

**Christians
Awakening
to a new
Awareness
(CANA)**

CANA is a network of people exploring the emergence of humanity's next evolutionary step for which Jesus has paved the way. This requires us to risk living co-creatively through attunement to the ONE.

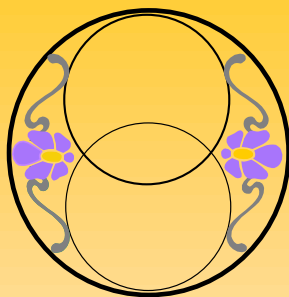
CANA offers people nurture and companionship in their process of awakening and the opportunity to find a commonality with others on a similar continuing journey.

Our collective journey has no set goal. The reality of our unity may be seen to develop. But the essential nature of our journey is one of continuing exploration.

Everyone's contribution is a valued part of the whole and none is dispensable. As we leave behind the language and interpretations of the past, we are challenged to find new expressions of the emerging vision.

CANA recognizes that we are all one through that of God within us from whatever background we come.

CANA is a group where risk becomes safe through trust and where exploration is key.



CHRISTIANS AWAKENING

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2012

Volume 1 Issue 2



Like all nature,
flowers come and
go.....change shape and
colour, grow, blossom,
flourish, fall and
die.....until the cycle
begins again.

This issue touches on
the wonder of change—
from caterpillar, to
chrysalis to
butterfly.....analogies
for our own lives
aboundthe Earth
and all its wonders
has so much to share....

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EDITORIAL

by Janice Dolley

"At certain pivotal points, civilisation has faced challenges for which old answers no longer sufficed. At such times, leaders cried out for new and more functional explanations of life. Society seems to be at such a time now, on the threshold of adopting a new world view and yet still stuck in old metaphors and explanations" Bruce Lipton and Steve Bhaerman (1)

The very fact that CANA, and other edge-seeking organisations and networks exist, is an indication that in every field of human endeavour we are impulsed to leave behind old understandings and seek out a new world view. At the same time there is a growing lack of trust in all the long standing institutions and this phenomenon is not confined to politics:

"The organisation of a once largely homogeneous society demands far greater transparency in decision making, increased media scrutiny; the communications revolution—all mean that people no longer accept what they are told without question. The age of deference to distant and unseen authority has long passed" (2)

The church is amongst the many pillars of society which can no longer hold those who genuinely question ideas and practices which were previously acceptable.

It was 1970 when I first said to the curate of our Anglican church that I was fed up with sitting in a pew being told what to think. His response was to encourage me to start a group to explore more deeply. Eight years later—after meeting every Wednesday in term time—I had to ask the 18 women who had met weekly in term time to move on to another home, as I was by then working half time. We had indeed explored, taking it in turns to lead a session. We had discovered a deeper sense of connection between ourselves, a deeper understanding of what lay beneath the outer or exotic teachings we had grown up with and an impulse to continue exploring the new awareness that was emerging. A few continued with their church allegiance, but not many.

I guess this was for us the early stages of the 'chrysalis experience' which offers a helpful metaphor for the changes that are currently underway in society. Biologists, such as Elisabeth Sahtouris, are now giving us greater insight into the process of metamorphosis that the caterpillar undergoes

as it changes into a butterfly. The greedy caterpillar chomps its way through excesses of matter until, full to bursting, it finds itself being changed into a cocoon of some kind within which everything that once forced the crawling creature fragments and liquifies until its identity is no longer recognisable. Then, slowly, small imaginal cells begin to activate, sense a new purpose and start to seek this out in self directed ways. These cells are quickly attacked by the immune system of the old caterpillar still living in the outer casing (parallels here as to the fate of visionaries throughout the ages?) They survive by clustering together into imaginal clusters—connecting, exchanging ideas maybe under labels such as heart, lungs, wings or **CANA, Radical Pilgrims, Catholics for a Changing Church, Positive Christian Network, Living Spirituality Network** etc. Each has a different flavour or emphasis and these serve well as affirmation for those leaving the 'old' and moving into a generation of the 'new' that is emerging. There then comes a point when the clusters feel the impulse to connect with other clusters and form what might be called super clusters—which involves some of the clusters releasing their form and ceasing their activities, having played a vital part. **The Bridge Trust** which had formed CANA closed after 25 years and the Living Spirituality Network closed recently, having played an extremely useful role. At each stage the step towards the next emerges instinctively at the biological level and intuitively at the human level. This seems to be the stage CANA has now reached.

has gone into the **Into Christ Consciousness** gathering held at Findhorn over Easter this year. If you have not done so already do check www.intocc.net and catch up with some of what happened there at a visible tangible level. But there is also the invisible level which was taking place. It had been our vision to anchor into the physical and subtle levels of Plant Earth our human intention to move into a new era of love, respect for all life and willingness to co-create the steps towards our emergence as universal humans for a new era. It was affirming that one participant was afterwards innerly told that:

"You have truly changed the world. Do not doubt that a group your size has Power. It has more

Power than the multitude of masses that run around in chaos. It has more power than a nuclear bomb to set the energy, to change the wave length of the world. Know that we, the Assembled Divine were there with you every moment, applauding you and distributing your innocent love out into the cosmos where all are waiting to receive it. As it is not only for you there on Earth, but for the cosmos also at this time of change and evolution. Truly all you need is Love".

Such deep experience is often followed by a sense of bewilderment and lack of direction, as was experienced by the disciples after the Ascension, and a period of waiting hopefully and expectantly of what might be the next steps.

What next for all of us seems to include leaving behind the 'old story' and by increasing consciousness and expanding awareness begin to formulate, articulate and live out the 'new story'. An important thread of this is the publication this month of **"Blue Sky God"** by Rev Don McGregor, an Anglican priest and CANA member (3). We are holding a book launch with him in London on **20 October**—and in 2013 Don, along with myself and possibly others, we are proposing to hold day events around the country on the theme of an evolutionary Christianity for the 21st Century. You can help us with this by offering to assist setting up an event in your own local area and/or convening a small group to explore and contribute some elements of the new story that is emerging from the ashes of the old. We will doubtless find ourselves saying, with T S Eliot: *"The knowledge imposes a pattern, and falsifies.*

For the pattern is new in every moment" (4)

For the butterfly, as it emerges, is formed of the same 'stuff' as the caterpillar and we realise that within it all along had been buried the seeds of the new creature it was destined to become. Maybe our call, like the caterpillar is to change the world from the inside out and *"Live into positive future, practising Heaven and designing a bridge across which the whole of humanity will walk"*(5)

References:

- (1) *Spontaneous Evolution—our Positive Future*— Bruce H Lipton and Steve Bhaerman, 2011 Hay House Publishing
- (2) *The Telegraph*, 7 July 2012

- (3) *Blue Sky God*—The Evolution of Science and Christianity, Don McGregor, 2012, Circle Books
- (4) T S Eliot, *The Four Quartets*, East Coker
- (5) Same as (1) above

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*This was published in our local paper as a Christian Comment:*

### **God as the Ground of our Being**

Next year will be sixty years since Bishop John Robinson published *Honest to God*. How much more honest have we become about our belief in God? Or perhaps better, how much have we done to become clearer in our understanding of who or what is God?

Dawkins and others have suggested that Christians believe in a God which most of us reject. We regret what some people have done in the name of God and what some still do. This does not change the reality of God. So what is it?

Historically we have had false images of God, who is essentially a very important mystery. Can I suggest that you try using an acronym of Ground-of-Being: GoB, instead of God, so we know that we are trying a new way of expression.

Jesus never used the word God, because he probably only spoke Aramaic, Hebrew and Koine Greek (the international language of the day). He probably did not use the sacred name of God of the Jews but alternative words that people understood meant God. Jesus' GoB he described as what is best translated as Daddy or Heavenly Daddy. In the Lord's Prayer we say "our Father who art in heaven".

So, Jesus's (God/GoB) is in a good place, heaven, which does not mean other than where we are. Heaven is everywhere. But GoB is in all that is created, including ourselves. He is totally loving and forgiving. Before next year will we try to understand a believable God or GoB (Ground of Being)?

David Storey, All Saints, Steep

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Where Could The Church Be Going ?

by James Ashby

In 1945 a cache of previously unknown gospels and early church writings were discovered in the sands of Nag Hammadi in Egypt. Two years later, in 1947, The Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in caves near the ancient Essene settlement of Qumran in Palestine. Have we ever stopped to think about the timing of these two world shaking discoveries ?

We had just come through the second of two world wars. All the blood, sweat and tears had been expended with terrible sacrifice to preserve our culture, our rights to individual freedom, our right to develop culturally and spiritually.... and even as that second dreadful conflict ended in 1945, so were we allowed to make the first of those discoveries. The second came soon after. Was the timing just coincidence? I personally do not believe in coincidence: I prefer the other explanation. Remember? *"The way of man is not in himself. It is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. The steps of a good man are ordered by The Lord and he delighteth in His way...."*

Both great wars picked us up culturally and socially, and shook us hard to release us from negative ways and habits before putting us down again. The result? Women came to be accepted at all levels in the work place. The class system was dramatically diluted. The lid was lifted on the aspirations of those born into poverty. The arrogance of the aristocracy began to dissipate. The social restrictions in the choice of marriage partners were shattered. People generally began to be able to follow their own individual potentials in a way unheard of in 1914. Justice in Britain became universal, not just the prerogative of the wealthy, and class was no longer a factor in the judgements of the courts.

If you were to see God looking down on all this change and development, might He not think that we were at last ready for some spiritual development too?

There has been extraordinary Church resistance to the content of The Dead Sea Scrolls. Most of these came under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Church after the Six Day War, when Israel took over the whole of Jerusalem, including those scrolls

previously in Jordanian hands. The Israelis assigned the translation of the scrolls to The Ecole Biblique, but this came under the jurisdiction of The Confederation of The Doctrine of Faith, which was the re-named Inquisition of The Catholic Church. The head of this Confederation insisted that the scrolls be only translated in the light of church teaching. His name was Cardinal Ratzinger, who is now, yes, The Pope!!

As a result it took fifty years of pressure and lobbying for the scrolls finally being allowed to be seen by non-Catholic experts. Much of this pressure had to be put on the Israelis, who were probably as embarrassed by what the scrolls revealed concerning Jewish doctrine as the Catholics were about Christian doctrine.

It is now, at last, much more widely accepted that Jesus had close connections with the Essene community at Qumran, and that many or even most of His teachings were prevalent there before His birth; teachings which had been suppressed by Pharisaic Judaism for nearly 200 years after the Zadokite line of high priests was discontinued after the Syrian Greek conquest of Jerusalem, and who were not reinstated once the Jewish Maccabees defeated the conquerors.

It is more than likely that, when Jesus as a small child, was taken to Egypt by his parents, their destination would have been the Jewish temple on the Nile delta – then the only genuine Jewish temple run by the Zadokite priesthood. And not far away from that temple were the Therapeutae, a community of philosophers and healers, much like the Essenes at Qumran back in Palestine. So, while the Dead Sea Scrolls have caused many Christians to re-examine Jesus' background, so the Nag Hammadi texts are challenging us to reconsider the depths of His teachings.

Some international scholars now consider The Gospel of Thomas to be by far the earliest of the surviving gospels, written within twenty years of Jesus' crucifixion. There is no story attached to this gospel. It is just a record of His teachings, faithfully written down by Thomas. The way that some of the earlier sayings seem to be almost repeated as later sayings tempts me to think that they may even have been recorded on a day to day basis as diary notes. After all every young Jew in those days had to learn to

read and write in order to be ready for his bar mitzvah. But be warned, most of the teachings are wrapped up allegorically, so that the reader has to ask him or herself what the inner meaning really is.

When Irenaeus, still a young man, became bishop of Lyons in the mid second century AD, in trying to unite all Christians under one common doctrine, he declared that only the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John collectively constitute the whole gospel. His problem was that there were some hundred or so differing accounts of Jesus' teachings, and many of these seemed to be in conflict with each other.

Looking back to what Jesus is reported to have said, that is hardly surprising. In one sentence Jesus had intentionally taught on three different levels of understanding. He said "I am the bread of Life". Take One: As bread was the basic daily need for physical health and survival, so Jesus was saying that following Him and His teachings was the daily need for spiritual health and survival.

Take Two: In Aramaic the word for "Bread" is Lachmo. This, however, is also the word for "Insight". So Jesus was saying: "I am the insight to Life". In other words, if you study my teachings you will come to understand what is going on behind the scenes of your everyday consciousness. Take Three: In Hebrew and Aramaic the verb "To Be" is assumed, not actually expressed, so we have a choice, as hearers, as to how the verb To Be is conjugated or even where it appears. In other words Jesus was also saying: "I Am is the Insight to Life". Do you remember that when Moses, at the burning bush, asked God what His name was, the answer came back: "I Am That I Am." Jesus' hearers would be only too familiar with that story. And what He was saying is paralleled beautifully in the first few of His sayings in the Gospel of Thomas, when he concludes *"The kingdom is inside you and it is outside you. When you know yourselves then you will be known....But if you do not know yourselves, then you dwell in poverty and you are poverty."*

It is tragic, but not altogether surprising, that Irenaeus' church excluded Christians who understood that the Divine is an integral part of each one of us. Particularly tragic in that more Christians of that time held to that belief than did those who understood Jesus' teaching at just the simplest level. And those deeper minded Christians continued to be persecuted once Irenaeus' form of Christianity was accepted as the State religion of the Roman Empire 170 years later. The religion that the emperor Constantine accepted was a religion by which his subjects could be controlled spiritually as well as politically. The concept of The Divine Within hardly matched that intent.

And the persecution has continued. Celtic Christianity, which preceded Christianity on the continent of Europe, taught The Divine Within All Beings, but was subsumed by the Roman Church at the Synod of Whitby in 664 AD. The Cathars were annihilated in the middle ages by a ferocious Church. The Knights Templar, who had come to an agreement with the Church not to challenge its teachings, were suddenly massacred on the orders of The Church on one night of multiple murders.

But now, at last, Truth is emerging. The Church can only survive if it accepts its errors of the past, and as a body, studies and preaches spirituality, rather than just morality as is heard from most pulpits.

No wonder congregations are so lacking in young people, when the most essential message of the Church's avatar is not getting through. The kingdom of God is within you, not just among you. We are all called to recognise the birth of The Christ within us, born of God the Father (masculine) and Holy Wisdom (Haggia Sophia or The Holy Spirit – feminine). This is the birth from the Virgin. As we grow with the consciousness of the emerging Christ within, yes, we may find healing is not beyond our powers: that is the powers of The Christ within us. We can turn water into wine – figuratively, for we can demonstrate the real underlying relevance of any simple situation. And if we are recognised as good teachers of Christian Spirituality, and become lauded by others, then we must sit tight on that donkey of humility, as we are borne into town. Jesus' life story had been taught in the life stories of the mythical Sons of God in different cultures for some 2,000 years before His birth. For the myth had personal underlying meaning.

How different the modern world would be if we, as Christians, had always recognised that The Christ is an integral part of ourselves as well as of both our friends and of our foes: recognised or unrecognised. We would have embraced or at least respected the wisdom of other cultures such as American Indians or Australian Aborigines, instead of arrogantly trying to eliminate them. We would not have made the acquisition of goods and luxuries to be our sole goal in life. We would not have sought power for ourselves by wars and conquests, as we would have recognised that real power only comes from The Christ within us – who is the same as The Christ within all others.

But if this is at last our starting base, we can now boldly step up into the Upper Room into a higher level of Consciousness, as Jesus himself predicted we would.

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## All about relationships?

While scientists and thinkers continue to search for answers to the origin of the universe – and a better understanding of the interaction of all bodies within it – the only constant seems to be perpetual change. Telescopes and microscopes tell the same story: celestial bodies, tiny particles and all lives in between, are going through similar stages of birth, relationship, decomposition and the releasing of energy, quality and substance for the forming of new creations. An incessant inner drive toward renewal is apparently one thing all life forms have in common. And yet, old scriptures and modern scientists agree that there is nothing 'new' under the Sun; that however many forms matter may take, whatever energy is involved in such creativity, the equivalence between mass and energy remains the same.

However, it is obvious that the increasing capacity of the human being to observe and study, learn from and make use of its findings, has brought innumerable benefits and improvements to the human standard of living. But knowledge alone is insufficient when it comes to bringing creative and harmonious changes to relationships, or the sense of direction. Knowledge can provide a detailed map but can, without the cooperation of intuition, end up in a cul-de-sac.

So, are we getting closer to understanding the meaning and purpose of what is called Life? As the gravitational pull of materialism and separatism is peaking and imploding, we seem to reach a point in evolution where science confirms the ancient wisdom which speaks of the deep connectedness and purposeful relationship between all parts of the universe. We are catching glimpses of a revelation just above the horizon of comprehension.

Some scientists are coming to the conclusion that the universe cannot be

fully understood merely by peering into deep space and inspecting galaxies. "*It lies deeper,*" says Robert Lanza, "*it involves our very selves*". Somewhat reluctantly an increasing number of scientists are agreeing that consciousness could be 'the matrix upon which the cosmos is apprehended'. Esoteric teaching stresses that evolution as understood and studied by human intellect 'is the story of the evolution of consciousness and not the evolution of form'; that consciousness is in reality, the action or the response of active intelligence to a blueprint which already exists.

As humanity strives to understand the universe and becomes increasingly aware of the intricate and interactive relationship between all its parts, we are, it seems, simultaneously building it in accordance with an existing plan and with material already imbued with quality. And in the process the human being is evolving and discovering its own true being and possible place within the overall scheme of things. Through constant interaction between the two opposite poles of matter: positive and negative, light and dark, father and mother—emerges the child. The seed thought. Within the womb of space the child grows, becoming a thinker and a builder, building bridges of relationships.

Humanity has overcome the gravitational pull of the Earth to soar into space in search of life on other planets. Will we likewise light the fire of the rocket which can blast us free of the pull of materialism and separatism and discover the origin of consciousness within the sphere we have named the universe?

As we build, re-build, the bridge between the ageless Wisdom Teaching and Science, the door will open in our minds and hearts to the Life, to the Truth, we seek.

**Gita Brooke**

*Operation Peace Through Unity* New

Zealand (Accredited NGO in association with the UN  
Department of Public Information)  
[www.peacethroughunity.info](http://www.peacethroughunity.info)

## Death, Rebirth and Ego-Free Listening

Wisdom teachings suggest that the Death/Rebirth process is central to spiritual development. Death/Rebirth can take many forms. But the one that I would like to focus on here is the physical death of the body in this world and the rebirth in the Afterlife. Evidence suggests that we will only resolve the material and social problems of this world when we become aware of and adopt the higher principles of the next world. This need not be as difficult as it sounds for the two worlds overlap and we already have opportunities to learn to be at home in that world while still physically in this world. This is becoming more common these days, not only through spiritual teachings and practice but increasingly through communications between the living and the dead—usually those who have had close emotional ties. The evidence shows that the ego, which plays the dominant role in earthly life, becomes absorbed into a higher form of consciousness, which lies beyond the mental consciousness of thought and word in this world. This move up to the higher consciousness only becomes possible through a chosen surrender of ego dominance, and the acceptance of wisdom and compassion of Spirit as the true valid life energy.

The conclusion for us in our everyday lives seems to be that we need to work singly and together to learn the skill of Spiritual Listening, through hunches, intuitions, surprises, synchronicities, discernments, promptings and 'openings' as George Fox called them. These are often uncomfortable to the ego but with practice can be recognised and encouraged by the spirit. If the ego can relax in the face of the incoming spirit we can die to one and be born to the other, as happens to the caterpillar in the chrysalis. Our human efforts to become more advanced spiritual 'caterpillars' are

misplaced, as the time has come to go beyond being caterpillars altogether. When the butterfly genes are accepted we will be able to loosen our usual dependence on thoughts, words, speeches, books and conferences, and start to share the ego-free knowledge that comes direct from the Source. Spiritual groups will still need a minimum of words to outline the principles and context of the Listening, but then tuned-in members will each be able to know as much as they need to know at the present moment without normal communication. Communication between minds is replaced by communion between souls, though while we are still in this life, of course, we continue with normal worldly activities. The secret is to live in both worlds at once.

**Harry Underhill**

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Book Review

"Who on EARTH was JESUS?" by David Boulton. Subtitled: *The modern quest for the Jesus of History*, which describes its contents well. It only tries to deal in depth with the work of historians, including those who may have other titles as well, but mostly claim to be working under the rules of historians, including the Pope. A major set of contributors featured are the Jesus Seminar participants, but many of them are also treated separately. They are offset by presentations on NT (Tom) Wright, and other Christians and Jews. Some of the radical theories are explored. The fundamental question is raised as to whether Jesus taught his ultimate return, or his post-death return, and whether we are waiting for God to act or God is waiting for us or is it God and humanity who need to act together. All this takes 400 plus pages and is well worth the £14.99 paperback from O Books.

David Storey

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Quotation taken from *The Times* by Jonathan Sacks saying that Stephen Hawking should stick to science as science and theology have different aims:

*"Science is about explanation whereas religion is about interpretation. Science takes things apart to see how they work. Religion puts things together to see what they mean"*

## SPIRIT OF PEACE

From Edinburgh to Exeter, Norwich to Wales and the South of England, and in the Middle East too, Spirit of Peace has been engaged in the work of social change at grassroots level and beyond, working with others 'towards a world in which all can flourish'. This requires a world where all can live in safety, where fairness and mutual respect prevail.

Spirit of Peace is a rapidly developing UK based charity, with a heartfelt vision to foster greater peace and equality in our global society, our strapline being 'person to person for peace'. Contributing to the creation of a culture of peace and nonviolence in our fractured world it is influenced by the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi, Dr Martin Luther King and others.

### Pathways to Peace

Part of our task is to 'translate' spiritual, heart-centred values which can be found in both religious and humanitarian approaches into language and principles that are accessible to people from mixed religious and cultural backgrounds, thereby fostering the ability to work together. We do this through our holistic and heart-centred Pathways to Peace training, which includes pathways such as nonviolence, networking, trauma healing, inclusivity, arts and culture and emergence. To give the merest taster of this teaching here is a quotation from Barbara Marx Hubbard which relates to our pathway – Emergence:

*So, the path of the co-creator is to be awakened spiritually within, which then turns into your own deeper life purpose, which then makes you want to reach out and touch others in a way that expresses self and really evolves our communities and our world. Certainly, we can't do that unless we activate ourselves first. That's why, for me, emergence is the shift from ego to essence.*

### Community Engagement

Our work is inspired by the belief in the interdependence and interconnectedness of all life. To quote Sufi mystic and teacher Llewellyn Vaughan-Lee, who has written about 'Working with Oneness':

*But now we are asked to participate in a new way; we are asked to participate as ourselves, completely and fully engaging in life around us. Emptiness is no longer a goal,*

*something to attain through purification, but a surrender lived through complete participation. Being used is no longer an aspiration, but the living potential of every moment.*

Through our community engagement programme, we bring people of different culture and ethnicity together, offering a channel whereby we can fully participate in the work of social transformation and the creation of what the late Dr Martin Luther King calls 'the beloved community' - a community where each person is valued and encouraged to live to their fullest potential.

### Being The Change

We recognise that, in the words of Mahatma Gandhi, "We must be the change we wish to see in the world". This is a challenging prospect, but every step we take towards peace is significant, however large or small. Many people on experiencing our work and events describe these as 'transformational' and 'life-changing'.

As Adrian Smith (who was so beloved and influential to many in CANA) wrote: *Change is born at the grassroots and what is giving power to this source of change today is 'networking'. The power to forge our future lies in the large number of ordinary people, with their inventiveness and enthusiasm, pooling their ideas and resources... By networking, power is exercised horizontally. This is the new force shaping world opinion and bringing about change.*

If you would like to know more about what we do to on the ground in the UK and Middle East please do get in contact in one of the following ways: Visit:

[www.spiritofpeace.org](http://www.spiritofpeace.org)

Call: 07711 960644 for a chat, or to receive a brochure about our work, email:

[info@spiritofpeace.co.uk](mailto:info@spiritofpeace.co.uk)

I hope that in this brief article I have managed to give you at least a hint of what our work is about and I would be delighted to hear from you if you would like to know more, or volunteer in some way!

**Jane Ozanne**

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Conversation: origin—"to turn together"

Con = with Versare = to turn

"The Plum"

You can learn that you cannot be loved by all people:

You can be the finest PLUM in the world,
R I p e — J u I c y — S u c c u l e n t
And offer yourself to all.

However, you must remember there will always be people who do not like plums.

You can learn to understand that if you are the world's finest plum,
And someone you like does not like plums
You have a choice of becoming a banana.

However, you need to be warned that if you choose to become a banana,
You will be a second-rate banana.

However, you can always be the best plum.

You need to understand that if you choose to be a second-rate banana,
There will always be people who do not like bananas.

Furthermore, you can spend your life trying to become the best banana (which is impossible if you are a plum),

Or: you can seek again to be the BEST PLUM!

(Heard at an Ammerdown conference)

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"The intuitive mind is a sacred gift and the rational mind is a faithful servant. We have created a society that honours the servant and has forgotten the gift"

Albert Einstein

"Somehow, in the process of trying to deny that things are always changing, we lose our sense of the sacredness of life. We tend to forget that we are part of the natural scheme of things"

Pema Chodron

CANA

You will recently have received a mailing from the Cana Core Group, and we would just like to reiterate one of the paragraphs to make sure as wide a readership as possible is made aware:

About the CANA Core Group:
Having lost Philip Sheppard and Adrian Smith, and with Celia Storey bowing out after being Treasurer since near the foundation of CANA, we would be interested in hearing from anyone who would like to join us on the Core Group. We particularly need someone to be our Treasurer—straightforward, simple accounts, nothing complicated—(a small fee could be payable if necessary). Please contact Catie Sharples (on 01628 529436 or catiesharples@onetel.net) if you feel you can help CANA in this way.

At present the Core Group consists of:
James Ashby, Richard Dell, Janice Dolley, Clare Freeman, Judy Hanmer, Jane Ozanne, Don MacGregor, Denise Moll, Catie Sharples, Celia Storey, David Storey, Judy Turner

We meet 3 or 4 times a year, sometimes over 2 days. Each of us has a specific area or job for which they take responsibility.

Thank you so much

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"We can do no great things, only small things with great love"

Mother Theresa

Summer 2012

CHRISTIANS AWAKENING Newsletter

**Christians
Awakening
to a new
Awareness**

(CANA)

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by end October 2012

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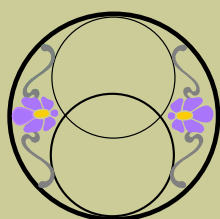
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DIARY DATES

2012

31 August-2 September: *The Christ Consciousness & The Mystery of Incarnation & Resurrection.* Retreat with Ravi Ravindra, Boars Hill, Oxford
Contact: Carol, 01243 576634 carolduncan8hl@btinternet.com

3-7 September: *You are God's Word Incarnate* led by Sr Maureena Fritz NDS, at Ammerdown www.ammerdown.org 01761 433709. The workshop will focus on the uniqueness of each individual made in the image and likeness of God.

12 September: *Autum Reflection Day* featuring "Harmonic Law & Reconciliation: making it happen from the inside out" introduced by David Dennis, hosted by Reading Wrekin Forum @ Douai Abbey, Reading
Contact: Jenny, 0118 986 6987 jennycuff@aol.com

17-21 September: *Hearing God through Play & Creativity* led by Revd Anna Garvie "...playing creatively in God's presence". At Ammerdown.

21-23 September: Wrekin Forum Annual Round Table @ Hawkwood College, Stroud "Beyond 2012: Towards a Planetary Consciousness" Contact: office@wrekintrust.org

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20th October: *Cana Day* on Rev Don MacGregor's book *Blue Sky God.* Held at the Essex Unitarian Church at Notting Hill Gate, London. For full details see attached flyer. **WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE !**

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3 November: Cana SE Regional Gathering—held at St Mary's Church Street, Hartfield TN7 4AG. Contact: Rose Moore on 018923 770305

16-18 November: *A Gift or Deadly Sin?* Led by Frances Henley Lock & Lynette Harborne. An experiential w/e "to appreciate the gift of anger". At Ammerdown.

20-22 November: *Understanding Islam* led by Dr Chris Hower: "...to give an appreciation of the inner dimensions of Islam...." at Ammerdown.

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*You are welcome to advertise in this column
events broadly in keeping with CANA ethos*

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*Your writings, poems, pictures and ideas
are Welcome—contact Editor*