

Bealtaine 2011 - Summer 2011

Annual General Meeting

2nd April 2011 in Dublin

On a beautiful Spring day 27 members of the Anthroposophical Society in Ireland convened for the the Annual General Meeting. This year we met in the heart of Dublin at the Saoirse Waldorf Kindergarten in what was once a Quaker kindergarten founded over a 100 years ago. With all the usual formalities and reports complete a new council (pictured below) was elected with one new member, Karin Shea.

Afterwards some members from Glencraig and Holywood recited the Foundation Stone Meditation. Then Linda McKeown and Martin Donnelly led us in the theme for the day "Inner Initiative - Meeting the Future Actively". Referring to a passage in the 10th lecture of the third volume of the Karma lectures, Linda spoke of Rudolf Steiner's observation that an Anthroposophist is likely to be someone less deeply incarnated than many other people in our time. The materialist can take hold of his organism very deeply: the successful businessman, for example, has a clear role - "This is what I do". The Anthroposophist is often inclined to move from one thing to another, perpetually looking for 'my real task'.

In the afternoon, Piotr Bujak led us into two refreshing clowning exercises which focussed on our ability to take playful initiative in the moment - right now!

After some group work on the theme we gathered for a plenum session before finally bidding each other a farewell.



Karin Shea, Linda McKeown, Denys Kaye, Martin Henry, Mark Reid, Sophia Christine Murphy and David Fairclough.

Cosmic Verse - performance in Drogheda 28th May



What would we hear if we could hear the planets sing? Those attending the not-to-be-missed performance at the Barbican Theatre in Drogheda on May 28th might be able to glean an answer. For the music of the spheres, a truly cosmic harmony in verse, melody and movement will be presented on stage. The performance in Drogheda marks the only Irish date of the "Cosmic Verse" tour by the Eurythmy Association of Great Britain and Ireland. These poetic, meditative verses and the choreographed eurythmy performed by twenty five artists were written and devised by Rudolf Steiner in 1915. This tour is being held as part of a worldwide movement to mark the 150th anniversary of Steiner's birth.

The various works present a soul-spiritual impression of the mood of the sun, moon and planets as they travel their course through the heavens. The show is suitable for those new to the art, as well as people already familiar with eurythmy.

For those wishing to go deeper into the subject, or to know more about eurythmy, the company will host a full day workshop from 10.30am on the Saturday of the performance. Participants will get a morning preview of the show, followed by workshops and demonstrations. Having learned more about the cosmic eurythmy gestures during the day, there'll be a performance in the evening at 7.30pm.

Those who can afford it are asked to help the Society bear the (significant!) cost of hosting this event by booking a place at the sponsorship "friend of eurythmy" price of €100.

(more details on back page>)

WHITSUN

There first
Where sense can know no more,
Stands the portal, which
discloses
Life-reality
To Soul-being;
This portal's key the Soul may
fashion
If she herself grow strong within
the strife

By World-Powers waged on their
own ground
With human forces;
If of her own accord she puts to
flight
The sleep, which at the frontier
of her senses
Cloaks the forces of knowledge
In spirit-night.

Rudolf Steiner

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Deadlines: the 20th of each - January, April, July, October



Our Task is to Stand Behind the Medicines

PAFAM (Patients & Friends of Anthroposophic Medicine) formed in 2003 to stand in support of the medicines. The time for this is clearly now.

The Medicine Healthcare Regulatory Agency (MHRA) is contemplating legislation removing product licences of right (PLRs) for anthroposophic and herbal medicines.

This would leave only a dozen or so anthroposophic medicines available to the public with the others requiring a doctor's prescription. For the full information on this subject please go to the Anthroposophic Health & Social Care website www.AHaSC.org.uk where you can read all the relevant information on this subject.

Joining PAFAM now as the representative voice of PAFAM is of crucial importance and key in this whole process.

The cost for each individual of £10.00 per annum to join PAFAM may be too much for some, however we need a strong membership. The voice of each person using anthroposophic medicines will make a difference. I have come up with an idea for all groups; Schools/ Camphill / Anthroposophic organisations etc. If a community has 20 or 30/40/50 or more members and each member pays a £1.00 annually to PAFAM this brings our membership up by those numbers.

We would then communicate with one key person from that group mailing our bi-annual newsletter to them.

It is your voice that is needed to ensure that the medicines you choose to use remain available and it is NOW that we need to hear it.

Sincerely, Cathie Green

To contact me please either:
phone/email or write Tel: 01562 632360 Email: cathiegreen@blueyonder.co.uk 35. Franche Road. Wolverley, Kidderminster. Worcs. England. DY11 5TP

The Christian Community

A premises in Tuamgraney, near Scarriff, Co Clare was purchased a number of years ago as a central base for the activities of friends and members of The Christian Community. There is a similar centre in Northern Ireland and many more in the UK and worldwide. It became the base for a resident priest at Michaelmas 2009 when the Rev Malcolm Allsop and his wife Christine moved there. This prompted a change of use planning application for a Chapel, meeting rooms and residence, for which permission has recently been granted. The premises are the old Doctor's Surgery and residence in Drewsborough. Fittingly, it has always been a centre concerned with health--where before the focus was on the physical, now it is on the soul-spiritual side: the two fundamental aspects of human life.



Golgotha - Liane Collot d'Herbois

Background

In the aftermath of the 1st World War in middle Europe the question arose for seeking and disillusioned men and women - what can survive and grow out of the ashes, how can there be a renewal of confidence in Christianity? And so the Christian Community was founded in 1922 in Switzerland, with both male and female priests, a very new thing at the time. It offered the seven sacraments, upheld fundamental Christian tenets while affirming the freedom of each individual to think his/her own way into those tenets.

This development occurred within the background that throughout Christian history there have been new, timely initiatives towards the furtherance of Christs' continuing presence on earth, which is not a static, lifeless thing! The materialistic age is not over - the questions from the 1920's are just as relevant and valid today in bringing the recognition that we are also spiritual beings with an existence before and beyond this earthly one and that Christ is an integral part of that existence.

Services are open to all. The Communion Service, known as the Act of Consecration of Man, is Thursdays at 9.15am, and monthly, usually the first Sunday of the month at 10.30am. For regular Children's Services, Festivals, other sacraments and/or background information, contact Audrey Flynn (0)86 8887513 or the Rev. Malcolm Allsop 061 640967. The Christian Community is funded by donations from friends and members of the congregation.

The Christian Community House
Drewsborough
Tuamgraney
Co Clare

www.thechristiancommunityireland.net

Active Learning for Adolescents

Raheen Wood ALFA is a Steiner secondary school in Tuamgraney, East Clare. It offers a dynamic and integrated education inspired by the ideas of Rudolf Steiner. Students learn academic subjects (maths, science and the humanities) through the history of significant human turning points, rhythmic repetition and applied skills. The arts and technology skills are strongly emphasised. ALFA recently presented the William Shakespeare play "All's Well That End's Well" in Limerick Institute of Technology and Castalia Hall, Camphill Community, Callan, Kilkenny. ALFA is enrolling now for 14 to 15 year olds. Contact Office: 061640798 email: info@alfaproject.org

Report from the General Anthroposophical Society Annual General Meeting



The AGM of the General Anthroposophical Society took place in Dornach on the weekend of 16th/17th April. The meeting happened under the signature and theme of the year; “Anthroposophy, Rosicrucianism in our Time.”

On the agenda were a large number of motions to be voted upon, some of them contentious. Whereas many previous AGM’s had turn outs of 300-500 people, over 1,300 members turned up to vote. One was reminded of lines from the first scene of the first Mystery Drama, The Portal of Initiation; “It was if a whole choir of voices were raised, and there were some beautiful harmonies, and also discordant notes.” However the mood on the whole was one of mutual and courteous respect for differing points of view on the variety issues to be decided.

It appeared that - with the necessary financial restructuring that has taken place in the Goetheanum - a perception had arisen that the Visual Arts had been somehow sidelined, and a number of motions attempted to address this and other areas of contention. Possibly the most significant of these was a Motion of Confidence in the Executive Council (Vorstand). The reasons for this motion and the Vorstand’s response have been outlined elsewhere (Anthroposophy Worldwide, and the Goetheanum website). One aspect of this response has been to initiate new ways of working. A written ballot gave members a choice to express confidence, or no confidence, or to abstain. Almost 1300 people cast their votes.

876 Members expressed Confidence in the Vorstand in their continued work.

257 Members expressed No Confidence

156 Members abstained, and there were 11 spoiled ballots.

The Executive Council proposed a change to the statutes, whereby member’s - via the AGM in Dornach - would affirm appointments to the Council for a period of seven years, with additional affirmation from the General Meeting for further periods of seven years. This was approved by the meeting. A written ballot then took place to affirm support in the three (of six) council members who have been in office for more than seven years and who intend to continue for at least seven more years.



The results of this ballot asking members to affirm or not were:

	Yes	No
Sergei Prokofiev	1015	210
Bodo von Plato	815	384
Paul Mackay	837	356

The meeting also passed a motion requiring the Council to seek an affirmation for the use of the Goetheanum name by any external body (the finance raising foundation set up by Cornelius Pietzner was to be called The Goetheanum Foundation, but it was decided before the meeting not to use this name. Several motions addressing this were withdrawn.)

A significant majority also voted in favour of a motion calling for an Extraordinary General meeting to discuss the ownership responsibility of the General Anthroposophical Society towards the Weleda Company. This EGM will take place before 30th June. Full reports of the meeting will follow in “Anthroposophy Worldwide”

Report by David Fairclough

Looking for somewhere to move on?

Interested in life-sharing?

We are looking for people with experience of: house parenting, running workshops and doing social work to join our community. Those with relevant skills and experience who wish to transfer them into this type of setting will also be considered. Co-working would be our preferred arrangement but all options will be considered.



Camphill Dunshane is situated in Co. Kildare Ireland, 40km/25miles SW of Dublin, between the small towns of Naas and Kilcullen. Set on 10ha/25acres of land, framed by the backdrop of the Wicklow Mountains to the east it is an area of natural beauty, while being within easy reach of local towns and Dublin City.

Dunshane is home to round 50 people, half of whom are young adults with special needs and a few that attend on a day basis. There are 5 households of varying size, a small farm, garden, craft workshops (candle making, basketry, pottery), bakery and substantial hall, in which events from Camphill in Ireland and the local area are hosted.

There are 2 other communities within 10km/6 miles with shared activities of: adult education and introduction courses, cultural and social events and reciprocal work placements.

The Kildare Waldorf Steiner School is 10km/6 miles away with classes from Kindergarten to class 6 (12yrs) as well as a wide selection of junior and secondary schools nearby.

For more information please see: www.camphill.ie or phone Jeannemarie at +353 (0)45 483953

Do you want to make a difference?



Class Teacher Vacancy



The Kildare Steiner School is a vibrant and growing school set on 4 acres of rolling Kildare countryside. The School includes a toddler group, kindergarten and primary school up to Class 6, with approximately 60 pupils. We have a vacancy for an experienced class teacher for our primary school. The ideal candidate would:

- Teach any of class groupings 1 to 6
- Prioritise professional and personal development
- Assist us in expanding the role of Steiner education in Kildare and beyond

For further information, please contact Angie Ruane, Secretary to the School Board on +353 (0)45 863273 or +353 (0) 86 4005211. Applications with CV by 14th May 2011.

Living Campus

7th May: **A Natural Childhood, the Toddler and the Young Child.** one of a series of workshops on natural childhood health and wellbeing
 14th May: **Integrated Cancer Care,** Dr Maurice Orange
 21st May: **Feltmaking** with Eileen Heywood
 4th June : **Eastern Aromatherapy** with John E Smith
 4th July: **The Soul of Nature and the Nature of Soul,** an all day event with Linda McKeown and Martin Donnelly
For details on all Living Campus events: Hollywood Rudolf Steiner School, 34 Croft Rd, Hollywood, Co. Down BT18 OPR, N. Ireland.
 (0) 23 9042 8029
 info@living-campus.org
 www.living-campus.org

A Lyre Concert for Dublin

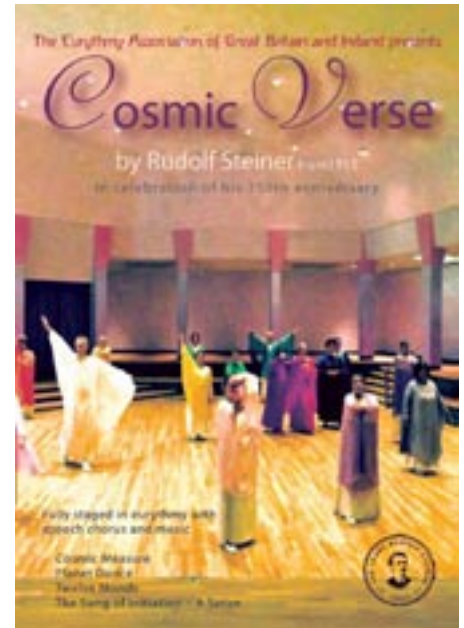


Celtic Lyres, a lyre group of nine people from North Down, Northern Ireland, is coming to Dublin on the afternoon of 21st May, and will perform a concert of

music from around the world at The Friends' Meeting House, Temple Bar, at 3pm. All very welcome!! Because of restricted seating space, and only 40 tickets available, tickets need to be bought and paid for before the concert. In the unlikely event that all tickets are not sold before the event, there may be a few on sale at the door. Please enquire beforehand. Tickets are available from Anna Cooper, phone 0044 2890425307 (Northern Ireland) This programme has been performed in several venues in Northern Ireland already, including Camphill Community Clanabogan, and has proved very popular. Tickets €10.

The Märchenensemble of Stuttgart will be performing in Ballytobin Community on Sunday the 19th June. I will confirm times later. Seven eurythmists will perform a Norwegian fairy tale (in English) in the afternoon and an evening program of music and poetry. If any of you local to me can help with accommodation needs, I would love to hear from you. Thank you in advance. Nicole Nair nicole.nair@yahoo.co.uk

There are several Medical Section events coming up in the coming months: First of all, the Workshop with Dr. Maurice Orange on 14th May 2011 in Hollywood, as part of the Living Campus, Learning for a Sustainable Life Programme. Then on the 15th October 2011 a PAFAM Day in Glencraig (11am - 4.30pm) - programme to follow. *Maria van den Berg (On behalf of the therapist group in Glencraig)*



Cosmic Verse Study Day
 Saturday 28th May, Barbican Theatre, Drogheda
 To reserve a place call 00353 (0)505 42830 or email events@anthroposophy.ie
 Cost includes lunch:
 €75 - standard
 €100 - sponsorship price "Friend of Eurythmy"
 €40 - concession unwaged/student

Please book by Thursday 13th May to ensure a place.

Cosmic Verse - Planet Dance
Twelve Moods - The Song of Initiation : A Satire Performance
 7.30pm - Saturday 28th May
 Barbican Theatre, Drogheda
 €20 /€15 - conc. unwaged/student
No booking required



For more information on the Anthroposophical Society in Ireland, please ring (0505 42830), email info@anthroposophy.ie or see the website: www.anthroposophy.ie