

THE TEILHARD NEWSLETTER

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SEPTEMBER 2005

Dear Member,

Newsletter 18 due in July has been delayed due to the editors having had extra commitments thrust upon them. Work has now started on preparing copy. In the meantime here are some news and administrative items. Part 2 of Newsletter 18 should be with you by the end of October and will include a report of the London event on 2nd October (see below)

Subscriptions

Firstly, thank you to those of you who have paid by banker's order this year. Secondly, those who pay by cheque and have not yet paid for this year, should do so now. Subscriptions are £20 for members in employment, and £15 for those who are retired. We have recently received a cheque for over £500 in respect of Gift Aid from the Inland Revenue. Please consider completing a Gift Aid form if you have not already done so.

Subscriptions are due to be reviewed at the next Committee Meeting in October, but will not be increased for 2005. If you are in a position to pay next year's subscriptions at this time that would be appreciated.

Our next event – Saturday 2nd October

This is a one day conference entitled 'Pursuing a Vision' which has been organised jointly with the Alister Hardy Society. I have been asked by John Franklin to emphasise that the £25 charge to members includes lunch. (A leaflet was attached/enclosed for members. See Part 2 of this Newsletter for a report on the event)

Discount offer (members of BTA only) on the new translation of 'The Divine Milieu'

A leaflet from Sussex Academic Press is available for members. Please note that the new translation of *The Human Phenomenon* (title revised from *The Phenomenon of Man*) is also now available in paperback.

Information on Rome conference being organised by the French Association des Amis de P. Teilhard de Chardin (Association of Friends of Teilhard de Chardin) next month

The conference is on the theme: 'Un monde en evolution: foi, science, et théologie' (**A World in Evolution: Faith, Science, and Theology**). It is being held from 21st to 24th October. The proceedings on Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd will take place at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. His Eminence Paul Cardinal Poupard will preside. On Saturday 23rd participants will depart for a day in Assisi, returning to Rome in the evening. On the Sunday there will be a concelebrated Mass in St Ignatius Church, where there will be a performance of a new musical version of Teilhard's 'Mass on the World.' The proceedings will mostly be in French (though some presentations will be in English).

(In the Newsletter circulated to members an offer was made to assist with the financing of anyone who wished to attend the event, along with contact details with the French Association)

Events being planned for 2005 – 50th Anniversary of Teilhard's death

The dates for our conference at London Colney were announced in the last Newsletter (Friday 29th April – Sunday May 1st) Jesuit Fathers Bob Faricy and Jim Skehan have accepted invitations to speak. Sheets are enclosed with details of conferences proposed in the USA, with details of people to contact.

Further UK events in 2005 are being considered, in particular we hope to organise an event in Scotland.

New publicity material

A revised publicity leaflet has been prepared. (Copies were attached/enclosed for members, and details of supplementary information being prepared was also given.)

Approval of accounts for year ended December 2003

Those of you who attended the AGM at London Colney in March will recall that due to some communication problems with the accountant appointed as examiner, the accounts could not be approved. In the interim, the accounts have been computerised, a new examiner has been appointed (subject to formal approval at next year's AGM) who has examined the accounts and supporting documentation. His report (along with a copy of the accounts, of course) is about to be dispatched to the Charities Commission. I will be pleased to send out a copy of the accounts and the examiner's report to anyone who would like to see them.

Hopefully all will be straightforward for the accounts to December 2004. Accounts for both 2003 and 2004 will come forward for approval at next year's AGM.

Revisions to constitution

Again those of you who attended the AGM at London Colney will recall that copies of the existing constitution and of a document containing suggested amendments were available for perusal and comment. The Executive Committee approved these amendments (with a few minor changes) at its meeting in July. These revisions will therefore be coming forward to next year's AGM for approval. A short article outlining the main changes and the reasons for them is planned for the next Newsletter.

Recruitment

Several more people who came to the Conference have joined us since May. And we have had two recent recruits via our website.

Communications and enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary:
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The British Teilhard Association is established to promote the study of the works, thought and teaching of Pierre Teilhard de Chardin SJ and to develop such study in accordance with his own words: "If I have had a mission to fulfil, it will only be possible to judge whether I have accomplished it by the extent to which others go beyond me."