

# EVENTS LISTING - END JULY – OCTOBER 2014

COMPILED BY *LIVINGSPIRITUALITY*

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

## Late JULY

**22nd St Mary Madgalene service** organised by **WATCH** (Women and the Church) at St James's Piccadilly. 6.30 pm. All supporters of WATCH's work to advance women's position in the Anglican Church are welcome. Come and celebrate the feast day of Mary Magdalene and the long awaited Synod decision on Women Bishops!

**28th July-1 August Poetry and prayer retreat with Fr Brian McClorry, St Beuno's Denbighshire**  
[www.beunos.com](http://www.beunos.com) Reading and writing poetry.

## AUGUST

**8<sup>th</sup> Informal liturgy/prayer and meditation meeting. *Living Spirituality* Equalist Group**, Notting Hill Gate, London. 6.45-8.30. Gather at 6.45. Half hour informal liturgy, and an hour to discuss ideas for the future. Please email David Carter: [drc.book1@gmail.com](mailto:drc.book1@gmail.com) for details of the venue, and to book.

**The general purpose of the equalist group** is 'exploring the spirituality and theology of giving equal weight to female and male language for the divine' broadly within the Judeo-Christian tradition.

**8th to 10<sup>th</sup> 'Wide Horizons' ....The Journey Home. Ammerdown, near Bath.** Led by **Libby Dobson and Sarah Chabowska**. They will take you on a journey of discovery in to the wide horizons of God's love. Through music, poetry, art work, scripture and guided reflections, prayer and personal space. *"I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."* (Ephesians 6: 17 -18)

<http://ammerdown.org/Wide-Horizons-2014>. Ring 01761 433709 or email [centre@ammerdown.org](mailto:centre@ammerdown.org) for further information or to book a place.

**12th - 18th Three Faiths Encounter-** Biennial Summer School. **Ammerdown, near Bath**

A unique opportunity to spend time with people of other faiths (Christians, Jews and Muslims), to talk and to share, to discover each other's worship, to learn from each other and, last but not least, to have fun together! The week consists of a series of lectures, workshops, group discussions, shared worship and fun activities – and, of course, plenty of fun activities. The theme for the 2014 Summer School will be 'WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?'. Our three faiths all emphasise the need to do good deeds and help others. However, how do we decide who our 'neighbours' are and whom to give priority to? Also, how do we integrate prayer and practical action, and where should our priorities lie?

## **AUGUST (cont)**

The leaders are: **Rabbi Michael Hilton**, a Reform rabbi and writer, author of 'The Christian Effect on Jewish Life'; **Sheikh Bashir Dultz**, the spiritual leader of the German Muslim League; and **Revd Dr Liz Carmichael**, Research Fellow at St John's College, Oxford. This course is nearly sold out - please contact Ammerdown to **check for availability**. +44 176 143 3709 [admin@ammerdown.org](mailto:admin@ammerdown.org)

**17th-23<sup>rd</sup> Creation-centred retreat, Emmaus House, Bristol.** [www.emmaushouse.org.uk](http://www.emmaushouse.org.uk)

**22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> Greenbelt 2014: Travelling Light.** Boughton House, Northamptonshire

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

"This year, Greenbelt is coming home to a greenfield site, where we will gather to share stories and art, to learn from each other and draw inspiration from and actively listen to prophetic voices raising the alarm about the future of our society and our planet. In our new home we will explore what writer and activist Alastair McIntosh calls our *Soil and Soul*, the interrelationships between natural ecology, social community and the human spirit. (Alastair will be with us at the festival.)

At our new site, there is an exciting opportunity to inspire people to reconnect to the soil – through the arts and personal and spiritual experiences at the festival. And we have a range of activities – from forest church to barefoot trails – that will help Greenbelters take a step into the wild this August Bank Holiday weekend."

**LivingSpirituality presence at Greenbelt:** Elizabeth Baxter of Holy Rood House and the Guild of Health will have LS leaflets on her stall, so do look out for her if you will be there.

**26<sup>th</sup> Aug – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept Monk in the World: Pilgrimage to the Sacred Edge of Ireland** with **Christine Valters Paintner**, PhD, REACE and **John Valters Paintner**, MTS in **Galway, Ireland** (limited to 11 participants). Also on **28 Oct-5 November**. <http://abbeyofthearts.com>

**29th-31st Garden: Gateway to Paradise.** Douai Abbey, Berks [www.douaiabbey.org.uk](http://www.douaiabbey.org.uk)

**30th Aug-5th Sept Peace in our Churches.** MacLeod Centre, Iona, Scotland,

<http://iona.org.uk/>

A programme to explore how conflict can be a creative rather than a destructive force at home, at work, in Church and in our communities.

## SEPTEMBER

**5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> Chasing our hearts' longings. Relaxation and the secrets of the inner journey.**

David Mahon of the Tumble Trust at Minsteracres, Co Durham [www.tumbletrust.org.uk](http://www.tumbletrust.org.uk)

**6th, 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).

"We find that Eckhart's teachings appeal to people from many different ways of life and thought / religions". For a summary of Eckhart's teachings please see: [www.eckhartsociety.org/eckhart/his-teachings](http://www.eckhartsociety.org/eckhart/his-teachings); for history see: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meister\\_Eckhart](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meister_Eckhart).

**6th-12<sup>th</sup> Earthing prayer: Exploring prayer through Creation** led by Polly Burns. MacLeod Centre, Iona, Scotland, <http://iona.org.uk/>

**6th-12th September Focus on Economic Justice** at the Abbey at Iona <http://iona.org.uk/>

The challenges and morality of balancing the principles of participation, distribution and harmony in a globalised economy. Led by Kathy Galloway, Head of Christian Aid Scotland, and David McNair, Head of Growth, Equity and Livelihoods at Save the Children UK.

**6th Quiet Day: The Garden of my Life.** Douai Abbey, Berks. [www.douaiabbey.org.uk](http://www.douaiabbey.org.uk)

**8th at 10am Conflict coaching for faith leaders** <http://www.stethelburgas.org> London

A certificated three-day training course in conflict coaching, for anyone in a position of leadership or responsibility in a faith community who would like to gain skills and guidance in effectively approaching and responding to conflict.

**8<sup>th</sup> All the leaves are brown. An Autumn exploration of Celtic Spirituality.** Rev Dr Craig Gardiner. Llangasty, Powys. [www.llangasty.com](http://www.llangasty.com)

**12th – 14th Listening to the Heartbeat of God through Lectio Divina.** Turvey Abbey, Beds. [www.turveyabbey.org.uk](http://www.turveyabbey.org.uk)

**13th A Day for Men: Mindfulness.** Llansor Mill, Gwent [www.llansor.org](http://www.llansor.org)

What is it, how do you 'do' it, and what can it offer you? Join us for this day event, or stay over on Friday and / or Saturday nights.

## SEPTEMBER (cont)

**13<sup>th</sup>. Mindful Contemplation - Christian Prayer and Buddhist Tradition.** Fr Colin Griffiths & Helen Stephenson. The Well at Willen, Bucks [www.thewellatwillen.org.uk](http://www.thewellatwillen.org.uk)

Explore the practice of mindfulness from the Buddhist tradition and contemplative prayer in the Ignatian tradition, to support and deepen your spirituality.

**14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> Men's Spirituality** weekend with Stanley Baxter, Stephen Wright & John Henning SSF at Holy Rood House, N. Yorks [www.holyroodhouse.org.uk](http://www.holyroodhouse.org.uk) Journeying into awareness and knowing.

**20<sup>th</sup> Exploring male spirituality for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.** Chris Chesters. St Anthony's Priory Durham [www.stantonypriory.co.uk](http://www.stantonypriory.co.uk)

**20<sup>th</sup> Spirituality Festival at Canterbury Cathedral: Taste and See.** 9.30 – 4pm [www.canterburydiocese.org/spiritualityfestival](http://www.canterburydiocese.org/spiritualityfestival)

A day of spiritual 'food for the journey,' in which we have space to explore, to share and to be with God together.

With a range of inspirational workshops and prayer and reflection spaces, the Festival aims to encourage and enlighten as we experience together ways in which we can deepen our spirituality and celebrate the wondrous diversity of God. Share in and experience healing prayer, silence, pilgrimage, spiritual accompaniment, intercessions and Ignatian prayer and many other cultures of discipleship and spirituality which sustain us all.

**20<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> Pilgrimage of Life.** Iona, Scotland. <http://iona.org.uk/>

Explore the stages of life and the spiritualities that accompany them along the way. This week will be led by Alastair McIntosh.

**23<sup>rd</sup> (start date) Theology Quest and Questions.** Sarum College, Salisbury.

This course opens the study of Christian theology to those who want to know what they believe. It begins with an overview of the ways in which Christians do their theological thinking: with the Bible, in worship and prayer, with theologians, with creeds and with art. Upon this foundation students will explore the content of Christian belief, covering the major topics that have generated dispute and debate, captured the imagination of some of the most creative thinkers, and energised ordinary Christian people in their daily witness. This course also will shed light on how Christians can use theology to wrestle with important contemporary concerns and live wisely in a challenging world.

Contact Alison Ogden for all booking enquiries [aogden@sarum.ac.uk](mailto:aogden@sarum.ac.uk) | 01722 424826 | 01722 424800.

## SEPTEMBER (cont)

**24<sup>th</sup> Gretta Vosper - With or Without God** London WC1, 7.30pm. **Progressive Christianity Network.** <http://goo.gl/5wwkFo> See next item.

**26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> Gretta Vosper Oxford Conference, including a special “post-theist” liturgy.** Oxford Quaker Meeting House & Somerville College. Organised by the **Progressive Christianity Network and Sea of Faith** <http://goo.gl/eCUkQw>

Has the word ‘God’ got so much baggage we should abandon it? Would Christianity be any the worse if we did? Gretta Vosper is an influential Canadian minister and author. She re-envisages Christianity from a post-theist point of view. Jack Spong has described Gretta Vosper as **“one of the most exciting voices in 21st century Christianity”**. To learn more and to book for either of these events, please go to: [www.pcnbritain.org.uk/events](http://www.pcnbritain.org.uk/events) or phone 01594 516528.

**27<sup>th</sup> Meeting God in Creativity** URC, Newent, Herefordshire [www.travelling-light.org.uk](http://www.travelling-light.org.uk)

## OCTOBER

**3<sup>rd</sup> A Day for Women. Llansor Mill, Gwent** [www.llansor.org](http://www.llansor.org)

Further exploration of female spirituality with the Llansor team.

**8<sup>th</sup> 6.30-9pm, (start date) Finding the Way: A 6 week course on Spiritual Growth** [www.wccmmeditatio.org](http://www.wccmmeditatio.org) London EC1.

**10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> A Feather on the Breath of God: Hildegard of Bingen.** Weekend with Dom Brendan Thomas. Belmont Abbey Herefordshire. [www.belmontabbey.org.uk](http://www.belmontabbey.org.uk)

**19th, 10.30-4, Concerning Spiritual Gifts** workshop with **Jim Pym** Jenny Sandler’s flat **London NW6**, a writer, spiritual healer and teacher of meditation a Quaker with an interest in Taoist and Buddhist approaches. Contact Jenny for details and to book:

Email - [jenny.sandlerQ008@firenet.co.uk](mailto:jenny.sandlerQ008@firenet.co.uk) or tel - 020 7328 6718.

**15th-19th Brightly Hidden Names: Metaphors we Live By.** Othona, Dorset with Jennie Barnsley and Roy Bayfield. <http://www.othona-bb.org.uk>

Held within our deepest selves, sometimes unnoticed, are the stories and images we live by. This 5-day retreat explores some of these brightly hidden names through active contemplation using a liberating process of simple arts-based activities (no skill required). We will draw on the words of visionary writers and some more surprising sources to explore an aspect of the theme of the retreat. Each day there will be an opportunity to respond creatively in a variety of ways, all of them kindergarten-simple but deeply engaging, and to reflect aloud upon that creative response.

## OCTOBER (cont)

**31<sup>st</sup> Oct-2 Nov A deep and dazzling darkness.** The experience of faith in light and shadow.  
Dom **Brendan Thomas**, Belmont Abbey, Herefordshire [www.belmontabbey.org.uk](http://www.belmontabbey.org.uk)

## Advance notices

**9 - 14 November Awakening the Creative Spirit: Experiential Education for Spiritual Directors (and other Soul Care Practitioners)** with Betsey Beckman, MM and Christine Valters Paintner, PhD, REACE at **Holyrood House in North Yorkshire, United Kingdom** (limited to 10 participants). <http://abbeyofthearts.com>

**14th – 16th November Godly Mayhem** Peter Rollins. Swanwick, Derbyshire. **Progressive Christianity Network** in association with the **Student Christian Movement**. <http://goo.gl/Kw8Glh>  
Peter Rollins, author of *How (Not) to Speak of God* will suggest we are looking for God in the wrong places. He will critique the church for selling God as the answer to uncertainty and dissatisfaction.

**14th March 2015 The Universe Story Event. London. A Greenspirit event.**

The science from the origin of the Universe to the present day - and its meaning.

### Speakers:

- **Greg Morter** - A Brief History of Everything: from the origin of the Universe to the present day, in six surprising steps
- **Elisabet Sahtouris** - The Evolution of Cooperation and Transformation
- **Maddy Harland** - Transformational Heresy – Permaculture and beyond
- **Chris Clarke** - Chair - Emeritus Professor of Applied Mathematics and author of "Weaving the Cosmos".

Plus: discussions, creative activities and stalls.

**Full information** at: [www.greenspirit.org.uk/uni-story-event](http://www.greenspirit.org.uk/uni-story-event) or phone Ian on 020 8552 2096.