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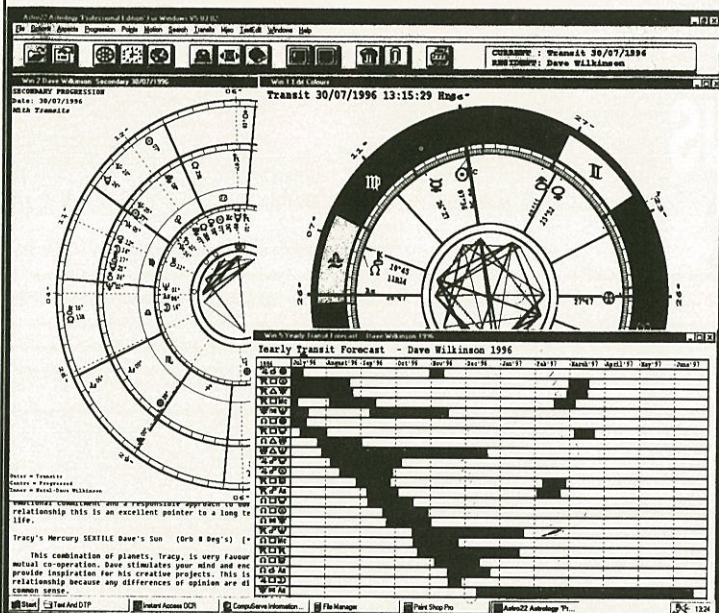
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Fractals represent not only the structured beauty of the natural universe but also the mathematical principles underlying its inherent tendency towards order. See page 8.

**Cover fractal produced electronically by  
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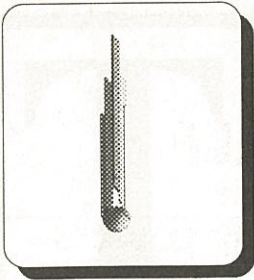
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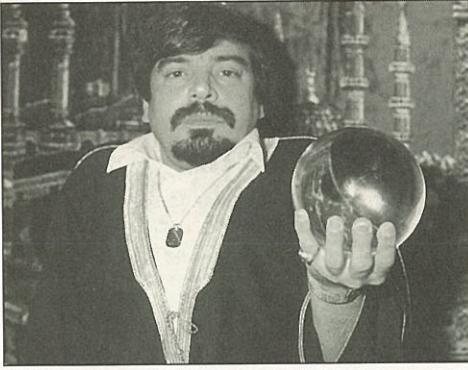
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For centuries mankind has sought to discover the secrets of nature. An insight into the superficially simple yet beautifully complex components of the perceived universe can be seen in the observations in prehistoric cave-paintings to the use of natural knowledge in stone circles and participation in the very systems of nature.

We can trace the interaction of 'orthodox' science with natural systems, the transition from 'tentative' observer to 'sleeves rolled up' participant, back to the Middle Ages. The mystics of this time strove, through the use of mathematical and

sympathetic magical principles, for the ultimate answer.

They sought to induce spiritual changes upon their material world through complex geometric forms which were often upheld as talismans and attributed with great power. The unblinking scientists also sought meaning which ascended the sum of its composition and continued the search for a symbolic vehicle to express their doctrine.

In 1202 the Italian mathematician Leonardo Fibonacci published his influential treatise *Liber Abaci (The Book of the Abacus)*. This was the first European work that dealt with Indo/Arabian mathematics and consequently

Fibonacci is best remembered for giving us our numerals and numbering system.

His recreational concerns, however, are

not so revered yet are of no less importance. Parts of *Liber Abaci* mused on light-hearted matters, such as the following problem.

'How many pairs of rabbits can be produced from a single pair in one year if it is assumed that every month each pair begets a new pair which, from the second month, becomes productive?' By adding the two previous numbers to gain the next, the following sequence is generated.

Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June
1	1	2	3	5	8
July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
13	21	34	55	89	144
... ad infinitum					

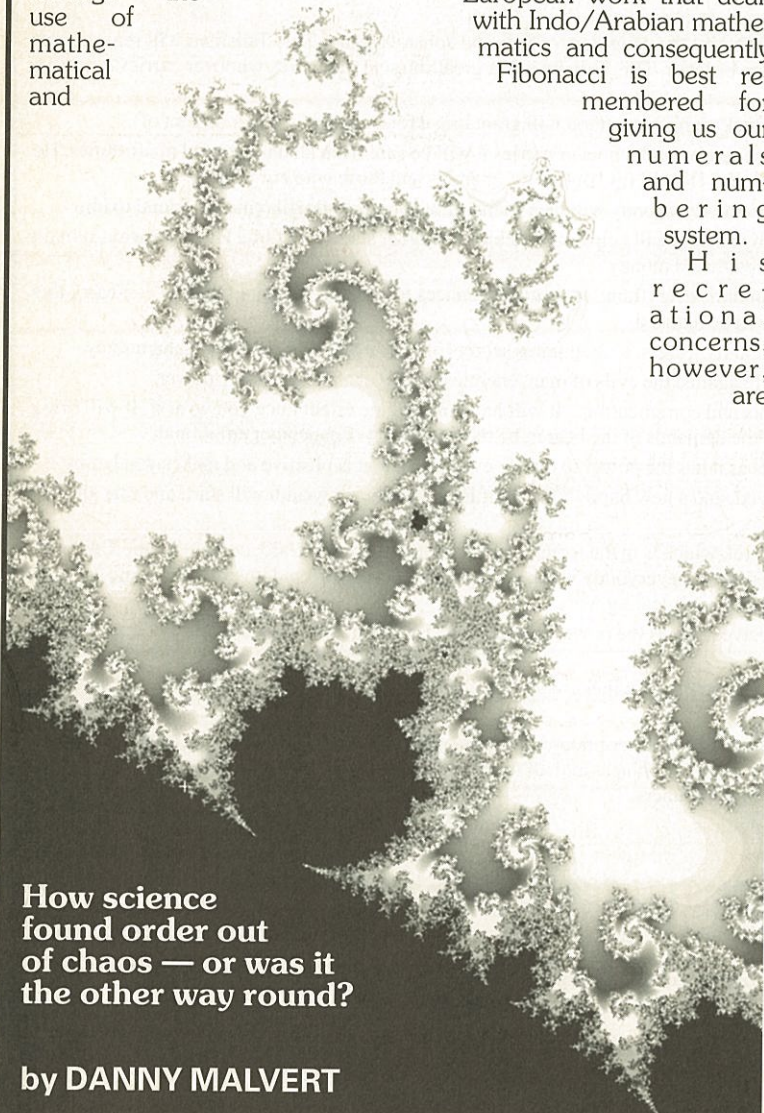
Subsequently, in the 19th century Fibonacci numbers were discovered in many natural forms such as in the botanical phenomenon known as phyllotaxy (the study of the arrangement of leaves on a stem).

Starting from any leaf on a plant, a spiral is traced in an anti-clockwise direction from leaf to leaf. Upon reaching a leaf directly above the first, the number of leaves and turns around the stem within the spiral are constant, irrespective of the starting point.

Although the number of intervening leaves and turns around the stem varies for differing species, certain figures re-occur. It transpired that the whorls on a pine-cone, the petals on a sunflower, the pattern of snail shells and the genealogy of the male bee all follow a sequence of Fibonacci numbers. These have been extensively studied and the relevance of their properties seems inexhaustible.

### The golden mean

In the 15th century science had difficulty containing itself over the implications of the Divine or Golden Proportion devised by the Italian mathematician Luca Pacioli. The attributes of this 'golden mean'



How science found order out of chaos — or was it the other way round?

by DANNY MALVERT



(1:1.6180) were held by medieval artists and scholars alike to be the most aesthetically pleasing of any ratio.

The inclusion by many of the word 'divine' in this context reinforced the fact that it was seen as some kind of miraculous, esoteric breakthrough. Consequently the golden mean can be seen in the dimensions of many medieval buildings, the work of countless great painters of the period and, even now, in the humble playing card.

Mathematician Robert Simson noted in 1753 that as the Fibonacci numbers increased in magnitude, the ratio between succeeding numbers approached the golden number - 1.6180. Although the theories of Fibonacci and Paciola were separated by 200 years, there seems to be a significant link between them.

King Oscar II of Sweden once set a problem concerning the stability of celestial bodies in general, known as the 'three body problem.' Then, in 1889 a French mathematician, theoretical astronomer and philosopher, Henri Poincaré, was awarded the winning prize for his solution.

One hypothetical scenario he propounded consisted of a Moon's orbit being affected by the gravity of two stationary planets. In his initial study and submission, Poincaré surmised that the orbital pattern of the Moon in these circumstances was stable and predictable.

After publication, however, Poincaré discovered a pivotal error in his calculations. What he found was a much underrated scientific milestone: apparently logical, well ordered systems could produce effectively random results.

For the pattern of the Moon's orbit seemed to be beyond accurate prediction. This was nothing less than a revelation at the time, one that has since become known as Chaos theory.

# Fract & Friction

## Chaos and fractals

Poincaré is widely considered as the father of Fractal and Chaos mathematical theory, both having their origins in his work on the 'three body problem.' The term fractal, from the Latin *fractus* (broken or fragmented), was coined by the Polish mathematician Benoit B. Mandelbrot, in 1975.

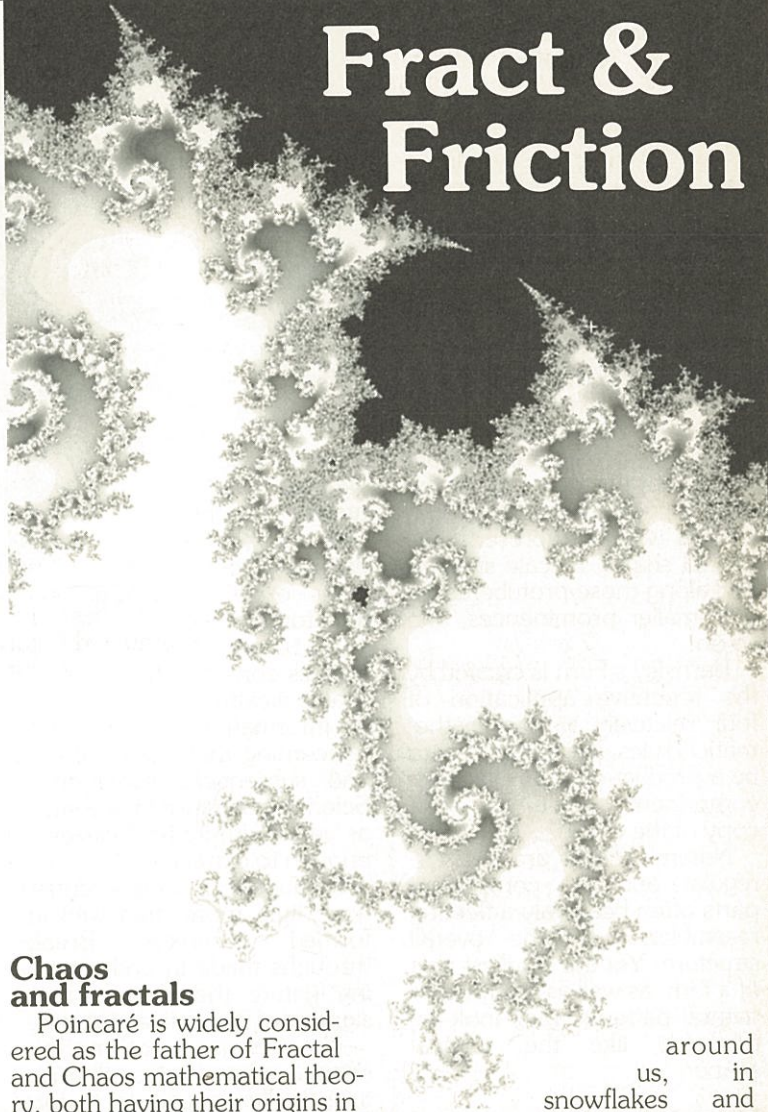
For many years fractals were considered to have no relevance to reality. Their true wonder was not realised until the dawn of the computer age in the 1960s and 70s. Only then were mathematicians able to perform the thousands of calculations necessary to build up a fractal image.

There can be few of us who have not seen a fractal, perhaps unknowingly. They are all

around us, in snowflakes and tree formations, in the way that clouds form and streams and rivers weave their paths.

Fractals have enabled science to create models of many irregular natural phenomena such as the behavioural patterns of animal groups, the erosion of coastlines and the distribution of galaxy clusters throughout the universe. Every time you scrunch up a piece of paper you are creating one, even though you may be unaware of this fact.

Although fractal images appear complex, the rules controlling them are relatively simple. The result of each cycle of



mathematical calculation is the input value for the next; this is known as reiterative calculation.

The Fibonacci sequence demonstrates a simplistic form of this. Fractals are said to exhibit the property of self-similarity; an object's component parts resemble the whole and vice versa.

One particular fractal shape, Barnsley's Fern, is a useful example of this because it relates directly to the characteristics of the actual fern. Its overall shape is duplicated in the fronds, the protuberances from the side of the stem. Along the frond's edge are smaller prominences which represent the overall shape, a scale smaller, and along those protuberances are smaller prominences, and so on.

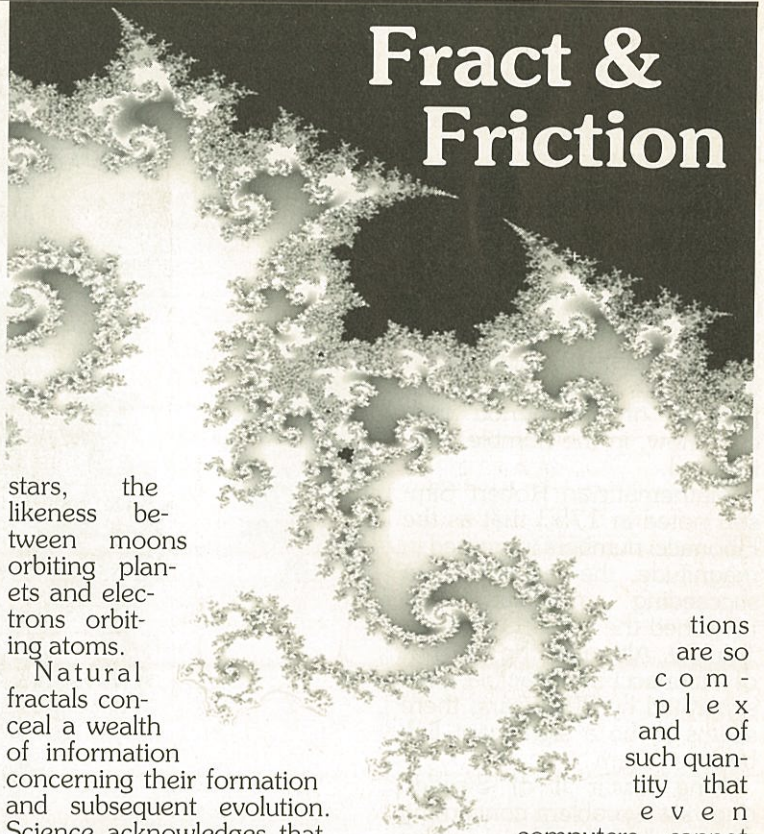
Barnsley's Fern is created by the repetitive application of four relatively simple mathematical rules. It is too perfect to be a product of nature as each component part is an exact copy of the whole.

Natural fractals are more irregular and the component parts often bear only a fleeting resemblance to the overall structure. Yet the smallest part of a fern, as well as many other natural patterns, may look remarkably like the original shape.

## Principles

Fibonacci's principles also hold good here. For example, when the spiralling of phyllotaxy reaches the apex of a stem, leaf formation becomes progressively more condensed towards the shape of a flat helix - the microscopic shape of one of a plant's smallest components, RNA. This is the genetic library of the plant and, as with DNA, the equivalent substance in animals, it is held to be the stuff of organic life itself.

It could be argued that the known universe shows a tendency towards self-similarity, between the macrocosm and the microcosm. The resemblance between photons and



# Fract & Friction

stars, the likeness between moons orbiting planets and electrons orbiting atoms.

Natural fractals conceal a wealth of information concerning their formation and subsequent evolution. Science acknowledges that, as yet, it simply isn't clever enough to extract it.

In Fibonacci's time scientists were little more than well informed observers. Breakthroughs made in understanding nature therefore had no significant pro-active purpose.

The arrogance of modern science acknowledges that nature finally appears to fit into its principles. Small fragments of knowledge allow science to meddle with things it could once only observe.

Thankfully and, let's face it, not surprisingly, nature still has a few tricks up her sleeve. With the gift of fractal understanding came its sibling: chaos theory. To scientists, this is an unwelcome, confounding concept but, to those of us who value nature more than quantum mechanics, it is to be embraced with arms flung wide.

Chaos is not randomness or chance. Small uncertainties in any natural system grow so large that they render any definite long-range prediction of outcomes impossible. Calcula-

tions are so complex and of such quantity that even

computers cannot calculate and memo-

rise chaotic sequences with infinite accuracy. Various computers treat mathematics slightly differently. If numerous computers were given the same mathematical model they would, in time, produce effectively unrelated results.

The commonly quoted notion that the butterfly flapping its wings in Tahiti can cause a hurricane in Britain is not wholly accurate. The hurricane would almost certainly have happened at some time anyway. The flapping of the butterfly's wings do not cause the hurricane but simply make it impossible for science to predict when it will occur.

Over the centuries nature has given away some of her deeper secrets and then, with a splendour which reflects the very systems concerned, has gloriously urinated on the flames of all scientific law. Consequently, at least for some, the discovery of science 'fract' has merely led to science friction.

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# GRAPHOLOGY

by PETER MARSHALL

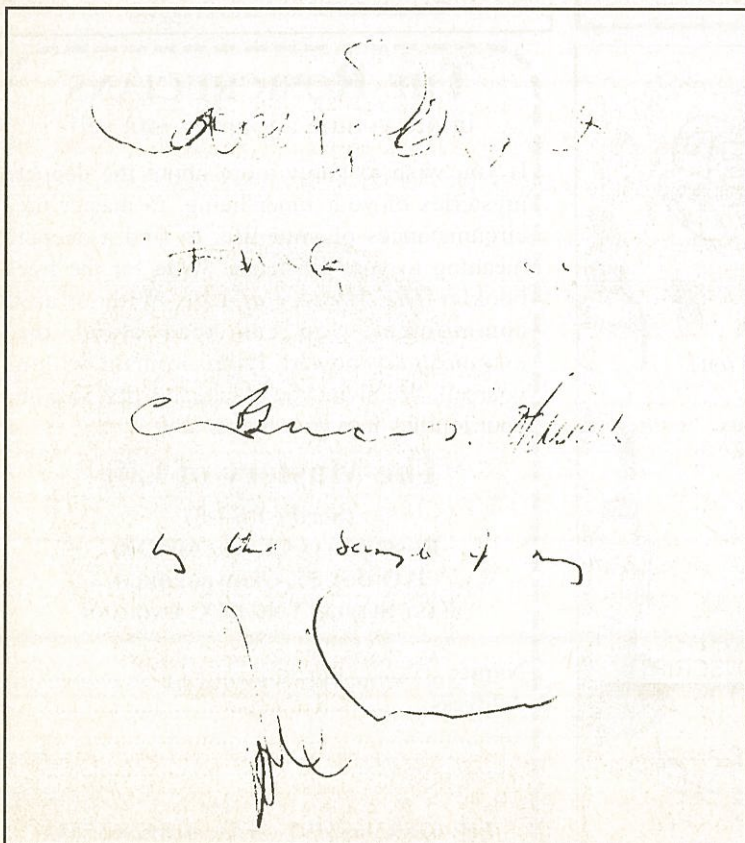
## REVEALING SIGNS

**Our signatures indicate how we like to feel when faced with the outside world. They do not show our personality make-up completely but they do exhibit some of it.**

In point of fact our signature is never exactly the same each time we write it. For purposes of general recognition, such as signing official forms, it may always appear the same but, from a forensic viewpoint and if examined through a magnifying glass, there are always small differences between any two.

This may be confirmed by whether it is written in the morning or at the end of the day. There are changes however slight.

From a graphological viewpoint a number of character traits can be evaluated but not the complete personality. The remainder of the writing will express that.



Some signatures are written so badly that they cannot be deciphered. Indirectly this is bad manners. In many cases the typist has to type the name underneath, the signature is so awful.

The size is obvious and, if it is much larger than the rest of the writing, one will know there is some degree of self-esteem expressing itself. Should the first name be larger than the second the image of self is more at home than in the outside world. Conversely, if it is smaller, then the writer can express the ego better in the outside environment.

The placement is important. On the right shows a facet of extraversion; in the middle an average activity within the community; on the left side a touch of introversion. Care should be taken with this as in business letters it may be lined up with the typed margin.

The slant can disclose quite a lot regarding the response to stimuli coming in from the outside world. When it inclines to the extreme right, there is a very sensitive reaction to the environment, especially to atmosphere and surroundings.

Should the script be upright, the reasoning power comes first. Accompanying this will be a wish to be independent and self-activating without persuasion from others. Vertical writing points to thinking without any influence from emotion.

An angle to the left suggests someone who is not always easy to understand or penetrate. He/she does have emotional reactions but does not like making a public demonstration of them: he usually puts on an artificial approach

(continued on page 52)

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Once upon a time people believed that fire burns. They thought that if they touched something hot, cause and effect would take over and they would undoubtedly be burned. The burn itself, of course, would vary in severity according to the length of exposure to and nature of the heat source, but it most definitely burned nonetheless.

This was a fact which was probably never really questioned but was simply a core belief of how the universe worked. Now, however, because of the increasing popularity of firewalking, that belief has to be questioned, otherwise how could anyone walk on red-hot embers?

Firewalking, which has been part of many widely diverse cultures throughout history, is the practice of walking barefoot over red-hot coals. It is generally accepted that these coals have an average temperature of around 1200 degrees Fahrenheit.

It would therefore be reasonable to assume that firewalkers would feel pain or, at the very least, discomfort from the coals. Yet this is not so.

Everyone has a different experience. Some people report them as feeling cool, wet or warm, while a significant number of people have described the feeling as similar to walking on popcorn. One firewalker described the sensation as like walking on cold, smooth stones; another said it was just like walking on warm Autumn leaves.

## Tradition

There is a tradition of firewalking on every continent of our world. The Vikings used to walk on scalding hot chains. Japanese monks walk on fire to embrace their lives. Faith healers in Java do it. There is even a tribe in the Kalahari desert, the !Kung bushmen, who walk on fire every few weeks in order to experience an enhanced consciousness called !kia which

# WALKING ON Fire

by GILLY PICKUP

**It's an ancient tradition but how is it that some people can walk across a searingly hot surface without being burned?**

permits them to enhance their powers of healing.

But why would the average person want to walk on fire? The reasons for choosing to do so vary. Some insist that it stems from a desire to celebrate life itself, while some do it to conquer their fears. Others do it to achieve goals, connect with nature, increase their confidence or simply to experience the impossible.

## Curious

There are many who do it to rekindle hope, faith and joy in living. Ask other firewalkers and they will say they do it because they are curious about the untapped abilities of their brains or because they feel they would benefit from learning how to turn fear into power.

Firewalking was popularised in the United States by Tolly Burkan, Director of FIRE — the Firewalking Institute for Research and Education — in the early 1980s. In his book, *Dying to Live*, Burkan explains that he learned firewalking in 1976 from a friend who studied with a Buddhist monk.

In 1978 Burkan incorporated the firewalk as part of a workshop. He teaches participants that the Firewalk Experience is about overcoming fears and limiting beliefs, as well as being a self-healing exercise.

Now there are weekend workshops all over the States, Canada, Europe and the United Kingdom. It is estimated that

there are now 40-50 active firewalk instructors in the States and that over the years an estimated 700,000 people have walked on hot coals.

Workshops, which last for 4-5 hours, begin with introductions and a chance for the participants to get to know each other and the instructor. After an hour or so, the participants are led outside to build the bonfire.

When, a few moments later, the fire is leaping into the sky, the participants return to the classroom where the workshop continues. Topics covered in the workshop include dealing with fear, growing beyond self-imposed limitations and the creative power of the mind.

The participants learn that to transcend their fears, they must first understand that FEAR is nothing more than 'False Evidence Appearing Real.' It is emphasised that those people who expect that they can walk on fire, will be able to do so. Those who expect to be burned, will be.

A common anxiety among participants is that panic might set in halfway through the walk. They are reassured that it won't because, after the first step has been taken, they are firewalkers in this lifetime.

A typical firewalk might have anything from ten to 50 participants. The individuals themselves vary from lawyers to healers, nurses to teachers, therapists to carpenters. The

ages range from the very young to the very old. To date, it is believed that the oldest person to have actually completed a firewalk was 87.

Most firewalks take place in the evening and are divided into two sections; the workshop and the walk. For beginners, the actual walk itself is between 8-12 feet long.

After about two and a half hours, when the fire has burned down to a pile of glowing, red-hot coals, the participants gather around. The coals are then raked out into a pathway 12ft long and 6ft wide. The instructor again emphasises the importance of listening to your internal voice. If it says 'don't walk', then it would be foolish to do so because you will get burned.

Standing before a 1200° bed of coals with the intention of walking across is likely to raise a good deal of fear no matter whether someone has done it before or not. However, usually 85% to 95% of participants walk on the embers and normally at the end of the session there will only be one or two blisters in the whole group. Sometimes a blister is necessary just to prove afterwards to the participants that the fire really was hot!

The instructor accentuates the point that whether a participant walks or not, a shift will take place within that empowers and inspires when others are witnessed breaking through their limiting beliefs and actually walk on fire.

There are of course scientific theories used to force firewalking into the realms of the conventional world and explain it away. While some of these do make partial sense, none satisfactorily explains fully the firewalking phenomenon.

Although such theories attempt to explain why people don't get burned, they do not explain why people sometimes do get burned. Neither do they explain why some people can stand on the coals for minutes

at a time, sit down and even lie down with their hair in the coals and remain unscathed.

Nor does there seem to be any explanation for how some people can walk great distances over coals, the current record is 120ft, or how people have managed to walk across burning hot basaltic rock, an excellent conductor of heat energy.

## Question

So, again, the question remains, how is firewalking possible? Some say that the answer is life energy: the animating force common to all living beings. Cultures throughout history have had a concept of life energy.

In China this is known as ch'i and is the foundation of Chinese medicine; in India it is known as prana.

T h e  
K a l i -  
h a r i  
! K u n g  
b u s h -  
m e n  
c a l l i t  
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k n o w n  
a s e l a n  
v i t a l ,  
l i f e  
f o r c e  
o r v i t a l  
e n e r g y .

In addition to an intense flow of life energy, successful firewalking seems to depend on additional factors. A belief that it is possible to walk on fire without being burned is a prerequisite.

If a person really doesn't believe it is possible, he/she will not be able to create the focused intention necessary to cross the coals safely. When walking the coals, a person's thoughts are excellent feedback as to his degree of focused intention.

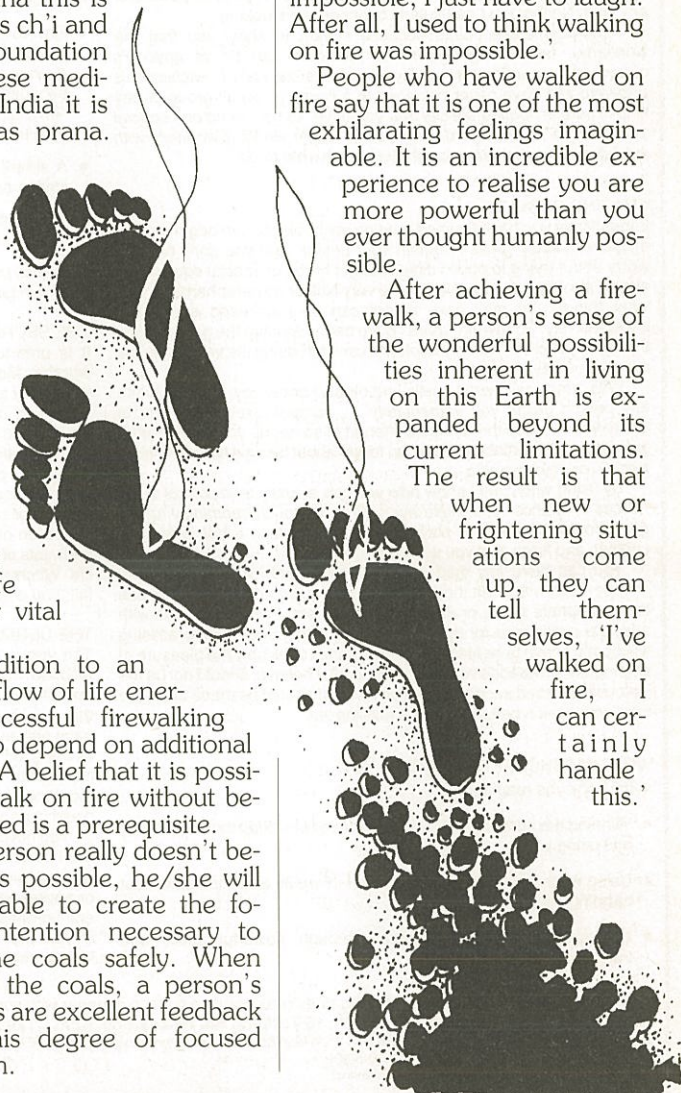
One firewalker told me, 'The first time I firewalked, when I was halfway across the coals, I could feel their heat but they didn't burn. Suddenly I had the thought, "this is impossible!" and at that moment, I felt a stab of pain. Immediately I refocused my attention and made it across the rest of the way without further problems. A small blister was the result of my broken intention.'

Another firewalker said, 'Since I began firewalking, my world has become a much more magical, sacred place. The boundaries for what I believed is possible have to a large extent disappeared. When someone tells me this or that is impossible, I just have to laugh. After all, I used to think walking on fire was impossible.'

People who have walked on fire say that it is one of the most exhilarating feelings imaginable. It is an incredible experience to realise you are more powerful than you ever thought humanly possible.

After achieving a firewalk, a person's sense of the wonderful possibilities inherent in living on this Earth is expanded beyond its current limitations.

The result is that when new or frightening situations come up, they can tell themselves, 'I've walked on fire, I can certainly handle this.'



# WINNING WITH WITCHCRAFT

Although my book is called "Winning With Witchcraft" it is *not a book for witches*. Fully fledged witches will not find anything really new in its pages and indeed they may disapprove of many of the things written in it. They will not like the fact that I have removed the "mystery" of witchcraft, dispensing with all the complicated paraphernalia usually associated with the Craft, in order to demonstrate to the ordinary person that to practise it is really very simple indeed. My book is definitely only for the everyday lay woman or man; the person who is fascinated by witchcraft and its possibilities, but is either too busy or apprehensive to actually get involved in it.

## HOW TO WIN IN LIFE

I do not in my book bog the reader down with the *theory* or *history* of witchcraft. That can be found in other books. No, my work is an "action" book, one of practice rather than speculation. In it I show you how to *win in life with witchcraft*. There are two sides, or dimensions, to witchcraft: the religious, spiritual dimension, and the dynamic "active" dimension, i.e. that of deliberately manipulating events and circumstances for one's ends. My book is about this second, exciting dimension. But before I continue let me tell you something about myself. My name is Jean Williams, and for the last twenty years I have been actively practising witchcraft in the pursuit of securing personal objectives. I am a perfectly ordinary woman, not possessing special psychic powers of any kind. Neither am I particularly bright or good looking.

I mention these points because I want to show you that the wonderful, fast acting powers of witchcraft can be at *anyone's* command, regardless of ability, *once the secret of witchcraft is understood*. I have never belonged to a coven or occult group of any kind. *There is nothing special that you have "to be", or no one special you have to know, in order for you to begin working wonders with witchcraft from the very moment you know what to do.*

## AMAZING RESULTS

Immediately you have finished reading my book you can begin casting magic witchcraft spells to obtain your desire. And you don't have to worry about trying to obtain difficult to get herbs or special equipment; almost all of the rituals I give involve very little or no paraphernalia, and what things you may have to get can be purchased easily and inexpensively. For twenty years I have been "winning the game of life" through witchcraft. With my book you can start doing the very same the minute you have read it.

With simple witchcraft spells and rituals I show you can make any person desire you *immediately* . . . compel a reluctant lover to marry you . . . stop the romantic interest of someone you would rather be without. With witchcraft you can forget about being a *loser* in love, in money, or anything else.

By using witchcraft I show how you can actually *take control* of the "forces of chance" and make *everything you touch seemingly turn to gold*. You will be able to play a bingo game, place a bet, enter any contest, and *know* that you will win.

You can have any man or woman you want, or any luxury you choose. With witchcraft these things *become automatic* when you use the appropriate spells or rituals to obtain them. I can say all this with absolute confidence for this has been my experience from practising witchcraft. I have benefited handsomely and I seek only the pleasure of sharing my knowledge with you. Witchcraft, I believe, should not be the jealously guarded secret of a selfish few, but should be made available to all who seek a better and more fulfilling life.

## WHAT WITCHCRAFT CAN BRING YOU

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## THE SECRET SCIENCE OF NATURE

It is unfortunate that many people associate witchcraft with devil-worship. Most witches don't even *believe* in the Devil! I certainly don't. Witchcraft is not Black Magic. But, fortunately, witchcraft can be used to *protect oneself from Black Magic*. My book shows how you can quickly and easily *break any evil curse*, and shows also how you can *forever make yourself safe from harm and evil of every kind*.

Some people also harbour the idea that witchcraft is just "superstitious nonsense"; in fact quite the opposite is true. Witchcraft is the *secret science of nature*. It could not possibly work if it was merely based on old wives' tales. Nor is witchcraft just "positive thinking". I know lots of people who use positive thinking and yet they are losers in life. Witchcraft is more dynamic. With witchcraft you don't, and *cannot*, fail; *you only succeed and win*.

## THE ULTIMATE WITCHCRAFT RITUAL

The very end of my book I have saved for what I consider to be the *ultimate* ritual, at least in material terms; a ritual that *unleashes a tremendous torrent of opportunity, riches and good fortune*. I consider this ritual to be little short of sensational, but I will be frank with you. I have only ever used it once. It worked so well that I just couldn't handle all the good things that came from it. I am not one of those people who can handle immediate, or even gradual, wealth. But if you are one of those people who believe they can then you should try this ritual. It could change your life!

I do not claim my book to be the best or finest written on the subject. But I do claim it to be the most *practical*. If you are one of those people who has always wanted to try their hand at witchcraft, but were too busy or apprehensive to do so then my book is for you. It is written for you, and I promise you that what you pay for it will be the best spent money of your life. Witchcraft works. Those who practise it know. They are life's winners.



# NEWS & VIEWS

## **We're not alone!**

**After all the publicity about** the discovery of primitive micro-organisms in a meteorite from Mars, it now appears that there could be life on Jupiter's Moons. NASA's Galileo spacecraft has identified molecules containing carbon and nitrogen, vital components of all living things, on the surface of Ganymede and Callisto.

As space exploration continues, there seems to be increasing evidence of the possibility of life on other planets in our Solar system. And we keep being told *The X-Files* is mere fiction!

## **On show**

**Cornwall's famous Museum** of Witchcraft at Boscastle has reopened after a major facelift. It now houses many new exhibits including a silver chalice originally owned by Alister Crowley which is currently on loan from a local collector.

The museum was taken over last Halloween by businessman Graham King who has sought advice from practising witches in order to maintain accuracy and will remain open to the public throughout the summer months until the end of October. For details contact Graham King on ☎ 01840 250111.

## **Courses/classes**

**New Life Promotions** is presenting a series of free evening seminars with Michael Domyko Rowland throughout July in London and Manchester. The London dates are July 3rd and 4th at The Union Chapel, Compton Avenue N1 and Kensington Town Hall, Hornton Street W8 is the venue for the 7th and 8th. Manchester dates are the 14th and 15th at The Royal

Northern College of Music, Oxford Road M13. Enquiries ☎ 50171-938 3788/FAX 0171 723 7256.

**The Faculty of Astrological Studies** Summer Schools will be held at Jesus College, Oxford, in August from 15th-17th and 17th-22nd. Speakers include Melanie Reinhart and Charles Harvey and the subjects covered include astrology for beginners, Chiron, harmonics, business and consultancy skills. To find out more contact FAS Registrar, 54 High Street, Orpington, Kent BR6 0JQ (☎ 07000 790143).

**The Peterborough School** of Tarot is running residential weekend courses throughout July and August (except August Bank Holiday) starting on the Friday and ending Sunday evening. Costing £200, each course includes 18 hours tuition, all meals and two nights' accommodation (or £135 non-residential). For details contact PST at Unit 2, Peterborough Arts Centre, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough, Cambs PE2 5JQ (☎/FAX 01733 232900).

**Tarot is also the subject** of a four week evening class, 7.30-9.30 pm, being held at Taurus Moon, 3 Queens Crescent, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 9DR (☎ 01444 243965). The complete course costs £45.

**The Company of Astrologers** London Summer School again offers a choice of courses to explore differing areas of interest (this time geared to intermediate level). Selection 1, *Chart Interpretation*, runs from July 7th-11th; Selection 2, *Astrology of Relationships*, takes place July 14th-18th; Selection 3, *Tarot*, runs July 21st-25th; Selection 4, *Astrology &*

*Medicine*, covers the weekend July 12th and 13th.

The five-day selections cost £92 each if booked one month in advance but are also broken down into individual sessions (£14/£13 in advance) which can be attended separately. The weekend course costs £50 booked in advance or £28 (£26 in advance) for individual days. Full programme/booking details from COA, PO Box 3001, London N1 1LY (☎ 01227 362427).

**The Marian Institute's** new diploma course in analytical therapy and healing, which is backed by the Institute for Complementary Medicine and has university accreditation pending, starts in October. Anyone interested in combining holistic healing with psychodynamic and Jungian therapy should contact the Institute for prospectus/details on ☎ 0171-286 3053.

**Regular development circles** meet on Monday evenings (beginners) and Wednesday evenings (intermediate) in the Colchester area. For details contact the New Age Agency at 7 Alexandra Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3DB (☎ 01206 763232/FAX 01206 571080).

**The Urania Trust's Open House** is a series of regular weekly discussions/debates on various aspects of astrology. The meetings take place on Wednesday evenings at 396 Caledonian Road, London N1 1DN (☎ 0171-700 0639). Start time 7.30 pm; entrance £2.50.

July's programme is *Mars or Uranus, who's the boss?* with Jane Lee (2nd); *The Astrology of Winnie the Pooh* with Peter Crowsley (9th); *Celtic Lunar Astrology* with Helena



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 unbelievable. The possibilities of what I could do were infinite. Thank you  
 very much." (Mr D of Birmingham)*

# NEWS & VIEWS

Patterson (16th); *Three Upwardly Mobile Women* with Peta High (23rd); *Vedic Astrology* with Komilla Sutton (30th). **The Healing Practice** is offering a series of 20 spiritual exploratory and therapeutic workshops of four hours each (evenings or mornings/afternoons Monday—Saturday). The workshops major on the practical element of such themes as *Letting Go*, *ESP Development*, *Reincarnation*, *Health*, *Mind Over Matter*, etc and cost £25 each. Courses start on July 15th. For more information write to The Healing Practice, 5th Floor, Building K, 100 Clements Road, London SE16 4DG or call ☎ 0171-231 1078.

## Be a winner!

**As a follow up to an earlier** item, the Peterborough School of Tarot is offering one lucky PREDICTION reader an opportunity to attend one of these residential weekend courses absolutely free.

Simply book your course in the usual way and say you saw it mentioned in the July News & Views section of this magazine. If you are the tenth person to make such a booking, you can attend the course without charge. Now there's an offer it's hard to resist!

## New ventures

**Taurus Moon** seems an appropriate name for a shop which opened recently in Burgess Hill, West Sussex. Here you will find a wide selection of books, many not easily available in the UK, crystals, aromatherapy oils, candles, tapes, unusual clothes, jewellery and exciting gifts. Opening hours are 10-5.30pm, Monday to Friday.

The proprietor, Sylvia Collins, is also a member of the World Healers Association and offers healing sessions as well as Tarot readings and palmistry plus evening classes on various topics (suggestions welcome). To find out more, visit 3 Queens Crescent, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 9DR or call ☎ 01444 243965.

**Culture and Cosmos** is the title of a journal of the history of astrology and cultural astronomy which is about to be launched. It will carry articles, news and reviews and has an impressive editorial board of experts in related fields headed by editor Nicholas Campion.

First issue is scheduled for publication in July, the second in October and the subscription price of this twice yearly journal is £11/£13 non-members of the AA (396 Caledonian Road, London N1 1DN).

## Endings

**If you live in Glasgow** you will be sorry to hear that The Magickal Dragon bookshop and retail outlet has now closed down. As the area isn't exactly overloaded with such specialist shops, perhaps anyone knowing of a similar outlet could let us know and enable us to inform readers of an alternative.

## Heal the world

**World Earth Healing Day**, a global link-up to help heal Mother Earth and humanity, takes place July 19th-20th. There is a choice of three times at which to link up in meditation and prayer, each selected for its astrological significance, on the 19th these are at noon and 19.50 hours (GMT) and at 03.15 hours GMT on the 20th (these times will vary according to one's geographical location).

Anyone wanting more information should contact WEHD, 4 Vyner Court, Rossington Street, London E5 8SF (☎ 0181-806 3828).

## You don't have to be Irish

**Michael McGrath**, Archdruid of Tara and Ireland, claims that the beliefs, rituals and practices of the Irish Druids differed from other traditions and that this 'definitive' form of Irish Druidry should be available to all, irrespective of race or geographical location.

To this desirable end, a new worldwide order called The Irish International Druid Order welcomes membership from around the world and already has groves (branches) in London, New York, New Jersey, Cuba and Ethiopia. If you would like to know more please contact Archdruid McGrath by sending large SAE/IRCs to Druid House, 18 Dominic Street, Kilkenny City, Eire or, in the UK, contact Archdruidess Brigid Eileen Ennis, 23 Leysdown, Malden Road, London NW5 3HT (☎ 0171-485 2554).

## Box numbers

**We get a lot of enquiries** on how to reply to Personal Classified Box numbers. So, for those who don't know, simply address your reply to Box E\*\*\*, PREDICTION Editorial, Link House, Dingwall Avenue, Croydon CR9 2TA and we will forward it, unopened, to whoever has placed the advert.

## July Diary Dates

**2nd. Ancient Stones of Dorset:** Seeking out the Landscape. A talk with Peter Knight for the Wessex Astrologers' Group at the Grasshopper Inn, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset. Starts 7.30pm. Details ☎ 01202 519388.

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# NEWS & VIEWS

**3rd. Star Lore with Geoffrey Cornelius** for the COA at 76 Haverstock Hill, London NW3. 7.15-9.15pm; £4. Enquiries ☎ 01227 362 427.

**4th. Working with Colour** with Nina Ashby for BAPS South London Branch at 56 Otford Close, Penge, SE20 (off Croydon Rd). 8-10pm; £2/£3 non-members. Enquiries to Alice on ☎ 0181-653 7993.

**4th-8th. Meditation, Bliss & Landscape.** Four-day residential retreat at Grimstone Manor in Devon. Cost £200-£300. Bookings/details ☎ 01822 854358.

**5th. Uranus the Witness.** BASS seminar with Erin Sullivan at the Stakis Hotel, Rossiter Road, Bath. 10-5pm; £33. Bookings/details ☎ 01373 465147/FAX 01373 452981.

**5th-6th. Inner Child Workshop** in Colchester. 9.30-5.30 pm daily; cost £80. Bookings/details from the New Age Agency, 7 Alexandra Road, Colchester, Essex CO3 3DB (☎ 01206 763232/FAX 01206 571080).

**6th-12th. The Rainbow of the Spirit** with Jill Harland, Mallory Standall and Maureen Harrison-Skinner at Tre-Ysgawen Hall, Capel Coch, Llangefni, Anglesey, North Wales, LL77 7UR. A week exploring the rhythmic and harmonised creative ability in mankind. Fully residential £320 (single supplement £40). For bookings/details call ☎ 01248 750750/FAX 01248 750035.

**7th. Miracles of Natural Chi Healing.** An introductory talk by Peter Chin Kean Choy, for Alternatives at St James's Church, Piccadilly, London W1. Starts 7pm; £6/£3 unwaged. Enquiries ☎ 0171-287 6711/FAX 0171-734 7449.

**8th. Chart Discussions** with Bromley Astrological Association at the Small Hall, Bromley Central Library, High Street, Bromley. 7.30-10.00pm; £1/£3 non-members. Enquiries call Dione Smith ☎ 0181-464 2097.

**11th. Introduction to Shamanism.** Morning workshop for Satori at The Research House, 86 Marylebone High St, London, W1M 3DE. 7.30-10.30am. Details ☎ 0181-539 9686.

**11th. The Prophecies of Nostradamus** with Gary Jewell for

BAPS South London Branch at 132 Woodside Green, South Norwood SE25. 8-10pm; £2/£3 non-members. Details ☎ 0181-653 7993.

**11th-13th. Theosophical History Conference** at 50 Gloucester Place, London W1H 4BA. Numerous speakers including Jean Overton-Fuller, Nicholas Campion and John Deveney. Programme/details contact the Society on ☎ 0171-935 9261.

**12th. Shamanic Make-up of Man.** Morning workshop for Satori, venue as 11th. 7.30-12.30pm. Details ☎ 0181-539 9686.

**12th. Shamanic Medicine Wheel.** Afternoon workshop for Satori, venue as 11th. 2.00-5.30pm. Details ☎ 0181-539 9686.

**12th-13th. Inner Sound and Voice Workshop.** An introductory weekend on using your voice for healing with Jill Purce at Regent's College, Regents Park, London. 10-5pm daily; £89. Bookings/details call ☎ 0181-444 4855.

**12th-13th. Vibrational Medicine and Energetic Healing** workshop with Ambika Wauters at Flint House, 41 High Street, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 2LU (☎ 01273 473388). 10-5pm daily; £65.

**12th-13th. Colour Healing** workshop in Ipswich. 9.30-5.30 pm daily; cost £60. Bookings/details from New Age Agency (see 5th-6th or ☎ 01206 763232).

**13th-19th. Discovering Aspects of the Spirit & Mediumship** with Paul Jacobs, Glyn Edwards and Sue Woods at Tre-Ysgawen Hall. Fully residential £320. Bookings/details see 6th-12th or call ☎ 01248 750750.

**14th. Mellowing out, Toughening up** with Serge Beddington-Behrens at Alternatives, St James's (details see 7th or ☎ 0171-287 6711). 7pm start; £6/£3 unwaged.

**19th. Ritual Incense and Incense Making.** One-day workshop with the School of Hermetic Studies at 9 Soar Lane, Leicester, LE3 5DE. £17.50 per workshop and £2.50 for lunch. For bookings/further details call ☎ 0116 2837305.

**19th. Traditional Astrology Group Workshop** at Thundersley,

Essex. Details contact Sue Ward ☎ 01268 745171.

**19th-20th. Introduction to Aromatherapy.** One-day workshop. Choice of venues, Brentwood (19th) or Ipswich (20th), cost £45. Bookings/details from New Age Agency (see 5th-6th or ☎ 01206 763232).

**19th-20th. The Ley Hunter 20th Anniversary Moot.** Magical Earth Mystery tour with Paul Devereux, Aubrey Burl, Jenny Randles, Michael Dames and Robin Heath gathering at The Wessex Room, Market Place, Devizes, Wilts for a day of illustrated talks (19th) followed by guided tours of Avebury (20th). £25 each (reductions for two or more). Details/☎ 01386 421058

**19th-26th. Lynwood Fellowship Seminar** at Losehill Hall, Castleton, Derbyshire. Speakers include Dr Carol Brierly, Paul Crowther, Eileen Roberts and Don Galloway. Fully residential; £270 single/£260 twin. Bookings/details ☎ 01673 842256.

**20th-26th. Tarot, Reincarnation and Karma** with Marcia Day at Tre-Ysgawen Hall. Fully residential; details see 6th-12th or call ☎ 01248 750750.

**24th-25th. Psychic Fayre at The Clubhouse,** Buxton, Derbys. 11-6pm daily. Enquiries ☎ 01298 72923.

**25th-27th. Inner Child Workshop** in Brentwood. 9.30-5.30 pm daily; cost £145. Bookings/details from New Age Agency (see 4th-5th or ☎ 01206 763232).

**26th. Lilly Day.** A meeting to celebrate the life and work of William Lilly. Noon onwards in the Swan, Manor Road, Walton on Thames; formal discussion starts 2.30pm in St Mary's Parish Church Hall followed by a special Evensong and visit to Lilly's tomb. Enquiries ☎ 01227 362 427.

**26th-27th. Crystal Healing Workshop** with John and Ann Cooper at The Frontia, Complementary Health Care Centre, 4 Bath Road, Worcester. Cost £30 (£15 per day). For more details call John on ☎ 0181-686 0558 or pop in at The Frontia.

**26th-August 2nd. Lynwood Fellowship Seminar** with Leah Bond, Paul Crowther, Bridget Hickey and others at Losehill Hall, Castleton, Derbyshire. See 19th-26th for details or call ☎ 01673 842256.

# PALISTRY



by PETER WEST

## BY ALL ACCOUNTS

**The hands of a successful accountant and the story they tell.**

**O**ur subject this month began his career as a trainee accountant a long time ago. He studied and worked hard, passed all his exams and began a long but steady climb up the corporate ladder to his present position of authority and influence.

An accountant's work involves analysis and audit procedures. He must always be aware of and advise on organisation and method. He must keep up to date on all taxation matters so he may continually interpret and verify accounts.

He must also set up and maintain financial records of everything that goes on within the company. He has to be aware of market trends in case he should be asked to cost out potential business ventures. In short, he has to be a bit of a wizard with figures.

The basic requirements for all or any of these activities is a good education, intelligence, perception and perseverance. There is a need to develop clear self-expression, have the ability to work with figures with plenty of attention to detail. He must also be able to grasp facts quickly and work well with people from all walks of life.

But, in this case, that is not all. A few years ago he became interested in the computer world and, before long, developed a flair for systems analysis work. He learned to be able to interpret data to be put into a

schedule or plan for a computer to operate. He specifies how the resulting information should be presented by passing all relevant documents to a computer programmer — the one who writes the coded language for the computer to understand.

This extra work requires a logical approach, patience, neatness and a good memory. All this ability has earned Martin respect and position within the enormous organisation in which he works. Naturally, it has also brought the trappings of position and a salary that might make people blink when they first hear of it.

### Strength

The first thing one notices in Martin's palm is the strength of both head lines. When he wants he can completely blot out all extraneous matters to concentrate on the problem of the moment. To many he may appear utterly ruthless at such times but it is the importance of the job that takes precedence here and he puts this first and foremost. All other considerations are secondary.

The large thumbs show his ability to command at such times. The full sweeping lines of life give him plenty of extra energy to work long stretches at a time. The independence of his actions are shown by the way the little fingers on both hands stand well away from

their respective neighbours. To help him sustain his actions note how both index fingers stand away from the middle fingers. Independence of thought is clearly well marked.

Both middle fingers are long, strong and very straight adding all the authority he needs when he needs it. The basal phalanges of all of the fingers are quite developed. This implies a very strong element of selfishness which will help him at awkward moments in the business field.

When necessary, the 'me, women and children first' attitude is strongly etched. This, however, is a developed trait rather than an inherent one for the heart lines are very deeply marked. The right hand line is more low-set than the left hand counterpart.

In his private life he really is an old softy at heart. He feels things very deeply and would not normally hurt a fly. He gets on with just about everyone he meets: man, woman, child or beast. He is polite, full of charm and always the gentleman. It is not easy to reconcile his two quite different natures at times.

Inwardly, he is quite relaxed. The stresses of his work rarely, if ever, get to him. Note the absence of white lines on the inside of the fingertip phalanges, always a good sign of stress. But what very few marks are here mean nothing.

The modern term for his overall approach to life would be 'laid back.' Little fazes him and in all the many years we have been friends I have never known him lose his temper or step out of line once. But, when at work and duty calls...

---

The outer edge of a hand is rarely completely straight or flat in appearance but, when it does appear so, there will not be a lot of interest shown in creative matters. The owner may not be very adaptable to new ideas.

However, there is almost always a slight bulge and this is known as the creative curve. The more pronounced the curve the more creatively inclined the owner. When the bulge is more prominent at the top of the palm it will reflect in the inspirational and intellectual creative pursuits of the owner. When the bulge is clearly in the middle the subject is able to follow new and original ideas and apply them in practice.

A creative curve more pronounced at the base of the outer edge of the palm shows the more practical type. These folk interpret what others want in a constructive manner. Martin

has creative curves on both hands and both peak clearly in the middle.

His hobby is photography, something both creative and practical. He also develops his own film and owns an astonishing array of equipment. He is probably at his happiest in his darkroom with all the time in the world to make, play and create to his heart's content.

### **Ambition**

Martin has the loop of personal ambition very strongly marked in both hands. This can be seen in the skin pattern at the top of the palmar surface between the second and third fingers. He says he has achieved most ambitions bar one. When he retires he wants to settle in mid Cornwall with his wife: they have no children and she also wants to settle in the South West where they have friends.

If you look carefully at the life lines on both hands you will see they swing out into the palms and stay there almost to the end. At the last moment, however, the left-hand line seems to fold in under itself and swings right in under the mount of Venus. The right-hand version is not quite so pronounced but it does swing inward and under.

This suggests that although Martin appreciates travel and doesn't dislike being away from home or his natural environment, he is grateful to return home, the one place he feels safe and secure. Such a trait is always emphasised when the life line appears to swing in under the mount of Venus in this way.

His present home really is his castle — a picture of contentment. This is what he wants and, when he retires, is what he will make for himself.



The ancient Tibetan art of Tumo was originally devised by the lamas to enable them to keep warm in sub-zero conditions at a high altitude. The Grand Master and greatest exponent of Tumo was called Milerepo who, it was claimed, could dry 40 blankets in one night.

A soaking wet blanket was draped around his body and, by a great effort of mental concentration, he could increase his body heat to such proportions that within a short space of time the blanket would be dry. Fact or fiction?

About 15 years ago I joined a martial arts group that originated in Tibet and practised a form of internal body heat transference. Unfortunately, this group concentrated only on the solar plexus, thus triggering the Fire ruled chakra without stabilising the lower Water and Earth ruled centres.

The effect of this practice was to throw many students off balance mentally and emotionally. Eventually the system was banned in Britain and the then current Grand Master shot off to Indonesia with the UK authorities hard on his tail. However, I realised the potential of this system and, because I was aware of the seven chakras and their purpose, was able to develop a new practice

the ancient art of Tumo alone, so that I do not need to wear gloves even in the coldest weather and my feet never get cold. In fact, through a series of exercises combined with breathing techniques, practised every day over a period of 12 months to two years, a student can become extremely proficient.

The advantages are far greater than merely keeping warm, though. The transference of internal body heat increases your healing power when laying on of hands, so that you can help to heal others. Also you will remove any physical blockages within your own body, thus healing yourself much quicker than usual and keeping arthritic and rheumatic conditions at bay or, in some cases, even effecting a cure.

Tumo also promotes and develops your intuitive and psychic faculties. I can actually see the electrical force field being projected from the fingertips of an adept practitioner and have found it of great help in dealing with a psychic attack, too, because the power released within you can be quite awesome.

As well as keeping yourself warm and physically fit, Tumo promotes great physical strength so that in a defensive situation you can transfer your internal

body heat and electrical force field to your fists and feet, enabling you to deliver a ferocious blow to your attacker. It can also protect you from serious harm should you receive a severe body blow, even one directly to the solar plexus.

## First steps

Obviously no one can become an adept simply by reading an article, but it is possible to explain the basic principles which will enable you to start the ball rolling.

The first lesson is to sit on the floor with legs crossed, Yoga style, or on a comfortable chair with your back upright, your feet touching and hands on your knees or clasped between your legs in order to 'close the circuit' so that no energy is lost.

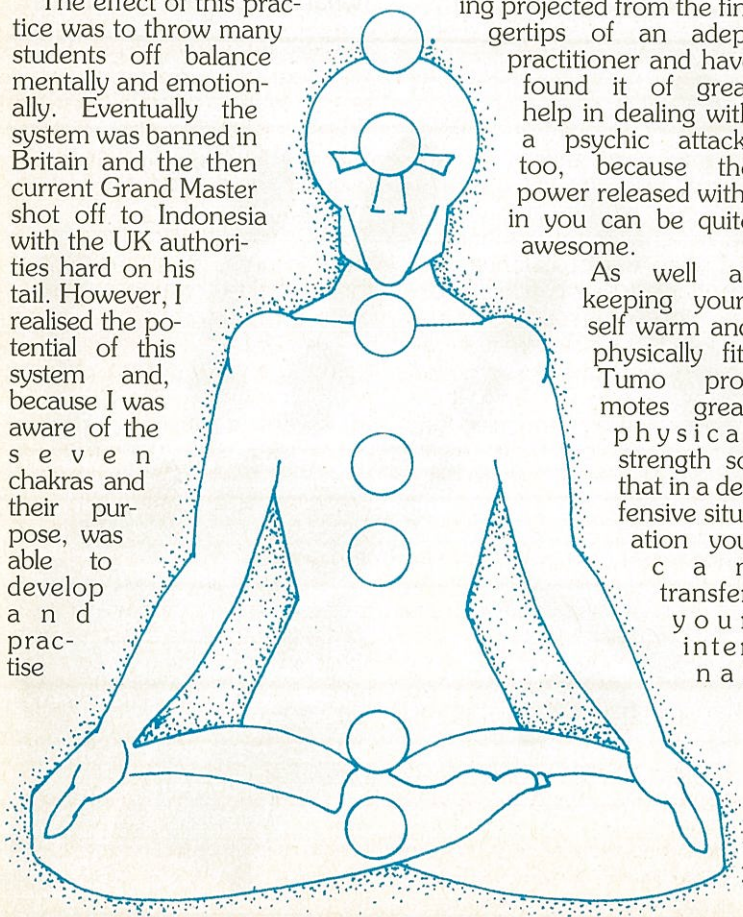
Light a candle and concentrate on the tip of the flame. Breathe in slowly for about eight seconds, pushing your stomach out as far as it will go, hold your breath for eight seconds, then breath out just as slowly, only this time pull your stomach right in so that you exhale the last drop of air from your lungs.

Repeat this exercise for a couple of minutes without moving a muscle but keep your body as relaxed as possible. Check your neck and face muscles for tension and continue breathing deeply.

Imagine a great golden energy, glowing and pulsating, entering your body through your nostrils with every breath. As you inhale, visualise the energy travelling down your spine, right to the base, where resides the root or Earth chakra.

Hold your breath for eight seconds while concentrating on this lower area; visualise a giant oak tree with its roots going down your legs, anchoring you to the Earth itself. Then breathe out slowly, pushing out all your frustrations and negative energy.

Repeat this exercise seven times then, on the next breath, visualise the energy following





# The Art of Tumo

by RAYMOND IRONS

**This ancient Tibetan art could banish the ills of being too cold by helping you regulate your internal thermostat!**

the same path but, instead of remaining at the root chakra, instantly click it up one notch to the sacral chakra, ruled by the Water element, which lies on your spine opposite the navel.

Hold your breath and visualise the energy activating this area before breathing out. Use any symbol you like, such as a waterfall, a river, the ocean or a still calm lake.

The next chakra is the Fire-ruled solar plexus; this is where internal body heat originates. Always visualise the energy going first to the base of the spine, then click the energy upwards, right through the sacral chakra, stopping opposite your solar plexus, right under the rib cage.

When you concentrate on this area while holding your breath, visualise a great ball of fire being released within your body. Do not rush your breathing, if eight seconds is too much for each stage - inhalation, hold and concentrate, exhalation — cut it to six seconds; it is important to maintain a steady rhythm.

The heart chakra comes next and is situated on your spine, directly opposite the breastbone, and is ruled by the Air element. When you hold your breath and visualise this area, imagine a warm Summer breeze being released throughout your body.

## A proper balance

Earth, Water, Fire and Air — in that order — need to be well

balanced within your astral body so that your physical body can function properly. For instance, if your Earth chakra is not working properly, your skeletal structure will not be stable, you may lack calcium and break or damage numerous bones during the course of your life.

Also, many decisions regarding personal and business matters will be made without due reference to common sense, which the Earth element supplies. You can build nothing of a permanent nature without the solid foundation of a well-balanced root chakra.

The sacral chakra controls the Water element so that if this is thrown out of balance your lymphatic system, which controls body fluids, becomes blocked. This centre also affects all the other systems that regulate the flow of body fluids so, when unbalanced, crystallisation in the joints can occur, resulting in rheumatism and arthritis.

The solar plexus chakra, ruled by Fire, has particular reference to the digestive system. So, if you ever suffer from chronic indigestion or your hands and feet become very cold and numb in Winter, it's a fair bet that this chakra is not balanced.

Before anyone experiences the symptoms of a heart attack, the heart chakra closes down well in advance and is out of balance with the other chakras. This imbalance is then trans-

ferred from the astral to the physical, resulting in an arterial blockage.

## Higher elements

Above the four lower chakras are the three higher elements starting with the throat chakra at the top of the spine. This is ruled by ether, which is the space through which the lower four elements manifest.

There is a particular reference here to the Fixed sign of Taurus which rules the throat area. You can always tell whether a person's throat chakra is well-developed by the sound of his/her voice because it is sound that rules here, so a spoken mantra can help to balance the lower elements.

In the beginning was the Word, which is sound vibration. If the voice is articulate and balanced, the chakras are likely to be vibrating in unison but if a person screeches or is inarticulate, this indicates that the chakras are unbalanced.

Follow the breathing exercise as for the lower elements, always visualising the energy entering through the nostrils, pausing for a moment at the root chakra. Then click upwards, straight through the lower chakras, stopping at the throat chakra for eight seconds before breathing out.

The next area of concentration is the brow chakra, within your forehead, directly between the eyes. This is your third eye, so concentration here will develop your intuitive and psychic faculties, enabling you to see and feel the internal body heat at work.

One test of competence is practised with a partner, standing back to back at a distance of six feet. One person directs the internal body heat to either the left or right hand, the other partner tries to feel which hand is receiving the energy.

The brow chakra is also the seat of power because, whatever you visualise and offer up to the light, can materialise your thoughts from the astral plane

directly through to the physical by repeated concentration. In other words, as you think so you will become.

The seventh and final area is called the crown chakra, right at the top of the head. When all seven chakras are balanced and working like a well-oiled engine, you will find it quite easy to slip out of your body and go astral travelling at night.

The secret of perfect physical health and an understanding of the other dimensions arrives only when you become emotionally and spiritually balanced.

After opening up all seven psychic centres, the next step is to concentrate entirely on your solar plexus chakra. Visualise a fireball travelling from this point, up and over each shoulder simultaneously, then rolling down your arms to your hands.

Breath in as before, then as you breath half out, lock your solar plexus muscles, pushing across and down, lock the muscles of your shoulders, upper and lower arms and finally clench your fists. Visualising the fireball travelling along the area of concentration, hold the tension for eight seconds, then relax all your muscles as you breath out fully, then start

the process all over again.

Having spent many years practising the transference of internal body heat, I now find that I can project the energy to hands and feet instantly without going through the process of prolonged breathing. You, too, should be able to do this with practice.

### Closing down

Now one of the most important and vital actions is to close down your chakras all the way from the crown to the lower root chakra before ending the session. Visualise wrapping each chakra up in a square of silk, so that they are never left open after you have finished your meditation.

Start following the above exercises at the time of a New Moon and, if you practise for half an hour every day, you should start to feel results

within three months or less, depending on your level of dedication, determination and concentration. However, to become really proficient usually takes at least two years constant practice.

Once this stage is reached, you will never suffer from arthritis or need to wear gloves even in the coldest weather ever again

The snake swallowing its tail is called an ouroboros (Greek for tail-devourer), it's an ancient symbol of wholeness, regeneration and the cycles of life which is found all over the world.

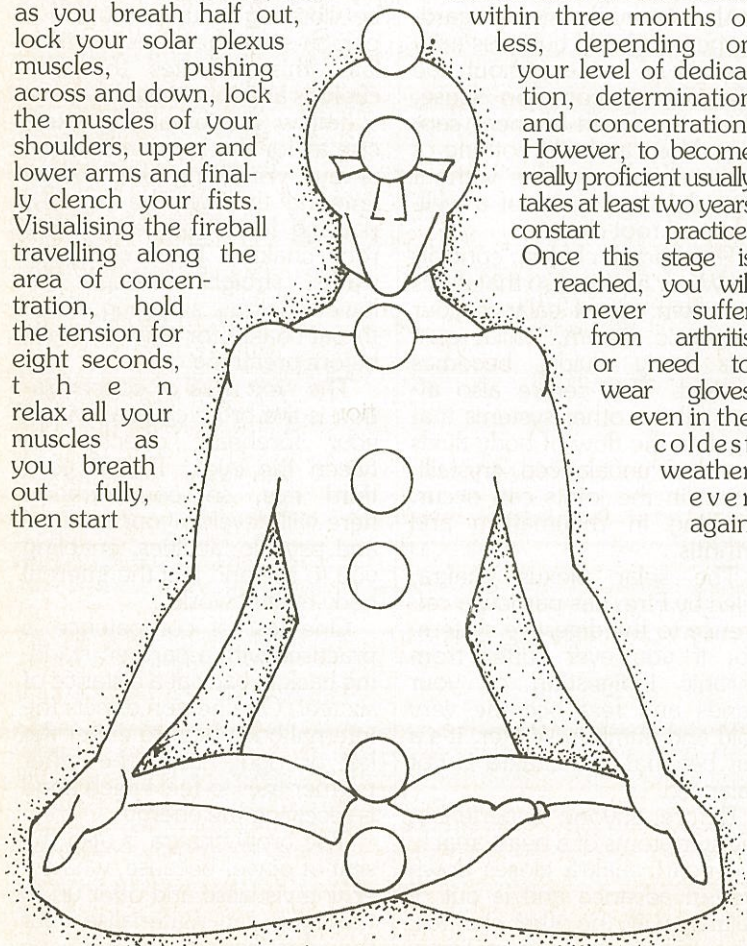
In alchemy, the ouroboros represents the oneness of the universe. The head biting the tail forms an unbroken circle; having no sides or exits, the circle has always symbolised unity and totality.

Often the ouroboros figure is accompanied by the Greek phrase 'Hen to pan,' which means 'All is one.' This points to the alchemists' belief that all the matter in the cosmos is composed of the same prime material: this was what made possible the transformation of base metal into gold, the purest substance.

The ouro-boros also symbolised the 'prime matter' in the alchemist's laboratory, the stage at which the ingredients are waiting to be purified and transformed. More generally, it signified the potentiality of the universe.

Sometimes the serpent is shown coiling around an egg. Here, the egg symbolises the prime matter while the ouroboros is wrapped around it protectively, like a dragon guarding treasure. This concept, originally developed by the mystical Greek sect of the Orphics (from whom Pythagoras drew inspiration) contains a mixture of symbolism.

The idea of a protective circle is familiar in many contexts, from the practice of magic to old Westerns in which wagons fend off Indian raids by forming an impenetrable circle. In classical mythology, the world was encircled by the river Ocean. Snakes are symbolically associated with water, which in turn has often been seen as the source of life. In Mesopotamian myth, for example, the primordial waters were the domain of Tiamat, the dragon-goddess whose struggle with the god



Marduk was dramatised in the epic of Creation.

The scholar Mircea Eliade elaborated the concept of the Eternal Return: the idea that in myth and ritual we return to a sacred time, the point of origin celebrated in creation myths which is also outside space and time and thus eternally present. This is the Dream Time of the Australian Aborigines. The ouroboros is a metaphor for this perpetual quest; finding renewal by recreating the beginning of things.

In the modern West we are taught to view time as linear, beginning in a Big Bang and ending, several billion years hence, possibly in a Big Crunch. But most cultures have seen time as moving in circles, endlessly returning, and the ouroboros embodies this idea on many levels.

In Buddhism, it is a symbol of the great cosmic wheel of Samsara. In Egyptian art, it represents the movement of the Sun across the heavens each day. On tombstones, the ouroboros is a symbol of immortality and rebirth.

The ancients understood that life and death are not opposites but, rather, part of the same cycle. In nature, dead matter — both plant and animal — is the source of nutrients and new life: death is part of life and life depends on death.

Looked at in one way the snake is devouring itself, absorbing its own essence, which seems futile. But look again: in fact a new snake is growing, tail first, from the head of the old.

This is just one of the paradoxes of the ouroboros. Like

the Oriental yin-yang symbol, it exemplifies the union of opposites, the dynamic balance between polarities such as life and death, male and female, stasis and change.

The ouroboros reminds us that the universe is a self-sustaining whole. The serpent takes from itself, grows and returns to its point of origin

have learned that the planet's resources are finite, the ouroboros might be a model for sustainable living — a dramatic illustration of recycling!

It is also a symbol of the chthonic energies which flow through the Earth, and of the energy that flows through the human body, which in Indian philosophy is known as kundalini or serpent power and resides at the base of the spine.

Every electrician knows that power has to be earthed and mystical philosophy stresses that the body's energies need to be allowed to flow freely.

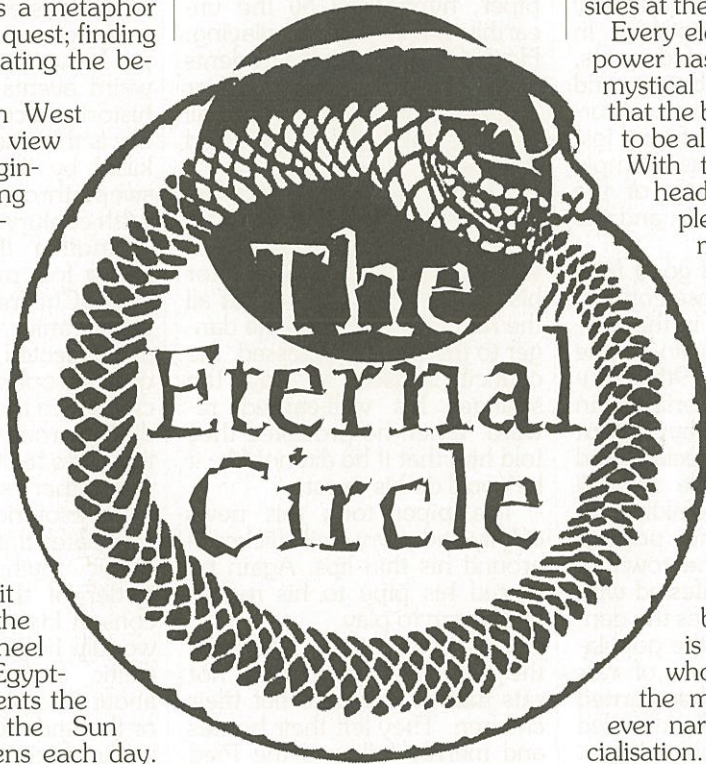
With the ouroboros, the head biting the tail completes the circuit, permitting the vivifying current to pass.

It's a symbol, too, of wisdom endlessly renewing itself. The snake represents the wisdom of the Earth. The coiled snake is the circle of knowledge in which everything is linked. It demonstrates the ancient belief that knowledge is a unified, indivisible whole — in contrast to

the modern tendency for ever narrower fields of specialisation.

The fact that the ouroboros is found throughout the world suggests that it is one of those signs (in Jungian terms, an archetype) that reside in the unconscious and through which concepts are mediated. As an example, take the 19th century German chemist August Kekule who was trying to discover the structure of the benzene molecule (more important than it sounds!). He got nowhere until one night he dreamed of an ouroboros. At once he had the answer: the molecule formed itself into a ring.

The ouroboros taps into ancient roots yet always has something new to say. Just like PREDICTION, in fact!



by NELSON JONES

**Ever wondered about the snake on the front cover of this magazine, coiled in a circle with its tail in its mouth?**

where the cycle begins afresh. It is a diagram of the endless process of absorption and emission that sustains the natural cycles of life — like a river constantly flowing back to its own source.

This isn't merely a symbolic message. These days, when we

# The Pied Piper

by COLLIN ARMSTRONG

What was the real story behind the legend?

In childhood we regard fairy tales and nursery rhymes as spellbinding stories and silly songs to help us go to sleep. In reality these tales of dragons, elves, giants, princesses and brave heroes often conceal survivals of ancient beliefs and lost wisdom. One famous example is the mysterious tale of the Pied Piper of Hamelin and the lost children.

The story, like all good fairy tales, is said to be based on fact and it all happened in the German town of Hamelin in the Middle Ages. In the 19th century the story was immortalised in the famous poem by Robert Browning, a Rosicrucian, and books telling the tale are still firm favourites with children.

According to the popular legend, in 1376 the town of Hamelin became infested with rats. In medieval times the danger to the health of the population from infestations of rats was very serious. They carried diseases including the dreaded Black Death or bubonic plague. The town council was therefore desperate to get rid of the rodents and the mayor put up a large reward payable to anyone who could solve the town's problem.

A stranger arrived in Hamelin shortly afterwards and offered to take on the task. He was a tall thin man, dressed in part-coloured clothes and a long cloak and carried a pipe or flute.

The piper agreed the price for his services with the town council and proceeded about his work. He walked through the streets playing his pipe and, to the amazement of the populace, rats of all colours and sizes began to appear from their hiding holes.

The creatures formed a huge procession behind the dancing piper, hypnotised by the unearthly music he was playing. He led the entranced rodents down to the nearby River Weser where the rats all jumped into the river and drowned.

His mission completed, the Pied Piper returned to the market square where the council was assembled and asked for his fee. However, now that all the rats were dead and the danger to the town had passed, the council refused to pay the stranger his well-earned reward. When he protested they told him that if he did not like it he could do his worst.

The piper took this news calmly and a wry smile flickered around his thin lips. Again he placed his pipe to his mouth and began to play.

This time, to the horror of the townspeople, it was not rats that he conjured but their children. They left their homes and merrily followed the Pied Piper through the streets, laughing and dancing to the wonderful music he played.

## Spellbound

The people of Hamelin tried to stop the procession but found themselves spellbound as the long lines of children followed the stranger out of the town and into the surrounding countryside. More children joined the procession from farms and villages on the way.

The mayor and his council stood powerless as the Pied Piper led the children to a hill outside the town. An opening appeared in the hillside and the piper led his flock inside. It closed behind them and that

was the last the people of Hamelin saw of their children or the mysterious stranger.

Various theories have been put forward to explain away the weird events at Hamelin as a historical occurrence. One theory is that the children were all killed by the plague when it swept through Europe in the 14th century.

Another theory suggests it was a folk memory of the so-called Children's Crusade, 200 years earlier, when a mad hermit collected children from all over Europe and led them on a crusade to the Holy Land. Most died en route and very few returned to tell the tale.

Another suggestion has a more esoteric provenance and associates the legend with Germanic myths about Woden, leader of the Wild Hunt, his consort Holda and their Otherworldly home in a hollow hill. Celtic and Germanic myths about the entrance to faeryland or the underworld being a cave leading to a hollow hill or mound are common.

Such myths are usually associated with an underworld goddess, the Earth Mother, and the hollow hill is symbolic of her womb. Belief in the 'sacred mountain' where initiation or enlightenment was granted to a human seeker by a supernatural figure also survived in medieval Rosicrucianism which flourished in Germany.

The famous German legend bringing together all these mythic elements is that of Tannhauser and Venus. In this story Tannhauser is a pure Christian knight and minstrel who was riding through the night to attend a song contest the next day.



As he approached the mountain known as the Venusberg or Horselberg, the minstrel heard strange and unearthly music coming from a cave in the hillside. Standing at the entrance of the cave in the Moonlight was the most beautiful woman he had ever seen.

### Entranced

Tannhauser was completely entranced by the music and the beauty of the woman. As if under a spell, he followed her into the cave which led to the centre of the hill.

There Tannhauser found that he was in the realm of the goddess Venus. Although he tried to escape her clutches, the knight spent seven years inside the hollow hill feasting and making love to its fairy inhabitants.

In what may be a later addition to the legend, Tannhauser is said to have finally escaped by invoking the help of the Virgin Mary. He immediately rode South to Rome to confess his sins and beg forgiveness from the Pope.

Unfortunately, as soon as the pontiff heard his story and how he had been the lover of a pagan goddess, he refused to absolve the minstrel. Tannhauser fled Rome in despair and returned to Horselberg.

No sooner had he entered the cave than a papal messenger arrived to say that the Pope had changed his mind, convinced of the knight's innocence, and would pardon him his sins. But this message came too late and Tannhauser was doomed to eternity in Venusberg living a life of feasting, dancing and sexual pleasure.

In 1500 the Horselberg was mentioned in an Italian witch

trial. A peasant told the court he had often visited 'the mount of Venus' wherein dwelt 'Donna Herodias.' The doorway to the hollow hill was guarded by a snake and an old man and inside he had seen Tannhauser and Venus.

In 1630 another accused witch from Hesse in Germany confessed that he too had visited Horselberg and met 'Frau Holda.' She had made him look into a bowl of water where he saw the faces of dead men and taught him the secret lore of herbs.

Frau Holda, Donna Herodias and Dame Venus are all popular medieval names for the goddess of the witches in Central Europe. She was the leader of the Heljagd or Wild Hunt and in the 10th century the Church condemned 'wicked women' who believed they 'rode at night times with Diana, goddess of the pagans, or with Herodias.'

Holda, the Winter goddess, appears in fairy tales as Old Mother Goose who flies across the Midwinter sky scattering snowflakes from her wings. She is also connected with Freya, the goddess of love and equivalent of Venus in Nordic mythology.

The male leader of the Wild Hunt in Central and Northern Europe was Odin or Woden. Between Hallowe'en (October 31st) and Imbolc or Candlemas (February 2nd) he led his hell hounds to hunt down the souls of the dead and take them to the underworld.

Unbaptised children were his particular prey and their spirits could be seen in his procession across the night sky. The Wild Hunt was especially active dur-

ing the 12 days of Yule and for this reason Woden was identified with Father Christmas.

Originally that jolly old man had a sinister side for he only gave gifts to good children. Those who had been naughty during the year would be punished or taken away.

A similar legend was connected with Holda who kept naughty children at the bottom of her well. She allegedly had a cottage in the wildwood, which was the original of the gingerbread cottage owned by the old witch in the fairy tale of Hansel and Gretel.

### Ancient beliefs

In the legend of the Pied Piper of Hamelin we can see the survival of ancient beliefs about the Winter god and goddess represented by Woden and Holda. The Pied Piper got his name from the strange clothing he wore which is similar to the costume worn by Harlequin, the leader of the Wild Hunt or Faery Rade in France.

The unearthly music of his piping is like the whistling of the wind in the trees on a stormy night and Woden's name means 'wind.' The rats and the children he leads away are symbolic of the souls of the dead who are gathered up by the Wild Hunt. Finally, their ultimate destination is the Hollow Hill, the underworld of Celtic and Nordic mythology ruled over by the Dark Goddess.

So the next time you read a fairy tale to your children and hear the wind in the trees outside on a Winter's night, consider that perhaps these simple childhood tales have a hidden depth and conceal mysteries which are as old as humankind.

escape some kind of despair in his life.

In fact there is yet another indication of karma and destiny wrapped up in this card's dire influences. Each person in his long journey through many lives passes through each zodiac sign, all 12 of them. He also will have to pass through each house of that sign or, at the very least, each sign has to pass through each of the 12 houses of a horoscope.

Thus he will experience varying reactions to the same kind of emotional situation. Once this is done, once the many lives have been lived, the need for this dreadful phase will pass. But it has to be experienced.

One writer on the Tarot suggested that the best attribute of the Nine of Swords would allow a new life to emerge from

the intense suffering. The worst that would happen would be a complete cutting off from any hope or comfort, such isolation being part of the recovery process.

Most writers emphasise the negative aspects of the card, quite rightly so, but they do tend to predict disasters, misery, anxiety and doubt to such an extent that there seems to be no way out whatsoever.

A few commentators on the Tarot have suggested that some religious aspect is responsible for the overall despair that cannot be refuted or from which one cannot move away. Certainly, in medieval times, the Inquisition would have been responsible for much of the kind of unquenchable sorrow caused.

So even this comment has its relevance. Even today, reli-

gious persecution or seemingly unnecessary decisions by a religious body or perhaps by an established Church can cause such bigoted, inflamed, inhumane effects that anyone looking on would find it unbelievable that such despair could be so caused. But it happens, not only in the Christian religions but outside of them too.

The only source of light in all this despair is the promise that it will pass eventually. It is the waiting and the actual period of going through it all that seems unending. That ending will come; but only once the soul has been seared and the punishment of the gods worked through.

A terrible time but, once it is over and once one has recovered from it, as one will, then it leads to a new personal renaissance.

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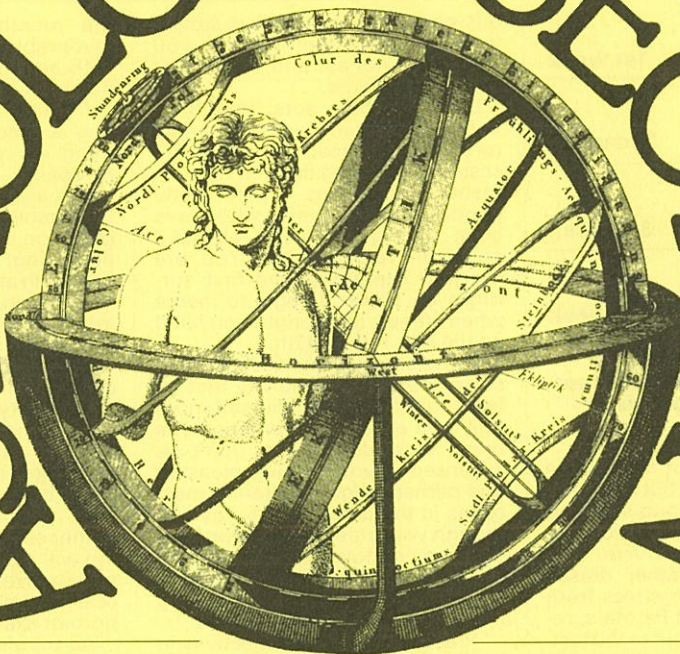
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# ASTROLOGY SECTION



## JULY

### ELEMENTS OF GLAMOUR

The much increased activity of Venus around the New Moon on the 4th suggests that something glamorous will take precedence in the media now. As Venus is in Leo and linking with Uranus this is likely to be unexpected, probably concerning the royal family. Perhaps significantly, this Venus-Uranus factor sits directly across the Ascendant of Prince Charles' horoscope. Intriguing events are afoot!

Alternatively, this could forecast a bumper time for the film industries with new box-office successes breaking records and perhaps a new star.

During the second and into the third week Mercury forms rather galvanic contacts with several other planets, making this a time of great activity, new ideas and, above all, important discoveries in the realms of science — perhaps especially in astronomy and the tapping of new forms of energy.

On a social and political level, educational matters are likely to be brought into sharp focus with much conflicting opinion on the pros and cons of modern versus traditional methods in the teaching of young

people. As Leo is involved here, the main theme of controversy is likely to centre on the need for a more hard-headed and authoritarian approach — almost certain to get a lot of people up in arms. It will be extremely interesting to see the outcome of any debates about educational methods for we may see new and perhaps revolutionary schemes emerging.

The Full Moon on the 20th falls close to Neptune, signalling a rather nebulous phase in the political sphere, not without danger of deception, sculdugery and scandal. With a Full Moon something will come to light which is likely to create unease in the public conscience. Neptune often has significant bearing on health, particularly in the wider environment. We may hear a great deal about the need for a clean-up operation in the seas and waterways.

Towards the end of the month Mars and Saturn are at odds with each other, indicating a stalemate in regard to major diplomatic initiatives aimed at preventing further armed conflict in a country that has been in a state of tension for some time past.

Whatever happens in July, it does seem that the media will be having something of a field day!

### Remus

### HOW TO READ THE SYMBOLS

At the side of each monthly forecast in the following pages are different symbols, representing the various matters that may affect you.

Here is the key: *Heart*: love affairs. *£ sign*: money and material matters. *Sword*: quarrels and disputes. *Sun's face*: health. *Letters*: correspondence and documents. *Linked*

*rings*: partnerships. *House*: domestic matters. *Suitcase*: travel. *Black cat*: general good luck.

These symbols indicate the highlights of the four phases of the month as interpreted by the above key. For example a sword and a heart together stand for disputes about love. The sword by itself would mean disputes in general. Letters on the same line as the Sun would refer to a document concerning health matters. The symbols are, therefore, an additional guide to the trends prevailing in your affairs.

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# ARIES

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MARCH 21 TO APRIL 20



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

**You may be forced to confront any unresolved emotional tensions in July.**

Such matters may not loom large until late in the month but it certainly looks as if a fairly long-standing relationship will need attention and readjustment if it is to survive.

This may sound rather drastic but with Saturn under stress from Mars in your House of Partners, relationships are being put to the test. If there's a strong foundation here, then all's well but if there are obvi-

ous personal conflicts that simply won't go away, then perhaps you should be honest and admit that it's a losing game.

On a brighter note, you have Venus moving in favourable angle to your sign most of the month, casting a pleasing light on new romantic possibilities — particularly good news for those who have been through a rather stressful phase in relationships. You are likely to experience the first stirrings of better things to come when Venus is strongly activated on the 4th, 15th or 17th.

These are excellent days, too, for social life and any activity that allows you to express yourself more fully and enjoy life. As Mercury is much in evidence, too, don't be surprised if you receive pleasant and perhaps highly flattering messages in the latter half of July! Although your ruler in your opposite sign may denote greater potential for confrontation, it also indicates increased scope for strengthening links and establishing alliances.

Practical aims and objectives in business, career and creative pursuits are due for a boost earlier in

the month and when Mars is favourably aspected on the 15th, 17th and 26th. These are the best dates for activities requiring team spirit and close co-operation, getting a message across or drumming up support for a special campaign.

It is also significant that Mars is favourably placed at the New Moon on the 4th, signalling a new beginning, either in domestic affairs or in areas which engage your creative energies intensively. This is a fine time to focus creativity upon the domestic sphere by changing and embellishing your immediate surroundings.

Creativity is also a keyword in educational interests in the latter half of July. If you have been studying hard over the past year, you'll begin to find that the knowledge you have gathered pulls together easily and your understanding will make a subtle transition to a new level. It is definitely a successful time for those taking important examinations.

As the month draws to a close, journeys to or from will provide a great deal of mental stimulation.

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# TAURUS

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APRIL 21 TO MAY 20



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

**After several months of hard slog certain tasks are coming to completion.**

Throughout July you are still likely to be busy but you'll feel something tangible to show for your past efforts and dedication. Whether in your work or some other line of interest, you'll feel that things are moving in a clearer direction for the future.

Basically, you have a highly constructive astrological pattern when your best qualities such as deter-

mination and patience will put you at an advantage. By focusing your energies you'll make tremendous headway and see certain obstacles disappear as if by magic.

Matters close to home are highlighted while both Mercury and Venus make a transit of your 4th Solar House during the second and third weeks. Not only does this point to a lively state of affairs at home but also to delightful get-togethers, probably with old friends whom you have not seen for ages. Expect celebrations when these planets are strongly activated on the 17th — an excellent date for entertaining.

Family and filial ties will benefit and it is unlikely that any emotional tensions will persist beyond mid month. If there have been misunderstandings, now is as good a time as any to put things right.

Relations between Tauran parents and their offspring will be good and you may have reason to feel extremely pleased at developments connected with a member of the household — a possible cause for celebration.

As the underlying trend focuses

strongly on practical matters, this home emphasis also means that property dealings will run smoothly — not only buying and selling but improvements also. A better financial situation will probably give the incentive to push ahead here and the Mercury/Venus transit is particularly helpful for younger or newly wed Taureans setting up home for the first time.

From a completely different angle, the cosmic pattern suggests a strengthening of your inner self. If you have been struggling with deep uncertainties about this and your aspirations you should soon begin to see a new level of self-assurance. Taureans interested in spiritual and esoteric knowledge should make good progress now but remember that there are no instant results in these matters.

Your health should be in fine fettle throughout the month. However, an adverse angle between Mars and Saturn late month warns you to take things a bit easier.

All in all, the events and developments in July indicate that your life is becoming established on a much firmer foundation.

# GEMINI

MAY 21 TO JUNE 20



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

**Focus your energies on the here and now and bring your goals into clear perspective.**

The pattern of planets indicates that your creative potentials are on the increase, inclining you to be more adventurous in your chosen interests. If you're aiming to carve a more independent niche for yourself, now is the time to go for it!

From the early days of the month you will notice that the pace of life gathers momentum and that the spotlight will be very much on

you. People are likely to make extra demands but your energy level is high, enabling you to cope. The New Moon on the 4th signals a change for the better in finances — a major contribution to the feeling that things are moving ahead.

Mercury continues to favour commercial interests during the first week when communications will be important and encouraging. Watch your step, though, on the 7th when Mercury's opposition to Neptune brings a danger of deception and loss through carelessness. Be wary of con artists!

Whatever desirable changes you are hoping for, you have much in your favour for decisive action in the weeks ahead. Having Mars in favourable angle to your sign all month you can expect that luck and initiative are combined. Don't be afraid to act boldly if you can alter things to your advantage. You will get the distinct feeling that the pattern of events is working with rather than against you.

The best dates for important actions and decisions are the 1st, 5th, 11th, 15th, 17th, 26th and 30th. Don't be afraid to take a few risks if

you know that this is not likely to antagonise anyone. These dates are also extremely propitious for those involved in sports. Luck is definitely smiling on your endeavours in the final week of July.

Taking a broad angle of vision, it could be said that Geminians are moving into a time when certain limitations are lifting and new horizons beckon. Indeed, the theme of new horizons could apply quite literally for there is tremendous emphasis on far-flung travel in the month ahead.

Important journeys for business or educational pursuits are particularly favoured around mid month and on the 26th. But if your journeys are for pleasure and relaxation, it is unlikely that you'll be disappointed. The only dates when journeys may suffer disruption are the 19th and 29th. If you are going far, make doubly sure all documents are in order. If possible, avoid these dates for setting out.

Towards the end of the month the number of visitors to your home will increase and it seems you'll be welcoming them with open arms!

# CANCER

JUNE 21 TO JULY 20



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

**Improvements in both personal and joint financial matters are likely in July.**

You'll find that these encouraging developments give you greater self-confidence which will react favourably on the important relationships in your life. It's a month when what you ultimately want out of life will be brought into clear focus. You'll be able to clarify the direction of your career or other main aims and make a firmer resolution about the future.

Career interests are bound to take on added significance while Saturn occupies a dominant area of your Solar chart. Very often this denotes a time of transition when what has gone before becomes a potential stepping-stone to new developments.

Sooner or later a major decision may have to be faced — whether to stick to the old routine or trust your luck with something new. Only you can gauge this from the totality of your current situation. If you are feeling dissatisfied with your work maybe this is your cue to act.

If money is your main concern, take assurance from the fact that astrologically you are very much in favour. Don't make any hasty moves but between now and late 1997 a new door is likely to open, giving you a chance to change your lifestyle for the better.

Cancerians are very concerned with matters of security so, when it comes to making decisions affecting career or finance, you are cautious. However, the astrological pattern is becoming very supportive and you should take seriously any fresh opportunities now.

Staying with security, this is a favourable month for property interests and anything that has to do with sound, long-term investments. Indeed, it is a splendid month for moving house.

The sooner you get the ball rolling, the better for you have Mars adding a very progressive flavour to these matters. Take special advantage of unusually lucky trends on the 14th and 26th, especially if looking for a suitable property. Any long-standing problems here are likely to be resolved successfully before the month is out.

As this is the birthday month for most Cancerians, the pattern will be significant for the following 12 months. The underlying trend is extremely constructive, suggesting positive changes in both career and domestic affairs. There may be disruption at some point but any major change is almost certain to be for the better.

Finally, there are a few danger signals later in the month warning you to take special care of health and guard against accidents in the home. Definitely refuse to do anything in too much of a hurry!

# LEO

JULY 21 TO AUGUST 21



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

**After a rather uninspiring phase in your love life, things seem set to change for the better in July.**

With Venus voyaging through your sign your powers of attraction will be greatly enhanced and this, coupled with a burgeoning of your social life, will provide plenty of scope for finding new romance.

At the very start of the month Venus throws a powerful angle to mysterious Pluto, giving more than a hint that something quite

spectacular is about to happen. A short journey or a message from a friend could put you in touch with someone special.

The only proviso is the adverse angle between Venus and Uranus on the 5th. You may have to be careful that you don't go completely overboard in affairs of the heart otherwise you may frighten the other person away. Better to be subtle — you don't have to put on a Leonine show if love is real.

With such a tremendous emphasis on close personal relationships now, there is greater potential for new affairs to stand the test of time. Jupiter in a helpful area of your Solar chart ensures that you will ultimately achieve your hopes and wishes of a suitable long-term partner. Jupiter sits well with Saturn in mid July, making this an ideal time for weddings — particularly for Leos of more mature years or starting a second marriage.

From another angle, Venus in your sign will help you to express yourself and make good use of your creative abilities. All activities associated with the arts and entertainment are likely to bring satisfac-

tion and success in the coming weeks. Take special note of the 1st, 4th, 15th and 17th.

One date when you will need to be more strict with yourself is the 21st. Neptune is liable to confuse issues and there is danger that carelessness will create a misunderstanding. Don't promise more than you can deliver.

Apart from this, it's a fairly fast-moving month when your path will be relatively clear of obstacles. At times you may find it hard to keep up but it seems that you'll easily cope with fresh challenges and will revel in the greater diversity.

Indeed, there will be wider scope for altering your routines and making use of abilities that perhaps you have neglected over the past year. Better still if you have planned a far-flung excursion in July. Any effort to get away from the familiar is certain to have favourable effects on your physical and psychological well-being. However, be prepared for minor frustrations in travel on the 29th.

Altogether, the month ahead promises much in the way of romance, friendship and pleasure.

# VIRGO

AUGUST 22 TO SEPTEMBER 22



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

**The pressures ease in July, giving greater scope for leisure and relaxation.**

Virgoans tend to over-identify with their work and get very worried if they're not giving their best or not available when people need them. Everything won't fall to pieces if you go off duty for a while. Take advantage of the helpful trends between the 8th and 27th for this is one of the best times in the year for recharging your batteries and getting in touch with your inner self.

Strangely enough, you'll probably make best progress by taking a more relaxed attitude towards work, money and everyday life. Take time out to do some quiet thinking and meditation. This will help to get things in perspective and be deeply therapeutic.

This doesn't imply that practical affairs are going to fade into insignificance. In finance and business you can expect things to go ahead nicely. Cash flow will be fairly brisk at times and there may be a need to keep this under control. But overall it looks as if any major outgoing will be made good very quickly and perhaps unexpectedly.

Events behind the scenes early in the month are likely to have interesting repercussions in the near future, perhaps an advancement in your career. Equally, it might have a more emotional impact in the shape of a new romance. If it's the latter, then you'll probably get some hints around mid month but, once Venus enters your sign on the 23rd, you can expect these to turn into something real!

However, this is no reason for complacency in existing relation-

ships. The Full Moon on the 20th is an emotionally sensitive point.

If things have shifted slightly off key just lately, it will be useless to blame the other person. Maybe you have been putting your expectations of your partner too high and have begun to be critical. Confront these issues clearly and honestly and you've a good chance of pulling through.

This is an appropriate time to face up to your deep insecurities so that you don't go on making the mistake of believing that finding the right partner will solve all your problems like magic. Cultivate inner strength. Then you can expect well founded relationships.

Friends are likely to play a vital role in the first three weeks of the month. You can certainly count on their co-operation and support if you are organising activities that have to do with community affairs, clubs or group activities. Don't be afraid to ask favours.

Finally, a property matter or an investment may need careful attention late month. Make sure you are in agreement with those nearest to you.

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# LIBRA

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SEPTEMBER 23 TO OCTOBER 22



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

**If you made a false start earlier in the year, you'll get back on the right track in July.**

Alternatively, you may have been contemplating a new project which, up until now, has lacked the right openings. Whatever the case, you can now expect better progress and your self-confidence will increase considerably!

This positive state of affairs is shown by the transit of Mars through your sign, signalling a time for fresh initiative and a bold

approach to life. Although you may find that extra demands are made and that you have to meet new challenges, it looks as if you'll cope. You can make optimal use of time and energy by focusing on priorities, defining goals and going all out for what you really want.

Dates when Mars is strongest are the 1st, 4th, 15th, 17th, 21st, 26th and 30th. So make your best efforts then for speedy and successful results. The prevailing pattern is extremely supportive, particularly of co-operation and leadership. Also, as Mars is a very physical planet, his good aspects are very favourable for areas such as sport and athletics.

There are just two dates when this energy could get out of hand or backfire on you. Firstly, the 12th when you'll need to tread tactfully with colleagues. If you are in a position of authority, this is not a good time to throw your weight around or take people for granted.

On the 26th close personal relationships may come under stress. The situation will give rise to a conflict of loyalties and you'll be hard pressed to keep everyone happy.

However, if in doubt, pay more attention to loved ones rather than outside social commitments. Nobody will think the worse of you for a polite refusal.

It promises to be a pleasing month ahead for the romantically inclined. Much suggests that hopes and wishes will be realised. If you have been in the doldrums of a negative emotional experience, you should begin to see your way to better times. What you experience around the New Moon on the 4th might seem insignificant but may develop quickly into a new and highly satisfying love affair.

The trend not only favours single Librans seeking their affinity but all close and established ties of love and affection should gather vitality and strength. However, if you're planning to marry, avoid the final week of July if possible — the portents are not so good!

Financially, co-operative ventures are likely to bring you great success. Remember, though, that it's your initiative that is most important. You have excellent opportunity to prove wrong those who believe that you are indecisive!

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# SCORPIO

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OCTOBER 23 TO NOVEMBER 22



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

**Don't count your chickens before they are hatched!**

The zodiac pattern is certainly not against you but it's very much a case of knowing when you are likely to tread on other people's toes. With Mars traversing the 12th sector of your Solar chart, there is an increased risk of antagonising others and creating hidden rivalry. Your actions or opinions could easily be misconstrued so reflect on the possible consequences of what you say and do.

If disagreements do arise — likely when Mars is in adverse aspect on the 12th, 25th and 26th — take a firm but tactful approach. Someone may accuse you of being too self-centred. If there is truth in this, it's a good time to confront the issue with a little self-criticism.

The more open and honest you can be about your own deeper motives and what you expect from others, the better for all concerned this month. Mars gives a warning against underhanded behaviour which is almost certain to have a negative reaction on yourself.

Financially, the prospects are encouraging. With both Mercury and Venus riding high in your chart you can expect that any obstacles will not be too difficult to overcome. These planets are extremely helpful to those seeking suitable employment or a change of career. Enquiries or applications are likely to meet with an encouraging response. And if you are attending an important interview around mid month, luck is on your side.

A potentially tricky phase falls around the Full Moon on the 20th. As Neptune is much in evidence at

this time, don't make any speedy decisions if the situation is unclear. Neptune can indicate wishful thinking and self-deception so there is a need for realism in regard to your capabilities. If you attempt to bluff your way through a situation it will not work.

There is a continuing focus on domestic affairs throughout July. Indeed the whole of 1997 is likely to be significant for major changes are likely in home life. Although an element of upheaval cannot be ruled out, the longer term prospect is decidedly favourable. Uranus at the lower angle of your chart points to sudden or unexpected changes. But with Jupiter dominant here you'll land on your feet.

Uranus will incline you to restlessness, particularly if you feel restricted by your current domestic environment. You'll crave greater independence and will probably want to get rid of clutter.

However, any efforts you make towards improving this situation will almost certainly work out in your favour so don't be afraid to take a bold approach if you wish to improve your lifestyle.

# SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 TO DECEMBER 20



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

## Venus forms a powerful link with Pluto in your sign as July arrives.

This indicates either an important journey or news about what the future may hold. Events to do with Pluto are often unusual, far-reaching and emotionally disturbing.

However, there's no need for alarm bells because the trends are beneficial. If there is emotional disturbance this could be due to a new love affair. Indeed, there are indications that a journey will have

a fateful connection with new romance in the month ahead.

In many ways the prevailing pattern puts you very much in your own element. The underlying theme of the month puts strong emphasis on the urge to widen your horizons. Travel is highlighted on the 1st, 4th, 6th, 19th and 26th when there is also a favourable accent on friendships, social life and romance.

The one exception is later in the month when sudden disruptions are likely to upset travel plans. Take special care on the 29th when all things mechanical are likely to give you some hassle.

There is also a proviso in affairs of the heart. Although the prospect is encouraging, this is not a good time to be flippant and flirtatious. Saturn demands a more serious approach now which means that the casual flirtation and the proverbial holiday romance are likely to leave you feeling disappointed.

Significant relationships are very much in the lap of the gods. If something isn't right, then you'll very quickly find out about it. But if it is right, you'll get the distinct

feeling that the Fates are lending a helping hand!

From a different angle, the urge to widen your horizons may also be felt as a need to improve your knowledge and make deeper explorations into the realms of the mind. Your intuition and imagination are working well now, yielding fresh insight and creativity. Any such activity will be positive for your personality and friendships.

Those interested in quests of a more spiritual nature are especially favoured in July for you will be helped along your chosen path by meeting up with like-minded individuals. It's an excellent time to join groups or associations designed to further such aims and interests.

There is a need for care in dealing with finances around the 20th. Something of a legal and official nature may cause some problems but it would be unwise to neglect such matters or try to take short cuts — particularly if this has some bearing on a business interest or joint financial arrangement.

Apart from this, you can expect an exciting and inspiring month ahead.

# CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 21 TO JANUARY 19



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

## July is potentially very progressive for Capricornians.

However, there may be times when you are inclined to make too many demands on others. You do like to be in control but, as Mars is a dominant feature now, it will be only too easy to create antagonisms by attempting to lay down the law for everyone else. Provided you keep this in mind and give people plenty of leeway, you can expect to achieve your aims with ease this month.

Mercury's aspect to your ruler early month indicates a need for patience in dealing with official matters and agreements. Discussions are likely to reach a stalemate and maybe you will be obliged to seriously reconsider your proposals — especially if this has to do with business or a contract.

Once past the New Moon on the 4th you can expect that all communications will begin to run more smoothly. If you wish to discuss important matters, better results will be achieved then.

Any financial problems that have dogged you over the past month or so will be finally settled once Mercury changes signs on the 8th — but don't be afraid to put up a fight if you feel that you have a valid claim to make. Also, tread carefully on the 12th when something unexpected could upset financial arrangements. If in doubt, bide your time and don't make any hasty decisions.

The most favourable dates for money matters are the 15th, 17th, 21st and 26th when you or your partner are likely to receive encouraging news. These are splen-

did dates for seeking financial advice. Whatever happens in the latter half of the month, chances are you'll have extra cash from an added bonus or lucky windfall.

The need for a more secure foundation in your domestic situation has probably become an important factor over the past year or so. The good news is that you will soon be in a position to bring about changes towards which you have been working. Efforts to improve your home surroundings and family life will meet with success and you can expect that any obstacles to property transactions will be overcome during July.

However, take care around the home on the 29th when an adverse aspect between Mars and Saturn flashes a danger of accidents. Family relations may also become strained due to external demands.

Although practical demands will tend to fill every available minute in July, you can expect the pace to ease towards the month end. If you have planned a break then, so much the better. There is a very pleasant spotlight on far-flung journeys late month.

# AQUARIUS

JANUARY 20 TO FEBRUARY 18



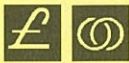
1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

## Venus in your House of Partners until the 23rd augurs well for close relationships and new romantic affairs.

You will experience deeper harmony and understanding through close ties of affection as well as in ordinary friendships. If there has been any emotional tension recently, you will find it easy to set the balance straight now.

As there is a serious emphasis on personal relationships in July, new romantic attachments are like-

ly to be more than just a passing fancy. Sudden and unexpected developments around the 5th may have quite a profound emotional impact. For a time this might knock you off balance and throw your whole life into a new perspective.

Everything seems to point to an appointment with destiny — if not around the 5th, then in the very near future. And the greatest likelihood is that this will be in the shape of a new romance. Whatever happens, someone significant is about to enter your orbit.

As Mercury is active in your opposite sign between the 8th and 27th you can expect others to have a mentally stimulating influence on you. Talks, discussions, interviews and anything to do with exchange of news and views will somehow operate in your favour. Even casual conversations could turn out to be very inspiring.

The favourable position of Mars puts further emphasis on your mental energies, making this a highly progressive month for all activities that take your mind beyond the confines of the everyday. Academically-minded Aquarians

are certain to find this a time of progress and creativity. Ideas and information that you have been developing will fall into place easily and, if you are taking exams or are interested in publication, there is much to suggest great success.

Jupiter in your sign helps greatly to enrich and broaden your philosophy and experience. Even if you are not pursuing a particular line of inquiry, this will nevertheless be a time of learning. Through someone you meet, a journey or a group activity the indications are of different perspectives and ideas that you have not previously looked into taking on unusual significance.

This process of mental awakening is of course helped greatly by Uranus (your ruler) in your sign. This is extremely helpful to Aquarians pursuing a spiritual path or aiming for an alternative lifestyle and greater independence. Here, too, July could be important for meeting up with kindred spirits.

You will definitely be feeling very energetic and adventurous throughout the month so, if you're taking a far-flung trip, you'll have the zest to enjoy it to the full.

# PISCES

FEBRUARY 19 TO MARCH 20



1st week



2nd week



3rd week



4th week

## Don't be discouraged if you experience a setback in finances early in the month.

This will probably be a blessing in disguise because it will help you to see the situation in better perspective and show you where you may have been misguided.

The underlying trend in money matters is forward-looking so it's unlikely that you'll succumb to the vagaries of the financial world. It's an excellent month for weighing the pros and cons of various in-

vestments, joint commitments or longer-term business projects.

Saturn in the money sector of your Solar chart shows that success and benefits accrue from a longer view and being very organised. This planet may make you hyper-cautious with money but you can afford to be adventurous now that Mars is helping things along.

The most propitious dates for such matters and property interests are the 1st, 4th, 5th, 14th, 15th, 17th and 26th. Also, you are more likely to get a positive response than if applying for a job or seeking special information.

The good thing about Saturn is that you will begin to feel the benefits of past experience, especially when it comes to improving your work prospects. Though this may not be the appropriate time to launch out in a completely new direction, it would do no harm to explore your options. It's very much a time for establishing firm foundations and realising that you are capable of taking on a more high-powered and responsible position.

While practical issues do take precedence throughout July, this

does not mean that there will be no scope for leisure. However, it is not until after the 23rd that the demands of everyday living ease off. From then on you will begin to feel that you can relax more. If you have planned a holiday for late month so much the better.

Close personal relationships receive a more encouraging emphasis later in July. Now that Mars is clear of your House of Partners you will feel increasingly settled and contented with established ties.

Venus begins to take over, signalling the end of emotional tensions and the disappearance of obstacles that may have blocked marriage plans. Single Pisceans are likely to find new romance — something more satisfactory and lasting than for quite some time.

Healthwise, you'll do yourself a disservice if you let others exploit you, particularly in the second week. Refuse to be lumbered with added chores or you'll end up feeling exhausted and resentful.

You have a highly constructive month ahead and will be encouraged greatly by a powerful undercurrent of helpful cosmic energy.

# Lunar Lore Gardening

## JULY

- 1** Dry, slightly above average temperatures toward month end with possible extremes of weather in fourth week.
- 2**
- 3** After 18.34 hours mulch vegetables.
- 4** Mulch plants with lawn clippings.
- 5** Use only organic fertiliser.
- 6** After 03.46 hours trap and kill off pests.
- 7** Spray and destroy weeds.
- 8** After 15.23 hours clip and trim privet hedges.
- 9** Train out new shoots on loganberries and blackberries.
- 10** Continue all day.
- 11** After 04.22 hours cuttings may be taken from most roses.
- 12** Continue all day.
- 13** After 16.21 hours overhaul rock gardens generally.
- 14** Replenish rock garden soil, remove dead/fading plants.
- 15** Continue all day.
- 16** After 01.03 hours spray fruit trees and vegetable plants.
- 17** Continue all day.
- 18** Continue until 05.46 hours.
- 19, 20, 21, 22, 23**
- 24** After 09.04 hours pick runner beans, gather in herbs.
- 25** Continue all day.
- 26** After 11.54 hours prune back old fruit trees hard.
- 27** Check plum trees for silver leaf, cut out and burn.
- 28** Continue until 17.05 hours.
- 29, 30, 31**

**VICTORIA MATTHEWS**

**Greenwich Mean Time has been used throughout**

# The Planets This Month

- ☉ **The Sun** begins July in 9° 12' Cancer and enters Leo on the 22nd at 19.16 hours. It ends the month at 7° 50' of the Lion.
- ☾ **The Moon** is New on the 4th at 18.41 hours with the First Quarter on the 12th at 21.45 hours. The Full Moon is on the 20th at 03.21 hours and the Last Quarter is on the 26th at 18.29 hours.  
As the month opens the Moon is in 23° 32' Taurus and enters Gemini later on the first day at 11.36 hours. It then enters Cancer on the 3rd at 18.34 hours; Leo on the 6th at 03.46 hours; Virgo on the 8th at 15.23 hours; Libra on the 11th at 04.22 hours; Scorpio on the 13th at 16.21 hours; Sagittarius on the 16th at 01.03 hours; Capricorn on the 18th at 05.46 hours; Aquarius on the 20th at 07.30 hours; Pisces on the 22nd at 08.01 hours; Aries on the 24th at 09.04 hours; Taurus on the 26th at 11.54 hours; Gemini on the 28th at 17.05 hours; Cancer on the 31st at 00.39 hours where it ends the month.
- ☿ **Mercury** begins July in 15° 28' Cancer and enters Leo on the 8th at 05.29 hours. It passes quickly through that sign and enters Virgo on the 27th at 00.43 hours. It ends the month at 4° 27' of the Maiden.
- ♀ **Venus** begins the month in 2° 42' Leo and enters Virgo on the 23rd at 13.18 hours. It ends the month at 8° 57' of the Maiden.
- ♂ **Mars** is in 5°21' Libra as July opens and by the month end has reached 21° 25' of the Scales.
- ♃ **Jupiter** spends the month retrograde in Aquarius. It retreats from 21° 15' on the first day to 18° 14' of the Water Bearer by the last day.
- ♄ **Saturn** spends July in Aries and advances from 19° 31' on the 1st to 20° 21' on the 31st.
- ♅ **Uranus** is retrograde all month in Aquarius and retreats from 7° 47' on the first day to 6° 39' on the last day.
- ♆ **Neptune** is retrograde in Capricorn throughout July. It retreats from 29° 6' on the 1st to only 28° 18' of the Goat by the 31st.
- ♇ **Pluto** is retrograde in Sagittarius all month and retreats from 3° 19' on the first day to only 2° 53' by the month end.

**All positions are for 00.00 hours GMT.**

# Reading the Aspectarian

In the aspectarian we list the principal Lunar and mutual aspects for each day of the month. A Lunar aspect is a specific distance, measured in degrees, between the Moon and a planet; a mutual aspect is between one planet and another, excluding the Moon but including the Sun.

First of all memorise what the symbols stand for:

♈ Aries, ♉ Taurus, ♊ Gemini, ♋ Cancer, ♌ Leo, ♍ Virgo, ♎ Libra, ♏ Scorpio, ♐ Sagittarius, ♑ Capricorn, ♒ Aquarius, ♓ Pisces.  
☉ Sun, ☾ Moon, ☿ Mercury, ♀ Venus, ♂ Mars, ♃ Jupiter, ♄ Saturn, ♅ Uranus, ♆ Neptune, ♇ Pluto.

The major aspects:  
♁ (0°) conjunction: good or bad according to planets involved

\* (60°) sextile: generally helpful.  
◻ (90°) square: mostly challenging.  
△ (120°) trine: strongly helpful.  
♁ (180°) opposition: conflict and tension.

The minor aspects:  
⋈ (30°) semi-sextile: slightly favourable.  
⊥ (45°) semi-square: somewhat stressful.  
⊕ (72°) quintile: creativeness.  
⊞ (135°) sesqui-square: usually unfavourable.  
⋈ (150°) inconjunct or quincunx; stressful.

Each month the Moon travels right round the zodiac making every aspect to every planet at least once. When there are several aspects in one day we group them after one Moon symbol thus:

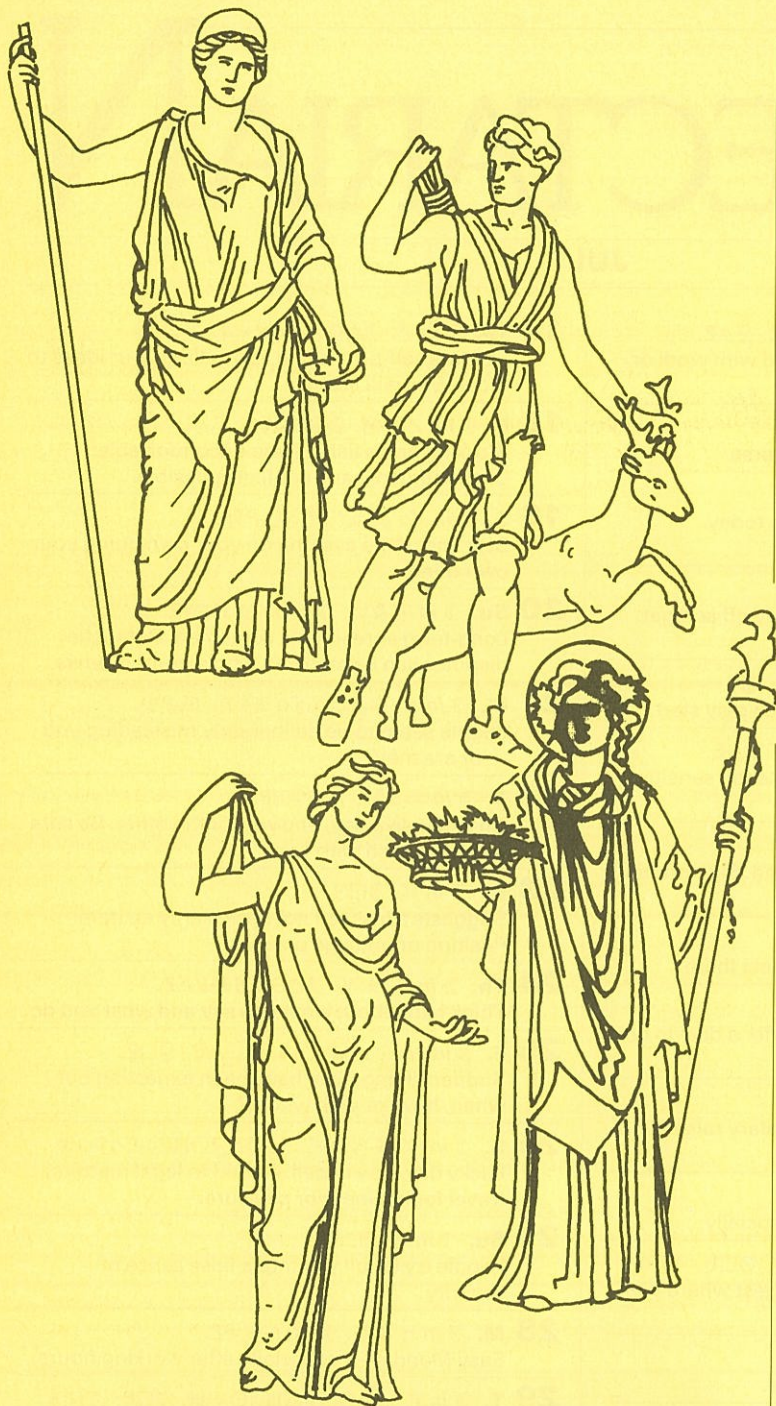
♁ △ ☉ \* ♁ ☽  
This means Moon trine Sun, Moon sextile Jupiter, Moon square Venus.



# ASPECTARIAN

JULY

- 1 T.** 》in 𐄂 & Ⅱ. 》\*♀♂♂♂♂♂♂. ♀♂♂.  
A social event possibly connected with work or career can prove profitable.
- 2 W.** 》in Ⅱ. 》\*♂♂♂♂. 𐄂♂♂.  
Communications of all kinds adverse.
- 3 Th.** 》in Ⅱ & ③. 》♂♂.  
It is worth having a small gamble today.  
Be adventurous. Take a chance.
- 4 F.** 》in ③. 》♂♂♂♂. ♀\*♂.  
Have a long weekend, take the day off and get away.
- 5 S.** 》in ③. 》♂♂♂♂. ♀♂♂. ♂♂♂.  
New friendship or even a romance may start.
- 6 Su.** 》in ③ & ④. 》♂♀\*♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂.  
Tension in the air. Could be a trifle too sensitive for the wrong reasons.
- 7 M.** 》in ④. 》♂♂♂♂♂. 𐄂♂♂.  
Judgment faulty, rumours abound. Sign nothing, postpone important decisions.
- 8 T.** 》in ④ & Ⅲ. 》♂♂.  
Bills come in when you least expect them.
- 9 W.** 》in Ⅲ. 》♂♂♂♂♂. 𐄂♂♂.  
Older, or influential folk might offer a deal to help further a pet scheme.
- 10 Th.** 》in Ⅲ. 》\*♂.  
Promotion, sideways step or a salary raise for some.
- 11 F.** 》in Ⅲ & ⑤. 》\*♂♂♂♂♂♂♂.  
A good chance for you to shine socially.
- 12 S.** 》in ⑤. 》♂♂\*♀♂♂♂♂♂♂. ③♂♂. 𐄂♂♂.  
Far too much happening to suggest where you should concentrate for the best.
- 13 Su.** 》in ⑤ & Ⅳ. 》♂♂.  
Family members unco-operative.
- 14 M.** 》in Ⅳ. 》♂♂♂♂♂. 𐄂\*♂.  
Take a line of least resistance — just be helpful rather than start anything.
- 15 T.** 》in Ⅳ. 》♂♂♂♀♂♂\*♂♂. 𐄂\*♂. ♀♂♂♂♂♂.  
Some travel adverse. Don't let others get to you.
- 16 W.** 》in Ⅳ & 𐄂. 》\*♂♂♂.  
An old problem almost solves itself. Pm hours could be profitable if out shopping.
- 17 Th.** 》in 𐄂. 》♂♂♂♂\*♂\*♂♂♂♂♂.  
Favours self-promotion and selling your ideas to those who will listen.
- 18 F.** 》in 𐄂 & ⑥. 》♂♂♂♂♂.  
Working areas liable to be uncomfortable.  
Disagreements and conflicts possible.
- 19 S.** 》in ⑥. 》♂♂♂♂♂. 𐄂♂♂.  
Best spend the evening on your own doing your own thing.
- 20 Su.** 》in ⑥ & Ⅴ. 》♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂. 𐄂♂♂.  
Long-term agreements cemented. Domestic disputes can be resolved with common sense.
- 21 M.** 》in Ⅴ. 》♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂. ③♂♂.  
People seem to be deliberately misleading you — or are they?
- 22 T.** 》in Ⅴ & Ⅳ. 》♂♂♂♂.  
An expensive day, one way or the other. Be sure you have cash with you.
- 23 W.** 》in Ⅳ. 》♂♂.  
Suggests a loss but not necessarily an item.  
Position or prestige possibly?
- 24 Th.** 》in Ⅳ & Ⅲ. 》♂♂\*♂\*♂♂♂♂♂.  
Think hard about what you say and what you do.
- 25 F.** 》in Ⅲ. 》♂♂♂\*♂♂♂♂. ③♂♂. ♀♂♂.  
Sudden change you have been expecting but when, how, or with whom?
- 26 S.** 》in Ⅲ & ⑦. 》♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂♂. ♂♂♂♂.  
Lucky day. Buy or sell. Attend to legal matters, travel for business or pleasure.
- 27 Su.** 》in ⑦. 》♂♂.  
People try to lull you into a false sense of security.
- 28 M.** 》in ⑦ & Ⅱ. 》♂♂♂♂♂♂♂.  
Easy Monday — especially after working hours.
- 29 T.** 》in Ⅱ. 》\*♂♂♂♂♂♂♂. ③♂♂. 𐄂♂♂. ♂♂♂♂.  
Plenty going on to mislead or side-track. Stick with what you planned.
- 30 W.** 》in Ⅱ. 》♂♂♂♂♂♂♂.  
Will suit entrepreneurs — those willing to take chances.
- 31 Th.** 》in ③. 》\*♂\*♂.  
Have the day for just you and your favourite person and forget all else.



**The zodiac can at times appear** predominantly masculine as most of the planets have historically been associated with male mythological figures. Until the discovery of the asteroid belt in the 19th century, the only planetary bodies which women could easily identify themselves with were Venus, the Moon and Lilith (which is considered to be Earth's ante-diluvian satellite).

While women have always made significant contributions to society, it must be stressed that they traditionally played the roles of wife and mother as illustrated by Venus and the Moon respectively. The discovery of the asteroid belt brought about a balance between masculine and feminine archetypes to bring more sexual equality in our Solar system.

It was also around this time that women began to take on more diversified roles and therefore needed other astrological indicators in what was to become a rapidly changing world. It is also worth noting that those men who have chosen to pursue careers which have traditionally been assigned to women will be able to relate to these more intuitive planetary bodies.



## **The Moon**

The Moon is the Earth's largest satellite which governs our emotional responses. It is no secret that the close proximity of the Moon to the Earth has a strong effect on our physical environment, as evidenced by the daily motion of oceanic tides and the fact that crime has a tendency to increase during the Full Moon.

The Moon relates to our emotive impulses which push us to react and in many instances it can be such a domi-

# SEEKING THE *Feminine*

by TRACY RICHARDSON

nant feature in some horoscopes that it is actually more prominent than the Sun. This may be, as many whose natal Moon is strongly aspected in their natal chart will find to be the case, the reason why some do not show a strong affinity to their natal Sun but instead relate more to Lunar impressions.

The Moon represents the relationship we have with our mother and women in general and it denotes what type of mother or parent we are likely to become. While the father is quite often associated with Saturn, those men who are more in tune with the intuitive side of themselves can just as easily identify with the Moon in relation to their parenting style.

In Greek mythology, the Moon is associated with Artemis, the virgin goddess. She was considered to be eternally young and active and was equal to any man. Artemis was the twin sister of Apollo who astrologically depicts the Sun and the pair were said to have been very close.

With these mythological considerations in mind, it should come as no surprise to conclude that the astrological signs of Leo and Cancer, ruled by the Sun and Moon respectively, reign side by side in the zodiac while the remaining five planets in the ancient Solar system progress outwardly from the royal pair.

The planetary alignment is as follows: Mercury, the first planet away from the Sun, rules Gemini and Virgo which are one sign away from the Cancer/Leo configuration respectively. Venus, the second planet away from the Sun, rules Taurus and Libra which are two signs away from the Cancer/Leo configuration respectively. Mars, the third planet from the Sun excluding Earth, rules Aries and Scorpio which are three signs away from the Cancer/Leo configuration respectively. Jupiter, the fourth planet from the Sun excluding Earth, rules Pisces and

Sagittarius which are four signs away from the Cancer/Leo configuration respectively. Saturn, the fifth planet from the Sun excluding Earth, rules Capricorn and Aquarius which are five signs away from the Cancer/Leo configuration respectively.

The placement of these signs and the rulerships they were given some 2,000 years ago does seem to suggest that the Summer months were regarded as significant in the astrological year.



### Venus

Venus has been referred to in the Bible as the morning or evening star because it is the last stellar body visible at dawn and the first to be seen at dusk. While Venus is considered to be a feminine planet, men can identify with its attributes because it relates to the things in life which give us pleasure. Venus rules the signs of Taurus and Libra which govern our likes, dislikes and those to whom we are attracted and with whom we subsequently form partnerships.



### Lilith

Lilith is considered to be Earth's second satellite which absorbs, rather than reflects light so that it is not easily seen by the naked eye. Ancient lore suggests that about 10,000–12,000 years ago a major disaster occurred which dramatically transformed the proportions of the Earth to such a great magnitude that every culture in existence today tells of an antediluvian civilisation which is believed to have been signifi-

cantly superior to the world we now live in.

It was during this pre-Flood era that Earth's Moon was Lilith, a celestial body which was much smaller and more proportional to the Earth's own size and orbit. During this catastrophe it is believed that our present Moon, Luna, was somehow catapulted into the Earth's orbit. Lilith is then thought to have left the Earth's orbit, quite possibly falling into what is now the Pacific Ocean.

This catastrophe had such a dramatic effect on the Earth that the continents were thus transformed, the atmosphere was irreparably altered to open the door to previously unheard of disease and pestilence which consequently shortened mankind's lifespan from several hundred years to approximately 70. Following this magnificent upheaval, a great flood ensued which forever changed the living circumstances of those who managed to survive.

As many people in Western civilization can appreciate, even the Bible details the great Flood and suggests that there was initially one Moon, then two, then one again. Jewish tradition further expands the story because it is said that Lilith was actually Adam's first wife who refused to be subservient to him. Because she refused to defer to her husband, he divorced her in favour of a more obedient Eve.

Lilith's rather dubious past has relegated her to the realms of the dark goddess syndrome in that she represents independent career women and wanton women who have learned to use their sexuality to get what they want out of life. While many astrologers do not assign a zodiacal sign to Lilith, it does correspond with the more intense attributes of Cancer, Pluto and Saturn combined so is therefore very powerful and can bring much sorrow and tears if lessons are not properly learned and warning bells are not heeded.



## Ceres

Ceres is a large asteroid within the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. In Roman mythology she was called Demeter or Da Mater which means Earth Mother.

Ceres was said to live on Earth and in the heavens and was the goddess of agriculture. Her daughter, Persephone, was abducted and raped by Pluto, god of the underworld, and in her anguish Ceres made the Earth a barren place to live so crops would not be allowed to grow for the duration of her daughter's imprisonment.

Jupiter, who was responsible for maintaining order on Earth, demanded that Pluto release Persephone but, because she had eaten a few seeds from a pomegranate, she was forever bound to the world of the dead. A compromise was necessary so Persephone was allowed to live on Earth in the Spring and Summer months but was required to descend back into the underworld for Autumn and Winter.

In modern times Ceres associates herself with Virgo, Cancer and the Taurus/Scorpio axis. Her Virgoan association notably relates to her governance of agriculture and harvest, her Cancerian rulership relates to the fact that she was a devoted mother and her identity with the Taurus/Scorpio axis reflects the extremes she could go to during her period of mourning for the daughter she loved.

## Pallas Athena



Pallas Athena is an asteroid in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. In Greek mythology she was the virgin goddess of wisdom, second in Olympian hierarchy only to Jupiter. Pallas Athena is said to have been born from Jupiter's head as a fully grown warrior queen but earlier myths from the previous matrilineal culture suggest that she was actually born of a woman. Changing political rule consequently caused the stories surrounding her heritage to change in line with the invading patrilineal tribes from the North.

Astrologically, Pallas Athena is associated with Libra, Leo and Aquarius. Pallas Athena symbolises the modern, educated working woman who lives in a man's world and earns an equivalent salary. Because of her independence, she may appear to lose her femininity and sex appeal when confronting those who feel threatened by strong women.

## Vesta

Vesta is the brightest asteroid in the asteroid belt and is symbolic of the virginal state of being. In Greek mythology Vesta was the first Olympian to be born to Saturn and Rhea and the last to be reborn to Jupiter when she was freed from her father's stomach.

Vesta refused to marry Apollo or Neptune and instead remained a virgin. Oddly enough, while it should be expected that the symbolic nature of this asteroid would be an indicator of celibacy, many people such as prostitutes and other individuals who have highly evolved sex lives will find that they have this seemingly chaste asteroid significantly placed in their natal horoscopes.

Vesta is closely associated with Virgo and Scorpio, which seems appropriate considering the postulate that in pre-Roman times the constellations which now comprise Virgo, Libra and Scorpio were considered to be one, therefore en-



compassing the characteristics of all three signs to include analysis, relationship building and an innate sexual aura.

## Juno

Juno, the goddess of marriage and one of only two legally married women in Olympus, was the wife and sister of Jupiter. While she did represent the sanctity of marriage, she and Jupiter had a rather stormy relationship where he was continually unfaithful to her. Because of Juno's jealous nature, she pursued his paramours and their offspring with a vengeance regardless of whether or not his consorts were in fact willing partners.

Earlier myths surrounding Juno which date back to a more matrilineal civilisation depict her as a single goddess in her own right, worshipped as the Queen of Heaven. However, the invading patrilineal Achaean tribes caused the myths regarding this celestial queen to evolve so she was forced to marry Jupiter, her brother, and subsequently lost her supremacy. Her refusal to bear his children, however, did carry with it political overtones as an act of defiance on her part which reflected the political sentiments of the conquered culture which had previously solely worshipped her.

Juno most appropriately represents the signs of Libra and Scorpio where she oversees the sanctity of marriage yet seeks relentless revenge on those who she feels have betrayed her state of marital bliss.



# ASTROLOGY TODAY

**Most beginning students of astrology** now that the birth chart can be progressed — that is each day after birth is equated with each year of the life in order to show the development within the chart and the corresponding expression in the events of the life of an individual's inherent potential.

An advanced technique is to use converse progressions. Each day before birth can be equated with a year of the life. The positions are calculated in exactly the same way as for normal progressions but the Noon or Midnight date will be different (ie a chosen number of days before the birth) and must be calculated in reverse. Most astrological software will do these calculations for you.

The meaning of converses is profound. Straightforward secondary progressions provide new opportunities for us to exercise our free will and create new karma. However, converse progressions are very much linked with the past. They may show us the nature of the past karma and indicate the circumstances of this present life that are occurring because of events and decisions in other lifetimes.

Converse progressions can also be used by those who are sceptical about the concept of reincarnation as an echo or mirror. The event of birth and the aspects formed in the few days after it are readily connected by astrologers with all the ensuing events of the life, through the medium of secondary progressions. One can see, then, the value of considering the significance of the aspects formed in the days leading up to birth.

The converse concept can be applied to tertiary and minor progressions and also to transits. Again, it is better to rely on a computer program to do this for you — they are extremely

## CONVERSE PROGRESSIONS

by  
JOY HICKLIN-BAILEY

difficult to work out by hand.

Converse transits can be surprisingly revealing in an analysis where the usual transits and straightforward secondary progressions do not seem to be sufficiently descriptive of the current issues in a person's life: a friend of mine gave birth to a very much wanted child under the influence of converse transiting Pluto trine natal Moon. The meaning of this converse transit — an extremely profound and positive transformation of her domestic and emotional life — can be considered to be exactly the same as it would have been if 'straightforward' transiting Pluto had touched the natal Moon.

Converse transits of one planet over another may occur at any time. However, the cycles of the converse transiting planets will unfold at very similar rates to ordinary transits. The Uranus opposition, for example, will occur at around the same time as the converse Uranus opposition and the normal Pluto square Pluto will occur at around the same time as the converse Pluto square.

Try using converse transits and progressions with your own chart at least and perhaps with the chart of a friend. In my experience, converse progressions coincide with significant happenings more often than secondary progressions do. Perhaps most of us are still more involved in working off karmic debts sustained in past lives than we are in exercising true free will in our present life!

Remember to consider aspects between a converse progressed planet and natal plan-

ets, also between one converse progressed planet with another converse progressed planet. Consider the house which the converse progressed planet or planet is in, the house which the converse progressed planet rules and the house in which the aspected planet, natal or converse progressed, is in and the house which it rules.

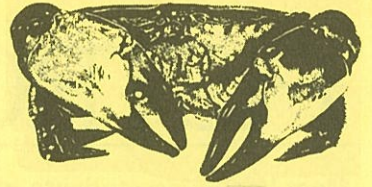
As with secondary progressions, any converse progressed aspect involving an angle is far stronger in its effects than that involving planets. The converse progressed Midheaven and Ascendant are very sensitive points and, when linked by an aspect with a natal or converse progressed planet, the influence of that planet will become foremost in the life, producing effects according to its nature, its aspects in the natal chart, the house it occupies and the house which it rules.

Important events in any life can only happen when a progression involving an angle of the horoscope is in orb at the time. Converse progressions are just as likely, if not more so, to be significant as secondary progressions. If the astrologer is prepared to use converses, it is probably possible to predict all the major events of a lifetime by using progressions involving the Ascendant, Midheaven and the Sun.

When Adolf Hitler became Fuhrer of Germany, his converse progressed Midheaven was conjunct progressed Mars — an obvious indication of his power, strength and aggression. The famous Theosophist, Madame Blavatsky, married for the first time when her progressed Ascendant conjuncted her converse progressed Sun.

Her second marriage occurred under the influence of converse progressed Ascendant sextile natal Sun.

# CANCER ♋



**There is a school of thought** concerning those born under the sign of Cancer; that they might be described, to misquote Robert Burns, as 'wee, sleekit, cow'rin' timorous beasties.' True, they can be rather backward in coming forward but that isn't the whole story.

Soft on the inside, crunchy on the outside is one way of describing the typical Cancerian. Warm, loving, caring, nurturing and motherly is one side; tough, protective, defensive and, where necessary, downright ruthless is the other side.

How does this apparent contradiction come about, I hear you ask. Well, Cancer is the sign of the Crab and is ruled by the Moon, so let's do a sort of combined operation with the correspondences.

Anyone who enjoys eating crab will know that the shell has to be cracked open to get at the meat inside, a direct analogy for the astrological version. That tough exterior is armour against the vicissitudes of the outside world and, as well as being a personal defence, can also mean that unwelcome folk don't make it past the front door at home, either.

Here's where the Moon comes in. This month's sign is also the natural sign of the 4th House which, among other things, is about home, roots and domestic matters. Without wishing to reopen any long irrelevant discussions, it is also traditionally the home of the Mother, which ties all the foregoing together.

Mothers, generally speaking, are warm, caring, loving and so

by **MERCEDES  
DuQUESNE**

on with their own broods as well as anyone else who has been admitted to the family circle. They are also very protective of their family and will sally forth to do battle with anyone who appears to offer any kind of threat to family members. The ruthlessness comes in making sure that no vestige of any threat remains before switching back into 'mother' mode.

Now we can take a peek at the downside of Cancer. There is an innate inability to let go, of

## Cancer's year ahead

**With Jupiter on the Descendant in the 1997** Cancer Ingress chart, and there or thereabouts until January 1998, it is no surprise that partnerships and partnership issues will be in the forefront of any Cancerian's mind.

With Jupiter in Aquarius, however, there may be some element of the unusual in these matters, especially when he and Uranus are at closest approach during the late Summer and Autumn. This occurs when Jupiter occupies the 6th House and so the emphasis is likely to be on finding ways of making the partnership work.

It is most likely that this partnership will be a matter of business, rather than a personal relationship. The Moon, just past the Full in Capricorn in the 5th House and therefore opposing the Sun in the 11th, would appear to indicate that an idea or plan has just reached the point of fruition and is about to be launched into the public eye. Career matters, especially where the possibility of a change is concerned, are indicated by the Moon's applying trine to the Midheaven.

Even with Jupiter's benevolence it's not necessarily going to be plain sailing. Saturn in Aries in the 8th House makes a sextile to Jupiter, so any financial concerns should be dealt with at an early stage.

There are a number of quincunxes around

which, although unlikely to cause any major problems, could be indicators of niggling bothers that could hold things up or create difficulty where there should be none. The Sun quincunx to Neptune (Capricorn, 6th House) could surface as your uncertainties while Venus (Cancer, 11th House) making similar aspect to Jupiter could show those same uncertainties voiced by a loved one or, possibly, some doubts as to the financial viability of the scheme.

The placement of Mars in Virgo in 2nd House, trine to Neptune, should provide a counteraction to any fears but be careful that this does not swing too far the other way and give rise to a sort of 'do or die' bravado.

One further point; Cancerian business concerns, as with anyone else's, thrive on publicity whether it is advertising or by word of mouth. Mercury in Gemini in 11th House and trine to benevolent Jupiter will put any businesses firmly in the public eye and do them no harm at all. Be careful, though, that Jupiter's expansiveness is not allowed to become exaggeration — all too easy to do, although Saturn is on hand to apply the brakes should it become necessary.

As far as other matters are concerned over the next 12 months, the main times to watch out for are at or about the eclipses, both Solar and

possessions or people; Cancer is a very possessive sign. It isn't the possessiveness of the Taurean who will acquire and hang on to things because they are his; this is because, to some extent, Cancer is what it loves and possessions are a kind of security blanket. Never happier than when looking after someone, especially children, Cancer goes into a decline when those same children up and leave home, unless they can find someone or something else upon which to lavish affection.

Now, while Cancer subjects will quite happily fight for their brood, things can be a little different when they are threatened themselves. There is a tendency to sidle out of unpleasantness, much akin to the crab's sideways motion. This is followed by a rapid retreat behind closed doors, again much like the crab's retreat into its shell.

One other thing, a direct re-

<b>POSITION IN THE ZODIAC</b>	FOURTH SIGN
<b>CORRESPONDING TO</b>	JUNE 21 TO JULY 20
<b>PRINCIPLE</b>	THE HOME
<b>ELEMENT</b>	WATER
<b>QUALITY</b>	CARDINAL
<b>PLANETARY RULER</b>	THE MOON
<b>SYMBOL</b>	THE CRAB

sult of the Moon's rulership of Cancer. The Moon is responsible for our moods — whatever the sign — but never more so than with Cancer. Sweetness and light one minute can change with remarkable rapidity to picking a fight and then to floods of tears. This can be a mite confusing for anyone else but Cancer types get used to and, occasionally, use it to their advantage — they are past masters at manipulation.

Career-wise, the Cancer subject excels at anything that involves looking after people or plants. The nurse is an archetypal example but does sum up

the subject perfectly; quick to respond to the patients' needs and very protective of them, sometimes even with the doctors! Teachers at nursery or reception level (surrogate mothers), sailors, historians, museum curators, hoteliers and, would you believe, business people — it's that desire to look after the interests of clients, remember names, faces and birthdays combined with the Cancerian shrewdness.

Moody, possessive (but never selfish), insecure and worry-prone but also loving, protective, sensitive and, always, Mum — that's Cancer.

Lunar. The Solar eclipses take place in Virgo (September 1st) and Pisces (February 26th 1998) and, at seven to eight degrees of those signs, will make direct aspects to the Moon and Uranus in the Ingress chart.

Any New Moon signifies a fresh start but, in the case of eclipses, the significance is likely to be hidden for a while. With Uranus involved anything could happen, and probably will, so watch out for the odd minor setback to carefully laid plans, especially if these are set to mature quickly. The Lunar eclipse in mid-March 1998 is one to watch out for as it is directly square to the Ingress Mercury. If there is going to be a time for adverse comment or publicity then this is it, possibly in the form of indirect allusions or a whispering campaign.

As the Sun moves into Cancer the outer planets are all moving retrograde, apart from Saturn who starts his backward shuffle in mid-August. Whatever Crabs have in mind is more than likely to be of a long-term nature and therefore to be an ongoing affair rather than some flash in the pan.

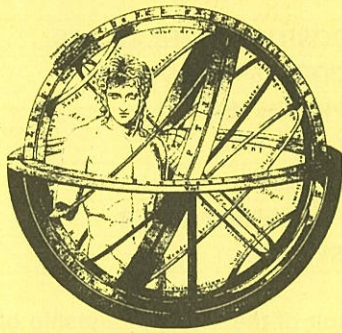
Forward motion is confined, until much later in the year, to the Lights and the inner planets with the exception of Mercury's reversals in August and December; with another in April 1998. It may appear that a retrograde Mercury is there to throw spanners into works but such times can al-

so be used to take a breather and to make any adjustments which may be necessary — something like the planned service intervals for a car.

Little has been said about the more personal side of life so far. This is largely because it parallels the more public face so closely; the chart focuses on the 6th and 11th Houses of work and public life with aspects to the Midheaven from that most personal of them all, the Moon. Second and 8th House placements show finances tied closely to work, as is usually the case. The only planet not yet touched upon is Pluto, sitting quite happily at the bottom of the chart and bringing his transformatory abilities right at the bottom of things.

This is likely to be where much of the change is rooted. When Pluto decides that things are to be altered it's time to give in gracefully and let him get on with it. The indications are that there will be beneficial effects on personal finances but some disruption of the domestic routine — which covers both personal and business matters as both are likely to be affected whatever the root cause.

To sum up; a year of slow but steady progress on all fronts and the likelihood of those born under the Crab to end up better off than when the year started. Just remember to go forwards, not sideways...



# JULY BIRTHDAY FORECAST

★ INDICATES AN EXCEPTIONALLY LUCKY 12 MONTHS AHEAD

- 1 After Christmas 1997 there is a strong chance of a new and rather heady romance starting.
- 2 Around January 1998 you may be at odds with people with whom you would rather be friends.
- 3 Not a lot to show for the effort put in. Steady, quiet.
- 4 Favours the ladies. Take the initiative socially.
- 5 Sensitive emotionally. May be difficult to live with.
- 6 Try not to cross bridges before you get to them. Ease back, don't look for problems.
- 7 Quiet until March then full of surprises when certain facts come to light.
- 8 Some friction May and June 1998 perhaps — otherwise a reasonable year.
- 9 Niggly start to the New Year then two or three important and good changes may occur.
- 10 Increased vitality and self-confidence. Initiative and clever planning proves profitable. ★
- 11 Idealistic tendencies. May take on more than you are actually capable of handling.
- 12 Busy. Difficulty concentrating on single issues.
- 13 Summer 1997 could be slightly adverse; otherwise quiet.
- 14 Several chances for a house move. ★ A profitable period.
- 15 Full of events: changes, disputes, agreements. Never a dull moment for some.
- 16 Favours students and those in educational pursuits.
- 17 Things may not just happen but ★ occur with fanfares at times.
- 18 Employment disputes and conflicts likely.
- 19 Could be swept into prominence or ★ land a position of authority and influence.
- 20 Satisfying. Advantageous for the most part but nothing out of the ordinary.
- 21 Too much idealism. Someone may influence you without you realising.
- 22 Interfamily relationships very harmonious.
- 23 Short-lived tempestuous love affair could start— may be part of an 'eternal' triangle.
- 24 Some rather rash decisions and actions around Christmas 1997 do not help your cause.
- 25 What you want is very important. What other people want for you is less so.
- 26 Most promising period for your ★ finances. Travel, possibly abroad, is likely.
- 27 Watch health and diet. Tendency to excess in various areas.
- 28 Changeable circumstances from your birthday to December and then things pick up again in March 1998.
- 29 Many irons in many fires but little of any consequence.
- 30 Learn from people; how they react, how they need to be treated, to get the best out of them.
- 31 Romantic overtones. People easy to deal with and your social popularity grows.



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## ASTRAL TRAVEL & TIME

*Is it possible to go back in time through astral travel and remain in that earlier time and thus live through the same period again and in the same body? — P.R.B., Bristol.*

There have been several similar queries on this subject but it is best not to confuse or try and connect astral travel with time travel. We may well be able to go backwards and forwards in time in the future but this is more theory than fact at the present.

Astral travel is experienced while sleeping, the spirit roaming at will, then returning to the physical body from the astral plane. There is a barrier beyond which no-one may pass unless he/she is prepared to risk not being able to return to his sleeping body.

Any conscious attempt to return to earlier periods in one's life while on the astral plane may be possible — but only as an observer. In the future it may be possible to return to earlier periods of a life and remain there to experience the same events all over again but, at present, this appears neither possible nor advisable.

## SOLON TO PLATO

*I am interested in world catastrophes and once read some advice given to Plato by another ancient Greek philosopher. This mentioned several, as opposed to one Flood. If you have any reference to this speech, please enlighten me. — A.J.S., Reading.*

A priest of ancient Egypt, Solon, is said to have given Plato all the information kept in

the temple archives concerning the sinking of Atlantis. During the long conversations between these two great thinkers one in particular remains in the memory as being especially significant and is, I think, the speech you are seeking.

Solon says, 'there have been and will be again many destructions of mankind arising out of many causes ... thus you have to begin all over again as children; and know nothing of what happened in ancient times among us or among yourselves ... in the first place, you remember one Deluge only, whereas there were many of them.'

## ARIES RISING

*Does Aries rising have its own metal, gemstone, colour and superstition? — T.F., London.*

If anyone is born with Aries rising (on the Ascendant), it is a good idea to study the influences of Aries as a zodiacal sign as the Aries Sun sign details will usually apply. For example, read up on the quirks and good points of Aries, paying special attention to any unusual aspects.

The colour red would be important, as would the gem-

## graphology

(continued from page 12)

which is a good self-defence in difficult circumstances.

One will sometimes observe a totally different style of signature from the main body of the text. In this situation the owner tries to display an impression which is not the true trend in the thinking.

Underlinings are also a helpful pointer. Sometimes one sees not only an underlining

but an elaboration or embellishment with twists and curves all over the place. This is someone who is showing off with a 'look at me' attitude. The most pleasing signature is a straight, plain and readable name.

Tall capitals hint at pride in a positive or intellectual script but, in a negative one, conceit and big-headedness.

The pressure is significant and, if light, may indicate a rather limited energy and some sensitivity. If strong and deep, emotion is displayed and, in some instances, physical force.

When all the letters are rounded and have a soft ap-

pearance, this alludes to a fundamentally affable and cooperative nature. When angular, the implication is of one who is decisive and a little antagonistic but with some tension. However, much of this aggressiveness is frequently channelled productively.

Again it must be stressed that one should seek confirmation in the rest of the writing. Should the name be smaller, then a reserved and modest outer show hides the aggressive disposition. A blunt, firm dash after the name implies determination. When a line is short and lightly made, there is

stone ruby as this comes under the rulership of Mars which also rules Aries. The cedar and holly are usually associated with Aries, as are horses, wolves and bears. Iron is the metal linked to this sign and the superstition most Ariens will recognise and should keep firmly in mind is that Aries subjects tend to be accident-prone!

### NEANDERTHAL MAN

*There are reports that Neanderthal man roamed Europe for longer than previously stated and odd rumours that the species can still be found in remote parts of the world. As I am interested in the development of humankind from an occult viewpoint, could you tell me if these rumours are true? — L.M., Bath.*

Fragments of skull from early man was found in the Neander Valley near the Rhine, Germany, in 1856. The reconstruction that followed showed a tall, hairy figure with a large head and strong sloping brow, hook nose and rounded chin. The most notable characteristic was the sloping brow with its horizontal bony ridges.

Although Neanderthal man's extinction date is given

as 20,000 years ago, recent sightings of the Yeti, Bigfoot, in isolated areas — especially frozen locations or very high altitude, off-track mountain regions — suggest that some human species survived after this date. It is therefore not impossible for later descendants of Neanderthal man to still be living in the world today; indeed, some African and Far Eastern tribes claim to be the results of the intermingling of old and new human races.

This may sound unlikely yet it is worth remembering that fossilised remains of both animal and human species continue to be found all over the world even now. Very early species such as the dinosaurs may have been destroyed thousands if not millions of years ago yet it is more than likely that some species survived many world cataclysms such as the Great Flood that was the last major geological upheaval.

### TELEPHONE READINGS

*I would like to have a reading from a good clairvoyant but am puzzled by adverts which offer private telephone readings. I wondered how good they would be as I would have thought personal con-*

*tact would be necessary.*

*But a personal visit is not always easy, especially as one get older, so the idea of a telephone reading is a good one. Can you give me advice about this please? — J.W., Kingston.*

All forms of communication such as radio, TV, telephone, even fax machines, are linked to psychic influences. It is often the fact that a disembodied voice at the other end of the telephone can pick up vibrations psychically in a very effective way.

However, if you choose to have a telephone reading, do look at the cost per minute for the call. Remember, this can be quite expensive if the call lasts a long time as so many readings on dedicated lines generally do.

The quality of the psychic reading, as so often advertised in magazines, does vary although several I have tested out were certainly of value provided, of course, one is prepared to meet the cost of the call. Some individual clairvoyants do offer private telephone readings and will advise of the overall cost. As these are usually far more personal, it might be best to consider this kind of choice first.

some self-esteem but without excessive assertion.

There are cases when the line underneath has a slight curve in it. This registers a facet of romanticism. There are instances when the name starts with a capital that underlines the complete word. This displays self-importance in the background.

There is a theory which says that when a signature is crossed through, some dissatisfaction about self is present in the psychological framework. In some, and I state only some, this self-rejection may cause suicidal tendencies. The rest of

the writing must have deep and concerned attention before reaching such a conclusion.

If the name is the same size as the other writing the feeling of self both in public and private is usually balanced.

One must remember that a signature is a diagram — a picture of how we wish to show ourselves. Not only that, but it reveals what we are really like under the veneer.

Coping with the environment requires adherence to certain rules and principles. The signature will hint at how well we manage this.

A number of factors have to

be considered when assessing a signature. Which way does it lean? Are the letters connected or unconnected? Is it legible or illegible? Base-line even or uneven? Do upper or lower extensions predominate? Large or small capitals? Placement on the page. Is the middle zone tall or short? Pressure? Elaborated or neglected in form?

If the name is smaller than the text, the outer retiring display covers up a more sure and self-confident person. Conversely, if the signature is much larger, there is a much deeper need to 'put on a show.'

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by Stephen Pile, The Sunday Times, page-a14, 14th August 1988.

Assassination of Mr Rajiv Gandhi is forecast by Dr A Mukherjee.

by Tony Leliew, The Edgware Times, page-12, 15th September 1988.

Prediction of outright 1992 General Election victory for the Conservative party and John Major. Resignation and defeat of Neil Kinnock and the Labour party.

BBC-Radio interview, 9th January 1992; SKY TV news interview, 16th March 1992.

Widely forecast as early as January 1992 that Bush would lose Presidential Election.

The Hendon Times, page 17, 2nd January 1992; Third Eye, February 1992.

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by Merle Adam, Times Group Newspapers, page-6, 8th December 1988.

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by Frances Caldwell, The Hendon Times, page-24, 28th December 1989.



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## Given its place in human development, it is little wonder that fire is important in magic, too.

by E.A. ST GEORGE

It has long been a basic belief in occultism that there are four elements which make up all things — Earth, Air, Fire and Water. One ancient secret of that belief was that all four were equally important. You didn't, for instance, want a large Earth body with a small spirit inside it because a large spirit would shatter a small Earth body and so on.

Therefore, any magician wanted his/her elements properly in the four quarters of a circle. I stress this because some people have a tendency to specialise in Fire magic or Water magic, or whatever.

But be warned, a surfeit of any one element can have disastrous results or, at the very least, cause inconvenience such as burst pipes and the like if Water is the element invoked too often. Similarly, dramatic fires can result if this is the element allowed to become too dominant. So, remember, the elements should always be in balance.

Fire magic is important and is certainly a very ancient art. It dates back to the time when the tribe that fed its fire survived the Winter whereas the tribe that let its fire go out died very quickly.

The tribe kept its fire at the back of a cave and the place of the fire was sacred. Fire meant life and survival. At least one elderly or injured person was allowed to live just to feed the fire: a very important job.

### Sweet smell of success

Fire was fed with wood and primitive man soon noticed that some woods yielded different smells as they burned. Some smells pleased the various gods more than others and thus was born the basic business of incense.

Holly and thistles would not, for instance, be fed to the love goddess who would prefer apple or rose wood. Willow wood and mistletoe were considered suitable for the Moon goddess whereas oak logs would please the Sun god and so on.

As humanity began to work in temples, fire had to be more carefully controlled. We had to think in terms of torches, lamps and candles and thus, today, there are a number of books dealing with candle magic, the most modern variety of a very ancient magic. So let us consider what is involved.

The first and most vital point to make is that every magician practises, from the conjuror to the magus, from Merlin the enchanter to the High Priest down the road. We all make mistakes, swear, try again and, with time, get it right. So if you want to try Fire magic, bear in mind that practising is essential; when Fire magic goes wrong, it is very dramatic indeed!

Some books suggest dressing up in a robe and working through a complicated formula. Consider, have you ever worked in a robe before? If not, start by rehearsing in your robe and thus avoid tripping over the hem or catching your sleeve on a candlestick when performing your ritual.

### Safety first

Check basic safety. Take a long hard look at your candlesticks or holders. Glass breaks, even toughened glass will do so eventually; plastic melts; silver-plated holders may be weighted with lead which will melt all over your dining table and ruin it.

If you want to go in for candle magic, you're best advised to think safety first.

You may be fortunate enough to have your own temple but, even so, do you have a temple fire extinguisher? If not, go and buy one; consecrate it if you wish but keep it in your place of working.

Do some meditation on a fire drill even if you work alone. It is too late to call the fire brigade when pursued by demons and salamanders.

You may work out of doors. If so, you have doubtless noticed that we have had three dry Summers. Bonfires to the ancient gods are great but someone should be appointed to keep a very special vigil, ensuring that your group doesn't set the woods alight or burn half the countryside.

Never leave the site of an outdoor ritual while anything is burning or smouldering; remember, charcoal stays hot for a very long time. The last three Summers have brought special fire risks of their own; they have also brought with them a water shortage so be very sensible with outdoor fire magic.

Dozens of lit candles may look pretty and romantic, as in the closing scenes of the film *Carrie*, but the chance of an accident is high, especially if wearing loose-fitting ritual garments. So best to start with careful planning, rehearsal and a single candle.

Now, where are you going to work? You will need a fireproof working surface; a slab of marble covering a tabletop would be a good starting point. Obviously, tablecloths should be avoided and remember, too, to ensure that other potential hazards such as lightweight curtains that could blow across the candle flame are safely tied back before you start. And never leave unaccompanied children or pets in a room with a



# Ritual Fire

lighted candle.

Similar safety measures hold good for incense-burners, too. Your simplest incense-burner is a bowl with a layer of sand about 1in/6cm deep in it. Place charcoal on top of the sand, ig-

nite it and scatter incense onto the charcoal. Fair warning, charcoal gets very hot indeed and stays hot for a very long time. If you place charcoal directly on the bottom of a metal bowl it will burn the table be-

neath or discolour a marble surface, so it is wise to use sand as insulation.

Note that very little incense smoke is needed to trigger a sensitive alarm so remember to switch it off before you start

and switch it on again after you have finished. Also, as there may be several smoke alarms in a block of flats, I suggest that you use very little incense to start with — just a few grains will do.

Others may opt for a church censer, though this can be an expensive item and should be hung up when not in use. Those who have never used a thurible/censer before should please allow plenty of practice before using one for real in a temple as it is all too easy to scatter hot charcoal all over the floor and isn't nearly as effortless as you may imagine.

## First steps

If you want to do candle/fire/incense magic, think in terms of starting at square one. Buy an assortment of coloured candles — good, clean bright colours are best. These can be anointed with oil (sometimes known as 'dressing a candle'), then wrapped in clean paper or cloth and put away until needed.

Your candles can be anointed with holy oil or candle oil or you could use the right oil for the planetary colours. For instance, yellow ones are consecrated with Sun oils, orange with Mercury oils, green with Venus, and so on.

Before starting magical work of any kind, it might be wise to disable the telephone first. Mobile phones in particular may be a great invention but do not belong in a magical ritual when interruptions to the work would be most unwelcome. You need all your concentration for ceremonial work and really don't need visitors or phone calls, so decide how best to deter both until you are done.

When you feel ready — all necessary precautions taken and you've practised — get out the appropriate candle and holder. If you've never done practical magic before, stick to meditating on one candle for a while (later, when confidence

grows, you'll be able to add a second, a third, and so on). Do this daily for 15-20 minutes at a time. Magic requires a good deal of concentration and you have to build that before you remake the world.

## Planetary colours

I am not inclined to mix the colours of candles used in a ritual — two pink, three green, one yellow and a black sounds like a messy ritual to me. I suggest the following colour code, using the planetary correspondences, is a simple yet effective starting point.

*Soft purple* — clairvoyance, divination (Moon work)

*Orange* — Job and travel (Mercury work)

*Green* — nature and love (Venus work)

*Yellow* — healing (Sun work)

*Red* — protection (Mars work)

*Blue* — good fortune (Jupiter work)

*Black* — limitation (Saturn work)

*White* — pure spirit (completely spiritual work)

Meditate on your candle. Develop the art of talking to flames. Do this carefully and consistently and you will have taken the real steps in working fire magic.

## Elemental

Some of you will find fire magic easy. I have a theory that those with lots of planets in a Fire sign would find this sort of magic easier than those with none. Those with the majority of planets in a Water sign will find fire magic well-nigh impossible, so will have to work harder but can take it easy when it comes to water magic.

Books on candle magic may not offer this hint but it is worth bearing in mind. I have a small side table in my working space and, if working with fire magic, my rod, cup and pentacle are placed there. Remember — all four elements are important

even if you are not using three of them.

You never escape the elements, no matter how experienced a magician you may become. Think of an astronaut going to Mars, he still takes his native Earth with him as his own flesh; he takes the water of this world with him and all his past because we came from water; he takes air, too, because the Martian atmosphere is far too thin to breathe and will need a heating unit or will freeze to death. The elements are always with mankind, they are inescapable.

Electricity is also a form of fire. Ancient temples all over the world did without electricity and magical manuscripts were read by the light of guttering candles. You don't have to do everything the hard way today. If your eyes are not as good as they were, consecrate an electric lamp and read your ritual properly.

Change to an appropriately coloured light bulb and a white temple can be turned into a red temple of Mars, a green temple of Venus or whatever. True, the gods of the underworld prefer the dimmest light but you still have to get through your ritual without knocking equipment off your working surface. If you need extra light to read a long ritual formula, then that extra light must be added.

Use New Age equipment by all means. Oil-burners can replace the old-fashioned incense-burner; it is even possible to buy different coloured oils or ones that burn with different coloured flames. Magic is an evolving art, though the fundamentals remain.

If there has been one key word for any successful ritual, that word is practise. We've had legendary magicians, sorcerers and so on in the past and those who today aspire to equal Merlin, outshine Gandalf or overshadow Morgan le Fay can do so — but only if they practise.

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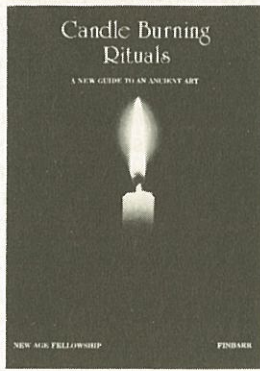
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# Heralds of Change

Early civilisations had great awe and respect for all that happened in the heavens and such irregularities as comets and shooting stars must have caused great wonder and speculation. Many civilisations believed them to be a phenomenon that carried messages of some sort.

They could, therefore, arouse great fear, especially in some cultures such as the Roman Empire where they were thought to be a sign of impending royal death. One of the astronomical laws of the Middle Ages was that the appearance of comets indicated great upheaval, such as the Norman Conquest of Britain following the sighting of Halley's comet in 1066 which can be found depicted on the Bayeux Tapestry.

Navaho Indian folklore regards comets as the fertilising 'spittle' of the Black God, Creator of Stars, while the Tukano of the Amazon believe shooting stars to be a sign of celestial procreation which fertilises the planet by falling as dew. Today some scientists conjecture that the extinction of dinosaurs was due to a comet colliding with Earth and which left its mark in the Chicxulub Crater in Yucatan.

There has been much talk of comets lately. To name but a few, not so long ago a comet hit the planet Jupiter, then there was the return of Halley's

comet. Then, last September, came comet Tabur and now we are looking at Hale-Bopp which is being described as the comet of the century.

Shakespeare said that comets are 'importing change of times and states.' So can comets tell us something about the coming new millennium?

## Universal pollinators

Scientist Sir Fred Hoyle suggested that life in the form of simple viruses and bacteria could have developed in the interstellar dust clouds, such as those in the Orion Nebula. Further, that even the building blocks of life — proteins, enzymes, RNA and DNA — could be of an extraterrestrial origin.

In Hoyle's view, comets are prime candidates for the introduction of viruses to Earth. Their extremely long elliptical orbits into deep space would allow them to 'soak up' material which would then be released into the inner Solar system.

In Medieval times comets

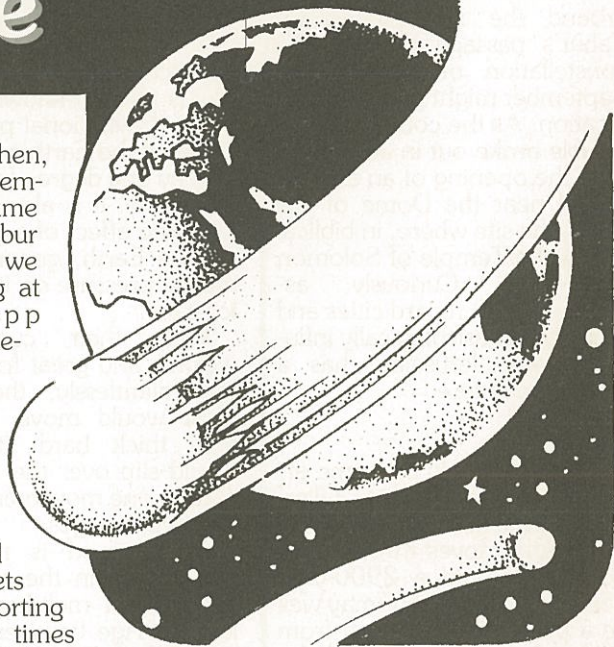
were believed to bring plagues and some scientists today speculate that certain viruses may have originated from comets. For instance, Halley's comet crossed Earth's orbit in 1910 and, within a few years, 1918, there was an influenza pandemic which seemed to occur simultaneously across the whole world.

## Composition

The chemical composition of comets turns out to be the four commonest elements in living material; hydrogen, carbon, nitrogen and oxygen. Some comets probably overlap other star systems as they travel, thereby connecting our Solar system to the whole cosmos.

Unlike other celestial bodies, comets can travel all over the Solar system, depositing whatever they carry. So, if they are carriers of living material then they could be feeding new life to the universe.

This suggests that viruses from outside our home planet



by MARION VERWEIJ

Comets held great significance way back in history when they were regarded as harbingers of change.

could be the key to explaining the mysterious mechanism of adaptive evolution. If so, what might this suggest about the influence of comets today on our behaviour?

Looking at the events around the time of comet Tabur's passage through the constellation of Gemini last September might give some indication. As the comet passed, trouble broke out in Jerusalem over the opening of an ancient tunnel near the Dome of the Rock, the site where, in biblical times, the Temple of Solomon was built. Curiously, astrologers who regard cities and countries as astrologically influenced say Jerusalem has a Geminian nature.

## Orbit

Tabur moves in the same orbit as another comet, Liller, which was first discovered in 1988 and moves through our Solar system in a 2900-year period. (In fact, Tabur may well be a piece that broke off from Liller when it last passed the Sun.) Curiously, King Solomon ruled over Israel approximately 2900 years ago (970 BC), which is when his temple was built in Jerusalem.

Also last September, numerous UFO sightings were reported in both Israel and Jordan. On the 17th, traffic on a main road in the Ramat Aviv section of Tel Aviv came to a stop as motorists abandoned their cars to watch a hovering UFO and several police officers are said to have seen 'a strange light in the night sky' over the Northern end of the city.

Some Israeli Ufologists link the wave of sightings to the Second Coming of Christ. It is remarkable, in this light, that the name of the comet, Tabur, resembles that of the famous Mount Tabor in Israel where the trans-figuration of Christ occurred.

One wonders, is all this mere coincidence? Or do comets really influence life on Earth and cause important change of times and states?

**D**id the land-mass of Antarctica move 2,000 miles further South in the 11th millennium BC, as Professor Charles H. Hapgood of Keene College, New Hampshire, suggests, thus repositioning the vast continent to the centre of the Antarctic circle?

It is already known that the Sun's gravitational pull will increase if the Earth's orbit deviates by one degree from a perfect circle. It is also known to have the effect of a greater tilt on the Earth, generating immense pressure on its massive ice caps.

With their cumbersome weights and great force pushing relentlessly, the Earth's crust would move. The 30-mile thick hard lithosphere would slip over the soft inner core in one movement causing massive changes.

If Hapgood is right, this would explain the reason for such a fast meltdown of the last Ice Age between 15,000 and 8,000 BC. It would also account for the extraordinary volcanic activity which accompanied this geophysical event throughout the world.

## Explanation

It would provide an explanation for the evidence of tropical flora, crustaceans and fossilised palm leaves discovered in the Antarctic ice in recent times. Also the coal beds found by Sir Ernest Shackleton 250 miles from the South Pole and the fossilised deciduous Southern beech forest discovered in the same area by geologist Barrie McKelvey and David Harwood in 1990.

And at the opposite pole, there could be an explanation of why giant fruit trees have been found deep in the Arctic Circle; the presence of fossilised palm leaves three metres long plus water lilies and marine crustaceans found on the Norwegian island of Spitzbergen.

All of which suggests that,

long ago, the environment at both poles was similar to the Caribbean or the Mediterranean now.

Oceanographic work carried out by Russian scientists concluded that the Arctic and Antarctic oceans were warm during most of the last Ice Age and at their warmest between 32,000 and 18,000 years ago. Many warm-blooded mammals that lived in these conditions became extinct in the permafrost during the height of the last Ice Age, around 15,000 BC.

## Melted

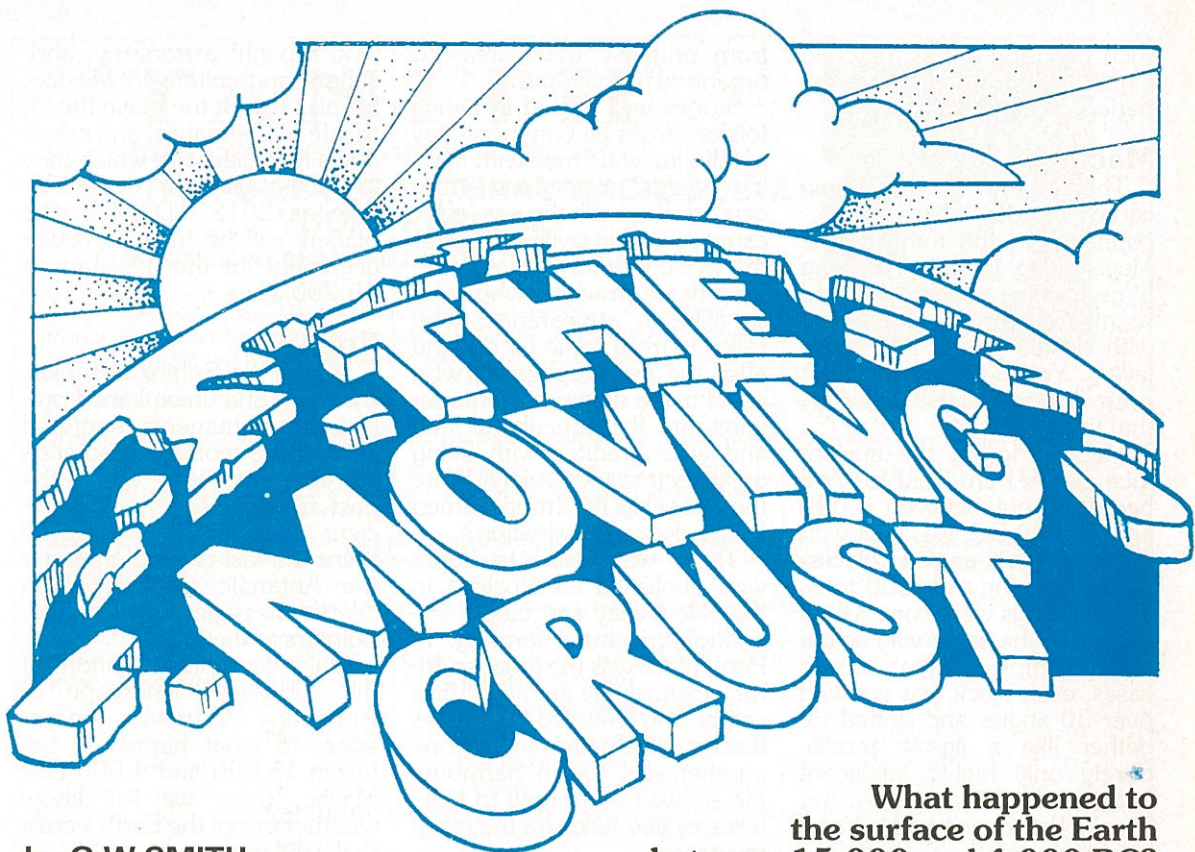
Then came the meltdown. Suddenly, between 14,500 and 12,500 BC, and spasmodically again in the 11th millennium, 40,000 years' build-up of ice two miles thick, covering millions of square miles, melted suddenly.

Was this a natural climatic change? Or was it, as some scientists believe, a sudden shift of the polar regions due to a movement of the Earth's crust?

If Antarctica was 2,000 miles North of its present position prior to 15,000 BC, then shifted South getting lost under millions of tons of ice, how could the Piri Reis Map, compiled in 1513, be made? This map is a genuine and accurate document of the Northern coast of Antarctica: yet Antarctica wasn't discovered until some 300 years later. A seismic profile made by a Swedish-British Antarctic Expedition across the ice cap in 1949 shows that the Piri Reis map is correct in detail. Yet the latest ice-free time in that coastal region was 4,000 BC.

## Old sources

Piri Reis admits to copying and compiling his information from old source maps, some dating back to before the 4th century BC. Hapgood suggests that these source maps were probably copied in their turn from even older maps made



by G.W.SMITH

**What happened to  
the surface of the Earth  
between 15,000 and 4,000 BC?**

thousands of years earlier.

So who were these people able to map vast coastlines of a continent with such precision? No civilisation known to man had the technology to survey and map the Northern coast of Antarctica so accurately before 4,000 BC. The chronometer, essential for precise cartography and fixing longitude, wasn't invented by Harrison until 1770.

Could a civilisation so intelligent suddenly disappear from the face of the Earth without trace? If the theory of the Earth's crust movement is correct, then, yes, it is possible. Everything would happen so quickly in geological terms that there would have been no time to save the civilisation.

Some would survive but most would perish in the tidal waves, hurricanes, electric storms and volcanic eruptions as seismic faults opened up the ground around the globe. Many more

would die trying to adapt to the harsh conditions in which they found themselves.

Could this intelligent civilisation have predicted the shift of the Earth's crust? And, knowing their civilisation could not be saved in the small amount of time left to them, would they attempt to put down roots for the future?

### **Survivors**

Did the scientists, engineers, mathematicians and architects go out to the far corners of the world and teach their skills to primitive man? In such a barbaric world many would die in the process. But there would have been survivors.

Looking around the world today there are many pointers to such a scenario. The Sphinx, for example, perhaps this was built to tell a future civilisation when they were here? Dating methods point to its being constructed between 10,970 and

8,810 BC yet, surely, high technology in engineering would have been needed to build it.

And the three principle pyramids, situated in the exact position of the three stars of Orion's Belt in relation to the Milky Way at that time, give us a construction date of 10,450 BC. So these giant monuments were constructed pre-history, when mankind was supposedly still primitive and incapable of such scientific engineering feats.

Another remarkable example is the Temple of Kukulcan, Yucatan, Mexico. To achieve the appearance of an undulating serpent on the Northern staircase, exactly at the Spring and Autumn Equinoxes, would have required advanced scientific minds to create such an intricate geometric illusion. Indeed, it seems unlikely that the ancient Mayans could have built the great temple itself with

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# DREAM MEANINGS



## SECRET GUILT

### THE DREAM

I AM IN my bedroom kissing a male friend while my mother is in the other bed. We decide to find another room although I'm not embarrassed. Then I need to go to the toilet.

### THE MEANING

BEDROOMS are places of secrets, seclusion and sex. Initially, you feel that kissing is OK and can be witnessed by your mother without embarrassment. But to go further demands more commitment so you need a safer place or personal attitude of mind.

However, the need to go to the toilet indicates some guilt since this is about relieving yourself.

## WORTHWHILE ACTIONS

### THE DREAM

I AM IN Africa with starving children eating a new, special food which I have been given to distribute. This supplies their needs, making them healthy and happy.

I see the factory where the food is made in the UK, it is modern with black glass, and know millions benefit from our product. A shaft of light from above surrounds me and my wife.

### THE MEANING

THIS dream is showing you that what you are doing in your life is truly worthwhile although you may not realise this at the moment. The underlying theme is that your actions will benefit the younger generation, the world's future.

Feeding is to do with nourishment which, here, would appear to be on a higher or more spiritual plane. You are being asked to recognise the

## by SOPHIA DANIEL

**Dream symbolism can sometimes be quite punny. For example, in waking life we often say 'must fly' to indicate being in a hurry, not meaning it literally. However, in a dream, your personal symbol for haste may be just that — flying!**

value of your life's achievements in the knowledge that you are fulfilling the tasks of this incarnation.

## FEELINGS OF LOVE

### THE DREAM

A MAN I know arrives at my front door carrying a bunch of red and white roses; the majority are white with larger blooms than the red. He is without the spectacles he usually wears and when he smiles at me I feel shock.

### THE MEANING

ROSES symbolise love — red ones refer to human love whereas white ones signify pure love.

It seems that your friend has more than a passing interest in you and the 'scales' have fallen from his eyes allowing him to see you as you really are — which he likes. This gives you a sense of shock since you had not been aware of his feelings or else refused to acknowledge them.

## OUT OF CONTROL

### THE DREAM

I AM SKIMMING along above the ground but am unafraid as this has happened before. However, this time I begin to grab hold of things in order to slow

down so that I don't overshoot the corner and become a victim of an accident.

I negotiate the corner but, in order to do so, must wrap myself around a lamp post. Then I find myself in a hospital being ordered around although there is nothing wrong with me.

### THE MEANING

HERE you do not have your feet on the ground, indicative of a refusal to confront reality. In this state you are out of control and gaining speed, so the message is to take stock rather than keep running away.

The hospital symbolises what will happen if you don't take care of yourself and continue to allow others to dominate and control you and your actions. You are not sick but clearly under stress so the solution lies in your own hands.

## ANGEL OF DEATH

### THE DREAM

I DREAMT MY son was standing at the foot of my bed with two pieces of something in his hands at which he asked me to look. I thought, 'Oh no, he's going to make these bits into the shape of the Angel of Death' and couldn't bear this thought as I was sure it would mean certain death.

### THE MEANING

IT seems that this is a time to make unwelcome changes in your life. Your son is the catalyst and brings things in his hands to enable you to kill off an unwanted part of yourself.

He is prepared to help you but your fear is preventing you from making this necessary change. It is time to wake up and take action so that a major and beneficial change can take place in your life.

# Winged Wonders

by ANDY ELLIS

They appear on album sleeves, book covers, Christmas cards, wedding invitations, various pieces of jewellery and bric-a-brac, and one in ten pop songs has reference to them. What are they? Why, angels of course.

Ask anyone what they think of angels and the answer invariably includes phrases like; immortal beings, goodness and light, wings and harps and, of course, heaven and God. In fact, the entire history of angels is a hopeless mix of fantasy, myth, legend, supernatural sightings and dreams.

The term 'angel' actually derives from a word meaning 'the shadow side of God' but later came to mean 'messenger' in accordance with what was seen as an angel's primary function.

Throughout numerous examples in Judaic, Christian and Mohammedan writings (angels are peculiar to monotheistic religions), there are seemingly conflicting accounts of angels. In some, far from being beings of pure good, they are in fact a species merely designed to do God's will, whatever it may be.

So we find accounts of angels as bringers of good news, like the birth of Christ, but also as bringers of plague and famine, as in the angel of death. However, these two messengers could, in fact, have been the same celestial being.

Throughout history, theologians and philosophers have disagreed vehemently on the order of the hierarchies in heaven. They have even disagreed on the number of heavens, variously described as either seven, nine or ten.

However, two of the earliest scripts on this subject do tally, so I take my lists from them. Dionysius, in his volume, *The Mystical Theologie and The Celestial Hierarchies*, and Thomas Aquinas in his *Summa Theologica* both agree on the following.

*Highest triad*: Seraphim, Cherubim and Thrones.

*Middle triad*: Dominations, Virtues, and Powers.

*Lower triad*: Principalities, Archangels and Angels.

Each of these orders has its own duties to perform and the entire thing is given a structure that seems entirely logical. God sits at the centre, at the heart of the universe, and each of the nine orders radiates out, just as the planets radiate out from the Sun.

The very highest order, seraphim, are said to circle God's throne, eternally singing his praises in a chant known as the *Trisagion*. This is regarded as the chant of life and, while it continues to be sung, life will go on and develop throughout the universe.

The seraphim are believed to be in direct communion with the Divine and are beings of pure energy and thought. They appear as an incredible light and are said to burn with 'the fire of love.'

However, when they appear to humans in their angelic form, they take on the more fearful countenance of a four-headed, six-winged beast. The prophet Isaiah so described them: 'Each had six wings; two covered the face, two covered the feet, and two were used for flying.'

## Connection

It may be this colourful description that initially sparked the connection between the seraphim and serpents. Whatever the original source, the seraphim have become closely associated with both snakes and dragons. In fact, the name seraphim derives from two Hebrew words, one meaning healer, doctor or surgeon and the other, higher being or guardian.

It comes as no surprise, therefore, to learn that the

Greek god Hermes is the same deity as the Egyptian Thoth who, in turn, is the same as the Roman Mercury who is the same as the chief seraphim, Michael.

All of these were associated with the taking of messages from the Divine to mortal man and all were gifted healers. Today we still see this connection with healing through the symbol of the medical profession, the caduceus, which has two snakes intertwined along the staff.

Second of the holy choirs are the cherubim. This term derives from the Hebrew *kerubh*, translated to mean, 'the ones who intercede.' In mythology cherubs have most commonly become known as guardians of sacred places.

In a biblical context, the casket which held the Ark of the Covenant had two golden cherubs guarding it and two were also said to guard Eden. Elsewhere, representations of these heavenly figures can be seen at the entrances to temples and other places of worship.

In Sumer and Babylon, cherubim equivalents became monstrous beings, again guarding sacred places and even kings. In the Near East, the cherubim evolved into the fabulous jin, or genies as we now know them, who are of course guardians of lost knowledge and power.

The thrones, third choir in the highest triad, are more of a mystery than any of the other angelic beings. The most detailed account of their appearance comes from Ezekiel but, basically, they are described as many eyed wheels, burning with the brightness of a million coals. They are credited with being the observers of every-

Said to reside in either the third or fourth heaven, thrones were most often seen as burn-

ing wheels in the sky. A curious comparison, indeed, to the descriptions of many UFOs today.

The second triad features the dominions, said to be 'angel regulators.' Presumably, therefore, they ensure that all the angelic beings, in every triad, complete their duties. They exist in the second heaven and are led by Zadkiel, closely followed by Hashmal, Yahriel and Muriel.

The virtues, fifth choir in the hierarchy, are the ones credited with bestowing blessings from on high, commonly regarded as miracles. They instil courage when it is needed and it was two of this group who appeared at Christ's Ascension and provided his escort to heaven.

The sixth choir, the powers, are literally the border guards between the first and second heavens. They watch over and resist the efforts of demons who want to take over the world and seek to preserve a balance between good and evil within each of us, as well as in the heavens.

## Balance

In fact, the middle triad is perhaps the most interesting group. Each has to try and maintain a balance of some kind between good and evil. It is in this constant battle that the angelic forces are put at risk of falling prey to the dark side.

The leaders of the virtues include Michael, Gabriel, Raphael and Satanel. This group was decimated during the great rebellion and it was Satanel, later to become simply Satan, who became the leader of the rebels. It took nine days for Satan and his followers to fall to Earth and establish what we now call hell.

The principalities or prince-doms, the seventh choir, are protectors of borders. Originally this was thought to refer to

actual countries or continents. In recent years, however, these borders have been accepted as those of morality and sanity. They are also charged with the protection of the borders of religion, an impossible task at the best of times.

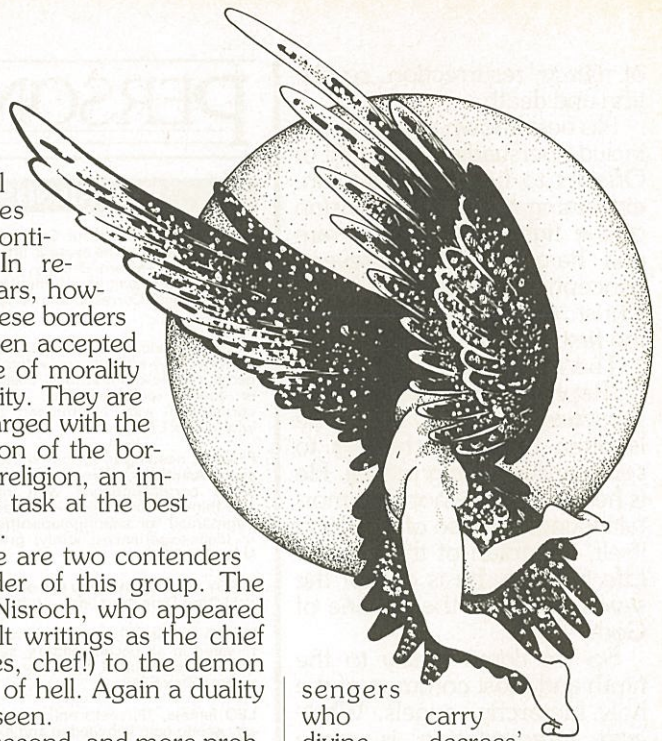
There are two contenders for leader of this group. The first is Nisroch, who appeared in occult writings as the chief chef (yes, chef!) to the demon princes of hell. Again a duality can be seen.

The second, and more probable leader is Anael (sometimes given as Haniel) who is also named as one of the seven angels of creation. He is also governor of the second heaven, with dominion over all the kingdoms and leaders of Earth. Another of their number, Cerviel, is titled 'the great prince of strength' and it is he who is said to have aided David in his slaying of Goliath.

The eighth choir, the archangels, are almost certainly the best known of the angelic beings. Two of their number, Michael and Gabriel, are named in the Old Testament and the seven angels who stand before God according to John (Revelation 8:2) are thought to be from their number; another, of course, is Raphael.

A most unholy row erupted in the ancient past, and continues to this day, about the identity of the seven angels of creation. Four names appear regularly and are largely agreed upon. These are Michael, Gabriel, Raphael and Uriel. As for the other three, perm any from several contenders including Metatron, Remiel, Sariel, Anael, Raguel and Raziel.

The archangels are the 'mes-



sengers who carry divine decrees' and, as such, are the ones with the most connection with mankind. They are the beings said to appear in dreams and visions and it is they who command the legions of heaven in their unceasing battle with the 'sons of darkness.'

Of these, the most famous by far is Michael. His deeds and exploits are written in the lore of many ancient cultures and, though his name changes, there is little doubt that it is the same celestial being.

It was Michael who stayed the hand of Abraham as he was about to sacrifice his son. It was he who appeared to Moses as a burning bush and who will descend from heaven with 'the keys of the abyss and a great chain in his hand' and will 'bind the satanic dragon for 1000 years.' It is Michael, too, who is credited with the slaying of 185,000 men of the Assyrian army which was threatening Jerusalem in 701 BC.

Gabriel is worth mentioning here since he is one of the two highest ranking in Judeo-Christian and Muslim religious lore. He sits at the left-hand side of God, is said to have 140 pairs of wings and is the angel

of mercy, resurrection, revelation and death.

His best known appearances include persuading the Maid of Orleans to help the Dauphin; explaining to Daniel his vision of the fight between the ram and he-goat; and at several conceptions including that of Christ. Gabriel is also ruler of the first heaven and of Eden.

The third of the famous trio is Raphael. Said to be the friendliest of all the angels, he is often depicted chatting to some unsuspecting mortal. He is healer of all — not only mortal wounds but also of the Earth itself. Guardian of the Tree of Life in Eden, he is one of the seven angels of the Throne of God.

So we come finally to the ninth and most common of the holy hierarchy, angels. Whatever interpretation is made here, from whatever language or age, angels have always been regarded as the messengers of God or the gods. They are intermediaries, if you will, between mortal man and the omnipotence of the Divine.

In this group are the guardian or ministering angels, said to be attached to one individual throughout his/her life span. How many such we have differs according to our preferred faith. According to the Jewish Talmud, each person is assigned 11,000 guardian angels at birth.

Though there is no official Christian stance on this, many writings confirm that we have two; one for the right hand, steering us towards good, one for the left, steering us towards evil. The duality of good and evil angelic forces is seen at its strongest here.

So, whatever you may have thought about angels, and this article merely skims the surface of a complex subject, you can be sure that all is not what it seems. Angels can work both for you and against you, and have frequently done so if many of the legends and myths surrounding these celestial beings are to be believed.

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## CONTACTS

**LIBRAN** male, hedgewitch, seeks sincere, non-curious company to explore this unfolding. Practical, philosophical, caring and sensitive. Humour, love and life. Help, I'm bored! London/South East. Box E755.

**PISCAN** female, 28, interested in paganism, Wicca, Shamanism, Tarot plus many other occult subjects wishes to meet/correspond with like-minded people. Cheshire/anywhere. ALA Box E757.

**LEO** female, who is inexperienced in the occult but also has a keen interest to learn, is looking for a Wiccan-oriented group to work with in Central Scotland. Box E756.

**WICCAN** male, 42, Virgo, High Priest, 2nd degree, non-smoker, GSOH, honest and genuine, seeking a working partner, any age but must be keen (I'm willing to teach right person). Interests: Tarot, ritual writing, meditation, path-working. South East Kent/Canterbury area. Box E759.

**SCORPIO** lady, 27, interested in environmental issues, animal rights, magic, dreams, herbalism, countryside and jazz music. Would like to meet new friends, any age, in Somerset/Devon area. Box E761.

**TWO** 18-year old witches (M & F) seeking fellow Craft members, similar age, in N.W. England for correspondence and regular coven meetings. Earth and Fire elements preferred. Box E762.

**PISCES** female 44, married, would like to meet anyone interested in visiting ancient sites,

healing work, dreams, cats and fairies. No transport but happy to pay petrol, etc. I live in Wiltshire, near Avebury. Box E765.

**SAGITTARIAN**, 33, having just rejected old habits/patterns, I'm enthusiastically embarking upon my spiritual path. I would love to establish a broad network of friends for mutual support and enlightenment. Box E766.

**PISCAN** female, 26, interested in Tarot, reincarnation, astrology, psychology, psychometry, most New Age subjects. Enjoys reading, cinema and music. Seeks like-minded friends Hounslow/West London area. Box E768.

**LIBRAN** male, 29, practising Druid would like to hear from/meet others living in Cornwall with an interest in any occult subjects. Box E769.

I would like to meet/correspond with like-minded animal lovers, into witchcraft, meditation, playing the Boran or Irish Tipper Drum, Green issues. I would like to learn more about magic. Box E770.

**LEO** male, 27, seeks individual/groups/magical partner, to guide me in the arts of witchcraft. Interests: Wicca, magic, astrology, folklore and ancient sites, Bradford/Yorkshire/anywhere. Box E774.

**AQUARIAN** male, 28, seeks friends who are also interested in Wicca, paganism and various other occult subjects. Also I'd like to hear from covens/groups in Bucks area. Box E775.

**CANCERIAN** male 24, London area, seeks kindred spirits for occult study group and/or correspondents interested in astral projection, ritual magic, divination methods. Box E776.

**LEO** female 24, seeks correspondence/meetings with people especially interested in Tarot, Egyptology, dream meanings, crystals and most other PREDICTION subjects. East Anglia/anywhere. Box E777.

**SCORPIO** female, 18, seeks like-minded friends in London/East Anglia. Interested in crystals, meditation, dancing, travel, South American culture. Box E781.

**GEMINI** male, 38, seeks like-minded friends Oxon/Berks area interested in astrology, Buddhism, art, natural medicines, astronomy. Sincere contacts only. Box E785.

## ASTRO-TWINS

**RETIRED** female Taurean would like to hear from others born May 15th 1937, 4.30-5.30pm, to compare life/events. Also, can anyone suggest best way to make talismans in wood, metal or ceramic; and do they work? ALA. Box E764.

## WANTED

**CATALOGUES** of astrology, occult and magical/New Age books, goods and services required. Write to Mr A. Joshi, 29 The Green, Chalvey, Slough, Berks SL1 2SL.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**FOUR** power centres on Earth? One is in California (positive), one in Sussex (negative) but I don't know where, do you? Also, where are the other two? Has anyone a map of electromagnetic fields in England, please? Box E767.

**DO** you have, or are you having experience of 'automatic writing'? If so, I would be very interested to hear from you. Box E779.

**HAVE** you experienced a psychic attack, night terror, a hex or haunting? If so, I would like to hear from you as I'm researching people's experiences with paranormal malevolence. Genuine replies only please. Confidentiality assured. Box E780.



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Letters for publication are welcomed. Address: The Editor, Prediction, Link House, Dingwall Avenue, Croydon CR9 2TA. Correspondents must give their names and full addresses. All correspondence must be accompanied by an sae.

# LETTER S

## RETROGRADE MERCURY

WITH REGARD TO the article on Retrograde Mercury by Joy Hicklin-Bailey (April), I believe this can have a physical effect on people.

My eldest grandson is perfectly normal and healthy but his brother and sister, born when my son and his wife were going through their Saturn Return, were both born with a cleft palate and receding chin but not a hare lip.

Both children have Mercury retrograde in their charts. They had to spend three months in hospital lying face-down on a frame while gravity brought their chins forward.

When we were visiting the small unit where the babies were treated, the sister in charge told us that when the babies currently in care were ready to go home, there would be others coming in; apparently there was no overlap with such patients. So obviously something happens every three months — Mercury goes retrograde!

Mrs G. Hall  
Colwyn Bay  
North Wales

## EVOLUTION v REINCAR-NATION

CONTINUING THE REINCAR-NATION debate triggered by the article, *Odds Against* (Dec 96) and J. Price's letter (May 97) on the subject, readers may care to consider an alternative theory.

Under hypnosis, while the mind is free and relaxed, memory traces from others may be assimilated and then recalled in a way not unlike telepathy. If we can inherit physical traits which are passed down through many generations, then why should we not also inherit thoughts, impulses and

memories which may then be relived and given utterance while in the free hypnotic state?

Regressive hypnosis may actually be unnecessary for children as they are, by very nature of their youth, closer to and more aware of what Jung called the collective unconscious. This fact may account for their ability to appear more psychic than adults.

A child's soul may recently have left a higher or lower plane of existence to learn Earthly values, human lessons, and may, therefore, still be well in tune with or even in contact with collective thoughts and memories from other planes.

It is possible, I believe, for those on another plane to transmit thoughts and memories to the living even while the latter are still in the womb — the mind is, after all, unplumbable and totally free-ranging. This may explain what, to me, is the anomaly of reincarnation.

What is the point of reincarnation anyway? If we are here to learn lessons from each incarnation, then we would surely have been given the faculty/facility to recall past errors in order to avoid them in the future.

We do continue and evolve but not, I believe, through a series of incarnations. The learning process will go on but on other planes of existence where knowledge and wisdom are added to.

Jenny Proom  
Devon

## DREAM WARNINGS?

I HAD NOT taken the idea of dream analysis seriously until recently when I made contact with someone who believes

that certain recurring dreams can be a warning of some sort, especially in relation to people and places. I would be interested to hear from other PREDICTION readers who have discovered that their dreams, especially those dealing with dangerous situations, have come true.

Tim Sullivan

7 Marian Place  
Cahirciveen  
Co Kerry  
Eire

## HELP NEEDED

AS AN UNDERGRADUATE in psychology, I am undertaking a Summer project on psychic experiences and sleep paralysis and will be studying spiritual/psychic healing for my final year. Can any reader help?

For the first project, I am looking for reports of psychic experiences, either on their own or those that have occurred in conjunction with sleep paralysis. For the second, I would appreciate reports of any spiritual/psychic healing undergone by readers or their pets. It would be helpful to have details of ailments, what treatment was given and its outcome plus present health status.

All information received will be treated as strictly confidential. If any reader wishes to remain anonymous when writing to me, that is fine too, though details of age and gender would be especially helpful.

Thank you in advance if you are willing to help. Please write directly to me at the following address.

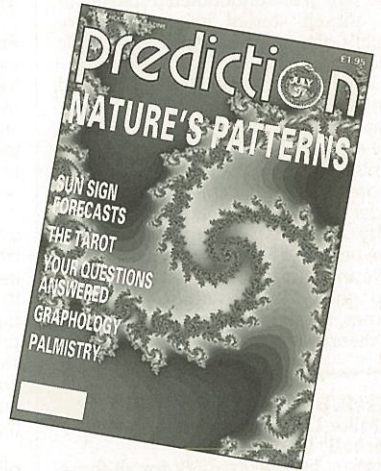
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# BOOK REVIEWS

## PSYCHIC DEVELOPMENT FOR BEGINNERS

by William W. Hewitt  
(Llewellyn/Airlift, \$9.95/£7.99)

THE TITLE OF this book accurately describes its contents. Here are plenty of exercises/descriptions/anecdotal material which are undoubtedly suitable to get oneself started in a reasonably straight direction through the esoteric mire.

Certainly there will be nothing found within these pages that one will not have been picked up before and it is very much a beginners' guide. There's nothing wrong with that, of course, but I wonder just how the discriminating reader will be able to choose among so many examples in similar vein that have been published recently.

Nevertheless, Hewitt has written a very good introduction to the basic themes in psychical phenomena and the means of their production. — M.R.

## ARTHURIAN MYTH & LEGEND

by Mike Dixon-Kennedy  
(Cassell, £16.99 hbk)

A USEFUL REFERENCE work for all those interested in Arthurian myth and legend. The author spent some 15 years reviewing available literature and contacting authoritative sources before compiling this work that includes over 2,000 entries that cover every aspect of his theme.

The book is easy to use as it is put together in dictionary format with a cross-reference system that enables one to follow through a theme; where heading words have an alternative spelling this is shown under the main entry as well as being allotted a short entry of its own. There is a guide to spelling and pronunciation and an impressive bibliography.

I am sure this 'A-Z of people and places' will become a standard reference work for all those who lean towards Celtic lore and Arthur in particular. — B.L.

## THE COMPLETE ILLUSTRATED HOLISTIC HERBAL

by David Hoffman  
(Element, £16.99 hbk)

ONE IN A series of essential reference guides to specific branches of complementary medicine, this copiously illustrated, large format, hardback book is a boon to novice and practitioner alike.

Divided into four main sections plus practical information on when to gather herbs, useful addresses, further reading, etc this beautifully presented,

250 plus paged book is certainly comprehensive. Part One explains the underlying principles of the holistic approach to health and healing; Part Two focuses on the practical aspects of medical herbalism, such as what plant to use, when, how to prepare it and what it does.

The main body of text occupies Parts Three and Four, the former being the actual herbal, the latter covering the bodily systems. Thus it is possible to approach the subject either by studying the plants and what they are used for or to look up a specific health problem and see which remedies are recommended.

The herbal is attractively laid out with at least one full-colour photo illustrating each individual entry which is listed according to its common name, though its botanical name is given also. Each entry details the herb's main properties, the part/s used, its constituents, actions, preparation and dosage plus information on other herbs with which it can be combined in treatments.

The bodily systems section is compiled equally sensibly with practical advice not only on appropriate herbal treatments but remedial diets and other hints on how to both relieve and, better still, avoid symptoms of ill-health. Again, the presentation is attractive with numerous colourful illustrations enlivening the text which, incidentally, is highly accessible even to the layperson.

All in all, an excellent guide to herbalism for anyone interested in a practical, holistic approach to health who is intent on improving his/her general well-being. Recommended. — M.E.

## WITCHCRAFT — A BEGINNER'S GUIDE

by Teresa Moorey  
(Hodder & Stoughton, £5.99)

IF YOU HAVE always been interested in the Craft but are unsure what it entails and do not fully understand it, then this is the book for you.

Easy to read, this book covers just about everything you need to know on the subject and answers all your questions. It deals with the Goddess, beliefs, practices, marriages and magic; in fact, it describes Wicca and paganism seriously.

This is no guide to being a witch as this is not something that can be taught but comes from within. However, this useful little paperback can certainly get you started on the Wiccan path and

dispel all those silly notions of pointed hats and broomsticks.

Although witchcraft is old, an ancient way of life, it is still practised today by many worldwide and can be very rewarding to those whose beliefs are sincere. At the back of the book is a list of handy addresses and suggestions for further reading. — C.B.

## A PSYCHOLOGICAL ZODIAC

by Angela Arnold  
(Waterweaver Press, £8.85)

THERE CAN BE no doubt that the psychological system of C.G. Jung has greatly enriched the art of astrology over the past decades. Now there are dozens of astrology books woven upon the insights of Jung, many of which are indeed excellent and can greatly broaden the astrologer's horizon.

Here is yet another where the author attempts to link Jungian categories (introvert/extrovert; sensation, feeling, thinking, intuition) with the zodiacal signs. Usually I am keen to peruse the latest thinking on this subject but, try as I might, not much progress was made with this one.

I felt that no sooner had I grasped a thread than it was snatched away, only to end up floundering in a sea of verbiage; reminding me of my early efforts to read Heidegger and James Joyce. It all sounds very impressive initially but suddenly you realise that it's just words, words, words, changing like a TV screen run wild.

The author could have written a much more accessible book if she had kept to a shorter and clearer path. But maybe I'm getting impatient in my old age! — R.H.

## ADVANCED CANDLE MAGICK

by Ray Buckland  
(Llewellyn/Airlift,  
\$12.95/£10.99)

THIS IS THE latest in a series on practical magic and is a follow-up to Buckland's earlier work *Practical Candleburning*, first published in 1970, which has now sold over 200,000 copies. It begins with a description of magic and how it works, then introduces the reader to the practical workings of candle magic in part two.

Buckland evidently believes you have to go the whole way in practising this simple magical art. This includes robes, altars, tools, casting a circle and all the other ritual paraphernalia. The old cunning folk who practised candle magic generations ago might not have been so concerned with the trappings.

Nevertheless, Buckland eventually provides rituals that the reader can perform. These include how to find a perfect mate (sic), to find happiness, contact a spirit guide, cure bad habits, etc. The book concludes with a list of magical correspondences.

All in all, a useful guide to one of the easiest and most practical forms of magic available to the would-be magus. — M.H.

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## THE MOON AND YOU FOR BEGINNERS

by **Teresa Moorey**  
(Headway, £5.99)

THE AUTHOR APPEARS to lack astrological knowledge. For instance, she is evidently unaware that anybody but Dane Rudhyar has done work on the phases of the Moon yet goes on to say, 'My types have characteristics in common with his, except that I divide the cycle into nine, not eight,' thus dismissing the work of one of the all-time greats in one fell swoop without proper explanation. Not a good start!

A few pages are devoted to aspects of the Goddess, femininity, astronomy and Lunations but most of the text is given over to the nine chapters on the author's phases, each one ending with a suggested visualisation which is spelled out in detail. The book does contain tables enabling one to find one's own Moon phase at a glance where this is unknown and these have a fairly high accuracy rate (80%) as the author claims. — B.L.

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## UFO: A DEADLY CONCEALMENT

by **Derek Sheffield**  
(Blandford, £9.99)

THERE HAVE BEEN plenty of occasions when governments, of whatever hue and country, have been suspected of attempting to cover up UFO sightings. The reasons for such deception are twofold: avoidance of public panic and belief that such objects are the work of alien governments or from beyond our planetary environment and so on.

As Sheffield mentions in this excellently researched book, 'The clandestine actions of the intelligence services would indicate a knowledge, and an involvement, that show that its intentions are not open and honest ... the scenario is frightening.'

He admits his evidence is mainly circumstantial yet it is certainly none the worse for that. Dealing with a phenomenon which, by its very nature, frustrates the collection of objective evidence means one is bound to be in the position of collating information regarding a cover-up in this manner.

On three separate occasions between November 1989 and March 1990 a UFO was picked up on radar in the sky over Belgium. On the third occasion almost 14,000 people wit-

nessed the event which was picked up by five radar stations. Then, surprise, surprise, statements from the British MOD and Belgium Air Force regarding this incident were found by Sheffield to be both contradictory and misleading.

One indication of just how misleading information peddled by the authorities can be was their claim that it could have been a 'laser effect from a night club.' The problem with this evasion is that radar will not, in any circumstances, detect any form of light. Basically, it seems that the authorities rely on the perceived attitude of those who state they have seen UFOs being deluded, hallucinating or liars.

This book's merit is due mainly to Sheffield's considerable patience in producing hard evidence of the efforts of those in power to mislead us and hide at every turn of the investigative screw. Do the authorities really believe we are daft as they imagine?

A worthy read for those who subscribe to the government conspiracy theory: a 'deadly concealment' indeed. — M.R.

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## A BARD'S BOOK OF PAGAN SONGS

by **Hugin the Bard**  
(Llewellyn/Airlift,  
\$12.95/£11.95)

AS SOMEONE WHO really enjoys listening to music, from Debussy to Dire Straits, but who can neither read it nor play an instrument, reviewing this book is a little difficult. Because of this, I am not qualified to judge the merits of Hugin's musical talents as a composer and songwriter or how the songs will sound — we may have to wait for the album for that!

Essentially, this is a songbook based on the Welsh collection of legends and folk tales known as *The Mabinogion* plus some other pagan songs written by the author. Obviously, this is a book that will appeal to those musicians who are interested in the Welsh myths and Celtic-orientated folk music.

The latter is pretty sexy in the US at present with Clannad, etc enjoying rising popularity, so this book may well sell better over there than here. — M.H.

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## BIG SKY MIND: Buddhism and the Beat Generation

edited by **Carole Tonkison**  
(Thorsons, £12.99)

AFTER THE PUBLICATION of *On the Road* in 1957, many left safe but boring jobs to shoulder a rucksack themselves in imitation of its author, Jack Kerouac, whose own life had been radically changed by a book. This latter was *Walden* by the writer and mystic, Henry Thoreau.

Kerouac combined a serious study of Buddhist scriptures with a brand new spontaneous free-form style of writing

with which he captured the experience of the fleeting moment. Thus began the 'Beat Generation,' a reaction against the material and conformist culture of post-war America.

This anthology contains a brief introduction to a selection of these hugely influential writers and poets including Allan Ginsberg, William Burroughs, Lawrence Ferlinghetti (founder of the famous City Lights bookshop in San Francisco), Diane de Prima and Gary Snyder, plus a dozen others. Although varying in literary style and outlook, they all shared an urge for a revolution in consciousness, considering themselves not just artists but on a spiritual quest.

Ginsberg, a confirmed Tibetan Buddhist since 1972, states that the paths of poet and spiritual seeker are inseparable. Before his death in 1969, when asked what he thought, Kerouac replied, 'God, I want God to show me His face.'

If you don't know these 'beatific' texts, get 'on the road' right away and hitch a ride to your nearest enlightened bookshop! — J.T.M.

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## EGYPT AFTER THE PHAROAHS

by **Alan K. Bowman**  
(British Museum Press, £14.99)

MENTION THE ANCIENT Egyptians and most people automatically think of the prolonged period of Pharaonic rule. Yet the 1,000 years between Alexander the Great's invasion in 332BC and the Arab conquest in 642AD marks a time of enormous change in Egypt's history.

The Hellenistic era under the powerful Ptolemies ended with the defeat of Antony and Cleopatra in 30BC when Egypt became a province of Rome. Then, under Byzantine emperors the country enjoyed renewed political influence and continued prosperity as Christianity began to displace the ancient Egyptian and Greek deities.

This is a fascinating era, a period of transition, when Egypt not only absorbed important influences but contributed greatly to the classical world in terms of architecture, devotional and decorative arts, trade, industry and commerce. Happily, too, it is a well-documented period with a wide range of source material including the writings of historians, geographers and the like plus numerous archaeological remains and artefacts as well as thousands of papyri texts.

Here, then, is a remarkably well-researched and detailed exploration of arguably the most exciting millennium in Egyptian history which forges a link between the ancient past and what has evolved into modern society. It is a remarkable period where external influences have wrought internal changes

(continued overleaf)

# BOOKS

(continued from previous page)

in every conceivable aspect of life for an age-old and powerful civilisation.

Liberal illustrated in black and white and full-colour, well annotated and with an impressive bibliography, this is a book that will delight classical scholars as well as those for whom ancient Egypt holds an undying fascination. Highly recommended. — M.E.

## TRUE CRIME ASTROLOGY

by **Edna Rowland**  
(Llewellyn/Airlift,  
\$14.95/£11.99)

THE AUTHOR IS intrigued by murder, suicide and violent death and her book will appeal to those astrologers who are similarly addicted, which means most of us.

She has collected ten cases and gives exhaustive details including very full, clear charts. There are natal charts of the victims and perpetrators, progressions, pre-natal epochs, times of the dastardly deeds, times the police were called, times of forced entries, arrests and executions. Also birth dates of those on the periphery of events.

It's an American publication so is slanted towards that market but John Lennon, Marilyn Monroe and Sylvia Plath at least are internationally known. Midpoints and Arabic Parts associated with violent death are also called upon.

All in all, an astrological feast of facts and figures. Sadly, with the recent spate of sensational killings, the catalogue can be added to almost daily.

Whether any conclusions can be drawn is doubtful. Like everyone else, astrologers can only be wise after the event but, awful though the subject is, it's one which will always hold the fascination of the horrible. — J.R.

## NO FAITH REQUIRED

by **Matthew Manning**  
(Eikstein Pubs/Colin Smythe,  
£5.99)

MATTHEW MANNING CREATED a sensation during the 70s by demonstrating various psychic powers to the satisfaction of the public and various research establishments. Now he devotes himself to healing and encouraging positive thinking in those suffering various psychosomatic and physical illnesses.

He states that his approach relies on reversing negative psychological and emotional trends and encouraging people not to feel trapped and victimised by life and to deal with problems in a positive, creative way. He explains several techniques which are

common to many healing traditions.

The book is full of objective healing which Manning has successfully performed on terminal patients and so on. He does not, however, claim to heal everyone since so many differing factors are involved in illness.

Nevertheless this small book is quite impressive in the evidence it presents and the tips it provides on how to change one's attitude to life. A useful buy. — M.R.

## THE MODERN NUMEROLOGY

by **John King**  
(Blandford, £8.99)

THIS WORK FULLY lives up to its subtitle: A Practical Guide to the Meaning and Influence of Numbers. This is a fascinating, wonderfully well-researched book, one that anyone with even the slightest interest in numbers will find a magnificent and useful addition to the reference shelf.

The author has left hardly a stone unturned regarding numbers in bringing this work before the reader. The origins, history and meaning of number, mystical or unusual matters such as the Cabbala, Gematria and magic squares have all been put under his microscope.

And King has done it all so well that, in places, I found this to be a better book on numbers and their origin than some 'dedicated' historical number books written specifically for that purpose. This is a marvellous entertainment and a brilliant achievement: an absolute credit to the author.

Highly recommended. — P.W.

## GREEN WITCHCRAFT

by **Ann Moura**  
(Llewellyn/Airlift,  
\$12.95/£11.99)

NEVER HEARD OF 'Green Witchcraft'? Well, you have now. Basically, it is a new tradition woven together by the author of this book.

Broadly, this is based on material allegedly supplied to her as a child by her Spanish Catholic mother and grandmother in Brazil plus quite a lot (largely unacknowledged) inspiration from modern Wicca and neo-paganism. The result is an ethnic pot-pourri of 'folk witchcraft' with herbal remedies, tea-leaf reading, Tarot, crystals, runes and whatever else you can think of thrown into the mix.

If that were not a rich enough diet, Moura also has some pretty idiosyncratic ideas about Aryans (sic) and the origins of the Celts. Because of this, her version of witchcraft contains some Hindu elements — and, as Barry Norman is so fond of saying, why not? Despite this departure into exoticism, the seasonal rites provided for wannabe green witches follow the traditional pattern of the cycle of the God, from his birth at Yule to his descent to

the Underworld in the Fall.

This book may confuse some beginners as its influences are drawn from so many sources and cultures. Witchcraft has always been eclectic, even adopting a Christian guise when times were difficult and it needed to survive. This is very much a case of 'if it works for you, do it' and this book has that attitude in Spades. — M.H.

## THE PHOTOGRAPHIC I CHING

by **Dhiresha McCarver & Gary**

**Woods**  
(Virgin, £12.99)

THERE HAVE BEEN several attempts to illustrate the I Ching, both with drawings and paintings, so it is no surprise for a photographic interpretation to turn up. On the face of it, this seems a good idea yet, for anyone familiar with the various versions and translations, this volume will be something of a disappointment for two reasons.

Although there are plenty of more modern texts available, for some odd reason McCarver has chosen to base her paraphrase of the text on James Legge's 1899 translation; one least suited to casual use. Also the use of blow-ups of Wood's photographs on the walls of the Getty Museum in California where I'm sure they look impressive. Unhappily, though, few of these photos are successful as illustrations to the hexagrams because they are too pale and nebulous.

All of which is a pity for this is an impressive book at first glance, so perhaps it might make a suitable present for a beginner. — J.T.M.

## A THEORY OF ALMOST EVERYTHING

by **Robert Barry**  
(Oneworld, £8.99/\$13.95)

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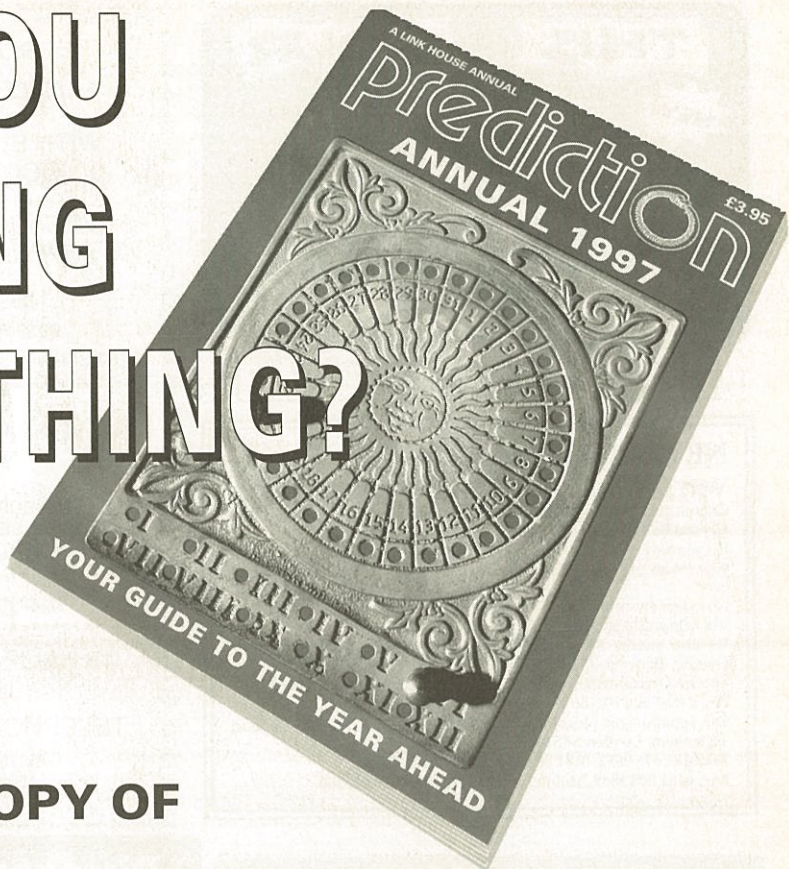
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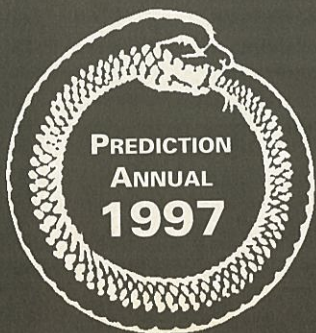
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AUGUST	29 MAY 97	11 JULY 97
SEPTEMBER	26 JUNE 97	8 AUGUST 97
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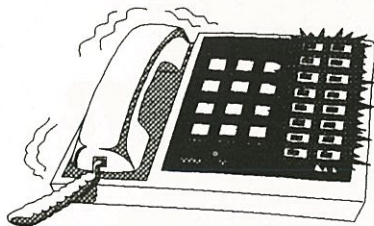
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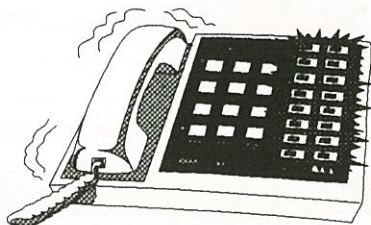
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