

Lughnasa 2010 - Autumn 2010

Treasurer's Report

Thank you to everyone who remembered to send in a contribution for 2010. It was very gratifying to come back from holidays in early May to a front door needing three shoves due to the mound of post behind it! So far 111 people have sent membership subscriptions, totaling £3,210 and €4,187.

Out of the Society's own funds so far this year we've given donations totalling £775 to the Twelve Moods Project, the Anthroposophical Society Medical Trust and the Park Attwood Initiative. We've paid out nearly €1,900 in running the Society, including the Newsletter, hosting the AGM and other council meetings, adding new stock to the Stewart Easton Library, and other sundry expenses.

The General Anthroposophical Society in Dornach has received an equivalent of €6,245 (We make a reduced contribution of Chf 45.00 per member - the full recommended contribution is Chf 125!). Adding the payments we've made so far shows that our membership income barely covers the Society's expenses to date and there are other expenses to come.

Part of the job of treasurer is looking ahead, so I find it interesting to think of wintertime and December here in the height of summer. I'm trusting we will reach year's end without going into the red - spending on operating costs from our capital reserve funds. To anyone who has yet to send a contribution - I hope it's not too much of a burden to say that we're relying on your support to help carry us through to the end of the year.

Thanks very much, and wishing you a pleasant summer --

David Fairclough, Treasurer

Shirking Responsibility

What have you to do, phantom thoughts, deceitful visions, with the lofty task that is mine? The spirit beings are demanding it of me. Yes, I will drive the enmity rooted in my soul out of my irresolute heart by forcing myself to vigorous thinking. My heart serves me stoutly if only so I will.

Rudolf Steiner

Profile of a Member



Eve Kaye born 7 March 1929

Eve's mother was born in Co Kildare; a descendant of the Butler who arrived in Ireland with Henry II. When Eve was six her parents discovered anthroposophy. Her grandmother had taken her mother to a summer conference in Gloucestershire saying, "we'll sit in the back row so we can giggle." But they came away deeply impressed. When Eve's mother described the lecture to her husband he said, "this is what I've been looking for all my life."

They found a Waldorf School in South London for Eve and her sister. It was called 'New School' but within the first term it was renamed 'Michael Hall'. The American, Henry Barnes, having finished his own training, was Eve's class teacher. It was a wonderful experience. In July 1939 Eve's father, a naval officer, went on a tour of duty and her mother took her brood to Canada, only to return to England in 1944 after he was invalidated out of the war. The school was evacuated to Somerset and after the war was moved to Forest Row where Eve's class was given main lesson, then spending the day scraping black paint off windows, gardening and chopping wood to make the school habitable. After graduating from school she became a market gardener.

Meanwhile Anthony Kaye, trained in biodynamics in Scotland, was converting a farm in Surrey. Eve and he met and married three years later, in 1952, moving to Ireland with their first child and living on Eve's aunt's biodynamic farm for four years. They began importing Holle Baby Food in 50 kilo bags, repackaging and shipping to all English speaking countries.

After their fourth child arrived they

moved to Forest Row to be near Michael Hall. When Emerson College came to Forest Row Anthony wanted to join it somehow. Francis Edmunds said the only available job was cooking and Anthony took it, learning as he went. At that time there were only 24 students at the college and Eve helped him with recipes. The student body grew and in the end Anthony was cooking for 220 people every day and loving it.

Fourteen years later they moved back to Ireland when Eve's aunt, who promised them her farm in Kilmurry, died. When Kayes arrived they found the farm run down and administered by a trust who demanded it be made profitable within three years. Anthony insisted it would take at least five years. He installed a small flour mill and began a brand of stone ground biodynamic flour; the only alternative to mass market bread flour in Ireland for a long time. This continued until they retired.

It proved impossible to restore the farm within the time frame and after three years the trust decided to sell it. Meanwhile a community had formed around the Kayes and these friends insisted the impulse must not die. Just then a legacy from Anthony's mother became available which allowed the Kayes to buy a conventional farm in County Wexford. They named it Inisglas. Twelve of their friends joined them and within four years the farm became certified biodynamic. Kayes made friends with all the organic farmers; in addition to the flour they baked bread and sold it around the country. Many people came to visit and stay with them; a steady group joined their monthly meetings.

Until 2000 they continued, then retired, having to sell the land. The community had thinned out and included people who were sick or needed shelter. No one was found to continue the biodynamic work. Kayes moved to Gorey, concentrating on anthroposophical and biodynamic activities. Then Anthony became ill and he died on Christmas Day 2006. Before he died Eve promised she would read to him each day and she has. There is much more to these lives, imbued with humour and enthusiasm, for which this column is much too short. But the land of Ireland and many people were strengthened by what the Kayes initiated and their impulse is alive and present now.

Hollywood Report

- Open Campus -
'Learning For Life'

'The Living Campus' is a new initiative working out of anthroposophy that intends to offer a personal development programme through individual mentoring courses, workshops and events that address the search for self knowledge in our time. All aspects of our programme will have an emphasis on the experiential so that participants can relate the course content to the living reality of their own lives.

Further details will follow in the next newsletter

Linda McKeown
Martin Donnelly
Heidi Steffen

The Farmyard Playschool



This lovely little kindergarten, based on the Waldorf method, is nestled in a natural stone building on the land of a large convent in South Cork. While one main room has all the usual Waldorf accoutrements like a cooking area, a seasonal corner, a canopied "doll's house" and a quiet place, another main room is made for MOVEMENT. A padded floor allows tumbling, a swing and ropes and more encourage children to become skillful in their limbs in the understanding that many children today lead largely sedentary lives. Of course there is time for outdoor running and climbing too.

Hours are from 9.15-12.30 Monday through Friday. Co-directors Ulli Falcini and Marion Fess welcome inquiries and visits.

The Farmyard Playschool, Heritage Park, Bessboro, Blackrock/Mahon, Cork City. phone: 087 276 5693

<http://farmyard-playschool.com>

New Waldorf project in Dublin's oldest creche

In 1893, the Quakers set up the Liberty Creche on Meath Street in the Liberties - a project which lasted over 110 years. Last year the new Saoirse Waldorf project opened its doors in this enormous and ancient (1824) building, running a kindergarten and parent-child groups and working towards opening a primary school on a pilot basis in September 2011. The building and outdoors are being renovated by a developing community of parents as well as kind friends from Greenacres Camphill, while Pearse O Shiel is giving a series of public talks. More details are on the project's website at www.saoirsewaldorf.com

Rachel Carson Centre at Emerson College

Arjan Huese writes:

Dear Waldorf pupils and parents: Nearly finished with class 12 or 13 of the Steiner Waldorf School and don't know what next? Many young people today want to do something practical and make a positive impact in the world. Come to the Rachel Carson Centre for practical courses with an official qualification when you finish!



The courses in biodynamic agriculture, horticulture and holistic land management are an exciting mix of science, art and practical skills. Where else do you find plant observation, soil science, eurythmy, welding, business management and tractor driving all in one package? Our three courses provide young people with the skills, knowledge and confidence to find meaningful work in a changing world.

All courses are officially accredited by the English authorities, with a National Certificate in Agriculture or Horticulture at the end. Students from many countries, including Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Italy, can get their tuition fees covered by the educational boards in their countries of origin, which means that they can study at the Rachel Carson Centre virtually for free! Visit www.rachelcarson.org.uk



Brigit's Garden

The above photo is of a spacious purpose built new early child care facility on Raheen Estate, near the Raheen Wood School in East Clare. It lies close to a care centre for the elderly in a peaceful open setting. This project was the dream of Lina Pelaez and Veronica Crombie ten years ago when they started Brigit's Garden. Now they have realized it in the most beautiful way. See website: www.brigitsgarden.org

A Waldorf student writes...

...Many students hate what they have to do, but what their parents want them to do. Once they themselves are parents they will want their children to do what they once wanted but couldn't do, believing they are doing their children an incredible favour. What cannot work however, is trying to form the present by eliminating the mistakes of the past and only continuing what seemed to be good at the time. In that way one would forever be involved in the dead past. On the contrary one should always grasp the living impulses of one's age in order to allow one's resulting deeds to become fruitful. If school and lessons were formed in this way by parents, teachers and even students themselves, then in my view there would be nothing more beautiful than being a student one's life long, or even better to become a student of the present...

Johanna Taraba, Leipzig Waldorf School

Lost in Translation

The McClutskys moved to Germany and sent their youngest to a Waldorf kindergarten.



"La lay loo, only the man in the moon watches

when the little babies sleep...."

Cartoon by Deirdre Goodman

New Member

We would like to extend a warm welcome to a new member of the Society, Laura O'Neill. Laura discovered Anthroposophy when she sent her children to a Waldorf school in Australia. She has since moved back home to her native Ireland and is a regular member of a study group in Co. Kildare and where her children attend the local Waldorf school.

Cloughjordan Update

David Fairclough



Cloughjordan is a large village in North Tipperary near the Tipperary-Offaly border. Local legend tells of a Norman knight who returned from the crusades with a stone taken from the river Jordan, which he used in the doorway of his castle built on the land he was granted here - hence the name "Cloch Shiúrdáin" - Stone of Jordan.

Today it hosts newer crusaders, or at least pioneers - Cloughjordan is home to Ireland's first Eco-Village project. Over eighty households have built or are in the process of building low-energy homes on the ecovillage site, expanding the layout of the entire town. When the project is finished Cloughjordan will have ten new streets, with one hundred and thirty two new homes. A great variety of people from all walks of life have moved here and not just including members of the Eco Project, making what was already an interesting place into a rich and growing cultural hub, with a number of sustainable and fair trade businesses opening up.



One project that has arisen from the wishes of people living here is Cloughjordan's Community Farm, situated on twenty six acres of leased land about a mile outside the town. People from about sixty households living in the area have come together to co-own and operate a mixed biodynamic conversion farm. Paying a subscription to cover the farmer's wages and running costs entitles members to an ownership share of the farm, including the farm produce; seasonable vegetables,

cereals and meat, as well as milk and eggs. Produce is not sold outside the membership (who already own it) which means fewer constraints on how food is produced and distributed. The farm manager Lily da Silva works with a board of directors elected from the membership to oversee the running of the farm. The farm also hosts educational and training events.

Several members of the Anthroposophical Society live in the town, and four of us meet regularly in a discussion group, and to plan other events.

Interestingly the Theosophical Society has an outpost in Cloughjordan, and regular discussions between members of both groups take place. Very interesting was the choice for their weekly study group last year- Steiner's "Philosophy of Freedom." And thanks to the use of a meeting room under the Theosophical Society's care, we have been able to co-host public talks on anthroposophical subjects by various speakers.

Over the last number of years our anthroposophical discussion group has been reading Steiner's Mystery Dramas, alongside other works, or general topics for discussion. Reading the dramas, it is interesting how often the encounters between characters in a particular scene can re-echo and illuminate questions or themes that arise in other aspects of our study. Our group will resume in autumn, reading the fourth drama, "The Soul's Awakening".

Lastly, the Society's phone line is based here; 0505 - 42830 so if you're thinking of visiting, do give us a call, we'd be happy to meet for organic coffee and cake served in the local bookshop!

Cloughjordan Eco Village hosts regular "experience days" for visitors. To enquire phone their office on 0505 - 42833 or email sales@thevillage.ie

News from Biodynamics Ireland



The Biodynamic Agricultural Association of Ireland has moved its office to a four acre garden including an acre of heritage orchard, an acre for vegetable

production and two acres of grassland for crop rotation and draft animals (work, manure, preparations). Importantly, the garden will be the centre for biodynamic preparations made in Ireland and will become self-financing via a CSA scheme and an ongoing series of workshops.

We need to develop our infrastructure and are searching for ways of funding, hoping for a positive response from Irish Society members.

Possible contributions:

- A "gift" of a plastic tunnel. We have three tunnels but no plastic at the moment: €1200 urgently needed.
- "Finance" for a compost toilet, storage shed, tools, and a packing and meeting room: €20 000 urgently needed.
- Hardcore surface in the parking area: €1000 (would be great but could wait).
- Hoeing,ridging and transplanting implement for existing Fendt tool carrier (Tractor): €4000.

In the long term €25000 financing will be required.

Please feel free to enquire or to offer suggestions via the BDAA UK and Timothy Brink (Demeter UK) about the BDAAI

We look forward to hearing from you. Michael Miklis, Administrator BDAAI, Camphill Jerpoint, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny tel: 00353 51 347245 *skype: biodyn.ie* bdaai@indigo.ie

Jonathan Stedall visit

Jonathan Stedall is a veteran documentary film maker who worked for many years with the BBC. His work brought him in contact with many artists, scientists and writers such as John Betjeman, Fritz Schumacher, Malcolm Muggeridge, Alan Bennett and Laurens van der Post. Recently he published an autobiography entitled "Where on Earth is Heaven?" the title of which derives from a question asked by his young son and reflects his own pondering on and discussions about the mystery and meaning of human life. Among his oeuvre are documentaries on Camphill and Waldorf Education, and readers of "New View" will be aware that he is currently working on a documentary of Rudolf Steiner's life and work. He will be in Ireland at the end of October to speak about his experiences. (see events)



www.jonathanstedall.co.uk

New View Many members of our society enjoy **New Magazine** published quarterly in the UK. It has many interesting articles from an anthroposophical point of view. However, the publication is under threat financially. You can take out a gift subscription for a friend. Details of past articles and how to subscribe at www.newview.org.uk

Most of these events are taken from the excellent Events Calendar on the Anthroposophical website www.anthroposophy.ie. You will find detailed information, a colour coded map for locating events and much more of interest. For contact numbers not listed here ring: 0505 42830.

Saturday, August 14 at 7.30 pm is the last of a series of fundraising recitals featuring **Rob Gildon baritone and Ellen Mandel piano**, at Camphill Dunshane Hall. Tickets are €20 (concessions Camphill residents €10) and includes a cheese and wine social gathering with the artists and an "Encore and Musical Fun" rest of the evening. For more information ring 045 483 628 (Dunshane Office) or 01 298 7618 (Greenacres Office).

Fri Aug 27 to Sun Aug 29: **A conference for those working with Goethe's theory of colour** to meet together and share research. Contact A.S. Society 0505 42830 for booking details

Sat Sept 11: **BDAAI Autumn conference.** For details: tel 051 347 245 bdaai@indigo.ie

Sept 25: **Running a Waldorf Kindergarten-Administrators' Workshop** on Steiner Kindergartens and their Administration, facilitated by Kevin Avison in Cork City. This workshop is highly recommended for all Kindergarten Committee members and teachers. 021 451 8371

Sun Oct 3: **Harvest Festival at the "Fairy Dancing ring"** with Apple pressing, 2-5pm Raheen, Piltown Co. Kilkenny

Fri Oct 8 - Sun Oct 10: **Craft Circle Meeting** - Camphill Mourne Grange. Meeting of the Craft Circle in Mourne Grange

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

Mon Oct 11 to Thurs Oct 14: **Course in Anthroposophical Leadership** at Dunshane. Next session of the Leadership course led by Margarete van den Brink.

Fri Oct 15 to Sun Oct 17: **Class Members' Conference** in Dunshane Camphill Community Co Kildare

Wed Oct 20: Newsletter deadline for "An Coire Dagda" the newsletter of the Anthroposophical Society in Ireland. It is published 4 times a year and sent to all members. Today is the deadline for submissions to the Editor for the November "Samhain" issue. email: editor@anthroposophy.ie

Thurs Oct 28 at 8pm: **Jonathan Stedall.** A talk by the documentary film maker and author of "Where on Earth is Heaven?" in Ballytobin Camphill, Co Kilkenny. Contact Martin Henry 087 7713224.

Sat Oct 30th at 7.30pm: **Jonathan Stedall talk in Dublin** at the Unitarian Church, St Stephen's Green. Contact Martin Henry 087 7713224.

Celestial Events

Tues Aug 10 New moon 3:08am
Thurs Aug 12 Meteor Shower Perseids
Mon Aug 16 First quarter 18:24
Tues Aug 24 Full moon 17.05
Wed Sept 1 Last quarter 17.22
Wed Sept 8 New moon 10.30
Wed Sept 15 First quarter 5.50
Thurs Sept 23 Full moon 9.17
Fri Oct 1 Last quarter 3.52
Thurs Oct 7 New moon 18.44
Thurs Oct 14 First quarter 21.27
Thurs Oct 21 Meteor showers Orionids
Sat Oct 2 Full moon 1.36
Sat Oct 30 Last quarter 12.46
Sat Nov 6 New Moon 4.52
Sat Nov 13 First Quarter 16.39
Sun Nov 21 Full moon 17.27

Ulrike Farnleitner has the distributorship for **Lichterde** (Earthlight), an extraordinary range of skin and massage oil compositions containing plant extracts and pure etheric oils for specific aids to wellbeing. Ask for the information sheet: mrs.ulrike@gmail.com



Our treasurer reports on finances but what he doesn't mention is that the Goetheanum, a mainly cultural endeavour, is in financial straits. If we, here in Ireland, are to move forward strongly we will do well to be represented in the economic- and rights- as well as the cultural realm. Listed below are two economic initiatives providing products and services arising out of anthroposophy and Waldorf:



An Siopa Beag

A family run business specialising in wooden toys, waldorf art and craft supplies, books, musical instruments and a selection of natural clothing for babies, children and adults. We are conscious of our responsibility towards nature and the environment. Begun in 2002 at home the business moved in 2005 to the picturesque town of Killaloe with an extended range now including wholefoods, health and body care products and an online order facility. Maria Castles Tel/Fax: 061 375770

Murphys Ice Cream



Murphys Ice Cream, founded by Waldorf School alums Sean and Kieran Murphy has just celebrated its 10th anniversary by opening two new shops on Wicklow Street and in Temple Bar Square, Dublin. They will give denizens and visitors to the capital an opportunity to taste some of the Murphy brothers' more interesting creations. Besides the Murphys signature ice creams, made with local eggs and Kerry cow cream, Murphys will also serve biodynamic coffee and pastries.



www.murphysicecream.com