

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE STUDIES AND GLOBAL PHILOSOPHY

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IIPSGP SUMMER 2005 NEWSLETTER

1. IIPSGP PARLIAMENTARY WORK: The developing *All Party Parliamentary Group For Peace And Conflict Resolution* will hopefully be restarting its work now that a new UK parliament has been elected, with an expected meeting in parliament to take place in November 2005. Further details to IIPSGP members and associates once the date has been finalised.

2. DR. JOHN DEE (1527-1608) SYMPOSIUM – JULY 16, 2005: This special event is being organised by IIPSGP to commemorate the life and work and influence of Dr John Dee, one of the unsung heroes of the Elizabethan Renaissance. The Symposium has been organised on the Saturday closest to his birthday, which was on 13 July 1527. Dee was born in London to a Welsh father (Rowland Dee) from Radnorshire and an English mother (Joanna Wild), and all his life was interested in the peaceful symbiosis of his Welsh and English heritage. Dee was a friend of Guillaume Postel in France, Mercator in the Netherlands, and many of the leading scientists and philosophers of his day. He was a hermetic mystic at the court of Queen Elizabeth 1st, who sought through his learning and his studies to bring into being a new world based on peace and wisdom. His students included Sir Philip Sidney. Sir Walter Raleigh, the Earl of Northumberland and even Queen Elizabeth 1st herself. Educated at Cambridge, where he was a student at St John's College, he became a founding fellow of Trinity College when it was founded in 1546, and became an under-reader in Greek, which tongue he knew well. The Symposium is taking place at a Welsh Country house in Montgomeryshire, near Welshpool, whose owner possesses a rare oil portrait of Dee on a wood panel which has been dated to not long after his time, and which may well contain an original likeness. Researchers with an interest in Dee as a historical figure are invited to offer a paper on the subject of Dee and his influences. Places at the Symposium will be limited due to space constraints so if you are

interested in coming, either to present a talk, or simply to listen in, please contact: International Institute for Peace Studies and Global Philosophy, Rhos Gallt, Llanerfyl, Powys, Wales, SY21 0ER, Tel. 01938 820586 email: iipsgp@educationaid.net

3. 2005 GENERAL ELECTION U.K.: A paper from IIPSGP Director was issued in the run up to the general election, in the form of an election response document, entitled: A GARLAND OF IDEAS: A PHILOSOPHICAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEBATES IN THE BRITISH ELECTION, APRIL 2005. It had 23 numbered proposals, to be taken up by any or all parties contesting the election, as follows:

1	<i>Why can't Rover make hydro cars ?</i>
2	<i>Solving UK and global immigration crises by helping facilitate peace and justice all over the world !</i>
3	<i>Solving the problems of corruption in politics by proportional funding of political parties:</i>
4	<i>Solving the lack of airtime for non voters in the UK media</i>
5	<i>Lawyers to be volunteers</i>
6	<i>Service ethic not profits</i>
7	<i>Solving the problem of oppositional politics: redesigning Parliament into a circular shape, Circle space not oppositional</i>
8	<i>Reform of house of lords</i>
9	<i>Solving the problems of lack of money in education through an international Education Aid day</i>
10	<i>Solving the problems of ethnic and religious conflicts in the UK and abroad by funding the MEMS</i>
11	<i>Solving the problems of the National Health service by emphasising preventative medicine and healing and renaming it the National Healing Service</i>

13	<i>Solving the problems of transport and railway travel by major expansion to railway facilities and infrastructure</i>
14	<i>Solving the problems of environmental research by funding the Global Green University</i>
15	<i>Solving the problem of lack of voices speaking up for peace and conflict resolution by establishing a Ministry of Peace</i>
16	<i>Solving the problem of corruption in postal ballots by making voting compulsory</i>
17	<i>Solving the problem of unaccountable government by independently enforcing the code of conduct from the Privy Council</i>
18	<i>Solving the problems of schools by enforcing effective school discipline and reforming the curriculum and structures of schools</i>
19	<i>Solving the problem of spam by effective blockings on the internet</i>
20	<i>Solving the problem of drugs and crime by a Royal Commission of Inquiry, and a strict licensing system</i>
21	<i>Solving the problems of international conflict by binding non-aggression treaties</i>
22	<i>Solving the problems of war in the 21st century</i>
23	<i>Intelligence and wisdom: a proposal for funding an international peace intelligence service under UN auspices</i>

Anyone wishing a copy of the full text (by email or post) please write in to the IIPSGP office.

4. THE DRUID PEACE ORDER (DEEP) continues its gradual work, alongside the Order of Wandering Peace Poets (more aimed at Bards both in the British Isles and abroad) and works alongside the Council of British Druid Orders and other Druid groups, orders and associations, both in the UK and internationally. Recently, IIPSGP Director participated in an excellent Druid Spirit Challenge Camp in Shropshire, UK, which brought together a number of new and old friends, and led to many interesting exchanges and networkings. The Council of British Druid Orders continues to meet quarterly, and is currently being chaired by David Morgan-Brown of the Druids of Albion, with its next meeting in London on June 5th at 76 Antrobus Road, W4 5NQ (Tel. 020 8994 6216)

5. THE BIG GREEN GATHERING takes place this year in Somerset and will feature many interesting

activities, stalls, events, workshops; if you are interested in seeing alternative lifestyles in action, and meeting new and old friends, come along – IIPSGP Director, Thomas Daffern, has been invited to give a talk on *The Greening of History: Factoring back in the transpersonal dimension in to the historiographical record* in the Main Tent of the Ethics / Philosophy / Spirituality Field on Friday August 5th, from 16.00 – 17.30. All IIPSGP members and friends in the West country area do try and come along – a day ticket to the BGG is inexpensive and well worth the effort (details from their website). In addition, IIPSGP friend Rowena Stone will be in the ESP field with her yurt creating a Trees of Life space, with the help of Rona Crawford, Thomas Daffern and others. Full details of the Yurt activities from Rowena (in Glastonbury) on 01458 830723.

6. POST DEATH SURVIVAL EVIDENCE: IIPSGP was recently sent details of the work of Victor Zammit, a former active Australian Judge in New South Wales, who has argued that the evidence for survival after death is now so overwhelming that it would stand up in a court of law, were the evidence and contra evidence ever to be weighed up under due legal process. He has sent IIPSGP a copy of a letter he wrote to the Pope explaining the basis of his findings, which were undertaken in a spirit of objective and scientific research and discovery, asking that the Vatican up date its after-death theology to take cognisance of the new findings from parapsychology and near death research, to the effect that whereas post mortem consciousness survival is upheld, the notion of eternal damnation and a fear based post mortem expectation simply does not coincide with the facts available to para-empirical researchers. Victor James Zammit, B.A.(Psych), Grad. Dip. Ed., M.A.(Legal Hist.), LL.B, Ph.D, is an attorney-at-law and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of the New South Wales and the High Court of Australia (ret.) and was raised and educated in Sydney, Australia. See www.victorzammit.com for full details of this work.

7. ACADEMIC RESEARCH NETWORK ON HUMILIATION AND DIGNITY STUDIES: A new international research network has recently come into being, facilitated through the work of Dr. Evelin Lindner, a psychologist at the University of Oslo, who completed her Ph.D. there on the psychology of humiliation and its relationship to conflict causation in 2001. The new network she has created is based loosely at Columbia University, New York, and includes active participation from

many leading thinkers in peace and conflict resolution worldwide, such as Dr. Ada Aharoni who is a specialist in literature and conflict resolution (and is busy organising the First World Congress of Jews from Egypt in Haifa from May 9-12 2006.); Dr. Heidi Burgess of the University of Colorado, Conflict Research Consortium and co-editor of the Encyclopaedia of Conflict Resolution (ABC-Clio, 1999); Dr. William A. Callahan, a sinologist at the University of Durham; Dr. Asbjorn Eide of the Norwegian Institute of Human Rights; Prof. Thomas Hylland Eriksen of the University of Oslo, an anthropologist interested in Darwin and history and many other peace thinkers and academics. The Director of IIPSGP has been invited to join the International Advisory Board of the network and has teamed up with the work of Prof. Francisco Gomes de Matos of the Federal University of Pernambuco in Recife in North-Eastern Brazil, who is the author of a Universal Declaration of Linguistic Rights (1984) and For Communicative Peace (1993). Prof. De Matos has pioneered the notion of a peace linguistics over recent decades. Simultaneously, IIPSGP has been researching its comprehensive Multilingual Dictionary for Multifaith and Multicultural Mediation and Education (1999) and as a result this dictionary can now be found online at www.humiliationstudies.org/intervention/crosscultural.php Also at this same web address can be found details of the paper by Thomas Daffern on Comparative Enlightenments (see next item)

8. ENLIGHTENMENTS: TOWARDS A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE PHILOSOPHIES OF ENLIGHTENMENT IN THE WORLD'S SPIRITUAL TRADITIONS, was the title of a paper contributed by Thomas Daffern to the International Seminar on *Buddhist Ecology on Buddhist Ecology and the Critique of Modern Society*. This event took place at SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies), University of London, and was jointly organised with Dongguk University of Seoul, Korea. The symposium saw a coming together of Korean Buddhist and British Buddhologists and philosophers and led to some fascinating exchanges. The paper is now available online; the entire conference proceedings are due to be published in the near future.

9. THE WESSEX RESEARCH GROUP recently hosted two talks in Sherborne and Totnes in May 2005 by Thomas Daffern. The one in Totnes addressed the subject of the search for a Workable Philosophy of Peace, while the talk in Sherborne

focused on Towards a Transpersonal Historiography. An extended version of this latter talk will form Thomas' contribution to the Big Green Gathering on August 5th 2005. Consult the WRG website for further details of its own extensive activities, facilitated by Nigel Blair of Sherborne, a new IIPSGP member,

10. OWPP-THE ORDER OF WANDERING PEACE POETS remains the main 'bardic network' facilitated by IIPSGP worldwide as a networking tool for poets and related inspired artists of the Word to use their magical tools for the advancement of human understanding, wisdom and peace. One new member, Kate Jovanovska, is helping to organise a symposium of poets in Serbia, Yugoslavia, and would welcome participants connected to OWPP from further afield. Kate has written various poems in Macedonian and is seeking help to translate them into English. In England, the Ledbury poetry festival is taking place from 1-10 July 2005 and includes performances by many leading British and international poets, plus a one-day conference on hearing and healing, looking at poetry and well-being with Alan Brownjohn (translator of Goethe and Corneille) and Dr. Simon Jenner. Also featuring is Timothy West who will be reading poetry by Edward Thomas; Timothy read so movingly from a poem by Wordsworth at the recent wedding of Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall. Details of all events from Ledbury Poetry Festival, Church Street, Ledbury, Herefordshire HR8 1DH or 0845 4581743.

11. TOWARDS THE GREENING OF EDUCATION AT CAE MABON is the name of a workshop facilitated by Thomas Daffern, Mary Napper and Eric Maddern on September 30th to October 2nd 2005. This will be an evolving experiential workshop linking Earth and Spirit and will give us all a chance to review our progress on the tree of knowledge at the turning of the autumn into winter. We will be focusing together on understanding the values that we feel should be at the heart of learning: *sharing, community, ceremony, initiation, peace, scholarship, truth-seeking, nature, beauty, love, philosophy, art and transpersonal knowing*. Cae Mabon is an extraordinarily beautiful site across the lake from Llanberis just near Mount Snowdon. Eric Maddern has built there an eco-village which transports one back into a timeless world of magic. The workshop will be largely taking place in a wonderful Celtic roundhouse with a sloping thatched roof and stone walls, that would have been ideal for Druid

exchanges in ancient times. Full details of costs and booking from Eric Maddern, 01286 871542, eric@fachwen.org or www.caemabon.co.uk or Cae Mabon, Fachwen, Llanberis, Gwynedd, LL55 3HB.

12. NEW ZEALAND is a country with many exciting new spiritual developments and developing links with IIPSGP. Kate Dewes and Rob Green were over from New Zealand for the trial of Hilda Murrell's murderer in Stafford Crown Court in April 2005, an offence for which he was convicted. Jenny Wheatcroft, the treasurer of IIPSGP, has recently moved to New Zealand, and can be contacted at 176 Tutere Street, Waikanae, Kapiti Coast, Nr. Wellington, North Island, New Zealand, or 00 64 4 2932987. Another New Zealander recently encountered, Catherine Vause, took part in the Druid camp Spirit Challenge from 26-30th May 2005 in Shropshire, and shared news of a new publication about the innermost spiritual wisdom of the Maori culture, *Song of Waitaha*, by Barri Brailsford, Stone Print Press, available from Pathfinder bookshop in Auckland. Cath also mentioned the film *The Feathers of Peace* about the Mori Ori who were the original inhabitants of New Zealand before the coming of the Maori and who suffered near total genocide at their hands. Finally, Philip Carr-Gomm, founder of the Order of Bards, Ovates and Druids, has also spent considerable time in New Zealand and adapted some of OBOD's rituals to be used in the southern hemisphere of that land.

13. THE MULTIFAITH AND MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION AND MEDIATION SERVICE (MMEMS) continues its work; having failed narrowly to receive an award from the Rowntree Trust in their Peace Visionaries Grant Scheme, MMEMS nevertheless remains active in its work of multifaith peace building and is hoping to extend its activities on a more global basis, and to achieve a long-term secure source of funding. MMEMS has recently exchanged correspondence with the office of the Prime Minister over the hostage Ken Bigley in Iraq, and with the Prime Ministers of Great Britain and Ireland over the continuing instability and lack of a permanent peace settlement in Northern Ireland. MMEMS proposed some years ago the formation of an International Peace Museum in northern Ireland and hence is very pleased at the announcement that the Maze prison is to be turned into a permanent Peace Museum to commemorate the time of troubles, as well as to host an International Centre for Conflict Transformation. MMEMS has also exchanged has

also exchanged correspondence with the office of Cardinal Angelo Sodano who is a senior official in the Vatican hierarchy, concerning possible future mediation approaches in situations of international interfaith conflict.

14. A.R. WALLACE SYMPOSIUM: in February 2005 IIPSGP organised a symposium at St. Alkmund's Church in Shrewsbury commemorating the creative relationship between Charles Darwin and Alfred Russell Wallace, the co-discoverers of the theory of natural selection underlying the evolutionary transformation of living species. Part of the Darwin festival, the symposium focused mainly on the long-neglected contribution by Wallace to evolutionary theory. Unlike Darwin, he believed that co-operation, altruism and love were at least as important as competition in setting the dynamic underlying evolution, and he also took cognisance of the evidence for post-mortem survival, on purely scientific grounds. Unlike Darwin, therefore, he was convinced that mankind has a spiritual nature, a soul if you like, and that the evolution of mind and spiritual consciousness have to be taken account of in any comprehensive overview of the whys and wherefores of human existence. A number of interesting speakers came to the symposium including Dr. John Haule from Boston, USA, who spoke on a Jungian interpretation of the evolution of mind, replete with references to prehistoric cave art and shamanism. The event was recorded by Radio Shropshire from whom recordings of the talks might be available.

15. WEEK OF PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE: This annual event is taking place from 23-30 October 2005 and leaflets are available for the 8 day period giving excellent prayers from all faiths for each day which are available from Lesley Daisley, London Interfaith Centre, 125 Salusbury Road, London NW6 6RG tel. 0207 604 3053. A launch event is taking place on the 23rd October at 3pm at London Fo Guang Temple, 84 Margaret Street, London W1, tel. 0207 636 8394.

16. ANGLICAN PACIFIST FELLOWSHIP is holding its annual conference at Bishop Woodford House, Ely, jointly with the Fellowship of Reconciliation on the theme of *Vulnerability and Security: Reflections for Christian Peacemakers in the 21st Century*. Details from Jenny Nicholson, 01462 632726. APF details on www.anglicanpeacemaker.org.uk. The Church of England and Roman Catholic theologians have just been taking part in a symposium called *The Price of*

Peace, whose aim was to consider the updating of just war theory in the light of contemporary realities of warfare including terrorism. One participant stated that 'it was one of the most important ecumenical initiatives that has taken place in a long time'. The Church of England has established a working party on just war theory, which has presented a report to be considered by the Anglican bishops and General Synod. The Director of IIPSGP, a former board member of APF, can't help reflecting that even more important might be to initiate a working party into the parameters of a yet-to-be-delineated Just Peace Theory: is it not the absence of coherent agreement between and within the nations, tribes and faiths of mankind on the nature of just peace theory that gives rise to war in the first place?

17. HOLY ISLAND Remains the base for interfaith peacemaking outreach, and a Tibetan Buddhist spiritual retreat centre. Shirley Tourret, a longstanding friend and honorary member of IIPSGP, is living and working at the South End Retreat Centre as she has been doing for the last seven years, during which period she has undertaken a two-year solitary spiritual retreat. If any IIPSGP members and friends are able to get to Arran, do go over to Holy Island and visit Shirley and the rest of the community. Write to her at Shirley Tourret, Holy Island, Lamlash, Isle of Arran, Scotland, KA27 8RS.

18. THE INTERNATIONAL THEOSOPHICAL HISTORY CONFERENCE is taking place on 2-3 July 2005 at 50 Gloucester Place, London, and includes a mini-symposium on the life and work of G.R.S.Mead, 1863-1933, as well as talks on A.R. Wallace, A.E.Waite, Blavatsky, Mozart's freemasonry and theosophy in pre-revolutionary Russia. Visiting speakers include Prof. George Young from the University of New England, Michael Gomes, Dr. Christine Garwood and Prof. Nicholas Goodrick-Clarke, holder of the newly-established Chair of Western Esotericism at the University of Exeter. Details of costs etc. from 0207 563 9815 or info@theosoc.org.uk.

19. WORLDWIDE RELIGIOUS NEWS remains the best single source of international and national religious developments, and is available free from www.wwrn.org, for example it recounts that in the modern chaos of post-invasion Iraq, the Yezidi community, who number about 100,000, scattered largely throughout the Kurdish community in Iraq and elsewhere, are seeking official recognition from

the new government. The Yezidis follow a pre-Islamic religion and among other things worship a peacock angel whom they call Lucifer. WWRN states 'The Yezidis do not believe in Heaven or Hell and do not regard Satan as evil. In fact, they worship him.' The Yezidis have now got three members of the Iraqi parliament, elected as members of the Kurdish Alliance. IIPSGP cannot help but reflect that whereas a modern constitution that guarantees freedom of religion in democratic society may be an excellent idea for modern Iraq, non-Iraqis could surely have stimulated this development through non-violent compassionate work rather than full-scale military intervention.

20. DRUID SPIRIT CHALLENGE CAMP took place recently in Shropshire, UK, and saw many interesting workshops and activities. Facilitated by a small team of Druids from Wales and the Marches, it included an excellent workshop on *Shamanism And Power Animals* led by Niamh, on *Mortality* led by Dan, on *Wilderness Druidry* led by Damh the Bard, a wonderful *Dance of Self* workshop led by Rob Chapman, a *Fire-Walk* led by Andy Harrop-Smith and a *Fire Labyrinth* led by Wendy. Hosted by Kate and Mark of Lammas Barns, the event was an inspiring glimpse of Nature Wisdom in action. Congratulations to all who organised it. Further details of such events can be obtained from Rob and Wendy on 01691 791597.

21. THE EUROPEAN CONSTITUTION: IIPSGP has stayed studiously neutral on the rights and wrongs of the European Constitution, but it has obtained a copy of the text. Whilst many of the 450 pages of the document are an incomprehensible jargon of bureaucratic gobbledegook, nevertheless some bits are quite good. For example Part 1, Title 1, Article 1/3, paragraph 1 states the very first of the Union's objectives as being 'the Union's aim is to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its peoples'. So far so good – probably a much shorter document with a sweeter and more melodious tone might have captured the collective imagination of the European peoples more effectively – and the gobbledegook could have been banished to a distant appendix, but there will no doubt be some hard bargaining in the coming months and years, particularly over common security policy, agriculture, trade, defence policy etc. IIPSGP's solution? *Amateurise the legal profession, reduce military expenditure to battle re-enactments and token gestures, multiply by tenfold across the continent the salaries of all teachers, educators, intellectuals and artists – and introduce in all*

workplaces a compulsory one hour of dancing within work time to be funded by the employers !

22. SAOR OLLSCOIL NA HEIREANN / FREE UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND remains in place as an alternative higher education institution in Ireland, and one is able to undertake both BA, MA and Ph.D. degrees via their good offices, as a recognised qualification in peace studies, should one so wish. The BA is a taught degree so one needs to be within commuting distance from Dublin, built up with credits of classes attended over time, but the MA and PhD degrees can be undertaken at a distance. Please contact Thomas Daffern for further details.

23. SHERWOOD HALL SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY CLUB meets at lunchtime on Wednesday's and is open to visiting presentations by out of school philosophers, sages etc. IIPSGP Director, as head of Religious Education and Humanities in the school, has also established a termly Humanities Lecture for guest speakers, and in the Summer Term 2005 we are hoping that Ken Coates, the founder of Spokesman Books and President of the Bertrand Russell Peace Foundation, will be addressing the Humanities Faculty in July on *Peace and Human Rights*, a lecture which will also be open to the wider public. In the Autumn term we expect that Ade Andrews, who works with the Sherwood Forest Trust, will be speaking about the *Mythology of the Greenwood: Robin Hood and the Environmental Challenges of Our Time*. If you are able to attend either talk, please get in touch for a ticket.

24. STONEHENGE SUMMER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION will again take place on the dawn of June 21 at Stonehenge. The Institute Director hopes to be present as one of the Peace Stewards to help keep the energy peaceful, non-confrontational and blissful. Anyone interested in volunteering to come to Stonehenge as a peace steward this year please contact the Institute for further details or write directly to: Nora Morris, Tamarisk, Redenham, Andover, SP11 9AX, Hants. The car park behind Stonehenge itself opens to the public on 20st at 20.00. The stones will be open for public access from 22.00 on June 20th to 09.00 on 21st June. Sunrise occurs on June 21st at 04.58.

25. THE NON-VIOLENCE FORUM is a new UK wide forum for the development of non-violence work, and comprises several different organisations and networks; for further details contact the institute.

26. THE GLOBAL GREEN UNIVERSITY continues to develop as an international initiative for educators and world citizens seeking 3rd millennium paradigms for an educational process which makes a difference to the real issues affecting peoples' quality of life and the social and environmental challenges affecting us all such as global warming, urbanisation, poverty, war, human rights, educational choices, interfaith spirituality and theology. Contacts are developing in Greece, Israel/Palestine, India, Russia, USA, England, Scotland, Macedonia etc. The Institute continues to act as the lead organisation in this new initiative. The Green University Coordinator will also be taking part in the Big Green Gathering which is running this year near Cheddar in the Mendips (www.big-green-gathering.com) and will be based at the Trees of Life Yurt in the ESP Zone. Dr S.L. Gandhi has become co-ordinator for the GGU in India and has agreed to supervise the higher research degrees which can be undertaken by students through the GGU in South Asia.

27. THE INSTITUTE LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND SCHOOL comprise approximately 10,000 monographs and about 80 ft of archival papers and documents connected with peace education and comparative philosophy. It is a reference library available to serious visiting scholars and securing its integrity and accessibility in a large enough location to enable its full resources to be used and catalogued remains a high priority. IIPSGP keeps a detailed *documentation archive* of documents received in the office, including correspondence from peace educators worldwide, philosopher and general educational institutions; these documents have been catalogued in two sequences, the new sequence of which started in September 2001, following the Twin Towers attack on New York, when it was felt that global events demanded a detailed archive be kept detailing attempts at peace mediation worldwide. This sequence has now reached 4200 documents long which are indexed on disc and can be subject searched in word. This list is available only to full members of the Institute as it contains some sensitive material. People with archival knowledge and library science are always welcome to assist the work. Anyone interested in helping IIPSGP found an International School of Peace and Global Philosophy for pupils 11-18 yrs old please get in touch.

28. PAGAN ACADEMIC NETWORK (P.A.N.) continues to develop as a project of IIPSGP. PAN is interested to work on research and development

projects concerning all aspects of the overlaps between paganism and education. Academia began as an impulse cultivated under the guidance of classical pagan teachings; the Academy in Athens, the Lyceum established by Aristotle, and the Mouseion (Museum) of Alexandria were all conceived as places of learning based on spirituality, religious idealism and practical education and research. Anyone interested in this aspect of our work please get in touch. Sadly we have to report the death of George Firsoff, co-organiser of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission for Stonehenge, and well known Pagan thinker and peace activist, who recently moved from Bristol to Stoke. A moving ceremony took place in February 2005 when his ashes were laid to rest under an Ash tree in a park in the city, and prayers were said. IIPSGP hopes to publish a small volume of essays commemorating his life and work. One interesting note here concerns the excellent academic credentials of Cleopatra, of Macedonian ancestry, but someone who made the effort to learn Egyptian and who immersed herself in the study of Egyptian theology. Apparently it was her adoption of Egyptian ideas that so impressed Caesar during their love affair, that persuaded him to adapt them to Roman conditions, for which effort he was of course assassinated, and bequeathed the legacy of the divine Emperor, and later, arguably, the Christ image. Apparently also, she first met Anthony, after Caesar's death, in the port of Tarsus – which was a thriving Eastern Mediterranean centre of trade, from where St Paul was soon to originate. A comprehensive historical and archaeological study of ancient Tarsus seems overdue. Finally, the recent film Alexander the Great by Oliver Stone, although slated by critics, is well worth watching, if only from a historical perspective, since it is well researched, and presents its material with epic simplicity.

29. MADRID CONFERENCE OF WORLD LEADERS ON DEMOCRACY AND TERRORISM took place in Madrid one year after the train bombings in that city to discuss the ways in which responsible democratic governments can respond to the challenges set by terrorism worldwide. A friend of IIPSGP been working on the follow up on behalf of Open Democracy, an NGO which was involved in setting up the NGO and academic networks involved in the Madrid conference. Contact IIPSGP for further details.

30. SIR ISAAC NEWTON was one of the most influential scientific thinkers in history, yet many

people do not realise that he was deeply immersed in religious and philosophical notions. He authored a study entitled *Irenicum: Ecclesiastical Polity Tending to Peace*, and several other such works in which proposed the metaphysical framework for peace between all world religions and philosophies, in which he argued that the primal faith of mankind could be likened to the original white light out of which the later colours of the rainbow subsequently emerged. This primal faith of humanity was one of sociability, spiritually and love, and could be summed up by Christ's teachings, Newton argued: "*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and mind and soul, and your neighbour as yourself*". According to Newton., all the great religious reformers were not inventing a new faith or path, but merely reminding mankind of their original essential unity-in-divinity, and among such figures he placed Socrates, Christ, Buddha, Confucius. Theological differentiation occurred among their subsequent misguided followers for reasons of status or politics. Although dated, and couched in the language of the 1690's, Newton's ideas were way ahead of their time, and his theologian friends at Cambridge advised him not to publish as his ideas were too advanced, and they were not finally published till 1950, as Sir Isaac Newton Theological Manuscripts, edited by H. Mchlachlan, Liverpool University Press, 1950, a copy of which has been added to the IIPSGP library.

31. THE WORLD OF GEOFFREY KEATING: HISTORY, MYTH AND RELIGION IN 17TH CENTURY IRELAND is a new work by Bernadette Cunningham, published by Four Courts Press, Dublin, 2005 This is an interesting study of Keating in context, by the Deputy Librarian at the Royal Irish Academy in Dublin, and hopefully will do much to remind modern thinkers interested in Irish and British history of how much lost and suppressed history, legend and myth lives on in the Celtic traditions of Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Keating (Seathrun Ceitinn) 1580-1644 was a secular Catholic Priest who trained overseas, and authored several theological works ("The Three Sharp Shafts of Death" being one of them) before writing his historical masterpiece, *Foras Feasa ar Eirinn* in 1634, which was a chronological narrative of ancient Ireland from creation, through the various invasions, down to the coming of the Normans. In it, Keating managed to preserve much of the ancient legendary materials of the Tuatha De Danaan and Bardic and Druidical legends, based on his extensive knowledge of manuscripts then extant in Irish libraries. Within a few decades much of this

material had been damaged or destroyed by Cromwell's invasion, and Keating himself was killed by Cromwell's troops. Knowledge of Keating's work is negligible in England, and its rediscovery by the intelligentsia might help advance Anglo-Irish peace and understanding. The last published edition of the work was edited by Dr Douglas Hyde (1860-1949), who went on to become first President of Ireland in 1938-1945. Time for another, up to date edition, with scholarly and critical apparatus ? A joint project for the Royal Irish Academy and the British Academy ?

32. A SOCIAL HISTORY OF ANCIENT IRELAND is an important text covering all manner of ancient wisdom regarding Druidic and Bardic schools and education in ancient Irish history. Authored by Patrick Weston Joyce (1827-1914) the work was published in two volumes in 1909/1911, and is a mine of otherwise impossible-to-get information about all aspects of Druidry and Irish learning. Joyce was expert in the history of manuscripts, ancient writing, Irish education, and the history of Irish music, authoring *Ancient Irish Music* (1873) and *Old Irish Folk Music and Songs* (1909).

33. STONEHENGE DEVELOPMENT PLAN: the IIPSGP office has received a CD rom with the latest submission from English Heritage to the Salisbury District Planning Department to move forward on the EH scheme to a) Build a new visitor centre at the Countess Roundabout near Amesbury b) Close the current road access to Stonehenge c) Provide a timed mini-train service back and forth between the new visitor centre and the Stonehenge monument itself. The IIPSGP Director in his capacity as Peace Officer to the Council of British Druid Orders and Chair of the Stonehenge Truth and Reconciliation Commission submitted several concerns to the planning process, namely that *"the experience should include a strong Spiritual element and should not degenerate into commercialism or a tourist gimmick"* and also that *"practising Pagans, Wiccans and Druids consider Stonehenge a major sacred temple and ritual access should be assured, facilitated and enabled via this scheme"*. These comments are contained in the DVD and the responses given to them respectively is: "The scheme has been developed in accordance with the conservation led objectives of the Stonehenge WHS Management Plan. The new access arrangements are designed to set the Stones within their landscape setting, and the learning and Interpretation Strategy will seek to take proper account of the spiritual

elements of the monument" (4.24, p. 108) and "The present arrangements for special access to the stone circle will be continued" (4.25, p. 108) Also, IIPSGP Director submitted the following comment: *"Visitors wanting to walk to the Stones should be able to do so without charge at all times of day and night"* to which the response is: "Access on foot to the Stonehenge monument will be available without charge during normal opening hours". In addition, the Report carries the proposal from IIPSGP/TRC/COBDO that the *"future visitor centre should include a gallery or permanent exhibition showing something of the conflict around Stonehenge in recent decades and the gradually arising peaceful solution"* to which proposal the official response is "Noted". Ok – so we note their noting it – and intend to do our best to ensure this actually happens. Any people interested in this "museological peace work" please get in touch.

34. RIVER GODS OF GREECE is an important study by Harry Brewster (IB Tauris, 1997) of the deities and legends associated with fresh water in ancient Greece. It studies 30 rivers in the ancient Greek landscape and recounts the myths and legends associated with them. Given that the work of IIPSGP is dedicated to the 9 Muses, this would seem a suitable addition to members' libraries. It is subtitled: *Myths and Mountain Waters in the Hellenic World*.

35. IIPSGP TRANSLATION AND LANGUAGES FACULTY: the ongoing work of IIPSGP in facilitating inter-cultural discourse through linguistic communication continues, and Sarah Kennedy, a Cambridge graduate in Italian and French, who is completing an MA in Translation Studies at the University of Wales, has kindly agreed to undertake to head this faculty for IIPSGP. We are keen to network with other translators with expertise in different languages that may not yet be included in our Multilingual Peace Dictionary, and so are looking for volunteer translators with expertise particularly in African, Polynesian and Amerindian languages who can translate a basic word list of some 30 core words in philosophical and peace terminology. Please consult the existing extent of the IIPSGP Peace Dictionary online at: www.humiliationstudies.org/intervention/crosscultural.php

36. THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF DEVOTION is a new multilingual work being produced by the Aditya Pratishthan Pune, in India, and is being published in English, Hindi and Marathi; drawing

on the wisdom and insights of Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islam, Sikhism, Zoroastrianism etc. it is attempting to indicate the vast wealth of devotional works available in each of the great faiths of mankind, designated as the path of Bhakti Yoga in the Hindu tradition. Further details can be obtained from Motilal Barnisadass, Bungalow Road, Jawahar Nagar, Delhi 110 007, India Fax. 011 293 0698, Tel. 291 1985; 291 8335.

37. THE GIFT: is the title of a stunning translation of the works of the great Persian poet Hafiz (1320-1389) by Daniel Ladinsky (Penguin, 1999). Hafiz' work was loved and admired by many deep thinkers both inside and outside the Islamic world, including Carlyle, Nietzsche, Pushkin, Turgenev, Lorca and many others. However, up until Ladinsky's work the translations available have never done him justice: in one stunning metaphor in The Gift Hafiz says: ' Wandering drunk between the fire and the void/ I thought I'd hitch a ride on this planet for a while.' Quite!

38. BRITAIN BC by Francis Pryor (Harper Perennial, 2004) is the best-ever single volume on the archaeological history of the British isles, covering the entire period from the beginning to the Roman Conquest, starting with hand-axes and traces of intelligent hominid habitation at Boxgrove in West Sussex 500,000 years ago. Pryor manages to combine his archaeological professionalism with a passion for truth and common sense and effective communication in a way which is rare nowadays in our Babel-like hyper-professionalised technical jargon. Pryor answers the questions we always wanted to have answered but didn't dare ask. For example, he speculates with abundant common sense that it is almost certain that Boxgrove man would have had some kind of complex speech system: he states this simply because the quality of the hand-axes they produce was so detailed and proficient that the skills involved would surely have had to be transmitted from person to person across time. Interesting... an early newsletter of IIPSGP ?

39. YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER FAITHS FORUM is the name of a new interfaith body based in Humberside and Yorkshire which was launched recently in partnership with the Yorkshire and Humber Assembly (a local forum). Its remit is to 1) represent faith communities to regional bodies 2) develop the capacity of faith communities to work as effective partners in delivering regional policies and strategies and 3) encourage faith communities to work appropriately and actively together. To get

involved contact Hannah Howe, 18 King Street, Wakefield, WF12SQ, 01924 331585 or Hannah.Howe@yhassembly.gov.uk

40. PSYCHOLOGICAL DICTIONARIES are always useful to the work of the Institute, particularly in its multicultural and multifaith mediation work; two of recent note are Dictionary of Multicultural Psychology (Lena E. Hall, Sage, 2005) and The Language of W.R. Bion: A Dictionary of Concepts (Paulo Cesar Sandler, Karnak Books, 2005).

41. INTERNATIONAL PEACE RESEARCH ASSOCIATION is holding its biannual conference June 26-30 2006 in Calgary; IIPSGP Director will be helping with the Peace Theories Commission meetings, and remains a member of the European Peace Research Association Governing Board; anyone interested in peace research, or who wants to come to Calgary, please get in touch with Larry J. Fisk, Chair, Organizing Committee, IPRA 2006 Conference, Calgary, Canada, Email: larry.fisk@shaw.ca T/F: (403)210-3184 www.humiliationstudies.org/news/archives/000438.html

42. BALKANS IIPSGP NEWS: for details of events and unfolding relating to peace and conflict resolution and philosophical and spiritual developments in the Balkan region, please contact our regional secretary, Ms Gordana Netkovska, on giordana@hotmail.com

43. IIPSGP MEMBERSHIP: To renew your membership of IIPSGP, please write in or ring the office in Wales. Membership remains £15 (unwaged) or £25 per annum and is a pre-requisite for being involved in any of the specific projects run by the Institute. It also brings access to the documentation index of the Index archives, priority in undergoing retreats, and information about all courses available, including those run by the Global Green University. At present, membership forms can only be processed via ordinary mail. Normally, a first degree is required for full membership of the Institute, or indication of an equivalent level of educational achievement – but sincere studentship in the University of Life is also recognised ! To join, please enclose a completed membership form, CV and covering letter plus cheque to the office: International Institute for Peace Studies and Global Philosophy, Rhos Galt, Llanerfyl, Powys, Wales, SY21 OER, Tel. 01938 820586 email: iipsgp@educationaid.net

