second is *The Mystery of Stainton Moses* by Leslie Price. Both are obtainable from D.J. Ellis, Fernwood, Nightingales, West Chilmington, Pulborough, West Sussex RH20 2QT.

Bleddfa Centre, Wales

The Bleddfa Centre is run by James Roose-Evans, priest and theatre director. It offers a varied programme of events, pilgrimages and exhibitions. Some events are one day, others weekends or even weeks - they cover psychological, spiritual and artistic themes. Programme from the Centre at Bleddfa, nr Knighton, Powys LD7 1PA.

World Ethic Forum

On www.geocities.com/worldethicforum/forumev.html This is an internet site devoted to questions of global, national and regional importance with an ethical dimension. Sub-themes include human ecology, social responsibility and spirituality. Email: worldethicforum@netscape.net