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BUZZ SHEET

the truth is within

The Resurrection

Our mission: To Promote the Safe Practice, Development,
Knowledge and Understanding of Physical Mediumship,
Spirit communication and Associated Phenomena



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CONGRATULATIONS

to Zerdin Trustees Gerald O'Hara & Eric Cargill who were joined together at a wonderful civil ceremony on Saturday 20th May 2006 in London, England. We at The Zerdin Fellowship wish them great joy and happiness.



Front cover photograph, A beautiful dramatic close up of Katie King fully materialised.

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We are pleased to announce five new recordings of the truly great direct voice medium Leslie Flint from the Betty Greene collection. These CDs are now available direct from the Zerdin Fellowship and order forms are inside this edition of the Buzzsheet.

FIVE NEW SELECTIONS OF LESLIE FLINT RECORDINGS ON CD FOR THE ZERDIN FELLOWSHIP

Due to the great response for our first five recordings of Leslie Flint's work - available through the kind permission of Tom and Ann Harrison, custodians of the Betty Green collection (learn more about Leslie Flint's mediumship and Betty Green in Buzzsheet issue 4, back copies available) it was decided to extend the selection available.

We now have pleasure offering our fellows five new recordings ; Spirit Philosophy part 1 and 2, Mahatma Ghandi, Brother Boniface, Pioneering Women, Poets and Playwrights.

It is an amazing world we now live in and just by playing these recordings you can be in the company of Mahatma Ghandi, Louis Pasteur and The Archbishop of Canterbury.

From the world of poets and playwrights we encounter Elizabeth and Robert Browning, Oscar Wilde, George Bernard Shaw, and many other very interesting souls. They may now all live in spirit, but this does not stop them talking to you, indeed this is exactly why famous people come through - simply to say look, you knew of us while we were on earth and here we are with you once again. Rich or poor famous or not so well known, tall, short, fat, thin, young or old and from whatever time in history we are all here with room for everyone. As there is no time or space, we don't need your physical bodies, just your experiences that make you what you are now, will do.

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A UNIQUE RECORDING OF A SENSATIONAL SÉANCE WITH PHYSICAL MEDIUM DAVID THOMPSON AT YORK ENGLAND 26th NOVEMBER 2004.

By Dennis Pearman

I was present at that séance and it was truly a memorable evening, buying this live recording will be the next best thing to actually being there. You will meet David's spirit team who materialise in the séance room, Louis Armstrong will serenade and play for you, Dr Henry Slade famous physical and slate medium materialised in the séance room and talks on the nature physical mediumship in his life time. Parents materialise walk across the séance room to say hello and touch sons sitting in the séance room while a very important spirit person in David's mediumship White Soaring Bird dances and speaks words of good will to those present. All of this now available on CD direct from the Zerdin Fellowship see our advertisement in this issue.

AT LAST... AN OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE A SENSATIONAL CD TITLED: 'WE'RE BACK' A RECORDING OF ONE OF DAVID THOMPSON'S AMAZING SÉANCES.



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Mrs Rosalind Pearman, The Gatehouse, Priors Leaze Lane,
Hambrook, West Sussex, England PO18 8RQ

Or alternatively pay online @ www.zerdinfellowship.com

Another in the very successful 'Stewart Alexander and Friends' series of seminars took place at the Cober Hill Conference Centre in Yorkshire this last March. Previous seminars have been held in the autumn, but due to demand, an additional one has been held to supplement the seminar to be held this coming October. As usual, the event became fully booked within days of being announced.

STEWART AND FRIENDS RETURN TO COBER HILL

The weekend started with a satisfying three course evening meal on Friday 17th March followed by the usual introductions plus a demonstration of mental mediumship by Mary Armour, Peter Egan and Stewart Esler. All three presented mediumship in a professional manner that is associated with these seminars. Peter Egan has now become a very welcomed new member of the team. Mary and Stewart are, of course, well known to regular attendees of the seminars.

The Saturday morning session commenced with a talk by Annemarie Lewis on "Emma: The Mother of Spiritualism. Many fascinating facts came to light concerning this exceptional multi-talented 19th century lady who dedicated her life to promoting Spiritualism in an age when great hostility was expressed by church and science. The lady was of course, for those who hadn't twigged, Emma Hardinge Britten.

A Full Saturday

Next came "Do the Deceased Communicate through Electronic Apparatus?". Carl Steenstrup from Germany was due to give this talk but unfortunately illness prevented him attending. However, Alf Winchester had received Carl's text so read the contribution. Alf did a grand job in making the talk interesting – a difficult job when reading someone else's notes. The presentation covered from the early pioneers to current day experiments with TVs and Computers, but Carl considered that whatever the means, a medium was necessary to produce results.

Come the second half of the morning we witnessed a demonstration of Psychic Art by Jan Dayton with Joan Hughes providing additional mediumistic links. Jan commenced by telling us how she almost inadvertently became a psychic artist. She then proceeded to demonstrate her art by producing detailed facial drawings of loved ones who had passed on whilst Joan provided supporting evidence.

Most of the afternoon was devoted to group work with options given for delegates to work with Mary Armour, Peter Egan, Stewart Esler or Joan Hughes. All those I spoke to were well pleased with the session they attended. As usual, for those wanting something different there was also the chance to have an informal chat with physical medium Stewart Alexander.

The Séance

The much anticipated physical séance with Stewart Alexander got under way on the Saturday evening and lasted well over two hours. But how the time flew as various forms of phenomena occurred one after another. This included the famous "matter thro' matter" experiment and also the familiar materialised hand holding one of the sitters hands in low red light experiment.

What was new to practically everyone was seeing ectoplasm draped over Stewart's face and neck. The red light was switched on twice for a few seconds at a time and what was announced as ectoplasm being clearly visible. The rest of the time we assume the ectoplasm was being used to create the various phenomena and materialised forms.

As for trumpet phenomena, for a short while we heard direct voice through one of the trumpets. This was unexpected as for some time now they had only been used to demonstrate our spirit friends' ability to fly them around the room – which they did to great affect.

It is now quite common during the proceedings for one of Stewart's regular spirit visitors, Dr Barnett, to apparently walk around the room carrying an orb of light about the size of a tennis ball. Those close by said they could see his fingers holding the glowing orb. He also, without the spirit created light, moved around to verbally greet several of those present, touching them or shaking their hands. What was particularly fascinating for Peter Egan was the fact that Dr Barnett had to move a small but heavy table out of the way to reach him. As I was sitting next to Peter I was well aware of the table being moved. He obviously was very determined to reach Peter!

The table, by the way, is the one with a transparent top which is illuminated from within by a red light. This had been used earlier when a hand manifested from a blob of ectoplasm to grasp the hand of a Michael from France – much to his delight.

Dr Barnett also spoke (by what must have been independent direct voice) of how he and others in his world were working unceasingly to bring about a breakthrough so that "all doubts will be removed from mankind" as to the reality of the spirit world.

Another interesting phenomena that many may not have seen before was to see Stewart levitated so high that his head must have been poking out above the cabinet! Although we could only see the luminous pads stuck to his knees, it was obvious that his knees must have approached the top front crossbar of the cabinet forming the curtain rail.

The séance highlight for a lady by the name of Christine was to hear very evidential communication from her husband and also from her son who passed through a car crash. Her son confirmed details of the crash by referring dramatically to the fire that ensued. This was, no doubt, a very moving experience for everyone present.

Several others received evidential communication from their loved ones either directly or relayed to them via Freda Johnson (one of Stewart's regular communicators). It is these communications from loved ones that give real meaning to the wonderful physical phenomena of the séance room

Come Sunday

Three events were packed into Sunday morning starting with a truly inspired talk by Peter Egan titled "Implications of Mediumship". This eclectic and very poignant talk by Peter illustrated how mediumship, be it physical, mental or in the form of healing, achieves its real goal when the result "touches the soul" of the recipient. That is what Peter succinctly reminded us what mediumship is fundamentally all about – and I believe all those present would agree.

Following on came a demonstration of mediumship by four of those who had attended the development groups the previous

day and selected (or was it commanded!) by Joan Hughes. All acquitted themselves very well, bearing in mind their varying degrees of experience – from novice to platform worker.

The last presentation of the seminar was fittingly given by Stewart Alexander – who never fails to uplift us with his enthusiastic accounts, be they his own experiences or accounts of other mediums. This time his talk was called "My Journey" and covered his early investigations which then lead on to his development as a physical medium. If you have never heard the amazing story about "pink plastic pigs" then it is well worthwhile requesting that Stewart includes it in his repertoire. Now that's got you all intrigued!

Additional much appreciated daily events included early morning meditations by Annemarie Lewis and healing sessions led by Ken Wood.

Continuing my report about my experimental session with Dr. Safwat El Amin. The session took place on January 2004 in the New York apartment of Dr. Alexander Imich. Present were Dr. Alexander Imich (AI), and Dr. Safwat El Amine (SE). The 10:00 AM events were observed in full daylight. The afternoon phenomena were observed in the lights of two 100 watt electric bulbs.

AN EGYPTIAN IN NEW YORK SESSION TWO

By Alexander Imich

10:00 AM

1. AI puts a 1/4" thick synthetic rope through the opening of the holding side of a key, makes a knot and holds both ends of the rope in his hand. SE puts his hand on the key and the key is out of the knot, while the knot is still intact.
2. AI cuts a 10 inch long synthetic cord in two 5 inch long pieces. SE takes both ends of the rope in his hand and the ends are joined together; the original 10 inch long cord is reinstated.

04:05 PM

AI shows SE a Perrier 20 cl 40 mm empty glass bottle with a 25 cent coin inside. The diameter of the coin is larger than the diameter of the bottle's neck: It was placed in the bottle by Joseph Nuzum, a psychic producing various physical phenomena. In a competitive mood, SE asks for a 25 cent and a 5 cent coin and in one powerful strike both are inside a polyethylene bottle, whose neck is smaller in diameter than each of the coins. After which SE asks for a glass chalice. AI produces a chalice with 1 mm thick walls. SE breaks the chalice, puts a broken piece in his mouth, chews it for a minute – AI hears the sound of cracking glass – and then swallows. Next: SE asks for a 5 cent US coin and swallows it without chewing. AI had no reports if and how the swallowed objects were eliminated from SE's body. SE states that he once swallowed a 3 cm long, and circa 2 mm thick link of a copper chain.

05:06 PM

AI covers an empty cigar box with a towel, shakes it for a minute, and takes off the cover; torn pieces of SE's stolen passport are found in the box. The box is covered again, shaken, and 2 photographs of AI are found in it after the towel is removed.

Many thanks to all who made this a very successful seminar. Thanks not just to those physically present but to those in the Spirit World who work unceasingly to bring the two worlds closer together. A special thanks to June Winchester and her team who work very hard organising these events and to Stewart Alexander who plays a large part in making these seminars so successful.

For those unfamiliar with Stewart Alexander's mediumship Katie Halliwell has written an instructional booklet and compiled a tape of extracts from his séances. The booklet with tape is available for £9. For an order form giving various options (including transcript for the deaf) write to: The Alexander Project, 85 Alexandra Rd, Hull, HU5 2NX.

06:10 PM

Two \$20 and one \$5 bill appear in the covered box. 25 minutes later – two \$20 bills, 10 minutes later one \$20 bill and the lost keys belonging to SE. This time AI clandestinely puts the \$20 bill in his pocket and gives SE only the keys. 10 minutes later SE announces that AI is guilty and will be punished; AI gives SE \$20 plus \$1 as a penalty for hiding the \$20 bill.

The session is continued after a late luncheon interval. In the covered cigar box there appear more parts of SE's stolen passport, valet with his credit card, his eyeglasses with one part broken, and two money checks. While these items are examined, SE's comb appears in the uncovered cigar box. At 16:15 more of the torn SE's passport, a pack of playing cards, and a vial with Atenolol appear in the covered box while SE is in another room of the apartment. At 17:03 a photograph of AI, and another one of SE's friend, the imam of the Brooklyn mosque, appear in the covered cigar box. The day long session is terminated

Discussion

A possible physical explanation of matter-through-matter penetration involves decomposition of the penetrating object into its molecular, atomic or even smaller components that pass via intermolecular spaces of the material being penetrated. However, physics cannot explain how the decomposition of the penetrating object is made; it is a paranormal phenomenon par excellence. Paranormal literature has reports about living people going through the walls of apartments. If the hypothesis of decomposition into smallest physical units is valid, then in this process there is a moment during which the living body is no more alive; it comes back to life after passing through the wall. This can be considered as a reinforcement of the life after bodily death hypothesis.

Alexander Imich, Ph.D., President
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It all started with a Chinese banquet in London on a sopping wet night just after Christmas of 2002. After learning about the unusually talented UK transfiguration medium, Jean Skinner, my wife Carla and I decided to fly from San Francisco to London to see for ourselves.

THE MANY FACES OF SPIRIT TRANSFIGURATION DEMONSTRATIONS IN AMERICA BY RENOWNED TRANSFIGURATION MEDIUM MRS. JEAN SKINNER

By Sonny Bing Gee, President Golden Gate Spiritualist Church, San Francisco U.S.A

We invited Ms Skinner and several friends to enjoy some fine Chinese cuisine near Victoria station. After the eighth course, at last the magic happened. Jean Skinner quietly invited us to a séance to be held the next day. This meant taking a 45-minute train ride out of Charing Cross to a small town in Kent on New Year's eve day. We had a group of five sitting in a small room lit only by red light and a warm crackling fire. I imagined this was how English home circles held their sittings and development groups.

We were well rewarded. Guiding the séance and "protecting" the entranced medium was healer and helper, Ms Lyn Bell. In a short time, Ms Skinner's wise, soft-spoken Chinese guide took over and began the afternoon séance. One by one, we were invited to sit closely in front of Ms Skinner to observe the energy building up over her face forming a delicate ectoplasmic mask of a recognizable spirit. Tears of love, amazement and grateful recognition were overflowing from all of us during this séance. My wife and I had personal, joyful reunions with my mother, her grandmother and father, the Rev. Florence Becker, the founding pastor of our beloved Golden Gate Spiritualist Church in San Francisco and several others.

While one of the other sitters was having his loving, but tearful reunion with his mother, we realized the medium's hands also were part of the transfiguration change. One of the hands was like a rigid claw. On the train ride back to London, we asked this gentleman whether he noticed this. He informed us that for six months before his mother's passing, one of her hands was frozen that way from a paralyzing stroke.

We floated back to London, but not before seizing the opportunity to invite Ms Skinner and Ms Bell for their first visit to America to serve our church in California. Ms Skinner graciously accepted, mentioning that at an earlier séance, their visit to America was already forecast.

Two weeks before their arrival in America, their scheduled Transfiguration Demonstration in Red Light for fifty people, plus all the private group sittings were already fully booked. Our overflowing congregation at our Sunday service was so mesmerized by her magnetic personality and mediumistic demonstration, our usually one and one-half hour service ran to nearly three hours. Obviously, such rare physical mediumship is highly interesting to Americans.

I interviewed many of the fortunate attendees of the private group sittings and received their permission to report their personal experiences.

Janet exclaimed, "Look at that nose changing. It's my mother. Only she had that strange looking nose!" In yet another group, besides his mother and a cherished friend, Jim suddenly gasped as first, the Christian mystic, Thomas Merton appeared, followed by Paramahansa Yogananda. Now, I was a bit skeptic. So, I did some digging and discovered that since his early teens, Jim has been assiduously studying the writings

of Thomas Merton. And has travelled for many years across America to attend conferences and visitations to Thomas Merton sites. In recent years, he has also dedicated himself to retreats, lessons and a strict adherence of daily meditations as taught by Yogananda's continuing Self-Realization Fellowship.

It dawned on me that although nearly all of the transfiguration phenomena were of humble, but well-loved family members and friends, the few famous personages who appeared were not frivolous ego scratches, but well-earned visitations.

JEAN SKINNER RETURNS TO CONQUER AMERICA

Last year, we readily invited Ms Skinner for a return visit to San Francisco, but word of mouth had happened, and her American journey began on the East Coast with a visit to a church in New Jersey. At one of the transfiguration demonstrations, Pat saw her mother, father, mother's mother and mother's two sisters and remarked, "Oh, the whole Curley Clan is here!" There was no doubt in her mind that was her mother as she watched the cheeks building up and saw her very special eyes, but what she missed most was her mother's hug. Right then, the entranced Ms Skinner leaned down and hugged her. Pat was so stunned, she couldn't even cry.

Ms Skinner travelled on to Phoenix, Arizona to serve a church there. Then, she took a well-deserved break to visit the Indian country to revel in her intense love of Indian lore and artifacts.

Finally, she arrives in California. After doing demonstrations and Private Group Sittings in the Discovery Bay and Stockton areas, she returns to the Golden Gate Spiritualist Church in San Francisco for church services and a truly memorable mediumship workshop. She caps her visit with a Transfiguration Workshop at the California State Spiritualists Association convention in Burlingame. The ballroom was overflowing with enthusiastic convention attendees, many seeing transfiguration for the very first time.

After conquering America from the East Coast to the Pacific Ocean, Jean Skinner went home tired but happy.

STEWART ALEXANDER'S SÉANCE MANSFIELD ENGLAND, 24th MARCH 2006 OBSERVATIONS ON SITTING WITH STEWART ALEXANDER

by Marion Dampier-Jeans

I have been passionate about physical mediumship, it's history and what it has to offer us in the 21 century and have lectured in many Countries – particularly the Nordic Countries – on the nature of physical mediumship and sat with many physical mediums in different stages of their development.

It is always interesting to see the different mediums work and development through their Helpers and the length of time it has taken to develop their wonderful gifts.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to write down my observations on sitting with Stewart Alexander.

The evening was well attended by people from many parts of England, and a good atmosphere was created for the circle. There were people there that had never attended a physical circle, and there were many who were experienced in sitting for physical mediumship.

What I was interested to see was the black out of the room and the atmosphere that was created. I have seen many different approaches to the séance room, with different stages of darkness, and preparations for the mediums and what spirit requires for their mediums development. Stewarts work this evening was of great interest to me, as this circle was more in the light/dark, than in total darkness.

In the past I have sat in séance rooms that were so dark it almost hurt the eyes, and could give a very uncomfortable feeling and distress. There have been times when one became so hot and uncomfortable because too many people have attended and were packed into a very small room. With only luminous paint used to light up the trumpet bottom, the rest was in total darkness, where we sat for up to two hours and saw nothing after the trumpets were removed. This is why many people become sceptical of physical mediumship and its phenomena.

In Stewart Alexander's experimental circle he had plenty of luminous paper taped to the cabinet curtains, around the trumpets and his legs; this created enough luminous light to see in the dark, and had a focus for the eyes, so I could follow what was happening. It also created a comfortable atmosphere that could be felt around the room.

What was interesting was in-between the trance, where Freda came through and invited different people from the circle to join Stewart and sit next to the cabinet, each time a red light was switched on by Ray when requested by spirit, so the person could find the way from their chair to the place next to the cabinet.

This was a delight for me as I have always been bewildered as to why we do not use a little more light (not daylight) but the red light. This red light at the séance did not interfere with the energy, Stewart or spirit but gave the sitters an opportunity to look around and offered a relaxed combination of darkness and light. Because of the different stages of light there was an easier atmosphere and I felt this gave confidence to the many people who attended.

Because the room was not too dark this gave me the opportunity to look around and I saw shadows moving across the room and was touched more than once.

Spirit seemed to appear and disappear around the cabinet and move outwards from the cabinet to the room and to different parts of the circle. The flicker of red light mixed in the dark allowed me to observe spirit moving around , and it looked as if they were sliding across the room. I could see this because of the luminous tapes on the cabinet.

One message given by Stewart's guide Freda, took me by surprise – not the content of the message– but the atmosphere building up, as unexpectedly tears flowed down my cheeks. This has not happened before. Another experience was when two people were asked to sit opposite Stewart with a small table between them. This was the first time that ectoplasm was produced to form the guide's hand. This was only seen by the people close up to Stewart Alexander and the two people who had been invited to see this phenomena, but we have a brief verbal description of what happened.

When the ectoplasm was taken from Stewart I felt a big pull from my body and around me, different from what I have felt before and the people sat behind me also felt something as I heard them speak about having the same feelings. So energy was being pulled from them also.

The next interesting thing was when the ectoplasm withdrew back to Stewart it crackled, like small firecrackers for about one minute. I did not smell this as I have in the past, but observed small glitters of light with a crackling sound.

At the end of the experimental circle we were given a demonstration of independent voice by Walter Stinson from the other side, who built a voice box next to the cabinet.

The highlight for me was when Walter Stinson explained that he would produce a light for the people to see. This light he said, spirit was working on and that one day spirit would use this to cloak themselves in. This light Walter Stinson called the Illumination. I could have jumped out of my seat, but I did not, however, this is exactly what I have been investigating and am interested in.

I was told this in 1993 in the Nordic Circle, led by Val Lundquist my circle leader!

The very same information was given to us through the spirit of physical Danish medium Einer Nielsen and also as a physical medium, what I experience myself in the cabinet. Einer Nielsen called this light the Illumination and it seems that many more spirit are now talking about this light and they have not given up, but are still working hard to develop this luminous light so we can take the séances out of the dark into the light.

Then the meaning of death is freedom, because we will know eventually it is a new life, a spiritual rebirth so that no one should fear death for one day we will all meet again.



The current format of the Halojan Circle began about 18 months ago, although before that we had sat for many years for physical mediumship in the traditional way, and we had some success too. Originally, some 14 years ago, there were 12 members in our circle, but this gradually reduced, as so often happens, until there were just 2 of us left. Eventually, 2 more sitters joined us and almost at once we realised that as a circle, we had gelled and a wonderful atmosphere had been formed between the 4 of us.

HALOJAN CIRCLE

By Heather Margetts

We sat in complete darkness with a cabinet. At that time we had one trance medium and one developing trance medium. We experienced trumpet movement, the beginnings of psychic art, and many wonderful trance talks from a varied and diverse number of people from the world of Spirit. Make no mistake, we had some truly unforgettable evenings.

It was suggested to us by our then Spirit team, who had been with us for many years that we may wish to undertake an experiment and an alternative way of sitting, i.e. to work in manner somewhat similar to the Scole sittings (but not an exact repeat of those experiments). This was a daunting prospect – a complete change! After much consideration and discussion with our Spirit team, we decided that this new experiment and way of sitting would be undertaken for a short period of time.

The Halojan Circle consists of 4 members, 2 ladies and 2 men. We meet every Thursday evening and sit in a blacked-out room as we did before, but now without a cabinet. The most important factor is that our circle is an extremely harmonious one, with much joy and laughter in it. We share the same commitment and dedication and cherish the times we spend together with our Spirit friends. Indeed just to be part of such a beautiful atmosphere is a gift in itself, anything else is a bonus. Yes, our circle night is very special to us!

From the time we started our new experiment, with a glass dome placed in the middle of a small oak table, we began to get results. First of all our new team of Spirit communicators introduced themselves to us and then gave certain instructions as to the layout of our séance room. We followed their instructions to the letter. Within a few weeks one of our male sitters felt that he too should be going into trance, and this was something new to him. He was concerned as to whether this was the right thing to do given that it was taken for granted that the trance medium would be the same lady

as had always been. Many circles have broken up because of 'power struggles', but no such thing would be happening in the Halojan Circle. Everyone is simply happy to be part of it no matter what his or her role may be. Our Spirit team is constantly assuring us that we each have an important part to play in the experiments, and as long as they are happy then so are we. However, it goes without saying that we do try to question what we are given and asked to do by our Spirit friends, and this is something they certainly encourage. We must add that we ensure that we search each other in the normal way before we start our sessions.

Our Spirit team is now using 2 trance mediums and we feel our circle is going from strength to strength. Because of the human element, which can never completely be eradicated, there can be a nagging feeling within a medium that they should 'perform', so as not to disappoint the other sitters. The sincere reassurances of the sitters that they are quite happy to sit even if nothing does happen can never completely still a medium's doubts. This was certainly true of our original trance medium. With the advent of a second trance medium within the circle the pressure was off, all doubts and fears have disappeared and our communicators are now breaking through barriers.

The first breakthrough came some 3 months ago. One of our communicators suddenly came forward and shouted, "It is good!" At the end of that wonderful session we turned on the lights, and there lying beside the dome on the table was a beautiful feather. We were all thrilled and felt this was the breakthrough we needed and looked forward with great anticipation to our next sitting. As happens many times in experimental sittings, the next week we had no further apports and none for the next two weeks, though we still had some lovely communication with our team. The following week when we turned the lights on we discovered that the



camera, which is placed on the table beside the dome each week at Spirit instruction, was now resting on the floor.

On February 2nd we heard 4 objects, one after the other, suddenly come flying across the room from different directions, before landing. When the lights came on at the end of the sitting, we found 4 old 3d pieces, one of which had landed neatly between the legs of one of our male sitters. The next week, even though we were one sitter short because of illness, we were overjoyed to receive 4 further coins, this time old silver joes or 3d pieces.

On February 16th we received a beautiful torc bracelet, which dropped from above onto the shoulder of a sitter, and bounced onto her hands before falling off and rolling across the floor to land with a thud at the feet of another sitter. The bracelet or torc is in a triple-plaited design. At the end of the sitting, after we had all admired and examined the torc, we suddenly noticed that the camera had also been turned around on the table. We have since had the torc assessed by a jeweller and it is made of copper, brass and steel.

On February 23rd, more objects dropped from the ceiling. When the lights came on at the end of our sitting, we discovered 4 old pennies, one of which had been carefully placed underneath our glass dome and the rest lay on the floor. Needless to say we are all feeling very grateful, pleased and excited with these developments and can't wait to see what happens next.

We feel our circle is now moving up a level in its development, and we are eagerly looking forward to whatever our Spirit team has in store for us in the future. We wanted to share our experiences in the hope that they may serve to encourage other circles to persevere. The Spirit world is working very hard to communicate with our world; it just needs to find the right way to work with us. Our Spirit team has been trying hard for a long time to find a way to break through the barriers of our circle and bring about the phenomena and communications that we are starting to receive. They have always told us that it was just a case of finding the right way. We believe they have finally found it.

We look forward to bringing further news to the Buzz Sheet of developments within the Halojan Circle, with the permission of our Spirit team, of course.

With kind regards,
Heather Margetts
Alan Charlish
Lorraine Gard
John Robinson
28 February 2006



Psychic World THE ALTERNATIVE MONTHLY

Psychic World is the monthly paper that covers a wide variety of topics. Covering Spiritualism, the Paranormal, News, Physical Mediumship, E.V.P., Scientific Aspects of Spiritualism, Philosophy, Views and other subjects.

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YOUNGEST ZERDIN FELLOW TO JOIN ZERDIN
NICHOLAS CHRISTOPHER HOWARTH
born 11th April 2006
CONGRATULATIONS TO CHRIS & SYLVIA



THE ZERDIN FELLOWSHIP WOULD LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO BILL MEADOWS AND HIS CIRCLE

By Eric Cargill

On a cold November day last year I made my way down the motorway toward Nottingham with hope that this evening I would find a new physical medium who would one day allow his gift to be witnessed within the safe and welcoming arms of the Zerdin fellowship. I was not to be disappointed, at least in terms of the mediumship, and we hope that one day soon Bill will allow you too to meet with his spirit friends.

Bill's mediumship is unusual, his spirit team tell him that they do not use ectoplasm but use a group energy, for this reason it was felt that the circle who sit regularly together need to be present in order to give this public séance. This was the first time that they had demonstrated outside of the home circle although they had invited guests into the home circle in the past.

The evening began, unusually as well. For those seasoned séance goers will recognise; light is a no, no. But Bills evening began with a small red light burning. The cabinet was a long black curtain from ceiling to floor strung across one corner. Behind this the medium was sat, strapped with Velcro straps into a chair.

After a short period of singing along in the traditional way, a voice was heard from behind the curtain. This was the voice of a young girl who is known as Marie. Some lively banter followed as Marie joked with different sitters. Then a voice on the opposite side of the cabinet joined in. This was an adult male voice who introduced himself as Jonathon. He counselled us to ignore the 'bloody children' as they take over everything. When asked by Monique, a member of the circle, what he would do without Marie, his retort was quick, 'Be the boss'. The banter continued for a while to everyone's amusement and gradually any tension in the atmosphere relaxed as people forgot the unusual circumstances of this communication.

We were then asked for a sitter to come forward and inspect the ties around the mediums arms and legs. This involved the volunteer concerned going into the cabinet. We were assured that the medium was all-secure and almost immediately a new voice added itself and we were told that this was Father James. He thanked the group for the invitation and for coming; hoping that we would find it all worthwhile he quickly withdrew.

We were asked to sing up and the curtain started to move out. The outline of a figure could be clearly seen in the red light. A small bookcase lay to one side and this suddenly took off moving outward and finishing at a right angle to the wall of the room. On either side the curtain moved, as what appeared to be figures stepped forward, the curtain draping around them. As the figures moved forward the curtain was lifted from the floor slightly and I must admit to some trepidation when I realised the light cast by the lamp would reach under the curtains, but there was no harm to the medium, (it was only later that I discovered that they do not use ectoplasm). A voice returned asking if we had been frightened and telling us that they were trying to return the bookcase to its original position to but couldn't do it yet. Marie then told us that one of the straps retaining the medium had come off and asked for a volunteer again to replace it, she also asked for the bookcase to be returned to the wall as they hadn't managed it. There was much banter and fun between Marie and the circle as she pulled their legs, telling the group that Monique had a garden full of snails and frogs without any legs. Marie continued to banter while loud bangs could be heard ricocheting off the chimneys breast. We were told that this was Marie's sister and this was followed by a heavy thump produced by a gentleman known as Ralph. We were advised

that Ralph was usually accompanied by birdsong but although this was attempted it did not come through as it apparently usually does and we could only hear a strange clicking sound. The howling of a dog followed this, but we were soon to realise that this was nothing to do with Spirit but was indeed our host's dog contained in the kitchen downstairs.

Jonathon returned and after some banter the curtains again began to move outward at different heights as Jonathon and Marie pushed forward together and then two child sized shapes one of which was very small. A volunteer was called for and the medium was checked and found to be still bound. Then we were asked to turn out the light.

On the bookcase stood a trumpet illuminated by luminous paint and a plaque which had a single coating of luminous paint on one side and a pattern of luminous paint on the other. The trumpet rocked backwards and forwards but without lifting it fell to the floor. Then the bookcase was heard scraping along the floor and Marie called for the light to be switched on so that all could see that it had moved.

Monique then asked if her husband was touching her knee but discovered that it was Jonathon. Jonathon asked for the trumpet to be removed and the light to be switched off. The bookcase returned to its position against the wall and then the plaque took off. Flipping from side to side as it performed aerial gymnastics. Marie offered to pass it to a sitter but as he reached it was dropped to the floor and Marie could be heard laughing. One of the circle was then allowed to pick it off the floor and Marie took it from him and the aerial show began once more as it flipped its way around the room at impressive speed, and it has to be said, with no image of a hand holding onto it as one might expect if it were held by mortal hands.

When the plaque fell to the floor we were asked to check the medium once more and he was found as before safely contained by the straps and sleeping like a baby.

The voices of spirit continued to banter with the sitters until we were asked to turn the light off once more when one of the sitters announced that she had been touched and Marie owned up to it. The birds apparently began to chirrup again but they did sound odd and Marie said she thought they must all have sore throats, Ralph was heard to give a heavy thump to the wall, perhaps in frustration at his birds lack of performance. The plaque took off once more going round and around the room the sitters felt a cool breeze and the bookcase moved away from the wall again.

The spirit team each spoke in turn thanking the sitters and hoping to return again in the future. Marie counselled the group to be careful with the medium on his return. At the end the light was turned on and the medium was found still retained in his chair but sitting in front of the cabinet curtains.

I hope at some future date you will have the opportunity of sitting with Bill, his circle and meeting up with their lively and engaging spirit team.

No one alive today can say that the world is a safe place to live in but over recent years there seems to have been a sudden upsurge in sudden and unpredictable deaths. Mother Nature has released the Earth's fury in the form of hurricane, earthquake, tsunami and flood. People have unleashed their fury in war, terrorism and revolution. Not to mention increases in suicides and accidental deaths. More than ever people are dying in sudden and violent ways.

PARAFEST 2006 A SPIRITUAL EVENT

By David Wharmby

Many Spiritualists, Light-workers and Psychics believe that as a direct result of this there are more lost souls walking the earth plane than ever before. On a one to one basis these people are doing their best to help these souls to move into the light and pass over to where they belong. Now, however one such man, David Wharmby has organised an event that will have a worldwide impact.

Parafest 2006 will be an en masse passing over for lost souls. This international event will take place in Canada, New Zealand, The USA and The UK at precisely the same time. The four countries represent the four corners of the earth and there will be Internet links between the sites involved. The call is out for Psychics, Light workers and Mediums to join in and even if you feel you do not fall into one of these categories you can still be involved. By adding your presence and your energy to the event you can help to guide these lost souls.

When I asked David about the event he explained that there are also historical reasons to explain why so many souls remain earthbound. Many religions have taught and still do, that God will bring about a physical resurrection on the day of Judgement and so it is felt that they refuse to move into the light as they are still waiting for an Angel trumpet heralding that the time for the rising of the dead is at hand. Even the beliefs of older religions, such as that of the Ancient Egyptians, have all resulted in this confusion. Spirit have brought a message that the time is upon us to begin releasing these souls and to send them home.

The message stated that four nations should be gathered in this quest to represent the four corners of the world and that 12 trance mediums should sit in an inner circle with an outer circle of the spiritually aware. While the inner circle generates an energy of pure love and light, the outer circle acts much as a battery charging the inner circle with the energy needed to succeed in its task. Within the four countries working at the same time and on the same date the energy created will act as a beacon for these souls and light their way to the home they should have reached long ago.

David went on to explain that it was during a routine meditation that spirit made this message available to him. While sitting in his regular weekly circle the following day, David received further confirmation of how and why this should occur.

I know there are sceptics out there who may not have heard of David but he himself is his own biggest critic. He openly admits that he that his initial reaction was "Why me, for I am nobody?" And Spirit answered "Why not you?" For you have Listened " Over the weeks that followed David received confirmation from others who had heard the message and a worldwide call rang out to be answered by the countries now involved. Mediums have come to

David saying that Spirit directed them towards him and offering words of encouragement.

The event is scheduled for October 27th and 28th 2006. The proximity of the event to Halloween had totally missed David until it was pointed out to him, but it was Spirit who had directed his hand in choosing the date and venue. This is not to be a one off event David explained that it is the first of four. The next will occur in 2008, then 2010 and the final event is set for 2012, when it is hoped that there will be one huge event. It appears not insignificant that 2012 is already being mooted by many as a significant year. Some say it heralds the end of the world and others that it foretells upheaval and change but that remains to be seen.

David is keen to involve as many people as possible in the event this year so if you are interested... How can you help? The most obvious way is to attend and lend your support, love and energy to the event itself. If this is not possible then why not contact David and the Parafest team to find out how you can help in other ways. www.parafest2006.com There are details on the website about the event in the UK and links to the sites for the international events also taking place.

The event to be held in Cambridge is being hosted by Phil Whyman formerly of TV's Most Haunted, and supporting and attending Parafest is Derek Acorah, David is quick to also point out that this event is in no way like any other festival of this nature, even though during the day there are to be trade and exhibition stands, lectures, authentic Indian Dances, Chinese Lion Dancers, String quartet and even a Victorian fun fair to allow entertainment to cater for both young and old.

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THE RESURRECTION

FLORENCE COOK & KATIE KING

A LEGACY ON FILM

By Ross – James Pearman

Renowned for her ability to manifest fully formed spirit communicators in the séance room, Florence Cook takes her rightful place in the halls of famous physical mediums. Despite mixed views on her authenticity then and now, photographs of her gift are still on show today during her companionship with famous spirit communicator Katie King.



Katie King demonstrates her solidity by resting her arm on a sitter.



Katie King sits near the surgeon Dr James Gully to have her pulse recorded.



The Surgeon Dr James Gully records the pulse of Katie King: one of the many tests to record the physical differences between Katie King and Florence Cook.

Florence, or Florrie as she was affectionately known, was born in the East End of London in 1856.

As a child she professed to hearing voices, although her psychic gifts only presented themselves when she was 15 when a table levitated in the room during a table-tilting session with friends.

As her abilities developed she was soon able to manifest spirit faces in a cabinet, constructed out of a large cupboard that had a hole cut within the door, which is where spirit faces would appear.

During her demonstrations, Cook would climb into the cabinet and allow herself to be bound to the chair with ropes around her neck, waist and wrists.

The door was then closed and the sitters would sing songs to help lift the energies in the séance room.

Within minutes spirit faces would appear in the cupboard's opening. After their appearance the doors would be opened and Cook could be seen still attached to the chair. Some witnesses described the spirit faces as being draped with what appeared to be a thin white cloth.

Some members of the audience, all of who it should be noted were never charged for the physical demonstrations, claimed Cook had managed to get out of her ropes, stuck her face through the opening and then tied herself up again – a remarkable accusation in itself, given her slight frame.

However, despite the critics, Cook's demonstrations were loved by the general public and she soon became famous for her gift.

On some demonstrations Cook was tossed up into the air, while during another séance her clothes had been literally "ripped" from her body



Another photograph of Sir William Crookes standing arm in arm with Katie King.



Katie King stands in full view fully materialised.



Katie King and Florence Cook are photographed together, demonstrating they were two separate entities.

Source: These photographs are from www.survivalafterdeath.org

By 1872 Cook's ability to produce fully-formed spirit communicators had made her famous across the globe and it was in the same year that Katie King started to make her first communication through the young medium.

King is also famous for her appearances during séances performed by the Davenport Brothers and the Koons family.

Katie was not her real name during her time on earth, when she was believed to go by the name of Annie Owen Morgan, a daughter of the pirate Henry Morgan who had been knighted and appointed governor of Jamaica.

During her time on earth Annie Morgan had been regarded as a cheat and an adulteress before she died in her twenties.

To help redress this earthly balance Annie, or Katie as she is more affectionately known, told sitters that she had now decided to make it her quest to prove the existence of life after death through the mediumship of Cook, as well as others.

In her first appearance at a Cook séance King made herself known to the audience and provided proof of her previous existence in the States.

Following her debut, King played a large part in Cook's demonstrations. These involved Cook going into a trance state within the cabinet and in around 30 minutes the curtains of the cabinet would open up to reveal the manifested figure of King.

It was noted at the time that the similarities in appearance between King and Cook were almost indistinguishable. It was this issue which would open up all manner of problems for the practising medium as well as debates over the authenticity of Cook's mediumship by sceptics.

However, during her first appearances King would just nod and smile at the audiences. But as time passed she would walk among sitters and talk to them as well, offering them her manifested solid form ectoplasmic hand to hold.

After King returned to the cabinet, sitters were then asked to observe that Cook was still tied to the chair, but on most occasions drained of energy when the séance had drawn to a close.

The perils for the medium demonstrating physical phenomena are well known when it comes to issue of any ectoplasm being grabbed by sitters in a séance room.

However, on 9 the of December Cook had a close call when an invited guest, William Volckman, became agitated between the similarities in appearance, mentioned earlier, of Cook and King and decided to grab the wrist of King as she manifested and walked around the séance room to try and prove the phenomena was fake.

In response the manifested form of King was reported to have dissolved from the feet upwards and as the séance came to a dramatic close, Cook was found still tied but slumped in the chair with her clothes in disarray and in a sorry state.

Despite the close call, Florrie survived the experience, although news of the incident started to get out into the public domain.

Despite a backlash by some sections of the public over the authenticity of her mediumship, Cook had discovered that a series of psychic tests were being carried out by the famous scientist Sir William Crookes. He was interested in physical mediumship and was conducting experiments with many other physical mediums such as Daniel Dunglas Home – the famous levitating medium whose mediumship to this day has still been undisputed.

Wanting to be part of these testing procedures, Cook contacted Crookes to say she would like to play some part in his tests; a successful examination would almost definitely raise her public profile if her mediumship was given a bonafide scientific endorsement by someone of the stature of Crookes.

Crookes obliged and Cook was invited to demonstrate her ability, accompanied by her mother and sister, during their stay at Crookes' home in north-west London.

During a test sitting King made her appearance to Crookes from out of the cabinet's curtains and asked Crookes to accompany her to behind the cabinet.

In his own testimony, Crookes says he saw King standing over the unconscious form of Cook, who was still bound to her chair.

FLORENCE COOK & KATIE KING A LEGACY ON FILM continued...

This proved that both Cook and King were separate individuals and ruled out any foul play.

Other witnesses who attended the test sittings concurred with Crookes that in appearance Cook was indeed different to King and that King was actually taller and heavier than Cook and that King appeared to have red hair.

As part of his experiment in 1874, Crookes produced a series of photographs of King, with Cook also in the frame on a neighbouring sofa. This also confirmed visually to the general public that the two were separated.

By the end of the experiment Crookes had taken 55 photographs of Cook and King, although only a handful still exist today.

In summing up his investigations Crookes said he had never seen the slightest indication on Cooks' part to try and deceive him.

"If she did she would certainly be found out very quickly," he added.

However, a year later the partnership between King and Cook had run its course with King suddenly announcing that she would no longer be working with Cook as her time now on earth would "soon come to an end".

In her last appearance in a séance room with Cook, King walked over to where Cook was lying on the floor of the séance room. She touched the medium on the shoulder and asked her to wake up, explaining why she had to leave. They then talked for a few minutes. Cook had become very emotional at the parting and had been brought to tears, and when King left Crookes stepped over to console the sobbing medium.

Following King's departure Cook went into retirement for six years, but returned to spiritualism working alongside another manifested spirit communicator named Marie. In a change from King, the new communicator seemed to bring more entertainment to the séance room which included singing and dancing.

However, during a séance in 1880 Cook was labelled a fraud after one sitter, Sir George Sitwell, noticed that Maries' spirit robes covered corset stays. On grabbing hold of the stays he discovered that he actually had hold of Cook and that on inspecting the cabinet the chair, in which Cook had started the séance upon, was now empty.

Following this experience Cook now insisted that someone else was tied into a chair with her within the



Famous medium Florence Cook.



Katie King appears in a lesser-complete physical form.



Photograph of Sir William Crookes who is photographed standing arm in arm with Katie King.



Katie King 1874.

spirit cabinet for future demonstrations. This approach led to a number of eye witness accounts that Marie had manifested in the séance room while Cook was still attached to the chair which recreated some strength to Cook's tarnished reputation.

However, the ghosts of her past caught up with her, resulting in her downfall with a dwindling interest from the public in attending any of her physical demonstrations.

By 1899 Cook had drifted into obscurity and she gave her last séance before passing to spirit in 1904.

Following her death there have been reports of King's appearance during physical demonstrations. These have been reported in Canada in 1903 in a séance conducted by Dr Glen Hamilton and in another séance in Rome in 1974.

SPIRITUALISM'S GREAT MISSION

Spiritualism is a Divine Revelation timed to check the drift of humanity on the tide of Materialism towards the whirlpools of Barbarism. It is a flood of light revealing the path to Truth, Love, Justice and Peace, just at a time when man is beginning to need it most, as he stumbles along the road of life with-out spiritual leadership. Such revelations have happened before, when the conflict between good and evil, the old and the new, have reached a crisis.

The present crisis arises from the fact that man's material life is advancing rapidly, whilst his spiritual development is temporarily receding. Man's spirit is becoming over laden with a material consciousness, yet as the weight of materiality presses down upon him, the higher, but now confined power of divine spirituality, ever present in the nature of Man, generates more pressure and power only to burst forth anew in yet greater force to lift mankind from the valleys of ignorance to the mountain peaks of enlightenment and love. Spiritualism is a manifestation of this divine process of progress.

This is from the book *Teachings and Phenomena of Spiritualism* by E Thompson who was the editor of *Two Worlds* 1948.

Kindly Submitted by June Winchester

MORE READING SUGGESTIONS...

A selection of books for this issue of the Buzzsheet.

Issue 2 Compiled by Lew Sutton

SEANCE ROOM PHENOMENA

Materialisations. Harry Boddington.

1938, Psychic Press

An in depth study by a leading Spiritualist who was based in London.

Psychic Structures at the Goligher Circle, The. W J Crawford 1921. J M Watkins.

Detailed account of Dr Crawford's meticulous testing of ectoplasm with several drawings and photos.

Story of Helen Duncan, The. Alan E Crossley 1975, Arthur Stockwell, Ilfracombe.

Excellent account of Helen's mediumship and life written by a very experienced and respected spiritualist..

Towards the Stars. H. Dennis Bradley. 1924, Werner Laurie Ltd.

How the author, a highly intellectual man with a sharp brain and no interest in Spiritualism, instantly became a believer through the mediumship of George Valiantine. Encounters with several other mediums covered.

Voices in the Dark: My Life as a Medium.

Leslie Flint. Macmillan 1971, more recently published by Two Worlds Publishing Co. Leslie's story as told to Doreen Montgomery. He was without doubt the most famous independent direct voice medium of the mid and latter part of the 20th Century. Some of his recordings are available on the web and from the Zerdin Fellowship.

PARANORMAL/AFTERLIFE INVESTIGATIONS

Encyclopaedia of Mystical & Paranormal Experience. Rosemary Ellen Guiley (Editor).

1991 Grange Books. A worthwhile reference book.

Encyclopaedia of Psychic Science, The.

Nandor Fodor 1933.

A must for the serious investigator of Spiritualism. Fodor was an important figure in the American Society of Psychical Research and produced possibly the most comprehensive accounts under one cover of 19th Century and early 20th Century Spiritualistic phenomena. A standard reference book.

Human Personality and its Survival of Bodily Death. Frederic W. H. Myers 1903,

reprinted 1992 Pelegrin Books.

Is There An Afterlife?: An Overview of the Evidence. Prof. David Fontana. 2005, O Books.

By far the best and most comprehensive book for many years by a leading fair-minded academic. Brings up to date the work of Nandor Fodor.

Psychic Science and Survival. Dr Hereward Carrington. 1947, The Beechurst Press.

Unbiased investigations by a leading academic. Interesting observations made concerning the unscientific attitude of many sceptical academics.

BOOKSELLERS AND PUBLISHERS

The SNU has republished several of the classic works from the pioneering days onwards and also CON-PSY Publications are

increasing their range of books. SNU books are available via Psychic News Bookshop - see below. The SNU also list about 15 books for free download at www.snu.org.uk

The best starting point for rarer books is the Internet. I can recommend Abebooks.com based in the USA. They often list books for sale in the UK which saves on postage costs.

Abebooks. A good source for older rarer books as well as new. www.abebooks.com

Amazon. The most widely used Internet book site. www.amazon.co.uk or www.amazon.com for American based web site.

CON-PSY Publications. PO Box 14 Greenford Middlesex, UB6 0UF. Tel 020 8903 1993.

New books only. Also publish Psychic World under the name of Psychic World Publishing Co Ltd.

PN Books by Post. The Coach House, Stansted Hall, Stansted, Essex, CM24 8UD. Tel. 01279817050

(new only) Also www.psychicnewsbookshop.co.uk

Watkins. 13-15 Cecil Court, London, WC2N 4EZ. Tel. 020 739 4554. www.watkinsbooks.com

A comprehensive range of new and used books on psychic, mystical and the occult.

LIBRARIES

Try your local church library first and then your local council/county libraries. For more information on libraries see the last issue of the Buzz Sheet.

For over thirty eight years Stewart has made an exhaustive study of Spiritualism's history – particularly that relating to physical mediumship. During the late 1980's he made contact with Noel Riley Heagerty author of 'The French Connection' (an outstanding book in respect of the remarkable American Voice medium Emily S.French) which was first published in 2000.

THE TRANSATLANTIC SÉANCE EXPERIMENT

Riley Heagerty lived at the time in Oswego, in the state of New York, America and who, like Stewart, had spent many years similarly researching the whole subject.

This mutual interest was to result in many years lively correspondence between the two. However, in consequence of what is to follow, it is very important that readers should understand that what passed between them was principally in respect of their research. Very little of a personal nature ever arose.

In the autumn of 1994, Riley Heagerty was to suggest what later became known as the 'Transatlantic Experiment'. He wanted to ascertain whether Stewart's Spirit Controls could possibly lock into his own vibration and, in order to assist he sent over to England a lock of his hair and also a small photograph of himself. Stewart's Circle – although never previously having attempted such an ambitious experiment – agreed to try and, wrote back sending a copy of their own séance music. Their Spirit Controls asked that Riley Heagerty should sit at exactly the same time as the circle over in England and play the séance music cassette throughout.

On 1st.November.1994 the attempt was made with Mr.Heagerty sitting at his home in Oswego, America, and the Circle in their regular séance room in England.

Within minutes of the commencement of this special sitting, Stewart was to be controlled by his regular Spirit Guides and it quickly became clear that the entire proceedings would be concentrated upon this unique experiment. The séance was duly recorded on cassette tape and a copy of it was dispatched to America the following day for Mr.Heagerty's analysis.

Two week's later Stewart and the Circle were to receive a detailed report from him and the following March an account of this highly successful Experiment was to be published by two Spiritualist Journals. What follows is Mr.Noel Riley Heagerty's report in brief, which, we believe, illustrates quite clearly and forcefully that distance is no object to the Spirit people.

Additionally, we also believe that this Experiment goes a long way towards establishing the independence from the medium of the manifesting personalities, Walter Stinson and Little Christopher. Both demonstrate their own individual intelligence.

'THE NOEL RILEY HEAGERTY REPORT'

Introduction

Stewart's Circle arranged the séance procedure. I sat at 3 o'clock (American time) in the afternoon in dim red light, and played the exact musical tape which the Circle played as they sat at 8 o'clock (English time). I then concentrated my thoughts and vibrations upon Walter Stinson, White Feather and young Christopher. That is all I did. I had absolutely no idea, until I received the tape of the sitting that Walter and Christopher actually came to my house.

Stewart and I never once mentioned to each other that the Spirits would be coming to America. I had more or less expected to simply take a 'reading' from the lock of hair and the tiny picture. I was absolutely stunned, wondrously so, when I heard the tape; absolutely shocked. There has never been a Spiritualist in my sitting room, ever, and I have never described my room to any person on this Earth, nor my house, or any of its contents or structure. I have known Stewart for some years and our mutual interests are in Research and Physical Mediumship. We have shared very little on a personal level outside of our obvious love of Physical Mediumship.

The Report

First, I must say what a tremendous, mature and powerful Circle you have; one shining light in the firmament of reality. Now, let me first tell you that, yes indeed, I was sitting right at the exact time as all of you were, right to the minute. I had the international operator give me the exact time and I set my clock accordingly. My thoughts were centred on your Circle, your energy and your Spirit Controls especially. I visualised a white beam of light going from here to there. I had the exact music playing and soft dim red light throughout.

Core Specifics

Let us now consider Walter and some of the hard core specifics of the experiment. Although I was intending to wait until the end of this report before commenting upon the accuracy of the experiment, I have decided not to do so. Brace yourselves – I would score it almost a clear and complete 100% success. As I listen to the recording once again I shall translate it and record my comments.

'A large house' – Correct. I live in a very large, pre-civil war house, built in 1847.

'Five steps up to the front door' – Correct.

'A very large door' – Absolutely correct.

'In the door, right there, are the stairs' – Correct.

'Up the stairs we go – a railing' – Correct.

'Natural Wood' – Explicitly correct – The rail and stairs are pure mahogany.

'Stairs turn' – Correct.

'They continue to go up' – Correct.

'Home of peace' – Absolutely correct in all regards.

'We now go along a long corridor, and there are rooms on each side' – All Correct.

'At the end of the corridor there is a room' – Correct.

'We are walking up to the top of the house' – Absolutely correct. I live in the attic.

'The richness of the room; Several pictures on the wall; A room that is filled with the power of the spirit' – Nothing could be more correct than these statements about the room.

'Opposite the door, to the right, a desk' – Perfectly correct.

'Above it are bookshelves' – Correct.

'To the right, as with the shelf above the desk, is another bookshelf filled with books' – Correct again.

'A burial ground not far from the house' – Correct.

'Opposite the door to the left, a window which is covered over' – This is astonishingly correct.

'The gentleman sits without shoes' – Correct. (For the experiment absolutely no shoes were worn).

'An irritation in the right arm' – On the very day of the experiment I was in our back yard trying to get our snow-blower working. I replaced the spark plug and pulled the rope to start the machine up. With full force my right elbow hit the stack of firewood directly behind me. I thought that I had broken it. As I type this report (15th November) it still hurts and when I sat for the experiment my elbow was extremely painful.

'A strange smell in the room' – Correct. The room has a continuous cranberry candle aroma.

Christopher's Input

'A big bookcase, lots and lots of books' – Perfectly correct of course.

'Third shelf down, 14th book from the left is a pamphlet and next to this is a book with a torn cover' – The pamphlet is of all things – 'VISIT BY OUR FRIENDS FROM THE OTHER SIDE' by, of course, Tom Harrison, and there is a book with a torn cover next to it.

(Readers will be interested to know that the author Tom Harrison should have been sitting with the Circle on the evening of the experiment but, at the last moment, was unable to attend).

Most incredibly, Christopher then refers to a drawing of a ship (A sailing ship he says) and there is in fact a beautiful painting right above my old leather chair of a group of sailboats. If you were to stand back, or better still, stand back and refer to it as a child would, it looks like one ship.

'Dogs barking' – They are barking all the time over here. There is no doubt in my mind that during the experiment a dog was barking. The four houses that surround my house all have dogs.

'A slight step up into the room' – This has got to be the floor right in front of my door. Because of the chimney the floor goes up like a hill, and then down again. Amazing indeed.

This completes my report. The sailboats, the cemetery, the covered window, the bookcases, the Harrison pamphlet, no shoes, the internal details of the house. There is absolutely no getting around the accuracy of this 'Transatlantic Experiment'.

Footnote; We would like to take this opportunity to thank Katie Halliwell for allowing us to publish this report as included in her 'Part One' booklet 'Experiences of Trance and Physical Mediumship' (Evidence of Survival after Death) published in 2002.

SEARCHLIGHT

A SERVICE FOR ZERDIN FELLOWS TO STAY IN TOUCH...

Advertise free for sitters seeking mediums, and mediums seeking sitters!!!!

See enclosed 'Searchlight' leaflet to complete, and advertise in the next issue!

Here are a few that have already written in with their requests.

Richard medium from Hull... looking for dedicated sitters.
Ian sitter north London... looking to join a physical circle
Geoff sitter from Norfolk... looking to join a circle to help develop mediumship, physical or otherwise
Moirá medium from Lanarkshire... looking for dedicated sitters
Paul medium from Canterbury Kent... looking for dedicated sitters.
Cathryn medium from Dorchester Dorset... looking for dedicated sitters
Sylvia sitter from Seaham... looking to join a physical circle
Michael sitter from Lincoln... looking to join a trance or physical circle
David sitter from Batley... looking to join a physical circle
Pauline sitter from West London... looking to join a physical circle
Catherine from Chipping Norton Oxfordshire... looking to join a physical circle
Penny & Richard from Nailsea... looking to join a physical circle
Margaret from Cannock... looking to join a physical circle
George from Chaldon Surrey... looking to join a physical circle
Heather from Coventry... looking to join a physical circle
Gillian from Coventry... looking to join a physical circle
Anne from Troon, Ayrshire... looking to join a physical circle
Joy from Tonbridge, Kent... looking to join a physical circle
Jane from Guildford, Surrey... looking to join a physical circle
Steven from Torquay, Devon... looking to join a physical circle
John & Maryse from Ollainville, France... looking to join a physical circle
Gordon from North Wales... looking to join a physical circle
Lynne from Suffolk... looking to join a physical circle
Keith medium from Essex... looking for experienced sitters
Janice medium from Leighton Buzzard... looking for sitters

IF YOU CAN HELP IN ANYWAY, OR HAVE A REQUEST YOURSELF PLEASE SEND DETAILS OR EMAIL: Zerdinfellowship@pearman.fsnet.co.uk

OR SEND IN YOUR REQUEST TO:

**Rosalind Pearman, Zerdin Coordinator,
The Gatehouse, Priors Leaze Lane, Hambrook,
West Sussex PO18 8RQ England**



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Picture this: You are a happy forty something woman, you are in a deeply loving and supportive relationship with your partner. Life is wonderful. You are both fulfilled in your work and at peace with each other and the world. He dies. Overnight. You are picturing me.

SPREADING THE WORD SOME REFLECTIONS ON A PERSONAL JOURNEY

By Susan Farrow – Topolovac

Words: Shock, desolation, excruciating pain, loneliness, confusion, anger, resentment, guilt, rage. They do not come close to expressing how it feels.

What does someone do if, like me at that time, they have no real belief in survival after physical death? They believe their loved one is gone forever. The End. Full Stop. They have options, of course, but very unattractive ones. A bottle of pills; a retreat to bed for a year; a nervous breakdown; perhaps a grief counsellor can help. They have another option, too: a visit to a physical séance. A visit to what?

This is my story: The pain of my sudden loss in November 2004 was so unbearable to me that I could neither sleep nor eat. Night and day I searched the Internet and read every book I could find on the evidence for and against the survival hypothesis. I became absolutely determined to find out the truth for myself. I knew nothing whatsoever about mediumship, let alone physical mediumship. By the time February came I had absorbed a mass of information and research and I decided to begin putting it to the test. I made an appointment with a well-known mental medium and vowed to myself that I would at least go with an open mind. I arrived for the reading and told the poor lady that I had no definite belief in the world of Spirit but that my mind was as open as I could make it. Fine, she said kindly, No problem. This lady knew my first name and nothing more about me. There followed an hour of impressive evidence, the majority of which could not have been guesswork. This did not fully convince me but it certainly made me think. Doubting Thomas that I am by nature, I resolved to visit another medium. And another...and another. By now it was June and I had been given so much evidential information that I was beginning to believe that Spiritualism might actually have a point!

Still, I continued to read more and tried to address my remaining doubts. One night, searching the Internet again, I came across a reference to the Physical Mediumship website. Intrigued, I clicked on the link and began reading. I looked at the séance reports and could hardly believe my eyes. Direct voice, materialisation, flying trumpets... What on earth?? I explored the website further and clicked on the Circles link. Surprise, surprise, there was a Circle based near me searching for one more female sitter. To this day I do not know why I did it, but I immediately emailed the Circle to enquire further. A reply came back by return inviting me to meet the Circle Leader. I did this two days later, and three days after that I began sitting in the Circle myself.

One evening, a few weeks after I began sitting, someone mentioned the Zerdin Fellowship. What's that, I asked. They told me and I asked how I could find out more. A copy of the Buzzsheet was handed to me, I read it cover to cover that evening and phoned Dennis Pearman the next day to ask if I could join. As a new Zerdin fellow I received the current issue of the magazine with my membership. Again I devoured the contents avidly, including reports on a Stewart Alexander physical séance at Jenny's Sanctuary. I remember thinking, If all this is true, it has to be the most priceless thing in the world. And then I saw it, in very

small print right at the back. I will always remember these words: Visits to Stewart's Home Circle are possible. I don't know why, but the words affected me so much that I read them out loud. I knew then that I would go there. Plucking up my courage I phoned Ray Lister, Stewart's Circle Leader, and asked if it would be possible to come. Rightly, he spoke to me at length and it was agreed that I would sit as a guest on 13th October.

The date dawned and I got up exhausted because I had been too excited to sleep! I arrived at the appointed time and was given the warmest and most generous of welcomes. The séance was a life-changing experience for me, the atmosphere full of love and laughter, kindness and compassion. I should say at this point that no one in the room knew that my beloved partner had passed to Spirit. Imagine then, after almost a year of searching, what it meant to me when one of Stewart's Spirit team told me that someone was waiting to speak with me... My heart rate was off the scale as I went to sit beside Stewart. And then it happened – my darling partner spoke to me, lovingly and highly evidentially, from beyond the so-called grave. There are no words in any language to describe the peace and joy which this brought me.

Now I eat, I sleep and I am living again. The physical loss of someone so beloved will always be hard to bear, but I know now that it is only a physical loss, that our love survives and that we are just as closely connected to one another as we ever were. This knowledge is beyond price.

All who are grieving deeply would benefit enormously from such precious gifts. But there is a problem. In contrast to earlier times, we have so very few developed physical mediums. And it's not surprising, is it? A developing physical medium must dedicate him or her self to years of patient sitting. They must find sitters who are similarly patient and dedicated. They must juggle the many distractions which prevail in modern society: television, computers, movies etc. They must balance family and work responsibilities also. This current lack of physical mediums able to demonstrate is why the work of the Zerdin Fellowship is so crucially important. If there is a moral to my story, it is that we who sit in development circles must do so with all the dedication that we can muster. There are people out there with a crying need for physical mediumship and it is our job to ensure that it becomes more widely available and more widely accepted among the population at large.

Physical mediumship at its best can change lives; it can heal and restore hope like absolutely nothing else. But how very rare it is now. Yes, grief counsellors and therapists have their part to play and they fulfil a necessary and important role, but if we sitters can help the next generation of physical mediums to develop, we can literally change the world. In the words of Freda, a wonderful member of Stewart's spirit team, "If you have a bereavement, where great love is involved, it makes no difference whether you are a Christian, a Buddhist or a Spiritualist. You will grieve. But later, if you are a Spiritualist and you know the truth concerning life and death, it can be a great comfort." It's the understatement of the century! Everyone deserves that comfort.



EVIDENCE OF SURVIVAL AFTER DEATH MY EXPERIENCES OF TRANCE AND PHYSICAL MEDIUMSHIP PART ONE

Audio and Book Guide by Katie Halliwell

When I first visited Stewart Alexander Physical Phenomena public séance on July 8th 1999, I was quite apprehensive. Because I am deaf in both ears, I was uncertain how I would cope knowing that I would not be able to lip read in the darkness of the séance room. However, I very quickly discovered that I had nothing to fear. As mentioned in Tom Harrison's latest book, 'Life After Death – Living Proof', (ISBN 0-9514534-1-6), the Spirit people knowing about my hearing impediment would often ask the other sitters if I had heard them. Additionally, the circle members always did their best to interpret for me when they knew I could not hear. I continued to visit the public séances and eventually I was invited to become a member of the home circle. To help me hear better, the Spirit people eventually developed 'Special Conditions' within the séance room and these certainly worked. Today, I can hold a conversation with them and the occasions when I request help from my fellow circles members are rare.

I will always remember my very first experience of seeing the séance room trumpets float effortlessly around the room and of witnessing a solid hand develop from ectoplasm which then took hold of my own. I was so thrilled with such incredible physical phenomena that I told my friends and relations all about it, but sadly they were unable to understand or accept the tangible reality of my experiences and this also applied to trance communication. In realising this, I decided to extract excerpts from the séance recordings for them and additionally provide notes describing what I had experienced, what I had seen and what I had felt. This proved very helpful to my friends and relations and eventually the recordings and notes developed into 'Part One' of what

subsequently became known as the 'Alexander Project'. Pleasingly, I was soon to discover that people already familiar with the wonders of the séance room also enjoyed the booklet and accompanying cassette tape.

The 'Part One' booklet is a read and listen guide which contains 52 pages and the accompanying 75 minute cassette is made up of 20 individual sections each providing interesting examples of various forms of physical phenomena manifested through the mediumship of Stewart Alexander. These include: Trance Communication – The Direct Voice – A Spirit hand developing from a mass of Ectoplasm – Partial and Full Form Materialisation – Independent Spirit Writing – Living matter passing through matter through a process of Dematerialisation and Rematerialisation – Personal evidential communication – Various educational discussions direct with Spirit Communicators.

Stewart Alexander is a well known and long established Spiritualist medium and his rare gift of Physical Mediumship, (upon which the project has been based), has resulted in a work which, I believe, may be of benefit to anyone who has an interest in the possibility of a life beyond death. Using the cassette tape, readers will have the opportunity to listen directly to the Spirit team – White Feather, Walter Stinson, Freda Johnson and little Christopher. Their individual personalities and their characters are quite different to that of the medium as the listeners will hear. 'Part One' of the project is now available at a cost of £9.00 which includes the cost of postage. I would also point out that any profit above the cost of production will go directly to a charitable organisation which provides invaluable training to young adults with learning difficulties.

ORDER FORM

Please send cheques and order form to:
The Alexander Project, 85 Alexandra Road, Hull HU5 2NX
Please use block capitals

Name

Address

Post Code

	QUANTITY	AMOUNT
INLAND PRICES		
Part One Set – (booklet & cassette tape) at £9.00 including postage. (For overseas add £1 per set)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
An optional transcript for the above set – minimum price is £2.00 each.	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
(For the deaf only) Part One booklet and transcript at £6.00 including postage. (For overseas add £1 per set)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Please make cheques payable to 'The Alexander Project'		
TOTAL	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Cheques only please – do not send money in the post, thank you.

Hello my name is Rosemary Lipscombe, I am a psychic artist and I have offered my services to help raise funds for The Zerdin Fellowship. For a fee of only £20.00, I would be happy to draw for you whatever spirit inspires me to on your behalf, remember all moneys raised go towards helping the Fellowship and you of course.

ZERDIN FUND RAISING WITH PSYCHIC ART

My journey to become a psychic artist started when I was inspired by spirit to develop my psychic art at a séance with Colin Fry. I was led by spirit to my Leatherhead based teacher Mo Cattell for my art and spiritual development. Following many years developing this gift I knew it was now time for me to start working and I am now starting to hold workshops and demonstrations around the country and also offering single and group sittings at my home in Surrey.

I will also be available to demonstrate at fund raising events and am particularly concerned for animal welfare. The charities which I support already are the Surrey based Celia Cross Greyhound Trust, the Godalming Cat Sanctuary and Animals Asia.

When sending your postal readings please enclose your the name and address. The spirit portraits usually show their subjects as younger and fitter than when they passed if they were elderly. Babies are usually drawn at the age they might have been had they lived or at least at an age sufficient to show a family likeness. Very occasionally the subject will still be on this earth



Drawing of a child in spirit who never touched the earth plane
Photograph of spirit child's sister aged 3 see the resemblance.

plane and recipients should not be alarmed because this is not an indication that they are about to pass! It is presumed that the love connection is the reason, as we are all spirit, and that possibly some attention needs to be paid to that person or thoughts and prayers are needed.

Usually, friends and loved ones are drawn but occasionally circle and personal guides may be recognised.

If any portraits are unrecognised, remember that the recipients may be used as "postmen" and we are reminded to show them to other people who may need comfort or need to be introduced to the wonderful possibility that their loved ones have survived.

Please forward your letter and a cheque for £20.00 made payable to "The Zerdin Fellowship". Enclosing your name, address, email address and telephone number in a stamped address envelope to:-

Mrs Rosalind. Pearman, The Editor, The Zerdin Fellowship, The Gatehouse, Priors Leaze Lane, Hambrook, West Sussex PO18 8RQ England

CALLING ALL PSYCHIC ARTISTS

As most Fellows of Zerdin will know, my mediumship is directed and operates through several spirit personalities, the most well known being: White Feather - Christopher - Walter S.Stinson - Freda Johnson and Dr.Barnett.

At the present time, and for some years now, we have been in possession of pencil drawings of all of them (authenticated in several ways to our complete satisfaction) except for Freda and Dr.Barnett.

Following my work in Scotland last year, a lady Psychic Artiste was impressed to send me a drawing of the doctor as she perceived him to be.

However - since, as far as we are aware, no photograph, drawing or painting of him, taken during his earthly life exists, we have filed it away to await eventual confirmation or otherwise. In the case of Freda - we do know from her own description and Circle members clairvoyant impressions (and that of someone who knew her back in the 40's) that she had several identifying features.

We wonder therefore, whether there are any Psychic Artistes amongst the Fellowship who would be willing to try the likeness of either/or both of these valued workers from the Spirit World.

Should there be so, then perhaps they would, in the first instance, very kindly forward their drawings to Zerdin who may consider publishing them in the 'Buzzsheet'.

My Circle and I would also take the opportunity to present them to Freda and Dr.Barnett for their comments.

It could be interesting?

Warmest Regards, Stewart Alexander.

Please send all drawings to:

Mrs Rosalind Pearman, The Zerdin Fellowship
The Gatehouse, Priors Leaze Lane, Hambrook, West Sussex
Po18 8Rq Uk

Or email: zerdinfellowship@rpearman.fsnet.co.uk

RECORDING SÉANCES AND OTHER EVENTS

By Lew Sutton I.Eng MIEE

This series examines various methods of achieving high quality audio and video recordings by using digital recording techniques. All aspects are covered from using the straightforward cost effective Minidisc® system to more complex arrangements. Editing, copying and cleaning up old noisy recordings will also be covered.

Part 1: MINIDISC® RECORDERS

Introduction

The Minidisc system introduced by Sony in the early 1990's has progressed over the years with the latest versions now capable of producing professional recordings at reasonable prices. The Walkman Minidisc player is mainly associated with this format but along side these machines Sony and other manufacturers have been producing high quality recorders.

These recorders are ideal for using in the séance room as they are small and quiet with no flashing lights - unlike some equipment! Using the long play setting, known as LP2, recordings of 160 minutes can be made using MD80 discs. Only once over the years have I needed to swap discs in the middle of a séance as 2 hours 20 minutes is unusually long for a séance.

It is possible to record twice as long but editing becomes more difficult and recording quality suffers. The latest version called HiMD overcomes this problem with much increased recording capacity.

Minidiscs are smaller than the common 3.5 inch computer discs, being based on a 2.5 inch magneto-optical disk and housed in a similar square plastic casing.

We shall start at the beginning of the recording chain with the microphone and work through the various stages to end up with how a recording can be easily duplicated.

Microphones

High quality microphones are absolutely crucial in order to produce good results. Using a stereo microphone rather than two separate microphones is by far the easiest method but gives slightly inferior stereo affect compared to the ideal set-up. I suspect only Sound Engineers would worry about the less-than-perfect stereo imaging of the all-in-one stereo microphone.

However, due to the layout or size of particular séance rooms it may not be possible to optimise the recording by using a stereo microphone. We shall cover such problems later on in the series.

Sony's ECM-MS907 is an excellent stereo microphone and has a proven track record for recording séances as at least three are in use by Spiritualists who use MD recorders. Avoid using the cheaper desk-top version which is mainly intended for use at committee type meetings. The ECM-MS907 is about £75 from Amazon.co.uk but maybe cheaper elsewhere.

Extension leads are available if the microphone has to be mounted some distance from the recorder. But if this is used, try out the arrangement beforehand to make sure there is no hum or other noises present. The longer the lead is, the more

likelihood of picking up electrical interference such as hum. I try not to extend by more than 1m in order to minimise likely interference problems.

The extension lead needs to have 3.5mm stereo connectors, plug one end and socket the other. If you can only obtain a lead with plugs both ends, you will need to obtain a plug-to-plug adapter (stereo version). Remember to keep the lead well clear of mains leads as there are often moveable lighting units in the séance room. We will look at where best to place microphones later on in the series and also about microphone compatibility with the recorder.

Stereo recording rather than mono is essential as this enables the listener to track the movement of voices or sounds of manifested forms moving around during the séance. If you need to use separate microphones then unidirectional ones with a cardioid directivity pattern is likely to be the best choice. Another type of microphone is the Boundary type which is excellent at picking up sounds some distance away.

The choice of microphone and type of interconnection with the rest of the system will be covered in far greater detail later on. If you are going the Minidisc route and have straight forward requirements then you can safely go ahead and buy the ECM-MS907 instead of waiting for the rest of the series to be printed.

The MD Recorder

Minidisc recorders can easily handle the vast dynamic range of sounds, so common in the séance room, as the machines have excellent automatic level controls. Sounds can vary from a whisper, typical of initially obtaining direct voice phenomena, to the loud singing so often requested by spirit controls. Thus a recording system that can compensate for this type of variation in loudness is essential for successfully reproducing the event.

Typical of the small Walkman sized digital recorders is Sony's MZ-710. There are other makes available but Sony dominates the market. Make sure you buy one with input for an external stereo microphone. A built-in microphone is an absolute waste of time for quality recordings.

The advantage of the Walkman type machine as opposed to desk type recorders is that they are battery operated. This minimises the chance of picking up 50Hz hum, as can happen with equipment connected to the 230V mains supply. Also, the desk models do not have automatic level control - which will complicate the issue (will be dealt with later).

Another desirable feature is an 'optical input' to connect the machine by fibre optic cable to a Minidisc desk type recorder for coping discs or for other uses altogether such as recording music etc from a HiFi system with optical output facilities.

RECORDING SÉANCES AND OTHER EVENTS continued

Having an optical connection means recordings can be copied or transferred to another machine without loss of quality. However, there is only complete compatibility one-way – from HiFi devices to Minidisc, not the other way around (more explanations on compatibility later on).

Some recorders have displays that light up – see comments in the section on Model Availability.

Editing the Recording

Why the need to edit? Well, let's just take one reason – you may well end up with two hours or so of recording with periods during which there may be nothing much happening. Or, maybe several minutes of loud and often out-of-tune singing! However, when you play through the recording you will have the option to place markers on the recording thus identifying where certain things happen during the séance. When copying the recording you will then be able to very easily leave out unwanted sections. This is particularly useful if trying to copy on to the shorter length C90 cassette tape or even shorter CD.

Be it a home circle or public séance, people requesting copies are not likely to want a copy held on the Minidisc media. Also, in archiving, one wants to compress data to minimise the physical storage space required, which can certainly add up after a few years.

These markers, in effect, split the recording up into numbered tracks so allowing one to subsequently go instantly to any part of the recording without having to do a fast forward operation (which is not exactly "fast" for a two hour recording!). Keeping a written record of track details is worthwhile as I know from experience how difficult it is to pinpoint a particular communication after a period of time. There is space on the minidiscs for short messages to be typed in during the editing process (see next section).

Editing Hardware

Editing recordings on these small Walkman-type machines is a real pain as each tiddly little button does several functions and the recorders have limited editing facilities anyway. Editing is best done on a desk type machine which has full editing facilities such as Sony's MDS-JE480 (£140 from Richer Sounds) or the dearer JE770. Also, having a second Minidisc recorder enables one to copy the master version and edit the copy which saves the risk of disaster if an "erase" is inadvertently performed!

An alternative method to editing on a minidisc recorder is to transfer the recording into a computer. This can be done via a computer's built-in soundcard (which normally has the same 3.5mm connector as the headphone socket on the Walkman recorder) or via a USB port by using an analogue to USB digital converter. The advantage of using a dedicated converter is that the high quality of the recording should be retained.

Feeding analogue signals from the headphone socket on the recorder into a computer's soundcard runs the risk of picking up noise and hum. Also, the soundcard's built in analogue-to-digital converter may not be accurate enough to retain the quality of the recording. So using the USB digital bus is a far better way. The converters are only small and are run by power supplied via the USB bus. They cost about £70 (UA-1EX

by Edirol). There is a cheaper version by Behringer (UCA202) at £22 but I'm still investigating its suitability.

It is a shame that recorded material cannot be fed straight into the computer in digital form as this method almost guarantees no deterioration of the data in transfer. Unfortunately the minidisc data format was deliberately made incompatible with other formats due to licensing agreements. However, the latest version of the minidisc, HiMD, overcomes that problem. See later section in this article.

Typing track information (such as track titles) to be held on minidiscs can be achieved by both desk recorders mentioned above but is easier on the JE770 model as a computer type keyboard can be plugged in via a socket on the front panel. The JE770 also has the facility to slow down replay which is useful when transcribing recorded messages by hand.

Editing in Software

There are many software packages capable of editing audio recordings including "Media Player" that comes as part of Windows XP. Other packages are sometimes given away free with computer magazines. Please read next section on Processing Software before making any decision as these facilities are often built into audio processing packages which will also burn the finished results to CD or DVD.

You can of course always output the recording to a cassette recorder. However, low sounds such as whispers may well be lost in background hiss as cassette tapes cannot handle anything like the dynamic range of digital recorders. This problem can be reduced by using "compression" (sometimes called Companding) techniques to artificially increase the level of the quieter passages on the recording. Again this facility is often part of sound processing software covered next.

Also, if your interests are in recording video as well, bare in mind that we shall be looking at video editing later on in this series. Video editing packages usually cater for the sound track as well.

Processing Software

It is now possible to purchase software at a reasonable price to clean-up noisy recordings. This process can reduce background hiss and noises such as 50Hz hum. It can also be used to obtain a better tonal balance in the same way as graphical equalisers do. Thus if the recording is "boomy" or "tinny" due to room acoustics, these characteristics can be neutralised to a certain degree. One software package capable of the above is "Audio Cleaning Lab 2005 deluxe" by MAGIX® and is on special offer for about £11 from amazon.co.uk.

Such software is often capable of dealing with the whole process which includes copying the recording to CD or DVD (as an audio recording only). DVDs are ideal as they can store a vast amount of audio recordings and most homes now have a DVD player capable of playing the DVD. A CD on the other hand will only store about one hour of stereo recording.

Again, as mentioned in the last section, remember that we shall be looking at Video recording later on so your choice of processing software and final recording media may well be influenced or determined by the requirements of the video aspects.

The New HiMD® minidiscs

About two years ago Sony launched a high capacity version of the Minidisc using the HiMD format. There are two main differences between the new recorders compared to previous models.

Firstly: the recorders accept discs that hold an amazing 1GB of data, giving up to 34 hours of recording. However, to achieve the same recording quality of the recent MD recorders using ATRAC3 coding, the HiMD recorders need to be set to give 7 hours 55minutes (using ATRAC3 plus 256bps "Hi-SP"). This setting is very likely to give improved quality on what is already a high standard from the MD recorders sold in the last few years (such as the MZ-710).

Secondly, the recorders can output the recordings direct in digital form to a computer via the USB bus. Thus there is no loss of quality of the recording in transferring the data to computer.

However, only recordings made by the microphone input or from the analogue Line inputs can be transferred digitally. This is no doubt to help prevent copyright infringement as commercial CDs could be copied without loss of quality if data via the fibre optic link input could be transferred to a computer in digital format.

These HiMD recorders are inevitably a bit dearer than the old but more versatile. All the recorders that I have come across so far will play the original discs as well as the new high capacity HiMD discs.

See the minidisc.org web site listed below for more information on the HiMD system. A brief introduction is given on the Macaulay Library web site

Model Availability

It is always difficult to recommend particular items in the electronic consumer market as models are replaced frequently and no longer become available. This is particularly a problem with Minidisc recorders as it looks as if the new HiMD recorders may well replace the original types in the near future. Already there appears to be only a very few models of the older system available. Thus the model numbers quoted may longer be available shortly but at least it gives you a reference to quote to dealers so that they can recommend a near equivalent.

As I write a few models appear to be still available and in the new HiMD range, the MZ-RH10 (from £178 online), the MZ-RH910 (from £142 online) and the MZ-NH1 (£200 from Argos).

Note that some models have backlit LCD displays that light up on touching any of the buttons, as with mobile phones. This means for safety these models would have to be placed in a light proof enclosure for darkened séances. A model currently available that doesn't light up is the MZ-RH910.

WHAT NEXT IN THIS SERIES?

Next we shall be looking at alternatives to the Minidisc system. Also to come: A closer look at microphones; Equipment for events other than séances; Microphone mixers with and without built in signal processing; Computer interfacing and finally: Videoing, especially techniques for low light and total darkness.



RESOURCE INFORMATION

The Minidisc System:

www.birds.cornell.edu/MacaulayLibrary/contribute/equipMd.html Introduction to the Minidisc system and also on other topics such as microphones.

www.minidisc.org A very comprehensive information site about the Minidisc system with a large FAQ section (Frequently Asked Questions)

www.sonystyle Covers Sony's range of consumer products but is not a very user friendly site.

Suppliers:

Here is just a selection of sources for purchasing recording equipment. The monthly magazine "Sound on Sound" has plenty of adverts but most of the content is aimed at equipment for musicians. All the suppliers below have retail premises apart from Amazon. Argos, Maplin and Richer Sounds all have shops throughout the UK.

www.amazon.co.uk	
www.turnkey.co.uk	020 7419 9999
www.maplin.co.uk	0870 429 6000
www.richersounds.com	0845 900 1230
www.argos.co.uk	0870 600 2020

SATURDAY NIGHT PRESS PUBLICATIONS

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With foreword by Prof. David Fontana



A new 240 page book with 21 photographs. A definitive account of the Home Circle in the 1940/50s with, Minnie Harrison; with explanations of Physical phenomena terms and Tom comes up to date with details of sittings with Stewart Alexander and the phenomena in his own Home Circle in the 1990s.

£9.95

(+ £2 p&p UK; £2.75 in EU; £4.50 Rest/World)

Available from: SNPP; c/o 14 Low Green; Copmanthorpe; York; YO23 3SB

(cheques payable to Tom Harrison)

or contact Tom Harrison on liferafterdeath@bigfoot.com or at major bookshops and on line at www.amazon.co.uk & www.amazon.com

“Montague Keen speaks from spirit to give his keynote speech for his own memorial day”

DAVID THOMPSON SÉANCE

THE LITTLE SANCTUARY OXFORD ENGLAND 27th JUNE 2004

By Denzil Fairbairn

Montague Keen, who passed to the spirit world on January 15th 2004 whilst delivering a question from the floor during a public debate at the Royal Society of Arts, returned during a physical séance held at the Little Sanctuary, Chalgrove, Oxfordshire, on Sunday March 16th, to deliver a keynote speech which it is hoped will be played to his friends and other interested parties during his day of tribute which is organised for Sunday June 27th.

It is quite apt that the tribute day, organised by Monty's wife Veronica, in conjunction with prominent members of the Society for Psychical Research, of which he had been an active member for nearly 60 years, is to be held at the Royal Society of Arts in London where, whilst in the throws of directing a pertinent question to the chair, Monty collapsed and died.

Monty had carried out one experimental sitting for physical phenomena with the medium David Thompson in October of last year and from his experience he managed to produce a seventeen page report supported by photographs which he distributed to his various colleagues and interested parties around the world. This initial association with David and members Spirit-side of the Haymist Circle provided a sustainable link for Monty which has allowed him to continue that association following his passing. An early return was made by Monty at a David Thompson séance in Norfolk and again during a development séance, regularly held by the medium's home circle. Information was, on a later occasion, put to the home circle that Montague Keen had requested an opportunity to return at a séance to be specially arranged for the purpose of bringing irrefutable evidence proving his survival and to provide a speech which would be played at an event currently being arranged as a tribute to his work, affectionately being called 'Monty Day'.

Responsibility for the organisation of this special séance was readily accepted by circle leader Paul Barker. A suitable venue was decided upon, this being the Little Sanctuary in Chalgrove, Oxfordshire. This venue was selected because the best possible conditions would be required to ensure Monty every possible chance of success in communicating and the Little Sanctuary had already established itself as a favourite for both the medium and the Spirit helpers with a string of successful séances having already been held there. Next suitable guest sitters had to be considered. A list of names was gathered of people closely associated with Monty and attempts were made to contact them. Unfortunately due to commitments outside of the country some of the people nominated could either not be located or would not be in the country on the date chosen for the séance. Of those who it was possible to contact, three people were selected as the best possible candidates to afford Monty the best possible opportunity of providing irrefutable evidence. A very close friend of Monty's and a fellow S.P.R. member, Guy Playfair, who had also collaborated on several cases with him, was the first to take up the gauntlet, even though he had never attended a physical séance previously. The two remaining guests were a couple who had worked closely with Monty and provided him, and two of his fellow eminent scientist friends from the S.P.R. with the opportunity to experiment, over a two year period, on the now famous Scole

Experiments...namely Robin & Sandra Foy.

The group of eleven sitters gathered in the Little Sanctuary séance room at 3.00 p.m. on the afternoon of Sunday May 16th for what was hoped to be a momentous event in the annals of communication through independent voice mediumship. Guy Playfair and Robin Foy who, as well as being one of the founder members of the Scole group, is also a former president of the Noah's Ark Society, were each asked to search the séance room along with the chair provided for the medium which they agreed was to their satisfaction. Following a thorough search of all in attendance, each person in turn was allowed to enter the séance room and take their allocated seat. The medium, David Thompson, was bound by his wrists and legs to the chair using a combination of nylon cable ties and straps. Prior to the séance commencing Robin and Guy were invited to physically and visually check the binds to satisfy themselves that the medium could not, under normal circumstance, release himself by any method from the chair. This done, the lights were switched off plunging the room into total darkness and the music commenced playing, signalling the start of the séance.

The first to communicate was William who explained to all present, with particular emphasis to the guest sitters what, it was hoped, would take place over the course of the séance. It was also apparent that the several other communicators who spoke with us were on this occasion doing so to provide the sitters with a flavour of the different intonation of voices so that when Monty did speak it would be apparent that all the communicators were individual and unique in their own right.

Prior to delivering his speech, conversations took place with the guest sitters providing much evidence of Monty's authenticity. One particular piece of information was related to Guy Playfair in which Monty provided the exact address (street and house number) of a location in Enfield where Guy had carried out an investigation into poltergeist activity. This particular work was of such interest that a book was published detailing the activity and findings, however, the address of the house was never revealed in the book. This one piece of evidence in itself is so significant as there is absolutely no possible way it could have been known to anyone present prior to the séance taking place...with the exception of course of Guy Playfair. Monty also discussed the fact that Guy was an associate member of the Borley Society which investigates the goings-on at one of the most haunted sites in England. This was to prove appropriate later in the séance when the Reverend Bull, former Rector of Borley Church came to speak with Guy and provided him with some exciting new information for him to check out and verify. He also mentioned that he had been introduced to Marianne (Foyster?) the Nun who had been buried beneath the floor of Borley Rectory and was responsible for many of the manifestations that had occurred.

Montague Keen delivered his speech from the Spirit World, via independent voice communication, and permission has been granted for this speech to be transcribed and detailed herewith:-

"I think that it would be a good time to say a few words to

my friends gathered here today; this is for the people at my Day of Reckoning...

"My friends, well here you all are, gathered together in my name. You have all come from different parts of the country and some from abroad, but I should imagine that the last thing you expected was for me to be speaking to you from beyond the grave? Well, it is that, that I am doing. Today's date is the 16th of May 2004 and we have gathered together in the very same room that I passed to this different stage of existence.

There are some of you here that were there on my day of passing. I would like to beg your forgiveness if you suffered any stress at my account. Of course I had no stress, I quickly passed from one state of being to another. At this séance that is being conducted for me to be able to talk to you this day I have gathered some people, close to me, who witnessed this communication. I have brought Guy Lyon Playfair and Robin & Sandra Foy...please say hello my friends so that they know you are here! (all present introduced themselves). I'm sure that you can hear them my friends. So, they can bear witness to this communication that is taking place.

Now, there are some people here today that although they were friends they did not necessarily agree with my work and my philosophy but let me tell you this my friends; The day will come when you pass from this vibration and you will see, without any doubt, as I have seen myself, that the human soul exists after the demise of the physical body.

I would say also that those amongst you who may be sometimes of a sceptical mind, to open your minds greater to the concept of the continuity of the human soul outside of that of the normal realms of understanding.

There are many forms of manifestation of the Spirit dimension that takes place. There are many manifestations that occur without the knowledge of you as you sit within this room for communication to take place (within this séance room that I am speaking within now).

I have had many joyful years...and to my dear Veronica, I thank you for being my companion, my friend and my grounding. You, my dear, meant more to me than you could know. Yes we has some good times and yes some times not as good but of course we were together and don't my dear let anybody tell you any different...it is me and nobody else!

Now my friends, I would beseech you to open up your minds and your hearts to that which you do not always know or see and look more earnestly at the possibility of the continuity of life, I can not stipulate that any more.

I, through my experimentation, by the kind permission of Robin & Sandra Foy, was able to be party to the Scole Experiment. There were many people some amongst you who did not believe in what took place. Well, my friends, I have experienced it from the Earth side of life, as I have been now privileged to experience and meet those on the Spirit side of life that were in connection with the Scole Experiment. As well, with this young man (referring to the medium David Thompson) and the Haymist Circle I was fortunate enough, prior to my passing, to be able to come and visit the Haymist Circle at the very same venue that I am at this afternoon...and I was able to witness manifestation. Not the same but on an equal level to that of the Scole Experiment. All being different types of manifestation but all of the same level.

And, my friends, I will tell you this, that quite often people that give of themselves are ridiculed for what they do and what they believe and I myself even at times dismissed certain people for what they believed was to be right but let me tell you this; I myself reflected a great deal when I passed

to the world of spirit and I found that it was quite amazing really...quite amazing...yes, quite amazing.

I will leave you with these words my friends that have gathered here today; Gods speed and always be of open mind. And to my dearest, dearest Veronica "I love you from the bottom of my heart...from the Spirit side of life my love goes on, God Bless You" and to my friends "Good afternoon and have a pleasant day".

This was only the second or third time that Monty had been enabled to communicate at a physical séance and to give such evidence and to have such good command of the voice mechanism was quite remarkable. Thanks go to all present for making this possible.



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'QUESTIONS & ANSWERS'



Question: We are a circle of two dedicated sitters and our medium. We have been sitting for about a year with steady growth. However, each time we introduce a new sitter and they turn out to be not quite right, we loose the steady growth we have achieved and find it difficult to ask the new people to leave. Could you advise us on where we are going wrong? Veronica, Ipswich.

Answer: I am only too aware that one of the most difficult things to achieve is a well balanced totally harmonious Circle.

Indeed, it is an eternal problem that is very common and most circles will readily identify with your dilemma. Sitters come – sitters go – sadly, it is in the nature of things.

Many Circles, despite years of trying, never manage to achieve that illusive balance. Over a period of many years I have had conversations with people, who have told me with great excitement that after years of effort, they have, at last, put together the perfect circle.

A few months later – meeting up with them again – I have enquired how the Circle was progressing only to be told that it had collapsed. Frankly, it is all very sad and so disappointing. The Spirit workers must often despair.

However, in your case it is clear that you have the nucleus of an excellent productive group and therefore Veronica, do take heart.

Please be assured that the steady growth you report will not have been lost when an unsuitable sitter joins and then later leaves.

Progress, of course, may be halted due to a brief imbalance but the Spirit People are able to move forward from were they left off once harmony has again been restored.

In respect of your difficulty should it become necessary to ask a sitter to withdraw, this is the course of action that I have repeatedly advocated for many years in order to best handle such situations and avoid the inevitable embarrassment.

Firstly, it is of vital importance that when you invite a new sitter to join your circle they must clearly understand the basis of the invitation.

Make it perfectly clear that initially they will join for a probationary period of 'X' number of sittings.

Following that period of time (or indeed, before), should you (the established circle) feel that the sitter is not fitting in, you can ask them to withdraw without question – without the need to account for your decision.

Similarly, should the new sitter feel that the circle is not right for them; they may withdraw without the need to offer any explanation.

Make it clear from the onset that should eventually they be asked to withdraw, you would not be suggesting that the probationary sitter is a bad sitter but merely unsuitable for your Circle. They may well be absolutely ideal for another.

In conclusion always bear in mind that an inharmonious circle is not only wasting its own time, but even worse, the Spirit World's time.

I wish you well.

Question: Recently, my Spirit communicators have started talking through me and to the sitters. My Circle leader tells me afterwards that there is a great deal of noise but that it is difficult to understand the content even though the Circle leader asks Spirit to slow down but without success. Could you tell us how we might obtain clearer and slower communication or should we just let things flow and let Spirit work it out. Mary, Dagenham.

Answer: First of all – congratulations upon making, what is clearly, a breakthrough in your development? You must all be excited.

Secondly – I would suggest that you have absolutely nothing to concern yourself about.

Your Sprit communicators have achieved a significant breakthrough but it will only be through practice that they will eventually be able to regulate and stabilise communication.

In short, they are experimenting and your Circle leader for his/her part need only continue to inform them of the way in which the communications are manifesting within your séance room. Often they themselves are uncertain and they rely and depend upon our feedback.

Stop concerning yourselves – have patience and leave matters to them.

I wish you well.

Question: I have recently been growing tired of sitting for development of trance and running out of patience as we have been sitting for trance for six years with little result. This does not take away my love of Spirit but I cannot seem to loose this irritability and lack of patience when I now sit. Your comments please. Peter, Devon.

Answer: I must start with an admission. I have really had to think long and hard about your question. Your dilemma – I suspect – is one which has confronted many Spiritualists in the past, and I have little doubt will continue to confront many in the future.

When reading your question further ones immediately sprang to mind and they were; 'is everyone Psychic and/or Mediumistic' and can such gifts always be developed within the séance room providing one has inexhaustible patience and sincerity?

Frankly, I do not subscribe to the belief that these things can indeed be developed providing one possesses such attributes. However, I take the view (no matter how unpopular it may be) that our Movement is saturated in Claire-delusion – in other words, people who genuinely believe that they possess a mediumistic gift but who are, in truth, deluding themselves. I find that extremely sad.

Conversely, I must remind myself that I sat weekly for 5/6 years with little result, before finally my trance mediumship began to manifest. But then clearly it had been lying dormant within me.

Of course, it may be true that we all possess some degree of psychic ability, which can manifest under particular circumstances, but that is somewhat different to demonstrable mediumship. Taking all these relevant factors into consideration you will perhaps understand my dilemma in respect of your question. You may, or may not possess latent mediumship, but frankly I have absolutely no way of knowing. However, the last thing I want to do is to metaphorically throw cold water upon your situation, or to be negative in my response.

However, as you are already aware, the time has arrived when you have a big decision to make. So – in good faith and conscience I make the following suggestions for your careful consideration.

- Invite into your circle an accredited medium who could perhaps evaluate the situation and advise accordingly.
- Stop sitting for a period of several months. By doing this you will – with the passage of time – be able to evaluate matters more objectively.
- Form a new circle or seek to join one.

In your position I would probably allow myself 'breathing space' and therefore I would elect to cease sitting for a period of time. However, this, of course, has to be 'your decision'.

Before closing, I have one further option that you may care to think about, and which I shall leave with you.

Many circles have met happily for years, without significant results, but they simply enjoy the fellowship, the peace and the tranquillity that their circles afford them isolated from the hustle and bustle and the concerns of their everyday lives. To them Circle night is the highlight of the week and they would not loose it at any price.

Thank you for writing to me.

I wish you well.

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TO BE OR NOT TO BE TESTED

The following article, in its original form, commenced life as a letter written by Stewart in reply to one which he recently received from a respected, well informed and highly creditable well known Spiritualist Simon Forsyth who himself is a champion of Physical Mediumship past and present. He is the owner of The Psychic Times an online publication, formerly the owner and editor of Psychic World and friend of Stewart. As you will read this question allowed Stewart the opportunity to speak on his views on testing physical mediums.

Having written it, Stewart decided that it could form the basis of an interesting article which may go some way towards informing interested parties what his opinion is today in respect of Researchers (In general terms) and those people who constantly demand that Physical Mediums should submit themselves to sit in conditions which they consider appropriate. Indeed, in exactly the same way as all past Physical Mediums were expected and, in fact, felt obliged to do.

His article appears below in letter form and we hope that it will prove to be of interest to readers since it is a sincere exposition of his views – only the name of the letters recipient has been withheld since it is of no consequence.

Thanks for your email – as always I enjoyed hearing from you. Apologies for delay in replying. In respect of your enquiry and suggestion about the possibility of introducing sellotape in order to replace our current practice of using electrical ties as a method of control, my immediate reaction was ‘yes – why not’. Then, after a few days, during which I tossed it around in my mind, I came to my senses – let me explain exactly what I mean by that.

When I first started demonstrating publicly I was willing to have any level or degree of control imposed.

Indeed – you may recall that in addition to cable ties I also had several lengths of rope securing all my limbs and body to the chair. I insisted on individual lengths because I was aware of the objection of Psychical Researchers and magicians to the use of one long length – I understood the reason for their objection. Then – I decided to introduce the use of luminous tabs taped to

my knees so that everyone would always know exactly where I was when phenomena began to manifest.

Then – I insisted on the sitter either side of me holding onto my hands – left and right.

However – In spite of such control’s, I was made aware, following one of my séances, that a researcher who had been present had said that although interesting, I could still in some way, have been controlling the trumpets. Exactly how, he did not say?

Cynically, some people may consider that to have been expected and predictable?

However, as a result of this, at the next séance we specifically asked the Spirit people if they would agree to total control of my legs, hands and head by individual sitters – all at the same time.

They agreed to try, but pointed out that this, in effect, made their own control of the energy, and therefore of the trumpets, very difficult and unpredictable.

However, the experiment was tried – such control was imposed, and the phenomena occurred – the trumpets flew.

Over the years this has now been accomplished on several occasions.

By now you will be wondering why I have told you this – well, read on.

About a year before I took the decision to resign from the Ark – I gave a seminar séance were all the controls detailed above were imposed.

I had always felt that since to many sitters I would be a stranger, I would be happy to do all in my power to put their minds at rest so that they would know that whatever phenomena occurred would be genuine – this, I thought, was only fair.

If such controls helped to remove doubt then I would be happy to submit myself within reason.

However – back to that séance.

Sue (My wife) sat outside of the darkened room to ensure that no one entered once the sitting had begun. (The usual sensible practice at my public séances).

I suppose that about ninety people were present that night, including two Researchers.

After it was over, Sue heard the researchers talking as they passed by and one was saying to the other – “Well it was certainly interesting but, did you notice that the ropes binding

the mediums body to the chair back, were all bunched together at the end whereas, at the beginning they were evenly spaced”? Frankly, what bloody nonsense and how hurtful and unfair I thought that was. It would have been a phenomena in itself had the ropes not have moved from their original evenly spaced position’s particularly in view of Christopher’s often extensive movements as he controls me.

Anyway – much to Ray’s (My Circle leader) annoyance and against his advice I devised and then had made special steel strips that were screwed to each side of the chair back.

Through a series of grooves in which the ropes laid – I ensured that they could no longer move from there original positions and, as a result, remained evenly spaced throughout.

This system was duly installed for all future public séances and was used over a period of several years.

Then three or so years ago, and as you know, I took the decision to retire back to my Home Circle and out of the public domain. My intention was never again to demonstrate publicly. I was always reluctant to work outside of my beloved Home Circle and found the stress and strain difficult to bear.

The steel strips were duly removed from the chair – the ropes dispensed with and we only retained the luminous tabs and the wrist cable ties – and these were retained only because of a particular experiment involving them which Walter worked with. In other words – by his request.

Then, following two years divorced from public demonstration’s, and following repeated public requests, I agreed to work again outside of the Home Circle – but this time in a restricted way.

Previously, because I could not say no, I had overworked so that it had all become ‘too much’ – almost like a job.

However – this time I had no interest whatsoever in subjecting myself to strict controls which to me imply mistrust. The phenomena and evidence should speak for itself.

If sitters don’t wish to sit under the imposed conditions of control, they don’t have to.

I do not drag them screaming into my séance room. If there is a problem then it is their problem and not mine.

I have retained the wrist cable ties for public séances (only because of Walter’s ongoing experiment) and also the luminous tabs. And in any case, most of the time when phenomena occurs, I am usually awake and therefore sitters know exactly where I am.

The cable ties are not intended to convince sitters that my arms are welded to the chair arms but they are used upon Walter’s specific request so that he can demonstrate how he can take one of my arms through a tie (matter through matter) whilst a sitter holds my hand tightly and with the other one presses down upon the retaining tie. Sometimes he takes the tie through the chair arm and presents it intact to the sitter.

Further – I have no interest whatsoever in the sceptics, what they think and feel is of absolutely no importance to me – not even a tiny consideration.

The one thing I have learnt over a period of many years is that the sceptic cannot be convinced – Margery failed in spite of years of cooperation with these foolish people, as did every Physical Medium in history.

She (Margery) agreed to having her wrists bound to the chair arms with surgical tape and a line was drawn in indelible ink across the tape and continued upon her arms.

The theory was that these lines from tape to arm should still line up following a séance which would then have proven that she had not removed the tape during a séance and later rebound her arms. These séances were successful and yet what, one may

ask, was the eventual result of the Crandon’s total cooperation with Science and their ultimate desire and determination ‘to show the world’?

It’s quite simple – she and her husband were labelled the greatest frauds in psychic history – even many Spiritualists believe that today.

My blood boils.

Physical mediums were, and still are on a hiding to nothing – the fact is that they simply cannot win. I myself could agree to being surgically welded into my chair and still the sceptics would find fault – still they would not be satisfied, still they would demand yet more tests and in the final analysis it would be a matter of ‘case unproven’.

If you have any doubt of that please read of the fate of every physical medium (with one exception) in history.

I know that you meant well ‘X’ but I am not remotely interested.

One day – and it is coming fast – all such matters will be immaterial – Walter will show them all. (Sceptics aside because I rather feel that they will die sceptics).

Unlike the Physical Mediums of the past – I have no interest in presenting myself for tests that simply lead on to a life time of further tests.

My work is to be of service to the Spirit World and the ‘Great Truth’ and to do what I can to help bring reassurance of survival and communication to people with eyes to see with, and ears to listen with.

If you wish to see an example of what Physical Mediumship can offer – please have a look on the NET at www.physicalmediums.co.uk.

Have a read of the article entitled SPREADING THE WORD ‘Some reflections on a Personal Journey’ . Although since this reply to Simon, this article has now been published within this June issue of the Buzzsheet.

I simply will not allow myself to be diverted. If I did so – what would be the reason?

To try and convince the unconvinced who really believe that they – unlike the thousands of people who have sat with me down the years – are going to see through it all.

What unmitigated arrogance that would be.

If you should doubt my words – consider the Scoble Experiment.

I have always believed that we must learn from history and ignore it at our peril.

Over a long period of time several prominent, respected and highly creditable researchers investigated the Scoble phenomena and finally published their most favourable report.

History then repeated itself. The sceptics – including the Ark (most/all of whom had never sat with the circle) lined up in one camp of criticism and remained immovable sceptics.

Frankly, I was very saddened by the whole unjust affair.

The dedicated circle and their brave investigators certainly deserved a hell of a lot more than they received for their honest endeavours.

So Simon – now you know my feelings when people suggest that I do this or that in order to try and disarm the Sceptics out there. As far as I am concerned – I have spent 40 years researching Physical Mediumship – I know its history – I know its fate at the hands of those who have long claimed that they are ‘willing to be convinced’ and ‘would approach any investigation with an open mind’.

As Walter himself armed with hindsight, clear vision and long acquired knowledge often say’s – POPPYCOCK’.

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