



NEWSLETTER

PAIGNTON SNU SPIRITUALIST CENTRE

MAY & JUNE 2019

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DO WE LEARN FROM HISTORY ARE WE CREATING A BETTER WORLD IS IT TIME TO CHANGE OUR FOOTPRINTS

There are many changes coming up nationally and internationally for the development of our World. We only seem to appreciate what we had when we realise what we have lost or can't have again.

Our news is full of what we are doing to our planet and the hope that all governments will implement changes to make a better world for future generations. We all realise that this has to start now.

In spiritualism we have travelled through many changes. Our pioneers have suffered leaving the modern day spiritualist a legacy of being able to simply talk about our movement as well as developing our belief of survival after death. The History of Spiritualism in this edition of the newsletter is an informative read some facts most of our readers already know; but it is good to refresh our minds on how far we have come.

As we move towards the summer months we have many interesting events, visiting mediums and teaching groups to keep us busy spreading the word of spirit wisely.

j.c.

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A WARM WELCOME TO ALL OUR MEMBERS & VISITORS.



Saturday Coffee Mornings

A reminder those Coffee & Tea mornings with the Craft Group continues from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

A good way to catch up on the busy schedule of functions, groups, workshops, special medium demonstrations and Open Days. Dates, Times, Costs and Posters are displayed in the Kitchen Hall of our lovely CENTRE.

Our Committee and Fund Raisers are always working hard to bring new ideas for us all to enjoy.

Suggestions and ideas are also welcome.

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MAY & JUNE

MAY 2019:

4 th 5 th 6 th	Gareth Lewis	Horwich
11 th 12 th 13 th	David Cole	Windsor
18 th & 19 th	Nicola Monks	Paignton
20 th	Gillian Shore	Teignmouth
25 rd 26 th 27 th	Gail Riding	Redditch

JUNE 2019:

1 st 2 nd 3 rd	Jamie Tennant	Paignton
8 th 9 th 10 th	Pauline & Terry Firks	Ongar Essex
15 th 16 th 17 th	Al & Jeff Potts	Bournemouth
22 nd 23 rd 24 th	Ricky Whitmore	Paignton
29 th	Stephen Holbrook (SPECIAL)	
30 th	Brenda Sawyer	Torquay

GUILD - MAY

1 st	Minister Kim Moore Cullen	Paignton
8 th	Marie Hines	Paignton
15 th	Tina Corns	Kingsteignton
22 nd	Ricky Whitmore	Paignton
29 th	Val Chapman	Paignton

GUILD - JUNE

5 th	Glenda Osbourn	Torquay
12 th	Sandra Darbyshire	Teignmouth
19 th	Joan Boydell & Students	Paignton Centre
26 th	Nicola Monks	Paignton

GUILD CLOSED FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

All of the above dates are subject to change at short notice



PLANET EARTH

**GLOBAL WARMING
DIRTY OCEANS
POLLUTION
RUBBISH
WASTE
WHY**

*

**HELP
CHANGE
PRODUCTION
FROM THE TOP
TO THE BOTTOM**

*

**CREATED BY
HUMANS**

*

**WILDLIFE
SUFFERING**

*

**DESTROYING
PLANET EARTH**

*

60, 70, 80, 100 years ago everything was different before technology and the great industrial revolution. Man strived hard to improve and better his existence at home and in the workplace. Improvements were created and new materials made to make life easier but at what cost? Yes our Planet, our wildlife and our sense of direction. Plastic replaced paper and it became a "throw away" world with mountains of waste. Using chemicals to produce long lasting man-made goods. The contents of some foods are full of preservatives. Machines in factories made more consumer items this in turn caused competition between Nations. Buying and selling worldwide. In the end it is all down to money not love.
WE NEED TO CHANGE NOW

**WORKSHOP 10AM TO 4PM
25th May 2019
WITH GAIL RIDING**

"MEDIUMSHIP OF TODAY"
£20 Centre Member & £25 Non Member

**SPECIAL DEMONSTRATION
WITH STEPHEN HOLBROOK
29th June 2019
No booking needed - Doors Open 7pm
Demo 7.30pm to 9pm
Cost £15**

ANNUAL HEALING DAY

8th June 2019

10am to 3.30pm

Crystal Stalls : Raffle : Refreshments

WITH FREE

WORKSHOP AT 1.30 pm to 3.30pm

Guest Speaker : Tareth

Donations Welcome



Spiritual Healing

Every Week

Monday	2-4 pm
Tuesday	4-6 pm
Thursday	2-4 pm

Everyone is welcome to come along and receive Spiritual healing at the Centre. Many people find it hugely beneficial and come on a regular basis.

Our healers are dedicated in providing this service, giving their time freely and selflessly to help others.

Spiritual healing involves the channeling of healing energies from the Spirit world through a Spiritual healer to the patient. Healing can bring about harmony to the mind, body, Spirit and emotions of the recipient.

Healing Circle

Fridays fortnightly
7.30pm.

See dates on notices in the kitchen/hall area.



At the AGM in March this year the following Charities were voted to be supported by Paignton SNU Spiritualist Centre and its Members:

Devon Air Ambulance and Rowcroft

REPORT ON EGGSTRAVAGANCA WEEKEND 20th, 21st & 22nd April 2019

What a wonderful Easter weekend we have had in our Centre. Saturday 20th April was our Open Day with Mini readings, stalls, raffle, tombola and yummy food. In the evening for our Mediumship demonstration we had Craig Morris, a great evidential medium who works with Humour and humility bringing through the character of a loved one. Sunday 21st - We had our AM and PM Healing services which the Centre Healers organised. These services were beautiful you could feel the healing love in the room. Each person was given a paper Dove made by Sue Cummins (a 100 in total, well done), and a label was given to write a loved one's name on for the healing tree. A lovely Poem was recited and the Philosophy address was based on Healing. John Lennon's "Imagine" was played during the service and also "All you need is Love".

Wonderful to see the congregation enjoying the meditation taken by our healing leader Lyn Churchward which was based on the dove of peace. Healing was then sent out to those in need and our world. To conclude the service, healing was offered to the congregation and while healing was being given our Organist Val Chapman played some lovely soft healing music.

Monday 22nd - A Workshop during the day on Trance with Peter Egan CSNU was enjoyed by some of our Centre members, our Evening Demonstration with popular medium Jamie Tennant ended a wonderful Easter weekend.

Thank you to everyone who came to our Centre and joined with us in making it such an enjoyable weekend as well as raising funds for our Centre to keep the doors open. Special thanks to the kitchen staff, Mediums, Healers and Helpers all who gave their time over the weekend.

With Blessings x

Easter Weekend Update submitted by Anne Jenkins for our readers. Thank you Anne.

HISTORY OF SPIRITUALISM

Background

Most of the various forms of psychic phenomena associated with the Spiritualist movement are as old as man himself. Throughout the ages human beings have been aware of the existence of discarnate beings. In early days, when man lived close to nature, ancestor-worship became a form of religion; primitive man had no doubt that his ancestors had survived death and that they had powers to affect the living for good or ill. Therefore due reverence was shown to them in order to incur favour. The wise men of the tribe, who were possessed of psychic powers, the equivalent of modern mediums, would testify to the presence of the spirits and forms of communication were established with them.

The Greeks consulted oracles and the Assyrians and Romans practised divination by augury to obtain guidance from the gods. Even today some cultures have their witch-doctors, who invoke the powers of the spirit for healing. It can be seen, therefore, that there is nothing new in the concept of a spiritual world inhabited by discarnate beings or in the use of psychic power to achieve spirit communication.

The early Christian Church was founded on the basis of mediumship, Jesus of Nazareth being considered to have been an exceptionally gifted psychic and medium, as illustrated in the reports of his healing powers, inspired teachings, and so-called 'miracles'. After the Crucifixion it is recorded that Jesus was seen and heard by Paul and others and it is clear that mediumship played an important part in the work of the Apostles in the spreading of this new religion and its presentation in Church services. The Bible in both the Old and New Testaments has many references to psychic abilities, inspirational speech, speaking in other languages, physical mediumship, healing and so on.

However, the 4th century Council of Nicaea brought to an end the use of mediums and held that divine guidance, through the Holy Spirit, should be sought only from the priesthood: 'false prophets' were held to be servants of the devil, and sorcerers, heretics and mediums were all targets for persecution as a result of 'witch-mania'. This accelerated in the Middle Ages, when religious sanction for this persecution was given in 1484 by a papal bull and by the publication of the *Malleus Maleficarum* or 'Hammer of the Witches'. During this long period of persecution anyone suspected of using psychic gifts for whatever purpose was in danger of torture, trial and burning, and hundreds of thousands of mediums were put to death by organised 'witch-hunters'.

In the 18th century a Swedish scientist and astronomer, **Emmanuel Swedenborg** had become well-known for his philosophical writings, received from spirit teachers. He died in 1772 but was able to resume his work prior to the Hydesville phenomena through the mediumship of young American, Andrew Jackson Davis. Knockings had also occurred in the 18th century in England at the Epworth Rectory, home of the Wesley family.

The Modern Movement

However, Modern Spiritualism is generally considered to date from the events which occurred at **Hydesville** New York State, USA, on March 31st 1848, when two sisters, **Margaretta and Catherine Fox**, established intelligent communication with a spirit entity which had been responsible for noisy rappings in the household. The publicity which this aroused and the numerous investigations carried out at the time allowed mediumship to come out into the open once more and many home circles sprang up for the purpose of further communication. In a short space of time many societies of Spiritualists were formed in America, based not merely upon the psychic phenomena produced but also upon the religious implications which lay behind the teachings received from spirit through the new revelation.

Both the phenomena and the teachings attracted the attention of eminent scientists and intellectuals in America and (from 1852) Britain, to which Spiritualism was brought by Mrs Maria Hayden, who was both persecuted and insulted by the press and the pulpit. In spite of this her mediumship was defended by many public figures, including Robert Owen, Socialist and one of the founders of the Co-operative Movement, who embraced Spiritualism after sittings with her, and many adherents were attracted to the cause.

In 1853 the first Spiritualist Church was established in the British Isles by David Richmond at Keighley in Yorkshire (still in use today), and the first Spiritualist newspaper in Britain. The Yorkshire Spiritual Telegraph, was published in 1855, also at Keighley. By the 1870s there were numerous Spiritualist societies and churches throughout the country.

In 1869 a Committee appointed by the Dialectical Society investigated Spiritualism and published the most favourable report on the movement up to that time by any investigating body. Two years later Sir William Crookes reported on Spiritualism to the Royal Society and published his findings in the Quarterly Journal of Science. The British National Association of Spiritualists (renamed in 1884 as the London Spiritualist Alliance and now known as the College of Psychic Science) was founded in London in 1873, followed by the Society for Psychical Research in 1882. Five years later the Two Worlds Spiritualist weekly newspaper was founded by **Mrs Emma Hardinge Britten**, through whose mediumship in 1871 Robert Owen had communicated the basis of the Seven Principles of Spiritualism, which were later to be adopted by the Spiritualists' National Union as the basis of its religious philosophy.

In the early days of the movement the most important necessity had been the complete freedom to develop and promote through multiple channels of communication the reception of the new spiritual inspiration without recourse to the establishment of a central organisation or administration. Some twenty years after the introduction of the movement to Britain it was now becoming apparent that there was a need to unite the many scattered churches and societies into some kind of federation in order to present a common front against persecution, win religious recognition and freedom of worship for its adherents and exponents, achieve a greater unanimity of opinion concerning the fundamental basis of Spiritualist beliefs, and give a new impetus and direction to the movement through co-ordination and co-operation. This task fell to Mrs Britten, a gifted orator and writer, who had launched the Two Worlds in 1887 and was the joint composer of the Lyceum Manual published in the same year.

Spiritualism is not as is commonly believed, a sinister cult meeting in darkened rooms to "call up the dead" but an officially recognised religious movement with its own churches and Ministers, who possess the same rights and privileges as other religions.

Evidence of Survival

Spiritualism is in itself a religion in that it embodies the main ideas of all religions that there is a life after death, an immortality and the existence of a God. The difference between Spiritualism and other religions is the ability through mediumship to provide evidence that man survives the grave; that is to say certain people called mediums are able to communicate with those who have passed over, thus furnishing evidence of their continued existence in another world. Mediums cannot call up these people as one would a friend on the telephone, they come to us, but only when they are ready, willing and able so to do.

The philosophy of Spiritualism is based on seven fundamental principles.

1. The Fatherhood of God.
2. The Brotherhood of Man.
3. The Communion of Spirits and the Ministry of Angels.
4. The Continuous Existence of the human soul.
5. Personal Responsibility.
6. Compensation and Retribution hereafter for all the good or evil deeds done on earth.
7. Eternal Progress open to every human soul.

Not Anti-Christian

Spiritualists are often accused of being atheists or anti-Christian. Spiritualists are not anti-Christian any more than they are anti-Jewish, anti-Hindu or anti-Moslem.

Spiritualism is a universal religion recognising such leaders as Buddha, Mohammed, Moses as well as Jesus. Another major difference between Spiritualism and the orthodox Christian religion is embodied in our fifth principle, which is Personal Responsibility. We do not accept that Jesus died on the cross to save us from our sins. We hold that no one can do this but ourselves. We are given free will and the ability to distinguish between right and wrong and we alone are responsible for all our thoughts and actions.

God not Vindictive

Further, we do not believe in a vindictive God sitting in judgement over us. We are our own judges here and now and we shall receive compensation or retribution for whatever we have done, whether good or bad. Heaven and Hell are not places to which we are destined to go, but states of mind of our own creation.

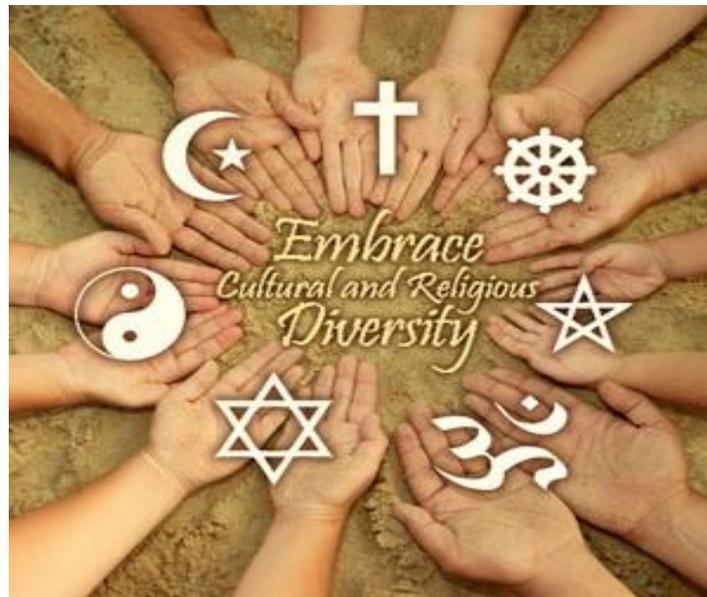
We do not automatically become spiritual when we leave this world. We shall in fact, retain our earthly characteristics while the opportunity will be given throughout eternity to make spiritual progress and so undo any wrongs we committed on earth, for both free will and personal responsibility will still be with us in the world to come.

We are living in a material age in which orthodox religion has lost its impact. Any religion therefore which can successfully overcome this materialist influence must be scientific, and Spiritualism is just that. It has turned the pious hope of a hereafter into a scientific fact. The advent of the spirit of man into this world and in the course of time, his transition to another world is a scientific fact proved by mediumship.

We do not expect you to accept these things blindly but we do invite you to prove our claim for yourself.

<https://www.snui.org.uk/historyofspiritualism.php>

Sourced & submitted by Anne Jenkins



I ALMOST WENT TO CHURCH LAST NIGHT....

I almost went to church last night, but couldn't find the time,
So much to do about the house, to leave would be a crime.
So I brushed and sewed and polished and went wearily to bed.
But I made a resolution to go next week instead.

I almost went to church last night, but then an old friend came,
And to have closed the door on him would have been a shame.
So we talked and chatted and gossiped until goodbyes were said.
But I made a resolution to go next week instead.

I almost went to church last night, but something made me late.
And unpunctuality is a sin I really hate.
So I didn't go and stayed at home and to my conscience said,
I'll make a resolution to go next week instead.

I almost went to church last night but the air was chill and cold.
To venture out on such a night would be foolish I've been told.
So I sat by the fire took up a book and read,
But I made a resolution to go next week instead.

I almost went to church last night, but a certain speaker was there.
And for that type of speaking I really didn't care.
So rather than go to church, and come home with a heavy head.
I made a resolution to go next week instead.

I almost went to church last night but my favourite programme was on.
And by the time it was ended the time for church had gone.
So I stayed and watched the telly until the set was dead.
Thinking – I'll make a resolution to go next week instead.

I actually went to church last night but I went far too late.
The church was locked and silent, "Fore Sale" was on the gate.
Oh the remorse that then I felt, for that little church was dead.
And I, it was who killed it – by going next week instead.

Oh To Be 12 Again.....

A MAN WAS SITTING ON THE EDGE OF THE BED, OBSERVING HIS WIFE, LOOKING AT HERSELF IN THE MIRROR

SINCE HER BIRTHDAY WAS NOT FAR OFF HE ASKED WHAT SHE'D LIKE TO HAVE FOR HER BIRTHDAY

"I'D LIKE TO BE TWELVE AGAIN", SHE REPLIED, STILL LOOKING IN THE MIRROR.

ON THE MORNING OF HER BIRTHDAY, HE AROSE EARLY, MADE HER A NICE BIG BOWL OF COCO POPS, AND THEN TOOK HER TO ALTON TOWERS THEME PARK.

WHAT A DAY!

HE PUT HER ON EVERY RIDE IN THE PARK, THE DEATH SLIDE, THE CORKSCREW, THE WALL OF FEAR, THE SCREAMING MONSTER ROLLER COASTER, EVERYTHING THERE WAS.

FIVE HOURS LATER THEY STAGGERED OUT OF THE THEME PARK!

HER HEAD WAS REELING AND HER STOMACH FELT UPSIDE DOWN.

HE THEN TOOK HER TO A MC DONALD'S WHERE HE ORDERED HER A HAPPY MEAL, WITH EXTRA FRIES AND A CHOCOLATE SHAKE.

THEN IT WAS OFF TO THE CINEMA WITH POPCORN, A HUGH COLA, AND HER FAVOURITE SWEETS.....M&M'S

WHAT A FABULOUS ADVENTURE!

FINALLY SHE WOBBLED HOME WITH HER BUSBAND AND COLLAPSED INTO BED EXHAUSTED.

HE LEANED OVER HIS WIFE WITH A BIG SMILE AND LOVINGLY ASKED, "WELL DEAR, WHAT WAS IT LIKE BEING TWELVE AGAIN?"

HER EYES SLOWLY OPENED AND HER EXPRESSION SUDDENLY CHANGED. "I MEANT MY DRESS SIZE, YOU MORON!!!!!!

**THE MORAL OF THE STORY
EVEN WHEN A MAN IS LISTENING
HE IS GONNA GET IT WRONG**