

THE LIBRARY OF AVALON

The Reading Room

Autumn Equinox 2006

Spirituality in the 3rd Millennium.

Volume 1, Issue 6.

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On the weekend of the 9th/10th September the Library of Avalon hosted its first conference on the above theme.

Even after months of planning by a dedicated team of volunteers the LOA was a hive of last-minute activity on the Friday before, as we decided to have tickets for each individual speaker, the programmes were being printed and stapled and all the equipment was being put together.

Many thanks to the George and Pilgrims hotel for use of their function room. Various stalls were set up in one half of the room and the "stage" area was in the other. Andy Scott and Clint Denyer hosted the conference, introducing each speaker in turn.

Geoffrey Ashe started proceedings on Saturday with an overview and history of the LOA then proceeded "without further ado" onto his talk "Spirituality - A Need for Definition" which was very thought provoking.

Dearhaile Bradley followed with an enthusiastic presentation of The Goodwill Patterns, entitled "Healing Ourselves, Healing Our World" encouraging audience participation and interaction.

The third speaker of the day, Palden Jenkins, provoked some controversy with "The Tipping Point", an overview of his latest book "Healing the Hurts of Nations" that tested his powers of peacekeeping and mediation but apparently ended amicably.

The final speaker was William Bloom, who attracted the largest audience of the day, talking about "The Rebirth of the Magical Healing Arts" ranging from counselling and psychotherapy to religion and spirituality and how various disciplines must come together to create a new era of compassion.

In the Library, during breaks, Adrien van Clute presented a workshop on "Spirituality of the Beat Poets" and Dearhaile presented a workshop to go into more detail about "The Goodwill Patterns".

"Jamuna and the Bardic Groove" provided entertainment to close the first day's proceedings.

Sunday started slightly later than billed (as we forgot about Sunday hours and the doors didn't open till 12!)

Geoff Ward gave an illustrated talk based on his book "Spirals: The Patterns of Existence" that detailed man's attempts to copy what appears to be one of nature's basic building blocks and incorporate this into architecture and art.

Ros Pape was supposed to do a workshop on numerology and sacred geometry in the LOA but this turned into an extra presentation in the hall that fitted well with the previous subject.

Clint Denyer then presented an illustrated talk entitled "Stepping into the Void" which was motivational in approach, extending a spiritual philosophy.

John Clements provided an interesting look at "The Return of the Secret Mystery Schools", based on Madame Blavatsky and Alice Bailey's channelled material from the Ascended Masters and projecting into future possibilities.

Mano Warren completed the weekend's proceedings with a short film and an illustrated talk on "Glaston's Glory: The Spiritual Alchemy of Earth Energies in Avalon" that referred to many aspects of previous talks of the day specifically related to the landscape of the area.

This was one of those times when everything seemed to come together synchronistically theming the day.

Carol Denyer provided a workshop in the LOA on regression and past life experiences and the whole weekend was topped off with a lively set by "Ken Wood and the Mixers".

Many thanks to all volunteers who helped to make this whole event such a success and raise over £450 for the LOA.

Many thanks also to all stallholders and especially the speakers who contributed their time and knowledge freely.

Clint provided a video camera to record the first day's events and we will inform you as and when we will be able to provide copies.

If you log on to the LOA website www.libraryofavalon.co.uk we will have photos from the event on the gallery pages, some of which appear here on page 4.

Major refurbishment.

As you may already know, from direct experience or from our website, the Library of Avalon was inundated with floodwater when the drains in Glastonbury failed to cope with torrential rain on Saturday the 19th August this year.

As luck would have it, John, one of our volunteers was entering data from a recent donation onto the computer, and had gone over his shift when the water flooded over the step. He was able to rescue books on shelves that were on the floor and two of the trustees came to help clear up. Yvonne Fields, (luckily), had a wet/dry vacuum and this was able to clear standing water in the "annexe" that is down a slight slope.

Many thanks to John, Yvonne, Izzy and Andy for immediate clean-up operations.

We lost 60 feet of MDF shelving, and over the next few days the carpet had to be taken out. This involved taking away all the books from the lower shelves and dismantling a further hundred feet of shelving in order that the carpet fitter had a "clear run".

At this point we needed to store about a hundred boxes of books and all the furniture from the library. Dave, at "Little India" in the courtyard, was in the process of transferring the lease to Glen at "Starchild" and they very kindly agreed to loan the LOA this space, (a mere few steps from the library), to store everything. Many thanks to them and Alex, Andy, John, Adrien, Haroon, Heather and all who helped pack boxes and move them.

Bancroft Carpets came to measure up and fitted a brand new carpet throughout, that is a

warmer colour, and, (for a while), the library looked very spacious. Glen extended our storage time until after the conference (see front page) but then we had to bring everything back in!

It was decided to move the librarian's area to a more central location, in front of the fireplace, and we have done away with lower shelves, adding a top shelf. (We will be purchasing clear plastic "bins" to store our extensive magazine and periodical collection, so this space will not be wasted, leaving more room for books on shelves and cabinets). Other shelving units have been raised on blocks and we will need to purchase new units to replace those lost due to water damage.

Many thanks to Sandipo and John for DIY skills in this department. Chaz is looking into the possibilities of improving the lighting situation, especially in the annexe, as it is intended for this to be the new reading room area.

The arrangement of books is in the process of changing, with the RILKO and Wessex collections on the wall to the far left of the door (our "highest ground") and the esoteric knowledge section following on. The arrangement will then run as before, (when these books were in the annexe), being Mythology, then Spirituality and Religion.

The annexe will now start to the left of the slope with Reference and Sciences, continuing clockwise with Earth Mysteries, History, Psychology, Healing, "Self Help", Philosophy, Fiction etc. , with oversize books in the window area. Astrology, Arthurian and local area books will be on shelving within the main body of the library.

We hope you will bear with us during the transition time and come in to see (and use) the facilities we offer.

Lending Survey.

We thought our members would like to know which sections of the LOA have proved most popular over the last twelve months.

The top five are: QT-Esoteric Writers

NJ-Novels

QB-Occult and Esoteric

VB-Indian Mystics

QS-Rudolph Steiner

These are closely followed by: BV-UFOs; QC-Reincarnation; NQ-Spiritual Biography; QNB-Numerology and QD-Magic.

Other popular sections are: GC-Ancient Monuments; WO-Local Authors; SM-Goddess; RR-Mythology; SJ-Christian Mysticism and BP-Cosmology.

We hope to develop the LOA as a community resource and as a centre of excellence. Any ideas will be welcomed!
Sandipo.



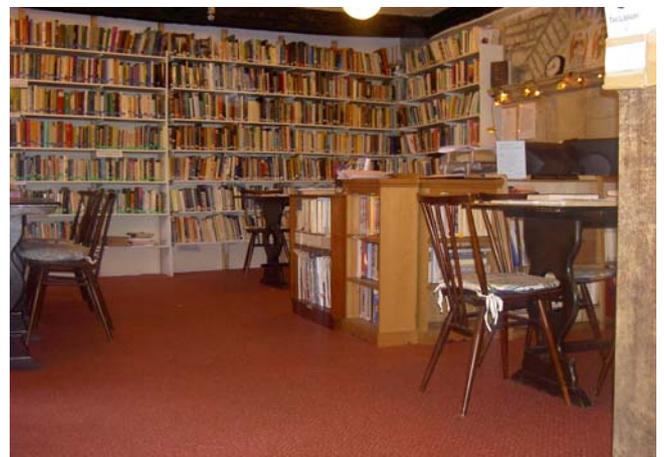
Upper left
Annexe before.

Upper right
Annexe new.

Centre
New desk.

Lower left
Ready for carpet.

Lower right
New layout.



Website news.

The Library of Avalon's website www.libraryofavalon.co.uk holds an on-line version of our full catalogue. Look out for announcements soon about a "Visioning Day" and Yuletide festivities.

Over the last few weeks Andy has added all back copies of "The Reading Room" to the site and we now have a gallery page. This will be updated very soon with photos of the refurbishment referred to on page 2, along with photos from our fundraising conference. (Some of which appear above and on p.4).

We have asked for members to give us their e-mail addresses when signing up and may soon be able to send information directly, thus helping the environment.

Many thanks to Martin Wheeler and Andy.



Top L.
 Venue, George and Pilgrims Hotel
 Top Mid. Geoffrey Ashe
 Top R. Dearbhaile Bradley
 2nd L. Palden Jenkins
 2nd Mid. William Bloom
 2nd R. Geoff Ward



Left Clint Denyer
 Right Ros Pape



Bottom L.
 John Clements



Bottom R.
 Mano Warren

Sunrise in Avalon.

Many thanks are extended to the organisers of the Sunrise Gathering which took place in Somerset over the summer solstice. The LOA was kindly given a promotional stall in the Avalon Rising area, close to the main stage. The unique zodiac layout of the site and positive, welcoming atmosphere made the festival a very welcoming place to be.

Penny Lester, Adrien van Clute and myself represented the LOA by offering information about the history, collections, current events and membership details. Although it was our first attempt at such a venture we had plenty of enquiries and were in a good position to speak to local people as well as those from

further afield

The Antiquarian Society were our neighbours for the duration, offering a variety of talks and interested parties stopped off to chat on their way in and out of the discussion groups. We had a chat with astrologer Jonathan Cainer, who has promised to donate a copy of his new book on the subject of "Cosmic Ordering".

The Library hopes to be involved in local festivals again next year and welcomes any interested volunteers to help with preparation, transport or staffing of the stall.

Thanks to Hazel Pegg, for loan of camping equipment, Andy Scott for laminated photos and to all who made this possible. Alexandra Westwood.

Donations Received.

A regular feature of the newsletter to acknowledge all the people who help to increase our resources. Since the last issue we have received donations of books, multi-media and magazines from the following people: June was quiet with small donations from Andy Scott; Alex Westwood; Isobel Cadbury; Emma Nicoll; Mano Warren and "Anon".

In July we received large donations from: Roy and Ann Procter (184); Rowan (134); Clint and Carol Denyer (73); June Jarvis (31); Barry Taylor (23), along with donations from Paul Fletcher and "Anon". This made July one of the best months ever for items donated!

August started slowly but picked up with Stanley Messenger leaving the LOA his collection (118) on a reference only basis; M Archer contributing 112;

Louise van Rensburg (12); Storm and Celestine Alteryus (10); Sharon Jacksties (5); Sheila Jeffries (5).

September has started briskly with a large donation from Joan Wade (78 unpacked and more to do).

Over the last few months we have had authors handing us their work.

Steven Ashe; Gothic Image; Alan Royce; Kelpie Wilson; Gordon Strong and Robin Payne and Marie Lewsey all donated recently published material.

Niek Scheps handed over a generous cheque to help towards refurbishment.

Many thanks to all!

How You Can Help.

If reading the rest of this Newsletter has whetted your appetite to get more involved with the activities at the Library of Avalon and you are wondering how you can, we'll tell you.

You can join as a borrowing member of the library. For an annual fee you will be able to borrow up to three books for three weeks at a time as well as using the reading room facilities.

You can offer your time as a volunteer. We are always looking for people who commit to a

few hours per week, on a regular basis please, as we would like to be able to keep to regular opening hours, ideally to cover a six day week.

You can donate your surplus good books, (tapes, videos, CDs also welcomed) if they fit into any of our subject areas. See our classification list to see if they are appropriate.

You can give us your money! We are a Charity so rely on donations and memberships to help fund our very existence, the facts of life mean the bills have to be paid!

The Library of Avalon

The **Reading Room** is a Newsletter which aims to keep the membership (and possible future members) up to date with what is happening at the Library of Avalon.

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Any member is welcome to submit book reviews or items of interest.

I would like to publish at the quarters of the year so the deadline for the next issue will be the ***beginning of November 2006***. Please leave these at the Library for the attention of **Andy** (address opposite left).

The Library is currently open from 11.00 am to 4.30 pm on Tuesdays, 1.30 to 4.30 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 12.00 to 5.00 pm Fridays, and from 12.00 to 4.00 pm most Saturdays.

We are currently training up new volunteers(*) and hope to extend these times even further in the very near future.

STOP PRESS.

Many thanks to Mike Jones and our landlords, Glastonbury Trust, for help with refurbishing the library.

This edition has been edited and typeset by Andy Scott with contributions from Sandipo, Clint Denyer and Alexandra Westwood.

Current volunteers include Andy, Clint, Sandipo, Chaz, Adrien, John, *Haroon, Penny, Mary, M, Alex, Aly, *Kerry, *Clare, *Jaqui, *Carol, *Deborah and Izzy.

Book Review.

We have about 12,600 books in the Library of Avalon and we thought it would be a good idea to run a column of reviews of just some of the titles available.

“The Biggest Secret” by David Icke.

This is one of David Icke’s most powerful and explosive books. Whether you like or loathe David Icke this book is quite remarkable reading and goes into detail about the astonishing background to the murder of Diana, Princess of Wales, in Paris in 1997. This book also exposes the astonishing background to the British royal family and includes information from a close confidant of Princess Diana that has never been made public. Every man, woman and child should be affected by the stunning information that Icke exposes.

He reveals, in documented detail, how the same interconnecting bloodlines have controlled the planet for thousands of years: how they created all the major religions and suppressed the spiritual and esoteric knowledge that will set humanity free from its mental and emotional prisons.

To this end, it includes a devastating expose of the true origins of Christianity and other religions and documents the suppressed science that explains why the world is facing a time of incredible change and transformation.

“The Biggest Secret” is a unique book and is quite rightly dubbed “The book that will change the world.” No one who reads it will ever be the same again.

I know he is not the norm for a lot of people and for many years people have tried to ridicule the man, but this book is one I would highly recommend for you to take what you want from it.

Review by Clint Denyer.