Principal’s Notes

“Have you ever taken the path where the world appears in all its pristine freshness, as pure and new as water gushing from its source? Have you ever thought that this source springs inexhaustible and joyous from your innermost being?”

Reading these words, I was stopped in my tracks.

They were on an information board at the ancient monastery site of Citeaux in France, and they reminded me of the seemingly empty circle at the centre of the charts we use. Is this space that we leave clear and open in our charts really “empty”, or does it serve as a stress-free focal point where - if we choose to access it - we can connect with and experience some of the possibilities mentioned in the quotation?

Nourishing our inner space is as important as taking care of what is happening in the space around us. As you may guess from the item opposite, I was fortunate enough to visit a variety of different Cistercian abbeys during the past year, in France and in the UK.

Their qualities of simplicity, silence and light are undeniably uplifting to the spirit, but it is possible for us to nourish our own inner space whenever we need to by remembering and reconnecting with our own centre, the “innermost being” of the quotation. This brings to mind once again to the centre of the chart, that point of inner space we all share, together with the rich potential it holds.

Good wishes to you all,

Joyce Hopewell

ARCHITECTURE of
SILENCE AND LIGHT

Cistercian abbeys were specifically built to incorporate the qualities of simplicity and silence. Their style of decoration was minimal, the colour used in their regular-patterned stained glass windows pale and subtle, allowing in the maximum amount of light, and the stone they were constructed from was similarly pale. Everything in the abbey was designed to reflect and let in the light, and the lack of adornment was intentional.

Abbeys were built in this way so that the nature of God could be reflected and seekers provided with an environment to help them realise their divine potential. The Cistercian order is based on the Rule of St. Benedict, defined by a schedule of regular prayer, manual labour, reading, meals and rest. The Rule says “the disciple’s part is to be silent and to listen”; members of the order were only permitted to speak in the passageway which led from the cloister to the surrounding fields, as they agreed on their individual tasks. But the singing voices of the monks would be heard during prayers as the sound of their devotional chants soared in the sublime acoustics of the abbey.

The picture shows one of the side aisles in the Cistercian abbey of Fontenay, in France. The monks would descend the steps, which led from their dormitory, at regular set times during the night and the early hours to pray in the abbey. At other times of the day, they would cease in their appointed labours in order to take part in daytime prayers. The daily round of eight offices of prayers followed the path of the sun, including sunrise, midday when the sun is overhead, and sunset. The time of these offices was seasonally adjusted to align with the sun’s path at different times of the year.

by Joyce Hopewell

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Astrological Psychology Institute (UK)
SCHOOL NEWS

FIRST AGM

API (UK) had its first Annual General Meeting at "Face to Face" 2004. If the thought of attending an AGM makes you groan with anticipatory boredom, this was not one of those! It was well-attended (24 people squeezed into the allocated room, some sitting on the floor!), lively, friendly and positive. Joyce gave her Principal's Report which was a review of the first year of API (UK) as a membership organisation.

There have been positive and exciting new projects undertaken during this first year - "Conjunction" in colour being one of them - and the Diploma "double" for 8 students when they were each awarded the Dip API (UK) and the Swiss Dip API at "Face to Face" 2003. We welcome Andy Duncan to the Council as our new publicity person. He takes over from Maria Maw. A new Student Rep., Maggie Jeffery, was unanimously elected into this post which was vacant, following Elly Gibbs' change of status last year from Diploma student to diploma holder!

Thanks to all Council members and those involved in making this new organisation work - and work well! API (UK) as a membership organisation is now past its teething stages, and is moving forward apace.

ADLISWIL

19th to 21st August 2005

If you have never been to API Switzerland, and you feel the call of the mountains, 2005 is definitely the year to make this trip! In August there will be a seminar with Diploma presentations in Adliswil with Louise and Michael Huber. This will be held at their beautiful home just outside Zurich. Louise and Michael will speak in English with a varied programme of interest to students and Dip API holders alike.

"Astrology & the Soul" will be Louise's main topic whilst Michael will be explaining the meaning and use of the Soul Chart which we now find on software from Juan Saba.

"FACE to FACE" 2005

This year's arrangements for "Face to Face" will be different from the past few years as we are taking a break from Buckland Hall and are presenting the four "Face to Face" Modules as separate workshops.

These will be non-residential and will be held in different locations in the UK, including the Lake District and the Scottish Borders, both of which offer enticing scenery and opportunities to combine your workshop with a short break.

The usual "Face to Face" programme will be sent out with all relevant details when these have been finalised, but at the time of going to press the workshops are more likely to be in autumn. Applied Astrology will be held in late June or early July, especially for students planning to be assessed for the Swiss Dip API, though of course all are welcome.

Some participant impressions of "Face to Face" 2004 can be found on Page 9

The usual full workshop programme, including details of the Face to Face modules, is being mailed separately.

API Workshops in South London

Sue Lewis writes: "These got off to an excellent start in July 2004 with an introductory workshop for 8 enthusiastic participants, and this was followed by a workshop on planetary aspect patterns in October.

This year, I am facilitating a workshop on the 16th January on 'Moon, the emotional 'I' and Moon Node Astrology. This is to be followed on 10th April with a workshop on 'Sun, Self and Will', at my flat in South London."

If you would like further information on any of these workshops please email: sue.lewis340@ntlworld.com or write to her at 18 Knoll Court, Farquhar Road, London SE19 1SP

"SUB-PERSONALITY" Research

Hilary Pinder writes: "When Toni Edwards and I were running the Psychosynthesis Module at Face to Face in September we came up with a small-scale research project that we would like to conduct among UK Huber School students and tutors.

Firstly, we would like to be able to give examples of the way Psychosynthesis sub-personalities show up in Huber astrological charts. Secondly, we would like to explore whether there are any general principles that seem to underlie the way different sorts of sub-personalities show up. For example: Can they be related to particular aspects in the chart? Are they more likely to be seen in the House Chart than the Natal Chart?"

If you would like to take part in this research please send information about any of your sub-personalities and how they show up in your chart to:

Hilary Pinder 5 Howe Drive, Beaconsfield, HP9 2BG (e-mail hilary.pinder@virgin.net) or

Toni Edwards 20a Northumberland Road, Barnet, EN5 1ED (TESynthesis@aol.com)
Welcome to Maggie Jeffery who takes over the position of Student Representative from Elly Gibbs who received her Diploma last year and is therefore no longer a student!

Maggie writes: “Driving home from ‘Face to Face’ this year (September 2004) I was enthusiastically keyed up, determined to make real progress and complete the Diploma course. But then I mused, I’d felt this way last year - and the year before that, and . . . . !

As autumn makes its way into winter, life always seems to take over and before I know it, it’s January, Conjunction arrives and with it details of the next Face to Face!

A mental image presented itself. I was standing on the banks of a wide river and looking across to other side. Over there, I could see buildings of all sorts, different colours, shapes and sizes stretching way back as far as the eye could see. There were also a few buildings close by on my side of the river. Slowly I turned around and all I could see before me was a vast expanse of snow stretching into infinity – total whiteout!

I realized this image symbolized time - past, present and future. The far bank was the past, vivid with treasures of experience and past learning. Where I’d started from and how I’d changed, what I’d discovered and developed and created in years gone by.

The river represented the millennium, dividing time spent on the course neatly in half. And the rushing quality of the river spoke of the ever-increasing pace of life today.

On this side of the river, the here and now, it felt as if I was standing on shifting sand. Ongoing rapid change in the world meant constant readjustment if I was to stay on my feet! What learning did I need to bring with me from over there, from the past? How did I begin to fashion the future symbolized by the empty snow filled landscape before me? This was the uncreated future and pure potential.

So it would be the inner growth and learning I needed to bring across the river as well as the knowledge and experience I’d gained. Studying my Birth Chart as well as developing the ability to find a quiet place within myself had supported me during the years on the other side of the river. I needed to withdraw to that quiet centre regularly if I was to stay balanced, flexible and move forward creatively.

Good grounding would help me to move forward on the course and I thought about my slow progress to date! What did my Chart have to say about my learning style? I considered how the “You” sided pattern affected my “get up and go” – my motivation. Bouncing ideas off like-minded others encourages me to stay focused, creative and inspired. Mercury is very prominent and I certainly identify with the perpetual student!

So with your help I’d really like to develop this particular theme and get you to share how you feel your Birth Chart affects your learning. What keeps you going? What has helped? What has hindered? Write about your ideas, your experiences, your insights? Maybe you prefer to work alone? Do you perhaps meet up regularly with a fellow student? Perhaps a group has formed locally? Does this help or is it just another chore in a busy life?

We have a great Forum on: http://www.api-uk.org/ (thanks Jane!). Let’s use it more! I visit it regularly and look forward to hearing from other students.

Do write to me – e-mail address below. New students bring fresh ideas and insights. Share them! Those who have been with the School for slightly longer can inspire and offer priceless experience.

I personally love to hear from others and will always reply (unless laid low or out of the country!). With your help I hope to develop this as a student column so that we can link with each other through Conjunction and keep the energy going. So let’s do it!”

Maggie Jeffery
E-mail: mebjeffery@waitrose.com

“TIME CAN FRACTURE”
by Cathy Rogers

A Personal Reflection on Sub-personalities

“Time can fracture.
I’m going about my business, walking along the train platform on my way to work. Every day. Years of following the same routines.

And yet I’m someone else standing detached. I’ve a different set of priorities in life, a different life, a different path to follow.

By the time I reach the train, a seamstress has repaired time’s split seam and separated the two possibilities once again.”

I wrote this a year ago, before the thought of studying with the API had really crystallised. I had the merest hint of knowledge about sub-personalities and felt that the two people I’d experienced within me were separated by dimensions of time rather than being separate elements within my own psyche. However, coming upon this piece of writing the other day, I wondered if it was one of my first descriptions of the sub-personalities within me.

A second possible sighting of sub-personalities comes from a recent experience at a Contact North West meeting looking at potential life paths as depicted by the nodal axis. My North Node in the 10th house has always seemed to represent an emphasis on career at the expense, perhaps, of the South Node and my family life. At the workshop we were introduced to Louise Huber’s summary of the meaning of my nodal axis:

“The greatest benefit is gained by raising our own aims, becoming a self-made person, overcoming the restrictions imposed by family traditions and ambitions after renouncing the craving for a quiet life and home comforts.”

Concluded over page
In reflecting on this within my own life, I became aware that despite appearing quite ‘driven’ in my career and despite being a manager at work, I often feel as though there’s something more I should be doing. When I thought about the career I would actually like to do I suddenly realised that it would challenge the expectations and beliefs of my family and their definition of ‘acceptable’ careers. I also realised that I would be working from my heart and therefore risk putting my very self on the line. Both circumstances may not prove very comfortable.

Since then I’ve been aware of the tug of two arguments, possibly two conflicting sub-personalities, one sat on each shoulder, whispering to me about following the conventional, the accepted and the known career path that maintains a harmonious relationship with my family or, from the other side, whispering about taking my true path, working from my heart and taking a leap of faith.

These sub-personalities also appear to fit the model described by Will Parfitt in ‘Psychosynthesis: The Elements And Beyond’. Thus the sub-personality wishing to remain identified with the family is perhaps motivated by Love, wanting to be included and taken care of, and wanting everything to stay the same. The conflicting career-oriented sub-personality is perhaps motivated by Will, wanting to express its needs and take the decisions it feels are right, and in doing so wanting everything to change.

I probably first met the concept of sub-personalities at Contact North West, usually in workshops about individual signs of the zodiac. My reaction to these was that, although I could identify with some characters, I saw them as roles, as ways of behaving that might be useful. Thus, as a manager, your means of relating to people might be assessed along two dimensions as operating either on a parent-child or an adult-adult basis.

Yet despite perhaps having one preferred mode of managing people, the trick is to ‘flex’ the styles, to adapt and respond to the needs of the people and situations you are dealing with. Whilst a conscious use of such identities or roles might improve day-to-day operational effectiveness and efficiency, I could not really see that these were personalities over which to become excited or that they were cause enough to consider entering therapy to resolve and integrate.

Furthermore, there appeared to be the possibility that people could identify limitless numbers of sub-personalities, arriving at a position where they were juggling the equivalent of a football crowd in their head. This seemed to risk an overload that would make moving forwards or even achieving a sense of the present very difficult. In this context, Ferrucci is reassuring when he comments in “What We May Be” that “a fundamental attitude should be cultivated: a sense of just proportion”.

However, thinking about the concept of sub-personalities more deeply, I can recognise the value of working to identify those sub-personalities that are dysfunctional and which do not, in their current guise, assist in any process to achieve wholeness. If sub-personalities do operate within us, pulling in non-congruent directions, then it would appear that their opposing views could lead to stasis, causing us to become ‘stuck’ in our lives without the impetus to move on. Of course, having now developed some awareness of my sub-personalities, I’ve the choice to do something about them and their interactions with each other.

Kathy Rogers is a Diploma student and may be better known to some of you as Kathy Oldham. But Kathy was married to Chris Rogers last summer so we take this opportunity to wish them many years of happiness.

Seasonal Change or ‘HOW to FALL from HEAVEN to EARTH’ by Christine Le Blein

Living in Great Britain have you ever wondered why people in North America keep referring to Autumn as Fall?

Living in Canada I always assumed that it had to do with the amount of colourful maple leaves falling in our backyard each year, between September and November. I never really took the time to understand the various meanings that the word “Fall” could potentially carry in people’s life. Well, coming back from a three-year stay in Ankara, Turkey, this word suddenly took a very different meaning for me.

Change has always been part of my life. I always embraced it, and was able to adapt fairly well to new conditions of living. At least that’s what I thought before moving back to Canada three months ago. For sure I had all the reasons in the world to think I was some kind of a “Wonder Woman” of change. After all I have been a Consultant in change management for six years! I also felt very much at home in Canada and there was no reason why this should have changed after three years overseas.

This assumption fell apart rather rapidly when my family and I arrived in Canada at the beginning of August. The usual pragmatic and kind Canadian way of doing things was there, but already something was missing. After three years in a country which constantly navigates between European and Asian influences, where chaos is a way of life, rules and regulations are only there to be followed by your neighbours but not by you, Canada and Ottawa particularly have turned out to be flavourless.

Moving back home made me also realize that so called developing countries are sometimes more advanced than perceived in Western societies. Taking the time to enjoy life with family and friends by sharing a good meal or just sitting under a tree drinking tea in the afternoon is definitely not something
that you will experience on a regular basis in Canada. Here time means money, productivity gained or lost. Most of all our work ethic has taught us from one generation to another that doing nothing (or what is perceived as nothing) is an obvious sign of laziness and of unwillingness to contribute to the well-being of the whole community. I am, of course, dramatizing the situation (being an Aries with a rising sign in Leo, drama is like second nature to me!).

Settling back in our house in Ottawa was quite easy. We lived here before. Some of the neighbours have changed, but overall everything looked familiar. We did not expect any surprise on this side. A couple of weeks after moving back to our house we found out that a tiny, narrow piece of land right next to our group of houses has been bought by developers who planned to build a concrete monstrosity on it. This would cut the light to our house and leave us with no view of the beautiful trees and vegetation.

At this point I felt my world was falling apart. The good news is that they need to get approval from the City and all the neighbourhood remains confident that this will not be granted. Suddenly I became conscious of the fragility of this little patch of greenery that we always took for granted. Since then I observe it with much more attention and respect. The changing light that comes through the leaves, the squirrels that play in the trees and the occasional neighbourhood cat which hides in bushes. All that can disappear based on the final decision of a couple of people. I still want to believe that common sense will win.

On a more positive note my children very quickly fell in love with their new surroundings. They easily forgot their previous friends and adopted new ones. As long as there are play and parks, life is fun. My husband is getting more and more involved in his job. I am still working on my reintegration in the working world. So far I am finding more obstacles than opened doors. Despite a rather rough falling, I can say that the learning experience on myself will have been beneficial.

You always learn from former expatriates that living abroad is a life experience that marks you for the rest of your life. I believed in this before living three years in Turkey. I just never thought how much it would transform my vision of life, people and, most of all, of myself.

I only have one wish to make: May this never stop!

Christine is a Diploma student and, as she says, has just returned to Canada after living in Turkey for the past three years. She is pictured here back home with her two children Raphael and Morgane.

API (Scandinavia) - A new possibility in the Nordic countries!

The 1st of September was the starting date of the new School, and five new students have quickly been enrolled to do the Foundation Course in Swedish. Most Swedes have never heard about the Huber method, but I experience a growing interest among astrologers, as well as among people with an interest in psychology and personal growth. One of my new students knows nothing about astrology, but is a trained psycho-synthesis therapist.

Although we have “home-made” astrology courses in Sweden, API (Scandinavia) is probably the first international astrology school here. I have got a lot of credit for starting up something real, teaching serious and useful astrology, and hopefully the enthusiasm will turn out to be more than nice words. During the time I am translating the Diploma Course, the precautionary Swedes can come to my workshops, open for everybody, to have a taste and find out what Astrological Psychology might be able to give them.

In Norway my colleagues Arild Maeland and Liv Meling, who together with me form the API (Scandinavia)’s School Council, are teaching about 11 students in two groups. Also over there the interest is slowly increasing. We are planning to do a two-day weekend workshop together in Stockholm this spring (date not yet confirmed), and hopefully it will be a good opportunity for Norwegian and Swedish students and others interested to come together.

Our little School also has a Students’ Council, consisting of Meta Andersson, Vivi Karlsson and Karin Jansson, who are all Foundation Course Certificate holders. They help me with advice and ideas from the students’ viewpoints, which I appreciate a lot. The intention of API (Scandinavia) is also to encourage our students to participate in the workshops and seminars abroad, so maybe we will meet you in Buckland Hall and/or in Adliswili this year.

Linda Leibing Heden, Dip API, Tingsvagen 8, SE-141 62 Huddinge, SWEDEN
Phone: +46(0)70-305 30 23 E-mail: api.scandinavia@tele2.se

A Highly Biased Astrological Poem

by Juliet Brown (A Friend of the School)
I'll align myself with Neptune, I like subtlety and all that; I wouldn't want to be big like Jupiter, I'm sure it would make me fat.

And I certainly wouldn't want anything, To do with those types from Mars; Always being first and butting-in, And driving fast, red cars.

And Saturn's, well, a bit heavy, I'd feel so under the thumb; Like he's breathing down my neck all the time, Just like Dad or Mum.

And Venus is lovely, I can't deny; Though some say she's lesser than Neptune; And she makes it impossible to decide, What colour to paint the bathroom?

Now Mercury's a slippery chap, You never know quite where you stand; I'm always a little bit worried that, He's up to something underhand.

And as for Uranus and Pluto, Dare I mention their name? In case I summon this awesome duo, And as for Uranus and Pluto, Dare I mention their name?

I'm sure it would make me fat.

I wouldn't want to be big like Jupiter.

I'm sure it would make me fat.

I wouldn't want anything.

To do with those types from Mars.

Always being first and butting-in.

And driving fast, red cars.

And Saturn's, well, a bit heavy.

I'd feel so under the thumb.

Like he's breathing down my neck all the time.

Just like Dad or Mum.

And Venus is lovely.

Though some say she's lesser than Neptune.

And she makes it impossible to decide.

What colour to paint the bathroom?

Now Mercury's a slippery chap.

You never know quite where you stand.

I'm always a little bit worried that.

He's up to something underhand.

And as for Uranus.

And as for Uranus.

And as for Uranus.

And as for Uranus.

And as for Uranus.

And as for Uranus.
Please support this venture by buying the books, and let them know if you have any suggestions, or would like to influence priorities, or indeed if you are aware of further works that would be of interest to API(UK) students.

They are delighted to announce the availability of two new English-language books on the Huber Method.

The Cosmic Egg Timer is the first-ever introduction to the Hubers’ approach to astrological psychology, written by API (UK) Principal Joyce Hopewell and Principal Emeritus Richard Llewellyn, illustrated by Annabel Burton and edited by Barry Hopewell (both Diploma holders). Although aimed at people new to astrology or those unfamiliar with the Huber approach, this new presentation of material will also appeal to many API (UK) students, and even Diploma holders, to supplement their course study materials. It is also ideal for presenting to someone who is interested in finding out more about the subject. The Cosmic Egg Timer is reviewed on the facing page.

Regulus

To complement The Cosmic Egg Timer, Juan Saba (creator of AstroCora and MegaStar) has developed a special low-cost software program Regulus Light - Special Huber Edition, which can be used alongside the book. This program is simple to use, has few options, and essentially allows you to generate and print Huber-style natal charts. This program may also be of interest to students who cannot justify paying the cost of a full multi-purpose software programme such as AstroCora, MegaStar or Regulus.

Aspect Pattern Astrology

This book presents the theory of aspects and aspect patterns in greater detail than is possible in the Diploma Course materials, and includes less common aspect patterns not previously documented in English. This book is a ‘must’ for Diploma holders and those wishing to gain real insight into the Hubers’ unique approach to aspect patterns.

The production of these books has been made possible by using modern ‘print on demand’ technology, which enables books to be brought to market without the large upfront investment needed for conventional printing. Both books are black-and-white paperback with full-colour cover.

Availability

The Cosmic Egg Timer and Aspect Pattern Astrology are available from API(UK) Bookshop (details on page 16)

Regulus Light - Special Huber Edition is available on CD from Reynold Swallow (details on page 8), or by download from Juan Saba’s website www.catharsoftware.com

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Also Available - New booklet

Astrological Seminars Volume 4

Hot off the press and ready now, our latest volume of Astrological Seminars contains transcripts of two talks given by Bruno and Louise Huber at astrological conferences. Louise’s talk on “The Spiritual Path and the Crises of Transformation” contains valuable information on the exoteric and esoteric Sign rulers, the tasks of each of the Signs and their associated seed thoughts. Bruno’s talk on “The Family Model” needs little recommendation as it speaks for itself - learn about the Family Model from the man who developed this technique as part of the Huber approach! Bruno speaks about his own chart and family situation in this transcript.

All available from API Books:

Details on Back Cover. P.16

TAROT for ASTROLOGERS

Diploma student Jane Ritson took herself off to the Greek Island of Lefkada in October to attend one of Joanna Watters courses in Tarot. As mentioned in the last issue of Conjunction the classes take place on a vine covered terrace overlooking the sea, as Jane’s photo shows.

Jane writes that she discovered that there are strong links between Tarot and Astrology and in fact next year Joanna, who is also a well known astrologer, will be running one of her courses to show how you can work with both.

The courses cater for all levels of student and are held in May, June, September and October. If you want more information you can e-mail Joanna in Greece at: joannaw@otenet.gr

Web site: www.stardrum.com
BOOK REVIEW
by Sara Inkster

'The Cosmic Egg Timer'
by Joyce Hopewell and Richard Llewellyn

Although Huber astrology, as taught by the API, has been established now for over 40 years, this is the first book in any language to provide an introduction and overview of Astrological Psychology or the “Huber method”. This great little book, (187 pages) is written jointly by Richard Llewellyn and Joyce Hopewell, who I am trusting need no introduction to readers of Conjuction. Edited by Barry Hopewell who has also contributed some photographs, the book is a paperback, published by HopeWell, ISBN 0-9547680-0-0, at the price of £10. The book is clear, concise, attractively presented and never boring, with a lightness of touch, which is ably supported by Annabel Burton’s lovely illustrations.

One of the book’s great strengths is that the authors show a genuinely caring attitude – the emphasis throughout is warm, positive and enlightening. Perhaps the key strength of Astrological Psychology is that it has been developed with personal development or enlightenment in mind. It is, as many of you already know, far from being ‘cook book’ astrology. No gloomy portents or dire predictions are to be found within the covers – although there are plenty of guidelines to help us use astrology for self-development, growth and understanding or, for those training as astrological counsellors with the API, to help us to work with clients.

I would definitely have liked this book at my side during my recent Foundation studies – it has answered a lot of questions that those studies raised. In content it is more wide-ranging than ‘The Astrological Houses’, although necessarily not as specialized or detailed. It is certainly more approachable for beginners. Additionally, it is not a translation from German, but written by English authors. I say this because I have felt that the books by Bruno and Louise Huber, although excellent and to be highly recommended, feel as if they suffer a little in translation.

What is really interesting is not so much the simplicity and clarity of the explanations and examples, but the fact that the authors manage to cover so much ground. The Introduction and second chapter provide an overview of Astrological Psychology and place it in historical, psychological and spiritual contexts. Chapter 3 introduces us to the birth chart and its reflection of five fundamental levels of existence: the Core, the Aspects, the Planets, the Signs and the Houses. Chapter 4 looks at the chart as a whole and the beginnings of interpretation. Chapters 5 to 8 give us, in turn, both comprehensive and stimulating detail on the aspects, the planets, the Signs and the Houses.

These first chapters provide a good grounding for anyone beginning their studies. More advanced material is covered in Chapters Nine to Eleven. In Chapter Nine there is a discussion of the Family Model within a chart and the “nature versus nurture” issue. The Life Clock is clearly explained in Chapter Ten. Chapter Eleven has a lively discussion of issues relating to Psychological and Spiritual growth – because, as the authors state: “The whole of this book is about using astrology to facilitate the psychological and spiritual growth of the human being, within the context of the spiritual evolution of humanity” (p.141).

I loved Chapter 5 – the Aspect Patterns – because here I felt I was really moving on from the Foundation level. However my favourite chapter has to be Chapter 12 where we are given two examples of the Method being used in a practical sense. We are introduced to astrological interpretation and two sample charts are interpreted in considerable detail so that we see the blend of both intuitive and technical aspects of the Huber method.

Each chapter is followed by a summary which provides an overview of the main points, perfect for revision or ideal for those who know a little of the subject – they can use the summary as a checklist to assess whether they need to read the detail of that chapter. Additionally the book has a very good index, something I have often found to be lacking in texts of an esoteric or ‘alternative’ nature.

This book doesn’t show you how to construct a chart – for that you will need to enrol on the appropriate API course. It does, however, describe in full the components of a Huber chart, so that you can see the way in which a chart is constructed, and the elements that are important for interpretation within astrological psychology. If you have some familiarity already with chart drawing you would be able to adapt to the Huber method by working with this book, the correct chart data (showing Huber orbs) and a sample colour chart or two.

The authors recommend that you read this book with your own chart to hand, and I certainly did this. I think you should also have coloured pens and paper to hand as well. Should you want charts and do not have access to a computer, you are provided with contact details for the API Chart Data Service (email r.llewellyn@btinternet.com). Contacts for further training are also detailed at the back of the book, and there is also a comprehensive booklist. You could also go to www.astro.com where you can get Huber style charts for free, although they are not anywhere near the high standard of presentation you would get from the API Chart Data Service or your own software. Companion software, Regulus Light, is being sold for use with this book. (See next Page)

The book’s one weakness is the lack of colour, although I fully appreciate, as the authors point out, that colour would have made the cost of the book far higher. However, not everyone will have access to a computer or be able to afford to buy several charts from the API data service – you really do need access to colour charts if you want to make the most of this book. Nonetheless, for readers who have little or no familiarity with the Huber method I am sure it will whet the appetite enough for this relatively minor detail to be overcome. And you can, as I would recommend, use coloured pens if that is all you have the budget for – either marking-in the colour on the black and white charts in the book or sketching colour copies if you would prefer the book to remain unmarked.

The real strength of this book is that it fulfils its aim of introducing a complex

Concluded over page
Juan Saba, who created AstroCora and MegaStar, has written a new programme, called ‘Regulus’.

What is exciting about it is that it is modular. You can buy the basic modules at first, and then add others later. You can download demo versions, free of charge from Juan’s website at www.astrocora.com.ar. It is unlike the demo versions of AstroCora and MegaStar, because you can’t convert it to the full version by means of a registration number. All you can do is see what is on offer. Some of the basic facilities are available, but if you try to access, say, a chart, it will tell you that the facility is not available in the demo version. In other words, you can see the menu, but can’t taste what is there!

To find out about ‘Regulus’ go to the website. When you reach it, click on the word “Welcome” to go to the next screen, which is in English, and which mentions all three of Juan Saba’s programmes. Then click on the word “Regulus”. Full details of what is available in each module are given in a leaflet which Juan has written. It is available on the website and is in ‘pdf’ format, which means that you need Acrobat Reader to read it. Acrobat Reader is a free programme and is widely available. If you don’t have it already, you can download it free of charge from www.adobe.com.

I must say that Juan’s leaflet is not as clear as it might be so I’m willing to do my best to help with any questions about the content of the various modules. For those of you who are unhappy with the downloading process, Juan will send you a CD of the demo version. Email him at: sales@catharsoftware.com.

Alternatively you can buy a demo CD from me for £5. It will include the demo programme, the leaflet, and a copy of Acrobat Reader. The basic module, M0, offers radix calculation and the aspect grid, plus transits, returns, and various items used in traditional astrology such as lunation, fixed stars, secondary and primary directions, harmonics, Arabic parts and so on. It also offers basic synastry calculations. Chiron and Lilith are included along with the other asteroids.

The Huber basic module adds house, node and local analysis, but without age point progressions. It includes the family model and double and triple presentation, so that you can show two or three charts at the same time (Radix + House, House + Nodal, etc.) Age point progressions are added in module M2, and so on. These are the modules:

- **M0** - Traditional $120.00
- **M1** - Huber Basic $45.00
- **M2** - Huber Forecast $45.00
- **M3** - Huber Synasty $45.00
- **M4** - Huber Specials $45.00
- **M5** - Basic Tools $40.00
- **M6** - Research Tools $55.00
- **M7** - Interpretation $50.00

One Year Regulus Technical Support via e-mail $100.00

The Exchange Rate at the time of writing is approximately $1.80/£1.00, so $45 is approximately £25.00. ‘Regulus’ is only available from Juan Saba and at this stage he does not intend to use distributors. His preference is to sell via the internet, using credit cards. Once you have chosen your modules and paid, he will enable you to download the programme along with the User’s Manual. If you decide to buy, go to the website www.astrocora.com.ar. When you scroll down on that screen you will see the ordering information.

A similar process enables you to add other modules later. I have arranged with him that if a customer doesn’t want to have the trouble of downloading, Juan will let me know, and I will download the material and put it onto a CD. I shall have to make a charge for this, probably of the order of £15. Alternatively, you can email sales@catharsoftware.com.

Or you can write to him, His address is: Juan P Saba, Chamos 1326, (1706) Haedo Norte, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

If you do order it, please tell him that you learned about it from me. He needs to know this. If you want to buy the programme and are reluctant to download, he says he will consider making a CD, in what he has called “special cases”.

Finally, although I am not selling Regulus I am willing to offer some help in finding out more, such as identifying the Module(s) you might want to start with. But I can’t help you with the programme once you have bought it and you would need to subscribe to Juan’s Technical Support.

Reynold Swallow, Bridge House, Culmstock, Cullompton Devon EX15 3JJ

Email reynold.swallow@btinternet.com
Phone 01884 840513

Reynold and his wife Joan have been associated with the Huber School for many years, giving their valuable professional support and input in its early days. Reyn has been Chairman of the School Council, now the API (UK) Association, and has been responsible for the sales and service of astrological software for API (UK).
Let me start by telling you that I'm a Libran. A Cardinal sign that, very unjustly in my view, has been awarded the reputation "lazy" by some astrologers.

This is a mental, knowledge acquiring sign that seeks to balance and harmonise its own world and that of others. With this aim in mind Libra initiates situations which are the products of this knowledge and mental stimulation, in order to achieve this balance in life. Compromise will not do! Venus demands this and also that others involved with Libra and its world must do their fair and equal share.

Libra, because of its mental nature, normally has a very good memory, and will be able to tell you exactly what you said and did fifty years before, and under what circumstances it happened. This is particularly so if a Libran feels that their sense of justice has been infringed upon.

So why am I telling you all this about Libra? Air signs, which are all to do with thinking and logic, sometimes have a new hair style which is quite dramatic, although it does do its own intangibles. Did I notice the difference and if I did, what effect did it have? On 22nd November 1995 my age point, still in the 8th house, went into Pisces. To start with I didn't notice any difference from when it had been in Aquarius, but then I had been experiencing many personal changes and I was still settling down to a new life. My age point reached the 9th house on 13th October 1997. My 9th house is small and therefore full of concentrated Pisces energy. During 1998, and entering the strongest area of the sign, I completed my three levels of Reiki attunements. It seemed the right time of my life to do this, and everything around me became more accepting and peaceful and just in case you are wondering, no, I didn't even have to think about it.

In February 2000, still in the strong area of Pisces but near to the low point of the 9th house, I was sent on a course from work. It was based at John Moore's University in Liverpool and it was a course about Teaching and Assessing in the clinical area. The course was very interesting but very mental. An opposition to Saturn helped to keep me focussed and grounded. The submitted work had to be written in university language and looking back I don't think that Pisces was much help in that department. It seemed to take me longer than usual to organise the work that I had to submit.

My youngest daughter went backpacking round the world between September 2002 and September 2003. I was going to paint her bedroom ready for when she got back home, but somehow I never got round to it. It didn't seem to matter to me very much, and I think that this was a feature of my life during my time in Pisces. I didn't mind putting things off, and I would not have done this before.

My age point, in September 2003, was in Aries. As soon as I set foot in Aries, I was in a rush and impatient to get on with things. I had a new hair style which is quite dramatic, although it does do its own things some days, and I have wanted to wear different clothes. Less of the comfort gear, Aries is of course my shadow sign and also contains my North Node which I shall join in September 2005. I am finding it interesting to balance the two types of energy. Libra, charming, diplomatic, fair-minded, and beauty loving Aries, direct, enthusiastic, impatient and courageous. I'm beginning to like being in Aries. It feels just what I need to do my age point has gone in to Aries on the 13th February. Unfortunately not soon enough to remember the Valentines card.

I have regained my memory over the last few months and have found a new cardinal energy which has revitalised me. My 10th house is large and Aries is intercepting. I don't mind if nobody else sees my renewed self but I feel different. I work in an Operating Theatre, and in March I moved Theatres from Ear, Nose & Throat to A&E and Trauma. Trauma is broken bones. Quite appropriate I suppose as Mars rules Aries.

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I went to Face to Face this year but without my usual enthusiasm as I needed to do what I thought of as the dreaded Psychosynthesis. My idea of this was playing around and becoming upset as we were to bring out the dark shadow! I would much rather do chart work than this nonsense, was my attitude! How wrong I was, as my experience of this three day module was quite amazing to say the least.

The sessions were very well structured and, with the help of Assagioli’s ‘Egg’ Diagram, we were constantly informed about which area of consciousness, or unconsciousness, we were working in. The facilitators, Hilary and Toni, were like good counsellors as they created a space that was warm accepting and safe. Added to this was a group of lovely people with whom I really felt comfortable. So, in this atmosphere I was able to explore and bring out my ‘Inner Child’ - not easy with someone with Saturn near her AC!

I left with a spring in my step, as I really felt that this whole experience had started a process of integration within me. So my dreaded ‘Psychosynthesis’ turned out to be transforming.

Astrology 1

by Nuala Nevill

I undertook the long drive to Buckland Hall from Yorkshire in brilliant sunshine, nearly arriving late for the start of Astrology 1. Approaching Bwlch, I saw again the beautiful landscape surrounding the hall, feeling its peace and the memory of my last weekend there. As I walked in, I met old friends – we only spent four days together two years ago on the Psychosynthesis course, but we developed a closeness and a trust for each other that has remained. This was a special place where it was safe to be myself.

As we were welcomed by Joyce, in the large group, we were asked to say what we were feeling. People spoke of excitement, anxiety, peace. My feeling was curiosity – how would the experience this year compare with my memory of the last course? I soon discovered that it would be very different. In Astrology 1, we were a small group but it felt complete and the space became ours and we felt our way into the topics. I had done little work on astrology during the past year and realised how much I had forgotten as we listened, talked and played out scenarios. But I was there to be enthused and to learn from others. And I was, and I did.

I’m sure I won’t forget the ‘red’ horse racing (yes, it was us making the noise on the ceiling of the psychosynthesis class!), the ‘blue’ and the ‘green’ schoolroom. On Saturday evening my mask was, yet again, a revelation to me, though it was nowhere near as elaborate and stylish as everyone else’s. Our candle-lit procession was very special and I hope the wishes come true for us all. Thank you, Jeremy.

Face to Face is an experience of generosity for me – generosity from the tutors, from the people sharing the course, and from the new friends I make by sharing a room or a conversation over coffee. This year I was fortunate enough to be the subject of the Interpretation Group, who spent an hour trying to fit their understanding of my birth chart to the real person. Never before have so many people been so interested in who I was and what I had to say – it was an exhilarating experience!

Astrology 2

by Jenny Patel

This was my fourth visit to Buckland Hall. After the first time I was hooked! Arriving this time I felt excitement as I drew up in front of the Hall. The majestic building with its warm stone walls appeared to welcome me back.

The Astrology 2 module I was attending was aptly named ‘Meeting the World’ and so it seemed, with participants from Spain, S. Africa and Norway as well as all over the UK. I was the oldest member of our group by age and the youngest in terms of course work, and this caused me some apprehension which happily soon disappeared. A feeling of mutual trust and support built up very quickly within the group as we shared fragments of our life experiences and looked for correlations in our charts.

David & Joyce were our facilitators and the work we did with them really bought charts to life for me. It was not all theory, there were times when the drawing boards and crayons came out and we also touched on the deeper spiritual aspects in our lives. We worked hard as we had a lot to cover and I learned a great deal in a short space of time and gained new and deeper insights into my chart.

It was exhilarating but often left my mind reeling! When this happened there was the beautiful garden to wander in, or the swans to visit on the pond and always the wonderful views to the Welsh mountains beyond to calm my mind. On the last day one of our group volunteered to teach us an Irish Blessing. This had to be performed with gestures to illustrate the words, as we moved round changing partners. I leave the result to the imagination! After such a rewarding and intensive four days, laughter and a blessing was a lovely way to finish.

Interpretation Group

by Maggie Jeffery

As I turned into the driveway to Buckland Hall last Autumn, I thought how the Interpretations Course had come at just the right moment in my life. Leaving behind a varied career in care and teaching, I’d moved into counselling and worked my way slowly through the psychosynthesis course – a life changing experience. Somewhere during this process, I’d found myself, quite by accident, attending a Huber Workshop. Despite knowing very little about astrology, I was hooked and eventually signed up!

My problem was that, not knowing conventional astrology, I’d always felt a bit of a fraud when asked what I was studying. Despite my protestations, the mere mention of astrology seemed to invoke a fairly common response. A gleam would come into the eye of the other person and they would begin to throw out strong hints for me to tell them their fortune! So I wanted the wider picture reinforced and perhaps a bit more confidence: “Interpretations” proved to be just what I needed.

Richard and Ghislaine created a varied and exciting programme with every person in the group contributing to
A powerful Group Process

by Ghislaine Adams

For the first time at Face-to-Face, we offered a Chart Interpretation workshop to pre- and post Diploma holders. One of the sessions was dedicated to an exercise called ‘Constellation’. The Constellation approach is based on the work of Karen Hedley on Family Constellations and that of Kerstin Lindley-Jones on Stellar Illuminations.

It has some similarities with Astrodrama but its core principle is different. Astrodrama involves different people acting out a part of an individual’s chart to reveal conflicts and tensions inherent in the personality and by bringing these to light, help the individual work out a way of releasing/reducing these. The intention and purpose of Constellation work is to re-connect people to the soul purpose of their incarnations and assist them in moving forward on their individuation journey as well as being a channel for the incoming energies of the Soul or Transpersonal Self.

A Constellation consists of an aspect pattern that involves two or more planets working together as a team (or not as the case may be!). In a strongly ‘coherent’ chart, it could be that all the planets are involved in one constellation. However it is possible to focus on a particular constellation within that larger all-encompassing constellation. The exercise starts with the group being led into a short meditation to achieve the necessary shift in consciousness that (i) seals the group in Light and (ii) allows each member to view their individual chart from a place of heightened awareness and to select the constellation or aspect pattern they would like to learn more about.

The facilitator then asks for a member of the group to come forth, describe briefly the constellation they have chosen and identify the people that will be representing each of the planets involved in the constellation. Each of these people/planets is then physically placed by the protagonist according to the aspect pattern they form in the chart. From this placement, one can already feel an energy at work. In turn, each planet/person is asked a few questions to elucidate its role/purpose, the ease or difficulty with which it can fulfil that role and what it needs from the rest of the team. Resolution to difficulties is achieved when the ‘planets’ find ways to satisfy their purpose within the ‘overarching’ common purpose of the constellation.

* I was amazed at the way the various ‘characters’ took on a life of their own.
* It was fun, interactive and very powerful.
* The Constellation exercise was a real trigger for me and I believe the initial linking with the Higher Self enabled these insights to develop. Since then, I have been taking a serious look at developing/maturing my ‘here and now will’ (as opposed to Transpersonal Will). I have signed up to do some coaching training to develop my Sun and I’m also looking at my relationship with money and self-worth.

* This was a really good insight into how a planet operates in a chart. When the participants were acting out my chosen aspect pattern, which has intercepted Mercury in it, I found it fascinating to watch the person representing Mercury having to shout really loudly to make himself heard and this is how it really is for me.

* The constellations exercise was a truly ‘experiential’ way of getting to grips with aspect figures in the chart. What amazed me was the fact that the participants were only told what planet they were and who to make contact with. They had no further insight into the way the figure worked. The ‘energy’ that was generated and drawn in did seem to enable the deeper meaning of the figure to come out and resonate with the person whose chart was being represented.

* I was chosen to represent a planet in a conjunction and this was very enlightening. I could really feel the energy of the planet and how it operated with its ‘partner’.

* ‘Constellation’ is fun but it is also a very good way to explore a chart at a deeper level.

The Constellations workshop linked us with our higher purpose and was so sensitively and professionally facilitated by Ghislaine. Role play was very effective and I don’t think I’ll ever forget two particular planets giggling together and being disruptive! I’m indebted to this workshop that seems to be triggering major changes for me. So love and thanks to everyone for making this experience such a joy - not forgetting those who work to maintain the magic of Buckland Hall - and of course that porridge to die for!

Continued from previous page

make this a truly memorable workshop. For me it reinforced the importance of staying open, being flexible, listening to my intuition and importantly it demonstrated how effectively psychosynthesis and astrology could be integrated.

The exquisite timing of this workshop still amazes me. For some months, I’d been in a sort of “in between” state – feeling like I was stuck, stagnating. Focusing on the Dynamic Quadrants showed me that I was indeed in an “in between” stage and just at the threshold of a major new journey in my life. I’d found being 63 a bit of a shock and a depressing one at that. This understanding helped me no end! Comparing Nodal, Natal and House Charts reinforced the sense of purpose within the larger pattern. Working together and sharing experiences gave a picture of continuity and meaning - comforting in the apparent craziness of today’s world.

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Les Très Riches Heures du Duc de Berry is a medieval book of hours. Consisting of text for each liturgical hour of the day, it is illustrated with the most exquisitely crafted and detailed pictures, each presented in glowing jewel-like colours. The pictures are from the calendar section of the book, and depict the twelve months of the year along with their associated Zodiac sign and labour or activity of the month.

The pictures were painted between 1412 and 1416 by three brothers - Paul, Hermann and Jean Limbourg - who came from Nimwegen in what is now Flanders. Born into an artistic family, they entered the service of the Duke of Burgundy as artists in 1402, moving on to work for the Duke of Berry, one of the richest art lovers in France. Listed amongst his possessions were astronomical treatises, rubies weighing up to 240 carats, no less than 15 Books of Hours - and a collection of ostriches and camels!

The Limbourg brothers used unusual and costly materials to obtain the vibrant colours in their paintings, including crushed lapis-lazuli from the Middle East for the vibrant blues. Our main area of interest, however, has to be in the subject matter. Each of these beautiful paintings is topped by a Zodiac wheel showing the appropriate Zodiac signs for the month in question, together with the Sun in his chariot, being drawn across the sky by winged horses.

January (left)
The commentary I have on this picture says that this is the month of giving New Year’s gifts (an ancient custom which we hear nothing of now), and there is much merriment in the court scene shown. The Duke of Berry himself is seated on the right, behind the table which is groaning with food. But it’s not quite as simple as that! On the extreme right a man appears to have two hands sticking out of his fur hat - or maybe they belong to the person behind him?! On the left, at the front of the scene, a man in a blue robe is being served a drink. Look closely (you may need a magnifying glass) at his attire...what would normally be covered by his robes or his codpiece is very definitely on show, and he is wearing odd stockings. The man in the foreground is also sporting a codpiece! To the right, two small dogs are on the table, eating from the bowls whilst in the background, mayhem seems to be breaking out amongst the massed troops.

This doesn’t exactly look like the exchanging of New Year gifts, unless goings-on at the Duke’s court really were like this! It is reminiscent of Saturnalia, the December winter solstice festival of wild revelry (note that Capricorn is still visible in the arc above the main picture) and could possibly be representative of the celebrations that would have taken place over the winter festive season, particularly in the households of wealthy noblemen.

Joyce mentions two web sites where you can take a closer look at the full set of 12 pictures. These are:

www.christusrex.org/www2/berry and www.ibiblio.org/wm/rh/
MANILIUS' MINOR MEASURE
A Potential Historical Source for the Method of Age Progression

"Manilius was a Roman didactic poet, probably living in the time of the Emperors Tiberius or Augustus. This places his lifetime in the early part of the first century after the birth of Christ. His circumstances are something of a mystery and authors are not sure if he was a native of Rome or was born in some more distant part of the Roman empire. Manilius is chiefly known as the author of his lengthy poem, the Astronomica, a compendium of astrological and astronomical teaching, lore and wisdom in five books."

Introduction
One of the most important innovations in Huber astrology was the development of the concept of the Age Point and its cycle through the horoscope over the course of 72 years. The Hubers called this technique Age Progression, they provided a detailed account of this discovery in the Lifeclock books. The Hubers describe their approach using Koch houses and a seventy-two year cycle of individual growth and development. The Age Point commences its journey at the Ascendant at the time and place of birth. Therefore an accurately timed birth chart is essential for the success of this method of charting the individuation process.

After birth the Age Point begins to move around the horoscope. It spends exactly six years in each house. This six-year cycle is maintained whatever the size of the house when measured in zodiacal longitude (degrees and minutes). The Age Point arrives at the cardinal houses (4, 7 and 10) at eighteen years, thirty-six years and fifty-four years before returning to the Ascendant and re-entering the first house at seventy-two years. The Hubers are absolutely clear that this method of Age Progression only works with Koch houses. Hence, Koch houses are advocated for the whole of the Huber system.

Historical Precedents for the Age Point and Age Progression
In Lifeclock Volume 2, Bruno and Louise Huber outline some historical precedents for Age Progression. These include variations on the theme of a lifetime cycle of a single point through the houses. Some methods describe a sixty-year cycle, some an eighty-four year cycle, others a one-hundred year cycle. These precedents date from at least the Renaissance. A French clergyman, Pater Yves, apparently describes a sixty-year cycle through the Placidus houses of the horoscope in a book called Nova Methodus in 1654. (Huber and Huber, Lifeclock Vol. 2, page 4)

However, in Gettings' Dictionary of Astrology there is a tantalising reference to a technique called the 'minor measure'. Gettings attributes this technique to a Roman poet and astrologer called Manilius who wrote in the time of Christ. Manilius' book, the Astronomica, is a five volume compendium of astronomical, astrological, metaphysical and spiritual ideas composed using a poetical method. It is one of the few relatively complete works to describe astrological method and its philosophical framework that has survived to modern times.

The Five Books of Manilius' Astronomica
Manilius' five books cover various areas of astrological and astronomical knowledge. Although large sections of the book are intact Tester suggests that Manilius' work may be incomplete, particularly Book V (Tester, A History of Western Astrology, page 30). The work is written in a poetical form. As Tester points out, this seems odd to us because we are used to dry, academic language in text books. However, in Manilius' time, the poetical form would have been the preferred and accepted method of transmitting philosophical and metaphysical knowledge.

The reference to the minor measure is likely to come in Book Three, where Manilius deals with various methods of describing how periods of human life are influenced by the heavens. In this book he also deals with methods of predicting the length of a human life using the horoscope. To fully explore this link between the Age Point and Age Progression and the minor measure it would be necessary to turn to the original text, either in Latin or English translation.

The Concept of the Minor Measure
Gettings provides a clear description of the technique of the minor measure. This description might be taken almost word for word from a description of the Huber method of Age Progression. Gettings writes: "The minor measure of Manilius is a system of directing the horoscope figure on the basis of 72 arcs, each house representing a period of six years, each quadrant 18 years...The system is really a device for projecting a time-grid (one-sixth of a house being the equivalent of a year) to measure the supposed events in terms of time, the natures of the events being revealed by progressed aspects to the radicals." (Gettings, Dictionary of Astrology, page 319)

One point that is not clear from Gettings' reference to the minor measure is whether the technique refers to the direction of the 'horoscopos' or first house cusp at the rate of five degrees per year, or to the movement of the whole horoscope at this rate. Only a detailed study of the historical material would reveal which method Manilius was suggesting.

Gettings indicates that Manilius' interest in a cycle of seventy-two years relates to mystical ideas derived from gnosticism. Gettings says that Manilius, writing in the earliest years of the Christian era, would not have been aware of the precessional rate of one degree per 72 years that the Hubers ascribe significance to in their writings. In Manilius' day, the precessional rate was reckoned to be one degree per 100 years.

Age Progression and the minor measure use a seventy-two year life-cycle; both systems are based on house divisions rather than zodiacal division (although if Manilius was using a whole sign house system the signs and houses would be identical); both recognise a steady sixty-year cycle through each house irrespective of the house size in zodiacal longitude; both systems recognise the key stages marked out by directions to natal (radical) positions.

Much debate has occurred in recent years about which house system was favoured by the astrologers of Greek

Conclusion

Over page
Manilius’ Minor Measure concluded

and Roman times. Potential candidates include the equal house system, the whole sign system, the Porphyry system and the Alcabitus system. Although it is unlikely in the extreme that Manilius was working with the Koch system, or some variation of the method, the parallels between his minor measure and the Hubers’ work suggest that the true historical precedent for the Age Point concept may well lie in his book.

Conclusions

The Hubers do not make reference (as far as I know) to the work of Manilius in their writings on the Age Point and Age Progression. However, elsewhere in their written work, the Hubers do refer to Manilius’ book. In much of their own writing, Bruno and Louise Huber make it clear that many of the most important principles in Huber astrology have their roots in traditional techniques - the elements, the triplicities, the hemispheres and quadrants for example. However, a Roman source for Age Point and Age Progression concepts is an unusual and thought-provoking idea.

I believe that the exploration of possible Greek and Roman sources for the Hubers’ astrology opens up a potentially exciting area of research and discovery for students and practitioners. This astrological ‘archaeology’ would give an historical perspective to the innovative techniques that the Hubers developed (or perhaps recovered) for modern astrological psychology. Uncovering the potential sources of their methods would enrich our understanding of the connection of Huber methods with ancient techniques that have been lost to current astrological practice.

The Hubers’ admiration for classical astrology is clear in the following declaration from The Astrological Houses: “Today’s modern astrological view (i.e. Huber astrological psychology) is much less comparable with the vast variety of astrological rules of this century than it is with the simple, easy to see holistic view that shines through the sources of early Greek or even pre-Greek (Babylonian-Chaldean) origin.” (Huber and Huber, The Astrological Houses, page 18) Perhaps the Hubers have consciously taken us much closer to ancient sources of astrological wisdom than we realise!

Postscript

Despite an intensive search of Manilius’ book, I have been unable to find an exact reference to the minor measure. Unfortunately Gettings does not give a specific source for his dictionary entry. This may suggest that the minor measure is a technique attributed to Manilius but found in another classical text.

Ed is a Diploma student and celebrated his 40th birthday with a surprise cake at Face to Face last year.

He writes:

“I have been a student of astrology for around 12 years. I have studied with various schools and hold a Certificate award from the Faculty of Astrological Studies. I established a local group in Exeter in 1996; this is still going strong and makes for a lively Sunday afternoon once a month. I have written articles for the Astrological Journal and for the Mountain Astrologer. I have also presented material at the annual Astrological Association Conference. You can find more details about my work and the Exeter group at www.asteria.freeserve.co.uk/edg.htm or www.asteria.freeserve.co.uk/edgillium.htm.”

References

- Huber B and Huber L (1990) Astrology and the Spiritual Path: The Spiritual Significance of Age Progression. York Beach, Maine, Samuel Weiser, Inc.

THE CELESTIAL STAR TABLE

by Sue Seymour

An Exciting Teaching Aid

In 1992, encumbered with lots of candles, lumps of squishy clay, kiddie’s windmills and mobiles and a big glass bowl full of water, I arrived to teach my first astrology evening class. The ‘four elements’ that I had lugged with me appealed to my unsuspecting Jupiter as a good hands-on starting point for the students. Each week we invoked a different planet by dressing up and bringing in relevant props

Getting fed up with carting around lots of stuff I conceived my first notions of a large chart-table, where I could demonstrate the Huber experiential approach to astrology, by bringing it to life on a more manageable scale. In 1993, after some months gestation I produced a cardboard model that showed great promise in offering an experience of astrology that communicated directly to the emotions. By 1994 this first cardboard idea had evolved into a full colour, solid wood, prototype.

So the Celestial Star Table was born. An interactive theatre of planet characters whose stage is the table and whose Play is the natal chart.

Attempting to give the planet characters (or actors) a mythological flavour using different materials, colours and accessories to bring their individual qualities to life, proved to be both demanding and amusing. The recreation of the goddess Venus (sculpted in modelling paste) collapsing in the oven only to reappear looking more like a Barbie doll than a goddess was typical of the entertainment as well as the frustration.

In the twelve zodiac drawers created for each of the signs I put the costumes and props for the planet characters to wear. These give an immediate visual grasp of the meaning of a planet in a sign e.g. Mars in Leo. Other items in the drawers...
were gathered from the most unlikely and far flung places.

The burning candle in the middle of the table is used to symbolise the soul or energy centre. I made the table revolve to reflect the orbital nature of the solar system and to allow people sitting around it to view the chart from all angles and also to give easy access to the zodiac drawers beneath. The moving outer wheel is shaded light to dark, illustrating the conscious and unconscious hemispheres and the diurnal nature of the house system.

The decision to adopt the use of symbols and artefacts allows the chart to communicate entirely on a visual and emotional level... "it gives one a sense of the chart without having to think" which has proved to be a huge asset to both clients and students alike.

Over the years I have received enquiries and requests to make further tables, but my problem has been time and again, how make a table of such unique quality at a realistic price. It wasn't until I was speaking about it to my boyfriend Geoff (with his background in graphics and reproduction techniques) that I began to see my dreams could come true.

The original concept for the Celestial Star Table was both educational and informative, but it had subsequently proved to be slightly too big and heavy to move around easily and some of its moving parts too fragile. A rethink or redesign was necessary if the table were to become available to other Huber astrologers.

Following a great 24 hours at Buckland Hall in September displaying the table's potential to a very appreciative and interested group of 'Face to Face' tutors and participants, I went home to work on a new portable prototype with the insight, advice, and encouragement of Geoff.

After several weeks of Geoff facing me with challenging and naive question we finally settled on what to do, and the next generation of star table is now more imaginatively conceived, more exciting, and highly portable. It is designed in three sections which can fit together as required; the top with chart graphics, the drawer unit housing the twelve zodiac drawers, and the base.

The new 24" revolving tabletop can be bought as a self-contained unit. The design allows for charts to be drawn on the wipe-clean surface with felt pens. The outer "house" wheel revolves and is colour graded to illustrate the conscious and unconscious hemispheres. The top is also designed to locate with the drawer unit. This drawer unit is lightweight yet rigid, the drawers are lined with zodiac paper, one unique artwork for each sign. The base is designed to create a totally self-supporting unit, comprising of the top, drawers and stand. The planet characters have all been conceived and individually sculpted, then cast in epoxy resin to provide more detail, strength and durability.

The latest design of the Celestial Star Table is the result of a great deal of research into what astrologers feel they want and what they actually need ... a communication aid that is both simple and effective.

Sue is an API Diploma Holder. She teaches astrology and looks for new ways to help both teachers and students.

For more detailed information about the Celestial Star Table contact her at:

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Overseas
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