



[www.livingspirit.org.uk](http://www.livingspirit.org.uk)

### ADDITIONAL EVENTS JUNE - JULY 2014

#### **16-18 June, Reclaiming the Sacred Feminine – Woodbrooke Quaker Study Centre, Birmingham**

[www.woodbrooke.org.uk](http://www.woodbrooke.org.uk) This retreat for women offers each participant an opportunity to nourish her soul with feminine images of the divine, drawn from many sources; enabling her to have a body-felt experience of the sacredness of her own femininity and her relationship with the source of life. The process will immerse participants in images of the divine feminine in sacred literature, nature, poetry and art and in their own dreams and stories. Integration of the material will be mostly experiential emphasising movement and body work. Tutor(s): **Madeleine O’Callaghan and Pauline Sayhi**

#### **18 June 6.30pm, Cosmos and Creation - Professor Bernard Carr, Meditatio Centre, London** [www.wccmmeditatio.org](http://www.wccmmeditatio.org) Science and spirituality series

Cosmology addresses fundamental questions about the Universe of the kind which have traditionally been in the religious domain. At first sight this perspective seems to pull science and religion apart removing any need for the divine. However recent developments have led to a reversal of this trend suggesting that consciousness, mind and spirit are an integral part of the universe.

**Bernard Carr** is Professor of Mathematics and Astronomy at Queen Mary University of London. His area of research is cosmology and he has a long-standing interest in the relationship between science and spirituality. He is the editor of “Universe or Multiverse?”. He is currently chair of The Scientific & Medical Network.

#### **25 June, 6pm. Divine Discontent : the prophetic voice of Thomas Merton. St James’s Piccadilly** [www.sjp.org.uk](http://www.sjp.org.uk)

Talk and launch by The Most Revd Dr **Rowan Williams**. Questions and answers with the author, Very Revd **Dr John Moses**, Dean Emeritus of St Paul’s Cathedral, and the Rector of St James’s, Revd. **Lucy Winkett**.

#### **27 June – Quiet Day – Journey of the Heart at Ammerdown near Bath**

[www.ammerdown.org](http://www.ammerdown.org) Led by Libby Dobson and Sarah Chabowska . Ammerdown Quiet Days offer an opportunity to take time out from our busy lives to pray, reflect and meditate in the Christian tradition. Libby and Sarah invite you to travel with God on a journey of discovery. The theme for this year will be 'Journey of the Heart - Travelling Home to Love'.

#### **1 July, 7.30 pm, Karen Armstrong and Irina Bokova in Conversation at the Royal Opera House**

UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova and internationally renowned scholar on comparative religions Karen Armstrong FRSL and founder of the Charter for Compassion International, in conversation to discuss religion and conflict in the world today.

In a year marking the centenary of the first World War, when arguably the world increasingly seems to resemble the world of 1914, how do we contend with a global environment that is increasingly multipolar,

unpredictable and ravaged by conflicts driven by ethnic and religious divides?

To book go to:

[www.roh.org.uk/insights/insights-why-the-world-needs-compassion-now](http://www.roh.org.uk/insights/insights-why-the-world-needs-compassion-now).

## **2 July, 9-3.15, Charter for Compassion hosts a meeting at Initiatives of Change London SW1.**

An opportunity to meet fellow city organisers, Charter partners and supporters. An experiential meeting in which we get to know one another, build strong local networks, and assist in laying plans for a new geographic hub. We will be joined by one of our Global Compassion Council members, Dr. Patrick Pietroni, who has agreed to direct this new effort.

To register, go to:

<https://charterforcompassion.org/civicism/event/info?reset=1&id=7>.

## **4 July, 6.45-7.45, (gather at 6.30), Living Spirituality Equalist Group session Gender and power relations in heaven and on earth – a guided tour led by David Carter of relevant artworks at the National Gallery, London WC2.**

All welcome. Booking essential. Please contact David Carter at [drc.book1@gmail.com](mailto:drc.book1@gmail.com) to book a place and for more information.

## **5 July, 2 - 4 pm Meister Eckhart Group London NW2**

Meetings start with a “Lectio Divina” in several sections – just over an hour of meditation, contemplation and spontaneous contributions – followed by about 10 minutes reading of an Eckhart sermon, then silent meditation. Finally, tea.

Free of charge. Newcomers to Eckhart are always welcome. Contact **Jim Coakes** on 07788 485086 or [jim.coakes@btinternet.com](mailto:jim.coakes@btinternet.com).

## **18-20 July Sacred Sites and Sounds, Tintern Abbey, Wye Valley, Gwent. Scientific & Medical Network**

For reasons of geography or human history, certain locations have special, perhaps sacred qualities. Some have natural sounds, from wind, water or stone; or resonances that make them special musical venues. Tintern Abbey in the Wye Valley has all of these. A sacred Christian site for over 1,000 years, it was a monastic centre for the Cistercians in Medieval times and, even after it fell into ruin, inspired romantic poets and painters and thousands of pilgrims and travellers.

This conference is part of the Tintern Sacred Site and Sound Festival. The timeless quality of the river, an oft quoted metaphor for the inexhaustible flow of time, is a theme which runs through the whole festival, beginning with a meditation on music, poetry and light at St Michael's Church and culminating in the Abbey ruins the following evening with an orchestral concert, choir and surround-sound installation of Sir John Tavener's Towards Silence.

Speakers: **Paul Devereux** - Myth Legend and Place, **Prof Paul Robertson** - Music, Mind and Spirit, **Dr Madeleine Gray** - The Cistercian Way of Life and Death

Leaflet and booking:

[www.scimednet.org/assets/images/TINTON-ABBEY-Single-v3.pdf](http://www.scimednet.org/assets/images/TINTON-ABBEY-Single-v3.pdf).

## **21- 26 July Contemplative Fire Retreat: Contemplatives in the City. Near Chester with Revd Susan Blagden and Revd Susan Bowden-Pickstock.**

Exploring the writings of Catherine of Siena, Julian of Norwich and Thomas Merton. “It is too easy to think that contemplative prayer needs spaciousness and beauty to be effective. Each of these Christian mystics practised a life of contemplative prayer within an urban context and out of this they found a

voice to address the personal, social and political needs of their day.” During the week we will be exploring their writings as well as our understanding of the metaphor of 'the city' and how we can engage in prayer for our cities.

Booking: [www.contemplativefire.org](http://www.contemplativefire.org).

The Retreat Centre is on a hillside over the Dee Estuary.