

EVENTS BY REGION February – April 2014,

Collated by *LIVINGSPIRITUALITY*

(For more information about *LivingSpirituality*, please visit our website – www.livingspirit.org.uk/contact-us.)

Scotland

Taking Meaningful Risks 30 January. Learning event for leaders, managers and policy makers. Scottish Youth Theatre, **Glasgow.** www.animateconsulting.org.uk/events

Message from LS member Nick Thorpe: "I'm involved in organising it, and it aims to bring people from different sectors to reframe the idea of risk. The main organisers are Animate, a consultancy composed of people (most of whom are Quakers) who formerly ran the Craighead Institute (a centre specialising in religious/voluntary organisations coping with change), so while it's not overtly "spiritual", the ethic of looking deeper for connection in organisations is very much on that track."

Iona Community www.iona.org.uk (Island Centres):

1. Reflection for Action. Three events for different groups following the same pattern of contemplative experience, community building, and exploration of issues that challenge and concern people today.

NHS Employees 10-15 March

Clergy 17-22 March

Open 24-29 March

2. Celebrate Holy Week and Easter with the Iona Community. 12-21 April.

North East

Christianity and contemporary culture. 15 February Whirlow Grange, near Sheffield www.whirlowgrange.co.uk with Rev Canon Prof Martyn Percy. Challenges and opportunities.

Holy Rood House, Thirsk, N Yorks www.holyroodhouse.org.uk:

1. Men's Spirituality Weekend, 'Journeying into awareness and knowing'
7-9 March, with Revd. Stanley Baxter, Professor Stephen Wright & John Henning SSF

2. Lenten Longings. 13 March. Quiet day with Revd. Elizabeth Baxter.

Sherpherds Dene, Riding Mill, Northumberland www.shepherdsdene.co.uk:

1. Traherne and the love of God 21-23 March The poetry of Thomas Traherne. Richard Wilmott & Bridget Hewitt.

2. Your wild and precious life. 24 April. Life planning using the arts and the natural environment. Joy Packard & Jacqueline Quinn.

Songs for the journey home. 22-23 March St Antony's Priory Durham
www.stantonypriory.co.uk Songs of encouragement, comfort, celebration, longing and lamentation. Nicki Fidgin & Gill Bough.

Great Lives 24-28 March Community of Aidan and Hilda, Holy Island
www.aidanandhilda.org. The lives, times and spirituality of Aidan and Hilda and how our lives can be a great work in progress. Revd. Ray Simpson.

North West

The Windermere Centre, Cumbria. www.windermere.unc.org.uk:

1. Faith, Hope and Chronic Illness 7-9 February Fran Kissack.

2. Faith on the Margins 17-21 February, John Bell.

3. When church and kingdom collide 28 April-1 May, Kevin Snyman, Peter Noble & Lawrence Moore

Art and the Spiritual View: 28-29 March Manchester. Organised by the Centre for Spirituality Studies, University of Hull. www2.hull.ac.uk/fass/css/news-and-events.aspx

In this conference we will bring spirituality together with art in order to examine the complex but resonant relationship between the two. One of the overarching aims of the conference is to probe what is meant by spiritual or contemplative viewing in order to investigate the dynamics that exist between the beholder (viewer) and the object (artwork).

Midlands

Quaker Community at Bamford Derbyshire www.quakercommunity.org.uk:

1. **14-16 February Listening better listening and responding from love.**
2. **21-23 March Living Witness.** Quakers have committed to becoming a **low carbon sustainable community.** What is working and why?
3. **18-21 April Celebrate Spring's arrival,** with themes of waiting, rebirth and hope.

Wales

The Community of Resistance. 20-22 March, Gladstone Library, Hawarden, Flintshire www.gladstoneslibrary.org/courses with Robin Meyers

When was the last time you thought going to church was dangerous? Once we challenged the status quo; now we mostly defend it. Robin Meyers tells the story of how we forgot where we came from and why we must recover our subversive roots. Robin Meyers, an ordained minister in the Philosophy Department at Oklahoma City University, encourages us to resist the idea that faith can be personally redemptive without being socially responsible.

Noddfa Spirituality Centre, Penmaenmawr, Conwy www.noddfa.org.uk

1. **Walking the Way 15-17 April.** Sr Barbara Bailey. Helping us to connect with our inner and outer journeys. Includes walking the labyrinth, cosmic time walk, Pilgrim Way.
2. **Women, Word, Spirit. 21-24 April.** Easter theme: cosmic spirituality and the arts.

A Celtic Lent 3-4 March. Llangasty Retreat House, Nr, Brecon, Powys

www.llangasty.com Preparation for Lent and Easter exploring some of our holiest Celtic Christian sites in words, pictures and worship. Revd Peter Brooks

South West

Othona West Dorset www.othona-bb.org.uk

1. **Quiet week 7-13 February.** Not silence but a depth of tranquillity, daily reflections, log fires. Norah Henschel.
2. **Dancing Easter. 17-22 April.** Varied dance and movement to help us celebrate the spirit of Easter.

Sarum College Salisbury www.sarum.ac.uk:

1. **A road revealed, a journey made. 23 Jan, 20 Feb, 20 March, 24 April, 22 May, 19 June.** Experimental workshops responding to the ongoing needs of spiritual directors.
2. **Dancing with the heart.** Day of spiritual reflection exploring the symbol of our hearts and the heart of God. **14 February.**
3. **Spirituality and retirement. Ageing grace-fully. 19 Feb, 12 March, 30 April, 14 May.**
4. **Re-imagining Church in a changing culture. 24-27 February.** M.A. module, open to all.

The Ammerdown Centre, near Bath, www.ammerdown.org

1. **Through the shadows to the light. 21-23 February.** Margaret Silf. Reflecting on the events of Holy Week.
2. **Sacred Spaces Retreat. 24-28 February.** Margaret Silf. A journey with a Celtic flavour towards who we truly are in God.
3. **Celebrating the Paschal Mystery 16-21 April.** Fr John Bennett.
4. **17-21 April** with Mary Jo Radcliffe: exploring **the meaning of the Gospel story and how we understand it today in the context of the Universe story.** We endeavour to celebrate each day in ritual, music and words, in a creative group experience. Further info for this event from LS subscriber maryjoradcliffe@yahoo.co.uk, telephone: 0207 223 2917.

South East

London Spirituality Centre www.spiritualitycentre.org

Booking page: www.eventbrite.co.uk/org/3655596295

- 1. Connect with God. 13 Jan – 24 March.** Find yourself, find your direction, find your place.
- 2. Introduction to Christian Insight Meditation 12 March – 1 April.** Drawing on Christian and vipassana traditions.

Two workshops and a film at Jenny Sandler's West Hampstead flat. Details from jenny.sandlerQ008@firenet.co.uk:

- 1. Forgiveness – the urgent need 25 January** with Davina Misroch. This spiritual programme aims to assist in carrying forward a work of spiritual regeneration of humanity, under the spirit of God.
- 2. Eating of the Forbidden Fruit 22 February** with Davina Misroch.
- 3. Watch the film The Gospel of John**, a deeply moving feature film, not on general release. This feature film is a word for word version based on the Good News Bible, narrated by Christopher Plummer and other actors, and directed by Philip Saville. It will be shown on a large screen. 10.30am for an 11am start, ending at 3.15pm, with a break for lunch. **Booking essential:** jenny.sandlerQ008@firenet.co.uk Light lunch refreshments provided. Suggested contribution to cover expenses and donation to LS Funds £5/£10 - or give from your heart what you can afford.

How does God speak to me? 1 February. Quiet day at **The Well at Willen Bucks.** www.thewellatwillen.org.uk

Sacred Activism 17 February with Andrew Harvey and Scilla Elworthy at Alternatives at St James's Piccadilly. 7 pm. www.alternatives.org.uk

The economic, political, spiritual world crisis that we currently find ourselves in is a call to action. It is an opportunity for us to understand the realities around us and to rally together to do something different. We now have before us the possibility of using this current crisis to empower ourselves, and others, to actually get the planet to work.

Celtic Spirituality 22 February Mount St. Jesuit Centre, London with Madeleine O'Callaghan www.msjc.org.uk/events/celtic-spirituality

Four seasons programme. The other side of silence. 1 March. The Penhurst Retreat Centre, E. Sussex www.penhurst.org.uk The critical role of silence in our lives. Allan Bell.

Inner Silence and Awakening. Meister Eckhart. 21-23 March

A contemplative interfaith (Christian Buddhist) weekend. **Turvey Abbey Beds.**
www.turveyabbey.org.uk

Ways into Praying. 29 March. With Jenny Sandler at **The Quiet View** near

Canterbury www.quietview.co.uk A Quiet Day discovering creative and gentle approaches to our life in God, using guided imagery, music, poetry, gentle movement and silent meditation. Jenny will explore the healing potential of different 'Ways In' to prayer and how it may enrich our faith.

Northern Ireland

7-9 February. Reinhabiting the earth. Drumalis Centre, Co Antrim

www.drumalis.co.uk **Conference on the relationship between religion and the natural world.** Mary Colwell.

Eire

Thin Places, Sacred Spaces. 1 March 10-4, Dublin. New Monasticisms Ireland.

www.newmonasticismsireland.org with Rev. Grace Clunie and Dr. Johnston McMaster. Seminar on the power of pilgrimage to ancient sacred places.

www.celtic-spirituality.net

Future international conference:

The Value of Values: Spiritual Wisdom in Everyday Life, 31 August to 4

September near Oxford. Globalisation for the Common Good www.gcgi.info/news/476-gcgi-2014-oxford-conference-call-for-presentation-and-participation.

From many different countries, regions, civilisations, cultures and faiths, people will come together out of a deep concern about the persistent multiple crises that we see in our communities and around the world. What is the relationship between the inner life of spirit and the outer life of service in the interest of the Common Good?