

Community Building in Britain Newsletter

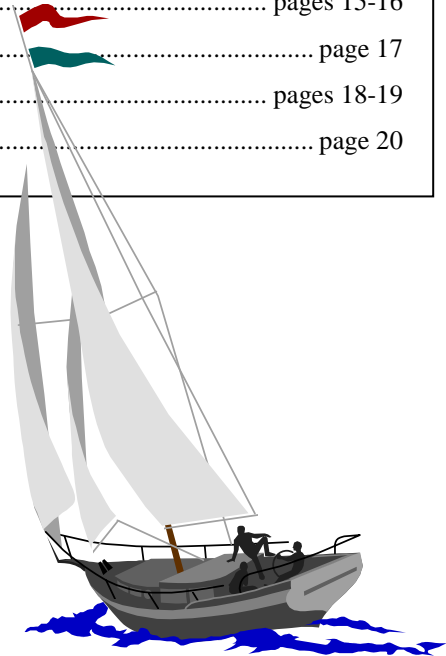
Number 71

September/October 1999

The newsletter is issued by a growing network of people in Britain who are committed to developing community building beyond that originally described in Dr. M. Scott Peck's book, 'The Different Drum', and as further developed by the Foundation for Community Encouragement in the USA (FCE).

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Editorial

Dear readers, fellow Community Builders, strangers and friends,

Imagery

Last month I said the newsletter was a 'tool for communication'.... I've been pondering my choice of imagery and have since enlarged my perception: as a result, I prefer to see the newsletter as a container, rather like a bowl or a chalice - containers remind me to empty myself regularly, so I might be fulfilled again and again; I've realised recently that I like the feeling of being full and satisfied, or even full and busy.

I'm less comfortable with being full up and overwhelmed..... and even more uncomfortable with being empty....in fact it seems that I will go to great lengths to avoid feeling empty....sometimes I'm afraid to feel how empty I am... like as if my self identity depends on doing one of my many 'roles'.

Fluffy and soft

Anyway I've gone for the 'container image' for the reason that it's more receptive - perhaps the feminine version of the tool.... the only image I could come up with when I thought of a tool was a hammer?!?!?... I'm thinking a bowl would be a softer option... I'm going fluffy and soft. I feel like I've had hard edges and corners for as long as I can remember... places where I or others said 'ouch'! More recently I've been taking the 'fluffier' option.... scary...strangely satisfying....full of wonderment and wow! Lots of colour. Yes, suddenly life has gone technicolour - brilliant, vivid, ultra-violet bright glowing technicolour.

'The Warp'

It seems I've been 'WARPED'.

'The Warp' is a 24 hour theatre happening that was written by Neil Oram in the seventies; now it's back in the caverns underneath London Bridge railway station along with two dancefloors, one chill out ambient space, a

'meta-conceptual' art gallery, various stalls (somewhat like a festival), a 'Deep Comfort Zone' hosted by the Green Angels and full of zany characters that might have just walked out of a cross between Narnia and The Lord of the Rings! It's on every second Saturday, in the Drome, Weston St (next to the London Dungeon)...phone 0171-813-3585 for more information.

Holding

I also went to the Holding Group meeting at Douai Abbey. I found them to be an extraordinarily loving group... who devoted much time and attention to the 'business' of holding the infrastructure of CBiB. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking them for the invaluable service they provide for the rest of us. I felt very safe and that my contribution was welcomed... and I welcomed the opportunity to meet the people who had up until that point just been names on paper. I felt heard and I felt listened to. I experienced a sense of being part of something bigger than I could see or comprehend, and I experienced a feeling of being 'held'.... thank you to Ruth, Suzy, Anthony, Gerri, Peter, Teän, and Margaret.

Thanks

A BIG THANK YOU to all those who responded to my cry/plea for material... I received a lot of poems shortly after the last newsletter went out. I guess you're listening.... Sometimes I liken this Editorial to being a radio station - transmitting and receiving - time delays abound....

I've had the good fortune to discover Open Space Technology since I spoke with you last - fascinating stuff- I will report back next issue.

Yours

The ED.

*Rachel Castagne
Flat C, 257 Preston Road, Brighton BN1 6SE
01273 382 864*

Community Building in Britain events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Notes</u>
29-31 Oct	near Birmingham	Peter Laxton: 01446 711569 Tea'n Stuttaford: 0121 420 4390	£150 residential	CBW for followers of Jesus/Messiah
11-14 Nov	Othona, West Dorset	Catherine Siddall or Tony Jaques 01308 897130	£155 residential	CBW
31 Dec - 2 Jan	near Bristol	Jonathan M Brown 01761 410472	£95/£110 residential	Millennium Eve CBE, optional 3 rd day
20-26 May 2000	Oxfordshire	Tracy Barr 01243 775 745	TBA	Training in facilitation

Note: - **CBE** stands for “Community Building Experience”, which provides an opportunity to build community in a large group over two days. In a “Community Building Workshop”, or **CBW**, a third day is added so that not only can participants experience the building of community but they can also learn about the process.

The Holding Group would like to say a big thank you to all those who responded to our questionnaire. The response has been really exciting. We will be responding individually soon.

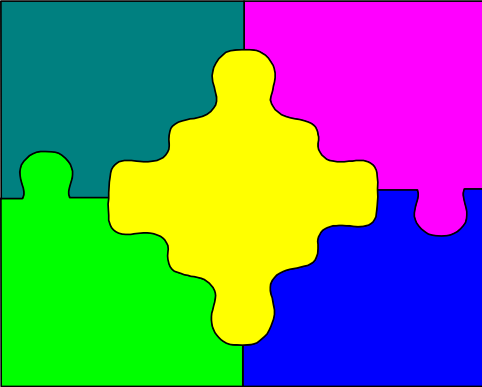
It is apparent from an initial look at the forms that there is a great desire for local connection. We hope that we will be able to connect people in the network with each other and continue with the visioning process in CBiB.

*Love and Kisses,
The Holding Group*



The joint meeting

The joint meeting of the Holding Group and Facilitator Training Group met at Douai Abbey on the weekend of 16th - 17th July.



Attending were Ruth Goffe, Suzy Adderley, Tracy Barr, Athony Kirke, Mike Roth, Erica von Boltenstern, Anne Monger, John Hoggett, Jonathan Melville-Brown (Facilitator Training Group), David Saunders, Gerri Moriarty, Richard Benzie, Teān Stuttaford and Yvonne Poulson (Holding Group) were present.

Strangeness

A goodly proportion of us came together on Friday evening - and we shared feelings of strangeness and pleasant anticipation about this new venture. On the Saturday morning we again shared the sense of weirdness and excitement of being together in a different way.

Someone wondered unaccountably why they were thinking about the learning opportunities group - and it was observed that this was indeed a new learning opportunity - in which a variety of ways of working are being newly considered.

Experiences and expectations

As one of the proposed items on the agenda was the revision of the sponsors pack, (to check what the stated aims of CBEs and

CBWs have been) it seemed important to hear how our own experiences and expectations had grown over the years.

Reaching Community seemed to cover a wide spectrum of meanings, ranging between the seductive shallows of being in love with life and the deep passionate drive to bring CB into world government. In between were the various learnings about authentic communication in all the stages, and the hard work of looking into our own boxes - to truly acknowledge what we are, and what we can do with it.

The discovery that it is possible to hate what someone is saying, at the same time as feeling compassion for both of our selves, is one example of the valuable insights that come from this.

Agenda items

- CBiB structure
- literature for new enquiries
- sponsors pack
- feedback on the Sutton Courtenay event
- inter-relationships (between facilitators, holding group and event sponsors)
- entry-exit surveys
- quality control
- finance
- mission
- funding for the training
- the grand mailing
- boundaries

New calendar

A new CBiB “calendar” was proposed - consisting of two joint meetings, 2 or 3 Holding Group meetings, and 3 FTG meetings per year. This was considered, and provisionally adopted for a trial period.

Sutton Courtenay

The exit surveys from Sutton Courtenay were available. Someone was troubled by the ambiguity; were we supposed to be considering complaints or questions about this event? It was observed that the group was asking questions; there was a complaint; and two participants had asked for their money back. How important was the subtext of individuals' preference for US facilitators?

The discussion became sticky and complicated: a lot of difficult feelings were surfacing, which had to be dealt with. A desire was expressed for the FTG to be as free as possible at their next meeting, to do a thorough questioning and exploring of goals, experiences, successes and failures of our facilitation. And a fear acknowledged that the FTG meeting might be muddied by the complaints of privately motivated individuals who had already been responded to one at a time desire to ensure that the FTG would address these specific complaints was expressed.

“Correct” facilitation

There seemed to be a demand in the air, for some uniformity - some agreed standard - of “correct” facilitation. We were reminded of the unpredictability of the actual pathways of reaching community, and the way things seem to happen regardless of the particular quality of the facilitators’ intention.

A further question was asked; If the same procedure does not work when it is repeated on a subsequent occasion, one is left wondering: “what have I, or haven’t I done?” Someone said, it was all being reconsidered from the ground up, there is a wide divergence of views, and a good thing too.

CBE leaflet

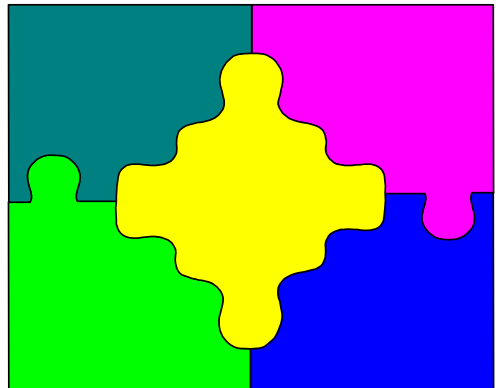
There was a request for some indications from the facilitators and the Holding Group regarding what kind of things should be put in a CBE leaflet. A feeling was voiced that as facilitators, we have to tell sponsors what we believe community is; how do we do this and still allow people their interpretation?

It was suggested that we could draft a skeleton with branching options...and someone else felt that a “draft leaflet” to play with would be better than separate components to put together. A review group met later that evening, and will continue working on this.

Dynamics

Someone expressed concern about commitment of time to the new group; what its work would be, how to keep continuity - and it was noted that the Holding Group was taking in new members and this might change the dynamics anyway. It was pointed out that less meetings might be needed overall.

Sunday morning began with the community building process. “Questions to the network” were shared, about what individuals were interested in doing, who they wanted to connect with, and what they had to offer; we all contributed questions to this.



Finances

Gerri gave a guided tour of CBiB finances. She made it clear that we had survived financially over the past 2 years due to one substantial donation. She said she would stay as treasurer for the rest of the year, but we must have a comprehensive annual budget by then and we must look hard at our practices, the changes that are taking place, and the need to start some forward planning.

Facilitators

A draft proposal was read out allowing for the possibility of sponsors asking for specific facilitators (most especially - American ones). It was difficult to sort out general issues from someone's anticipated requests for named facilitators of their choice. We noted that there is now a pool of FCE-trained facilitators who are working freelance, which adds more options to the melange.

Training

The Design Team spoke of their anxiety about finding sponsors for the facilitation training, and would we manage to get the funding organised in time? Information was contributed about "Fund Finder" - a computer programme which enables detailed searches for the funding agencies which may match your specific project.

Mission

There was some discussion of CBiB's mission. Should it include a specific commitment to world peace in our lifetime? There was no consensus about this. There is a lot of passion about community, and the seeming obliviousness of most of the world to the deep importance of community. Yet community often seems to mean different things to different people - our respective passions do not always bring us closer to each other.

Closure

Closure was difficult. There was a deep feeling that CBiB was moving into a new phase, and that the struggles had been worth a great deal. Sharing our respective pain did seem to have helped to weld us into one group. We parted in the quiet hope that the February meeting will enable us to strengthen the bond.

Yvonne Poulson

The Black Art

Rising on the sunshine of the day.
The black art of Love descends the black stair.
Watching his step all the while
he eats cheese and sneezes the last of his life away.

Lying coolly and looking up, he delivers
the fruit of contempt to the witches in his dreams,
"Laugh" they say, but he ignores their request
and moves on through the day

Finally it comes to the grove of delights
and, in his distinction, overcomes his need for delivery.

Jonathan M-Brown, 19B West Road, Welton, Midsomer Norton, Bath BA3 2TL



Audibility

Dear Rachel,

Ray Gibbins comments in his account of the Sutton Courtenay CBE that he could hear only about half the words. I had the same experience at the Edinburgh CBE in April in spite of repeated requests that people should speak up. Audibility is clearly a problem at such events, but I do not think that a microphone is the right answer. Apart from the logistical problem of passing it around, a microphone only amplifies the mumble.

People think it appropriate to speak in “subdued tones”, though I would question whether this does not reflect inappropriate uncertainty and defensiveness, but to be inaudible is both self-defeating and discourteous in what is supposed to be an atmosphere of caring and mutual consideration.

Perhaps this is one point on which the facilitators should overcome their reluctance to give a lead: participants should be given to understand that speaking in a circle requires a different kind of voice production from that used in private conversation.

I have still to experience community, but I find it difficult to imagine community without communication.

Yours sincerely
Michael G Hell
159 Russell Road
Moseley
Birmingham
B13 8RR

Email michaelhell@aol.com

An offering

Dear Rachel,

Greetings from Meusli Hill, North London. I’m working on a major article for the newsletter entitled: Growing in Community, but it’s not ready yet.

In the interim I’m offering an extract that appeared in my personal journal some months ago: I have very little access to the poetic side of me - this stuff wrote itself down ‘despite me’ so I value it, however half baked.

Almost poetry

I hear my silence

I'm afraid to risk talking - it might come out all wrong

My mother was silent - I don't know how she felt?

I blame them, but I know it's me

Whatever can I do?

I hear my silence

Inside I feel stuck - I want to break free

I want to unleash the cancerous coil but

I'm afraid it will hurt

I'm afraid it will hurt me/them - I don't know how it will end?

There is anger in my gut, but I'm stuck

I do not have the clean energy of anger - only a painful lump

Whatever can I do?

Tom Deevy

April '99

Appreciation

Dear Peter Cooper

First of all I would like to thank you for the newsletter which I have been receiving for about 2 years. It is very interesting.

I felt like writing many a time, but then I thought what is the point to write without being open and honest. There is no love and trust in prison, though there are some good people. My inability to be open from the prison world makes it impossible to contribute substantively.

However I would like to express my appreciation of your literature and a monthly visit from one of your members - Debbie Collins. She is the only person I have ever been able to talk with without being judged and assessed for over 15 years in prison, except immediate relatives who are not in the UK anyway.

Wishing you and CB good luck

*Yours sincerely
Quayyum Raja
HMP Long Lartin
Evesham
Worcester WR11 5TZ
21st June 1999*

Camphill Community

Dear Peter Cooper,

I am very interested in Community Building and the work of Community Building in Britain. The Work of Scott Peck I find very interesting.

As you can see I am living in a community; hoping, with others to extend the community building into a life experience longer than a few days. As you come into contact with many people who look for community building they might be interested to join a Camphill Community, where we live and work together with people with special needs together. I send you some information about our community and about other communities in Northern Ireland.

I would appreciate it if in some way a community building contact could come about between our organisations. Please contact me if you would like more information. I am looking forward to finding ways to work together.

*With kind regards
sincerely yours
Maria J. Van Den Berg. M.D.
Glencraig Camphill Community
Craigavad
Co. Down BT18 ODB
Tel: 0232 423 396*

Stop Press address change

Peter Cooper has moved to:

52 Sole Farm Avenue, Bookham, Leatherhead KT23 3DE

Mobile telephone number: 07974 961301

Email: PeterCBiB@aol.com (unchanged)

(Peter says he will give us some background to this news next time, and that he has arranged for mail to be re-directed from his old address for a while.)

Magic spell no.53 (in E minor)

I built a stone circle, dug holes in the ground,
Planted the stones then listened for sound,
Seven stones I planted, the virtues of Grace,
On ground, I consider, a hallowed place.

Seven pillars of virtue, of old allegory,
To stand for the best of timeless chivalry,
Now a place I have of new ancient time,
To sit and be wistful, ponder life's wine.

I'm an alchemist, spells will unfold,
Grace never leave me again in the cold,
Power is mine, laughter my accord,
A wonderful feeling, I'm never bored.

A way of life that's a human embrace,
I feel no more a real head case,
Cuddles and kisses, the tolerance of others,
Hello friends, my sisters and brothers.

Robin Smith

Community Building at work and double loop learning

Philip Joseph is a member of the Brighton ongoing group.

I have spent a lot of time wondering how to introduce CB into my working life and how to legitimise doing so commercially. My sense is that some of those I meet in the CB community have or are asking similar questions.

So I am sharing some ideas which I believe can provide the beginnings of an answer, in the hope that they are of interest. At present, I am still at an early stage in applying this practically, although some colleagues of mine are somewhat more advanced. I'm happy to speak further to anyone interested.

Following rules

In the Organisational Development world, there is some widely accepted and yet little exploited work by Chris Argyris on the subject of "double loop learning". Argyris noticed that much if not most managerial behaviour is based on meeting personal needs by following rules like the following:

- be in unilateral control
- succeed, don't fail
- know the answers
- don't show weakness
- be consistent
- create predictability, avoid uncertainty
- hide negative feelings
- be as rational as possible

These rules are rarely acknowledged or even consciously recognised. The result is a gap between "espoused theory" - what people say, and "theory in practice" - what they do. People may for example claim to favour teamwork, honesty and open debate while actually criticising those who disagree with

them, seeking to hide problems and working to ensure that responsibility for failures lands elsewhere.

Need for innovation

Many organisations today are facing much more turbulent and unpredictable environments than ever before. The need for innovation consistently emerges from surveys as a key concern for CEOs. Argyris recognised that most organisations only do "single loop learning" - an issue emerges, an apparently acceptable solution is found, it is implemented and the organisation waits for the next issue to emerge. Frequently, the solution

itself creates the next

issue, as

unintended

consequences

emerge; but these are

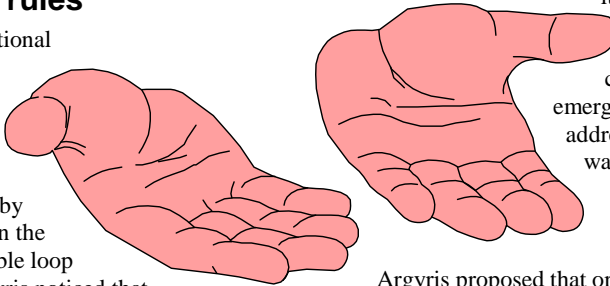
addressed in the same

way as before.

Learning how to learn

Argyris proposed that organisations could learn about how this process worked - they could learn how to learn better. This is what he meant by "double loop learning". To do this, they would need to become conscious of the assumptions and sets of behavioural rules which formed their "theories in practice", and assess these rules according to whether or not they promoted effective learning and hence improved the organisation's ability to learn and innovate.

For this to happen, an organisation needs to create a climate of trust, mutual respect and acceptance of individual difference. These are necessary preconditions if honest feedback is to be given, and if those receiving it are to be supported sufficiently to hear, absorb and respond to it authentically, with a minimum of defensiveness and avoidance.



Move into confusion

To me, this last paragraph reads like an invitation to move out of pseudo-community or organisation and into the mess, pain and confusion of chaos and despair which can lead to community. Or perhaps, not just an invitation but a business case as well. What Argyris has done is to create a compelling commercial argument for community building on the Scott Peck model and also for some of the other inclusive and person-centred intervention techniques such as Open Space.

This answers the need of my own I mentioned at the beginning. To be fair, Argyris' ideas are not new and yet have not been widely applied. I believe that that is partly because of the power of the personal psychological needs being met by our existing sets of behavioural rules, but also partly because many professional people of good intent do not see how to apply these insights in practice.

If I am right, then all I (we?) have to do is, find those people of good intent, make contact, open the dialogue, build a relationship, raise their awareness of their current situation, help them to recognise the negative consequences of that situation, explore their commitment to and the value they would place on a solution if it was available, demonstrate the power of the Community Building model, and, errrr, build community...

So, what next?

I very much hope that this article will release some energy within the CB network, as well as helping me release my own. I can be contacted directly on 01892-853086 or through Rachel.

Philip Joseph

Philip_M_Joseph@gb.coopers.com

I'm allowed

Today is the day that I'm allowed,
to shout and scream, yes I'm allowed
To run, jump and bellow very, VERY LOUD
To break a BIG window
To annoy the crowd.
Today is my day for being just me
And I don't care two hoots how naughty I'll be.

Jonathan M-Brown

Training in Germany

This is a translation of parts of a letter from Christel Krug Stead to German community builders pertaining to an initial Facilitator training in November 1999.

If you wish any further information about this Teän Stuttaford (136 Poplar Avenue, Edgbaston, Birmingham B17 8EH Tel: 0121-420 4390) is the UK contact.

Dear Network members (*in Germany - ed*)

Jerry Hampton and Carroll Langston will soon be carrying out the first facilitator training in Germany. As Regina Haß is enjoying herself in Australia, (and working a bit), I am sending you information about forthcoming events.

Bookings

The actual facilitator training takes place in Rissen, Hamburg from 5-7 November (Friday, Saturday and Sunday). An integral part of this is the CBW at the Kubel Foundations' Osterberg Institute, Niederkleveez, from 1-3 Nov., which will be referred to in the training. Bookings for that CBW should be made directly with the Osterberg Institute, 24306 Niederkleveez, Tel: 045 23 99 290 or osterberginstitut@t-online.de

Training structure

There are basically three stages to this training.

- 1) Facilitation of a workshop in one's own community, or in very small groups of around twelve people, (or) with friends.
- 2) Facilitation for public workshops
- 3) CB Advisor for those who wish to use their CB expertise in business or organizations.

This third stage is the most comprehensive. Carroll and Jerry are prepared to train us to this stage, depending on the level of interest among participants.

Exchange of experience

The training will take place in three lots of three days. Dates for the second and third stages have not yet been set. There should be about 3 - 4 months between each stage, during which time participants should meet together at least once without Jerry and Carroll for an exchange of experience and CB process. They should also lead their own self-organized workshop with friends. Jerry and Carroll would, during this time, put occasional information out and answer questions on the Net.

Themes

Themes of the first stage will be:

- analysis of the characteristics of the phases in the CR process in Osterberg
- barriers to Community
- finding ones own barriers
- work in small groups in the sequential development of the CR process, with questions about which interventions are necessary at different stages
- drawing of masks that we put on in different life situations
- recognition of group norms
- building of an assessment (tool?) for clients who are thinking of setting up CB for themselves
- other themes

Prerequisites

Prerequisites for participation are:

- participation in the CBW at Osterberg. (Jerry stresses the word participation, he says that we learn through participation not observation)
- at least one other CBW, so that participants have experienced at least two CBWs - more preferably
- 10 - 20 hours preparatory study

Exceptions to these requirements are possible

Costs

The responsibility for cost and organization of this training will be born by participants as a community. We have worked out a price of DM 650 for each of the three stages excluding

full board accommodation (DM 1950 for all three). This may be reduced in the long term if there are 'sister' events scheduled with future training stages, to reduce flight costs.

We feel peoples' financial circumstances should not prohibit their attendance. Please talk with us if this is a problem for you.

Certificates are available for all or part of the course, and will include the fact that both Jerry and Carroll received their initial training from M Scott Peck in person!

Best wishes

Christel Krug Stead

Niederurseler Landstr. 44

D - 60439 Frankfurt-am-Main

Tel: 069 - 95 73 20 82

E-mail: C.Krug@t-online.de

North London Group?

The North London group seems to have disappeared. Is anyone interested in reviving it?

If so please contact me.

Margaret Walsh

56B Dennington Park Road, London NW6 1BD

0171 794 9158

Is there any magic left in Cornwall?

I've travelled the pathways, lonely old haunts,
I've climbed the rocks on some painful jaunts,
Growth of the mind to cope with reality,
When life felt to be a bit of futility.

Yes, there is Grace if you know what you want,
In the trees, the streams and wells of God's font,
Pilgrims of mind, with love in their heart,
Could not find a better place to start.

I have some answers, laughter's own wine
To many others I can be a sign,
There is a way if you want it so bad,
Always happy, never lonely or sad.

Pick up a sword, be a truth seeker at heart,
Unravel the mysteries of ancient old chart,
Treasure is real, it's a way of the mind,
Be honest and gentle and ever so kind.

A spirit is watching who can give it away,
To those who laugh and in innocence play,
Never take, never hurt, push or shove,
and that spirit will give, a gift of love.

By Robin Smith
Penavorrow, Bridge Road
Goonhavern, Truro
Cornwall, TR4 9NN

Dances of Universal Peace

A time to celebrate!

From the beginning of time, sacred movement, song and story have brought people together - at times of seasonal ceremony and celebration, as part of everyday life and life passages, in daily renewal and meditation.

The Dances of Universal Peace are part of this timeless tradition of sacred dance.

Spiritual essence

The Dances of Universal Peace provide a joyful, multi-cultural way to touch the spiritual essence within ourselves and others. Being inspired by the wisdom and sacred phrases of the many spiritual traditions of humankind, they are essentially a form of celebration and meditation in sound and movement. There are no performers or audience, new arrivals and old hands form the circle together.

Welcoming to all

The Dances are easy to learn, and everything you need to know for each Dance is taught first. Even though you might feel unable to sing 'in tune', or might feel you have 'two left feet', you will discover that these Dances are welcoming to all. They can be great fun as well as most profound.

These Dances offer a safe way to be open to other people, creating trust and healing on a deep level. Through singing and moving with the sacred chants and mantras of these Dances, we can come to know more of our true selves, so bringing peace, joy and unity to ourselves and to others.

Samuel L Lewis

The Dances were originally created in America in the late 1960s by Samuel L Lewis (1896-1971) who was a Sufi Murshid (teacher) as well as a Rinzai Zen Master. He also studied deeply in the mystical traditions of Hinduism, Judaism and Christianity. He was deeply influenced in this work by his spiritual contact with the Sufi mystic Hazrat Inayat Khan, who first brought a message of universal Sufism to the West, and by Ruth St

Denis, the American contemporary dance pioneer, poet and mystic.

From the spiritual teachings of Hazrat Inayat Khan, that the truth at the heart of all religions is the same truth, Samuel Lewis envisioned a dance form which would embody this ideal and allow people their own experience of it. He saw the dances as a dynamic method to promote peace through the arts.

International network

From around 50 original dances created by Samuel Lewis, the collection has grown to more than 500, which is gradually spreading around the world, through an international network of trained Dance leaders.

The Dances are offered in a variety of ways, such as ongoing evening sessions, day workshops, longer residential retreats and dance camps. They are offered in schools, colleges, prisons, hospices, residential homes for those with learning difficulties and holistic health centres etc. The Dances can also be part of life celebrations such as weddings and burials, peace gatherings, healing rituals, earth caring and ecumenical worship.

"The experience of the Dances goes out of the realms of language and into the realms of the heart".

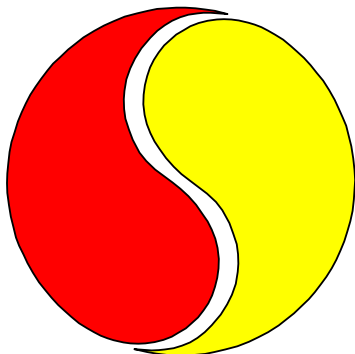
"Doing the dances has enabled me to connect to the deeper flows of direction in my life".

"These dances are nurturing, uplifting and potentially a deep experience, difficult to put into words".

They continue to be, as Samuel Lewis envisioned them, a way to make life-energy and the peace which passes understanding a reality for all who come in contact with them. There is extensive training in Dance leadership through the Mentor Teachers Guild. Under this scheme all teachers abide by ethical guidelines.

"Towards one world within and without"

The Center for the Dances of Universal Peace was organised in 1983 to further the work begun by Samuel Lewis and to help make the Dances available to all people. Now called the International Network for the Dances of Universal Peace, it has a growing membership in 22 different countries. In this country The UK Network for the Dances of Universal Peace was established in 1990 and is affiliated to the International Network.



Information

For further information about the dances contact:

*Alice Fatah Saunders,
UK Regional Networker
Dances of Universal Peace
7 Marmion Crescent
Edinburgh EH16 5QU
Tel 0131 664 6206*

networker@dancesofuniversalpeace.org.uk

For online information for local contacts and listings of all current events, please visit our web site at:

<http://www.dancesofuniversalpeace.org.uk>

Creating time and space

"The job of the facilitator is to create the time and space in which the group can realise its potential, whether that potential be a new product, a strategic plan, or a redesigned organisation. It is a curious role indeed, for to the extent that the facilitator becomes prescriptive, imposing time, space, and solutions, he or she will fail. The more done, the less accomplished. It is necessary to be physically on hand, be fully present, be the truth, and then get out of the way. As the world would see it, the ultimate facilitator will do nothing and remain invisible."

Quoted from "Open Space Technology - a user's guide" by Harrison Owen, in a chapter entitled "Personal preparation for Open Space".

In the next issue we will be looking at Open Space Technology a bit more.
Are you moved to write? ED.

Spirit of a sorcerer

Spirit of Christos, spirit of care,
I call you now, I must, I dare,
You promise love if I'll walk with you,
Unity of mind, honest and true.

'I believe', won't do, faith not enough,
'I know you' is more the stuff,
I feel your force around and within,
Come forward now and teach me to win.

The game of life for others a care,
Teach me now the spoils to share,
I held so fast to love at heart,
A new life activations motor start.

The power of conscience I'm pointed to,
Like an arrow's flight for others to chew,
When I speak what's felt with presence of mind,
To ask for decency with words of kind.

I've seen the folly in the blame of others,
I've seen them hide honesty under the covers,
How do I break such a cold rigid cage,
Teach me to be the wisest old sage.

Robin Smith

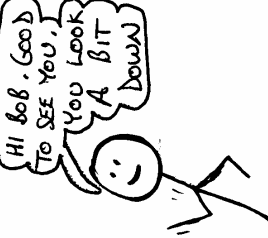
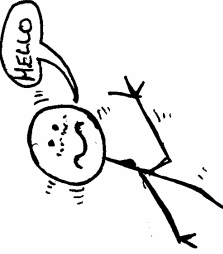
BOB + MAY (PART II)

BOB'S LIFE FELT EMPTY....



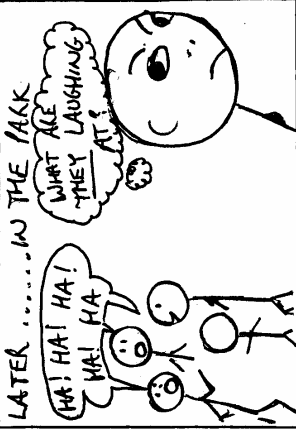
STAB 197

HE DECIDED TO MEET OTHER PEOPLE

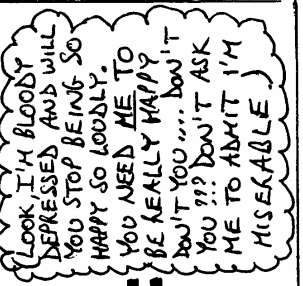
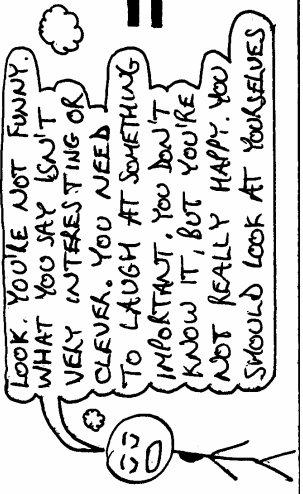
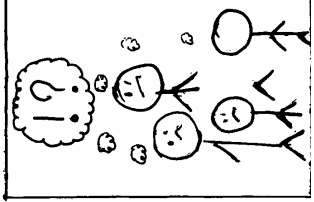


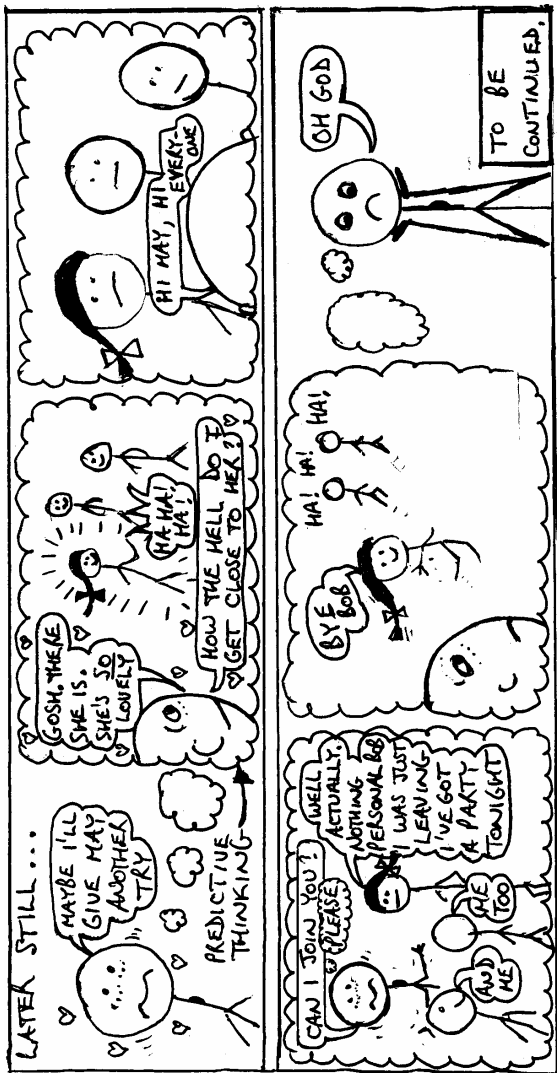
HMM! SOUNDS LIKE IT!

OUTTA HERE



LATER IN THE PARK





Bob and May
 by
 Jonathan Melville-
 Brown

Local ongoing Community Building groups

Some groups are open to anyone interested in experiencing Community Building, some are open to you only if you have already attended a CB event, some are open all the time to new members, some may not be open to newcomers just now... Check with the local contact person.

Brighton: Meets on the second Saturday of the month. Contact Tracy on 01243 775745

Leamington Spa: First Wednesday of each month, 8pm. New members welcome. Prior attendance at a CB event is not necessary. Contact Debbie or Armando on 01926 337 409

Manchester: "Community Building based Support Group" meets every 2 or 3 weeks on a weekday evening. Contact Barry at Flat 1, 143 Hamilton Road, Longsight, Manchester, M13 0PL for more information

Oxfordshire: Currently not open to new members. Contact Sharon on 01235 848132

Sheffield: Meets monthly. Contact Alison 0114 263 0177

Other groups exist but are not currently publicised. If you are interested in joining, or forming, a group please feel free to contact Peter Cooper (address below) for information and help.



General enquiries

*about Community Building in Britain, or events: Tel **07071 880858** (premium rate), write to 52 Sole Farm Avenue, Bookham, Leatherhead KT23 3DE
email to PeterCBIB@aol.com, or see the Web page: <http://members.aol.com/petercbib>*

Newsletter contributions

*Please send items for inclusion in the next issue to the editor Rachel Castagne at Flat C 257 Preston Road, Brighton, BN1 6SE by **8th December 1999** (Tel: 01273 382 864).*

For convenience of personal contact, the address and telephone number of letter-writers will normally be published, unless other instructions are given. Contributions of any sort (articles, pictures, poems, letters etc.), and of any length, are welcome from all involved in any way with the CBiB network. While every effort will be made to reproduce items in full, please realise that the editor may have to shorten or alter them for publication.

Subscriptions and mailings

Subscription rate [UK] to March 1999: (Apr-Jun) £10; (Jul-Sep) £7.50; (Oct-Dec) £5; (Jan-Mar) £2.50. Please send cheques (payable to "Community Building in Britain") and any address changes to: Peter Cooper, 52 Sole Farm Avenue, Bookham, Leatherhead KT23 3DE Tel: 07974 961301