

HOPE IN THE CITIES AT WHITE HOUSE

At a meeting at the White House on 9 March, Paige Charoigis presented President Clinton with Michael Henderson's new book *Forgiveness – Breaking the Chain of Hate*. Paige was representing Hope in the Cities at the meeting which brought together religious leaders of many faiths who are carrying forward the President's One America initiative for racial reconciliation and justice.

The previous week Paige and I were among 20,000 people who joined the President and more than 30 Members of Congress of both parties at the 35th anniversary of the Selma Voting Rights March. Before the event, the Congressional group heard from the Selma Hope in the Cities team about their experiences of honest conversation and racial reconciliation.

The Hope in the Cities website has a new section featuring its international partners – in Witbank and Middelburg (South Africa), Ramle (Israel), Mumbai, Australia and the UK. Hope in the Cities welcomes announcements, news and stories of community building. Please send to: Hopecities@aol.com.

Rob Corcoran

CAUX SCHOLARS MEET IN LONDON

In January the second Caux Scholars reunion, held at the new MRA center in London, brought together 25 of the program's graduates from places as diverse as Mozambique, Russia and California.

The theme of the weekend gathering was 'Information, inspiration and practical tips for 21st century peacemakers'. Its aim was to renew the vision found in Caux, particularly having in mind those who work alone in difficult circumstances.

On the Saturday, the Caux Scholars were joined by 40 people, including UK co-workers, students and young professionals, for the keynote address by veteran Quaker peacemaker Adam Curle. They then took part in a variety of workshops and panels.

Naila Sherman

SECOND CAMBODIAN FORUM

The second forum on National Reconciliation and the Khmer Rouge, initiated by Chea Vannath, President of the independent Centre for Social Development, took place in Phnom Penh last month. It was charged with emotion. One speaker had lost 30 members of his family. Eighteen speakers in the first hour addressed the question of whether the Khmer Rouge should be tried.

The forum coincided with the visit of four of us after the Panchgani Consultation. Chea Vannath met several times with us, discussing how MRA could

assist in the healing process, and other urgent needs such as addressing corruption and training students in moral values. Much is already being done.

Kassie Neou, Director of the Cambodian Institute of Human Rights, who first visited Caux in 1990, has programs running in all 24 provinces – human rights education for 30,000 teachers, seminars in 'good governance' for provincial governors and officials, and a 'Culture of Peace' conference in a province each month.

Prince Norodom Ranariddh, President of the National Assembly, met with us for an hour, and we also had frank and heartfelt conversations with other politicians and student leaders.

Mike Brown

PRAYER FOR PEACE BEGINS YEAR

In Sydney last month, the Buddhist leaders of the Vietnamese, Cambodian and Laotian communities joined in a Day of Prayer for Peace at the start of the Year of the Golden Dragon. It was the first collaborative effort between the three communities, and Sydney's stately Phuoc Hue Vietnamese Temple was filled with people for the ceremony. The organising committee included Henry Dang (Vietnam), Keat Sukun (Cambodia) and Tianethone Chantharasy (Laos), all of whom came together at the MRA conference in Sydney in December. 'Our decision to work together is in itself an exceptional achievement,' Mr Chantharasy told the gathering. 'By being here we are promoting mutual respect, and breaking the chain of hatred and revenge.'

Jane Mills

A DAY OF LISTENING AND PRAYER

During the Global Consultation at Panchgani we decided we would make June 4th an international day of listening and prayer. The aim of the day is to support each other through prayer and meditation. It is an opportunity to be in spiritual communion, even though thousands of miles apart, and to reinforce our unity as part of the MRA world family.

The theme for 4 June this year will be 'peace': first making peace inside me, then around me, promoting peace where there is discord in my family, my country, my region and the world.

The Day will start at 6 am: everyone according to his or her habits or confession, as a group or individually and for as long as the Spirit inspires us. Thus we will build a chain of prayer, meditation and attentive listening.

So I invite all of us on that day to be connected together in a very special way with the Almighty in order to capture what he expects us to do for the peace he wants to give to us.

Lucienne Munono, Democratic Republic of Congo

GRAFT-BUSTING

Participants at the Consultation repeatedly stressed the urgency of tackling corruption and building on initiatives such as the Clean Election Campaigns. To carry this forward, we plan to publish the most striking evidence of action which individuals or groups have taken, starting with themselves, to build honesty and integrity into their communities and national life. As a first step, we wish to gather all the evidence we can, and I have offered to do this. It does not need to be written for publication at this stage, but can be in brief outline, to give an indication of what is available. Please could you send material to me, by 31 May, at 61 Moordale St, Chapel Hill, Queensland 4069, Australia Fax: +61 7 3378 0112 e-mail: lightow@ozemail.com.au

Brian Lightowler

CAUX ALIVE

Balkan Seminar

Forty-two theology students from the Balkans met in Caux last month for a nine-day conference organised by the Boston Theological Institute and hosted by MRA.

The BTI's Director, a senior professor and a young doctoral student came to Caux last summer to discuss the concept. The best time for it turned out to be February when the Swiss Hotel Management School is in progress. So the School's chef provided meals in the main dining room, while the meetings were held at the Villa Maria.

These Orthodox, Catholic, Protestant and Muslim students from Zagreb, Osijek, Đakovo, Belgrade, Sarajevo, Banja Luka and Pristina listened carefully to presentations in the plenaries, and talked in smaller groups, which they found especially helpful. As one participant put it before leaving, 'the encouragement which we have received for our future task as shepherds and spiritual leaders in our war-torn region is immensely valuable'. The students were accompanied by an Orthodox priest from Belgrade, a Catholic Vicar General, a Franciscan priest, a Muslim Professor from Sarajevo, an Imam and two Protestant ministers from Pristina, who played an important part in creating the open and constructive atmosphere.

In an agreed final Joint Statement, the participants recognised the need for each faith tradition to respect the others, and opposed the 'identification of their faiths with national ideologies'. 'Manipulative abuse of religion for daily politics is not acceptable', they concluded (see full text at www.caux.ch).

Guest speakers included Cornelio Sommaruga, the new President of the Caux Foundation, Vladimir Zielinsky, Professor of Orthodox Theology from Brescia in Italy, the rabbi in charge of US Army chaplains in Europe and a representative of the San Egidio community in Rome.

As hosts during these intensive days we made new friends and renewed contact with some we knew from our visits to the region. Special thanks go to all who accompanied us during those days with their thoughts and prayers.

Planning and building

Immediately afterwards a working group of twelve – from Helsinki, Falun, The Hague, Paris, Strasbourg, Luzern and Caux – was meeting with the Tricon team in Mountain House to plan for the implementation of the Tricon report on the kitchen, service and economat for the coming summer. Their next rendezvous is at the end of April and then at Tirley Garth in May.

Two generous British friends have also been for a 'work week' to undertake preparations and maintenance work and one returns in a few days to continue.

With grateful pre-spring greetings from Switzerland,

*Christoph & Ulrike Keller, Jean Fiaux,
Christoph & Marianne Spreng, Andrew Stallybrass.*

PREPARING FOR CAUX IN TIRLEY GARTH

Welcome to Tirley Garth, May 10-15, to prepare for summer 2000 at Caux!

Our friends at Tirley expect us on Wednesday, May 10 by 18.00. We will depart on Monday 15, morning. During our time together we will:

1) look at the sessions of the CAUX-SUMMER 2000. So we are counting on the hosting- and organising-team for each session to send an excellent representation able to inform us all about their plans for the session and to share the decisions on the overall life of the house during the summer.

2) discuss those recommendations of the Tricon report (on Friday, May 12) which we have decided to implement.

3) brainstorm on the summer of 2001: on suggestions for a general theme, on the outline and the structure. So please do send ahead, or bring with you, any information, hopes, dreams, requests and suggestions for 2001.

4) Those attending such preparation times have found the hours of reflection and sharing on a given theme that concerns all our lives – in Caux AND during the year – helpful and greatly needed. This year's theme will be: "Why and what for?" Starting with the question "Caux Summer 2000 – what for?" (on Saturday) we will spend time on our personal and common **calling and aims for the summer and thus our calling and aims in life.**

Throughout Monday and Tuesday, May 15-16, there will be a meeting of those interested in the kitchen and service side of Mountain House, called by Alison Wetterfors, Ulrike Keller and Hannu Laaksonen.

*Mike Brown, James Hore-Ruthven, Christine Karrer,
Ulrike Keller, Hannu Laaksonen, Mike Lowe,
Johannes de Pous, Christoph and Marianne Spreng,
Andrew Stallybrass, Audrey and Brian Thirlaway,
Alison Wetterfors, Lotty Wolvekamp*

Please could you let us know of your attendance (if possible with travel details) **by April 5** by contacting C & M Spreng <CSpreng@compuserve.com> or Brian Thirlaway <ThirlawayB@aol.com> If you plan to stay for the 15th and 16th, please inform Brian Thirlaway as well as Alison or Hannu or Ulrike.

PICTORIAL ON ASIA PLATEAU

The new Asia Plateau Pictorial is now ready for distribution. The suggested contribution is US\$5 per copy. Copies can be ordered as follows:

(1) for Europe and the Americas from David Young, 15 Vale Avenue, Brighton BN1 8UB, UK.

<DavidSYoung@aol.com>

(2) for Africa from Ashwin Patel, PO Box 14208, Nairobi, Kenya. <aswin@form-net.com>

(3) for Asia and the Pacific from Mike Brown, 9 Serpentine Road, Belair, SA 5052, Australia.

<mikejeanbrown@compuserve.com>

IDEAS NEEDED FOR BOOKS AT CAUX

We want to ask for your help and advice on books to stock in the Caux bookshop during the summer conferences. In recent years, we have increasingly sold titles that friends recommended on themes related to our conferences. So, if you have ideas, please send them to us (cauxbooks@caux.ch) with the name of the author, the publisher and the date of publication. Please also let us know about any authors coming to Caux, giving lectures or talks, so that we can order their books in good time. Replies to us by the end of April, to give us the time needed to send in the orders, and for the parcels to arrive in Caux.

Charles Piguet, Andrew Stallybrass

WEB AND PUBLICATIONS MEETING AT CAUX

For the fourth year, those concerned with MRA publications, media and our presence on the Web will meet in Caux on Monday 24th and Tuesday 25th July. This doesn't exclude further meetings during the summer, but we have greatly valued these face-to-face meetings, and we've discovered many synergies. Ideas and participation welcome. Please reply to Edward Howard <edwardh@mra.org.uk> and Andrew Stallybrass <stallybrass@compuserve.com>

CAUX SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Caux Scholars Program, a month-long course in conflict transformation, will take place in Caux, July 12 to August 12, 2000. The deadline for applications is April 1 and we still have openings. Please spread the word about this opportunity and ask interested candidates to contact me at CauxSP@aol.com. The program fee is \$2000, which covers tuition plus room and board in Caux.

Naila Sherman

MEETING IN MACKINAC

Friends connected to Mackinac through past associations and current activities will gather at Mission Point Resort in Mackinac, May 28-31. It will be an opportunity to share how the 'Mackinac spirit' has impacted both our outward and our inward journeys. Subjects for exploration will include the

skills needed for these journeys and what we are all learning about infusing God's Spirit into the communities where we live, the places where we work and the networks of concern in which we participate.

(For more information contact MRA Washington)

NON-FULL TIME PEOPLE IN MRA

The role of non-full time people in MRA is an important issue as we move into the 21st century. The time had to come for the dialogue proposed by Ashwin Patel in the February World Bulletin. So far he has not had a great deal of response. May I appeal to all Full Time Committed people, as Ashwin calls us, to contribute. The Consultation agreed on 'the globalisation of MRA based on a shared commitment, transparency, and inclusiveness'. That being so, the next Consultation should make the role of non-full time people a central agenda item. The role of non-full time people remains an unaddressed grey area, and cannot be ignored.

John Farquharson

NEW MRA BODY IN PHILIPPINES

MRA in the Philippines has been incorporated as 'Friends of Moral Re-Armament Philippines, Inc'. The address is: 600 J. Nakpil St., cor. J. Bocobo St., Malate, Manila. Tel: +63-2-525-6395; Fax: +63-2 - 521-0193. E-mail: <duc@compass.com.ph> and <starsvgc@compass.com.ph>. Contact persons are MRA Trustees Dante U Calma, Dean Nancy Palaypay Pitpitan and Professor Edilberto Espiritu

Dante Calma

DEDICATION OF NEW ECUMENICAL CENTRE

Agora, the ecumenical centre in St Petersburg, will be dedicated on 30 April (Russian Orthodox Easter Day) by priests of the Orthodox, Catholic, Anglican and Reformed Episcopal Churches. Irina Roganova's choir from Gatchina will provide music.

Agora organises weekly seminars on the social implications of Christianity. I plan to make my home there from June, and would welcome guests for short or longer visits. I can be reached in London +44 20 7701 1024, Cornwall +44 1208 863762 or St Petersburg +7 812 273 1861.

Kenneth Rundell

BOOK BY 'RADICAL' PROTESTANT

In the foreword to Roddy Evans' book *The Second Conversion of Dr George Dallas*, Fr Gerry Reynolds writes that he owes the 'opening of my heart' to George Dallas and his friends. 'I realised that I held their misdeeds against those who had ever wronged my nation and culture.... The Spirit of God changed my heart and began to make room in it for all the people caught up in the unresolved relationship of Britain and Ireland.'

It must be rare for a Catholic priest in Northern Ireland to write thus about a Presbyterian. George Dallas was a rare man. Dr Martin Mansergh, advisor on Northern Ireland to three Irish Prime Ministers, described him in *The Irish Press* in 1984 as 'in some ways the most radical Protestant voice in Northern Ireland today'. Roddy Evans' book shows us a man who thought deeply and acted courageously and strategically. The book has taught me much for my work as Secretary of the Journey of Healing, which is dedicated to healing the wounds resulting from tragically misguided policies towards Aboriginal Australians. I hope it will be read widely. Copies are available from David and Ruth Hume, 11 Fort Rd, Helen's Bay, BT19 1LD, Northern Ireland. (david.hume1@virgin.net). Price £4 inc p&p. Cheques payable to The Oxford Group Belfast.

John Bond

CAUX TRAVEL OFFICE UPDATE

The Swiss Travel Ticket (STT) will again be available this year for participants at Caux conferences. However, Swiss Railways have increased the cost. Those flying into Zürich airport or entering Switzerland through Basle, Buchs or other frontiers will save up to 30%. But those flying into Geneva airport or entering Switzerland at Geneva, Vallorbe or Domodossola will save very little, compared to a normal return ticket. However, it can be an advantage to have a ticket in your hand before you travel. The ticket is valid for one month.

We remind you that we have already paid the Swiss Railways for each STT before we send it. Please do encourage users to call at the travel office in Caux to pay for them.

Charles Danguy is available for further questions.

Your Caux Travel Team

TELEPHONE NUMBER CHANGES IN THE UK

There are new telephone area codes in London, Cardiff, Coventry, Portsmouth, Southampton and all of Northern Ireland. The new codes are currently working alongside the old codes, but the old codes will not work after 22 April. London currently uses two area codes: (0171) for central London and (0181) for outer London. The new code for all of London is (020) or, internationally, +44 20; 'phone numbers will be unchanged except for the addition of 7 for central London and 8 for outer London: (0171) xxx xxxx becomes (020) 7xxx xxxx (0181) xxx xxxx becomes (020) 8xxx xxxx

So the new number for the MRA Centre at Greencoat Place is (020) 7798 6000, and the new fax is (020) 7798 6001. The Channer/Craig fax at 54 Lyford Road will now be (020) 8871 9239.

To find out more, see www.numberchange.bt.com

Geoffrey Craig

FACTS ON FAXES, PHONES AND ADDRESSES

Albania: Shefqet Meko from Albania has moved with his family to 4903- 41st Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55417, USA. Tel & fax: +1 612 72420 53. E-mail: mekosh@email.msn.com

Cambodia: Megumi Kanematsu is in Cambodia and can be reached at: Tel: +855 016 836 714 or E-mail: megumik@bigpond.com.kh

Finland: Elina Gundersen can be reached at: elina.gundersen@saunalahti.fi

Calendar of Events

APR 2000	<u>Crimea</u>	FFF Visiting Course	TBA
	<u>Novosibirsk Russia</u>	Foundations for Freedom stage 2 course	Apr 28 - May 5
MAY 2000	<u>Novosibirsk Russia</u>	Public programme of MRA events	May 6 - 13
	<u>Tirley Garth</u>	Preparing the Caux conferences	May 10 - 15
	<u>Asia Plateau India</u>	Conference: A new century – A fresh start	May 18 - 22
	<u>Odawara Japan</u>	Annual MRA Conference: 'Seeds of hope for a new century'	May 26 - 28
	<u>Kampala Uganda</u>	All Africa conference for Moral Re-Armament	May 30 - Jun 4
JUN 2000	<u>Cameroon</u>	Family Forum	Jun 6 - 11
	<u>Asia Plateau India</u>	Conference: 'India I care'	Jun 1 - 5
JUL 2000	<u>Novosibirsk Russia</u>	FFF Visiting Course for lecturers at Transport University	TBA
	<u>Caux Switzerland</u>	Summer conference	Jul 8 - Aug 20
SEP 2000	<u>Asia Plateau India</u>	'Action 2000' begins	
	<u>Nizhny Novgorod Russia</u>	FFF Visiting Course, Nizhny Novgorod	TBA
NOV 2000	<u>Cartigny Switzerland</u>	Caux planning meeting	Nov 22 - 27

The deadline for the next Bulletin is Saturday, April 15, 2000

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