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THE NEW AGE ISN'T SO NEW AFTER ALL...

BBC BROADCASTS SERIES ON SPIRITUALISM AND ART

DOG OWNERS BELIEVE THEIR PET IS PSYCHIC

STUDIES SHOW POSSIBLE LINK BETWEEN AUTISM AND PSYCHIC ABILITIES

'DEAD' GIRL SAVES SISTER IN CAR CRASH

HAUNTED HOTELS AND HOSTELRIES IN YORK

VATICAN GROUP WILL STUDY MYSTICAL PHENOMENA

NEW ZEALAND SCEPTICS LAUNCH 'PROVE IT' CHALLENGE

TOURISTS 'HEAR' SOUNDS OF SECOND WORLD WAR BATTLE

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WEBSITE &
ONLINE SUBSCRIPTIONS
www.psychicnews.org.uk

ISSN 0033-2801

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FRONT COVER
Stonehenge (Photo: TheDigitalArtist/Pixabay)
Gordon Smith (Photo: Yann Weibel)



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TWO WORLDS ARE ONE

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM
THE EDITOR'S DESK

BY TONY ORTZEN

Santa's psychic story

AT the real risk of sounding jingoistic, when it comes to pomp and ceremony, no one does it better than the UK.

Like millions of others throughout the world, I settled down to watch the Coronation and for once felt pride in our much-diminished country.

What many people do not know is that a close friend of the King and Queen is Santa Montefiore, *The Sunday Times'* bestselling author of historical fiction and contemporary romance novels.

Her husband Simon Sebag Montefiore is a journalist, historian and author. His award-winning books on Catherine the Great, Potemkin, Jerusalem and Stalin are world best-sellers and have been translated into over 40 languages.

Their friendship with Charles and Camilla goes back for years. As well as her parents Charles and Patricia Palmer-Tomkinson, Santa and Simon were among guests in the friends' section at the Coronation in Westminster Abbey.

The Times said that Charles and Camilla "pop in for kitchen suppers" with Santa and Simon. What's more, the upmarket *Tatler* magazine reported a couple of weeks ago that the couple are amongst the King and Queen's "tight-knit social set."

Because of Charles' interest in a very



SANTA MONTEFIORE: "Spirits were very much part of my experience as a child."

broad range of diverse subjects, it seems certain that the paranormal has been discussed over the *After Eights*, especially as Santa has a fascinating psychic story.

Interviewed by former PN editor Roy Stemman, she told him: "I see dead people. I have done so since I was young.

Psychic News (incorporating Two Worlds)

Psychic News was founded in 1932 and *Two Worlds* in 1887. Both were established by famous mediums and joined forces in July 2018 to form a single publication promoting Spiritualism from an independent viewpoint and mind-body-spirit issues.

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AFTER the Coronation, the King and Queen returned to Buckingham Palace in the magnificent Gold State Coach, which was built in 1762 to transport British monarchs. (Photo: Katie Chan)

“Spirits were very much part of my experience as a child. At night, I would be aware of people or a person shuffling around the room or voices talking, and I’d be frightened.

“I would turn on the light and they would appear to have gone. As a child I thought they’d gone. They hadn’t gone, obviously; I’d just slipped out of that awareness, so I no longer saw them.

“It’s like when we see stars in the night sky. In daylight we can’t see them, but they are still there.”

Santa started developing her psychic abilities in her 20s after a friend put her in touch with the “amazing” healer and clairvoyant Susan Dabbs.

Santa’s farmer father, a well-connected English landowner and former Olympic skier, “has no psychic abilities, but he has always been very interested in the esoteric and is very well read on the subject.

“In my teens he gave me a book by Elisabeth Haich called *Initiation* and that’s when I started talking to him about my experiences.

“He and I have always had this connection. I’ve actually had a fascinating past-life regression where I went into two lives where he and I were together. He was my husband in one life and my brother in another.”

Santa’s parents have been friends of the King since the 1970s and regularly took holidays with him, particularly to ski.

Past lives are revealed

AT a past life regression session, Santa recalled being “a simple farmer’s wife in the 1700s in Yorkshire. I was very contented with my lot.

“I was with my children on one of those steep Yorkshire roads and remember seeing people getting out of a very fine carriage in lovely dresses and finery.

“I was looking at them in wonder, but not in envy. I wasn’t thinking, ‘I wish I was one of them.’ I was very content with my lot.”

During a second previous life, which was a hundred years later, around 1812 Santa “was a Spanish woman.

“I was very birdlike and dour, wearing black and looking after my sick mother, and feeling quite resentful, whereas my brother was in a French uniform, very dashing – like a peacock with a partridge – and he was a reveller and a gambler, and all that.”

Roy wrote: “We move rapidly on to Santa’s many other experiences, such as meditation, opening her chakras, psychometry, tarot reading (which she does for friends), dowsing, crystals (her large collection decorates every room, but particularly her study at the top of the house where she creates her novels), scrying (the next gift she hopes to develop) and astral travelling – mostly nocturnal flights around the garden or over the

Thames...

“It doesn’t take long before our conversation returns to seeing and communicating with spirits, which is hardly surprising since it is a recurrent theme in her best-sellers.”

Santa told Roy that now she is “much more finely tuned, I will see my grandmother – I absolutely see her like she’s standing in front of me. That is such a gift to be able to see her. I’ve seen her about half a dozen times.

“Then I started seeing other spirits. I experienced a couple of people in my cottage, Edward and Arthur, who would appear to me, and were quite alarming because they were very real.

“It was like having a man standing in my room in the middle of the night. Sue Dabbs actually came and moved them on and I was a bit sad in a way because I rather liked seeing people.”

Santa has also woken in the night and seen a woman standing by her bed, a manifestation that excites her so much she sits up and says “Hello!” out loud to the spirit visitor, who then just fades away.

“I write a lot about the spirit world in my books,” she said. “And for now that’s what I will concentrate on.”

The stone’s secret

DURING a short speech at the Coronation Concert which was held in the grounds of Windsor Castle, Prince William said of his grandmother, “I know she’s Up There keeping an eye on us.”

A similar sentiment was expressed by Grant Harrold. A former butler to the then Prince of Wales, Grant said that Elizabeth II would be “looking down” during the Coronation “and feeling very proud.”

During the ceremony, Charles sat on a centuries old throne, which had the Stone of Destiny placed underneath it. Now kept in Scotland, it was brought to London especially for the event.

But what’s the story behind the stone? Seen as a sacred object, it is an ancient symbol of Scotland’s monarchy and was

used for centuries during the inauguration of its kings.

Its earliest origins are lost in the mists of time, but in 1296, England's Edward I seized the stone, which was built into a new throne in Westminster. Since then, it has been used at Coronations for the monarchs of England and then Great Britain.

According to legend, the stone is sentient and "has various magical abilities, such as teleportation.

"However, it can only be convinced to use these abilities by the answering of a riddle. When active, the stone glows blue."

Another website says the stone originated in Bethel. An ancient Israelite sanctuary frequently mentioned in the Hebrew Bible, Bethel is first referred to in the bible as being near where Abraham pitched his tent.

Later, Bethel is mentioned as the location where Jacob dreams of a ladder into Heaven where the angels of God were ascending and descending upon it.

On Christmas Day 1950, four Scottish students removed the stone from Westminster Abbey. It turned up three months later at the High Altar of Arbroath Abbey.

Taken back to Westminster Abbey in 1951, it was placed under the Coronation chair in time for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II and officially returned to



GRANT HARROLD said Elizabeth II would be "looking down" during the Coronation "and feeling very proud." (Photo: Shell1973)



AS well as indicating "strength, life and fertility," the Green Man was also considered the spirit of the forest and is "thought to be a good luck charm," which "would ward away bad spirits."

Scotland in the mid-1990s.

Considered a priceless treasure, today the stone is kept in Edinburgh. Numerous myths and legends surround it, but its true story remains a secret.

Singer sees red on Green Man

WHAT a kerfuffle about nothing and what one newspaper headline called a "'paganism' row over prominent use of ancient Green Man symbol."

The lovely invitation to the Coronation contained some wonderful artwork, which included wildlife and flowers. One account said that this theme "nods to Charles' love of nature, sustainability and climate conservation.

"But some have disagreed over the face of the Green Man at the centre of the bottom of the ornate card."

Former Mumford & Sons band member Winston Marshall described it as Paganism and tweeted:

"Why is the Jolly Green giant more prominent on the Coronation invite than any Christian symbols?

"He's the head of the Church. Has he forgotten the first commandment 'Thou shalt have no other gods before me'? This is paganism. Shame."

Likewise taking to Twitter, life peer Zac Goldsmith commented: "Green Man is one of the most ancient symbols of all, and appears on countless churches across the land and beyond.

"It is a symbol, among other things, of our relationship with the natural world (or in Christian terms, God's creation). This is beautiful."

The Royal Family Twitter account said, "Designed by Andrew Jamieson, the invitation features the Green Man, an ancient figure from British folklore, symbolic of spring and rebirth, to celebrate the new reign."

I think that Winston Marshall has hit the wrong note. One site on the internet says the Green Man appears in medieval churches and represents "rebirth and resurrection tying together the old ancient Pagan symbols associated with spring with the Christian faith."

Another states that as well as indicating "strength, life and fertility," the Green Man was also considered the spirit of the forest and is "thought to be a good luck charm," which "would ward away bad spirits."

A third site said the Green Man stands for "health, hope and many positive things related to overall wellbeing."

In another lovely touch, Camilla's rescue dogs Bluebell and Beth were represented with two embroidered gold Jack Russell Terriers near the trim of her Coronation gown.

Royal tiara 'is cursed'

CAN an item of jewellery really be cursed? According to the *Daily Mirror*, although the Royal Family has been passing on priceless jewels for generations, "there's one tiara nobody wants to inherit."

Content Editor Paige Freshwater said the Strawberry Leaf Tiara "was commissioned by Prince Albert, husband of Queen Victoria, in 1861 as a wedding gift for their daughter, Princess Alice.

"However, the 'cursed' tiara claimed its

first victim when Prince Albert suddenly died of typhoid just months before the nuptials.

“Tragedy struck again when Princess Alice, who had moved to Germany with her husband, tragically lost two children after being gifted the diadem.”

Speaking on Channel 5’s documentary *Secrets of the Royal Jewellery*, historian Dr Kate Williams said the “beautiful tiara is known to be haunted because it brings bad luck to pretty much anyone who owns it or wears it.”

After Princess Alice passed on aged 35, the tiara was passed down to her son, Ernst, “who gave it to his wife to wear at the coronation of Tsar Nicholas II of Russia.

“While it was in their possession, the couple sadly lost a child and eventually divorced.”

After this, Ernst “entrusted it to his second wife, who seemed to escape its curse.

“However, their eldest son, Georg Donatus, Hereditary Grand Duke of Hesse, was not so lucky, as he died in a plane crash alongside his wife Princess Cecilie of Greece and Denmark, who was a sister of Prince Philip, and their two children.”

Princess Cecilie reportedly gave birth prematurely during the flight forcing an early landing, which resulted in the crash killing all of those on board.

Dr Williams added: “Awful, terrible, but the tiara survives through the crash, through the wreck, through the fire. So you see why it’s known as the haunted Strawberry Leaf Tiara.”

The so-called deadly diadem is now thought to be in storage alongside other Royal jewels at the Foundation of the House of Hesse.

A grave find

NOW to what one might term entertainment royalty and to Australian comedian, actor and author Barry Humphries, who has passed on aged 89.

Best-known as playing Dame Edna Everage, last year Barry said on *The Oldie Blog* that he was once spirit-guided to find a grave.

“I am regularly haunted and, like Sir



SEEN as Dame Edna Everage, Barry Humphries told of being guided to find the grave of one of his heroes. (Photo: Eva Rinaldi)

Arthur Conan Doyle, I find the ghosts of past loves to be the most terrible,” he wrote. “There is an alcove in my library which I call ‘spooky corner’”

Barry said that although he never actually saw a ghost, “I am convinced that, on several occasions in my life, I have been ‘guided.’”

One of his heroes was “the extraordinary musician” Percy Grainger, who passed in 1961.

After he performed in Adelaide twenty years ago, a journalist friend called Peter “suggested that we pay a midnight visit to the vast West Terrace Cemetery to pay our respects to Percy Grainger.

“I had not known that his grave was in Adelaide, but my friend assured me that he knew its exact location.”

Surprised to find the cemetery gates wide open, “we drove the car into a broad and sombre avenue.

“At this point, my friend broke down and confessed that he had absolutely no idea where to find Percy’s grave. He’d been telling porkies.

“It was then that I summoned my guide. ‘Please, Spirit, help me!’ I remember saying under my breath.”

The pair drove on in the darkness until suddenly Barry told Peter to stop the car.

Seizing a torch from the glove box, Barry “plunged into the tangled weeds and briars, stumbling on, totally obedient to

the internal promptings of my guide.

“I turned left, turned right, then left again, the beam from my torch dancing ahead, and noxious foliage slapping my face.”

Barry “battled even deeper into the dank boscage, and turned another corner, tripping on brambles and wild, overgrown fennel.

“Suddenly, the wavering beam from the torch hit a lopsided, white, marble obelisk, fissured like old bone. At that point, a mechanical voice should have said, ‘You have arrived at your destination.’

“Emerging from my trance, I heard my friend Peter yelling from the car yards away in the blackness: ‘Sorry, Barry – my cock-up. Let’s call it a day.’

“But there, in a place of 60,000 graves, in the dark, without a map, I’d found Percy. Or had Percy found me?”

Since then, Percy’s monument “has been cleaned up and disinterred from the jungle of neglect.”

I attended an Edna Everage show at the Royal Albert Hall many years ago for a truly magical evening.

I’ve no doubt that Barry’s packing them in on the Other Side. However, should he encounter any majestic forces, let’s hope he doesn’t greet them with “Hello Possums,” to use one of his famous expressions...

Radio 3 broadcasts series on Spiritualism and art

A RESPECTED art expert has been examining the influence of Spiritualism on western art, discussing how it helped shape movements such as modernism and surrealism.

Called *Artists and the Spirit World*, last month Jennifer Higgle's five-part BBC Radio 3 series looked at the seminal work of selected creators across 150 years, considering how spirit guides, mythology and the paranormal played a part in inspiring their greatest creations.

Episode one featured Swedish artist Hilma af Klint, a Theosophist and Spiritualist, who is now seen as pre-dating more famous abstract painters.

Speaking of a 2018 exhibition of work at the Guggenheim Museum in New York, Jennifer described her reaction to Hilma's 1907 series *The Ten Largest*, which the artist claimed was painted directly through her by a spirit guide.

"I remember standing in front of *The Ten Largest* and realising I had never encountered a suite of paintings that was so baffling and so exhilarating," said Jennifer. "Wandering from picture to picture was like travelling through the exalted corridors of someone's mind."

Jennifer added that if we accept the art was created not by Hilma but through her, it challenges "the idea that our relationship to time and space is a straightforward one."

Although now recognised as a luminary, in her lifetime Hilma attracted little recognition from the art world.

The second episode was about Wassily Kandinsky, commonly hailed as the pioneer of abstraction in Western art.

Jennifer said the artist's "brilliance evolved in response to meandering, often heated, conversations that spanned genders, communities, belief systems and centuries."

At the same time as creating his masterpiece, *Composition V*, in 1911 he published an essay titled *Towards the Spiritual in Art* in which he said, "The artist's



THIS colourful inspired work was produced by Hilma af Klint. (Image © Jerry Hardman-Jones)

is the hand that plays, touching one key or another, to cause vibrations in the soul."

According to Jennifer, the art world found it "indescribably embarrassing to mention art and Spirit in the same sentence."

The expert then turned her attention to Estella Canziani's 1914 work *The Piper Of Dreams*, in which an elf-like child, leaning against a tree in a springtime forest glade, plays a pipe. During the First World War it sold 250,000 copies.

"As all hell rained down upon the fields of Flanders and the Somme, it would seem that every muddy trench had a copy of the painting pinned to its walls – a talisman of a better world," said Jennifer.

Perhaps, she added, the imagery offered

"the world of spirits and fairies as a space that privileges solace over innovation."

Ithell Colquhoun's 1938 piece titled *Scylla* refers to a mythical fair maiden, who was turned into a raging six-headed monster as a result of sexual jealousy among the gods.

The painting suggested to Jennifer that Ithell "refutes herself as a one-dimensional being.

"She is complex, intellectual, her legs are fleshy and phallic; she's a landscape, a monster, a sea nymph, a woman. She will not be reduced to a type; her gender is not a one-liner.

"As a female artist unabashed by her sexuality, she was vocal that women must be artistically, emotionally, mythically and sexually empowered.

"Her work also reiterates that despite our protestations, human beings are more open to different energies than perhaps we realise."

In the final episode, Jennifer talked about Donna Huddleston's performance work, *Witch Dance*, a reinterpretation of a dance of the same name by Mary Wigman in 1914.

"More and more contemporary artists and curators are exploring the spiritual realm and questioning its exclusion from the art-historical canon," said Jennifer.

"The hashtag 'witch' has fifteen million posts on Instagram, millennials are into feminist witch parties, and astrology and tarot are booming."

Commenting on the dance, she describes it as "a performance piece in which scenes unfold as if in a trance.

"Glamour – with its original allusions to sorcery and the occult – pervades the work, as eight female dancers move in and out of light and smoke, hands splayed, in an evocation of terror, tension or power, fingers pointing to the sky, arms raised in supplication."

Rounding off her re-evaluation of the

Most dog owners believe their pet is psychic

ACCORDING to a new survey, more than eight in ten British dog owners think their pet has psychic abilities. Many believe their canine best friend can read their mind.

Research revealed that a majority of Britons claim that their pets have used mystic powers to predict the weather, spot unsuitable partners and even pick the winner of the Eurovision Song Contest.

Adem Fehmi, a canine behaviourist at pet care site rover.com which conducted the study, said dogs “are known for having strong senses – from their incredible sense of smell to their sensitive hearing.

“Their intuition is not something to be taken for granted either, as it can be just as prominent.”

Signs that a dog has sensed something unknown to their owners include pricking up their ears, barking or giving them their paw.

Adem added, “Just like humans, dogs are individuals and so the way they express their emotions and how they relay what their senses are telling them varies from dog to dog and – more common than not – circumstance to circumstance.”

A survey of more than 1,000 owners found that 83 per cent reckon their dog has psychic abilities including mind reading.

Two thirds – 65 per cent – trust their pooch to guide their choices. One in five would also trust their “best friend” to help make life-changing decisions.

More than a quarter – 28 per cent – think their dog has better intuition than human friends. Almost as many (25 per cent) trust their pet’s intuition more than their partner’s or even their own.

Nearly six in ten (57 per cent) will go where their dog wants to, letting them choose the route they take on a walk.

Three in ten respondents said they would sound out their pet on what to eat while eleven per cent looked to them for guidance to decide whether to forgive someone who had wronged them.

Six per cent would seek their dog’s approval on whether they should buy a house they are interested in.

The report said: “Swapping crystal balls for tennis balls, some owners even claim that their psychic pooch picks lottery numbers for them.

“Almost a third – 31 per cent – say it is comforting to let their dog decide things for them.”

The usual way for a psychic

dog to indicate the best option is by barking, cited by 46 per cent, or giving a paw (43 per cent).

Dogs are apparently most successful at predicting the weather, which was mentioned by 26 per cent.

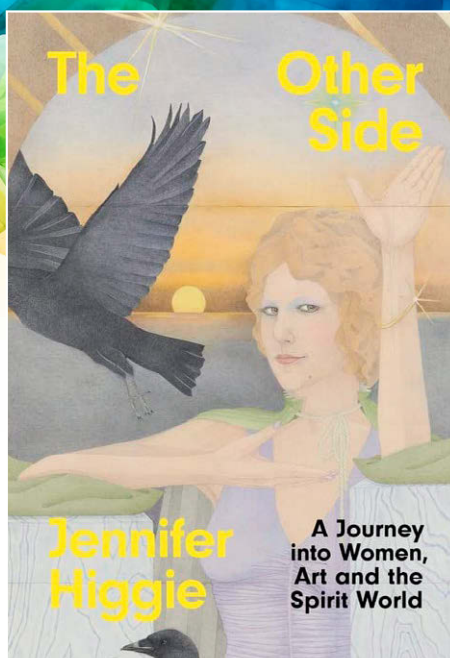
Their track record is also said to be impressive at sensing something good or bad is about to happen, each cited by 22 per cent of respondents.

Additionally, dogs can also apparently predict pregnancy, the gender of an unborn child, and illness. Psychic canines will even sniff out an unsuitable partner, sports results, marriage proposals and job offers.

Some of the “fur-tune tellers” are supposedly so accurate that they can tell what gift a loved one would like most or when the postman is exactly one street away.

The top ten things successfully predicted by dogs are:

1. The weather (26 per cent)
2. Something good was going to happen (22 per cent)
3. Something bad was going to happen (22 per cent)
4. An illness (19 per cent)
5. Pregnancy (19 per cent)
6. An unsuitable partner (14 per cent)
7. Gender of unborn child (10 per cent)
8. A sports result (9 per cent)
9. A marriage proposal (7 per cent)
10. A new job offer (7 per cent)



influence of Spiritualism on the art of the past 150 years, Jennifer celebrated the revival of interest in other realms within the art world and beyond it.

Artists and the Spirit World was broadcast as part of the ongoing series *The Essay*. The fifteen-minute programmes are still available to listeners on iPlayer.

Australian-born Jennifer moved to London in the 1990s. Previously the editor of *Frieze* magazine and a judge of the Turner Prize, she is the writer and presenter of *Bow Down*, a podcast about women in art history.

Jennifer has recently produced a book titled *The Other Side* in which she explores the lives and work of a group of extraordinary women from the twelfth-century mystic, composer and artist Hildegard of Bingen to the nineteenth-century Spiritualist artist Georgiana Houghton.

Also included are Hilma af Klint, Ithell Colquhoun and the “Desert Transcendentalist,” Agnes Pelton, who painted her visions beneath the vast skies of California.

The publicity for the book says: “While the individual work of these artists is unique, the women loosely shared the same goal: to communicate with, and learn from, other dimensions.

“Weaving in and out of these myriad lives, sharing her own memories of otherworldly experiences, Jennifer Higgle discusses the solace of ritual, the gender exclusions of art history, the contemporary relevance of myth, the boom in alternative ways of understanding the world and the impact of Spiritualism on feminism and contemporary art.”

■ **“The Other Side: A Journey into Women, Art and the Spirit World” is published by Orion Publishing Co. It can be ordered from bookshops or various sites on the internet.**



Sir Arthur's items go under the hammer

COLLECTORS of Spiritualist memorabilia still have time to make an offer on an archive related to author and paranormal researcher Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

A lot containing correspondence about a 1929 Spiritualism lecture tour to Africa and various séances went to auction in America in April, but failed to reach its \$4,000 (£3,169) reserve.

Chicago-based auctioneers Potter & Potter confirmed to *Psychic News* that readers can still make a bid to purchase it.

At an auction titled *A Study in Sherlock*, the 282 lots featured books by Sir Arthur, with photos and many items of ephemera such as film posters and cigarette cards.

A first edition of the novel *The Hound of the Baskervilles* fetched \$7,000 (£5,546) against the estimate of \$2,000-\$3,000 (£1,584-£2,376) while a set of six hand-painted lead figurines depicting the story's characters sold for \$475.00 (£376.00), more than double the expected price.

Props used by actor Jeremy Brett in his TV portrayal of Sherlock Holmes also fared well: the detective's trademark Irish Shillelagh pipe sold for \$750.00 (£594.00) and a dressing gown worn by Mr Brett went under the hammer at \$7,000 (£5,546). Buyers had an additional premium of 25 per cent to pay.

The items belonged to the Sherlockian enthusiast Robert Hess. The auction website stated:

"Original Doyle letters and manuscripts will likely claim top-lot status in this sale. Chief among them is an archive of correspondence regarding Doyle's Spiritualism lecture tour to Africa in 1929, estimated at \$8,000-\$12,000 (£6,338-£9,507)."

Lot 279 included letters between Sir Arthur and his acting secretary Charles Ashton Jonson regarding the tour, and accounts of various séances conducted by Margery and others while he was away.

Known as Margery, Canadian-born medium Mina Crandon was the wife of a wealthy American surgeon. She held sittings in the 1920s, which attracted many famous followers.

In 1924, Margery applied for a prize offered by *Scientific American* magazine, in which she had to prove her psychic gift.

Magician and escapologist Harry Houdini observed the test and claimed he spotted Margery cheating. More experiments followed, but Margery did not



SIR ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE is seen with his son Adrian around 1930. (Photo: German Federal Archives)

win the money.

The auction papers included three typed pages of a dictated séance message "from Kingsley through Mrs Scales" dated December 28, 1929.

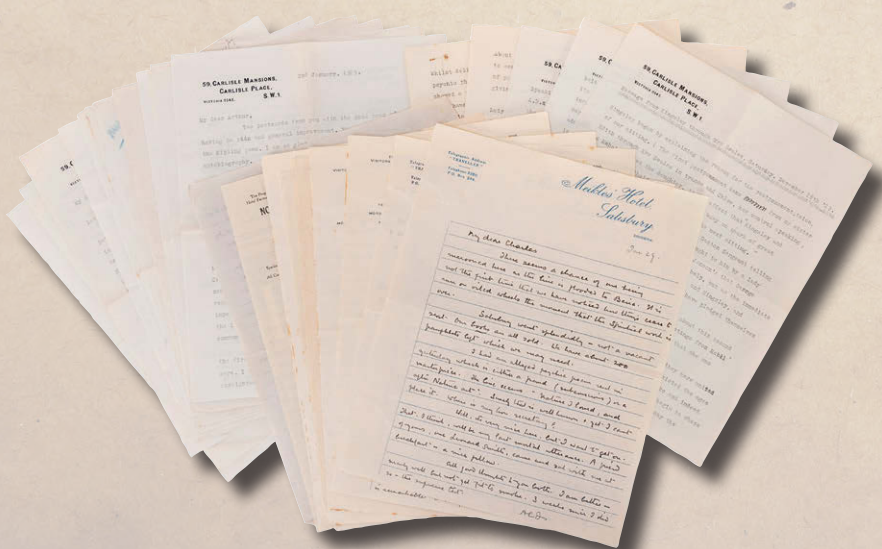
Kingsley was Sir Arthur's son, who served in the First World War, but succumbed to influenza on October 28, 1918.

The Potter & Potter catalogue said, "From November 1928 to April 1929, Sir Arthur travelled with his family to Africa – the account was published by John Murray in the 1929 work titled *Our African Winter* – conducting numerous Spiritualism lectures in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) and Nairobi."

A page described Sir Arthur's lecture at Nairobi in March 1929, where he produced a psychic photograph said to feature a figure in a haunted house.

The auctioneers stated that "A man in the audience stood up and claimed that he had himself posed for that photograph pretending to be a ghost. This was later debunked."

The lot included a letter to his secretary dated November 19, 1929, in which Sir



HERE are some of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's letters which were offered at the auction. (Photo: Potter & Potter)

Arthur wrote that a spirit being called Pheneas had intervened and stopped him from travelling on to Scandinavia "in so decisive a way that it was perfectly impossible for me to go. I wonder whether he saw that danger threatened me from the quarter?"

Pheneas was Sir Arthur's guide and made contact via the author's wife Jean, first through automatic writing and later through semi-trance channelling.

Predictions by the medium Mrs Scales, obtained during a séance in December 1929, were more encouraging, stating "...by the middle of January you will be very much better (referring to his health conditions).

"It also seems as if you would get so very much better that you will go on some kind of a continental tour in the Spring, and that it will be a very triumphant and memorable occasion."

At the end of the year, Sir Arthur travelled to Scandinavia and Holland on a gruelling lecture tour.

Auction lot 280, which was also unsold, contained correspondence to his personal secretary Constance Holland, whom he called "Tiny," regarding the trip.

Sir Arthur reported the "great success" that he was having, selling out meetings with as many as 2,000 people in attendance.

In one of the letters to Tiny, Sir Arthur wrote of his failing health, saying: "Doctor says I have to take it more seriously. Three weeks in bed!"



THIS historic poster highlighted Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's interest in Spiritualism.

He did not heed the advice and suffered a heart attack soon afterwards. Sir Arthur passed at his home in Crowborough, East Sussex, on July 7, 1930.

Arthur Ignatius Conan Doyle was born in Edinburgh on May 22, 1859. He showed an early interest in writing, but trained and practised as a physician during the 1880s.

His study of diagnosis techniques led him to create the logical, calculating detective Sherlock Holmes.

The sleuth was based at 221b Baker Street, London NW1, a fictional address, which now exists as the Sherlock Holmes Museum. Holmes' famous catchphrase was "Elementary, my dear Watson," delivered to his long-suffering assistant.

Sir Arthur wrote 68 stories featuring Holmes, starting with *A Study in Scarlet* published in 1887. He also wrote non-fiction, including two books explaining Britain's position in the Boer War, for which he received his knighthood.

Ten of his books were on the subject of Spiritualism. This lost him many literary friends who did not share his belief. His masterly *History of Spiritualism* runs to two volumes.

Some wrongly assume that Sir Arthur turned to Spiritualism following the passing of his son in 1918, but in an undated interview contained in papers at the University of Texas, he explained that as a medical man he had been firmly agnostic.

However, in 1887 "some curious psychic experiences" occurred, convincing him of the power of telepathy.

Sir Arthur wrote, "The question then arose, 'If two incarnate minds could communicate, is it possible for a discarnate one to communicate with one that is still in the body?'"

Doyle spent the next twenty years examining the evidence and "came finally to the conclusion, beyond all doubt, that such communication was possible."

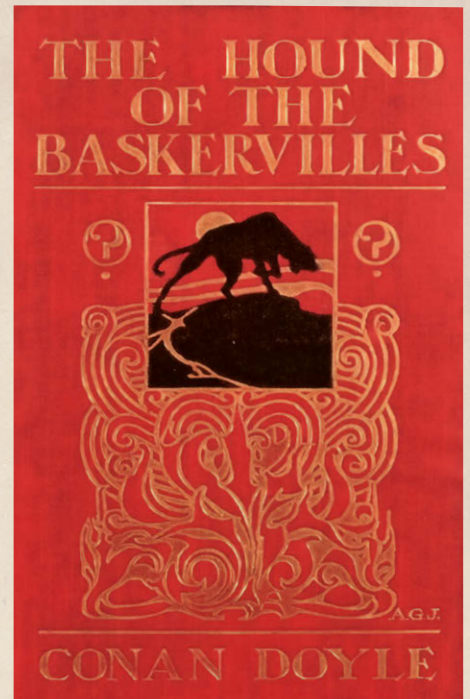
He admitted that the "full importance of the matter" became clear after the First World War, when so many people were asking, "Where are our dead boys?"

Asked what benefit he gained from Spiritualism, Sir Arthur answered: "The first thing is that it absolutely removes all fear of death. Secondly it bridges death for those dear ones whom we may lose."

Doyle felt Spiritualism was "infinitely more important than literature, art, politics, or in fact anything in the world."

The author spent thousands of pounds setting up The Psychic Bookshop in 1925 in Victoria Street, London SW1, behind Westminster Abbey. The shop closed after his passing.

Published on July 8, 1930, The New



A FIRST edition of "The Hound of the Baskervilles" fetched over £5,000.

York Times obituary commented that "Up to the end, his enthusiasm for psychic investigation was unflagging."

A bulletin by Associated Press added that the novelist's son, Adrian Conan Doyle, said: "Why, of course, my father fully believed that when he passed over he would continue to keep in touch with us. All his family believe so, too."

Commenting on the possibility of deceit, Adrian said: "It is quite possible that these jokers may attempt to impersonate him."

"But there are tests which my mother knows, such as little mannerisms of speech which cannot be impersonated and which will tell us it is my father himself who is speaking."

A week later, thousands of people attended a meeting at the Royal Albert Hall at which Sir Arthur communicated.

In 1934, a meeting held by Latvian medium Noah Zerdin at London's Aeolian Hall attracted a capacity audience of 560 people. Sir Arthur was one of 44 people heard speaking from the afterlife.

The British Library holds a recording of the novelist's spirit voice. The clip and a recorded interview can be heard on its website at <https://blogs.bl.uk/english-and-drama/2014/05/the-spirit-voice-of-sir-arthur-conan-doyle.html>

To find out more about the sale of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle memorabilia, or to express an interest in the unsold lots, visit www.potterauctions.com



Gordon teams up with top American medium

(Card artwork by Naomi Walker)

Exciting times lie ahead for Scottish medium Gordon Smith. Not only does this month see the publication of a new oracle deck he created, but later on this year he will be appearing in Scotland, England and Switzerland with top-flight American medium James Van Praagh.

A few weeks ago, “PN” caught up with Gordon, who currently lives with his two Springer spaniels, Cookie and Lizzy, in Argyll, where he enjoys the nurturing energy of the magnificent Scottish Highlands.

The first question put to him was, “Why did you choose James to work with whilst on tour?”

JAMES and I are friends and share very similar ideas and values about mediumship. I also believe that because we have both been working mediums for many years, we bring a joint amount of experience to the public platform.

We support each other’s work, which is very important when working with other mediums. We both believe it is important to show the joy of Spirit in our work.

Known as “The Happy Mediums,” last year you and James worked in America. Can you give readers some details?

I flew out to Arizona where I was one of the keynote speakers at a very large conference for an organisation called Helping Parents Heal, which has a global following of four million.

I gave a demonstration of mediumship to the parents and other family members who had lost children and wanted to make contact with them.

After my time in Arizona, I joined James in San Diego, California, where we gave a workshop and a demonstration to a packed room.

The term “The Happy Mediums” was born from that evening, as so many people commented on how joyful the session was and how we both appeared to be very happy to share our gift of mediumship.

Do you manage to fit in some churches or

deliberately concentrate on theatres, so you can reach a wider non-Spiritualist audience?

Unfortunately, there are not so many Spiritualist churches in America, but for me it was more important to serve the charity. More than 900 families attended and were given messages from spirit loved ones and teachings on life after death.

One of the things I have learned to do on my many years of travel is to find out where there are Spiritualist churches in the areas where I work and remind my audience that they can attend one local to them.

This is something I do whenever I give a large demonstration in the UK. It is important that we point people to the churches, as it’s where most of us started out.

Do you ever get slightly apprehensive when you’re working in a theatre which seats thousands of people?

I think it is natural to be apprehensive before you stand up before a large group of people, but over the years I have learned to trust my link with the spirit world.

Mediums who work in larger venues want the event to succeed, but this will only happen when you learn to push past the nerves and begin the demonstration.

If I am nervous, it’s more to do with me. The moment Spirit connects I leave it up to them.



THIS fun photo of Gordon Smith and fellow medium James Van Praagh wearing kilts was taken in the USA.

Later this year, you and James are demonstrating together in Switzerland. Why did you choose this location?

Both James and I have worked for the PSI-Verein in Basel and love how they manage things.

Basel borders three other European countries, so our audience there is made up of Swiss, German, Italian and French. It is a good way to bring our work to different nations in one place.

Do you find that residents in some countries are more open to accepting mediumship and the idea of life after death than others?

These days I believe that people are becoming more open to the idea of life after death.

Going back several years I would say that countries where a specific religion was a dominant force might make it difficult for mediums and even spiritual healers to be



GORDON SMITH: "A spirit message should have some bearing on the life of the person you are speaking to and not just vague sentiments or platitudes."
(Photo: Yann Weibel)

totally understood or believed.

I have worked in many countries like this and find that persistence is everything. If we are going to open doors, we must keep knocking.

Does it make matters more complicated if you have to work via an interpreter?

The first few times I worked with an interpreter were quite difficult because I tend to speak faster when I'm working in the power with Spirit, but with practise I have learned to adapt.

Some languages have more descriptive words than others, so I learn to follow the pace of the translator and sometimes look for words I know will translate easily. In many ways my translators are like mediums delivering the clearest message possible.

As a medium, what do you think constitutes good evidence of life after death?

A clear description of the spirit contact helps at the very start of the session. This should be followed by evidence from the communicator, which ought to be corroborated by the recipient.

Sometimes, this includes little things the spirit person has witnessed about the life of a recipient in current times. I always feel that this shows the spirit contact is still living and intelligent, is aware of what's going on and still in contact with this world.

Also, a spirit message should have some bearing on the life of the person you are speaking to and not just vague sentiments or platitudes. A true spirit message should be clear, have meaning and purpose, and bring an element of healing to the recipient.

On your next tour, you and James are demonstrating in the UK. Where are you

visiting?

James and I will be demonstrating at Glasgow's Pavilion Theatre, which opened in far-off 1904.

After that, we'll head down to Berkshire, where we'll give an evening of mediumship at the four-star Alpine-style Coppid Beech Hotel near Reading and a workshop the following day at the same venue.

We have been asked to do more events, but on this occasion, we want to go for quality over quantity. We are both getting on now!

You've demonstrated in various countries such as Japan, Australia and Germany. It always sounds glamorous working abroad, but is it taxing when one takes in account changes in time zones, hanging about at airports, coping with delays and living out of a suitcase, etc?

Life on the road isn't always glamorous, especially when you look at all the points you listed.

I tend just to get on with my work and don't truly relax or enjoy somewhere until the travelling part is over.

Ten years ago I could really handle the travel and all it entails, but now I choose my places wisely and pace myself. Travelling abroad is great experience, but we have to remember to look after ourselves.

Your latest venture is a 48-card deck called "The Healing Spirits Oracle" with a guidebook of 100-plus pages. How long did it take to devise the deck?

The oracle deck came to me very quickly during lockdown. I had a really creative time when I spent almost two years at home because of Covid and the deck was one of the things I loved doing.

I wanted to create a spiritual tool that people could use to give hope and

encouragement to keep going on.

I wrote the accompanying guidebook in no more than a month; it was one of those things that just downloaded into my mind. Obviously, I amended it after its initial creation, but my part was done very quickly.

Were you helped by anyone on the Other Side to create it?

I sent out thoughts to the spirit world and asked for help to reduce fear in people, and felt that there was a strong sense of Spirit directing me in this project.

I have included spiritual healing meditations and practices in the book and know that the healing spirit who works with me inspired this.

What's the main purpose behind the deck?

To learn how to heal yourself and others. Today, many people seem to appear so defeated with the intensity of what's happening in the world.

They've also begun to resign themselves to their lot, so I wanted to find a very positive and simple way to lift the body, mind and spirit with an oracle which was all about healing, light and colour.

Can you tell readers something about Naomi Walker who created the cards' luminous artwork?

I had never met or spoken to Naomi when I began to work on the oracle deck. I was looking for images that I could connect to my writing and found something I liked at London's College of Psychic Studies.

I looked at some very old spirit art which hangs on the walls there and wondered how I could recreate such a transient image of light and colour to my work.

Shortly after this, my publisher Hay House showed me some illustrations they

had been sent by an artist called Naomi Walker and couldn't believe her beautiful almost formless visions, which I knew were to be the illustrations for the deck. Somehow our minds truly connected.

Can individuals use the cards on themselves and other people?

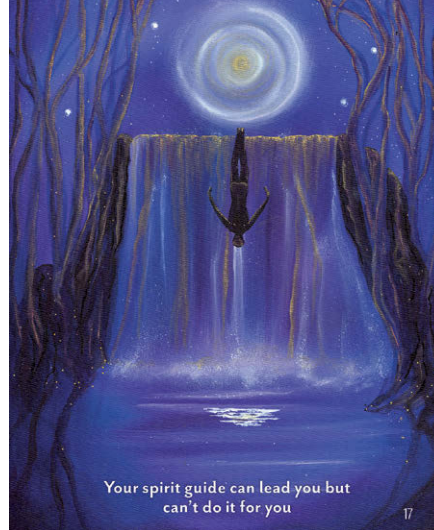
This deck is designed to work on oneself and others. I also include practices to help give a better understanding of how Spirit works to heal us and how we can use the cards as visualisations of healing energy to send to others.

As we have free will, can tarot cards really predict the future?

I believe that some lines of time are begun and will end at a particular point and therefore can be seen and described by a seer or psychic.

However, I also understand that we can come to moments of decision where we can change the timeline according to the choices we make.

You've written 23 books, which have been



translated into over twenty languages. Do you have to cope with a lot of mail from readers?

In my 30-plus years of mediumship and writing about it, I have had so many actual letters that I couldn't even estimate the number. Today I receive e-mails and messages on social media, etc, and my home is much tidier because of this.

Some of your previous books were titled "Developing Mediumship," "The Amazing Power of Animals," "One Hundred Answers from Spirit" and "Stories from the Other

Side." Do you plan any more books?

I have so many ideas and inspirations at the moment, but because I am travelling again, they have been put on the back burner for now.

I always form ideas from my work and episodes of mediumship, so as long as I work, I will create.

What's the greatest lesson you've learned from being a medium?

You cannot die for the life of you.

How would you sum up your philosophy of life in two or three sentences?

My philosophy has changed over the years. Now I would say it really is all about being happy, being kind when you can and having good people in your life.

■ **Published by Hay House UK at £17.99, "The Healing Spirits Oracle" will be available from June 6.**

For more information on Gordon and James, please visit www.gordonsmithmedium.com and www.vanpraagh.com

True healing 'comes from caring'

THE *Guidebook to The Healing Spirits Oracle* gives useful interpretations for each card as well as a Preface and an introduction to working with the spirit world.

Gordon writes: The messages in the cards will help you understand your true purpose, grow on your spiritual path and bring knowledge that will allow you to dispel the curse of ignorance from your life and bring you spiritual and physical wellbeing. These messages come from:

- Spirit healers and helpers, whose messages work with the immediate part of your life to help you build and strengthen your energy and to keep it flowing while you develop a better sense of self.
- Spirit guides, who send messages of positivity and spiritual lessons which will allow you to move more easily along life's path with the added knowledge that you are never on your own.
- Spirit sages and masters, whose ancient wisdom will allow you to see new possibilities and bring clarity when life seems blocked or chaotic.
- Guardian spirits, whose special messages are aimed at all the levels of life that require their wisdom, direction and of course tools for healing yourself and any situations that are causing you concern...



As well as having loving family and connections in the spirit world, you also have a healing spirit who will attend you when asked. Do not be afraid to do so because healing spirits have an abundance of spiritual energy to share.

In times of need, do not hesitate to call on them for help and healing, or to ask to be a vessel of healing for others.

The universe is governed by a natural law of give and take; therefore, as we receive, so must we give, and vice versa.

Healing spirits can teach you how to heal yourself and others, and be in the flow of the great energy of the universe.

Remember: true healing comes from caring, and those who care are already channels for compassionate healing spirits.

When you choose a card from this set, you are sending out a healing prayer either for a particular need in your own life or for someone or a situation you care about.

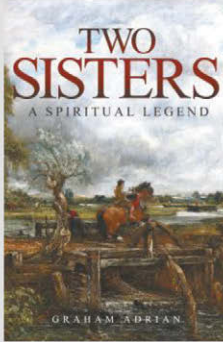
Healing spirits work with compassion, and that is what you will be taught by the cards in this set, as well as the act of healing.

PN has five sets of *The Healing Spirits Oracle* to give away as prizes. To enter, please answer the question "In which country is it generally agreed that tarot cards originated?" Send the answer and your name and address to: The Healing Spirits Oracle, Psychic Press Ltd, Unit 2, Griggs Business Centre, West Street, Coggeshall, Essex CO6 1NT

You can also enter by e-mail at pneditorials@gmail.com The closing date for entries is August 12, 2023.

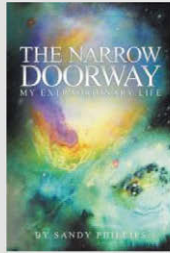
SPIRITUAL BOOKS

to entertain and inspire you



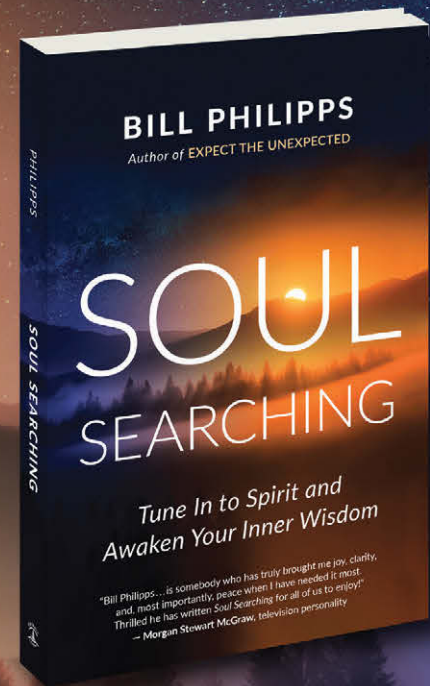
Nance is brave yet her reckless actions are only taking her to the gallows! Can her loving sister in the spirit world save her? Graham's debut novel is a unique spiritual adventure story that inspires belief in a just afterlife, where our spiritual efforts here are rewarded.

Sandy Phillips has lived an extraordinary life, growing up in the London Blitz with an hereditary psychic gift that taught her the love and power of Spirit. She gives a message of hope – we are never alone and our loved ones live on, walking beside us.



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"Bill Philipps... is somebody who has truly brought me joy, clarity, and, most importantly, peace when I have needed it most. Thrilled he has written *Soul Searching* for all of us to enjoy!"

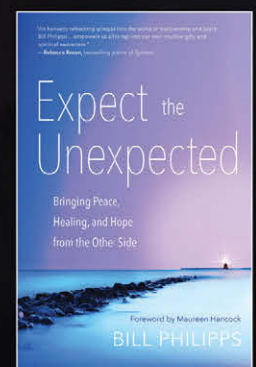
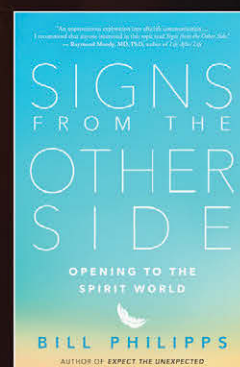
— MORGAN STEWART MCGRAW, television personality



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— FORBES ROBBINS BLAIR, bestselling author of *Instant Self-Hypnosis*

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New Vatican group will study 'weeping' statues

A VATICAN academy which promotes devotion to the Virgin Mary is to investigate alleged visions of the saint and other mystical phenomena around the world.

The Pontifical International Marian Academy (PAMI) has set up a monitoring body specifically to study and monitor cases of "weeping statues," apparitions and wounds that appear on living people, particularly on the hands and feet.

The new body will investigate cases which have not yet received an official church pronouncement regarding their authenticity.

A press release from the academy's President, Franciscan Father Stefano Cecchin, said it is "important to provide clarity because often presumed messages generate confusion, spread anxiety-inducing apocalyptic scenarios or even accusations against the Pope and the church."

The academy will be made up of experts including a lawyer who specialises in safeguarding people who are susceptible to criminal manipulation, fraud or deceit.

The news comes as an alleged visionary in a town 30 miles north of Rome faces scrutiny by police and the local bishop.

Gisella Cardia has been at the centre of a media frenzy after claiming that stigmata appeared on her body, and that a statue of Mary she owns cries tears of blood.

Ms Cardia claimed that a vision of Mary appears to her regularly on the third of every month on a hill above the pretty lakeside town of Trevignano Romano.

For a time, hundreds of followers gathered on the hill to see the miracle for

themselves, prompting complaints from local residents, who number around 5,000.

Believers insist that Ms Cardia correctly predicted the Covid 19 pandemic. Many of her messages warn of earthquakes, pestilence and wars.

However, the local newspaper reported that prosecutors were investigating allegations from people who felt they had been scammed into making large donations to Ms Cardia's foundation.

In an interview with Vatican journalist Franca Giansoldati, Ms Cardia said it was "not pleasant to be portrayed as a crook, especially when you have a clear conscience.

"I feel under attack from dark forces, unidentified powers. My soul is broken; my heart is broken. If I didn't have the strength to pray, I wouldn't be able to go on."

Ms Cardia said she started to receive messages from Mary after buying her statue in 2016 in Medjugorje, a small village in Bosnia-Herzegovina where apparitions of Mary have allegedly been witnessed.

Arthur Parashar gave other examples in the *Daily Mail*, including the case of a statue that apparently wept tears of olive oil.

The seven-foot bronze figure of Mary in the Roman Catholic church of Our Lady of Guadalupe began leaking the substance on Pentecost Sunday on May 20, 2018.

Parishioners at the church in Hobbs,

New Mexico, noticed that there appeared to be tears streaming from Mary's eyes.

The statue continued "weeping" the next day and has done so on other occasions since. Thousands of people have flocked to see the phenomenon.

Another statue of Mary in north-west Argentina was seen "weeping" tears of blood in 2018 for what was reputed to be the thirty-eighth time in a year. A video posted by the *Daily Mail* on its website shows the statue with red liquid pouring down its cheeks.

The statue's owner said she acquired the figure following a miscarriage. When tears of blood began to flow, 10,000 people turned up at her house to see for themselves. One woman said she had been cured of a tumour after visiting the statue.

In Acapulco, south-western Mexico, another statue was said to have "shed tears" in front of its owners.

"The saint was a Mexican version of the Virgin Mary, nicknamed la Morenita, or the brunette," said the paper.

"Devout followers were astonished when images and videos surfaced of tears seemingly streaming down its cheeks."

Father Gian Matteo Roggio, who has built a career studying the Virgin Mary, said Roman Catholic church authorities are closely following "around a hundred ongoing phenomena."

He told local Italian media that many do not "receive attention from the media and the general public."

Veterans seek meditation for stress disorder relief

FORMER American service personnel suffering from the effects of traumatic experiences are finding relief in transcendental meditation.

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a recognised condition which can blight the mental health of those who witnessed a shocking or terrifying event.

In extreme cases such as war, major disaster or serious injury, the resulting disorder can lead sufferers to take their own life.

The US Department of Veteran Affairs 2022 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Report said that nearly a quarter of veterans who passed by suicide in 2020 had been diagnosed with PTSD.

The report revealed that the average number of Veteran suicides per day rose from 16.4 in 2001 to 16.8 in 2020. It peaked in 2018 with an average of 18.6 per day. Men and women aged 18-34 showed the highest rate of suicide.

Addiction to drugs and substance abuse were also found to be common among service personnel who were struggling to cope.

According to Beth Rush on patheos.com, a cross-faith spirituality website, experts were compelled to seek solutions such as transcendental meditation (TM).

"There is no time frame on how long PTSD lasts – some cases range from months to years," said Beth.

"Those diagnosed with it may experience powerful physical and emotional reactions to triggers. Sometimes, people develop PTSD long after the event occurs.

"Extensive studies have examined the positive effects of transcendental meditation on veterans with PTSD.

"Researchers have found that a routine practise can significantly benefit those diagnosed with such a challenging mental health condition."

Beth explained that TM "is a mantra-based meditation practice in which the practitioner repeats a word or phrase in their head for a set duration of time."

TM allows participants to reach a deep state of relaxation, so their mind becomes clearer and more alert. No equipment is needed.

"You need to sit comfortably twice daily for twenty minutes with your eyes closed," Beth explained. "The longer you repeat your chosen word or phrase, the more your conscious mind moves toward the mantra." Mantras can be vibrational sounds from



EXTENSIVE studies "have examined the positive effects of transcendental meditation on veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder."

Vedic traditions, such as:

Om (or Aum): The most sacred mantra that's repeated at the beginning and end of Sanskrit teachings. It is said to be the original vibration of the universe, the primordial sound of creation.

Om Namah Shivaya: A worship phrase that translates to "I bow to Lord Shiva." It also means honouring yourself, as Shiva resides in all consciousnesses.

Aham Prema: An acknowledgment that we are all worthy of love, translating to "I am Love" or "I am Divine Love."

Sat Nam: Translated as "I am Truth," or "Truth is my essence," which encourages us to live in connection with our highest selves.

A TM teacher can help people discover the best mantra for their needs.

"Ultimately," said Beth, "the mantra's vibrational sounds pull your attention away from active thoughts and settle the mind. This is what makes TM for veterans with PTSD so powerful."

Some of the benefits include less stress, better sleep, lower anxiety and depression, and improved concentration. It can help individuals make better decisions and boost the immune system, improving physical health too.

TM has been used effectively to alleviate chronic pain. One study published in 2021 suggested that 50 per cent of veterans who practised TM no longer met the diagnostic criteria for PTSD. Veterans also self-reported fewer feelings of depression, anxiety and insomnia.

Beth added that those with a religious faith might be interested to know that "although TM is rooted in Hinduism, it isn't considered religious, meaning anyone from any faith or denomination can participate.

"Transcendental meditation for PTSD

relief can only help those willing to try it with an open mind."

In the UK, 1,086 veterans took their own lives between 1996 and 2018. According to a study by the University of Manchester, those aged under 35 were at greater risk than older groups.

A number of organisations exist to relieve PTSD in service personnel. Head Up, a mental health charity for the armed forces, is raising funds to create a retreat "for all those who have served, and are still serving, in any service of the UK military, who wish to improve their mindset and outlook."

Yoga and different forms of meditation including TM will be available. The Army has a free mindfulness course available on its website at army.mod.uk

Army personnel can download the Headspace app, "a mental health toolkit and personal guide to mindfulness, sleep, focus and movement, with 70 million users worldwide."

One officer who used the app to practise mindfulness meditations said: "It felt like a weight had lifted off my shoulders. It was a weight I didn't realise was there."

The NHS also has a dedicated scheme called Op Courage to help serving personnel who are due to leave the military and their families. It assists veterans no matter how long it is since they left.

Contact details for each local area are listed at www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/armed-forces-community/mental-health/veterans-reservists/

Aimed at former members of the British Armed Forces, Combat Stress has a helpline on 0800 1381619. It is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Foundation vows not to 'give up the ghost'

TRUSTEES at America's Parapsychology Foundation have issued an urgent plea, saying "we are about to run out of money."

Unless financial support is found immediately, the 72-year-old organisation will have to fold, according to Lisette Colby, granddaughter of world-famous medium Eileen Garrett, who founded the not-for-profit company.

Psychic News told last year of the foundation's plight and the risk that its huge library of books, films and documents might be lost if it could not find suitable premises.

Fortunately, "its future is at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County," said Lisette. "Now we are setting about saving the organisation that over the years has been acknowledged to have faithfully served the parapsychological community and the public."

Irish-born Eileen Garrett was orphaned as a child and brought up by her aunt and uncle. She started seeing visions at an early age and began training seriously in the 1920s after moving to London.

Life magazine once termed her "Probably one of the best-known and most reliable psychics in the world."

Lisette said, "In several of her books, some still in print such as *Adventures in the Supernormal*, *Awareness*, *Call Me Lucifer*, as well as others I hope to reintroduce, she tried without fail to bring about a greater understanding of these so-called gifts to ultimately stimulate research into them."

Eileen hoped not only to find answers to the questions her experiences raised, but "to provide a deeper understanding of their ultimate use for humankind as we all seek to understand the why and wherefore of our existence here and possibly beyond."



EILEEN GARRETT: "I became a guinea pig for research."

In her 1950 book *The Sense and Nonsense of Prophecy*, Eileen wrote: "I became a serious worker in the field of psychic research in the hope that we were on the threshold of a new era of understanding.

"In order to preserve my professional integrity I made it a point to refuse all offers of money or publicity that came as a result of my work.

"I would no doubt be an extremely wealthy woman by now had I listened to some of these offers, but my usefulness to research would have been at an end."

Eileen told of offers she refused, including one to join a circus as "Madame Oxana, the lady who could read the future." For that she would have to lead the parade "dressed in a leopard skin costume and seated on an elephant."

She was also asked to assist in nightclub séances and to become the proprietor of a chain store of séance parlours.

"Cast horoscopes in our columns, give advice to the lovelorn – for a consideration – on a radio program... get the dollars by means for your research," a salesman urged her, "and you will be happy and rich as well."

Eileen discounted them all, saying "Unfortunately, there is no such thing as a little fraud or a little showmanship."

The medium was sometimes described as "difficult to please" because her insistence on the need for thorough investigation left her "impatient with all the soft lights and ethereal music, the mumbo-jumbo and petty bickering of psychic and pseudo-psychic circles."

Eileen proved her worth at the then British College of Psychic Science in London. She later wrote:

"I became a guinea pig for research. While suspicious psychologists probed my brain, scientists evaluated the results obtained from endless and exhausting tests for clairvoyance, and often shook their heads in negation.

"There were no crystal balls, no beaded curtains, no incense: my séance chamber was a cold laboratory, my 'clients' were hard-bitten, doubting scientists who set traps and fired questions at me for three years, and my fee for services rendered was a series of severe headaches.



LISETTE COLBY: "Do not make the mistake of counting the Parapsychology Foundation as dead." (Photo: parapsychology.org)

"But when the investigation was completed, I accepted the fact that I was a genuine sensitive and that any discoveries I might be fortunate enough to make in the realm of the supernatural would be authentic, however minor."

This was her motivation to study psychic ability "with a scientific attitude, coldly and objectively, with no emotions showing. Understanding lay not in sentimental nonsense, but in getting down to a job of work."

After moving to America, Eileen was able to found the Parapsychology Foundation with support from a wealthy businesswoman.

The work continued after Eileen's passing in 1970, and Lisette took over the presidency in 2012. Her daughter, Anastasia Damalas, has been working to digitise material and publicise the organisation via social media.

"Our Board of Trustees and Anna and I are personally heartbroken," said Lisette, "but we pledge to continue to act as clearing house for quality information about our complex and often misunderstood field."

They will "continue support of parapsychology and students and researchers, perhaps not with actual dollars, but with the expertise and knowledge at hand as to where to go for quality answers to questions we are all looking for."

Despite financial problems, Lisette added: "Do not make the mistake of counting the Parapsychology Foundation as dead.

"While not inheriting my grandmother's psychic abilities, I did inherit her determination to not 'give up the ghost!'"

Oil heiress buys Brad Pitt's 'haunted mansion'

HOLLYWOOD superstar Brad Pitt has sold his Los Angeles home to oil heiress Aileen Getty for a reputed \$33 million – over £26 million. Bought by Brad in 1994, the six-bedroom house is said to be haunted by a woman in high heels.

The A-list actor purchased Briarcliff Manor for \$1.7 million (£1,366,205) as a home for himself and his then wife Angelina Jolie along with their six children. The couple went on to acquire several surrounding properties to ensure the family's security.

The seller of Briarcliff Manor was Cassandra Peterson, a horror movie star, who recently talked to *People* magazine about a series of unexplained phenomena she experienced there.

During her meetings with Brad, the 71-year-old actor warned him about “a lot of weird things that have been going on there in the house since we moved in.

“He was very excited about that. He thought that was really cool.”

Cassandra is best known for her role as Elvira “Mistress of the Dark” in the American TV series *Elvira's Movie Macabre* and subsequent films.

“I've seen people walking around upstairs, for example, real people just walking,” said Cassandra. “One time a ghost was sitting downstairs in front of the fireplace, once walking into my bedroom and back out.”

In another instance, “We saw a person floating around at the bottom of the pool, things like that.”



CASSANDRA PETERSON: “A ghost was sitting downstairs in front of the fireplace.” (Photo: Manuel Bartual)

Cassandra also heard the sound of a woman's heels, as if she was constantly walking up the stairs.

She and her husband Mark Pierson called in a Native American shaman to perform a clearing ceremony at the house.

“We were telling Brad all about that and he loved it,” Cassandra said. “I mean, there are not many buyers for whom that would be a selling point, but he was like, ‘Oh, that's so awesome.’ I love that he appreciated the house so much.”

In particular, Cassandra said that Brad admired the living and dining rooms, which have solid mahogany wall panels and copper ceilings.

“He just couldn't get over that,” she continued. “We couldn't either. It was just a stunning house.”

Briarcliff Manor was built in 1910 for oil baron Louis McCray in the style of a rustic hunting lodge. Later, millionaire Thomas Thorkildsen owned it. *Star Wars* actor Mark Hamill once lived there.

He told Cassandra that he and a friend shared a room there when they were college students. Tragically, the friend took his own life by hanging in the bedroom closet. Mark moved out soon after.

Speaking to the popular culture website Den of Geek, Cassandra revealed, “Of course it turned out to be the master bedroom closet right across from our bed.”

Little is known about Brad Pitt's spiritual beliefs as he rarely gives interviews, but in 2019 he spoke to Zach Baron of *GQ* magazine.

“Oh, man, I've gone through everything,” the actor said. “Like, I cling to religion. I grew up with Christianity. Always questioned it, but it worked at times.

“Then when I got on my own, I completely left it and I called myself agnostic. Tried a few spiritual things, but didn't feel right.

“Then I called myself an atheist for a while, just kind of being rebellious. I wasn't really. But I kinda labelled myself that for a while. It felt punk rock enough.

“And then I found myself coming back around to just belief in – I hate to use the word spirituality, but just a belief in that



BRAD PITT: “We're all connected.” (Photo: Glenn Francis of www.PacificProDigital.com)

we're all connected.”

Brad and Angelina Jolie, an actor, filmmaker and humanitarian campaigner, separated in 2016. She filed for divorce, citing irreconcilable differences.

He sold Briarcliff Manor to Aileen Getty, granddaughter of oil tycoon J. Paul Getty. In the private deal, he purchased her smaller property in the same area of Los Feliz.

The luxury home, which includes a skate park, tennis court, a koi fish pond and several pools, is one of several properties now owned by the 65-year-old heiress.

At one time her grandfather was the richest man in the world. The family left the oil industry in the early 2000s.

Aileen Getty is now a climate-change activist, using her wealth to support the Climate Emergency Fund, a US-based non-profit organisation which funds direct action.

Through her charitable foundation, Aileen also funds research into Aids and supports charities for the homeless in Los Angeles.

Brad Pitt, 59, first gained attention in the film *Thelma & Louise* (1991). He won his first Oscar and Golden Globe awards for his performance in *Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood*.

To date he has received various accolades, including two Academy Awards, two British Academy Film Awards, two Golden Globe Awards and a Primetime Emmy Award.

Studies show possible link between autism and psychic abilities

RECENT scientific studies have shown a potential link between the neurodevelopmental disorder autism and extrasensory perception.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a condition which affects the way a person communicates and relates to other people, and how someone feels about the world around them.

Individuals with autism can experience some sensitivity to sounds, touch, tastes, smells, light or colours, but the NHS website says that being autistic “does not mean you have an illness or disease. It means your brain works in a different way from other people.”

Now scientists are beginning to see a correlation between those with autism and psychic abilities.

In a report on the cross-faith website patheos.com journalist Beth Rush wrote: “Thanks to their greater connection to the sensory input around them, many believe autistic people are more likely to be psychic.

“This gift helps them predict and interpret situations better than a neurotypical person, allowing them to positively impact the world like no one else can.”

ASD has traditionally been seen as a

disability needing treatment and, if possible, a cure.

However, Beth said that “greater awareness about the spectrum and its spiritual connection shows us that is not the case.

“Autistic people have unique abilities that everyone should embrace and not feel burdened by.”

A study published in 2019 looked at the experiences of autistic people and their potentially spiritual experiences.

It found that some children drew angelic beings, causing researchers to consider whether their impressions came from divine or mystic sources.

One autistic girl foretold family members calling at unpredicted times. An autistic boy predicted every one of the presents he would get on Christmas morning before he saw them. A second girl appeared to be able to read the minds of her family and others.

In the study, people with autism reported feeling that somebody had touched them when nobody else was present or seeing visions of people. These can be interpreted as psychic senses.

“Faith communities saw autism and neurodivergence as something that needed treatment and care,” said Beth.

“They needed healing or lived with demonic influences, with prayer and interventions trying to provide them with a ‘meaningful’ life.

“We now realise that while some therapies are incredibly helpful for managing physical symptoms, there is nothing mentally or spiritually wrong.”

In a study conducted at the University of Gävle in Sweden, young adults on the autism spectrum, who had described sensing presences, being touched and seeing visions without external stimuli, were questioned.

Participants reported many more such incidents than the matched non-autistic group.

Researchers wanted to find out why people might come to believe that invisible agents, such as apparitions, may be

present. They did not form an opinion on whether such events were real or not.

A boy named Gustav reported: “I don’t see someone standing there, but I feel it. I get a sensation that someone is standing there now.”

Gustav said he could also sense what mood a spirit being was in, and that they could be annoyed at the “stupid mistakes that people do.”

The report commented, “Importantly, Gustav’s initial anxiety is now transformed into a notion of being gifted with an intuitive capacity for sensing the supernatural.”

Gustav commented: “It kind of weighed me down and I didn’t really know how to handle it.

“But now it’s more of an advantage. I don’t have to spend as much time as other people to understand things.”

Seeing autism as a gift rather than a disability can transform the way an autistic person is treated.

Beth Rush raised the point that in European folklore, “changelings were children who began developing ‘normally,’ but were ‘replaced’ with creatures that took the form of the child, but had some differences.

“Many didn’t react typically to joyous or upsetting events. Others couldn’t speak and seemed to decline in ability.

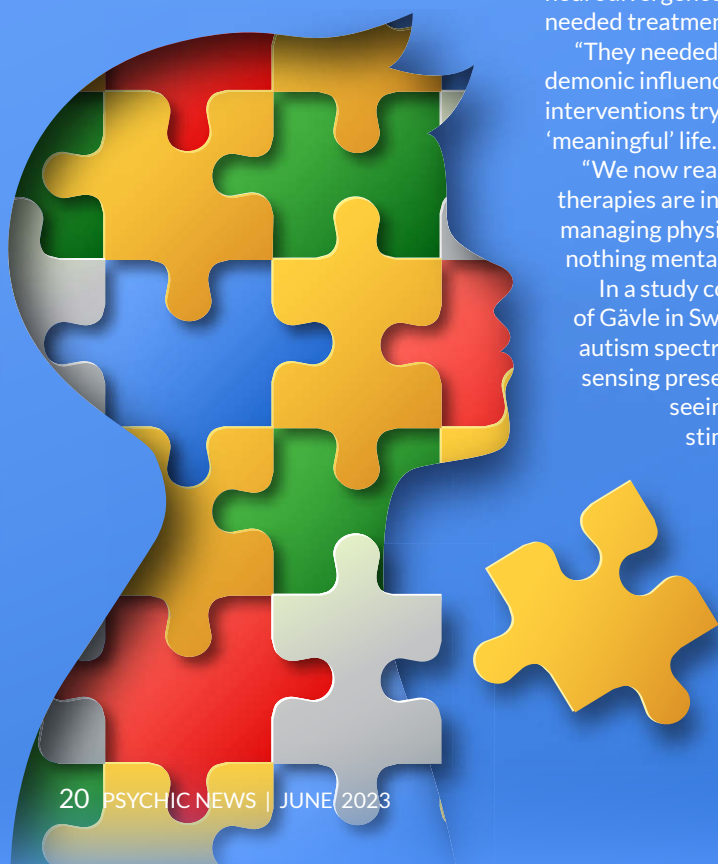
“Historians believe these myths could be a way to describe autism. Now that we know about the diagnosis, these stories are tragic and offensive.

“Unfortunately, many neurodivergent conditions weren’t understood, and fairy tales were just one of the ways people tried to make sense of them.”

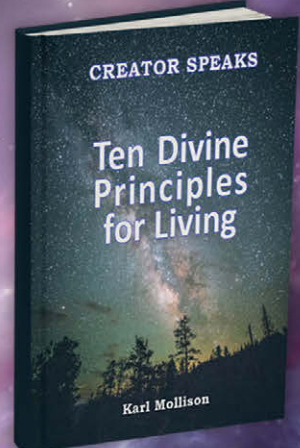
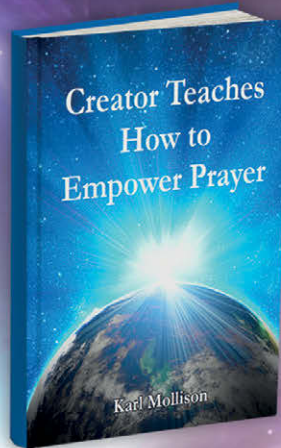
Her report concluded: “ASD is not something to feel ashamed of, but to be admired. The world is designed for neurotypical people, but understanding the unique abilities and struggles of those on the spectrum can help encourage inclusivity and embrace new ideas.

“New Age beliefs break the stigma around ASD by showing how gifted people with the condition can be.”

For further information on autism and Asperger’s syndrome, which is now seen as part of the spectrum, The National Autistic Society website is at autism.org.uk



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Author offers ten-point plan on how to be spiritual at work

IS it possible to be spiritual when working in a mundane job or with colleagues who don't appreciate your sensitive nature?

Author, podcaster and mentor Steve Ahnael Nobel has written a book called *Joy at Work* in which he offers advice for those who may be thinking, "Should I stay or should I go?"

Recent allegations against former Deputy Prime Minister Dominic Raab sparked conversations about workplace bullying, but disempowerment can be on a more subtle level, causing stress, anger and ill health.

Steve understands the problem very well because he was in that situation himself. Born in Hackney, East London in 1957, Steve told *Psychic News*: "My parents weren't spiritual at all.

"The values of my family, and my father in particular, were getting a 'normal' job, money and security, so when I left school, I went into international banking for ten years.

"There was a lot of paper shuffling. We were also involved in the finance of arms exports. The work felt meaningless.

"It seemed we were making no positive difference in the world. Most of my colleagues were just focused on their bonus at the end of the year."

Finally feeling burnt out, Steve switched jobs to work in the housing department of a local council.

"It was a big shift," he said, "and there was a culture of chaotic bullying, still leaving me unhappy."

After Steve's father passed on in 1991, he "felt a release from the obligation to follow his example and stick to a job I did not like. I was free to follow my heart.

"I started reading spiritual books, going on retreats and attending lectures. Within six months, I found the right spiritual teachers, began meditating and discovered crystal healing. I thought, 'Wow the universe is magical!'

"The way I was earning money wasn't aligned with my heart. At the council, a new, narcissistic and tyrannical boss was employed. This gave me the push I needed.

"Without that pain, I wouldn't have had the courage to overcome the fear of the unknown. My soul was saying 'Get out.'

"So I asked the universe, 'Should I quit?' Within a day I saw a message on someone's T-shirt. It was the Nike sports slogan 'Just do it.'

"At first I discounted it, but in another few minutes I saw the same sign in a shop window. I resigned soon after and spent a couple of years doing all sorts of odd jobs."

At the time, Steve was married and had two young children. His Roman Catholic wife could not accept his new spiritual outlook and the couple separated.

"I had changed from the person she married," Steve admitted, adding that they are still on good terms.

Steve began working for Alternatives, a mind-body-spirit event company, and became a director in 2000.

"I was there for thirteen years helping to organise gatherings with spiritual teachers like Eckhart Tolle, Neale Donald Walsch and Deepak Chopra," he said. "It was a great experience being creative, entrepreneurial and managing volunteers.

"Then I experienced a 'Dark night of the soul' for about six years. It was a deep, existential crisis. I was asking questions like, 'Why am I here?'"

Steve left the organisation and was unemployed for a while. Then in his late 50s, "it wasn't easy to get a job.

"I drove a London bus for a year. Every day before setting off, I would take a few minutes to 'centre' and call in protection."

That experience added to a dawning understanding of how to cope spiritually in a difficult public-facing role.

Dave admitted that during the "Dark night of the soul" – a recognised period of confusion, release and purification – he seriously contemplated ending his life.

He "would walk along the Embankment of the River Thames, look down and think that if I jumped in, it would end the pain in my body.

"But something in me said: 'No. You have to go through this and something will open on the other side of it.'"

Steve was writing a book on the nature of the "Dark night," the third of six spiritual titles he has now published, which kept him going. As the clouds began to clear, he started his own business called The Soul Matrix... and demand for his advice and services took off.

"My values were around spirituality, community, freedom of self-expression and growth," he said. "At last my work was in accord with that."

Asked what advice he has for those struggling to fit in at work or enjoy their job, Steve replied, "Anyone who comes to a crossroads has to choose: they can either change their perspective and attitude to the work they're doing or leave."

He suggested the following strategies to try and feel more settled in such a situation:

1. Meditate, practise forgiveness and avoid absorbing any negative vibes from others in the workplace.
2. Avoid pointless workplace moaning. If you're unhappy, try talking to your boss about how you are feeling. They may be able to offer you more appropriate tasks.
3. Instead of numbing activities like shopping, alcohol, drugs or spending too much time online, arrange more time in nature or with supportive friends.
4. Set positive intentions. There is a list in *Joy at Work*, such as: "I choose to transform and release all pain and suffering arising from my work and life." "I choose to be authentic, present, conscious and aware in my life and work" and "I choose to transform my



STEVE AHNAEL NOBEL: "Avoid pointless workplace moaning."

attitude and perspective in my work.”

5. In toxic work situations, develop a routine of putting psychic protection in place around yourself each morning. Steve has meditations for this on his website.
6. Trust your inner guidance and check your values. What are the five most important things in your life, for instance freedom, family and creativity?
7. Work on your solar plexus chakra centre, meditate on it, breathe more light in and imagine the power increasing. This will help restore your courage to make the right decisions.
8. Take time each day to release negative energy which you may have taken home with you, especially if you work in healthcare or situations where people are complaining, such as a call centre. Salt baths can help.
9. Ask the universe for guidance and watch for signs in response. Remember that the soul may make some situations more painful to help push you to find a different job.
10. Discuss plans with your partner or spouse and family: there will be bills to pay and you will need a strategy.

Money is important, but you do not need a large savings account to make positive changes in your work.

Family is also important. However, do not use your family as an excuse to stay stuck – and remember that you are setting an example to others on how their life at work might be.

“A soul calling can come through pain, the impulse to move away from something, and a sense of a developing dream for your life, an impulse to move towards something,” Steve ended.

“Find acceptance of your current situation. If you feel you must leave, it is important to develop the solar plexus courage to take that important first step.”

■ **“Joy at Work” was republished by Watkins Media in April and is available at bookshops, on Amazon and through Steve’s website thesoulmatrix.com**



Planning battle over former Spiritualist church

A BATTLE is raging over plans to develop the former home of Maidenhead Spiritualist Church in Berkshire.

“A ‘scandalous’ planning application that angered councillors so much that they rebelled against officers’ advice has gone to appeal,” wrote Local Democracy Reporter James Bagley in the *Slough & Royal Borough Observer*:

Developer Shanly Homes wants to demolish the former church in York Road and build an eight-storey apartment block providing 49 homes.

There are no affordable dwellings in the scheme, which angered councillors sitting on the planning panel. They called it “scandalous” and “disappointing on many, many levels,” before refusing to grant permission.

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Council has a policy that large-scale developments should include 30 per cent affordable homes.

There was also concern that the proposed building overlooked other properties, potentially spoiling the character of the area and reducing the light for neighbours.

Shanly Homes defended its plan, citing problems with developing brownfield sites, which the company said meant that low-cost homes would make the development unprofitable. A planning inspector will now decide the future of the proposals.

As *PN* reported three years ago, the church acquired new premises at River View Lodge in Ray Mead Road, although the property could not be used until the pandemic was over.

The dedication service was held in September 2021, with Minister David Bruton presiding. Mr Bruton was then President of the Spiritualists’ National Union (SNU).

The Order of Service contained a potted history of the church, which started in the 1960s. It explained that “a wonderful medium, healer and teacher, Eleanor Robertson, held Spiritualist meetings in various hired halls in the town.”

The church became affiliated to the SNU in June 1966. Five years later, a large piece of waste land was purchased from the Trustees of Maidenhead United Football Club and a second-hand temporary Portakabin erected to house Maidenhead church.

The trustees paid tribute to Minister Gordon Higginson, then President of the SNU, who arranged a loan for the project through the union’s Building Fund Pool.

In recent years, the site became a focus

of interest from developers, and the SNU again played a part in negotiations with Shanly Homes.

Trevor Davey, a trustee at Maidenhead church, told *Psychic News*: “At the time, the developer had already purchased the St John Ambulance building adjacent to ours with planning permission, and needed the church site and access road to make the new development of flats work.

“The deal increased the value of our church property, which was held in trust by the SNU, by a considerable amount.”

Intense legal talks led by former SNU Trust Property consultant Graham Hewitt saw Maidenhead church finally move to new premises in April 2021.

The opening was delayed by the pandemic, but public services began in July that year.

During the closure, the church published a series of services which were sent to 200 people by post or e-mail, ensuring that they could still enjoy spiritual contacts and friendship.

The new location overlooks the River Thames, said the Order of Service, “with riverside gardens in a peaceful area without the main line trains thundering past and loud cheers from the supporters of Maidenhead United Football Club,” which had been the case at the church’s previous premises.

The main church activities take place on the ground floor of River View Lodge, which has better access without steps, as well as a church service area, healing and circle/training room, office, kitchen, hospitality area, toilets and central heating. In addition, the upper floors can be converted for other suitable uses.

River View Lodge is just along the road from Boulters Lock, famed as a location in the novel *Three Men in a Boat* by Jerome K. Jerome.

Trevor Davey said that the new church “is in a very nice location opposite the Thames and gardens, and has a large car park plus available public transport. It is much better suited to our needs as a spiritual sanctuary.

“Church President Eveline Hewitson and her committee look forward to welcoming visitors and to continuing serving the community of Maidenhead and surrounding areas for at least another 60 years.”

Please see page 62 for details about the church’s services and other activities.

New Zealand sceptics launch 'Prove it' challenge

SCEPTICS have offered three New Zealanders a \$100,000 (£49,647) prize if they can prove their gifts are genuine.

A medium, a long-range weather forecaster and a naturopathic sleep specialist were challenged to have their abilities scientifically tested. If their claims can be proven, they win the money.

So far, none of the trio has agreed to take part in the offer, said NZ Skeptics Society chairperson Craig Shearer, adding, "If you can demonstrate your abilities work, then why wouldn't you want to do that?"

The group has teamed up with the New Zealand Association of Rationalists and Humanists to offer the prize.

Although the publicity has been aimed at those three specifically, the challenge is open to anyone who can prove they possess a special ability. Entry is limited to "prominent" people who profit from their services.

Auckland-based Ken Ring, who sells almanacs of long-range weather predictions, said he feels he has already won and has supplied the society with evidence.

If they don't accept it, he said the challenge is only "a cruel publicity exercise," with criteria set to ensure failure.

"I am a long-range forecaster," Ken continued. "I do no other job. As such, my duty is to warn of calamities to come. I am not making false claims or pretending to be a god.

"My opinions are suggestions only. I try to say 'may' happen unless I am certain. My accuracy is judged by farmers at 90-95 per cent.

"If people buy my books, they are equally free not to buy them. It is up to the public to choose, decide and judge."

Also known as the "Moon man," Ken claims the moon's tides can affect the incidence of major earthquakes.

New Zealand is subject to thousands of quakes every year with up to 200 of them large enough to be noticed. The capital Wellington is within the highest-risk zone.

Craig Shearer insists the forecaster uses generalities and wide margins of time to profit from farmers.

"As earthquakes are constantly happening, it's an easy prediction to make – even if people didn't feel the shake," he commented. "Statisticians have found



HERE is the cast of the TV series "Sensing Murder," which shows mediums Sue Nicholson, Kelvin Cruickshank and Deb Webber. Presenter Amanda Billings is second from the left. (Photo: TVNZ 2)

he's pretty hit-and-miss; no better than chance."

Another target of the sceptics is herbalist Kirsten Taylor, advertised as the country's only "Naturopathic sleep specialist, naturopath, medical herbalist and nutritionist."

She is also Managing Director and formulator for SleepDrops International, a company selling supplements and massage oils to help people sleep better.

In a statement, Kirsten said that while her company appreciated the sceptics' offer, the terms didn't meet its "criteria for excellence in research."

On the firm's website Kirsten says: "SleepDrops products work and we have the data to prove it... Products are laboratory independently tested with 100 per cent pass rates."

The site contains a page of information about the performance of some of the herbal ingredients used including valerian, lemon balm and chamomile in tests involving rats and humans with links to scientific papers.

The third person NZ Skeptics have in their sights is medium Kelvin Cruickshank. The medium said he makes contact with people who have passed, including Jonah Lomu, the much-missed New Zealand rugby union player.

At a 2017 theatre event two years after Mr Lomu suffered a fatal heart attack, the audience was in tears when messages from him were relayed.

Jonah's brother John was present. According to Kelvin, he received personal evidence which "impressed" him.

The medium was one of a regular team of clairvoyants attempting to solve cases on the TV series *Sensing Murder*, which ran for five series from 2004.

The programme helped to make Kelvin a household name in great demand for his ability to trace missing people. He has written nine books about his experiences.

On his website, Kelvin says that his father was once sceptical about his gifts until he saw him on TV with British medium Colin Fry, was impressed, went to one of son's meetings "and has been my biggest fan since."

For years, Kelvin's Anglican hospital chaplain mother did not understand his mediumship, "but then she had her own experience with a dying woman who she was caring for in hospital, who had three spirits turn up just before she died.

"Now she gets it. That was a big thing for my mum because she's very religious."

In the same interview with the *New Zealand Herald*, Kelvin was asked how he explains life after death to his children.

"I tell them just what I tell the public – that when he cross over, we don't die, but continue on," he replied.

"Home (Heaven) is a beautiful place and we are here to absorb things. Where we are now is a big school for us."

Asked if people request him to do party tricks, he replied: "All the time. However, there is a right place to do what I do and a wrong place.

"Being on the booze at a party and then talking to dead people just to appease others is incredibly disrespectful. And besides, I'm not a freak show."

The sceptics argue that mediums prey on vulnerable people. David Riddell, editor of *NZ Skeptic* magazine, attended one of Kelvin's shows and found him "less impressive in person" than on TV.

"It's Mr Cruickshank's hits that most of the audience would remember," said Mr Riddell. "They will forget the misses and the fact that they provided most of the details themselves.

"Given the addictive nature of psychics' messages and the number of mediums currently touring, I suspect there are a number of desperate people out there spending more than they can really afford on these events."

Craig Shearer termed mediums "grief vampires," adding: "People will believe what they choose to, but those profiting should be challenged.

"The idea of psychic powers goes against all known science. If someone can demonstrate it, I'm sure they'd be rewriting history – or at least winning a Nobel Prize."

The NZ Skeptics website confirms that the current challenge is the successor to a similar unclaimed \$100,000 prize offered by Stuart Landsborough of the website *Puzzling World*.

This ran for three decades, ending with Mr Landsborough proclaiming that "after all the years, I think I have proven my point."

Such challenges are not new. American sceptic James Randi first issued a \$1,000 (£791.00) challenge in 1964, which over time rose to \$1 million (£791,712).

The scheme closed in 2015 six years before Mr Randi passed. It was claimed that 1,000 mediums had tried and failed to pass the stringent tests.

Retired Australian lawyer Victor Zammit advised psychics not to apply for the "closed minded, sceptical" prize, which he labelled "the greatest hoax in paranormal history."

Mr Zammit issued his own challenge of \$1 million to anyone who could convincingly "rebut the evidence for the existence of the afterlife." This prize has never been successfully claimed.

In 2010, Robert McLuhan wrote *Randi's Prize: What Sceptics Say About the Paranormal, Why They Are Wrong, and Why It Matters*.

A freelance journalist and former foreign correspondent for *The Guardian*, he has been a member of the Society for Psychical Research for many years.

In the book, Mr McLuhan argued that debunkers used a variety of methods to undermine the credibility of psychic gifts.

Their methodology was questionable, he said. In trying to form explanations for paranormal events, they occasionally came up with reasons that seemed to be less plausible than the supernatural.

Railway pioneer's ghost is tracked to listed house

GEORGE STEPHENSON, "The father of railways" whose son invented the famous *Rocket* locomotive, is said to be one of various apparitions that appear in a Derbyshire town.

Gay Bolton wrote in the *Derbyshire Times* that "Ghostly goings-on in a pub, a theatre and homes in Chesterfield" had been reported, adding:

"A murdered coachman whose ghost vandalised a town centre bar and a woman who lived with an abusive poltergeist for two decades are among the terrifying tales that feature in the collection."

The sightings were published on the Paranormal Database, a website devoted to recording haunted locations around the UK and beyond. It currently features over 13,400 entries.

Some accounts are recent whilst others are legends going back centuries. These sites were identified in Chesterfield:

1. Sun Inn, West Bars

The community pub is said to be haunted by a murdered coachman whose body was thrown down a well in the cellar. He



A MURDERED coachman is said to haunt the Sun Inn. (Photo: Google)

is reputed to have smashed bottles and moved barrels around the locked cellar one night in November 1957.

2. Tipton House

The former home of George Stephenson is an eighteenth century Grade II listed house sitting on a hilltop and surrounded by gardens. Mr Stephenson rented it for a decade until he passed there in 1848.



HEAVY footsteps and computer malfunctions have been experienced in Tipton House. (Photo: Google)

A young girl visited the house in the 1920s with a friend while it was unoccupied. They sat in a coach in the old coach house and saw a man standing nearby wearing a stovepipe hat.

Between 1951 and 1991, the building was used as a grammar school. One day the caretaker's wife was sweeping a corridor on the first floor. A man dressed in old-fashioned clothing complained to her that she hadn't brought up his water.

When the woman fetched her husband, the figure had gone and the exit door was locked. Heavy footsteps and computer malfunctions have also been experienced in the house.

3. Pomegranate Theatre, previously the Civic

Built in 1879, the theatre is currently undergoing refurbishment. The Paranormal Database states: "The strange movement of objects by no human hand is attributed to a grey lady who is occasionally spotted.

"Another phantom thought to be George Stephenson has been seen walking across the stage and taking a seat."

4. Goyt Side Road

From the 1990s, a woman suffered poltergeist activity in her home for two decades. Items were thrown around and on one occasion she was thrown against a wall.

The woman later discovered that the house was previously occupied by a man who murdered his wife in the early twentieth century.

5. The Old Manor House, New Square

The database says that the property has been haunted by a small child. Thinking that the ghost was a real child, a visitor



A FIGURE thought to be George Stephenson was seen walking across the stage and taking a seat at the Pomegranate Theatre. (Photo: Google)

reached down to pick it up only for her arms to pass through its body. The noise of clanking chains has also been reported in the house.

6. Chesterfield Town Hall

The Town Hall now occupies a site where the grand Rosehill House once stood. Built in 1730, it was the home of a series of wealthy businessmen.

During the 1830s, a poltergeist was active in the house, with the continuous ringing of bells.

The report says that eventually, the resident "had enough of the constant noise and left... No-one else was brave enough to live in Rosehill House after his departure."

The borough council purchased the property, which was demolished in the winter of 1936-7 to make way for the new Town Hall.

7. St Augustine's Avenue

According to a newspaper report in the 1970s, a house in St Augustine's Avenue had a strange mist creeping from the corners of bedrooms along with sudden chills and unusual burning smells.

In 2016, the *Derbyshire Times* reported that paranormal investigators were called to a property in the street after residents claimed that objects were thrown around, and people felt themselves being touched and heard unexplained voices. The researchers claimed to have caught a ghostly image on film.

8. Hardwick Old Hall

Not yet on the database but reported as recently as February 2023, a visitor to the Old Hall captured a photograph of what he believes to be a ghost there.

William Mitchell told the *Derbyshire Times*: "I'm sort of into ghosts and stuff. I've read books on the Hardwick Old Hall and how it's quite haunted, so I thought it would be really interesting to go and see.

"I decided to take some pictures of the Old Hall as well as some of the New Hall. Just out of curiosity, I zoomed in on the two I took to see if there was anything weird and that's when I saw it."

William is convinced he can see the shape of a woman in white, "and you can just make out her face." He said that his family and friends agree the image shows a mysterious "white woman."

The ruined old hall was once the home of "Bess of Hardwick," the Countess of Shrewsbury (1527-1608), who commissioned the building of the impressive manor. Witnesses claim to have seen the ghost of a monk in the grounds of the hall.



CHESTERFIELD TOWN HALL is built on the site of a grand house where a poltergeist was active and caused the continuous ringing of bells. (Photo: Phil Sangwell)

LIFE IN THE WORLD UNSEEN

Now back in print, *Life in the World Unseen* gives one of the most detailed accounts ever of what follows passing on. Received through the mediumship of Anthony Borgia, the communicator was an old friend, Monsignor Robert Hugh Benson, son of a former Archbishop of Canterbury

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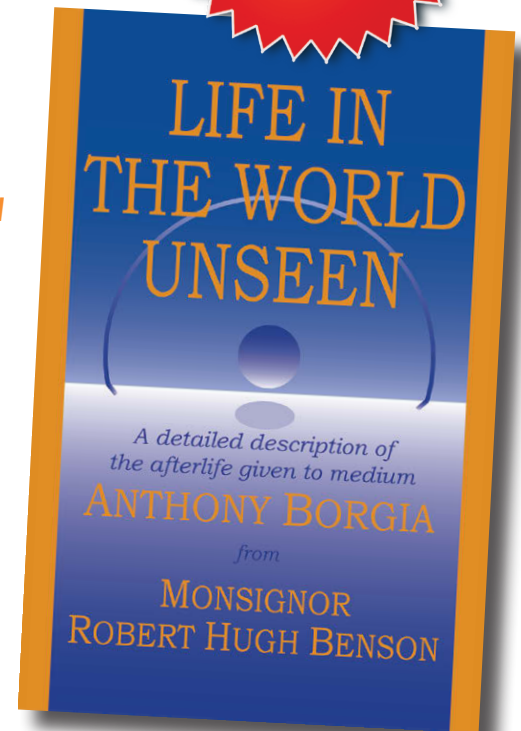
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KYLE PEDLEY: "Quick, easy answers and taking 'facts' and opinions from headlines without finding time to actually explore and learn about things has regrettably become something of the norm." (Photo: nu Edit)

Union launches diversity and inclusion programme

By Kyle Pedley

Please give a warm welcome to Kyle Pedley, the new full-time Head of Communications for the Spiritualists' National Union (SNU), who answers a series of points about the media, Spiritualism and allied issues. The first point put to him was, "What do you see as your main role?"

THE great challenge – and opportunity – of communications in this day and digital age is such a broad canvas of areas and responsibilities.

To put it very broadly, my main priority is to oversee, strategise and manage the myriad ways that the union communicates both internally amongst its membership, churches, etc, as well as with the outside world and wider public.

As regards the media, do you think Spiritualism suffers from a credibility problem? We are very rarely mentioned in the press or on TV and radio in a positive way.

It's a very complicated and multi-faceted issue, and one that we're working really hard to try and address.

Some of it stems from a lack of meaningful engagement from both sides, but also various residual problems particularly from the late 1990s and early 2000s when mediumship and Spiritualism sadly became commercialised and trivialised as little more than a form of light or celebrity entertainment.

Getting the movement back onto a footing where it is treated with the same

reverence and respect within the media as other religions will take time, but we're already exploring avenues of how this can be best achieved.

Along similar lines, why do so many people dismiss mediumship and Spiritualism without bothering to investigate them?

Again, there's no singular, simple reason for this, but I think it is in part due to the culture and society that we now live in.

Quick, easy answers and taking "facts" and opinions from headlines without finding time to actually explore and learn about things has regrettably become something of the norm.

Sadly, attention spans and a willingness to explore concepts and ideas have all dwindled over the past couple of decades, doubtless tied directly into the immediacy and ease of the digital boom.

This is a challenge that a significant number of groups, religions and causes around the globe all face.

There remains, for instance, something of a wider perspective that Spiritualism and mediumship are somehow interchangeable terms. Under this misconception, there's so much else the movement entails – such as

healing, philosophy, education and science – that just gets brushed aside or swept away.

I think this is part of why the broader picture or idea of Modern Spiritualism gets unfairly dismissed by so many people. They think it is just this one singular thing when it's a movement rich with different tenets, areas and, of course, principles.

It's largely due to the pandemic that so many churches went online with their services. Do you hope that the majority of them will continue to offer both online and physical meetings?

It sounds a trifle morbid to praise anything associated with the pandemic. However, to wrench some positivity from a horrible situation, I think one of the few upsides was how it enabled so many people, groups and organisations to have the opportunity not only to learn digital and online skills, but also genuinely come to appreciate their value and merit.

I hear on a daily basis how many churches, centres, individual members and mediums were only able to continue their work thanks to online services, readings and workshops.

Having been quick to point out the downsides and negatives of the current digital climate, it's probably only fair that I sing its praises.

It's fantastic that the option and ability to go online is now available for many who wouldn't have thought or known how to do so beforehand.

I fundamentally believe that individuals, churches and committees will know best what their congregation and followers need when it comes to balancing online and in-person meetings.

I find nothing can replace the immediacy of being in the same room with other people. However, the convenience and access that Zoom and other services have afforded not just to Spiritualism but so many movements and communities can surely only be good.

Some church websites are out of date and badly designed. What can be done to address this problem?

The website conundrum is another tricky area that we are in some interesting stages of looking at.

Web development is something I have been very actively involved in for a number of years.

The main problem which lies at the root of this area is that web design and maintenance is not only an increasingly technical and creative affair, but also a costly one.

Many churches and centres simply cannot afford the increasing costs, particularly in the current fiscal climate. Nor do they have the team members or resources to maintain and keep a website updated.

Over recent decades, an enormous industry has sprung up in design and management alone, and I do think it's an area where Spiritualism is slightly running to catch up.

Fortunately, there seems to be a real willingness and awareness throughout the union and its affiliates on the importance of websites, social media et al. Again, I think this is partly due to the big switch on that seemed to happen during the pandemic.

We are actively putting wheels in motion, not least of all with an upcoming, much-needed overhaul of the union's own sites.

In the meantime, I have to give enormous congratulations and thanks to churches who do maintain and run websites of their own, which isn't an easy task. Despite a lot of them being in need of some TLC, there are some glorious church sites out there.

Churches such as Otley and Rhyl launched lovely new sites. We've seen a number of cases where the unique opportunities of a good website has had a powerful impact on a church's attendance

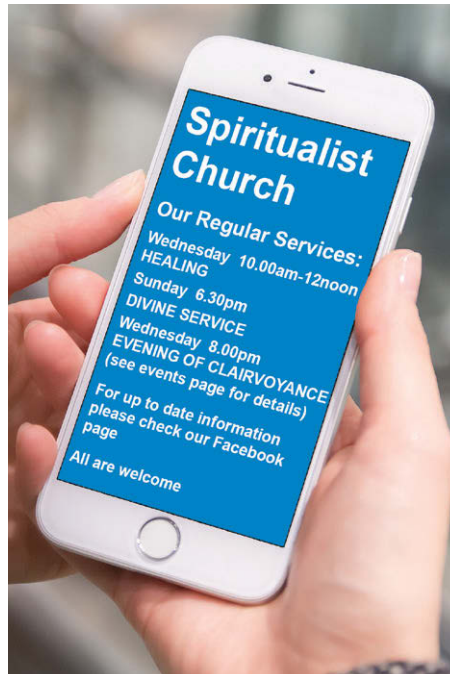
and performance.

Does Spiritualism need a much more professional image?

In a word, "Yes." It's another area where we are in a strange duality. The means and methods of taking photographs and making digital content has generally become easier, but because it is now more important than ever, the costs associated with getting it done even semi-professionally have skyrocketed.

As someone who has trained and worked in videography, photography and graphic design for most of my adult life, it's remarkable to see how rapidly the landscape shifts and evolves.

Having said that, I always try to



THE website "conundrum is another tricky area."

advise people in pretty much any walk of life to have at least one high-quality portrait photograph that they can use for promotional purposes or an online presence.

The same is true of churches and centres. Nowadays, you can get fairly decent quality photos on even a mid-range iPhone or equivalent.

The mindset of no longer using or accepting low-quality photos or screen grabs and the like is a small but effective step that many could take and they may be surprised by the impact it can have.

The union is consciously pushing itself onto a more professional and modern footing. The past twelve months alone have seen professionals recruited into positions such as my own, as well as governance, property, administration and other areas where entirely new positions

have been created in recognition of the modern needs of a national organisation.

The average Spiritualist church congregation is mostly middle-aged and above. Do we need to communicate our teachings and philosophy to a younger section of society?

This is another issue not unique to Spiritualism, but many religions. Again, it's a complicated and slightly nebulous area, but from my own role and perspective, part of it comes back to what we are communicating and how.

Many religions which are growing and have strong youth engagement are in that position partly because there is a pride and visibility to their faith.

I know many proud Spiritualists who are fantastic ambassadors for the movement, but there are equally those who are reluctant to voice their beliefs and association.

It is in many ways an area where we must lead by example and to ask ourselves the question of what we are offering to a younger generation.

Religion shouldn't be in any way transactional. If we are not celebrating everything that Spiritualism involves and achieves to the best of our abilities, we aren't going to attract new interest and new voices, particularly not to a generation who often make up their minds in the blink of an eye.

Perhaps over-generously, I place myself in that generation, so that isn't me being in any way detrimental or insulting. It is just the reality of the times.

Would you agree that we spend far too much time preaching to the converted and sit about waiting for people to visit our churches?

Although Spiritualism is a legally recognised religion with its own ministers, is there a case for holding more meetings in non-church settings such as theatres?

Many churches face a challenge that their doors are open, but not enough people within their community know exactly what lies beyond those doors, so often growth is stymied and centres can become unwittingly quite insular and inward-looking.

Social media is a great frontier on which to at least begin to break this down. I know from churches I have worked with directly how just reaching out online beyond the congregation with things like Facebook events and even sponsored posts can and does bring new people in.

Many people simply don't know exactly what a Spiritualist church is, whether or not they are welcome and what their experience there will involve.



THE rainbow flag represents the LGBTQ+ community, which is included in the union's diversity programme.

I agree that going out beyond churches and into universities, colleges and even theatres are all valid ways of spreading the message.

However, with venues like theatres in particular we have to keep a keen eye on whether or not we are reducing the importance of the movement to something which may look like entertainment.

Would it be a good idea for each church to appoint someone to meet and greet all those attending a service to communicate a genuinely warm welcome?

This is an idea which was implemented to great effect at Derby Central Spiritualist Church.

The fantastic new committee there told me how having someone not only to welcome people on arrival, but also small gestures like handing out information and membership forms not only made people feel welcomed and valued, but also allowed them to instantly educate on things like membership and involvement.

Having some experience of working in production and events, I know that the atmosphere and, for want of a better word, "vibe" of a place is such a pivotal factor in whether or not people enjoy their time there and are likely to return. Few things sell a welcoming vibe more than a friendly face upon arrival.

Can you give readers some details about the union's new diversity programme? What does it hope to achieve?

Whilst it is still in its relative infancy, the new Diversity and Inclusion programme is a really exciting initiative and has some equally exciting plans coming up.

At present, it's taking the form of online support groups that meet three times a year to discuss important issues surrounding the area.

At the moment, it's sub-divided into three separate groups which cover

LGBTQ+, Ethnic Minority, and Disability & Impairment respectively, which are hosted by individuals who identify within that group.

As a whole, the project is overseen by our fantastic Appointed Director, Anne-Marie Bond, DSNU, who has such a passion and wealth of experience on the importance of these issues.

The great thing about the support groups is that they are open to all. You don't have to identify as a member of a specific group, as the conversations about enabling and supporting allies and other areas of education are just as important.

None of the sessions is recorded or redistributed, so they provide a safe, welcome space where people can express their own opinions, suggestions and experiences if they feel comfortable doing so.

I know there is resistance in some quarters to diversity and inclusion, and perhaps even some who feel it is excessive or perhaps not even needed.

As someone who belongs to not just one minority group but two, I can say from both my experience and heart that the work this programme is doing is so very meaningful and essential.

I firmly believe some of the outcomes of it will be really enlightening and possibly even sobering to a lot of people.

What first sparked your interest in Spiritualism?

I have grown up surrounded by Spiritualism my entire life. Three generations of my family – my nan, mum and sister – regularly attended not just our local Spiritualist church, but demonstrations and services up and down the country, so it's always been part of the DNA of our family and my own experience.

For instance, I vividly remember my mum returning from a demonstration of spirit art that she travelled hours to get

to, coming home with a sketched picture of what she informed me was an uncanny depiction of my late great-grandmother.

Fast forwarding a number of years, when I met my now partner, he told me how he, too, was a Spiritualist, as well as most of his immediate family, so it was another case of being enveloped in and surrounded by the movement.

Through my family and personal relationships, I've come to work with groups, committees and individuals within the movement who have become close, dear friends. I'd always been struck by the kindness and welcoming nature of the churches and events that I attended.

A big part of what really resonated with me was that the more I learned and explored about Modern Spiritualism was how it is a religion whose principles value the importance of personal responsibility and fellowship.

Outside of the positives, such as personal responsibility, it does not dictate to its members and followers how they must live their lives, who they can love, and whether or not their identity and individuality is in any way valid or "allowed."

I have worked with churches, organisations, trusts and individuals within the movement for almost a decade now, so there is undoubtedly something indefinable that kept drawing me back, and, yes, some will doubtless say that there is a higher guiding purpose behind it.

The slightly clunky analogy that I used for my appointment as Head of Communications, which I am incredibly proud to hold, is that footballers do not hire fellow footballers to handle their accounts or balance the books: they appoint an accountant.

I am not hired by the SNU as a Spiritualist, but rather as a professional. Having extensive experience of working with churches, district councils and others, along with an ongoing understanding of what modern Spiritualism is, was obviously a huge help.

Fundamentally my appointment was about my professional experience and skill set, and finding the best way of bringing that to the betterment of the union and the movement as a whole.

My mum suggests that it is not as simple or detached as this. On multiple occasions, she offered up that my nan, who is sadly no longer with us, was no doubt actively involved and present in making this latest development in my life a reality in the same bullish, no-nonsense yet lovable fashion as she was in life.

■ ***For further details about the Spiritualists' National Union, including becoming a member, its website is at www.snu.org.uk***

The New Age isn't so new after all...

By Graham Adrian



In this intriguing feature, Graham Adrian delves deep and discovers that various New Age practices originated in ancient times and are far from modern.

ANY visitor to a mind, body and spirit event might assume that the products and therapies on offer are somehow original. This is, after all, the New Age, isn't it?

In reality, though, they are mostly adapted forms of meditation, nutrition, natural remedies and spiritual practices that originated in ancient civilisations. We find them in the histories of India, Egypt, China, Israel, Greece and Rome.

For example, transcendental meditation (TM) is the modern version of a technique that is found in Ayurveda and Raja Yoga, or the Royal Path to Union, part

of the Vedic tradition of India for millennia.

TM was brought to the West in the 1950s by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, a guru in the Shankaracharya tradition. The silent repetition of a mantra based on the Sanskrit alphabet, the ancient language of India, it was famously taken up by the Beatles and other celebrities in the 1960s.

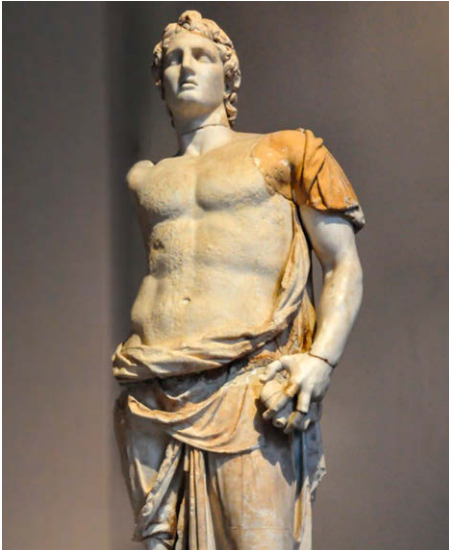
There is a new enthusiasm for mindfulness yet this is another meditation technique with roots in antiquity, associated with Hinduism and Buddhism especially, although forms of it



MAHARISHI MAHESH YOGI brought transcendental meditation to the West. (Photo: Global Good News.com)

are also found in Western religions.

It was popularised here by Jon Kabat-Zinn, a scientist, writer and meditation teacher who



ALEXANDER THE GREAT used *Aloe vera* to treat his wounded soldiers.

established the Stress Reduction Clinic at the University of Massachusetts in 1979.

The purpose of both TM and mindfulness is the quietening of the mind to eliminate stress and harmonise mental activity. This facilitates tranquillity and heightened awareness in our daily lives and eventually, it is hoped, self-realisation.

Vegetarianism and veganism have also become trendy. The philosophy began in the West in the 19th century, but for many Eastern civilisations it has long been daily fare.

In India it dates from the age of the Vedas, going back over 3,000 years. Hindu, Buddhist and Jain scriptures all espouse vegetarianism, as do some Sikhs and Muslims.

The Greek philosopher Pythagoras was vegetarian, as were Fu Xi, the first prophet-king of China, Confucius and much of the Tang Dynasty.

In Persia, the Zoroastrian scriptures defined a mortal sinner as one who is “polluted with dead matter (meat).”

The Roman philosopher Seneca became vegetarian along with some early Christians including Athanasius, Arius, Origen, Tertullian and St Jerome. Clement of Alexandria wrote, “It is far better to be happy than to have your bodies act as graveyards for animals.”

Herbal remedies are universal, but their popularity as an alternative to allopathic medicine is comparatively recent. Yet a complete system of natural remedies, alongside spiritual exercises, existed in India 5,000 years ago.

Ayurveda, the “Science of life,” is regarded by Hindus as “a gift from the gods” to humanity. It introduced the “golden order” of 50 plants with the most healing properties.

This included *Aloe vera*, the “Lily of the desert,” which according to modern analysis contains over 75 beneficial substances from vitamins and minerals to amino acids and enzymes.

Its supplements and cosmetics in tinctures, pills and gels nowadays are simply a reworking of ancient recipes.

King Solomon cultivated *Aloe vera* for its healing properties and Alexander the Great used it to treat his wounded soldiers.

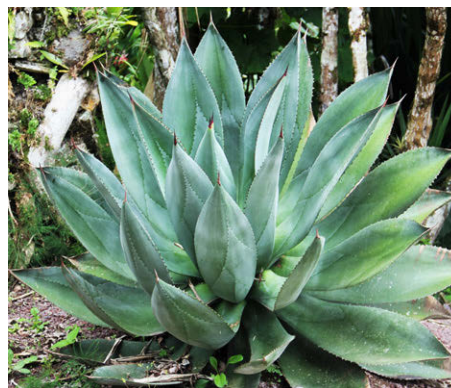
The Greek pharmacologist Celsius recommended it as a purgative whilst the Roman physician Galen prescribed it for a number of ailments. In Egypt, Nefertiti and Cleopatra, who were renowned beauties, used it to keep their skin soft and smooth.

The health benefits of olive oil are numerous, but as late as the 1950s it was only available here from pharmacies for medicinal use. Yet in the classical world it was found extensively in the home.

Aristotle noted that it was very good for the hair and the Greeks used it to restore natural colour and to banish grey hairs. We now use it for the same reason as well as a remedy for dandruff, frizz, lost sheen and a dry scalp.

We know it’s also good for the skin. Apparently, American model and actor Jerry Hall rubs it on her face once a week and leaves it for several hours before washing off.

Spiritualism is also familiar to us today yet again is hardly new. In the 1870s, before he co-founded the Theosophical Society, Henry S. Olcott investigated spirit



ALOE VERA contains over 75 beneficial substances.

communication having been told by a spirit guide that he was “about to witness the advent of the psychological mysteries which, for many ages, have been confined to the temples and pagodas of Egypt and Hindustan.”

Indeed, Olcott soon witnessed the full materialisation of spirit forms and wrote about this in *People from the Other World* (1875).

It is difficult to find evidential accounts of spirit communication in Egypt or India, but there are plenty in the literature of Judaism and Christianity, the Bible being full of the sayings of prophets.

What exactly is a prophet? The word is derived from the Greek *phemi* (I speak) and *pro* (on behalf of another), so a prophet was what we now call a medium.



THE Greek philosopher Pythagoras was a vegetarian.

The Torah (the compilation of the first five books of the Hebrew Bible) tells how Yahweh – the master of Moses, not the Almighty – guided the Israelites through his prophet, Moses, and continued to guide them for generations, either through the king himself or via prophets such as Isaiah.

The early Christians revered prophets too. St Paul is described in Acts 9:15 as a *skeuos*, or a bodily instrument for spirit communication.

In 1 Corinthians 14, he lists the spiritual gifts and adds, “I had rather you prophesy” because “the one who prophesies is edifying the Church.”

The early Christian fathers such as Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, Tertullian, Origen and Novatian all wrote of prophets among their followers – including women. It was only after the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD that the Church persecuted them.

Meditation and mindfulness, vegetarianism, alternative remedies and mediumship... our New Age is really not so new after all!

■ **Writing as Graham Adrian, the author’s debut novel is “Two Sisters,” an historical romance set in the worlds of Earth and afterlife. Please see <https://local-legend.co.uk>**

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To celebrate the summer solstice

BY CERYN ROWNTREE

A medium, therapist and coach, Ceryn Rowntree has “a huge passion for supporting wise and wonderful people to step into the power of their own incredible souls.”

Ceryn began working as a medium over fifteen years ago, though her first fifteen years were spent in the world of corporate communications before eventually following her “lifelong passions for all things spiritual into a career change.”

This month, Ceryn looks at the summer solstice and suggests some wonderful ways to celebrate it.

HERE in the Northern Hemisphere, this month sees the summer solstice and a festival known by some as Litha.

It's a powerful day and one recognisable even to those with no knowledge of pagan nature-based festivals thanks to how widely it is discussed not to mention photographs and videos we see each year from Stonehenge and other sacred sites around this land and beyond.

At its most basic, the summer solstice on June 21 is when we have the sun's light for the longest time of any one day and during which it will be highest in the sky.

Though often not the case in terms of temperatures, it is technically the very peak of summer and the midway point of the solar

year.

For our ancestors who lived off and with the land, this made the day an important one in which they honoured the sun and everything it has to offer us.

Just imagine being someone who relied upon natural warmth, light and vitality reaching that point in the year when you knew the sun would start to lessen in the sky in favour of a growing cold and darkness.

No wonder our ancestors wanted to make the summer solstice a day to celebrate and honour the energy which had brought them so much up until this point, and to let the sun know just how loved it was, so it would be sure to return the following year.

The power of the summer solstice for our ancestors

Because many ancient structures and monuments built upon sacred sites align perfectly with the sun on the longest day, we know just how important the summer solstice was to our ancestors both in the UK and abroad.

Stonehenge, Egypt's Temple of Karnak, the pyramid at Chichen Itza, Mexico, the Mnajdra Temple in Malta and the Temple of the Sun at Machu Picchu, Peru are just some of the sites that capture the light in a particularly potent way on the summer solstice when, even today, people gather to witness and honour its energy.

In centuries gone by, our ancestors celebrated by lighting bonfires and torches that they gathered, and danced around throughout the night to celebrate the light.

Flowers and herbs were gathered at what was considered to be the peak of their growing season and used to decorate spaces, people and more.

Meanwhile, given the powerful virility of the festival, Litha was seen as the most potent day of the year for couples to marry or undertake handfasting ceremonies.

These ceremonies and all the festivities of the day were celebrated with great feasts usually including honey, one of the most potent ingredients of the season.

In fact, the term "honeymoon" links to the practice of a couple drinking honey daily throughout the first month of their marriage to bless their union and allegedly improve their chance of conception, something which was much easier to do in the summer when honey was plentiful.



THE summer solstice "was seen as the most potent day of the year for couples to marry or undertake handfasting ceremonies."
(Photo: Jeremy_Duncan05 on Flickr)



CERYN ROWNTREE: "Because many ancient structures and monuments built upon sacred sites align perfectly with the sun on the longest day, we know just how important the summer solstice was to our ancestors both in the UK and abroad."

It was believed that at the summer solstice, with the radiance of the sun high in the sky, everything was extra powerful including us, a sentiment many of us can relate to even today.

How often have you found yourself feeling energised on a late summer's evening or filled with an air of possibility as you sit down at your desk with the morning's bright light shining through the window and much more willing to socialise when the sun is high in the sky?

These are things I seem to experience every summer without fail – things I long to feel in the earlier part of the year when the cold and dark of winter seems to have been my norm forever.

Embracing the sun

Let's be frank about this: here in the northern part of Europe at times it can be hard for us to embrace the sun.

We live in a climate with cold winters, plenty of rain and more than a few grey days even during the warmest parts of the year.

Where I live in the far north of England, we do our best to relish every warm and sunny day because we never quite know when the sun will return. Yet it always does.

Even when we can't see its light or feel its warmth, the sun is always there offering the radiance that is the very source of all life upon this planet. Is it any wonder our ancestors worshipped the sun and saw it as physical evidence of the divine?

In today's spirituality, the sun is often something we often overlook. "Divine light" has taken on a very particular meaning thanks to organised religion while decades of embracing the "always on" mentality of the modern world can make the never-ending brightness of summer feel like something we want to rebel

against.

Undoubtedly, these things play a big role in the increasing calls for us to turn from the sun and instead embrace the light of the moon and all that energy represents spiritually.

I understand that. As a woman, the moon and its cyclical nature are things I feel deeply connected to while as a practising witch I can always be found celebrating and honouring that energy throughout the month.

It's important to the world and our own energy levels that we celebrate the lunar alongside rather than instead of the solar.

Both are vital to our world. Just as each has a powerful influence on our planet, the energies of both are important to help us find balance within ourselves.

My hope is that in the years ahead we see a resurgence of true sun worship and an honouring of all that the solar represents just as we have over recent years with the moon until we can come back to a true place of natural balance for ourselves and the world.

There's no better time to start that journey of solar connection and reverence than at the summer solstice, but how do we embrace and honour those energies for ourselves? Here are several suggestions:

- **Dance with the fire**

As with so many solar-focused festivals, fire was at the heart of our ancestors' solstice celebrations and there is no reason we too shouldn't call it in to help us celebrate.

Light an outdoor fire as the centrepiece of your Litha celebrations. Use it as a place to gather with those who matter to you as you share all that you are grateful for, discuss your hopes for the future and maybe even take yourself for a summer solstice dance by the light of the flames.



THE “bright colours of nature are at their peak in the middle of summer.”

● **Honour the sun**

Given that the summer solstice is the longest day of the year, the period between sunrise and sunset can seem especially long.

If you're feeling able to (or have space for a nap in between), this can be a beautiful day to get up and greet the sunrise, step outside and bathe under the midday sun, and then stay up to honour the setting sun later in the day.

At each of those points be sure to offer your gratitude to that celestial body which offers so much to us and our world, and to honour its movements through this longest day of the year.

● **Bask in nature**

We know that the bright colours of nature are at their peak in the middle of summer.

Our ancestors believed this time of year was even more important for plants, suggesting that herbs gathered before sunrise on the solstice morning made even more potent ingredients for healing, ritual, cooking and other purposes than at any other time.

Why not test that theory? If you have a garden or somewhere to gather herbs and flowers head out early on the morning of the solstice to collect your own bouquet.

Whether you use nature's bounty for cooking, healing or something else

besides, celebrate the beauty of nature by spending some time truly taking in all the colours, scents and textures of everything you collect.

● **Feast with those you love**

What better way to celebrate an important day of the year than with good food and those you love?

At its heart, the solstice is a time for joy and celebration, so gather together some of your favourite people to do exactly that.

Given the bountiful fruits and other ingredients the natural world has on offer at this time of year, why not add to your celebration with a feast of seasonal food?

My favourite solstice menus tend to include tomatoes and plenty of spice to honour the heat of the sun, followed by berries and ice cream, washed down with a chilled elderflower tea.

● **Give thanks and set intentions**

There are many who will tell you that the summer solstice is the perfect time for a releasing ritual. With the waning of the light which follows this night, there is definitely a place for this type of ritual at this time of year.

For me, a better way to utilise the energies of this potent day is by giving thanks for everything you have grown and created during the year so far, and setting the intentions of all that you plan to carry into the months ahead.

● **Illuminate the night**

One of the most common traditions of our ancestors was to light a candle at sunset on the summer solstice.

This would stay ignited until the light

reappeared the following morning to keep the light and warmth of the sun close even during those few dark hours.

As long as it's safe to do so, light a candle of your own at sunset and sit with it to meditate, talk, sing or simply be throughout as much of the solstice night as you can.

● **Recognise your radiance**

One of my favourite ways to celebrate the summer solstice is with a meditation that literally pulls the radiance of the sun all the way into me.

Sit outside if you can, although positioning yourself next to a window works just as well.

Close your eyes and breathe deeply as you imagine the rays of the sun falling upon you and beaming right the way down onto and into the crown of your head before filtering through your body.

Feel the light illuminating and warming each and every cell that it meets along the way until it reaches your solar plexus, which is considered by many to be your own central sun.

Allow the light of the outer sun to settle there, filling and energising your own energy while also reigniting the light of your own inner sun.

Spend some time sitting in and with that energy noticing what happens within your heart, mind, body and soul as you do.

When you're ready, give thanks to the sun and visualise those rays moving all the way back up into the sky before taking a few deep breaths and bringing yourself back into the present.

■ **To read more about Ceryn, please visit www.cerynrowntree.com**



In centuries gone by, our ancestors danced throughout the night to celebrate the light.



Encounters with angels

By Sandy Phillips

Below, author Sandy Phillips features the subject of angels and gives some examples of angelic intervention she has encountered.

Sandy had three major ambitions in life. One was to have a piece of artwork exhibited at the Royal Academy whilst the second was to write a book. She has achieved the first two. Her third ambition is to be closer to a spiritual life.

ANGELS are like Google: you can log in to them at any time. In many people's experience we just have to think of them or call to them and they will respond.

The word angel comes from the Greek *angelos*, which means messenger. The faithful of all the world's major religions believe that angels are messengers from the highest spiritual worlds who carry out tasks given to them to perform on Earth.

Angels are heavenly beings yet they can also disguise themselves as human to convey a message or give comfort, to help, advise or encourage us.

When I was about seven years old, I was walking home from school with a younger boy who lived near me and was sucking on a sweet that became stuck in my throat. I was choking and tried to

gesture to the boy to hit me on the back, but he didn't understand.

Suddenly, a hand gave me a mighty whack as I bent over... and out popped the sweet. However, I saw no one nearby.

No one asked me if I was all right, and even the young lad couldn't tell me who had done that. That's when I began to believe there are "angels in disguise."

In time, I began to develop my psychic gifts, inherited from my mother, and became aware of my own guardian angel, who has been with me for life. She is a French nun with a white-winged wimple.

I had always thought of nuns – and angels – as very gentle and patient individuals, but how wrong could I be. Being rather hot tempered when I was



young, I thought that she would be with me to calm me down.

Instead, she came through to me as a rather stern and cross individual who had no patience with my foolishness. Her message was that I wasn't doing the best I could and all her efforts were falling on stony ground.

At the age of 82, I'm not sure she's ever been very successful, so it will be an interesting conversation when I finally pass on.

Another guardian angel was a Native American healer named Black Elk, who was a remarkable healer when on Earth. He inspired me try to give absent healing, with some success.

A woman I knew was losing her sight, so I prayed for her with all the power I could muster.

A few weeks later I met her again with her husband. The couple said they didn't know what I was doing, but it made a difference and her sight loss had halted.

I was also aware of a Chinese mandarin close to me, with a huge sense of love that would bowl me over and make me cry. I believe I was his daughter in a former life.

Even before I knew him, I was drawn to Chinese culture, for example choosing a traditional hanfu robe for fancy dress

parties and having an oriental statue in my garden.

His job was to encourage me to think clearly about situations, always to look at both sides of an issue and then calmly choose one. I am afraid I've probably disappointed him too, as I still tend to say exactly what's in my mind... ah well.

Other angelic experiences have been extraordinary. I was once taking a development circle with some friends and during our meditation found myself out in space looking down onto the Earth.

There was the most beautiful sight of angels surrounding the planet finger to finger all the way around, guarding us all from danger.

Another time when I was actually in real danger, I heard an angelic chorus and thousands of voices singing *Ave Maria*. It is hard to put into words how exquisite and uplifting this experience was.

Again in my church, I once saw all the colours of the rainbow filling the interior, the beautiful light reflected everywhere

and illuminating the auras around the people there.

It's not just me. A few weeks before my mother-in-law died, she told me that she'd awoken one night to see clearly two figures standing at the bottom of her bed.

One was her husband and the other was wearing a hooded cloak which covered the face.

She whispered in awe that she thought this was an angel. Later, as her children and I gathered round her at the last moments of her life, she looked towards the end of her bed with a beautiful beaming smile indicating that she saw the two figures again.

I have asked friends whether they have seen or encountered angels. Her eyes sparkling with excitement as she spoke, one told me that when her father was dying she went outside and was looking up at the sky.

What she at first thought were cloud formations then transformed into an enormous angel with beautiful wings, which brought her great comfort.

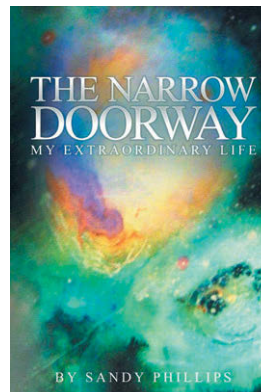
Similarly, another friend also thought she was looking at clouds, but then as they moved away she saw an angelic figure who remained where they had been.

She estimated that it was about nine feet tall because it then came down to her and settled around her so that they were merged into one.

It had been a very beautiful experience which brought her to tears; both these women spoke about the love they felt being given by the angels, so much so that they were unable to describe it properly.

Many people may never see or meet an angel yet there are thousands of accounts like these by ordinary folk, some of whom had no religious belief.

I am sure that angels are constantly with every one of us, giving help and comfort and offering their love – we never know who may be passing us on the street...



■ **Sandy Phillips has lived an extraordinary life, growing up during the London Blitz and having many spiritual experiences throughout her life.**

She tells her story in "The Narrow Doorway," which is published by Local Legend. <https://local-legend.co.uk>



The bountiful benefits of breathwork

BY JO PETERS

Once a city lawyer, Jo Peters left it all behind and now lives on a small-holding in Scotland. She regularly talks in schools, educating future generations about sustainability and caring for the environment.

Jo has written nine books, such as “Slow: Finding Peace and Purpose in a Hectic World,” “The Little Book of Forest Bathing: Find Peace and Happiness with the Healing Power of Trees” and “Vegan Life: Cruelty-Free Food, Fashion, Beauty and Home.”

Last month saw the publication of her latest book “The Little Book of Breathwork,” which is packed with information and easy to perform exercises.

The publishers promise that mastering the art of breathwork will relieve stress and anxiety, create a deeper sense of calm, enhance mental clarity, increase one’s focus, and improve overall physical health and well-being.

It will also harness natural energy, boost athletic and motivational performance, and cultivate a deeper connection with your mind, body and soul.

In this slightly abridged extract, Jo starts with exploring the process of breathing and includes some exercises to take your breath away in the nicest possible way.

BREATHING or respiration is the process of getting oxygen into the body and removing carbon dioxide.

Oxygen is required by the cells in our bodies in order to perform everyday functions. Moving, eating and thinking all rely on a healthy amount of oxygen being present within our cells.

As we breathe in the air around us, we are taking in oxygen. As the cells perform these tasks, carbon dioxide is produced as a waste product. This needs to be removed from the bloodstream and the body, which happens as we breathe out.

The brain constantly receives signals about the levels of oxygen and carbon dioxide in the body and will change your breathing rate accordingly.

For instance, if you are exercising and require more oxygen to your muscles and to remove carbon dioxide at a higher rate, the rhythm of your breath will increase.

How do we breathe?

The parts of the body involved in the breathing process are known collectively as the respiratory system. This includes the nose, mouth, throat, trachea (windpipe) and lungs.

There are also many muscles involved in respiration. The diaphragm is the main breathing muscle. It is a large sheet of muscle that divides the chest from the abdomen.

Many breathwork practices involve feeling or focusing on the diaphragm. The abdominal muscles and the muscles in between the ribs, the intercostal muscles, also assist with the breathing process.

Inhaling

1. The respiratory centre in the brain signals to the diaphragm and other muscles to begin the process.

2. The diaphragm moves down, and the rib cage pulls up and out. This allows space for the lungs to expand.
3. Air is drawn in, via the nose or mouth, and travels down the trachea, which divides into two airways, travelling into the left and right lung.
4. The airways divide another 15–25 times, eventually becoming thousands of tiny airways leading to air sacs.
5. From these sacs, oxygen passes over into the bloodstream and is carried via the cells to wherever it is needed.

Exhaling

1. Carbon dioxide passes back into the air sacs from the bloodstream.
2. The diaphragm relaxes, returning to a dome position and reducing the space in the lungs.

When there is a demand to move air faster, such as during exercise, the abdominal muscles also help to force air back out.

3. This squeezes the air back up the trachea and out of the nose or mouth.

Breathing is one involuntary function that can be consciously controlled using breathwork exercises.

Therefore, purposefully adjusting your breathing pattern can dictate which nervous system is activated, consequently affecting a whole host of body functions.

When a breathwork exercise involves lengthening an exhale or slowing down

the breath, it signals to the brain that the body is not under stress and the parasympathetic nervous system can be activated.

During this relaxation response, the body is pulled into a calmer state and can tend to all the vital background functions.

An example of this can often be seen (or heard) during a meditation session, when people's stomachs begin to gurgle as the digestion process is given the green light by their relaxed nervous system.

Physical benefits of breathwork

There are many potential benefits of breathwork. Physical benefits may include:

- Lowered blood pressure
- Relaxed shoulders/chest
- Increased energy
- Boosted immune system
- Improved digestion
- Improved sleep
- Stronger respiratory function
- Reduced feelings of PTSD and past trauma

Breathwork and meditation

Meditation is a practice intended to calm, soothe and focus the mind. Controlled breathing can enable the body to slip into the parasympathetic nervous system, the "rest and digest" state.

Accessing this state is key to meditating, as it allows the body to slow down and not be on high alert for potential stressors.

When it can feel nearly impossible to simply sit and tell yourself to "be calm and clear the mind," breathwork can offer a focus point to actively pull you into this calmer state. In particular, elongating your exhales helps you to signal to your brain that you are ready to relax.

Breathwork and mindfulness

Mindfulness is the practice of being present. It aims to shift your focus to the here and now, to quieten the brain of chatter and allow you to exist in the present moment.

Since your breath is only occurring in this exact moment – not in the past or future – focusing on your breathing immediately connects you to the present.

Every time you focus on an inhale or an exhale, you are shifting your focus to the present and completing an act of mindfulness.

Other ways to be mindful include paying attention to the sounds around you, how your body feels and looking around to really acknowledge what you are seeing.

Breathwork and self-care

Self-care includes a whole host of practices that aim to improve your physical, mental and emotional well-being. This can range from listening to mood-boosting music, having a bath or going for a run.

Breathwork can be an integral part of self-care. For example, for someone trying to reduce anxiety or increase productivity in their morning routine, there are breathing practices for that purpose.

Since the aims of breathwork and self-care largely overlap, it's no surprise that breathwork is often involved in self-care moments.

The next time you carry out an act of self-care, such as applying a face mask, try to double down on the benefits by also incorporating an appropriate breathwork technique, such as the simple calming exercise explored below.

Deepening the breath

We are often told to "take a deep breath," but without true connection to how that feels and what that means, it can be redundant advice.

Even deepening the breath ever so slightly will help to calm and ground you. Have a go at this exercise to begin to understand how to breathe deeper.

1. Start by focusing on your natural breath, noticing the pace and depth of it.
2. Spend a few moments, and a few breath cycles, feeling how your ribcage expands and your chest rises.
3. When you feel ready, begin to gently push past your natural stopping point on your inhales and exhales.
4. Take this expansion slowly; you need only breathe a tiny bit deeper each time.
5. Continue these rounds of controlled, deep breaths until you find a rhythm that feels comfortable yet beyond your natural state.

Expanding the breath

Now you have explored how to physically deepen the breath, this can be enhanced through visualisation. Using this technique, you may be able to get beyond what you believed to be your deepest breaths.

Visualisation is a key tool within breathwork, which often asks us to "see" the breath in certain ways. It is a deeply personal technique and allows you to adapt a practice to whatever works best for your mind and imagination.

In this practice, visualisation meets sensation. Can you "send" the breath to different parts of your body simply by focusing on them?

1. Start by lying down, palms facing up and fingers gently spread. Allow your ankles and feet to fall out to the side.
2. Bring your attention to your breath, feeling the gentle rise and fall of your inhales and exhales.
3. Start to visualise your breath flowing into the very centre of your chest, your "heart centre," and filling up your chest on each inhale.
4. With your next inhale, begin to visualise the space that the breath fills expanding slightly. After a few breaths, perhaps you can see it filling both lungs.
5. With each new inhale start to visualise the breath travelling a little further, reaching down to your belly and up to your throat.
6. Continue this visualisation, slowly expanding the reach of your breath, until it travels all the way down your arms and legs. Eventually, your inhales will feel like they are reaching the very tips of your fingers and toes.

Yogic breathing

Here is a technique that both deepens the breath and heightens concentration.

1. Start by sitting up straight, shoulders relaxed and crown of the head reaching up. You can lean against a wall or chair if that feels more comfortable, but try to have length along the torso.
2. Close your eyes and take a moment to connect to your breath.
3. As you inhale, imagine the air flowing directly into your stomach.
4. Imagine it travelling up to your chest.
5. Imagine it travelling up to your throat.
6. Imagine it travelling up to your "third eye" – the space between your brows.
7. As you exhale, imagine the air flowing out from your "third eye," then your throat, then your chest, then your stomach.
8. Continue to cycle the breaths in this way. In through the stomach, chest, throat and third eye. Out through the third eye, throat, chest and stomach.

After this practice, notice how your breath is filling the entirety of your upper body, and how you've sunk into a steady rhythm of deep breathing.

■ **"The Little Book of Breathwork" is produced by Vie Books, an imprint of Summersdale Publishers Ltd. It costs £6.99 and is available from any bookshop or various sites on the internet.**

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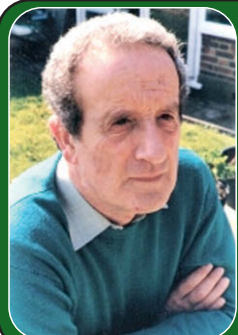
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RONALD HEARN

Born on June 9, 1927, Ronald Hearn (pictured left) became one of this world's greatest
tried-and-tested mediums. Apart from public demonstrations, he reached countless thousands of
people through highly accurate taped sittings and many TV and radio programmes
The author of three books, London-based Ronald worked in the USA, Canada,
Sweden, Australia, Germany and New Zealand as well as the UK

Ronald passed to the spirit world on June 5, 2016

To read about his unique gifts, please visit the official Ronald Hearn website at:

www.ronaldhearn.com

SPIRITUAL ART

This month we feature a gallery of work by four different artists. This eclectic collection shows how diverse spiritual art is and the many different techniques used to express this truly wonderful form of expression with a spirit connection.

MARTIN MULHERN



Prince - Inspiration

Here we see a painting of American singer, songwriter, musician and record producer Prince (Prince Rogers Nelson) connecting with the symbol that he later used to replace his name as a rebellion against his record label's contract.

In 1993, he announced that he would no longer go by the name Prince, but rather by a "Love Symbol" which was a combination of the gender symbols for man and woman.

"It is an unpronounceable symbol whose meaning has not been identified," he wrote at the time. "It's all about thinking in new ways, tuning in 2 a new free-quency."



A Cross The Universe

I have depicted the cross as a "cosmic event" within a very ordinary town setting where shoppers are going about their business, unaware that God has presented an obvious depiction of His/Her presence.

Understandably, most people are so caught up in the difficulties and distractions of modern life that they would probably be blind to any divine message, however explicitly God manifested it.

In fact, the only person to see the cross in the painting is the little boy pointing to it.

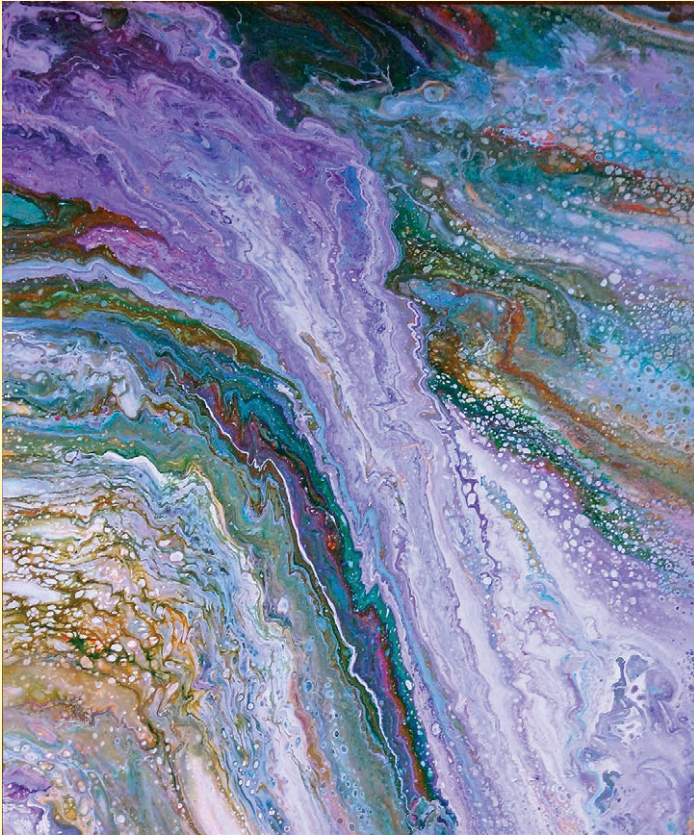
You can see more of Martin's work, buy prints or commission a painting at his Etsy shop: [etsy.com/shop/MartinMulhernArt](https://www.etsy.com/shop/MartinMulhernArt) or contact by email at: martin.mulhern@hotmail.co.uk

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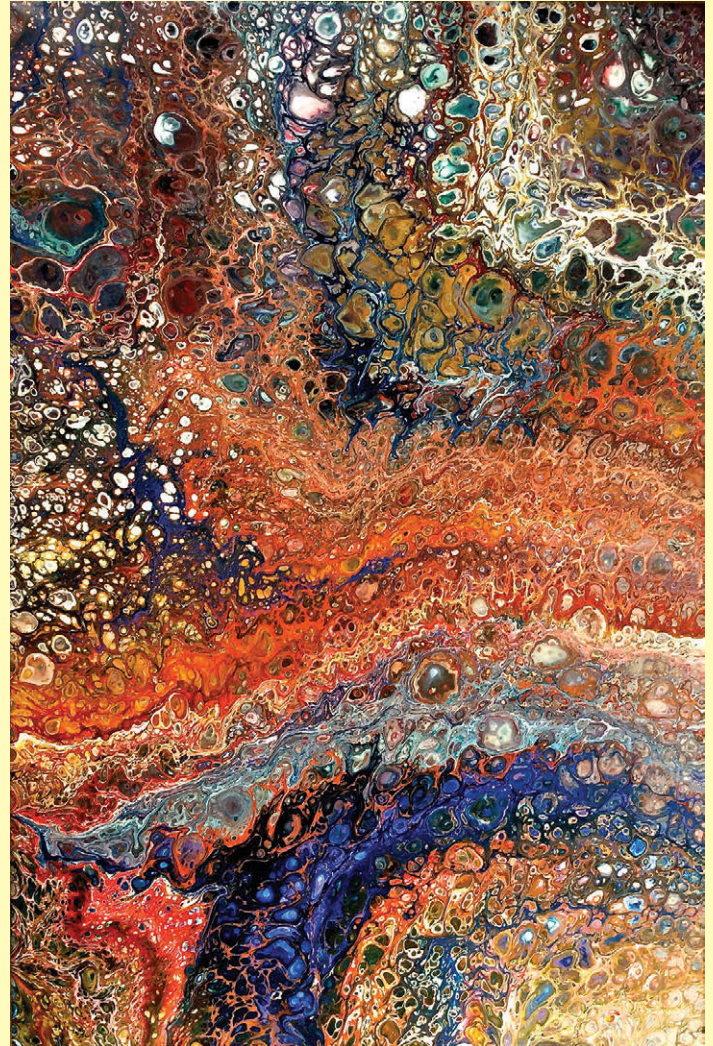
Please do keep your artwork coming so we can display it in the magazine and with our followers on Facebook and Twitter. If we print your work in the magazine you will receive a surprise spiritual book or gift.

Send your art to: Paul Brett, *Psychic News*, Unit 2, Griggs Business Centre, West Street, Coggeshall, Essex CO6 1NT, United Kingdom or email to: pnaverts@gmail.com

IONE POWELL



Life in Flux (above), Microcosm & Macrocosm (below)



Seafordspirit (above)

This depicts master of ceremonies and President Robin Hodson (in his blue suit) with the congregation singing what has somewhat become our opening number, "Let there be peace on Earth, let this be the moment now."

This painting especially resonates with me as paints are mixed along with homeopathic and vibrational remedies in the paper cups collected after the divine service each week – thereby capturing an essence of all.

**Seafordspirit Centre is at 3 Warwick Road,
Seaford, East Sussex BN25 1RS
You can find out about their services, healing,
workshops and special events at
www.seafordspirit.co.uk**

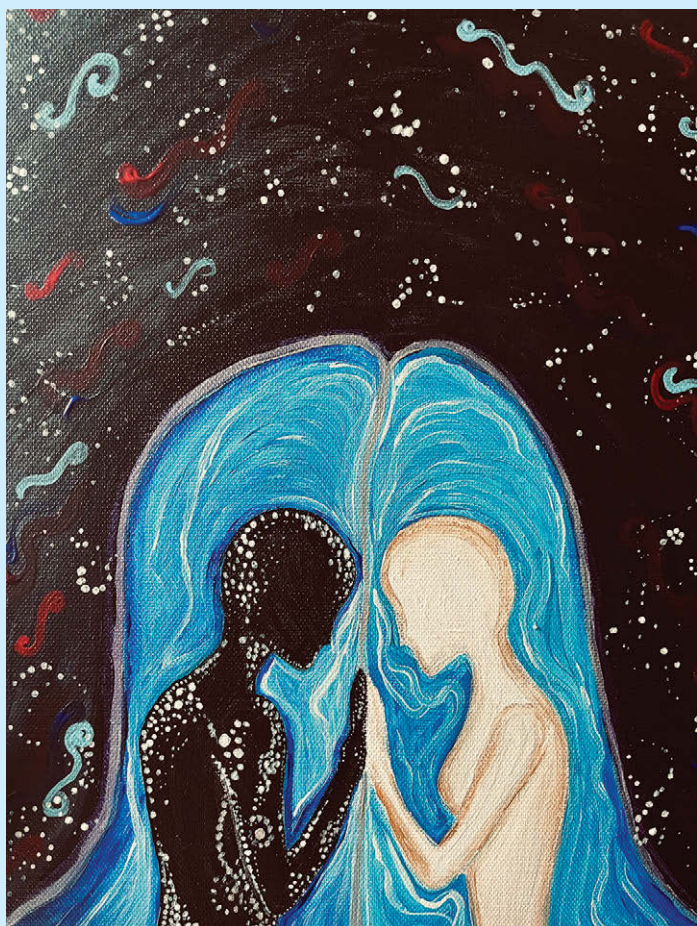
HEATHER BUTLER SMITH



I am an intuitive artist and medium. The pandemic caused me to rethink my business as an intuitive coach and focus more on expressing my psychic connections through art.

I use watercolour and ink doodles to create a piece of inspired art which I can then read for the client. I can do this from photographs, a video link or by just asking Spirit for guidance.

Website: Heatherbutlersmith.com Email: heatherbutlersmith@gmail.com



MONELISE

My name is Monelise. I am a singer, visual artist and medium. This painting (left) is called "Conversations with God" and is based on my song of the same title.

In terms of my training, I completed a course in mediumship at the Spiritualist Association of Great Britain, which was where I discovered *Psychic News*.

As a musician, artist and medium, I love to weave these modalities together to create art that connects to the Other Side.

I create music and art often inspired by my psychic visions and dreams. Sometimes I turn my songs into paintings.

I also create "soul paintings" for my music fans and clients. This is when I tune into a person's auric field and create a painting to express what I see.

You can find out more about Monelise at: Monelise.com



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Website: www.camberleyspiritualistchurch.org ~ Tel: 01252 879719

Sunday 4th June at 6.30pm

Divine Service with
KEVIN TREFRY



Saturday 17th June

Workshop with
NATHAN POOLE

JUNE 2023



Evenings of Mediumship

Every Tuesday
at 7.30pm with

6th MICHAEL LENNON

13th WANDA BOLTON

20th EMMA DOWSING

27th EVE COWELL

Every Monday 7.15pm for 7.30pm start OPEN CIRCLE

First Wednesday of month 7.30pm (Next event 7th June 2023)

OPEN PLATFORM – NOW BACK IN CHURCH Sympathetic Audience Welcome

HEALING: Every Monday 1pm - 2.30pm (Monday Events – Except Bank Holidays)



'Dead' girl saves sister in car crash

BY SALICROW

A natural psychic aware of her gifts since childhood, Salicrow has worked as a medium for many years.

As such, she helps people to connect with family, friends and loved ones who have passed on, as well as make connections with guiding spirit beings who watch over them.

An intuitive healer, Salicrow is dedicated to helping the beings of our planet and the Earth itself. She is a reiki master, a sound healer and Druid, and a practitioner of runes and Seithr (a type of magic practised in Norse society during the late Scandinavian Iron Age).

Salicrow lives in Vermont, one of the six New England states whose first European settlers were Puritans from England, with her husband of 26 years.

In this specially written article, Salicrow cites various cases of spirit return, writing that the so-called dead "are constantly trying to reassure us that they have not left us."

I BEGAN my career as a medium twenty years ago after a major spiritual opening in which my consciousness was blown wide open.

This was not a totally surprising event as I grew up in a family with psychic gifts and had been doing professional divination and energetic healing for a decade prior to the experience.

The vastness of the world of spirit presented to me during this time was similar to opening a door to what I believed to be a large room only to find out I had been in the closet the whole time.

While I had experienced moments of spirit contact since childhood, I was abruptly aware of how expansive the world of spirit really is.

Suddenly shops, streets and public gatherings became a lot more populated. I saw how a lonely old man in a grocer's shop was accompanied by his "dead" wife and how the mother who lost a child had not really lost them, for they were strolling

along beside her.

Spirit beings were not just hanging out in abandoned buildings and graveyards; they were everywhere that people gathered.

This realisation led me to dedicate my life to helping others understand and ultimately perceive the world of spirit with a focus on healing the unnecessary wound of loss created by believing that after death we simply cease to exist.

As a medium, I have devoted my life path to healing, working exclusively with individuals and families who are deep in mourning, forgoing the haunted house tour industry and entertainment aspects of spirit communication.

This choice came out of my upbringing and the teachings of my great-grandmother in particular. A medium herself, she made it clear to me at a young age that I had a gift and that it came with a responsibility.

Being half Blackfoot (Native American)

and half Irish Traveller, she saw spirit communication as a sacred act of honouring ancestors and the gift of spirit speaking as something that required service to one's community in some form.

At first, I was uncomfortable with offering appointments based solely on communication, as I was not sure that spirit beings would always show up, so decided that if Spirit really wanted to speak through me, they could do so during psychic readings.

However, it was soon made apparent to me that they would take me up on this offer, and within a short time it was clear that I needed to offer readings as a separate service.

One of the first experiences I had with a spirit visitor during that time was with a dapper fellow who appeared to be in his early forties.

Dressed in clothing from the early 1950s, he had slicked-back black hair and a lot of charm. The communicator came through both to his daughter and his elderly wife in two consecutive readings at a psychic party I was doing.

When I left the house that night, I noticed he was in the back seat of my car sitting where I could see him clearly every time I looked up.

When I finally arrived home, I turned around and said: "OK, I'm home. You can take your leave now." He left without further ado.

A few months later, I ran into his daughter at another psychic party, which she attended in the hope of hearing from her father again.

I told her how her dad had ridden home with me after our last meeting. She smiled



“SPIRIT beings were not just hanging out in abandoned buildings and graveyards,” says medium. “They were everywhere that people gathered.”

and laughed before telling me her father didn’t think a lady should travel by herself at night. Her father had escorted me home to make sure I was safe.

As a medium, I describe myself as a guest at other people’s family reunions. I often find that spirit beings who I work with develop a sort of loyalty toward me; it’s a form of thanks for the efforts I put into helping them communicate with their living loved ones that is similar to the friendships built in life.

Just as the dapper fellow escorted me home, other spirit beings have gone out of their way to aid me in miraculous ways showing that they are truly watching over us.

This help is not only reserved for those who have strong connections to the spirit world, but to all of us to some degree, as our ancestors and guides are often trying desperately to make contact and assist us when possible.

One of the most remarkable experiences of Spirit intervening on behalf of the living involved a “dead” child named Emily, who has actively helped her family more than once.

I first became involved in Emily’s story at a psychic party. I was there giving tarot readings when a woman named Donna, whom I had never met before, sat down in front of me.

As I began her reading, I felt the spirit of a child come into the room and began to gently present the information coming through.

I told Donna there was a young girl with her who said she was her daughter, and that she had died while sleeping at a nursery.

I went on to tell Donna that her “dead” daughter was telling me she saved her sister’s life, showing me that she shielded her sister from going through the windscreen of a car during an accident.

Donna began crying as she told me that she had indeed lost her daughter Emily at the age of two, and she did have a living daughter who had been in accident when she was sixteen.

What’s more her daughter told her after the accident that she felt her “dead” sister’s presence and believed her sister had saved her, as she felt a pressure across her chest, which kept her from being thrown from the car.

This information changed Donna’s view of reality, allowing her to finally begin her healing process.

Shortly after this reading, the women came to see me again for a sitting and I told Donna she was going to be a grandmother, as her living daughter was pregnant.

Donna was doubtful about this, as her daughter had only recently turned eighteen and wasn’t in a steady relationship as far as she knew.

A few months later when I ran into her at the grocer’s shop, Donna confirmed that I was right – her daughter was indeed pregnant.

While her daughter had a normal



A “DEAD” child shielded her sister from going through a car windscreen during an accident.

pregnancy without any sign of distress, the delivery of her child was nothing short of a nightmare with both mother and child being transported by ambulance from a little country hospital to a major medical centre hours away.

Mother and child were in a critical condition and their survival was in question. Having to face the possible loss of her only living child and an unborn grandchild, Donna was in a mess.

With fear of losing her loved ones she was desperate for help and reached out to the child she had lost.

Having taken Emily's Raggedy-Ann doll with her to the hospital, Donna gave over to Spirit opening herself in prayer and hope, and could feel her presence.

In her state of need, Donna was reassured she was not alone and that her beloved daughter had come forward to help the family in their time of need. Donna pleaded with Emily for help... and both mother and child came through the ordeal with full recovery.

Whether Emily actually played a part in her sister's and niece's miraculous recovery is a matter of belief, but for Donna there is no doubt. She felt her daughter's spirit strongly and knew that she was there as a helper.

Over the years, the family has grown to include Emily as one of their ancestral spirit guides, recognising that while she may have passed at a young age, she is far from a young spirit.

Throughout the years and after much healing Donna has grown to accept Emily for the complete spirit she is, seeing her as an old soul instead of the helpless child who left the world of the living far too soon.

Whenever the family faces hardship the first place they turn is to Emily knowing she is watching over them. What's more, Emily's niece, who is now a teenager herself, knows that her aunt has been watching over her since the moment she came into this world.

Emily is invited to every family gathering and spoken of in the present tense, as the family knows she has not disappeared, but simply transformed back into Spirit.

They visit her grave often, particularly when their hearts are heavy or they have difficulties to face, knowing she is listening to them when they talk, and that she will be trying her best to help them in whatever way she can.

While not all of us will have experiences as extraordinary as Donna's, we all have spirit personalities who look out for us.

Time and time again, Spirit has left me in awe at the efforts they put into reaching

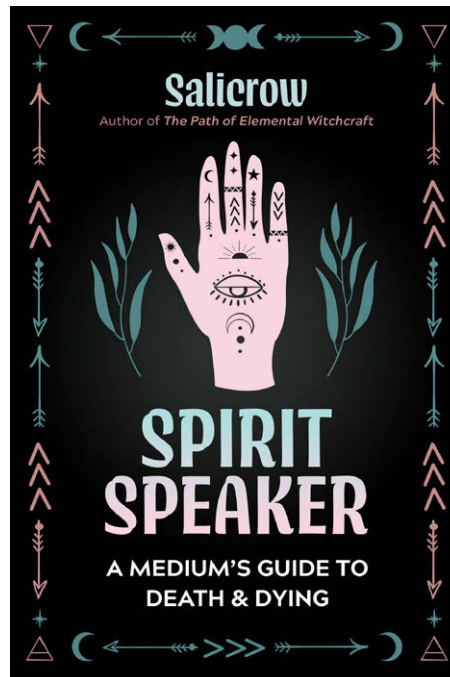
their living loved ones and the creative ways they try to prove to them that they are still there not only in times of crisis, but in everyday moments of grieving when our hearts long for them.

The act of asking beloved spirit beings for assistance in times of need and of sorrow has been a natural part of the human experience throughout history.

In many ways we are living in a time of spiritual starvation in which people crave a deeper connection with the world of spirit.

Religion is no longer an assigned at birth kind of thing. Instead, we are left to figure out the workings of the universe and all its mysteries for ourselves.

We may think this will be an easy feat with all the knowledge available to us via the click of a search engine, but in truth the vast amount of information available



makes it hard to know what to trust and where to put our faith.

What we really crave is a personal connection be it seeing a "dead" dad sitting in the back seat of our car or sensing a loved one's presence when facing life's hardships. Likewise, we crave evidence that we exist beyond our physical lifespan.

Whether it is personally received or through the voice of a medium, in many ways spirit communication is a balm for our weary souls, giving us proof that we are more than skin and bones, flesh and hair.

The human spirit exists outside of physical form, and the spirits of our much-loved "dead" are constantly trying to reassure us that they have not left us.

I believe we all have the ability to experience communication with loved ones

in Spirit, and that our life force is a glowing candle in the darkness drawing dear ones to us like moths to a flame.

The problem is that most of us write off the experiences we have as coincidence or weave doubt into a communication by saying things like "I think I just saw my dead grandmother" instead of "I saw my dead grandmother."

If we use words like "maybe," "kind of" and "think," we weave doubt into our experience, denying ourselves the moments of connection our "dead" loved ones are working so hard to achieve.

When teaching spirit communication, one of the first things I tell my students is to remove words of doubt from their vocabulary when it comes to describing their experiences with Spirit.

After all, we can think thousands of things at any given moment, so what would make us think we just saw a "dead" person unless we did?

We've been brainwashed by conservative doctrine to believe that the only ones worthy of spirit contact are the appointed clergy of whatever religion we have been repressed by.

We are all worthy of communication with Spirit. While some of us may be more inclined to receive it, we are all capable of some degree of contact.

Spirit communication is like art: we can all create art, but not everyone will be a good artist. Likewise, we are all capable of spirit contact, but not everyone possesses the ability to be a medium.

When we choose to believe the experiences we have with the unseen world, instead of immediately turning to doubt we will likely find that we are seeing signs from our loved ones everywhere.

Contact comes in many forms, as spirit visitors do not all communicate in the same fashion and the living don't all have the same type of sensitivity.

The ways in which Spirit reaches out for contact is vast – shadows seen out of the corner of our eyes, coins found in unusual places, songs on the radio and voices speaking when we are alone. We are not alone – and never were!

■ **Salicrow is the author of "Spirit Speaker: A Medium's Guide To Death & Dying," published by Destiny Books (an imprint of Inner Traditions).**

Additionally, she wrote "Jump Girl" (North Atlantic Press) and "The Path of Elemental Witchcraft" (Inner Traditions).

Salicrow sees clients locally and globally from her studio in Newark or by Zoom and phone. For further details, please see www.salicrow.com



Your paranormal and spiritual questions answered

BY GRAHAM JENNINGS

Tourists 'hear' sounds of Second World War battle

What is the story of the two English women in France in 1951 who heard the gunfire, explosions and dive-bombers of the disastrous Dieppe Raid of 1942? – Simon Mason.

On July 25, 1951, Agnes Norton, aged 33, arrived at Puy near Dieppe. The following day, she was joined by Dorothy Norton, 32, her two children and their nurse.

Agnes was Dorothy's sister-in-law. Both from the Midlands, they had been friends since childhood. Now they were on holiday in a three-storey house facing the sea.

They shared a bedroom on the second floor, two doors away from the nurse and the children.

In the early hours of July 30, Dorothy was awakened by the distant sounds of men's cries, shouts and gunfire. It was followed by the sounds of shelling and dive-bombers.

Dorothy went back to sleep. As Agnes had been asleep and heard nothing, Dorothy did not mention it, so as not to spoil the holiday.

On Saturday, August 4, Dorothy awoke at 4.00 am and heard sounds "like a storm getting up at sea." At 4.20 am, Agnes climbed out of bed and left the room.

The sounds continued. When she returned, Dorothy asked, "Do you hear that noise?"

Agnes replied that she did. In fact, she had woken up about the same time as Dorothy and heard "a most unusual series of sounds coming from the direction of the beach, which were cries of men heard as if above a storm."

They were similar to the sounds Dorothy had heard on July 30, only much louder. Both women now lay in the dark listening to "a roar that ebbed and flowed. We could distinctly hear the sounds of cries and shouts and gunfire."

Both had lived through the Second World War, when Agnes served as a nurse in the Women's Royal Naval Service. They were familiar with the sounds of naval



HERE Canadian troops are seen during a training exercise before the raid on Dieppe in 1942. (Photo: Department of National Defence Library)

bombardment, exploding shells and dive-bombers.

Dorothy continued: "We put the light on and it continued. We went out on the balcony where we could look down towards the beach, though we could not actually see the sea.

"The noise came from that direction and became very intense; it came in rolls of sound and the separate sounds of cries, guns and dive-bombing were very distinct.

"Many times, we heard the sound of a shell at the same moment. The roaring became very loud.

"At 4.50 am, it suddenly stopped. At 5.05 am it started again and once more became very intense, so much so that as we stood on our balcony, we were amazed that it did not wake other people in the house."

Agnes recalled that "the sounds intensified and appeared to me to be a mixture of gunfire, shell-fire, dive-bombers, landing craft and men's cries.

"All the sounds gave the impression of coming from a very long distance, i.e. like a broadcast from America in unmistakable waves of sound."

Both women were conscious that it

was getting lighter and that somewhat incongruously, "cocks were crowing and birds were singing."

Dorothy continued: "We heard a rifle shot on the hill above the beach, which was about a quarter of a mile away, down a steep path.

"The sounds became more distinctly that of dive-bombers rather than the cries and shouts we had heard earlier, although we could still hear them. The noise was very loud and came in waves as before.

"It stopped abruptly at 5.40. At 5.50, it started again, but was not so loud and sounded more like planes. This died away at 6.00 am.

"At 6.20 the sound became audible again, but it was fainter than before, and I fell asleep as I was very tired."

Agnes remained awake. At 6.25 am, "men's cries heard again growing gradually fainter and nothing at all heard after 6.55 am."

The women discovered that neither the nurse nor the children, or anyone else had heard anything.

At Dorothy's suggestion, each wrote down their own account of what they had heard, partly on that day and partly the

When TV fiction became real-life reality

next, when they journeyed home.

They posted them to the Society for Psychical Research (SPR) with a covering letter dated August 9.

Two SPR researchers, Guy William Lambert and Kathleen Gay, investigated and found that their accounts tallied favourably with the raid on Dieppe on August 19, 1942.

Codenamed Operation Jubilee, it was an amphibious assault on the German-occupied port. The women remembered reading press reports at the time, but had not researched further details.

The objectives were to capture the port, gather intelligence – rumour has it they were after an Enigma machine – and destroy the port facilities.

On the day, British and Canadian troops, supported by the Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force, attacked the port and the beaches either side, including Pys to the east.

The raid proved disastrous. Of the 6,086 men who landed, 3,623 were killed, wounded or captured. The Navy lost 33 landing craft and a destroyer. The RAF losses were 106 aircraft.

Mr Lambert and Ms Gay obtained reports of the raid and compared the times with what the women heard. At 3.47 am, assault vessels in the Channel encountered a German convoy. Firing began and continued until after 4.00 am.

At 5.07 am, the first wave of landing craft hit the beach at Pys. They encountered heavy fire from the German defenders. At 5.12 am, destroyers bombarded Dieppe. Three minutes later, Hurricanes strafed the seafront buildings.

At 5.20 am, the main force landed at Dieppe. At 5.40 am, the naval bombardment of Dieppe ceased. At 5.50 am, 48 RAF aircraft flew overhead.

The researchers concluded that “after 6.00 am the increasingly complex pattern of events makes it hardly possible to continue the comparison.”

Mr Lambert and Ms Gay termed it a case of collective auditory hallucination. They gave the women the pseudonym of “Norton” to protect their identities and published their findings in the *JOURNAL* of the Society for Psychical Research.

What is the origin of the term “The Twilight Zone”? – Martin McMasters.

It is of comparatively recent origin and has several meanings, generally scientific, legal and psychic.

In astronomy, the twilight zone is the line that separates day from night and is called the Terminator. On the Earth it is always changing because of the planet’s rotation. On a tidally-locked body like the moon, it is constant.

In oceans, The Twilight Zone is the area about 650 to 3,300 feet below the surface. Also known as the midwater or mesopelagic, it is beyond the reach of sunlight. Cold and dark, it sometimes teams with life.

Legally, it is a grey area that has no specific boundaries and can therefore be subject to dispute.

The earliest reference I can find of its use in a psychic sense is in a report of astral projection in *Psychic News* for April 18, 1936. In it, American astral-traveller Riblet Brisbane Hout describes leaving his physical body.

He wrote, “While I had been, and was yet, entirely conscious all this time, yet now I seemed to enter a deep peaceful blue twilight zone as I felt myself rising, horizontally, from my physical body.”

In American English, it is a military term, and also refers to a world of fantasy or illusion, as in the iconic TV series *The Twilight Zone*.

Its creator, television writer and producer Rod Serling (1924-1975), borrowed the term from the military. As a paratrooper in the war, he knew it referred to the point where, as a plane descends, the pilot can no longer see the horizon.

The original series was an anthology which ran from 1959 to 1964. It was a blend of various genres including science fiction, fantasy, horror and the occult. It is now being shown in the UK on *Legend TV* on weekend evenings.

Rod Serling introduced each episode, saying: “There is a fifth dimension beyond that which is known to man... a dimension as vast as space and as timeless as infinity.

“It is the middle ground between light and shadow, between science and superstition, and it lies between the pit of man’s fears and the summit of his knowledge.”

The stories were fictional, but there were twilight-zone parallels involving two of the actors in subsequent real-life events.

Actor Albert Salmi (1927-1990) appeared in *Execution* (1960) as an outlaw of 1880, about to be executed for murder. In a time-travel experiment, a scientist beams his time-travel ray and rescues Salmi from the hangman’s noose.

Transported to the present time, he is confused and disorientated. True to type, he slaughters the scientist and escapes, but is killed by another criminal. (Poetic justice was a recurring theme of the series.)

Tragically, Salmi became a murderer in real life. In 1990, he shot his estranged wife Roberta at home and then shot himself.

Gig Young (1913-1978) enjoyed a long film career, mostly in supporting roles. In *The Twilight Zone* episode *Walking Distance* (1959), he starred as an overworked advertising executive yearning for a quiet life without the stress.

On car a journey, he is mysteriously transported back to 1934 and an idyllic childhood. He sees himself as a boy and meets his parents just as they were, but, of course, they do not recognise him.

Eventually, because of the 1960 expiry date on his driving licence, they accept him. His father, seeing him wishing himself back,

advises him that everyone has their time. The past has gone, and however appealing, there is no going back.

The mid-1970s marked a decline in Young’s career because of alcoholism. It resulted in him being sacked by filmmaker Mel Brooks from a starring role in *Blazing Saddles*.

On September 27, 1978, Young, now aged 64, married Kim Schmidt, his fifth wife, who was 33 years his junior. Was he trying to recapture something of the past like his *Twilight Zone* character?

Did Young then grasp the truth of the old saying, “You can’t go home again?” Three weeks later, he taped an episode for a TV show, went home, shot his wife and turned the gun on himself.



GIG YOUNG shot his wife, then turned the gun on himself.

Famous spirit healer was guided by voice

Spirit healer Ted Fricker called his autobiography "God is My Witness." Did he really say that even if his healing came from the Devil, he would still be glad to do it? – Sylvia Lyons.

Yes, that is what he told a PN reporter. It is a fact that no healer treated more patients or had a higher success rate than Edward George (Ted) Fricker.

Born in Highgate, north London in 1910 into a family of eight brothers and one sister, Ted had a normal childhood except for a strangely audible guiding voice. It advised him to do certain things, such as to take a different route or not to cross the road just then.

Ted held a succession of jobs where he met lots of people. If they told him their troubles, as many did, the voice always had suitable advice.

At that time, he suffered ill health and underwent several surgical operations. Ted thought this made him more compassionate towards others.

In 1935, he married his beloved Grace. They lived in Tottenham and had three children: Derek before the war, Rita during it and Teresa afterwards.

During the war, Ted served as an army sergeant and crossed the Rhine. Demobbed, he worked at a glass painting company and became managing director.

Although knowing nothing of Spiritualism, he received a message from his "dead" mother, relayed by the voice, telling him he had the healing gift.

The great Joe Benjamin confirmed it at a public meeting. Pointing straight at Ted, he said, "You have a great healing gift."

Another medium also confirmed it. She told Ted he had been trained since childhood, and that through him the world would recognise a great healing power exists for the benefit of humankind.

Proof came quickly. Teresa, his youngest child, was born with ugly warts on each hand. Ted held them in his for five minutes. The next day, she ran to him, held out her hands and exclaimed, "Look, Daddy, they have all gone!"

At the factory, Ted healed a girl who



RECORDS showed that an astonishing 90 per cent of patients were completely cured of their complaints by spiritual healer Ted Fricker.

suffered from migraine. He relayed a message from the voice to the effect that she would be cured at 5.00 pm. She was.

Within a short while Ted was healing people at home. Soon so many visited him that reports of his healing appeared in the local press. In 1956, word reached Maurice Barbanell, the then editor of *Psychic News*.

He sent a reporter to investigate. So enthusiastic was he that Mr Barbanell went to see Ted Fricker heal in person. He examined the healing records and found that an astonishing 90 per cent of patients were completely cured of their complaints.

In the remainder, either a disease had progressed too far, or as Ted understood it, they had reached the end of their allotted lifespan, but still found relief from their suffering.

The two became friends. In 1962, Mr Barbanell published *I Hear a Voice: A Biography of E.G. Fricker the Healer*.

Ted moved his family to a second house and converted the first into a healing sanctuary. He worked from 10.00 am

until 5.00 pm four days a week, and on Wednesday and Saturday mornings. He sent absent healing at 9.00 pm.

Healing was often accomplished in minutes. Consequently, Ted could treat between 800 and 1,000 patients per week. He once treated 242 people in a single day.

Ted charged no fee and only accepted donations. At the voice's prompting, he sometimes took money out of a bowl for donations to give to needy patients.

He opened a new sanctuary in Wyndham Place in London's West End. It was paid for by a wealthy woman, after he cured her apparently dying husband.

Ted's list of famous patients included TV personality and writer Katie Boyle, singers Dave Clark, Mat Munro and Tom Jones, chef Fanny Cradock, singer songwriter Dana Gillespie, baritone and actor Edmund Hockridge, actors Zena Marshall and Ann Todd, and DJ Peter Murray.

Ted published his autobiography *God is My Witness* in 1977. He passed on in 1986 at the age of 76.

'Respect all forms of life' says medium

By Robert Brown

THERE is no doubt that while millions hold firm to their religious convictions and diligently practise their faith, in the past few years there has been a mass exodus of people from most mainstream religions.

With increased modern communication, in recent decades many have begun to question the doctrines and dictates which can permeate religions through humankind's interference and a desire to control fellow beings.

In recent times many have begun to think outside the box and discover truths for themselves guided by a sense of simply what is right or wrong.

A wise man once commented, "A religious person will do what he is told no matter what is right whereas a spiritual person will do what is right no matter what he is told."

I think there is truth in that statement. I have witnessed people of different faiths really struggle when their teachings directed them one way, but their conscience has caused them conflict.

Many have given up when something appears archaic and refuses to move with the progress of time and today's thinking.

I've often thought that any religion which has "Thou shall not" as a command is akin to tethering a goat to a stake and there is a limit to where it can go.

Surely any map for life should evolve and be willing to embrace progress and accommodate today's living as well as accepting the practice of love and kindness.

I like the Dalai Lama's take on things and this quotation: "This is my simple religion. There is no need for temples; no need for complicated philosophy. Our own brain, our own heart, is our temple; the philosophy is kindness."

I am not suggesting for one moment that everyone should abandon their held beliefs, for I think that early religious teachings can be a fantastic guide for this

journey we call life.

We are here to learn and develop. However, to grow in character and gain knowledge and experiences, we must be allowed to build on what we already know.

For me it was Church of England Sunday schools and Baptist youth clubs that spoke of "other realms" and a life after this one.

Their teachings led me to ask, "If there is anything beyond this life, why can't we have knowledge of it and prove it?" This ultimately guided me to Spiritualism.

My premise was simple when it came to the question of spirit communication - "Is this the most fantastic truth or the most wicked lie?"

My journey has been told in detail elsewhere. Suffice to say that I found my evidence and the truth, which led me to becoming a working medium for the past 48 years demonstrating, teaching and working with individuals around the world.

Having spent most of the past three years online with classes via Zoom, etc, as many of my colleagues did, I recently recommenced my travels.



It is a new world out there. In a very short period, it has become clear that so much has changed.

In times past, mediumship was purely a means through which those who had transitioned through so-called death made themselves known and provided evidence confirming their continuation.

It does seem now that for some mediumship embraces all kinds of practices. I think if we are not careful things could become very misleading as to what some people offer.

One would hope mediumship is also evolving. We should always be striving for better.

A medium's aim should not be to be "the best in the world," but the best they can be. We must eradicate the sense of competition, one upmanship and egos.

In general, I find that the more props someone needs or the more convoluted their explanations, the further from the truth they seem to stray.

One of the guiding factors of Spiritualism has been its philosophy. Much has been spoken and written in the past, but this area does not seem to have had the same attention in recent years.

Of late, I cannot recall seeing many classes on offer of spiritual philosophy let alone any on the philosophy of Spiritualism. Possibly someone may be doing so, but why are so few in evidence?

Could it be that most want to show what they can do as opposed to what they are attempting to live?

Spiritualism has a plethora of wisdom at its fingertips. Much has been written which brings food for thought. For anyone wishing to research our philosophy, any of the Silver Birch books would be a great start.

We need to bring the spiritual back into Spiritualism. As churches and centres reopen their doors, surely consideration should be given as to how they can further integrate with communities by offering to share the facilities they have and extend a welcome to all.

If every religion and humankind en masse adopted a spiritual approach of respect for all life, and showed kindness to all living things along with an awareness of our actions, thoughts and deeds in all aspects of our earthly journey, what an amazing experience this could be.

Is it not time that we put aside the things that seek to divide us and come together for the good of all? If humankind acted in unison for the good of all it would unleash a formidable force.

As it is, some follow paths designed to separate and divide us, and are led to believe that one group is better than



MEDIUM expresses concern about homelessness and lack of low cost housing.

another.

There is the room for everyone to follow their own beliefs as long as central to that is the golden rule, "Do unto others as you wish others to do unto you."

There are so many raising their voices for what they demand is right, such as saving the planet, children's rights, gender and racial equality, and an end to pollution, etc.

With various campaigns and "wars on this" and "wars on that," some people have become overloaded with what to support or oppose.

Do you know what I do not hear sufficiently? A war on homelessness. Something like homelessness does not warrant a "war" because there is little monetary profit in it.

Find a way of dealing with homelessness which makes a few million pounds and investors will be all over it.

You never hear of anyone willing to build low cost housing so that those in need can have a roof over their heads and the answer for that is often "There is no affordable land available."

It is all about priorities. If we are going to treat each other correctly, we should want for others what we wish for ourselves.

Do people need accommodation or not, or are we content in this day and age to see so many individuals sleeping in doorways?

Then there are those who are forced to use food banks. Let's thank the goodness and spiritual acts of kindness to all those who organise such facilities to alleviate hunger. These are amazing people who live the spiritual way.

On the subject of saving Earth, according to the best estimate radiometric

dating of rocks can provide this planet is 4.5 billion years old.

It has survived all those years. There was nothing wrong with the planet, but do you know what evolved just 200,000 years ago? Humans.

We and what we do are the problem; it is us who needs to change. The planet will probably survive mankind.

As its tenants we need to alter our ways. Yes we have to be more considerate of how we tend our garden. More importantly, we need to be much more mindful and actively respectful of how we deal with one another and all forms of life.

Each day is a new dawn. Recently I have concluded that for me it is also the opportunity of a new era.

Though I will always be eternally grateful to Spiritualism for showing me the truth about the continuation of life, I do not wish to be set in the confines of any one group.

I want to accept the challenge this moment is offering by endeavouring to be spiritual towards all. I am sure many are already there themselves, but wonder how many others are currently assessing their journey.

We all have an opportunity to live our spirituality daily regardless of what doctrine or creed we adopt. The time is now.

■ **Robert Brown's work has taken him to many countries throughout the world. He is the founder and organiser of the annual Robert Brown & Friends retreat.**

This year it is returning to its founding venue in Freeport, Bahamas from June 17-24. You can read more about Robert on his Facebook page or at www.robertbrown-medium.com

HAUNTED HOTELS AND HOSTELRIES

By John West



This month, John West concludes his investigation into haunted hostelries and other properties in the historic city of York.

The Royal Oak, Goodramgate

The Royal Oak is one of York's oldest pubs with parts of the building dating back to the Tudor period.

The ghost of a tall, gaunt-looking man has been seen in the bar at the back of the building while an old woman, supposedly a prostitute, haunts the front bar.

Phantom children are said to play by a fireplace and the ghost of a girl has been seen in the bar. Two older female ghosts named Alice and Mary also haunt the upper floors of the pub.

In 2009, a former landlady saw two dark-looking figures through a glazed door. They were heading for the bar, but when the landlady followed them she found the area empty.



THE ghost of a tall, gaunt-looking man appeared in the Royal Oak. (Photo: Adam Bruderer on Flickr)

The Red Lion, Merchantgate

Parts of the building date back to the 15th century. Legendary highwayman Dick Turpin is said to have hidden there and escaped from the authorities by jumping through a window. His ghost is said to occasionally ride past the pub on moonless winter nights.

The Golden Fleece, Pavement

The Golden Fleece is often claimed to be York's oldest pub and is mentioned in the city's archives for 1503. It is also said to be the most haunted.

Its most famous ghost is a Canadian airman, who fell to his death in 1945 from a window in the Minster Suite. However, another version of the tale claims that he hanged himself in the room after learning that his wife had taken a lover.

In 1948, a Mr and Mrs Scrivener took over running the pub. Their daughter, Gloria, had her bedroom on the third floor, but would not sleep there unless the light was kept on.

Gloria never saw anything, but always had the feeling she was being watched. The room next to hers also had a bad atmosphere and guests would decline to stay in it.

In 1994, an American named April Keenan was staying at the pub. One night, she woke from her sleep to see a man



THE Golden Fleece is said to be York's most haunted pub. (Photo: Malcolm15)

standing in her room. Although scared, there was an aura of sadness around him and he seemed to be trying to draw her attention to something. He then touched her and she fell asleep again.

April returned to America, puzzled by her experience. One night, she awoke to find that she had written a message on a piece of paper next to her bed. It read, "Geoff Monroe died The Golden Fleece."

Several guests at the pub have reported waking up and seeing a man dressed in Second World War flying gear staring down at them.

The bathroom of the Minster Suite is also haunted by a small girl. She has been seen as a reflection in the mirror and is blamed for throwing things around the room.

Guests sleeping in the Shambles Room have been disturbed in the night by the sounds of moving furniture. A woman once awoke to see her husband sitting at the foot of the four-poster bed. He was staring

transfixed at the fireplace.

She asked him what was wrong, but he ignored her. The woman became alarmed and reached out to touch him. As she did so, he vanished. Shocked, she then realised that her husband was fast asleep beside her.

In 2008, a couple of guests left the room after seeing a candlestick moving across a fireplace.

Six years earlier, the top bar was visited by a group of ghost hunters, who were surprised to see an elderly man dressed in Victorian clothes walk through a wall and then the bar. The figure stopped and looked at them before vanishing through another wall.

Poltergeist activity has also been noted in this area. Glasses and other objects have been thrown around the bar.

The bottom bar is also the haunt of a poltergeist. Staff and members of the public have seen bottles and glasses floating in mid-air before falling to the ground. Cold spots have also been noted.

Voices and running footsteps were heard in the Function Room after the pub had closed for the night. One former manager would develop a rash on her neck whenever she entered the room. It is claimed that a man strangled a woman there many years ago.

Lady Alice Peckett, the wife of a former 18th century Lord Mayor of York, also haunts The Golden Fleece. Her husband once owned the pub.

Lady Alice was seen in the early hours of the morning wandering the corridors. She has also been spotted in the Meadery Room.

Another phantom, a young woman dressed in black, haunts the St Catherine Room. People have experienced the sensation of being watched whereas others woke up to find a great weight pressing down upon them.

Children have also been heard crying. Guests even reported the sound of musket fire within the room.

The Function Room is said to be home to the ghost of a woman who runs through a wall screaming.

The Shambles Bar is haunted by a Victorian boy aged seven or eight. He was the son of the owners and is said to have been trampled to death after running out to meet a delivery cart.

The lad has been blamed for pushing objects off tables, turning taps on, and closing and opening doors when no living person is near them. The room is also haunted by a man dressed in fine Victorian clothes.

The cellar was once used to store the bodies of executed criminals. The phantoms of Roman soldiers are said to linger there. Unexplained bangs and the



THE sounds of splashing and footsteps have been heard in ancient baths beneath the Roman Bath public house. (Photo: Malcolm15)

sound of barrels being moved around have also been heard.

In 2015, the spectre of a former landlord who hanged himself in the pub was supposedly captured on film by paranormal investigator Susanne Taggart.

The photograph shows a dark human-like shape standing behind the bar. Staff have claimed to feel a tightening around the neck when working in the area.

“One-Eyed Jack,” a ghostly highwayman carrying a flintlock pistol and dressed in a long red coat and wig, has made The Merchant’s Bar his supernatural home. He paces backwards and forwards as if troubled by something.

Mediums have apparently contacted him and been told that he died in the pub in the 17th century. He shares the room with a “grumpy old man,” who sits in an alcove and silently watches the customers.

The Roman Bath, St Sampson’s Square

York is a Roman foundation. The legionary bathhouse can be found beneath The Roman Bath pub. The remains were excavated in the late 1920s when work began on the new building.

The caldarium (hot room), parts of the frigidarium (cold immersion bath) and tepidarium (warm room) are visible.

White spheres of light were captured on camera and the sounds of footsteps and splashing have been heard. Several visitors felt something invisible brush against them.

In the early 1990s, a former landlord and his friend decided to spend a night in the baths for charity. Both men saw a white light and the figure of someone in the frigidarium.

The apparition was then seen to fade away. One of the men, the manager, saw a similar white light a fortnight later. It was reflected in a mirror and faded away as if being sucked into a hole.

A decorator employed to paint the

bottom of the staircase that leads into the baths refused to continue with his work as he felt that “something was there.”

In 2003, medium Diana Jarvis was taken to the baths to see what she could discover. She sensed two men discussing politics and a woman giving birth, who was attended by three women, including a priestess.

The priestess was acting on behalf of a Hesta or Hestia and the child’s name was Calvus. A smell like juniper berries and a “fresher smell than pine” was also sensed by the medium. The latter, Diana felt, had an apparent drug-like effect.

York ghost hunter Rachel Lacy had a vision of a Roman soldier and a slave during a séance in the baths. She also heard footsteps and heard a voice say “Save me” as she stood in the caldarium.

Bizarrely, the ghost of an English Civil War soldier has also been wandering around the ruins.

The Punch Bowl, Stonegate

The building was originally a coffee house in the 17th century and once used as a meeting place for Whig politicians. It has been a pub since 1761 and apparently housed a brothel. It is home to several ghosts.

A flower seller is said to have been murdered upstairs. She had been trying to sell her wares when a drunken customer made advances to her. He chased her up the stairs and strangled her.

From time to time, the woman’s running footsteps are now heard by those drinking in the bar below. Thumping noises are also heard coming from the walls of a bedroom, a room that is always chilly even on a warm day.

A former landlady once claimed to have been pulled across a room by her hair and a chef hurriedly left the pub after claiming that a ghost tried to strangle him.

A landlord was burnt to death in a fire at the pub. His footsteps have been heard going into the cellar. A glowing ball of light,

the size of a man's head, has been seen floating across the floor of the bar.

The ghost of a woman, the Grey Lady, who took her own life after being jilted, and a fisherman nicknamed Frederick also haunt the building.

Doors open and close by themselves, and glasses pushed off tables when no one has been near them. Chairs also rearrange themselves in empty rooms.

Dean Court Hotel, Duncombe Place

A stone's throw from the Minster, the Dean Court Hotel dates from the 19th century and was originally used as lodgings for visiting clergy.

It stands on the site of Roman buildings and is haunted by a Roman. He has been seen on various floors and is dressed as a soldier, complete with a helmet.

Another hotel ghost, a cleaning lady, dates from the Victorian period. In 2008, a group of paranormal investigators stayed overnight at the hotel. Two members of the team saw a woman dressed in Victorian working clothes.

One also sensed the word "vollans." Interestingly, during the 19th century, the building once shared a cellar with a next-door property named Vollans.

Room 36 in the hotel is haunted. Guests sleeping there have felt something pushing down on them during the night. Even on warm days, cold spots have also been noted in the room.

Radisson Hotel, North Street

This rather ugly modern hotel block was built on the site of several houses. In Victorian times, a murder was committed in one of them.

The ghost of the victim was said to haunt the house concerned, but now appears to have moved into its successor, as members of staff have seen a shadowy figure in the building.

Goodramgate

A shop along this street was haunted by an elderly man dressed in a tailcoat and riding breeches. He died in the building in the 1840s after living there on his own for many years.

The man disliked women intensely, his anger being attributed to an unhappy romance when he was young.

His ghost was often seen on the first floor, usually only appearing to women, who would sense the phantom's anger towards them.

In the 1970s, the shop was taken

over by two women and the apparition's appearances became much more frequent after this.

Once, one of the women was walking up the stairs when she saw the ghost standing on the landing with a look of anger on his face.

Plucking up the courage, she decided to address the phantom. "I will not leave," she said. "This is our house now, not yours." The ghost appeared surprised and vanished. He was never seen again.

Bishophill

A former church hall in Bishophill was once used as a dance school in the 1950s and 1960s. The building became haunted after the death of a dance teacher.



LENDAL BRIDGE is haunted by the figure of a woman dressed in black. (Photo: Tim Green on Flickr)

The sound of a woman walking swiftly along a corridor was often heard by Mrs Cole, who ran the school with her husband. The ghost was also blamed for shaking the rear doors, which led to a churchyard.

One man stood on a chair to look out of a window to see who was responsible, but could see no one outside.

In the morning, pieces of furniture were often found to have moved, and books fell from shelves when no one was near them.

Cold spots were noted and pools of water appear from nowhere. The sounds of money being counted and then slipped into a metal box were also heard.

The BBC once sent a news team to cover the haunting, but found that their equipment kept malfunctioning during their time in the building. Previously, it had been working perfectly.

During a Christmas Eve dance, two girls saw a hairbrush, placed on a chair, rise into the air and then fall on the floor. The same thing happened that night to a coin on another chair.

On another occasion, a cigarette packet was seen jumping into a net suspended from the ceiling. Mrs Cole's dog also often reacted badly in the building, growling and staring in fear at an invisible presence that appeared to move around one of the rooms.

Mrs Cole's mother, Mrs Marshall, was once in the cellar when the atmosphere

suddenly changed. The place became oppressive, and she decided to leave.

As Mrs Marshall did so, she was pushed in the back with such force that she fell on the stairs.

A married couple, who were new to the school, had finished a dance lesson and were preparing to leave the hall when they saw a woman walking towards them.

The woman gave them a hard stare. When they reached the entrance, the wife wondered aloud why the woman had stared at them in such a way. The husband expressed surprise at this, as he saw no one.

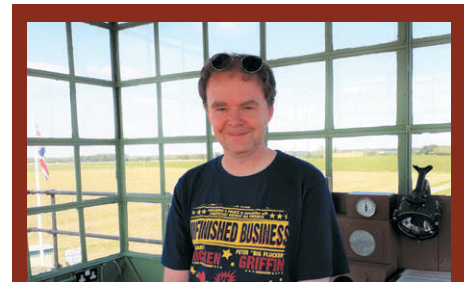
That evening, the woman returned to the hall and mentioned the incident to Mrs Cole, who asked her if she would recognise the lady again.

On being assured that she would, the woman was shown a group photograph taken in the building during a banquet and was able to recognise one of them as the person she had seen earlier.

Mrs Cole then explained that the woman in the photograph was a dancing teacher, who died several years before. Such was her love for the school that she had vowed never to leave the building, even in death.

Lendal Bridge

Lendal Bridge and the northern bank of the River Ouse are haunted by the figure of a woman dressed in black. Her identity is unknown, but she is said to have drowned in the river some time in the last century.



John West is a writer, film producer and broadcaster. In 2018, he teamed up with director Jason Figgis to produce films and TV documentaries.

The pair have so far collaborated on several projects ranging from a documentary on photographer Sir Simon Marsden to a feature film called "Winifred Meeks."

John has written two books on the paranormal, "Britain's Haunted Heritage" and "Britain's Ghostly Heritage." Both are published by JMD Media Ltd.

They are widely available on sites such as amazon.co.uk or can be ordered from any bookshop.

COMPETITION

This month we have copies of Heather Askinosie's *Daily Crystal Inspiration Oracle Deck* as prizes for five lucky winners.

The publisher writes: "This easy-to-use 52-card oracle deck makes the wisdom of crystals convenient and accessible, even when you don't have any physical stones on hand.

"Just pick a card and trust your soul's intuition to unlock the clarity you're craving, whether it's about a relationship, finances or work.

"Stunning photography of Mother Earth's most energy-filled crystals adorn each card. In the guidebook, Energy Muse co-founder, and *Crystal Muse* and *CRYSTAL365* author Heather Askinosie offers instructions for different types of readings.

"Heather also describes the energetic properties of each crystal, and gives affirmations and 'crystal actions' to tap into a stone's power today."

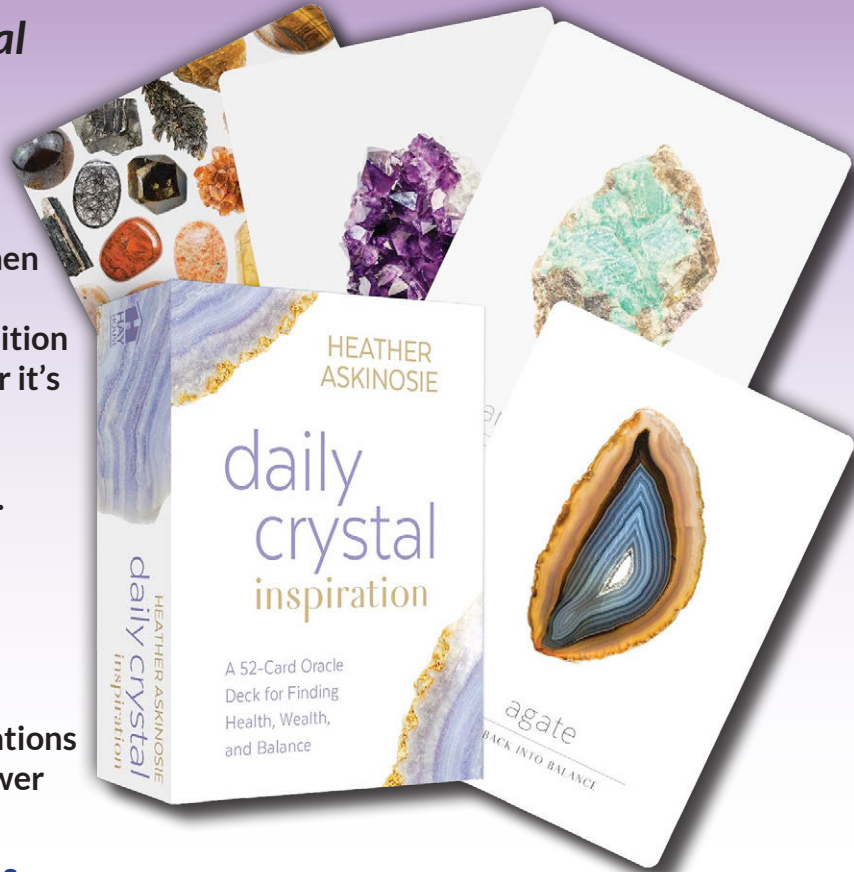
For your chance to win one of the copies, complete the sudoku puzzle and send the numbers which appear in the shaded centre row, from left to right, along with your name and address to:

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 CO6 1NT

You can also enter by email at:
pneditorials@gmail.com

Closing date for entries is 8th August, 2023

March 2023 winners can be found on page 67



2	3		4	6		9		8
	6	4	2	9	5	3		1
							6	
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6		9		3	2		1	4

How to solve sudoku: Place a number from 1-9 in each empty cell so that each row, each column and each 3x3 block contains all the numbers from 1-9 ~ Good luck



A Good Read

All titles available from Amazon.co.uk or Amazon.com unless otherwise stated

GRIEF AND THE SPIRIT WORLD

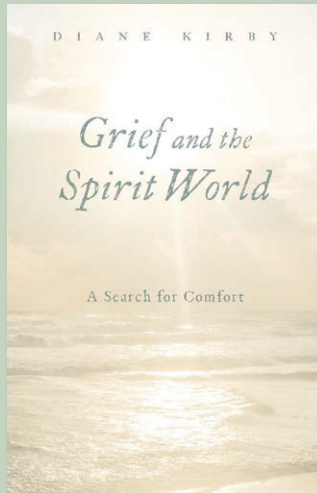
A search for comfort
By Diane Kirby
RRP UK £12.99 US \$14.99
144 pages

The publisher writes: "In this personal memoir of grief and healing, Diane Kirby explores her family's history with tragedy and spirituality, the sudden death of her husband and her overwhelming grief, and her journey back to the wisdom of her Scottish ancestors.

"Diane examines her parents' remarkable abilities as Spiritualists, chronicles her own experiences with spiritual healing and ultimately refines her own path to mediumship.

"With self-help undertones, this memoir offers comfort in times of grief, resources for connecting to spiritual communities, insights on both seeking spiritual healing and refining mediumship skills, and a background on Scottish ancestry and generational wisdom.

"*Grief and the Spirit World: A Search for Comfort* explores the complexities of grief – not only the sorrow, but also the hopefulness – and confirms that in grief, as we heal, we can help others."



DREAM TELEPATHY

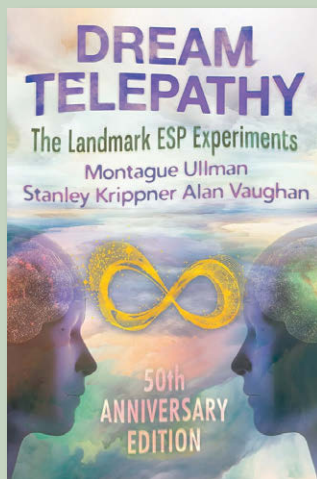
The landmark ESP experiments
50th Anniversary Edition
By Montague Ullman,
Stanley Krippner & Alan
Vaughan
RRP UK £16.99 US \$21.99
344 pages

The publisher writes: "This book is the first to scientifically explore the phenomenon of telepathic dreaming in depth.

"It recounts how psychiatrist Montague Ullman and psychologist Stanley Krippner conducted experiments to determine whether persons acting as senders can transfer their thoughts to the minds of sleeping receivers, thereby altering their dreams.

"Their results were astonishing: the researchers were able to verify several instances of telepathic communication between participants. Participants often gave uncannily accurate descriptions of images that the senders attempted to project to them – apparently confirming the reality of extrasensory perception during the dream state.

"This new 50th Anniversary Edition features a never-before-published article by Montague Ullman on interpreting dreams in light of theoretical physicist David Bohm's concept of an implicate order, and a new afterword by Stanley Krippner highlighting recent developments in dream telepathy research."



MARVELLOUS MYSTICAL MESSAGES

Speaking to loved ones from Beyond
By Brenda Peterson
RRP UK £12.96 US \$14.95
134 pages

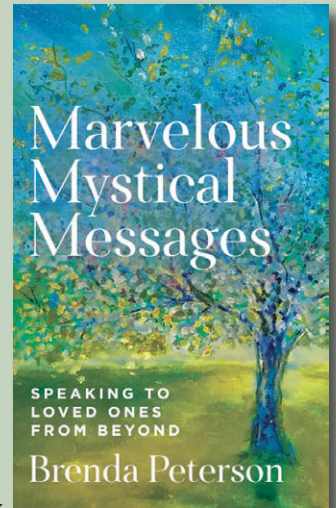
The publisher writes: "Has one of your loved ones passed on? Do you feel lost without them, unsure of how to proceed and wondering what they would think if only they were here?"

"You yearn to let your loved one know just one more time that you love them and to ask them for guidance. If you're starting to think it's impossible to communicate with that person, there is hope.

"Medium and best-selling author Brenda Peterson has been communicating with those who have passed on for more than 40 years. Now – for the first time – she is sharing her mediumistic and psychic wisdom of how to reconnect with angels and guides.

In *Marvelous Mystical Messages*, Brenda will help you:

- Feel loved and connected to your loved ones
- See how your angels use muse energy to assist you on your path
- Feel more confident using a medium as a tool in your life
- Feel a sense of hope and peace knowing your friend or family member is in your life
- Help you to no longer be afraid to reboot your life, knowing you don't walk it alone."



NEW LIVES, OLD SOULS

By Jim Alexander
RRP UK £20.57 US \$23.75
361 pages

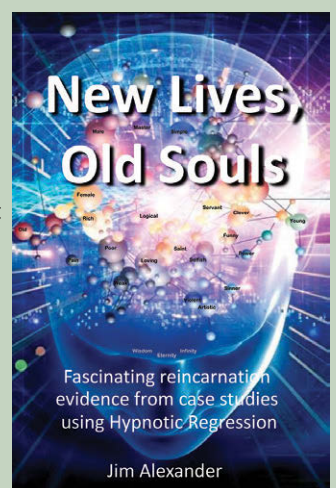
This book has two objectives – to reveal the truth about memories of previous lives and briefly look at how some established approaches to anxiety could be changed to increase effectiveness and efficiency.

"Age regression is a technique used by hypnotherapists to enable people to explore hidden memories and decisions made by their subconscious minds.

"Repressed memories and emotions can cause a wide range of problems. Identifying the cause at the right time may allow the mind to change earlier decisions. Explaining the previously hidden cause of anxiety can be like taking a weight off the shoulders.

"Past-life regression goes further back than the current life and results in amazing experiences that prompt us to question our understanding of life itself.

"Driven by a passion to understand the purpose of life and explore the mystery of reincarnation, Jim Alexander became an expert on regression, and his research has featured in newspapers,



magazines, radio and TV documentaries.

"Perhaps his most intriguing case is that of Jenny Cockell, featured on TV in *Strange but True?*, in her book *Yesterday's Children* and the American film of the same name.

"Her incredible recollections from a past life in Ireland in the early 20th century reunited a family that had been broken up over 50 years earlier. The story is not that simple and the exhaustive and detailed research now completed exclusively for this book reveals sensational results.

"In this book, Jim shares several of his most fascinating experiences with hypnosis, the amazing cases he encountered, the evidence they presented and his conclusions after 40 years studying the phenomenon."

CONFIDENT EMPATH

A complete guide to multidimensional empathing and energetic protection
By Suzanne Worthley
RRP UK £18.87 US \$18.99
288 pages

The publisher writes: "In this comprehensive guide to empathing and energetic protection, energy worker and psychic empath Suzanne Worthley explores all of the ways one can feel and perceive energies from human energy fields, places, paranormal situations and across dimensions as well as how to energetically protect yourself and your loved ones.

"She looks at the different types of empaths and empathing, including sensitive empaths, psychic empaths, quantum empathing and multidimensional empathing.

"Explaining how multidimensional energy works, Suzanne reveals how it affects each of us, including through our chakras and the auric field. She discusses how learned and programmed beliefs trigger empathic behaviour and explores how to identify and release different types of limiting beliefs to evolve from fear-based empathing to love-based empathy.

"Suzanne examines the differences between empathy and sympathy – and why one is truly helpful and the other limiting. She shows how to identify energy fields that may be risky alongside advanced strategies for protecting yourself, including how to prevent unwanted energy transference.

"She also details the 'Four Discernment Practices,' techniques that demonstrate how our empathic behaviours are connected to the health of our energy field."

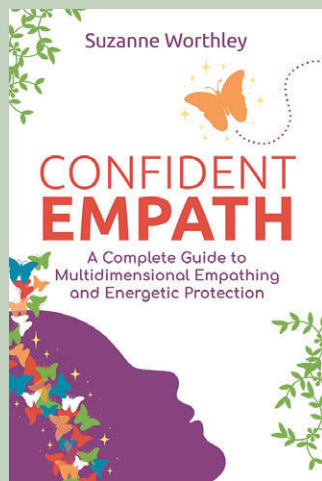
DEEP WEIRD

The varieties of high strangeness experience
Edited by Jack Hunter
RRP UK £17.99 US \$23.99
420 pages

The publisher writes: "This book is about the stranger reaches of extraordinary experience research.

"In these pages an intrepid cast of writers, investigators and academics explore the complexities of extraordinary experience, and consider why it is that some of the most unusual experiential reports – what we might call 'high strangeness experiences' – come to be neglected, even in what is already a relatively fringe field of inquiry.

"The aversion to the most unusual forms of extraordinary



experience has resulted in a gulf between the kinds of experiences discussed in the academic parapsychological literature and those experiences discussed by Fortean and popular paranormal researchers, who have more frequently been able to discuss a broader range of extraordinary experiential accounts – from UFO encounters to Bigfoot and fairy sightings, and everything in between.

"Notwithstanding this divide, there are significant themes that run throughout the established academic literature on religious and extraordinary experience, the parapsychological literature and the canon of popular paranormal research.

"These similarities suggest that even the most unusual experiences, which are often ignored in academic research, contain elements that connect them to other forms of extraordinary experience that are more broadly accepted, such as certain kinds of spiritual, mystical, religious and other paranormal experiences.

"This book is an exploration of the possibility that the 'highly strange' might well be a core underlying feature of extraordinary experiences more generally, and that instead of being neglected, 'high strangeness' should be granted greater and renewed scholarly and parapsychological attention."

ORACLE DECK

ANGELS OF HEALING AND HOPE ORACLE

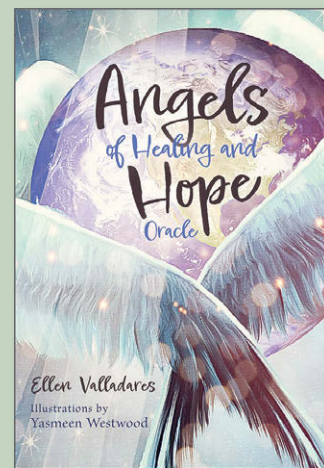
By Ellen Valladares
Illustrated by Yasmee Westwood
RRP UK £22.99 US \$24.99

The publisher writes: "Whether you're in need of support, healing or inspiration, you'll find it in this deck of 44 exquisitely designed oracle cards.

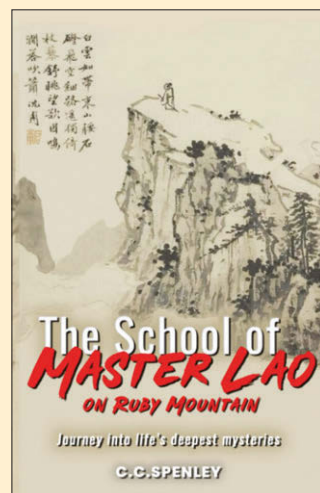
"The angels are divine beings of love and light that guide, protect and assist us with our spiritual and personal growth. The *Angels of Healing and Hope Oracle* deck will help you connect more closely with your angels and receive the loving messages they are sending you.

"In addition to messages and a corresponding inspirational song for each card, the guidebook is filled with tips for communicating with your angels and doing oracle card readings.

"More than ever, the angels want us to know that they are always there by our side."



Journey into life's deepest mysteries



The School of Master Lao by C.C. Spenley is a revolutionary philosophy adventure book that although wrapped in a fictitious narrative, has at its core very real principles and experiences about the human aura, the energy surrounding all things, astral travel, the Chinese Yin-Yang and so much more.

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NIRVANA LIGHT
Long-time Spiritualist Medium
Trance Mediumship
with guide Muhammed
Telephone and Email Readings Available
Contact me on:
07368 507 642

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healer. See 25 years of past
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caroleverettthealingsanctuary.
co.uk

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PEOPLE AND ANIMALS
NO FEES
Email Tony at:
tony.lu101@gmail.com

CONTACT AND ABSENT HEALING
for people and animals. No fees
Melksham, Wiltshire
Contact:
MIKE FISHER
Tel: 01225 400310
E-mail:
mikej.fisher@virginmedia.com

MICHAEL CHAPMAN
Healer practitioner
By appointment only
Telephone:
(0044) 01970 832696
Or email: chapmanhealing@gmail.com
Website:
www.michael-chapman.co.uk

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ASSOCIATIONS

THE BRITISH PSYCHIC AND MEDIUM ASSOCIATION

www.britishpma.co.uk

Directory of Psychics and Mediums
Providing support, guidance and advice

New members welcome

BOOKS

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This Channelled Autobiography is the authentic story of his life and mission.
To order the book or a free pdf visit:
www.thegenuinejesus.com

SOUL LORE:

Discovering the inner self and the soul
By C E Jones
Amazon: eBook / paperback
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Dreams • Visions
Clairvoyance • Healing
Planes of Life • Reincarnation

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Platform Development
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www.darrenhartmedium.co.uk

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Teachers, Courses.
www.angelicreikiuk.com
07925 127222

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Call Rebecca:
01633 526523

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Please send S.A.E. with letters to:
Indigo Projects
Enterprize Way
Off Liverpool Road
Burnley
BB12 6HH

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www.psychicnews.org.uk

Harry Edwards Healing College Courses

Foundation Day Course (Introduction to Healing)

Dates: 4th February 2023, 8th July 2023 and 4th November 2023

Healer Training Diploma Courses (2 years) commencing in May 2023, November 2023 and January 2024 (Weekend and midweek residential course options available).

Healer Training Bridging Course (6 months) commencing on 1st/2nd April 2023.

Courses include refreshments and a light 2 course vegetarian lunch.
Lovely but limited accommodation available – please enquire.

Contact Shelley for more information on
college.administrator@burrowslea.org.uk
or 07706027141 or 01483 202054

Harry Edwards Healing Sanctuary, Burrows Lea, Hook Lane, Shere, Guildford, Surrey GU5 9QG
www.harryedwardshealingcollege.com

LEE CLAIRVOYANT

I am an independent psychic with
over 35 years experience

I get straight to the point in my phone
readings with honesty and details

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time again

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01273 671796

Credit & debit cards accepted. Entertainment.

What's on at Spiritualist Churches & Centres

ENGLAND

BERKSHIRE

MAIDENHEAD SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

River View Lodge,
Ray Mead Road,
Maidenhead,
Berkshire
SI6 8NJ

OPEN - SEE BELOW

President:

Eveline Hewitson

Telephone:

07857 558 927

Sundays 6.30pm

Divine Service

Wednesdays 1pm - 3pm

Healing Clinic

Thursdays 7.30pm

Mediumship Demonstration

Monthly Open Platform
and other

Special Events

*A warm welcome is
extended to all*

Car Park and facilities

for disabled visitors

MARRIAGE and

NAMING CEREMONIES

CORNWALL

PENZANCE CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

Bread Street,

Penzance, Cornwall

Tel: 07800 812973

07800 813533

07780 661670

OPEN

**SEE FACEBOOK
FOR FURTHER DETAILS**

Monday: 7pm sharp

Open Healing Circle

Thursday: Service 7.00pm

BUDE FREE SPIRITS SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

CURRENTLY CLOSED

*Visiting mediums who would
like to serve please contact
Carol on 01840 770057*

DORSET

CHRISTCHURCH SPIRITUALIST CENTRE

196B Barrack Road,
Christchurch,

Dorset

BH23 2BQ

President: Karen Martin

Enquiries:

07849 606437

Website:

www.christchurchsc.org.uk

OPEN - SEE BELOW

JUNE 2023

Sunday Service at 10.45am

4th MARK STONE

11th SARAH BURCH

18th BEVERLEY ALLEN &

RICHARD HUNT

25th AL & GEOFF POTTS

Thursday Service at 7.30pm

1st PHYLLIS RUMNEY

8th ELAINE ASTIN

15th JENNEY DOCHERTY

22nd HAZEL McLISTER

BREWER

29th SARAH DEVERELL

Healing In person

Tuesdays 10.00am - 11.30am

Special Events

Tuesdays 6th & 20th June

Open Circle at 7.30pm

Friday 2nd June at 7.30pm

Practise Night for Mediums

Saturday 10th June

10am - 12noon

1-1 Private Readings

Church accessible for

wheelchairs and has a loop

system for hearing

aid wearers

BOURNEMOUTH SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

16 Bath Road,

Bournemouth,

Dorset BH1 2PE

Telephone: 01202 551751

Website: www.bsnucc.co.uk

OPEN - SEE BELOW

JUNE 2023

On the first Sunday of the

month there will be two

Divine Services

10.45am and 6.30pm

Thursday 1st 3pm

Demonstration of

Mediumship with

MARK STONE

Sunday 4th 10.45am

Divine Service with

KEZ EGGLETON

Sunday 4th 6.30pm

Divine Service with

JANET NEVILLE

Tuesday 6th 7pm

Open Circle

Thursday 8th 3pm

Demonstration of

Mediumship with

DIANE SIMPSON

Sunday 11th 10.45am

Divine Service with

SARAH McLAUCLAN

Tuesday 13th 7pm

Open Circle

Wednesday 14th 7pm

Philosophy Evening with

DAVID POWELL

Thursday 15th 3pm

Demonstration of

Mediumship with

PAULETTE BENSON

Sunday 18th 10.45am

Divine Service with

SUZETTE

CARLYLE-THORLEY

Tuesday 20th 7pm

Open Circle

Wednesday 21st 7pm

Demonstration of

Mediumship with

LISA ROCKETT

Thursday 22nd 3pm

Demonstration of

Mediumship with

AL & GEOFF POTTS

Sunday 25th 10.45am

Divine Service with

CARIANNE ROBINS

Tuesday 27th 7pm

Open Circle

Wednesday 28th 7pm

Fledglings Evening

Thursday 29th 3pm

Demonstration of

Mediumship with

LAURENCE COHEN

All Welcome

KINSON SPIRITUALIST GROUP

Howe Croft Community

Centre,

1 Turnbull Lane,

Bournemouth,

BH11 9BG

Telephone: 01202 735346

[www.facebook.com/
KinsonSpiritualistGroup](http://www.facebook.com/KinsonSpiritualistGroup)

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Fortnightly Sunday

Divine Service at 6.30pm

with a Medium

See Facebook for other events

All Welcome

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

CHELtenham NATIONAL SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

Bennington Street,

Cheltenham,

Gloucestershire GL50 4ED

Telephone: 01242 703 288

Registered for Funerals,

Weddings, Blessings,

Naming Ceremonies,

Commitment of Union

OPEN - SEE BELOW

[www.snu.org.
uk/cheltenham-](http://www.snu.org.uk/cheltenham-spiritualist-church)

[spiritualist-church](http://www.snu.org.uk/cheltenham-spiritualist-church)

Facebook: Cheltenham

Spiritualist Church

Sundays at 11am

DIVINE SERVICE

Thursday 7.30pm

Open Awareness and

Development Group

Friday 1.30pm - 2.30pm

Healing

Saturday 7pm

Evening of Mediumship

Specials and Workshops

every six weeks

All Are Welcome

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pages can cost as little as £5 per month.
Call 01376 563091 or email your text for
a quote to: pnadverts@gmail.com

HAMPSHIRE

BITTERNE SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

Top of Lances Hill,
390 Bitterne Road,
Bitterne,
Southampton,
Hampshire
SO18 1DR
Telephone:
07731 938587

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Website:

www.bscw.andydowland.com

Follow us on Facebook:

Bitterne Spiritualist Church

Official services offered:
Spiritual Naming, Weddings
(including Same-Sex
Marriages), Renewal of Vows,
Civil Partnerships,
Funerals, Memorial Services
JUNE 2023

Sunday 4th 6.30pm
Divine Service with
NICOLA BOND

Tuesday 6th 2pm - 4pm
Spiritual Healing

last booking in time 3.45pm.
Also 5pm - 7pm, last booking
in time 6.45pm

Healing is free but any
donations are gratefully
received.

Animals in need of healing
are also welcome.

Friday 10th June
10am - 4pm £20

Workshop with

MINISTER SANDY HAGGER

To book a place please
phone 01489 885552

Sunday 11th 6.30pm

Divine Service with
JIM GRIST

Tuesday 13th

2pm - 4pm & 5pm - 7pm

Spiritual Healing

Sunday 18th 6.30pm

Divine Service with
FLEDGLINGS

Tuesday 20th

2pm - 4pm & 5pm - 7pm

Spiritual Healin

Saturday 24th 10am - 1pm

Coffee Morning

Spiritual Healing and Private
Readings available. Healing
is freely given but any
donations will be gratefully
received.

Private Readings are
£10 for 20 minutes.

Refreshments available

Sunday 25th 6.30pm

Divine Service with

ALF HUNT

Tuesday 27th

2pm - 4pm & 5pm - 7pm

Spiritual Healin

See website for details of our
*Special Events, Workshops and
Development Groups*
All Welcome

HERTFORDSHIRE

CARPENDERS PARK CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALISTS

Bushford Scout Hall,
St Georges Drive,
Carpenders Park,
Watford,
Hertfordshire
WD19 5HD

(Hall cannot be seen
from road - go up drive
between numbers

37 and 39 St Georges Drive)

Contact Elaine Federico:

07746 730082

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Sundays 10.30am

Divine Service

Healing Available

An activity table

is provided for children

All Are Welcome

KENT

INDEPENDENT SPIRITUAL GROUP

Orpington, Kent

Enquiries: 07879 820125

or 07734 793640

Website: [www.independant
spiritualgroup.uk](http://www.independantspiritualgroup.uk)

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Sunday Service 6.30pm

At Liberal Hall, 7 Station Rd,

Orpington BR6 0RZ

Wednesdays:

Open Circle

At Conservative Hall,

6 Sevenoaks Road,

Orpington BR6 9JJ

See Facebook for Events

and Workshops

All Welcome

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the advertiser and
Psychic News via email at
pnadverts@gmail.com

BEXLEYHEATH CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

85 Lion Road,
Bexleyheath,
Kent

DA6 8NT

Enquiries:

07950 672200

Email:

[Bexleyheath.church
@gmail.com](mailto:Bexleyheath.church@gmail.com)

Or see us on Facebook

OPEN - SEE BELOW

JUNE 2023

Sunday Divine Service
at 6.30pm

4th SHEILA SMITH

11th JILL BALL

18th LAURA BROWN

25th JILL BALL

(Day of the Seafarers)

Tuesday Service

at 2pm

6th EMMA CROSSLEY
13th SHERRIE HARDAKER

20th GWEN LEGG &
CHRIS RAHR

27th TINA MUDDLE

Spiritual Healing

Tuesdays 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Donation

Open Circles

Mondays

7.30pm - 9.30pm £5
Alternate Wednesdays

14th & 28th June

12 noon - 2pm £5

Monthly Closed Circle

Thursday 15th June

7.30pm - 9.30pm £5

Open Platform

Wednesday 21st June

7.30pm - 9.00pm £5

Special Events

Saturday 24th June

1pm - 3pm

Private Readings

15 minutes for £10

35 minutes for £20

All Welcome

DEADLINE
The
advertising
deadline
for the
July 2023
issue is
8th June
2023

WEST WICKHAM SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

Surrey Road,
West Wickham,
Kent BR4 0LU

President:

Alan Mitchell-Sleight
Tel: 01959 573049

E-mail: [mitchellsleight@
btinternet.com](mailto:mitchellsleight@btinternet.com)

Mediums' Secretary:
Pat Dalby

Tel: 07739 968645

OPEN - SEE BELOW

JUNE 2023

Sunday Services at 6.30pm
(doors open 5.50pm)

4th TERESA RICKETTS

11th TREVOR CHRISTIAN

18th ALAN MITCHELL-
SLEIGHT

25th SHAVINI SAMARDI
Wednesday

Evening of Mediumship
at 8pm

£5 (Members £4)

7th ELAIN STAINTON

21st KEVIN LARNER

28th Lorraine Waters

(Via ZOOM)

ZOOM ID:

81322609141

Password: wwchurch

Entry is free but if you
would like to donate please
go to the website and click
on the donate button

Special Event

Saturday 10th June

10am - 4pm £20

Trance Workshop

Please book and pay in
advance as spaces are limited

Open Circle via ZOOM

Thursdays 11.30am - 1pm,
5pm - 6.30pm & 7pm - 8.30pm

Private Readings

Thursdays by phone or online

For details contact

Karen Wood on:

07958 622656

Spiritual Healing

Before the service on
Sunday from 5pm - 6pm
(providing healers are available)

Monday Church Circle

Mondays 7pm Entrance £5

Open Circle

Email: [info@westwickham
spiritualistchurch.co.uk](mailto:info@westwickhamspiritualistchurch.co.uk)

if you would like to join

Please visit our website:

[www.westwickham
spiritualistchurch.co.uk](http://www.westwickhamspiritualistchurch.co.uk)

for details of other

upcoming events

All Welcome

**THE SANCTUARY
OF HEALING
CHRISTIAN
SPIRITUALIST
CHURCH**

Mills Terrace,
Chatham,
Kent

ME4 5NZ

Telephone:

01634 880039

Email: george.mcqueen@
yahoo.co.uk

Website: www.

sanctuaryofhealing.co.uk

OPEN - SEE BELOW

JUNE 2023

Sundays 6.30pm - 8pm

Divine Service (Donations)

7th Communion &

LINDA WADDUPS

11th CLAIRE EDWARDS

18th TINA MUDDLE

25th PAULA STEVENS

Friday Evenings of

Clairvoyance 7.30pm - 9pm

£4 (Members £3)

2nd JANET & DEREK

9th CLOSED

16th COLIN ROSS

23rd GWEN LEE &

CHRIS RAHR

30th CLAIRE EDWARDS

Special Events

Wednesday 7th June 7.30am

Evening of Clairvoyance with

CRAIG O'MALLEY

Saturday 9th June

12.30pm - 5.30pm

PSYCHIC FAYRE

Private Readings with

Experienced Mediums plus

various stalls selling crystals,

jewellery, clothes, gifts,

bric-a-brac, books and CDs.

Hot and cold food, snacks

and drinks will be available

Healing

Wednesdays 10.30am

Weddings

We are registered to conduct

and register marriages, also

same sex marriages.

Provided you are legally

entitled to get married we

would be happy to arrange the

ceremony for you.

Please see a Minister,

President or any member of the

committee for further details.

Christenings,

Wedding Blessings,

Renewal of Wedding Vows

and Funeral Services

A fee of £25 is charged for

these services, but donations

are always gratefully received.

All Welcome

LANCASHIRE

**CLEVELEYS
SPIRITUALIST
CHURCH**

93 Beach Road,
Thornton Cleveleys,

Lancashire

FY5 1EW

Call us on:

07756 967803

See us on Facebook

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Monday 7.30pm

Clairvoyance & Open Circle

Wednesday

12.15pm - 1.15pm Healing

Wednesday 2.30pm

Clairvoyance Service

Thursday 6.30pm - 7.25pm

Awareness Class

Thursday 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Development Circle

(Must be a church member)

Friday 7pm - 8pm Healing

Sunday 2.30pm

Divine Service

Healing Sunday 2.30pm

Every Third Sunday

of the Month

Meditation Sunday 2.30pm

1st Sunday Alternate Months

from February Yearly

Private Readings on request

Readings Day Spring and

Autumn - See notices or

phone church number for

information

We are Registered for

Namings/Weddings/

Same-Sex Marriages/

Funerals/Wedding Blessings

All Welcome

LEICESTERSHIRE

**LEICESTER
PROGRESSIVE
SPIRITUALIST
CENTRE**

4 St. James Street,
Lee Circle,

Leicester LE1 3RE

President: Marian Sawczuk

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Services with Mediumship

Sundays 6pm Divine Service

Mondays 7.30pm

Clairvoyant Hour

Wednesdays 2.30pm

Thursdays, Fridays and

Saturdays:

Special Demonstrations

as advertised

Development Groups &

Circles held every day

of the week

Healing

Saturdays 10.30am - 12.30pm

Mondays 6pm - 7pm

Wednesdays

12.30pm - 2pm

For details of workshops

and special events,

visit our Facebook page

or website:

www.progressivespiritualist

church.co.uk

Email:

spiritchurch@outlook.com

Telephone:

0116 2536098

All Welcome

LONDON

**BARNES
HEALING CHURCH**

Between

77-79 White Hart Lane,

London

SW13 0PW

Five-minute walk from

Barnes Bridge

Railway Station

Enquiries: 07581 534028

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/
barnshealingchurch

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Website:

www.barnes

healingchurch.co.uk

E-mail: barnshealing

church@hotmail.co.uk

JUNE 2023

Sunday Service of Mediumship

at 6.30pm

4th LARRY DAVIDS

11th CELIA MITCHELL

18th ASHLEY MILLS

25th PAULINE WALSH

Healing

Thursdays 10.30am - 12.30pm

Please see our website or

Facebook page for details

of Private Readings, Open

Platforms and more, and

for any changes to the

advertised times and

mediums above

A Warm Welcome

Awaits Everyone

REGISTERED FOR

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CEREMONIES

&

SACRED SERVICES



**THE LONDON
SPIRITUAL MISSION**

13 Pembridge Place,

London W2 4XB

Email: secretary@

spiritualmission.co.uk

Website:

www.spiritualmission.co.uk

Tel: 020 7229 2024

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Sunday Services 6.30pm - 8pm

Wednesdays 7pm - 8.15pm

for Demonstration

of Clairvoyance

Spiritual Healing

Mondays 1pm - 5pm

Thursdays 5pm - 7pm

Animal Healing

Domestic pets welcome

at the Monday and Thursday

Healing Sessions

For Special Events, Courses

& Workshops please see our

website

**FULHAM NATIONAL
SPIRITUALIST CHURCH**

Kelvedon Road, Fulham,

London SW6 5BP

(Nearest Underground

station Parsons Green)

Buses No. 11 and 14

Email: fulhamspiritualist

church@yahoo.co.uk

OPEN - SEE BELOW

JUNE 2023

Sunday Divine Services in

Church at 6.30pm

4th NATHAN POOLE

11th NO SERVICE

18th ANGELA WATKINS

25th BILLY COOK

SPECIAL EVENT

Sunday 25th 10.30am - 4.30pm

Workshop with Medium and

Tutor NATHAN POOLE

for both experienced

and beginners interested

in developing their psychic

and mediumistic skills

Thursday Online Zoom

7.30pm Services

1st MELISSA HART

8th PAMELA POLLINGTON

15th PINK SARAH

22nd PAULINE WALSH

29th IRENE HALL &

JEAN HARRIS

ONLINE ZOOM SERVICES

ID: 689 400 7125

Passcode: FULHAM (capitals)

For more information

regarding our Events, Services

and making freewill donations

please contact us via our

email address:

fulhamspiritualistchurch@

yahoo.co.uk

Free Parking ~ All welcome

SYDENHAM SPIRITUAL & HEALING CENTRE

Venner Community Hall,
1, Venner Road, Sydenham,
London SE26 5EQ
(Venner Road is opposite
Sydenham Railway Station
The hall is adjacent to
Sydenham High Street)
Buses: 176, 312, 75, 194,
202, 450

Enquiries: Caroline Hackett
on 07891 067478

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Demonstration of
Clairvoyance every
Wednesday at 8.00pm
Doors open 7.30pm

JUNE 2023

7th VICKY KNIGHT
14th LYNN ROSE &
STEVE CORBETT
21st TINA MUDDLE
28th MALCOLM PUTLAND
& LESLEIGH BADGERY
Spiritual art
Healing every week
from 7.30pm until 9pm
All Welcome

MIDDLESEX

THE LIGHT ON THE HILL HARROW SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

1 Vaughan Road,
West Harrow,
Middlesex,
London
HA1 4DP

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Website:

www.harrowsnuchurch.wixsite.com/harrow

Email:

lightonthehill@live.co.uk

Tel: 07528 348432

JUNE 2023

*Healing & Divine Service
in Church*

Please wear a face covering

Wednesdays at 7.30pm
7th TONY STOCKEN
14th JANE MEAKIN CSNU
21st LESLEY TURTON
28th SUSAN ROBERTS

Healing

Before the service
every Wednesday

Mondays

**ZOOM Healing and Divine
Service at 7pm**

Please see Facebook or our
website for details

Zoom ID:

916 859 8296

Password:

harrow

Please see our Facebook
Group: Harrow Spiritualist
Church for up-to-date news,
events and serving Mediums
All Welcome

SOMERSET

ALCOMBE & MINEHEAD CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

Grove Place,
Manor Road,
Alcombe,
Minehead
TA24 6EH

Tel: 0783 110 4896

OPEN - SEE below

Spring & Summer

(March to end of October)

Sunday Service at 6.30pm

Healing Groups,
monthly Healing Day,
Healing Evenings,
Open Circles,
Evenings of Clairvoyance
all available on various days
during each month.

See our website for the full
day-by-day itinerary of what
our church can offer you, inc.
Groups, Meditation & Healing
Winter

Sunday Service at 3pm
(November to end of February)
www.mineheadspiritualistchurch.co.uk

STAFFORDSHIRE

GOLDEN LIGHT SPIRITUALIST CENTRE

38-40 Bevan Lee Road,
Cannock,
Staffordshire WS11 4PZ

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Sundays at 6.30pm

£3 entrance

Healing after the Service

Psychic Surgery

also available

All Welcome

SURREY

CROYDON SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

Chatsworth Road, Croydon,
Surrey CR0 1HE

Telephone: 020 8688 1827

Email: croydonspiritualistchurch@gmail.com

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Website: www.croydonspiritualistchurch.org.uk

JUNE 2023

Sunday 11am Service

Sunday 4th June

Medium to be confirmed

Sunday 11th June

MOLLIE MCMANUS

Sunday 18th June

Medium to be confirmed

Sunday 25th June

Medium to be confirmed

**Wednesday Evenings of
Mediumship at 7.45pm**

Members: £2.50

Non-Members £5

Wednesday 7th May

DIANA REID

Wednesday 14th June

DOROTHY YOUNG

Wednesday 21st June

BRENDA HODGSON

Wednesday 28th June

SHARON FORDE

Healing

Sorry, there will be no

healing on Thursdays

during June

All Welcome

FARNHAM INDEPENDENT CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALIST CHURCH

Hale Village Hall,
1 Wings Road,
Farnham

GU9 0HN

President:

Jean Harris

Telephone:

07936 708882

OPEN - SEE BELOW
Follow us on Facebook
JUNE 2023

Please note:

*The church will
be open every Sunday
Divine Service*

Sundays at 6.30pm

4th KAREN WOOD

11th Medium to be confirmed

18th WANDA BOLTON

25th IRENE HALL

Tea/coffee and Chris's
home made cake
after the service

Open Platform

will continue on zoom

Third Saturday of each

month from 2pm- 4pm

Run by SPENCER ROSE

Zoom no:

389 563 4932

Passwork: FARNHAM

All levels and a supportive
audience welcome. No charge

A Warm Welcome To All

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Call or email for further details

Tel: 01376 563091

Email: pnadverts@gmail.com

**KINGSTON
NATIONAL
SPIRITUALIST
CHURCH**

Villiers Road,
Kingston upon Thames,
Surrey KT1 3AR

Website:

www.kingstonsc.net

Email: kingston.spiritualist@yahoo.com

Follow us on Facebook

Enquiries: 07503 405007

Bookings: 07780 474440

**OPEN - SEE BELOW
JUNE 2023**

Sunday Service at 11am

4th IAIN MASON

11th HELEN ANTONIOU

Spirit Artist

& LESLEY KURTON

18th LORRAINE

GILBERT-GRAY OSNU

25th LAURA WOOD &

TESSA COONEY Spirit Artist

Mondays

Evening of Mediumship at
7.30pm £4 (members £3.50)
followed by Healing

5th IRIS BRIDGEWATER
ISM/RAM

12th ASHLEY MILLS

19th RIKI DAVIES

26th JANET NEVILLE

Healing by donation

Monday 8.45pm - 9.15pm

Wednesday (Pets allowed)
2pm - 3.45pm

Open Spiritual Awareness

Fridays 2nd and 16th June

7.30pm - 9pm (Doors shut

promptly at 7.30pm)

£5 (members £4)

with LESLEY HAMILTON

Open Platform

Mediumship training on
first Saturday of month with
LESLEY HAMILTON

Saturday 3rd June 2pm - 4pm
£5 (members £4)

Audience £3

**Light-Hearted Spiritual Talk &
Associated Guided Meditation**

On the 3rd Wednesday of

the month with

CHERRY SRINAGANAND

Wednesday 21st June

7.30pm - 9pm

£5 (members £4)

Exploring Holistic Healing

A programme of different
healing therapy talks on last

Friday of alternate months

7.30pm - 9pm

£7 (members £5)

Check website for details

*Please check our website
for updates and any
programme changes
All Are Welcome*

**SPIRITUAL
AWARENESS GROUP**

Bringing Spirit to the people

Glyn Hall, Cheam Road,

Ewell Village,

Surrey KT17 1SP

CURRENTLY CLOSED

Enquiries: Betty Masters

Tel: 07786 741509

Email:

spiritualawarenessgroup@gmail.com

**SUTTON YOUNG
SPIRITUALIST
CHURCH**

Thomas Wall Centre,
Benhill Avenue, Sutton,
Surrey SM1 4DP

CURRENTLY CLOSED

Enquiries: 020 8641 2630

EAST SUSSEX

SEAFORDSPIRIT

Seaford Independent

Spiritualist Church,

3 Warwick Road,

Seaford,

East Sussex BN25 1RS

Telephone: 01323 737407

IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

Email: enquiries@seafordspirit.co.uk

Weekly Divine Service

Thursday at 7.30pm

Alternate weeks

In-Person and Online

Demonstrations of

Mediumship and Workshops

**For full details see our
website:**

www.seafordspirit.co.uk

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WEST SUSSEX

ANGEL IN BLUE

Storrington Village Hall,

59 West Street,

Storrington,

West Sussex

RH20 4DZ

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Social, Support and
Mediumship Demonstration
Evenings

The last **Friday** of each month

Starts at 7.00pm

Entrance £6 inclusive of

Raffle and Refreshments

Enquiries to: Val Harber

07713 769978

or by email:

vharber@btinternet.com

All Welcome

**BARNHAM
SPIRITUAL CENTRE**

Barnham Community Hall,

Murrell's Field,

Yapton Road,

Barnham

West Sussex

PO22 0AY

**OPEN - PLEASE SEE
FACEBOOK FOR EVENTS**

Contact Darren Hart:

0774 945 4281

www.darrenhartmedium.co.uk

Every Monday 7.30pm

Evening of Mediumship

We are a spiritual centre

providing Evenings of

Mediumship weekly

We also provide Private

Readings as well as Healing

Find details of all our latest

events on Facebook:

Barnham Spiritual Centre

Serving all local communities

All Welcome

**WEST
YORKSHIRE**

**HEBDEN BRIDGE
SPIRITUALIST
CHURCH**

14 New Road,

Hebden Bridge,

West Yorkshire

HX7 8AD

Follow us on Facebook

Sundays at 6.30pm

Divine Service

(Free will donation)

Tuesdays at 7.30pm £3

Service

All Welcome

WEST MIDLANDS

**SUTTON COLDFIELD
SPIRITUALIST
CHURCH**

Kenelm Road,

Off Manor Hill,

Sutton Coldfield B73 6HD

www.scsonline.co.uk

Tel: 0121 354 3266

OPEN - SEE BELOW

Sunday 6.30pm

Divine Service

Monday 1.30pm Service

Tuesday 7.30pm

Mediumship Classes

Thursday 1.00pm

Healing

Friday 7.30pm £3

Development Circle

For Details,

Monthly Specials &

Workshops please see our

Website/Facebook pages

Follow us on Facebook at:

Spiritualist Church,

Sutton Coldfield

All Welcome

FINANCIAL HELP

THE SPIRITUAL TRUTH FOUNDATION

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Essex CO6 1NT

www.spiritualtruthfoundation.org

GUERNSEY

THE
GREETING PLACE
FOUNDATION
SPIRITUALIST
CENTRE

Douzaine Room,
St Peters,
Guernsey,
Channel Islands

Enquiries to: Ann Jennings
Telephone: 01481 247185
Mobile: 07781 413218

OPEN: SEE FACEBOOK

Email:

greetingplace@cwgsy.net

Website:

[www.healing
andspiritualcentre.co.uk](http://www.healingandspiritualcentre.co.uk)

Our regular services are:

Sunday 11.00am

Address and Communication

Other services as announced

Everyone Welcome

GREECE



**SPIRITUALIST
SOCIETY OF ATHENS**
"The Divine Light"

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Website:

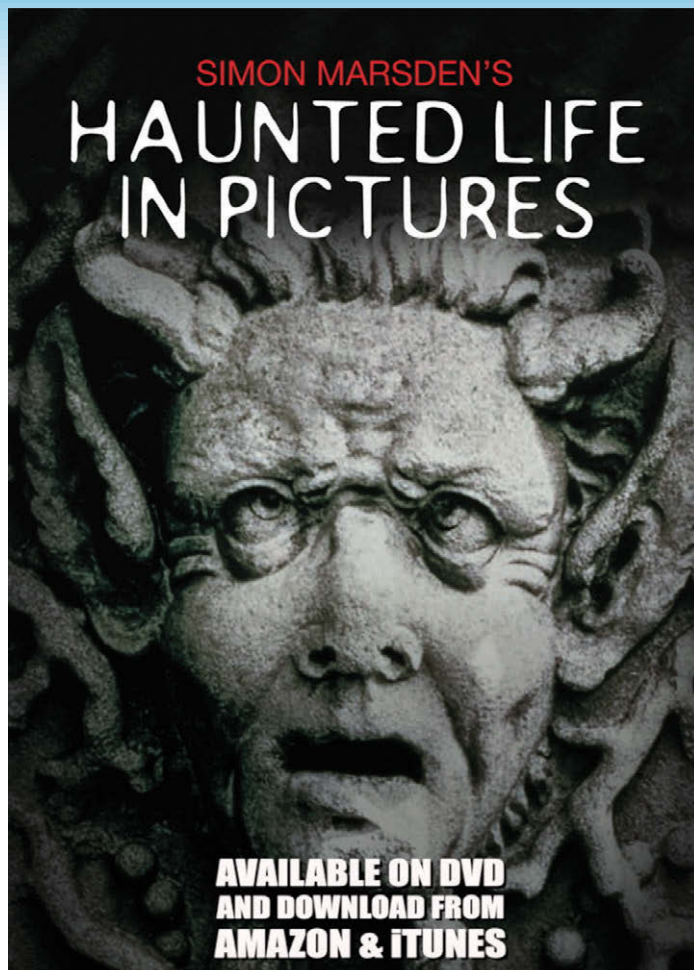
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Email:

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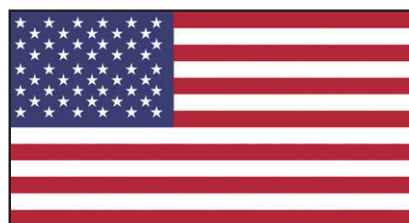
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WINNERS

The winners of the March 2023
issue sudoku competition are:

Mrs Amanda Apps, Hampshire

Belinda Archer, West Sussex

Mr Peter Durston, Wales

Mrs Ann Walker, Somerset

Michael Tinsley, Essex

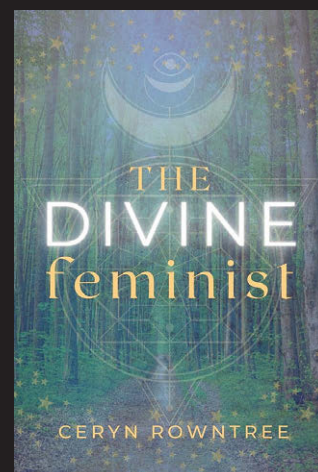
The winning numbers
are: 528 716 493

Each winner receives a copy
of *The Divine Feminist* by
Ceryn Rowntree.

Find out more about

Ceryn at:

www.cerynrowntree.com

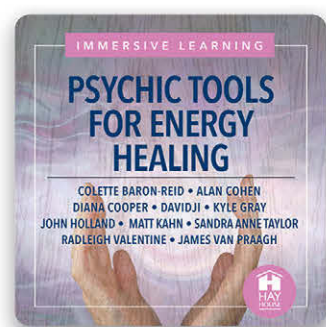
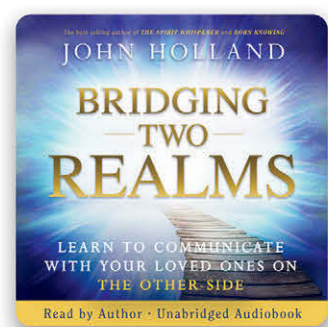
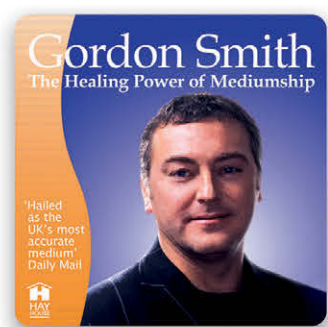
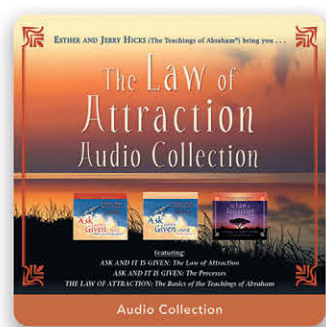


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