



TRIANGLE CENTRE
AOTEAROA • NEW ZEALAND

Triangle Centre Newsletter December 2007

Dear Friends,

Madeline Clark wrote of Christmas:

'Our present civilization must be profoundly influenced by this annual period of purification and peace.

We may never know how far the protective forces released at this time have helped to stabilize and preserve the forward movement of the human race.'

At this time of year we are reminded of the unborn Christ in the soul of each one of us and we can take refuge in the knowledge that we are the "sons of God" in whose hearts the spirit of love and consciousness dwells. The Christmas Season, filled as it is with goodwill, celebrates the birth of the Christ-child and the expression of the indwelling spirit which sustains all life forms.

Our special guest, Christine Townend, whose life work is advocacy for the animal kingdom, writes of our role and responsibility to the animal kingdom based upon Ageless Wisdom teachings. As well, Christine's inner journey, recorded in her book *The Hidden Master*, is reviewed in this newsletter and available from the Triangle Centre.

And, in keeping with the lovely annual ritual with Steve Nation, we open his *Letter from New York*. Thanks Steve.

To each of you, on behalf of the Triangle Centre, we celebrate you and acknowledge you thus ...

You are Soul
You are Light Divine
You are Love
You are Will
You are fixed design



Ocean Dragon
Christine Townend

May you be blessed

Your Triangle Centre
friends and Co-workers

Letter from New York

Dear friends of the Triangle Centre,

Greetings! From my perspective here, in the beautiful rural environment of the Hudson Valley, Up State New York, USA the world seems a quite different place now from what it was twelve months ago when I last wrote. What is it that has changed?

Nationally, the political atmosphere feels different. People are all talking about the future in terms of change – who will be presidential candidates for 2008. This helps to lift so much of the despair and depression of recent years, and encourages thinking about fresh possibilities. It seems to be a much healthier atmosphere. The other huge change is that climate change is now a very strong factor in the national life.

From an esoteric perspective, awareness of the dangers of climate change and discussion about appropriate and politically feasible responses, seems to me to be providing the US and all countries with an incredible opportunity to take major steps into the Aquarian evolutionary stream.

As a result of years and years of science, environmental activism and pioneering business leaders the heart of this country seems finally to be stirring. It is as if so much has come together – Al Gore's stirring use of his media skills and his emergence as a 'Star'; the unstoppable logic and evidence presented by scientists from all corners of the globe working collectively through the UN's Inter Governmental Panel on Climate Change; the energy and youthful spirit of the Live Eight concerts. At the level of States and large cities (it is easy to forget that most States have a population considerably larger than New Zealand) strong actions are being taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Esoterically this seems to be such an incredible issue – for human beings in every land are now challenged to consider their response to climate change. First and foremost the challenge is personal: as individuals the situation calls on us to make changes to our lifestyle. Will is being awakened and mobilised as never before. Secondly, as societies we are being challenged to redesign the way we operate economically so as to lower the human carbon footprint. And we are challenged to do this through consensus and multilateral negotiation. The nature of the crisis may

Our New Logo

The Triangle Centre has developed a new logo (top of page), which introduces our newsletter for the first time this Sagittarius Full Moon.

It will sound the keynote for our updated website, due early 2008. The logo seeks to express the sacred relationship of subjective (inner) and objective (outer) realities and the ultimate simplicity, beauty and clarity of the teachings which have evolved to reveal these. The encircling ring of the outer field magnetically holds the space in which the logo is set; their interrelationship is palpable, potent, and energetically alive. The single colour blue acknowledges the pervasive influence of the Ray of Love, principal ray of this solar system, reminding us that the vibration of love is both the instrument and goal of our solar system. Together, qualities of stability, eternal timelessness, light, truth, and wisdom are celebrated. (Apologies to those of you reading this in hard copy via snail mail, of necessity printed in black and white – to view the newsletter in colour visit our website www.trianglecentre.org.nz or request the newsletter by email information@trianglecentre.org.nz.)

just be sufficient to push us into a global process of managed, purposeful change – never in human history has there been such a possibility for the spirit of the One Humanity to emerge as a conditioning force in global affairs. It is new and to be celebrated. It may just be that climate will be the issue that leads to an initiation for humanity as a whole – and if this is so then each of us is involved at many different levels. One of my favourite projects of esoteric work on the climate change issue is the World Goodwill Cycle of Conferences Earth Stewardship Initiative – the visualisation, group letters and weblog can be accessed at: <http://www.lucistrust.org/cycle/> .

In recent years I have been focussed on the role played by the United Nations Millennium Development Goals in the agenda of international conversation and negotiation. Very significant political forces around the world (in North and South) have raised the profile of the Millennium Goals in their approach to 'Foreign Affairs' – just look at the priority given to the Goals in the foreign policies of the new Gordon Brown government in UK and the Angela Merkel government in Germany. Now it seems to me that climate change, in combination with the Millennium Goals, is creating a wholly new atmosphere in humanity.

I was reminded strongly of this by the annual Civil Society conference at the UN in September where Climate Change was the theme. The energy, and clear, Sagittarian-type, focus reflected a profound evocation of the will. You could feel it in the conference halls – particularly in the General Assembly, and particularly (for me) during the address at the opening session by UN Environment Programme Director, Achim Steiner. It was also palpable in so many of the small workshop sessions – particularly in the surprisingly large proportion of workshops on themes of spirituality, ethics and faith. This quite unplanned and organic emergence of attitudes of mind and heart was beautifully, ceremoniously encapsulated at the end of the closing session when a prominent US TV News anchorman and poet, Rolland G. Smith presented a *Moment of Reflection* with three poems especially written for the conference and accompanied by stunning photographic images. Rolland Smith began by 'giving thanks and thought to the science of mankind for the astute observations and predictions presented at this conference' and to 'the opening of our hearts to the radiance of the omnificent feminine aspect of nature. We the present and future of the planet must inspire others to collectively acknowledge, with gratitude, the abundant but fragile gifts found not only in nature but also in the family of humankind, and we realise then that we are the nature we abuse ...' (see videos at: <http://www.un.org/dpi/ngosection/conference/Webcast1.htm>).

As a little 'point' of the Triangle Centre family there are a few projects I have been involved with during the year that are worth sharing. At the Lifebridge Sanctuary (www.lifebridge.org) a number of small highly successful gatherings were held for meditation, reflection and deep conversation. For six days over Christmas a circle of mainly Alice Bailey students gathered to celebrate Christmas and the Winter Solstice. In April Lifebridge and Hechal, the Jerusalem Centre for Universal Spirituality, hosted a small group of Alice Bailey students from Israel, Australia and US for four days of group reflection and meditation on the theme: How can esotericists contribute towards the transition of Humanity into new levels of integration in the field of the religions – with a focus on Jerusalem? In May Lifebridge and Intuition in Service partnered with the Rudolf Steiner Foundation from San Francisco to host a weekend gathering for invited philanthropists on 'Intuition and Philanthropic Practice' – you can read papers and reports on the gathering at: <http://www.reimaginemoney.org/initiatives/initiative.php?initiative=6> .

Through the past year a group of local people has been meeting at the Sanctuary for conversation about the Millennium Development Goals – reflecting on a different goal for each conversation. Marking the mid-point for the Goals, 7.7.07, the group held a press conference and donated a collection of 28 books to the local public library. It brought good publicity to the Goals and began a permanent collection in the library for books about the United Nations, development and the Goals. As an added bonus the local Town Board decided to pass a resolution in support of the Goals.

During the year I have also had the pleasure of attending several important conferences – including a gathering of Maitreya Sangha, a service arm of the Alice Bailey inspired AUM Masonic movement (with stunning musical performances throughout the event); an inspiring gathering of the Spiritual Business Network in Denmark; and a marvellous World Goodwill Seminar in New York on Evoking the Soul of the Nations.

Warmest Christmas Greetings and much love

Steve Nation



Christine Townend in Jaipur

Christine Townend became the Managing Trustee of Help in Suffering (HIS) Animal Shelter, based in Jaipur, Rajasthan in 1992. An Animal Birth Control (ABC) programme was launched among the streetdogs and due to its success, the human incidence of rabies has been eradicated in Jaipur, the first city in India to attain this status. HIS provides training for vets wishing to set up ABC programmes in other parts of India, an Equines programme, assisting working elephants and a new Camel Rescue Centre.

Darjeeling Goodwill Animal Shelter, was founded by Christine and husband Jeremy in 1993, and a library stocking the Alice A Bailey books and other spiritual books is open to the public. HIS also runs an animal shelter in Kalimpong, near Darjeeling and an animal shelter at Le Bong about half an hours' drive north from Darjeeling towards Sikkim.

In 2004 the Community of Living Ethics (CLE) joined the trust and Crookety, the last home of Helena Roerich was purchased with funds provided by their community. CLE run international education programmes from this base.

Christine writes for the Triangle newsletter:

Is vegetarianism necessary?

A serious study of the Alice A Bailey books indicates that the Tibetan Master believes that vegetarianism is a requirement of any serious esoteric student. The rider is that vegetarianism should not be made an issue, because those who are fanatical about it do damage to themselves by their dogmatic behaviour and sense of superiority. Becoming a vegetarian is a personal, private choice, as are other moral and ethical issues in one's life. Therefore it is not a subject for proselytising. Nonetheless it is a crucial personal moral issue, which must be addressed seriously and openly by students of the Ancient Wisdom.

The Tibetan Master frequently provides guidance as to the ethics of living, and there are three major reasons (among many other lesser reasons) to be found in the twenty four books of Esoteric Philosophy written under the name of Alice A Bailey, as to why the Tibetan Master teaches that there is a need for vegetarianism.



1. Our Human Duties & Responsibilities to Animals

The Tibetan emphasises time and time again, throughout all the Alice A Bailey books, that humanity plays a crucial role in its relationship to the animal kingdom. Below are selected statements:

'Just as God is the Macrocosm for all the kingdoms in nature, so man is the Macrocosm for all the sub-human kingdoms' (*Cosmic Fire*, page 7)

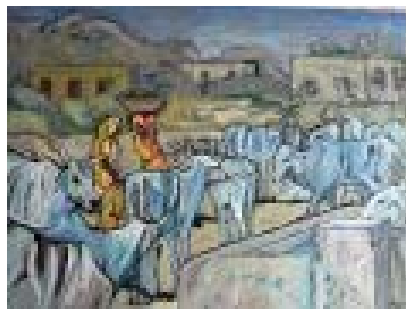
'The fourth Creative Hierarchy, the human kingdom, is the agent through which eventually the energies of Shamballa and of the Hierarchy will be focussed for the redeeming of the life of all the sub-human kingdoms' (*Esoteric Astrology*, page 617)

'The two problems which are of immediate concern to mankind in relation to the animal kingdom are:

The problem of human relations and responsibility

The problem of animal individualisation' (*Esoteric Psychology I*, page 254)

The question therefore arises as to how we can possibly eat our near-relatives, the animals, when we have so many duties and obligations to educate them, to share our lives with them, and to be humble enough to listen to what they have to teach us, instead of believing we as humans are the centre of the world. In eating them we are failing in our moral obligations to this universe and the One Life.



2. Why it is Not Right to Eat Animals

In *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire*, the Tibetan Master gives two key statements regarding vegetarianism:

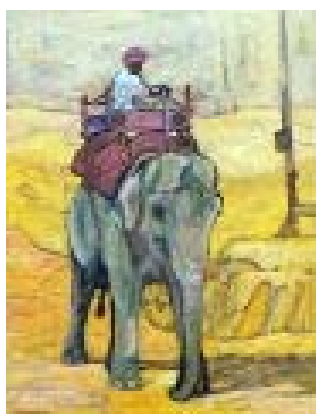
The transmutation of the vegetable life takes place necessarily on the physical plane. Hence the availability as food. The transmutation of the life of the animal into the human kingdom takes place on kama-manasic levels. Hence the non-availability, esoterically understood, of the animal as food for man. This is an argument for vegetarian living which needs due consideration. (page 646)

The meaning of this statement becomes clear when one considers the Master's Teaching regarding the physical plane which he says is 'not a principle', in other words it is a changeable, transitory level of existence, and not of great relevance in comparison to the more powerful forces which operate on invisible levels, which are rapidly becoming more visible as science analyses anti-matter, microwaves, cosmic rays, and so on. The greater reality, permanence and vivacity of these finer layers of interpenetrating force-fields and light waves of various velocities and frequencies mean that, to initiate disturbance, violence and death both psychically and mentally is greatly damaging, not only to the relationship between humans and animals, but to the soul of the world.

The stress and suffering caused to animals in factory farming, the slaughterhouse, hunting, animal experimentation, etc is now widely documented and well understood. Disturbance to the animals' emotional and mental states due to trauma and suffering has a far greater impact of a damaging nature on the Planetary Logos as it occurs on the invisible planes of Energy which our five physical senses are incapable of perceiving, but which are potent and significant in their effects on the physical plane, the impermanent, transient maya of this phenomenal world.

Also from *A Treatise on Cosmic Fire* is the following:

'With [the devas of the vegetable kingdom] is hidden three secrets ... the third is connected with the history of the second round; this secret, when revealed will make clear why man (under the law) should be a vegetarian and not carnivorous' (page 932).



3. The Issue of Individualisation of Animals

Because the Tibetan Master has taught that 'the door between the human and animal kingdom is closed' (*Cosmic Fire*, page 459), many Alice A. Bailey students have understood this to mean that the animals are 'locked away' in group souls, and do not have the potentiality to develop individualised souls or psyches as do humans, and thus the animals are considered to have a lesser awareness and lesser ability to participate in individual evolution. Whilst it is true that animals cannot vote, we now know through extensive scientific studies that at least some animals are self-conscious (eg apes and elephants can recognise their image in mirrors), that animals have culture, memory and can be emotionally disturbed if they don't have a normal childhood. We know the story of Alex the parrot who learnt to speak and had the intelligence of an eight year old human child.

Whilst it is correct that the door between the two kingdoms is largely (but not fully) closed, this does not mean that animals cannot individualise. Indeed, a careful reading of the Tibetan Master's Teachings will make it quite clear that many animals have broken free of the 'group species soul' (which is a symbolic means of describing the group consciousness of species which science has now established does exist). As the 'vibration' of the energy field of the psyche of a particular creature increases due to its development

mentally and emotionally, it breaks free, or repels itself from the group psyche, and the animal becomes individualised. The herd instinct no longer dominates its behaviour.

DK tells us that 'the door of individualisation or of entrance into the human kingdom (for the animal kingdom) has been closed since Atlantean times but under the new influence (of the seventh ray of activity) it will be partially opened; it will be set ajar, so that a few animals will respond to soul stimulation and discover that their rightful place is on the human side of the dividing door. (*Esoteric Psychology I*, page 371)

The Tibetan Master also explains that 'the animals which individualise are, in every case today, the domestic animals, such as the horse, the dog, the elephant and the cat.' (*Esoteric Psychology I*, page 258)

There is little doubt then that some animals are individualised, some have passed through or are passing through the 'partially opened' door, and others are not yet admitted into the human kingdom, or are in process of being admitted. This information gives extra dimension to the need for vegetarianism. To eat many animals would be similar to eating our human kith and kin.

The creatures of this world are suffering in their billions due to commercial greed and human thoughtlessness. On a personal level, by a cessation of our unnecessary habit of eating the dead decaying flesh of the bodies of our close relations, we will free ourselves from physical bondage and blindness, so as to be able to move forwards into a greater harmony with, and sensitivity towards all living beings, thus gaining new abilities and hastening cosmic unfoldment.

Christine Townend
October, 2007

Christine Townend's Paintings



Hat Hill Gallery at Blackheath in the Blue Mountains, Australia have a selection of Christine's paintings available for purchase. Some of these are shown in this newsletter.



A donation of 10% of the price of each of Christine's works sold through the Gallery will be made to Help in Suffering.

The Gallery's website is www.hathillgallery.com.au

Worth a read ...

The Animal Kingdom – A Spiritual Perspective

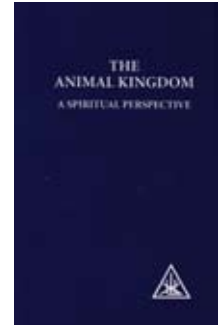
Lucis Publishing Company ISBN 0-85330-145-X

This wonderful compilation of extracts from the Bailey books relating to the Animal Kingdom and the higher purpose of our relationship with domesticated animals, leads the reader to the discovery of our role in the evolution of all the kingdoms in nature. Alice Bailey describes it thus

'The service humanity is to render is that of producing unity, harmony and beauty in nature, through blending into one functioning, related unity the soul in all forms. This is achieved individually at first, then it takes place in group formation and finally it demonstrates through an entire kingdom in nature.'

In 85 pages the reader is presented with perspectives such as relations and responsibilities, individualization of animals, domestication and evolution of animal species and the role of devas in the evolutionary process.

This little book will deepen understanding of our partnership with animals be it with our pets or in wider issues involving advocacy. A timely contribution.



The Hidden Master

Christine Townend

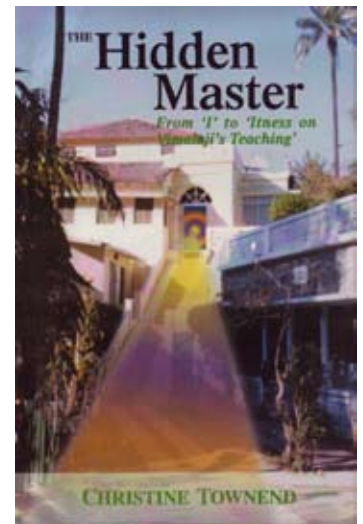
Motilal Banarsidass Publishers ISBN 81-208-1889

It was in 1975 that Christine Townend had a series of 'because I just happened to ...' events which culminated in a meeting with Vimala Thakar in the Mt Abu area of Rajasthan. In 2002 Christine published *The Hidden Master* which she describes as a story of an enquiry into the nature of total transformation of the human psyche, sometimes called enlightenment, as revealed by a realised teacher, Vimala Thakar. It is also the story about the interaction of two forces – the force of understanding (the Teacher) and the force of enquiry (the seeker after truth).

Christine recorded and analysed the inner and outer events of the investigation which she undertook and has presented her story in a way which engages the reader in the deep and transforming process which took place between herself and Vimala Thakar. From 'I to Itness'.

A highly recommended read, not once but many times.

Both books reviewed are available for loan or purchase from the Triangle Centre.



Triangle Centre Books

Current price list of books & Roerich prints is available

The Animal Kingdom \$29
The Hidden Master \$24
plus postage \$4 for 1 or 2 books

*Peace banners also available for \$70.00
plus \$6.50 package and postage*

*phone 04 902 1667
library@trianglecentre.org.nz*



Himalayas – Nicholas Roerich

***Goodwill is is the magnetic
seed of the future***



Celebrating Peace

"... those who have broadened their consciousness must untiringly speak about the opening of the gates of peace ..."
Agni Yoga page 380

On September 21st the Uniting Church in Raumati hosted a Peace Vigil to celebrate International Day of Peace. The Triangle Centre joined in fellowship and communion with representatives of several traditions as readings, song, poetry and silence were shared.

Thank you Norman and the Uniting Church for holding a 'culture of peace space'.

Next year Paekakariki will celebrate International Peace Day with a Peace Pole Ceremony. Peace Poles abound around the world and the local Community Board is enthusiastic about a pole being planted in the heart of the community.

The tree has been cut and a local carver will inscribe 'may peace prevail on earth' in Maori and English. It will be similar to the pole shown here.

Interested in promoting the idea of a peace pole in your town? Contact the Triangle Centre for more information.

Yoko Ono designed and erected this exquisite 'Imagine Peace' tower in Iceland (below). It shines as a beacon for World Peace and bears the inscription 'Imagine Peace' in 24 languages.



Study Group for Creative Meditation

Creative meditation, practised individually or as part of a group, is key to the creation of a new society based on the qualities of the transpersonal working out in everyday 'right human relationships' – between individuals, groups and nations.

The course was created over 50 years ago by Roberto Assagioli MD, the founder of Psychosynthesis, Michael Eastcott and Nancy Magor. The course is used in England, Italy, Portugal, America, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia.

The Correspondence programme for training in Creative Meditation is starting a new cycle on 21st December. Study papers come out every two months from the Centre in England and focus sequentially on the following themes. These are:

Right Human Relationships	Dec 21st – Feb 20th
The Principle of Goodwill	Feb 21st – Apr 20th
Group Endeavour	Apr 21st – Jun 20th
The Principle of Unanimity	Jun 21st – Aug 20th
Spiritual Approach	Aug 21st – Oct 20th
The Principle of Essential Divinity	Oct 21st – Dec 20th

Each study paper focusses on building a foundational aspect of the process of creative meditation. You gently become skilled with the 'everyday living rhythm' of meditation practice. A personal mentor is assigned as a guide for the student to contact by email and the new Peer Group in Wellington will assist the studies.

The Triangle Centre Library in Paekakariki Phone: 04 902 1667 supports the work by stocking many of the course texts in the bookstore/library.

Website: www.creativemeditation.org

For more information contact:

Anne Verity (03) 546 7552

or Barbara Gibb (04) 389 7706.

The Creative Meditation Study Group meets monthly in Wellington. You are very welcome to join us. Phone: Barbara Gibb (04) 389 7706

FORGIVENESS WEEK 2008

20 January – 26 January 2008

To Forgive Is To Flow With Life

Dear Friend,

It's time again to prepare for the annual FORGIVENESS WEEK now in its 18th year – thanks to all the many of you who have embraced the concept and supported it with enthusiastic participation. This message is also to welcome those of you who will embark on this 'adventure' for the first time.

Forgiveness is a call to all who are prepared to expend the needed effort, who have the determination, and above all the GOODWILL, to PRACTISE forgiveness – practise it daily, generously, respectfully and with understanding in one's own immediate surroundings thereby subtly stimulating others to like action.

To forgive is to let go of grievance; to forgive is to accept and flow with life. Forgiveness is a result of living processes which bring adjustment, cause restitution, and produce that loving attitude wherein a man is no longer ignorant and therefore not in need of forgiveness. Life and experience do this for us and nothing can arrest the process; but we can speed it up by conscious cooperation. The love and understanding in the human heart is a mighty power in evolutionary progress and a gift for all of us if it is expressed. It relieves fear, anxiety and lifts the lower mind to universal understanding.

Your efforts to forgive not only have personal benefits; the effects reverberate around the world. The world is in crisis. The diseases of the world are inflicted by human materialistic and selfish tendencies. Despite the benefits to ourselves of forgiving, the need today is to transit beyond the realm of purely selfish and personal liberation into something much wider and more important – LIBERATION of human thoughts. Liberation is freedom from the past, freedom to move forward along certain predetermined lines, freedom to express the divinity that is in all of us. One Humanity means to forgive. We need to free ourselves from the chains of past resentments learned from our parents and to realise that every human being is equally important to the survival of the World. We all have a role to play in building the new world of peace and plenty we all desire.

By using meditation as a tool for Peace, we can create an energy of reconciliation, healing, and unity.

As to how to do this, the Dalai Lama said:

'For to approach Forgiveness one has to make the distinction between persons and their actions. Be unbiased in compassion. To forgive means to live in Light and the result will be mental peace and spiritual growth.'

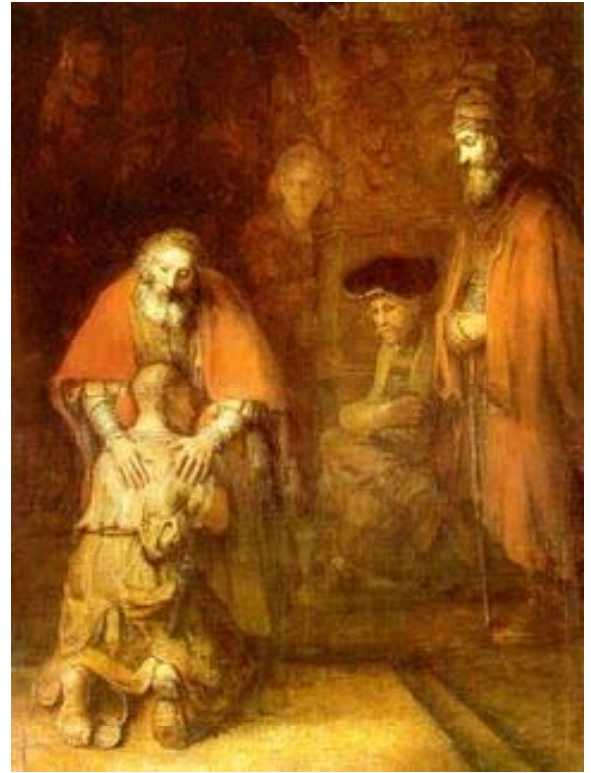
We can forgive the person but not the action.

Gajalomawa Foundation

Email gajalomawa@bigpond.com so that we may distribute future material to you electronically

This is certain, that a man that studieth revenge keeps his wounds green, which otherwise would heal and do well.

Francis Bacon



Return of the Prodigal Son – Rembrandt

He who seeks revenge
must dig two graves.
Chinese Proverb

Remember –
Revenge leads
to remorse:
Forgiveness
leads to
Freedom

The weak can never
forgive. Forgiveness is
the attribute of the
strong.

Mahatma Gandhi

Forgiveness Week

The Gajalomawa Foundation has prepared the following suggestions for those of you who intend to actively participate in Forgiveness Week. They are available from the Triangle Centre as Word/pdf files.

Preparation for the Week of Forgiveness

January 13 – January 19 2008

Suggestions & Techniques for the Week of Forgiveness

January 20 – January 26 2008

Suggested Forgiveness Meditation Outline

to be used each day

Many books on Forgiveness are available at the ...

Triangle Centre Library, PO Box 25
Paekakariki, Wellington

www.trianglecentre.org.nz

phone 04 389 7706

email library@trianglecentre.org.nz

CALENDAR 2008

Please join us or link in as best fits your circumstances

Full
Moon

Monthly Solar Fire Meditations

At the full moon in Wellington and Paekakariki. See website for other places or begin your own group.

Fri
Mar 21

Three Major Solar Fire Festivals

Easter Festival – Friday March 21

Sun
April 20

Mon
May 19

Wesak Festival – Sunday April 20
– Monday May 19

Wed
June 18

Festival of Goodwill – Wednesday June 18

New
Moon

New Moon Meditations

Jan 20
to Jan 26

Forgiveness Week

Spans the week of the Full Moon in Aquarius (this year from January 20 to January 26).

Thur
June 19

World Invocation Day

A 24-hour vigil using the Great Invocation takes place on the Full Moon in the Festival of Goodwill. This year the vigil will take place on Thursday June 19. Register on the website or contact the Centre as above if you wish to participate.

Sun
Sept 21

International Peace Day

Observed on Sunday September 21. More information will be posted on the website as it becomes available.



Triangle Centre

PO Box 25

Paekakariki

TRIANGLE CENTRE
AOTEAROA • NEW ZEALAND