

BEYOND THE BRAIN REGISTRATION FORM

Bath, August 24th - 26th 2007

Please send to:

Conference Administrator, Scientific and Medical Network, PO Box 11,
Moreton-in-Marsh, Glos GL56 0ZF. Tel: +44 (0) 1608 652000
Fax: +44 (0)1608 652001, Email: info@scimednet.org

PLEASE WRITE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Accommodation There are a limited number of single en suite rooms with some doubles available. Please indicate on the Booking Form if you require special accommodation considerations due to a physical disability.

Fees Fees include accommodation, lecture programme, and all meals. They are payable in full on booking. Vegetarian meals provided. Please take advantage of early bird rates.

Cancellations A fee of £20 will be retained, or £75 after 10th August; after 18th August, no refund.

Booking Places are strictly limited so early application is essential. Send cheque for full amount, payable to "Scientific and Medical Network". Overseas bookings must be in sterling: either credit card or bank draft. **WE CANNOT GUARANTEE BOOKINGS MADE AFTER 18th AUGUST. Detailed information about the venue and another copy of this leaflet will be sent with the booking confirmation.**

CONFERENCE OPTIONS

SMN Members:

Early Bird Residential en suite..... £235.00
(before 31st May)

Early Bird Residential standard £211.00
(before 31st May)

Residential standard
(after 31st May)..... £241.00

Early Bird Non-residential £195.00
(before 31st May)

Non-residential (after 31st May)..... £225.00

Please tick here if physically disabled.

How did you hear about the conference?

MEALS – are you?

Vegetarian Vegan

Special requests (dietary etc.):

Non-Members

Early Bird Residential en suite £250.00
(before 31st May)

Early Bird Residential standard £226.00
(before 31st May)

Residential standard
(after 31st May)..... £256.00

Early Bird Non-residential £205.00
(before 31st May)

Non-residential (after 31st May) £235.00

PAYMENT OPTION

Cheque/Bank Draft/Money Order (payable to
"Scientific and Medical Network")

Credit card (VISA or MasterCard)

Card No.: _____

Expires: _____ Security Code _____

Signature: _____

CO-CHAIRS:

DR. PETER FENWICK is Emeritus Consultant Neuropsychiatrist, Maudsley Hospital and Honorary Consultant Neurophysiologist, St. Thomas's Hospital. He is President of the Scientific and Medical Network and President of the Horizon Foundation.

DR. ANDREW POWELL is a psychiatrist and psycho-therapist who formerly held consultant and senior academic appointments in the Health Service. He is co-author with Dr. Bisong Guo of '*Listen to your Body - the Wisdom of the Dao*'. Andrew was founder chair of the Spirituality and Psychiatry Special Interest Group in the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

DAVID LORIMER is Programme Director of the Scientific and Medical Network and Executive Vice-President of Wrekin Trust. He recently edited *Thinking Beyond the Brain and Science, Consciousness and Ultimate Reality* and his book on the Prince of Wales's philosophy and work - *Radical Prince* - was published in 2003.

THE ORGANISER

The Scientific and Medical Network was founded in 1973 by George Blaker, Dr. Patrick Shackleton, Dr. Peter Leggett and Sir Kelvin Spencer. The founders believed that neither orthodox religion nor conventional science was sufficient to answer pressing questions about human existence and the cosmos, and that new ways of thinking were needed.

The Network provides interdisciplinary education exploring the frontiers of science, consciousness and spirituality. It draws on a worldwide community of scientists, doctors, psychologists, engineers, philosophers and theologians to provide events, publications, and courses that link insights from the spiritual traditions and the arts, with the study and application of science and medicine.

www.scimednet.org



The Scientific and Medical Network

in association with
Royal College of Psychiatrists Spirituality and Psychiatry Group

BEYOND THE BRAIN VII

A Still Point in the Turning World:
Contemplation in Action



August 24th-26th, 2007
Bath Spa University

SPEAKERS:

Bishop Kallistos of Diokleia, Dr. Carol Lee Flinders, Dr. Camille Adams Helminksi,
Prof. Les Lancaster, Dr. Andrew Newberg, Prof. Sir John Tavener

CO-CHAIRS:

Dr. Peter Fenwick, Dr. Andrew Powell, David Lorimer

Don't just do something, sit there

Beyond the Brain VII builds on previous conferences addressing the deeper nature of consciousness by considering the relationship between inner practices of stillness and our outer life in the world. Modern Western culture is primarily oriented towards the outer aspect of life, towards doing rather than being. Indeed we have become completely caught up in our outer activity and busyness so that our culture is seriously out of balance, at both the individual and collective level. Meister Eckhart once said: 'what we receive in contemplation, we give out in love.' This conference will provide an opportunity for participants to find a deeper space within themselves from which actions can spring.

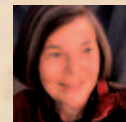
Our interdisciplinary and international team of speakers come from a number of backgrounds: religious studies, neuroscience, transpersonal psychology and music. They will also be speaking from within a variety of spiritual traditions: Greek Orthodox Christianity, Judaism and Sufism. All this will produce a rich texture of experience and insight in a spirit of open exploration. We greatly look forward to welcoming you to Bath

Contemplation in Action - Speakers and Programme

FRIDAY 24TH AUGUST

The evening will begin with a wine reception, followed by dinner. Afterwards **David Lorimer** will introduce the conference and the speakers.

SATURDAY 25TH AUGUST



Dr Carol Lee Flinders -

“We Piece Alone, We Quilt Together”: paths of mystical activism

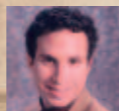
Call her a mystic, a “mini-mystic,” or simply a spiritual activist, the life of a certain kind of woman is intensely self-directed and unfolds in a markedly cyclic fashion: deep, focused inwardness gives rise to passionate, engaged activism, which in turn almost drives her back into the restorative stillness that will prepare her for yet another round of selfless service. Because conventional life scripts for women don't look like this at all,

loneliness, self-doubt, and the active antipathy of others can haunt and undercut such a woman severely.

Teresa of Avila, Catherine of Siena, Josephine Butler, Jane Addams, Sister Helen Prejean, Dorothy Day, and Tenzin Palmo are among the women whose lives Dr. Flinders will draw upon to identify the “survival skills” in question. She will discuss the “spiritual DNA” that

links them to one another and will focus in particular on the ways in which they deliberately establish supportive *sanghas* and sisterhoods with their contemporaries and construct “mother-lines of the spirit” that connect them with great-grand-godmothers – familial, historical, and even mythical.

Carol Lee Flinders received a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of California at Berkeley, specialising in medieval studies. She then spent fifteen years writing about natural foods, co-authoring the popular *Laurel's Kitchen* cookbooks and posting a weekly syndicated newspaper column. In 1990 she returned to her field of study and wrote *Enduring Grace: Living Portraits of Seven Women Mystics*. Subsequent books include *At the Root of This Longing: Reconciling a Spiritual Hunger and a Feminist Thirst* and *Rebalancing the World*. Her latest book is *Enduring Lives: Portraits of Women and Faith in Action*. Dr. Flinders has taught courses in mystical literature at UC, Berkeley, and at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley. She is currently teaching at the Sophia Center at Holy Names University in Oakland. She is affiliated with the Spirituality and Health Institute at Santa Clara University and is a director of the newly formed Foundation for the Advancement of Women in Religion.



Dr. Andrew Newberg:

Neuroscience and the Mystical Mind: why do we believe what we believe?

Dr. Andrew Newberg will focus on a broad array of beliefs from the mundane to the mystical. After all, every thing that we think about our world - from relationships to morals to religion - is a belief. By exploring the basic components that make up our beliefs - perceptions, cognitions, emotions, social interactions - a deeper awareness of our belief processes and the limitations of those beliefs can be achieved. It is also important for us to understand how beliefs can be manipulated and how our existing beliefs affect our future beliefs. Dr. Newberg will also describe the results of groundbreaking brain imaging studies that show how specific experiences such as prayer or speaking in tongues can result in profound and compelling beliefs.

In the end, this information is critical for becoming a better believer. By identifying potential problems with beliefs, we can all strive to hold beliefs that are constructive both to ourselves and society.

Andrew B. Newberg, M.D. is currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Radiology and Psychiatry at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania and is a staff physician in Nuclear Medicine. Dr. Newberg has been particularly involved in the study of mystical and religious experiences as well as the more general mind/body relationship in both the clinical and research aspects of his career. Much of his research has focused on the relationship between brain function and various mystical and religious experiences and he is the Director of the University of Pennsylvania Center for Spirituality and the Mind. He is the author of the new book entitled, *Why We Believe What We Believe: Uncovering Our Biological Need for Meaning, Spirituality, and Truth*. He has also co-authored the best selling book, *Why God Won't Go Away: Brain Science and the Biology of Belief* and *The Mystical Mind: Probing the Biology of Belief*, both of which explore the relationship between neuroscience and spiritual experience. He also teaches in the Department of Religious Studies at the School of Arts and Sciences, University of Pennsylvania.

During Saturday afternoon and there will be an opportunity for sharing experiences in small groups, followed by a lecture from Bishop

Kallistos. Those who wish will be able to go into Bath for evensong and an organ recital at the abbey. The evening programme will feature an interview by the violinist Prof. Paul Robertson with the composer Sir John Tavener.



Bishop Kallistos of Diokleia: Entering the Heart: Contemplation in the Orthodox Church

Bishop Kallistos will consider how the heart is understood in the mystical tradition of the Eastern Orthodox Church, where it signifies not just the emotions or affections but, more profoundly, the spiritual centre of the total human person, linked on the one side to the physical body and on the other side to the *nous* or visionary intellect. Bishop Kallistos emphasises the Invocation of the Holy Name and the Jesus Prayer, a prayer of words which leads at the same time beyond words into creative silence or *hesychia*.

Bishop Kallistos Ware was born, Timothy Ware, in Bath in 1934 and was educated at Magdalen College, Oxford, where he took a Double First in Classics, as well as reading Theology. After joining the Orthodox Church in 1958, he travelled widely in Greece, staying in particular at the monastery of St John, Patmos. In 1966 he was ordained priest and became a monk, receiving the new name Kallistos. Since 1966 he has been back at Oxford as Spalding Lecturer in Eastern Orthodox Studies at the University. He also has pastoral charge of the Greek parish in Oxford. In 1970 he became a Fellow of Pembroke College. In 1982 he was consecrated titular Bishop of Diokleia and appointed assistant bishop in the Orthodox Archdiocese of Thyateira and Great Britain. He is the author of *The Orthodox Church* and *The Orthodox Way*, and a translator of the *Philokalia*, *The Festal Menaion*, and *The Lenten Triodion*.



Interview with Prof. Sir John Tavener:

Silence and Sound, Contemplation and Composition

Prof. Sir John Tavener is widely considered Great Britain's most popular living classical composer. His work has shown a consistent but evolving tonal or modal style

and often a marked simplicity and spirituality. Tavener, who joined the Russian Orthodox Church in 1977, is known principally for his requiems, canticles, hymns, and liturgical cantatas, which he has called “icons with notes rather than colours.” Largely slow-moving and intense, his music has been influenced by various traditional styles including Indian ragas, Byzantine chants, Middle Eastern works, and Native American music. Among his best-known works are *Orthodox Vigil Service* (1984), for chorus and handbells; *The Protecting Veil*, for cello, and *Akathist of Thanksgiving*, (both 1987); the operatic *Mary of Egypt* (1991); the choral *Song for Athene* (1993), played at the funeral of Princess Diana; and a cantata *Total Eclipse* (1999). *The Veil of the Temple* (2003) is a seven-hour musical vigil that draws on Christian traditions of the East and West and is performed by a large chorus, vocal soloists, organ, brass and percussion ensembles, Tibetan horn, temple bowls, and Indian harmonium.

SUNDAY 26TH AUGUST



Dr. Camille Adams Helminski: Women and Sufism: Love and the Unity of Being

Since the beginning of consciousness, human beings, both female and male, have walked the path of reunion with the Source of Being. Though in this world of duality we may find ourselves in different forms, ultimately there is no male or female, only Being. Within the Sufi traditions, the recognition of this truth has encouraged the spiritual maturation of women in a way that has not always been possible in the West. Muhammad brought a message of integration of spirit and matter, of essence and everyday life, of recognition of the feminine as well as the masculine. Ultimately it is through love that we are brought into the unity of Being. As the mystic Rabi' al-Adawiyya (717-801 AD) put it: ‘the one who tastes, knows.’

Camille Adams Helminski is co-founder and co-director of the Threshold Society in Aptos, California, an educational foundation in the Mevlevi tradition based on the teachings of Rumi. She was the first woman to translate a substantial portion of the Qur'an into

English, in her book *The Light of Dawn*. Among her other translations are *Mevlevi Wird: The Prayers Recited Daily* by Mevlevi Dervishes; *Rumi Daylight and Jewels of Remembrance* (with Kabir Helminski); and *Awakened Dreams* and *Mevlevi Ayins* (with Refik Algan). She holds and honorary doctorate in Arabic from the University of Damascus and the World Union of Writers (Paris).



Prof. Les Lancaster: The Brain above the Brain: mindfulness and correspondence in Jewish mysticism

A central tenet of Kabbalah is the principle of correspondence, whereby everything in this human realm is seen to relate to aspects of the godhead; the ‘microcosm’ reflects the ‘macrocosm’. One of the expressions of ‘mindfulness’ in kabbalistic practice is an articulation of this principle: by understanding the relation between bodily structures and their counterparts in the godhead, the kabbalist ideally develops a subtle ongoing awareness of the embodied nature of spiritual being. In exploring the ramifications of the ‘esoteric anatomy’ which characterises this tradition, I focus primarily on two aspects. The first concerns the transformational potential of these practices in terms of current psychological understanding of the mind and transpersonal development. The second aspect expounds the relevance of these kabbalistic traditions for contemporary research into the nature of consciousness. I argue that kabbalistic insights into what is construed as a ‘higher brain’ in the godhead may usefully complement neuroscientific research data into the correlates of consciousness in the human brain.

Professor Les Lancaster is the UK's first full Professor of Transpersonal Psychology, a position he holds at Liverpool John Moores University, where he co-directs the Consciousness and Transpersonal Psychology Research Unit. He is also an Honorary Research Fellow in the Centre for Jewish Studies at Manchester University, and Emeritus Chair of the Transpersonal Psychology section of the British Psychological Society. He combines a research background in neuroscience with some 35 years of study and teaching of kabbalistic sources and other areas of mysticism. His first book, *Mind, Brain & Human Potential*, won an SMN award. His most recent books are *The Essence of Kabbalah* and *Approaches to Consciousness: the Marriage of Science and Mysticism*.

