



Living Spirituality Connections
Resources for the spiritual journey

EVENTS RUN BY MANY CENTRES AND ORGANISATIONS ACROSS THE UK

April-June 2018

**Compiled by Living Spirituality
Connections**

www.livingspirit.org.uk/events

If you wish to let others know about these events,
please give them a link to our website: www.livingspirit.org.uk/events.

For events that are put on regularly, see
www.livingspirit.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/regularevents.pdf.

End March 2018

29 March – 1 April. Would You Like to Experience a shared Cosmic Easter? Led by **Mary Jo Radcliffe**.

You are invited to join us in spending Holy Week together, exploring the meaning of the Gospel story and how we understand it today in the context of the Universe story, and in the light of the visions of Teilhard de Chardin, Matthew Fox, Thomas Berry and Brian Swimme. We endeavour to celebrate each day in ritual, music and words, in a creative group experience in which all contributions are welcome. Sussex. For further details email maryjoradcliffe@icloud.com or phone 0207 223 2917.

April 2018

28 March – 3 April A Creative Holy Week and Easter Retreat 'The Journey' including a collection of paintings by Peter Clare. With **Elizabeth Baxter** and members of the Holy Rood House Community. N. Yorks. www.holyroodhouse.org.uk

3-5 April The Way, the Trust and the Life: Aspects of the road to Emmaus. Easter retreat with Sr **Rachel Overton**. Leicestershire. www.laundeabbey.org.uk

7 April 10-2 Walking in Awareness with Sue Tite. York.

“Just go for walks, live in peace, let change come quietly and invisibly on the inside”. - Thomas Merton. This reflective walk will take us through some of the beautiful landscape of the Ampleforth Abbey Estate. There will be opportunities along the way to pause, reflect and pray and to gather together at the end.

<http://www.stbedes.org.uk/programme-of-events>

9-13 April Young and contemplative. Sharing the rhythm of the Friary’s prayer and work. For younger people (18-30) who are drawn to contemplative spirituality. Dorset.

www.hilfieldfriary.org.uk

9-15 April Oxford Three Faiths Week. Jewish, Christian and Muslim traditions. Learning and Encounter. Includes the opportunity to participate in authentic worship from the three traditions. You can access more information and the application form here:

<http://www.spiritofpeace.co.uk/downloads/three-faiths-1804.pdf>

<https://www.theoxfordfoundation.com/oxford-three-faiths-week>

10 April Day of reflection. “In the natural world, we discover the mysterious power whence all things come into being” said Thomas Berry. Workshop led by Sr **Bridget Pritchard**. South east Wales. www.tycroesocentre.co.uk

13-15 April Celtic Christianity deconstructed and reconstructed with Rev Dr **Ian Bradley**. 25 years on from the publication of his best-selling book, *The Celtic Way*, Ian Bradley re-assesses Celtic Christianity; exploring the current revival, its manifestations and motivation, establishing what we do know and can say about the faith and practice of Early Medieval insular Christian communities in the British Isles, and considering themes that can be helpful today. North East Wales. www.gladstoneslibrary.org

14 April Easter art workshop retreat. **Exploring the Easter mystery with Mary Magdalen and the pilgrims of Emmaus.** No artistic skill required. Led by **Mary Chamberlain & Sister Marie-Christine**. South East London. www.sisters-of-st-andrew.com

20 April Dancing our journey of loss and gain. With **Janette Blackmore**. Circle dance, beautiful music, and poetry, explore our experience of life’s transitions. County Durham www.minsteracres.org

21 April Making way for God in our lives. What helps us to be aware of the presence of God? With **Sheila Grimwood**. Kent. www.thefriars.org.uk

20-22 April The Devotional Path. Spiritual practices to free the heart. With **Gill Pennington & Lynne Sedgemore**. Cumbria. www.swarthmoorhall.co.uk

23-26 April Christian approaches to leadership in the public arena.

Methodological, hermeneutical and theological study of the impact of Christian approaches to leadership on and within secular institutions. Salisbury. www.sarum.ac.uk

28 April 11-5 Day walk in the spirit of pilgrimage. Walking in the Vale of Ewyas, close to the Black Mountains, from Llanthony Priory to Capel y Ffin (near Abergavenny and Hereford). Free of charge. Details from Iain Tweedale (07904 042976) and book on the Journeying website: www.journeying.co.uk

28 April – 5 May Iona Pilgrimage with John Philip Newell. Scotland.

<http://heartbeatjourney.org/events/iona-pilgrimage-st-columba-hotel-isle-of-iona-scotland-10/>

Each day on Iona begins and ends with the rhythm of prayer and meditation together. In the mornings John Philip Newell teaches on themes related to the sacredness of the earth, interfaith relationship, and commitment to practices of contemplation and action as the basis for transformation in our lives and world. The afternoons are given to hiking, conversation, and rest, and the early evenings to further reflection and embodiment practices of chant and meditative movement. Repeated 9-16 June.

30 April - 4 May Always Green: Faith and Fulfilment in later life. With Rev **Michael Jackson**. Explore the questions and challenges raised by the ageing process. Cumbria. www.rydalhall.org

May 2018

2 May Befriending Death? A conversation about why Christians find it so hard to consider mortality and prepare for death. For spiritual directors, and anyone engaged in pastoral ministry. Salisbury. www.sarum.ac.uk

4-6 May Discovering the mystics through contemplative creativity. Cheshire. www.orc-crewe.org

4-6 May Deepening roots and identity – in the Celtic tradition. A workshop for women. South East Wales. www.llansor.org

5 May 10-4.30. Walking the Labyrinth as a Spiritual Practice. Introducing ways of praying in the labyrinth and how to create them. The Bield at Blackruthven in conjunction with the Retreat Association. Near Dundee. <http://www.biieldatblackruthven.org.uk>

9 May 10.30 – 4 The Soul and Its Creative Destiny. A day of exploration with **William Meader** speaker and teacher immersed in the cosmology of the perennial philosophy and the journey of the soul. Pembrokeshire. Email Don MacGregor at donmacg@live.co.uk or phone 01437 454388.

11-13 May Beauty: the language of God. Workshop with Dom **Brendan Thomas**. Herefordshire. www.belmontabbey.org.uk

14-16 May Being Peace. Tutors: **Lesley Collington, Marion Mills Dadds & Janet Entwistle** Birmingham www.woodbrooke.org.uk

Whether a beginner or experienced in eastern spiritual practice you will taste something of the deep peace that can be discovered through simple practices of being present. Guidance will be given on a variety of practices to encourage a sense of mindfulness. You will be invited to experiment with silence as part of this, including taking meals in silence. Run in partnership with the Community of Interbeing, who live by and share with others the teachings of Thich Nhat Hanh.

16 May 6.30-9 Conscious Leadership. Led by **Laurence Freeman** OSB. London <http://meditatiocentreondon.org/>

The weakness of inspirational leadership in many aspects of modern life is that it threatens the foundations of civilised behaviour and social integrity. Laurence Freeman has been working in our Meditatio outreach to develop new approaches to contemplative leadership for the next generation – truthful, other-centred, compassionate – and (therefore) conscious. He will look at various models of leadership and suggest how a contemplative practice brings not only psychological and physical benefits but transformative spiritual fruits.

16-18 May The strange silence of Biblical women. With **John Bell**. Northumberland. www.shepherdsdene.co.uk

17 May. The first six hundred years. How Christianity spread around the Mediterranean. Salisbury. www.sarum.ac.uk

18-20 May Spiritual Ecology: Reviving a sacred and interconnected world. Somerset. Run by St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace. <https://stethelburgas.org/event/spiritual-ecology-reviving-sacred-interconnected-world/>

Living Spirituality Connections Event

19 May 10.15 – 5.15. Working with Emergence. The second event in our series in partnership with The Institute for Theological Partnerships at Winchester University and Spirit of Peace (brought forward owing to bad weather in March).

Speakers: Professor **Chris Mowles** of the Hertfordshire University Complexity and Management Centre and Rev Dr **Terry Biddington**, Dean of Spiritual Life and Lecturer in Practical & Eco Theology at the University of Winchester; soul traveller and adventurer.

This workshop will explore the theme of working with emergent process and address the question 'What is the quality of intelligence that is necessary to move things in the direction of a greater flourishing for all?'. The emergence of interiority as part of the process of cosmic evolution/awakening will be explored, as well as seeing religion as something that is unfinished and evolving, much as the universe is.

Event poster: http://www.livingspirit.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/emergence_poster.pdf

Booking essential. Workshop fee: £25 payable in advance at <https://store.winchester.ac.uk/conferences-and-events/institute-for-theological-partnerships/events/working-with-emergence>

Information for participants: http://www.livingspirit.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/practical_details_for_workshop_attendees.pdf

Article on emergence: www.livingspirit.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/emergence_article.pdf

21-24 May Celtic Spirituality. Salisbury. www.sarum.ac.uk

This module enables students to gain a critical understanding of current invocations and retrievals of Celtic Spirituality. Students will be able to engage with notions of the development of spiritual traditions and the political impact of those developments. The Celtic insights into sacred space, nature, time, place, grace and eschatology will be investigated in order to enable students to have a clear understanding of the differences between Celtic and Anglo-Saxon traditions.

22 May Rediscovering Sabbath in our lives. Quiet day. Essex.

www.retreathousepleshey.com

25-27 May To Save From Fear: Spiritual Disciplines for difficult times. Tutors: **Deborah Shaw & Mark Russ.** Birmingham www.woodbrooke.org.uk

The culture of fear in which we live, coupled with our own personal anxieties, is an impediment to deepening our spiritual life. Centred in worship, this retreat will offer individual and group reflection and exploration of ways of embracing hope and optimism. Together we will seek to open ourselves to 'that perfect love which casts out fear' and thus enable our growth in the Spirit.

25-27 May Living in the earth as our common home. Ecological retreat with **Paul Maiteney.** Berkshire. www.douaiabbey.org.uk

25-28 May School of the Heart weekend retreat with **Julienne Mclean.** This retreat is in the spirit and rhythm of, and a preparation for, the longer Holy Island retreat in August (see Advance notices), as we gather together in community, silent prayer, lectio divina and spiritual friendship around writings from Spanish, English and Cistercian saints and mystics. Leicestershire. Booking at 0208 4515255 or info@contemplativespirituality.org

26 May Pathways. Death and dying. Life and living. With **Jill Benet.** Surrey. www.christian-retreat.org

28 May – 1 June Divine mysticism. Discover the tradition of Christian mysticism and enhance and deepen your own walk with God. With **David Cole.** Holy Island, Northumberland. www.aidanandhilda.org.uk

29 May 10-4. The Evolutionary Power of Love with **Julia MacDonald.** York. "Love is a sacred reserve of energy; it is like the blood of spiritual evolution" - Teilhard de Chardin. During the day, drawing on insights of Teilhard de Chardin and others, we will reflect on our human capacity for 'love' and explore its contribution to the ongoing unfolding of God's creative action in the world. The day will include some input, space for personal reflection and opportunity for creative response. www.stbedes.org.uk

June 2018

3 June 2.30 Religion in Public Life: Levelling the Ground. Speaker: **Grace Davie,** Sociologist of Religion and Emeritus Professor at Exeter University, will be speaking about her recent Theos publication. Organised by the Progressive Christianity Network Exeter group.

Contact: Liz Vizard phone: 01392 668859 email: lizvizard@blueyonder.co.uk.

https://www.pcnbritain.org.uk/groups/programme/exeter/religion_in_public_life_levelling_the_ground

7 June 6.30 – 9 Presence in Relationship. Led by **Susan Groves**. London
meditatiocentrelondon.org/

What might a contemplative relationship look like? An evening of gentle enquiry. Susan has been linked to WCCM for several years. She has served as an Anglican priest in South Africa and is trained in the contemplative form of Core Process Psychotherapy. Her third book, *Presence in Relationship*, was published in 2016.

8-10 June First steps in contemplation. Retreat with **David Cole**. Berkshire.
www.douaiabbey.org.uk

9 June Integrating Mary and Martha on the spiritual journey. With **Kim Nataraja**. Surrey.
www.christian-retreat.org

9 June Soulful Saturday: "Love was his Meaning"... a 'homely' approach to the spirituality of Julian of Norwich. Chester. retreathousechester.co.uk

9-16 June. Iona Pilgrimage with **John Philip Newell**. See 28 April to 5 May.

16 June 10 – 4. Living Streams Taster Day with **Dorothy & David Littlewood & Julia MacDonald**. York. www.stbedes.org.uk

This day is for those who: are living on the 'edge of the inside' of their faith communities; feel drawn to contemporary expressions of faith; are exploring 'emerging' church; may not currently be following any particular faith path but are aware that something deeper and greater than their current life and spiritual experience is beckoning them to come and explore the 'more' with others of a like mind. During the day we will explore and reflect together on some of the above themes in anticipation of establishing regular group meetings from the autumn. This programme is influenced by Richard Rohr's Living School programme at the Centre for Action & Contemplation in New Mexico.

23 June Water, wells and water-pots. A day with the woman at the well at Samaria. With Rev Canon **Sylvia Griffiths**.

Our reflections will focus around the wells that make up our lives, the water of life that Jesus offers and the call to a new and deeper relationship to the God who longs to give freely and lovingly to each of us. Nottinghamshire. www.sacristaprebend.wordpress.com

23-30 June Creation spirituality retreat. Glimpses into the mystery of the unfolding universe. Northern Ireland. www.drumalis.co.uk

25-28 June Summer School at Luther King House. Spend four days exploring and assessing the many forms which spirituality takes today in art, film, the urban context and embodied & feminist expressions. Led by **Glen Marshall, Clare McBeath & Graham Sparkes.** Manchester. <http://lutherkinghouse.org.uk/2017/10/05/summer-school-2018>

25-29 June Seeds of Silence – The ground of our being. An Appleseed Retreat. Tutors: **Brenda Heales & Kathleen Nelson.** Birmingham. www.woodbrooke.org.uk
Julian of Norwich described God as the ground of our being, a place where our seeds of silence can grow and spread. This is a silent retreat with input on the theme at the beginning of each day, plus options of lectio divina, worship sharing and one-to-one sessions with a tutor. We shall hold silence at meals, when working, and overnight so participants will need to have enough experience of Appleseed to be able to work independently. Appleseed's mission is to foster social change in the poorest communities. <http://appleseedimpact.org/our-story/>

29 June – 1 July Men's event: Anamcara: the way of friendship

How do you experience friendship? Does this alter as you get older? How do you cultivate and maintain it? If it is lost or betrayed, is it possible to restore it? In this weekend together we'll share experience, look for the patterns, and grow together as best we can...

South East Wales. www.llansor.org

29 June – 1 July. Universe Story Conference at Winchester University organised by Greenspirit in partnership with the Institute of Theological Partnerships. Speakers:

Professor **Brian Swimme** – by video link. Cosmogenetic Experience as a Foundation for a Reinvention of Homo Sapiens.

Professor Emerita **Ursula King.** A Greater Love for the Earth and All Its People: Earth Literacy, Ecology and Spirituality as seen by Teilhard de Chardin and Thomas Berry.

Professor **Jonathan Halliwell.** The Universe Story as a Modern Myth: A Physicist's Perspective.

Dr **Jane Riddiford** and **Rod Sugden.** Exploring the Universe Story with Children and Young People.

Conference Website at: <https://greenspirit.org.uk/uni-story-conf/>.

Early bird bookings till 18 May.

30 June 10.30 - 4. Meister Eckhart's Book of the Heart: A day retreat for restless souls. Led by Prof **Mark Burrows.** London <http://meditatiocentrelondon.org/>

A day-retreat for those who hunger for depth in life and for deeper and truer love, focused on new poetic renderings of the Meister by Mark. The day offers a chance to live into Eckhart's wisdom, drawing on Mark's poems together with selections from Eckhart's sermons. The question that will guide us, as it did Eckhart, is what it means to live into love as the very heart of our lives? Eckhart, a towering giant in his day, ran afoul of the church for ideas far ahead of his age. We seem finally to have caught up with these ideas, or they with us.

30 June. Walking with God as a pilgrim. A pilgrimage from Aylesford to Rochester. With Paul de Groot & Maggie Cascioli. Kent. www.thefriars.org.uk

Advance notices

2-5 July Holy Rood House Summer School: Transition & Transformation' Identity & Integrity in Church & Society. N. Yorks. <http://www.holyroodhouse.org.uk/events.html>

25 August – 1 September. Abiding in the Wisdom of Love with Julienne McLean, Judy Barber, Rev Michael Gartland and Roger Ferguson.

This seven day retreat is being offered to gather together in prayer and spiritual friendship on this ancient, beautiful and sacred island. Each day we will meet for silent prayer, Holy Communion, lectio divina, chanting and spiritual conversation around Christian mystical writings that illuminate the deepest call on our life. There will also be opportunities for conscious work in the garden, walking meditation and a pilgrimage to the cave of St Molaise. At the Centre for World Peace and Health, Holy Island, Scotland www.holyisle.org. Booking at info@contemplativvespirituality.org

21 – 23 September GreenSpirit Annual Gathering “Light into Dark – Finding Balance”

The Autumn Equinox is a time when light and dark are balanced just before we start moving towards shorter days and the longer nights of winter. At this weekend we will honour the harvest and fruitfulness of the summer as we also enjoy the crispness in the air and the changing colours of autumn trees. We will focus on the need for balancing the opposite energies of light and dark by talking together, listening to our speaker, creating some short rituals and devotions, being led in creative activities, workshops and a walk in the glorious scenery of the Peak District.

Main Speaker – **Dr Vivianne Crowley** - “Journeying inward with the Divine Feminine at Autumn Equinox”. Derbyshire.

Details and how to book at: <https://www.greenspirit.org.uk/annual-gathering-2018-home/>

3 November 10.30 – 5pm. We are all one. Towards Universal Spirituality: Journeying with Christianity. CANA conference. London.

Speakers: **Jude Currivan, Don MacGregor, Dairmuid O’Murchu, Marianne Rankin.**

www.cana.org.uk