

Conjunction

Linking staff, students and friends of API(UK) around the world
www.api-uk.org

“FOLLOW YOUR BLISS...” *Principal’s Notes by Joyce Hopewell*

Doors. Portals. Gateways. It doesn’t matter which name you use as they all symbolise a threshold which, when crossed, will take us into a new and different physical place or state of mind. Psychologically, doors can represent the threshold between past and future, between what has gone before and what is yet to come. Doorways, what they represent and what might be beyond them, can be exciting, forbidding, intriguing, scary, interesting, fascinating and stimulating.

Janus, the two-headed Roman god whom the month of January is named after, is depicted as a doorkeeper with one head looking back and one forward, the guardian of the first month of the year. In Roman mythology, Janus was the god of gates, doors, doorways, beginnings, and endings.

The on-going movement of the Age Point around the chart constantly offers opportunities for us to open doors to new psychological life phases and ways of being; the journey is progressive and at each stage there is something new to learn and experience about ourselves and the world we inhabit. There are the doors which lead us from one House of the chart to the next, and these are probably rather large and impressive as they mark the end of one psychological life phase and the beginning of the next. Being right on the cusp of a House, these doors can be flung wide open to the world in a big way – we have to go through them so we may as well enjoy the view! Then there are the doors which we pass through as the Age Point changes Sign. Perhaps these doorways are painted the colour

of the element of that Sign; if so, a dazzling and vibrant blue door is not far away for me as my Age Point moves towards the Sign of Cancer! Then there are the doors which lead from the Cardinal to the Fixed zone of each House, and from the Fixed to the Mutable zone.

Of course, we must not forget that the doors which open on to the Mutable zone are the doors to the Low Point of each House. These may be less spectacular and impressive. They

may appear dowdy or forbidding, perhaps even hidden away from public view, but once opened they can offer a direct route to the central core of the chart and to the connection between self and Higher Self. Louise Huber says that when we are on a Low Point, it is easier to get in touch with the soul’s purpose. These doors may appear less attractive, but there are hidden riches behind them.

Joseph Campbell, the author of many books on mythology said, “When you follow your

bliss...doors will open where you would not have thought there would be doors; and where there wouldn’t be a door for anyone else”. When I read this, I realised that his words could be related directly to the movement of the Age Point through the metaphorical doors I’ve been speaking about. Of course, these doors are uniquely your doors and uniquely my doors – they are experienced differently for every one of us. And if we follow our bliss we must do so willingly, knowing that whatever life phase we are travelling through is transient...and that at its end there will always be another door, leading us to a new beginning.



Venetian Doors by Maylis Curie

In this Issue:

API News	2
Contacting API Staff	2
A Fond Farewell to Reynold Swallow	3
Agnes Shellens Bequest	3
Maggie’s Musings	5
The Development of Astrological Psychology	5
Workshops 2007	6
Elton John’s Kite and Jupiter	6

Age Progression & Getting Older - Richard Llewellyn.	7
The Recorder in my House Chart - Elly Gibbs	8
A Decorative Aspect Pattern by Sara Inkster.	10
Counselling, Some Reflections by Jane Brooks.	11
The Low Point - Crisis or Creation by Maria Maw	13
The Meaning & Value of a Horoscope Reading by Louise Huber. .	14
Arriving at the 8th House by Helen Lambert	15
Astrology and the Seven Rays.	16



Principal

Joyce Hopewell
01565-633829

api.principal@zen.co.uk

Course Administration

David Kerr
01479 831374

david.kerr@api-uk.org

Enquiries & Membership

Elly Gibbs
0151-605-0039

api.enquiries@btopenworld.com

Student Representative

Maggie Jeffery
01454 413535

maggiejeffery2@hotmail.co.uk

Principal Emeritus &

API Chart Data Service

Richard Llewellyn
0151-606-8551

r.llewellyn@btinternet.com

API Treasurer

Sue Parker
01492 513024.

suellysfaen@talktalk.net

Bookshop

Linda Tinsley
01704 544652

lucindatinsley@talktalk.net

Publicity

Andrew Duncan
astropub2@aol.com
01896-752663

Publishing

Barry Hopewell
01565-633829

barry.hopewell@zen.co.uk

API Web Master

Jane Brooks
0161-221-2224

jane@api-uk.org

**Workshop Programme &
'Face to Face' 2006**

Jane Brooks
0161-221-2224

jane@api-uk.org

Computer Software

Elly Gibbs
0151-605-0039

software.api@btinternet.com

Conjunction Editor

Sara Inkster
07976 209556

conjunction@ntlworld.com

API NEWS

REVAMPED WEB-SITE & NEW ON-LINE BOOKSHOP

The API-UK website – www.api-uk.org – has been given an overhaul and we now have a **members only area**. Email your membership number to our Web Master Jane (jane@api-uk.org) to obtain the password to access the **Members Only Bookshop and Photo Album**. As a member of API you get **10% off** all orders from the Bookshop. Non-members can also buy books, tapes and CDs from the Bookshop on the new web-site, but without the discount. In the near future members will also be able to access CONJUNCTION EXTRA, additional Conjunction articles, only available to API members.

Visit the API website: www.api-uk.org

AMENDMENT TO DIPLOMA COURSE MATERIAL

The School's Diploma and Foundation Course manuals are updated from time to time with new information and to correct errors. If you spot any errors in your manuals, please highlight them to your tutors.

In **Module 6 of the Diploma Course**, the third assessed assignment at the end is unchanged, but the **instructions are amplified and the marks allocation slightly changed**. You can obtain a copy of the revised text from your tutor.

COURSE ADMINISTRATION CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please note that David Kerr, our Course Administrator has moved:

David Kerr,

API Course Administration, PO Box 7082

Grantown on Spey, PH24 2WW

Telephone 01479 831374

E-mail: david.kerr@api-uk.org

API (UK) BOOKSHOP

books, booklets, CD's, audio tapes
10% discount to API members

If you would like details of our new and second-hand books, booklets, tapes, CDs and learning material please contact Linda Tinsley for a current catalogue

70 Kensington Road, Southport, PR9 0RY
tel: +44(0)1704-544652 email: lucindatinsley@talktalk.net

On-line Bookshop at www.api-uk.org

API CHART DATA SERVICE

A comprehensive range of data and charts on paper or acetate produced to a very high standard using Megastar Software

Contact Richard Llewellyn
PO Box 29, Upton, Wirral, CH4 3BG
Tel: +44(0)151 606 8551
email: r.llewellyn@btinternet.com



**Natal House & Node Charts + Click - Integration - Dynamic Quadrants
-Transits - Progressions - Personal Rays - Relationship Charts ...**

A Fond Farewell to Reynold Swallow

We are sad to announce the death of Reynold Swallow on 28th February 2007. Reyn was known to many students as the person who ran "Taurus Systems", providing API software. Reyn is survived by his wife Joan and their three adult children.

IT was a very emotional moment when I heard the sad news that Reyn had died. Not just because he had left us but also for the many, many memories that he left behind. These are all of his warmth, caring and willingness to help in any way and in any situation that he felt able. Reyn was a staunch and loving friend though Alice and I have no recollection as to exactly when and how he first came into our lives! My first memories are some 25 years ago whilst I was writing the Manuals for the school. He and his wife Joan were part of the small group who met from time to time and added their wisdom and professional skills to the work in hand. These made an invaluable contribution to the finished result, which has since offered so much to so many people.

Reyn embodied all the very best Taurean characteristics, practicality, strong will, courage, endurance, love of beauty and art, not forgetting his contribution to the local choir. He was the perfect host and I have happy memories of those wonderful breakfasts he cooked, and the convivial sharing of a glass or two of 'malt' after the business of the day was over, and so very much more!

How special has been his staunch and loving support for Joan, support he gave with such courage, cheerfulness and willingness. And I shall remember with thanks and appreciation everything he has contributed to API and our students over these 25 years. I know also how much he also contributed within the many other strands of his life. He was a truly lovely man who I'm happy to have known and whom I salute and will remember with humility as a very special person. Thanks Reyn. **RICHARD LLEWELYN**



Reyn is on the top right of this photo taken in the early 90's with Bruno & Louise Huber (centre front) and tutors (Richard Llewelyn is top left)

Reyn was such a warm, wise, genuine, and very special man who gave me much help, guidance and advice when I needed it as Principal of API (UK). He was not just a colleague, he was a friend. We used to chat on the phone and swap notes on which pieces we were rehearsing in our respective choral societies. Reyn sang bass in his choir, and I

remember him telling me once that he'd last sung the piece he was rehearsing was when he was an alto, before his voice had broken! I have fond memories of he and Joan hosting one of the many API (UK) Council meetings we had at their home in Devon. Most of the tutors were there. Reyn, who was chairing the meeting, explained that it would have to finish on time as he and Joan were singing in a performance of Verdi's Requiem that evening. After the meeting both of them disappeared upstairs to change into their choir uniforms. They reappeared in evening dress, Reyn looking resplendent in DJ, and Joan in a long skirt, making us tutors look quite shabby!



Reyn & Joan in dinner dress with Richard performing magic trick?

We gathered together to have some photos of this happy and occasion, and Reyn sang some warming up notes in his deep bass voice. Several of us who were staying on after the meeting went to the performance, making this a truly memorable meeting.

I feel very privileged to have known Reyn. I shall miss him and will remember him with much affection. Thank you Reyn for all you gave us. Our love and thoughts go to Joan and the Swallow family. **JOYCE HOPEWELL**

I first met Reyn Swallow as a facilitator of workshops of the Centre for Transpersonal Psychology in the early 1980s, and remember an amazing weekend in Devon playing the Tibetan game of Upaya. In those days Joan was the dominant personality and Reyn her henchman, as he continued to be when she was stricken by heart attack and stroke. Later, I remember him bringing Joan in her wheelchair to the launch of CTP books a few years ago and salute him for his loyalty, devotion and stamina to her and to the two great movements they supported — the Centre for Transpersonal Psychology and the Astrological Psychology Institute. In the API context I remember Reyn best as our contact and aid for computer programs. Reyn was a lovely man and has been a great servant to us all. **SUE LEWIS**

Thank you for informing me about Reynold's death, I didn't know him very well, just from ordering my first astrological computer program, Astro Plus. We talked together on the phone— he did a lot for the Huber group and is a great loss for the API-school. **CHRISTA HENSEL, Norway**

The news of Reyn's death has triggered so many memories for me; lovely memories of visits to Joan and Reyn at Bridge House filled with sunshine in the garden having lunch breaks and moonshine – at Joan's Full Moon lectures.

It was always a pleasure to see Reyn's warm welcoming face, and enjoy those lovely Taurean creature comforts, cooking smells, comfy chairs, curious artefacts, and gardening projects.

My treasured memories are having a cup of coffee in that wonderful book lined room, in the presence of the rich deep well of wisdom, wit, and words which Joan and Reyn so warmly shared, along with their spiritual understanding, care and encouragement. Such memories will always be a tremendous inspiration to me. **SUE SEYMOUR**

For me, Reyn has always been one of the unsung heroes of API(UK). For many years it was Reyn who ensured that English versions of Huber software were available. He made sure that the programs worked, and provided telephone advice and support. With his broad professional experience, Reyn was also always there in the background, providing unfailing support to Richard and to Joyce.

Reyn provided a fine example of selfless service to us all. **BARRY HOPEWELL**

Although I didn't know Reyn much, (I met him for Richard's 80th. birthday) I join you in your goodbye to him as a well-loved member of this astrological family.

LOLA FERRER, Barcelona

Sorry to hear about Reyn, he was such a gentle soul. **SDIANA BRANDT, South Africa**

I first met Reyn at Face to Face at the Beacon Centre many years ago. I remember being uncertain about whether my technical computer skills were up to using astrology software. My experience at work with software experts didn't inspire me to try! However after sitting and talking with Reyn for a little while I felt reassured and went on to buy AstroSys, and later, Megastar. I made quite a lot of use of his expertise both by phone and e-mail. Even when the questions I had were "silly" ones I never felt patronised or that my enquiry had irritated him in any way.

I have a memory of Reyn as being a Taurean and certainly what I experienced from him were the positive Taurean qualities of patience, reliability, practicality and a sense of being nurturing and supported — thank you Reyn. **HELEN LAMBERT**

Agnes Shellens Bequest: *The Best of Astrolog*

An appreciation of the life of Agnes Shellens appeared in the July 2005 issue of *Conjunction*. Agnes made a major contribution to the understanding of astrological psychology in the English-speaking world, and to the development of API(UK), through the large number of articles she translated into English from the original German.

In 2006 the API(UK) Council was delighted to receive a significant bequest of money from Agnes's estate. At the November 2006 Council meeting, it was decided to use this money for the translation of selected back articles from *Astrolog*, the bi-monthly publication of API (Switzerland). *Astrolog* has been in publication since 1981, so there is a significant body of experience that has hitherto not been available to non-German-speakers.



Agnes Shellens

We have since developed a plan, after trawling through many back issues of *Astrolog*, and prioritizing articles. The result will be a two-volume series of books with provisional title *The Best of Astrolog*. We have aimed to include a variety of authors, including Bruno, Louise and Michael Huber.

The first volume is planned to be published this autumn, containing a selection of articles on themes relating life, astrology and psychology. A second volume in 2008 will focus on family and relationships.

A further spin-off is likely to be several additional booklets for particularly large or specialist articles. The first of these will be a selection of Bruno Huber's articles on *The History of Astrology*.

It is hoped to include reviews in the next issue of *Conjunction* (volunteers welcome). For details of availability, keep an eye on www.api-uk.org and the new online bookshop.

Barry Hopewell

As a taster, an article from *Astrolog* by Louise Huber appears on page 14. Some articles from *Astrolog* also appear in the *Conjunction Digests* which are available from the API Bookshop.

ASTROLOGICAL SOFTWARE ASTRO CORA, MEGASTAR, REGULUS, REGULUS LIGHT & Special Student Edition - Regulus API(UK)

Elly Gibbs, API Software Distribution.
P.O.Box 29, Upton, Wirral, CH49 3BG, England
Tel. +44 (0)151- 605 - 0039
software.api@btinternet.com

Can you help Anna?

Anna Cereva Mochon, who is 40 and from the Spanish Huber School is hoping to come to England for a few days, or more if possible, this July. She has studied with the Alice Bailey School for 6 years. She hopes the trip will improve her English and her knowledge of the Huber Method which she loves. She would like to stay with someone, maybe working as a volunteer, in an area related to astrology. If you can help please contact Anna on wotana@hotmail.com

Maggie's Musings by Maggie Jeffery, Student Rep.

Hello everyone!

I can't believe we're halfway through the year already. I've been looking through past copies of *Conjunction* and came across an article by Kathy Oldham in 2004. In this she describes how "astrology sits at the interface of the inner and outer worlds" and quotes Paracelsus, "from the external we learn to know the internal..."

As I write this it's April and looking out of the window at the state of the blossom and the trees, it seems as if Summer is already here! With the seasons moving along so fast, and human lifestyle moving at an ever increasing pace, this quote seemed very relevant.

Looking back on my life and studying my charts has shown me how "driven" I can be when subject to the influence of unconscious patterns. Pondering this I realised how when I act in this driven, unconscious way, life seems to go wrong. Reading those words of Paracelsus made sense and for me it began to shed some light on the old puzzle of fate versus freedom of choice. The more consciously we are living, the more freedom of choice we have. Fate seems to be what happens when we're living on automatic pilot. Our unconscious way of being is reflected back to us in no uncertain terms! The more aware we become of the influences of our inner world, the

more balanced our choices and actions.

So, are we affecting the pace of the seasons or are the seasons affecting us? Hmm – I don't know but really would like to have a summer holiday before having to start thinking about Christmas!

I came across a fascinating book, *An Astrological Study of the Bach Flower Remedies* by Peter Damien. Now I've never been very successful in the past working with these. This book describes how to work with the 'Twelve Healers' according to the Sun Signs. Of course, in my contrary way, I wondered what would happen if I used the remedy for the Opposite Sign – in my case Sagittarius. So I experimented... it took me a day or two to realise I was being very outspoken and direct with everyone – not my usual confused self at all. My understanding is that usually these remedies are subtle, but not so in this case! I am now using Cerato for my Gemini Sun and certainly I seem to be a little more focused. We shall see...

Do email me, I really enjoy hearing from you.
Have a great summer! Maggie

Maggie Jeffery, 23 Wharfedale, Thornbury, BRISTOL,
BS35 2DS
Tel: 01454-413535 maggiejeffery2@hotmail.co.uk

The Development of Astrological Psychology Review by Helen Lambert

"We often had to leave our personal wishes unsatisfied and transcend ourselves..." (Louise Huber).

If, like me, you're not very familiar with the history of API this new publication makes fascinating reading. It's made up of 2 articles translated from *Astrolog*. One by Bruno Huber entitled *When Someone Makes a Journey...Forty Years of Exploring Astrology*, which covers his astrological work up until the formation of API in 1968, the other by Louise called *The Development of an Astrologer – 36 years of API*.

I hadn't realised the extent to which my admiration for their astrological work had in some ways allowed me to put Louise and Bruno on pedestals, see them as the author's of "the truth" in terms of astrology (and I smiled when I realised this had happened despite all those workshops with Richard which begin with "this is not the truth"!). However reading their accounts, especially of their early lives, gave me a powerful sense of them as "real" people, with inner uncertainties and disagreements with others exploring the spiritual path, which had to be overcome. As a Taurean I particularly enjoyed finding out that Louise's interest in astrology was sparked by reading Frankhauser's comment about the "impossibility of salvation for Taurus".

Other details, such as how Bruno and Louise met and how their relationship developed also helped to fill out my understanding of them as people, which in turn enhances my view of them as astrologers. Louise writes of her and Bruno "although we were spiritually at one, we had a very different approach to everyday matters" and how it was only when she accepted she needed to organise Bruno's life that the API was

born. I was particularly struck by the determination and faith in their work which allowed them to achieve what they have.

The importance of Roberto Assagioli to the development of Huber astrology is made very clear. Bruno writes how Roberto encouraged his research "in fact he almost ordered me to do it." The precision and thoroughness which is such a hallmark of Bruno's work may owe something to Assagioli as Louise writes that Roberto's "clarity of mind was invaluable for Bruno's astrological research. He could spot and immediately rectify any potential or hasty wrong conclusion...". I also particularly enjoyed Bruno's observation that whilst some of these astrological developments and methodologies were born of painstaking research, others were the result of chance, fate or coincidence "there are moments in the life of an astrologer which almost take the breath away..." and I think we all know that feeling!

I came away from the articles with a much stronger sense of Bruno and Louise as individuals. They have quite different "voices" in the articles – you would have no trouble identifying which is the Sagittarian and which the Taurus!

I would thoroughly recommend the articles to anyone who has a sense of belonging to the Huber School, or is interested in learning more about how astrological thought develops, or even someone who's just a bit nosey about who the "real" Bruno and Louise are!

The Development of Astrological Psychology, Bruno and Louise Huber. 20pp, £7. Available from the API(UK) Bookshop,

STUDY GROUPS

THE CHESHIRE STUDY GROUP

A study group for the Cheshire and Manchester area. Meetings are held on or around the Full Moon every month, except during the Christmas/New Year period. The group meets between 7.30 and 10pm at members' houses on a rota. We welcome all Huber astrologers and students and anyone else interested in the way Astrological Psychology works. We usually try to include a Full Moon Meditation. For more information please contact Jane Brooks: 0161 221 2224 or email: jane@api-uk.org

LONDON ASTROLOGY GROUP

The London Astrology Group continues to meet regularly in Battersea, SW11, on Tuesday evenings during the summer months and Saturday afternoons later the year. Forthcoming dates are Tuesdays 3 July and 4 September at 7pm, and Saturdays 29 September, 20 October and 24 November at 2pm. Meetings last two-and-a-half hours. During the next few months we will cover inner motivation and aspect patterns, dynamic calculations and environmental stress, ego planet strength and integration, and work with transpersonal planets. For further information please contact Sue Lewis on 07946 600304 or email: suelewis7@tiscali.co.uk

WORKSHOPS 2007

Saturday 21st July

THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY:

TREASURE HUNTING THE TRANSPERSONALS

With Joyce Hopewell in Lymm, Cheshire. Contact: Helen Lambert.
Tel: 0161 211 0995 lambert.hallam@ntlworld.com

Saturday 15th September

SATURN & JUPITER, ASLEEP OR AWAKE?

With Maria Maw in Marple, Stockport, Cheshire. Contact: Maria.
Tel: 07949 965842/01625 434368 mariamaw@onetel.com

Friday 2nd to Monday 5th November

FACE TO FACE: ASTROLOGY PART 1: 'THE HIDDEN CORE'

Non-residential in Kendal, Cumbria. Supporting the first half of the Diploma course, with Jeremy Cooper and Elly Gibbs.

Friday 9th to Monday 12th November

FACE TO FACE: ASTROLOGY PART 2: 'MEETING THE WORLD'

Non-residential in Milton Keynes, Bucks. Covering the second half of the Diploma course, with Ghislaine Adams and Sue Lewis. Requires prior attendance on Astrology Part 1

Friday 16th to Sunday 18th November

FACE TO FACE: APPLIED ASTROLOGY

Non-residential in Knutsford, Cheshire with Joyce Hopewell and David Kerr.

Bookings are going well for FACE TO FACE so don't forget to reserve your place now to avoid disappointment.

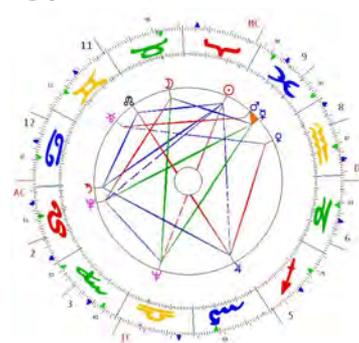
Full details are on the website or contact Jane Brooks.

Tel: 0161 221 2224 jane@api-uk.org

Elton John's Kite & Jupiter

Thanks to Joyce Hopewell for sharing this interpretation. visit <http://joycehopewell.blogspot.com> for more like this...

Elton John recently turned 60 (born 25.3 1947, Pinner. No birth time available on his official website so chart set for noon). As his Age Point entered the 11th House, he threw a lavish party, and dressed up in one of his trademark elaborate and OTT fancy dress outfits, something that he's become



well known for. That set me thinking about his dress style way back in the early 1970's when he was thumping out "Crocodile Rock" on "Top of the Pops", seated at the piano and dressed in over-sized specs and knee-high gold boots with enormous wedges and heels. He's never been one to hold back from dressing up, and his style is distinctly Jupiterian!

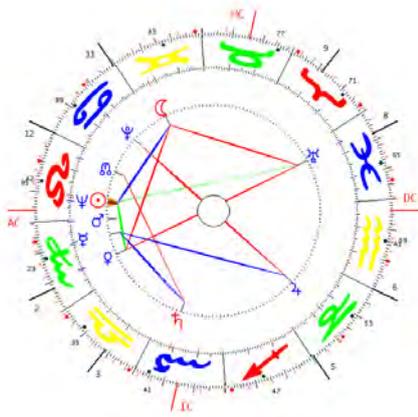
With such a larger than life presentation, I wondered where and how Jupiter, with its larger than life qualities, might feature in his chart. Although there is no time of birth to work with, making it impossible to say which House Jupiter is in, it's clear to see that it does play a key role in the Aspect Pattern it's a part of. Jupiter, together with Sun, Saturn and the Node, are the pinning planets in the Kite figure in his chart. Sun and Saturn span the sides of the Kite, while the Node is at the aspiration point, at the top of this figure, and Jupiter is at the tail of the Kite.

The Kite is a quadrangular figure and is therefore motivated towards security. With only red and blue aspects, it may operate in an on/off manner, seeking to intersperse periods of rest in the blue aspects with a somewhat tense approach to the work that needs to be completed in the red opposition. This figure contains large quantities of talent (its component parts include two talent triangles) but the individual may prefer not to tap into this talent and produce something until they absolutely have to. This figure is found in the charts of artists and creative people, who often go right to the wire when producing something to a deadline. They may find it easier to stay in the blue part of this figure until close to their deadline, when the red finally kicks in. The Hubers say in *Aspect Pattern Astrology* that people with a Kite have a certain charisma, and that they may also be a hedonist. Interestingly, Robbie Williams, whose chart I've written about, also has a Kite (see the Chart Interpretations page on the API (UK) website www.api-uk.org).

Jupiter at the tail of the Kite is in opposition to the Node at the aspiration point, that part of the figure which the individual can develop and grow – if only the time of birth were known so that the House/area of life experience where the Node lies could be pinpointed accurately. The only information we have is the Sign it's in – Gemini – suggesting communication. I guess Elton has done a fair bit of that via his many hits over the years. Of course, Jupiter at the tail of the Kite could be that planet/psychological drive which holds back growth, so the lavish costumes, the excessive amount of money he regularly spends on flowers to fill his home and the ownership of a football club (I don't remember which one!) could all be expressions of this planet.

AGE PROGRESSION & GETTING OLDER

by Richard Llewellyn



14/08/25 06:19 BST Sidcup, Kent UK

Most of you have experience of working with Age Progression in your own charts, maybe up to the Midheaven, and perhaps a few of you have even reached the cusp of the 11th house at the great age of 60! But what happens after that and what's it like when you start going round the clock for the second time? Because I have limited experience of using Age Progression with senior citizens I can really only relate this short article to my own experience. And even my experience may not be representative of all those who pass 'Go' ⁽¹⁾ for the second time! The only important thing I've discovered is that, regardless of the number of years that have passed since we were born, we remain as old as we think we are! And it is **never**, ever too late to start something new.

Regardless of where we've got to on the 'clock' it's important to remember a very basic life principle which says that 'Energy follows thought'. In other words if we think in a positive way this is the vibration of energy that we are creating in our Mind, our Body and in the way that we Feel. Also of course, this will be the way in which the environment will respond to us. And the opposite is equally true, so if we worry that we're getting older and that we're beginning to fall to pieces, then that is exactly what we are creating. It's much better not to think that you're getting older but, if you have to, then imagine that you're something very special such as, for instance, a Vintage car. It still goes though perhaps it needs a little more TLC than when it was first made, but it has character and will still last for many more years. OK, it can be a little more temperamental than it used to be and some things might not work as well as they once did, or a piece may even fall off, but basically it's still intact and working well!

But back to Age Progression. In the 10th house and Gemini I had been busy establishing the English Huber School (now API UK) and that continued apace. When AP entered Cancer and the 11th house, there began a period of dramatic

changes for me - perhaps not surprising with Pluto lurking there. And not surprising that it was a time that was mainly going to affect my emotional life. I began my three-year training with the Psychosynthesis and Education Trust within one month of entering the 11th house. Going into therapy can sometimes be rather like unlocking Pandora's Box and although what emerges may not be quite as evil as suggested by the myth the result can still be life changing. But not without 'Hope', which was the final thing to emerge from the box.

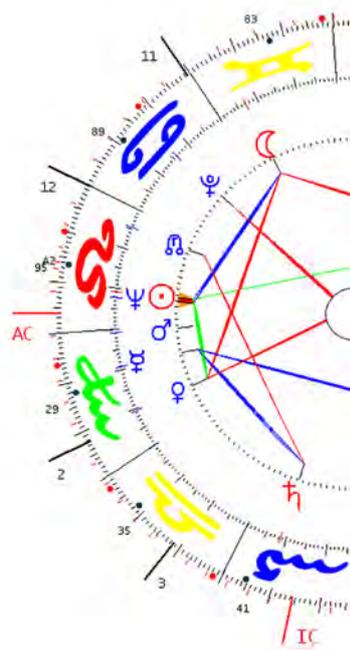
I was married at age 27, in the 5th house, AP conjunct Jupiter. As I approached the end of my training, and with AP conjunct Pluto and opposition Jupiter, I was aware of major changes in myself and these no longer seemed compatible within my marriage. We separated when AP was on the LP of the 11th house and although it was a very low point it was also a time of liberation and hope - a time to move forward.

During this low point experience I had a strange sensation that I was no more than a 'puppet' on a string and that 'somebody else' was pulling the strings. There was an uncanny feeling that the events that were unfolding were being directed from elsewhere. I realise that this might be seen as me not taking responsibility for my own actions but the certainty that this had been happening only came later. On a number of occasions since then I have had similar experiences of what I can only describe as a 'guiding hand' seeming to reach down and point the way forward. Difficult to describe in words and make it seem real!

As AP moved on from the LP I was travelling extensively around the world facilitating psychosynthesis self-development groups and also teaching the Huber's approach to astrology. And when AP reached the cusp of the 12th house I invited Joyce Hopewell to take over the role of Principal of API. Although I was still busy with groups and workshops, I was ready to retire from the 'front line' as far as the school was concerned.

I discovered I was happy living on my own and, most importantly, discovering who I was - not always easy to do in a partnership. With AP conjunct North Node I found this to be a very liberating time, full of personal evolution and it seemed to fit in well with what was happening astrologically.

After 5 years of introspection and self-discovery I'd found a great deal about feelings and felt that I had a lot of love to offer to a new partner. As can be the way when the mystery of synchronicity plays its part, lo and behold she appeared unexpectedly in my life. A whole series of synchronous events followed and on the LP of the 12th house and at the crossing point of the natal and nodal age points I found myself heading northwards from Devon to the Wirral, in spite of the fact that most people seemed to do the journey the other way around! AP conjunct Sun/Neptune not only signified a time of inter-changing love with no emotional dependencies, but also with finding myself in a new life situation. I had to learn



how to cope with the uncertainties of fitting into a new family model with a partner many years younger than me and her two teenage daughters. It all felt rather like the fantasy in a Disney film, and with a happy ending!

So, there I was at the Ascendant having completed one lap around the clock and about to start again – and I suppose that was really how it felt and indeed how it was! And true to AP being in Virgo life also continued with all the usual domestic routines. However, when AP was conjunct Mercury and sextile Saturn I broke my wrist and had to have a tendon transfer. Since this put one arm virtually out of action for 3 months this seemed appropriate! Whilst the AP was tracking through the 1st house I was aware of all the transpersonal planets making strong aspects to this house and this was certainly a period when I felt my spiritual consciousness was developing.

When the AP was just before the cusp of the 2nd house it was conjunct Venus whilst, at the same time, transiting Pluto was retrograde and was within 1° of an exact square to Venus. Now it so happened that around this time I had been taking another look at the Hubers' book *Astrology and the Spiritual Path* as well as looking more deeply at the significance of my Moon Node chart. In the process I was owning-up to some interesting but slightly uncomfortable truths about the role that natal Venus had played as a motivating force in my life. So with hindsight it ought not to have been a surprise to me that only months before AP entered the 2nd house, I had an almost compulsive urge to get rid of everything from the past that I didn't need for the future. The API bookshop was a wonderful outlet for a mountain of second-hand astrology and psychology books!

So, how was I feeling as I made my way through the 2nd house and approached 80 in 2005? I suppose the answer is that I couldn't believe it! OK, the figures told me that this was true and I knew my mother couldn't have got the year of my birth date out by 10 or more years! So I had to accept that this was how it was. I feel that, all being well, growing old is such a gradual process that we may not really notice it happening. However, I suspect that if we're not careful reaching 80 can feel like going through a psychological barrier so that we may say to ourselves 'I am now old', so there might be a tendency to 'give up'. So I have done my best to resist that temptation! It

is true that I don't have as much energy as I used to but I am very active in all kinds of ways, both within and outside of API. We walk a great deal and spending hours trekking through the beautiful countryside in the hills of North Wales, or wherever we decide to go, is food for my soul.

Now, with AP in Libra I am experiencing a need to become more discriminating as to which tasks I take on. I have always been rather rash in saying 'Oh, I'll do that' which I suppose is a combination of a South Node in the 6th house, an intercepted Moon in the 10th house, an unaspected Mars, oh, and that stressed Venus! But I actually do LIKE doing things and I have to admit that I find my 12th house North Node, with its preference for on-going introspection and spiritual questing, can be a little out of balance at times! But AP in Libra says 'Hey, come on you don't have to volunteer for that job, can't we relax a little and enjoy the fact that you ought to be retired and finding time for other pursuits?'

And that is where I am now– well, more or less. AP is now on the LP of the 2nd house and I'm in what Louise Huber calls a 'low point year– a phase of introversion'.⁽²⁾

Once again this is very apt because three years ago, when walking, I fell and injured my right foot. I thought it would heal itself if left to get on with it but it didn't and after visits to various specialists I eventually got on a waiting list for a fairly major operation. Increasing pain before AP reached the LP meant physical activity became more difficult and now, after the operation and as AP moves away from the LP it is likely that it will be some 6 months before healing is reasonably complete, and I can venture forth towards the next cusp, or the next Welsh mountain! My learning is, yet again, to do with 'patience'!

So for anybody curious to know how it feels to start round the clock once more I can only say that, from my own experience, it's good and not very different– as long as you can honestly say to yourself that you are never too old to start something new, and are also able to willingly accept the fact that you're getting nearer to the end of this life. And for me, there is a sense that this will be like going 'home'.

(1) this refers to the board game 'Monopoly.'

(2) 'Astrology and the Spiritual Path' by Bruno & Louise Huber

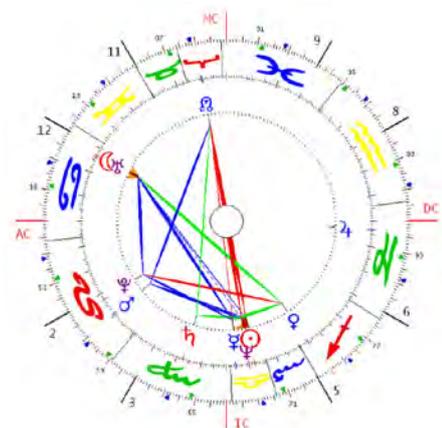
The Recorder in my House Chart *by Elly Gibbs*

"The Moon-Node horoscope symbolizes the past, the radix the present, and the house horoscope the impetus toward future development given by the environment.

"The House Horoscope is no cut-and-dried model of the future, but is a model of the forces that are tending to mold me for the future. As it happens, they are the very forces needed for my further development. The horoscope reveals the environment to which, so far, I have partially been subject".

Moon Node Astrology by Bruno and Louise Huber

I have begun this article with these two quotes as a reminder of the place, and significance, that the House Chart plays in our interpretations.



When I was a Student the aspect structures in my Natal Chart were the ones I studied in depth and I considered only the basic motivation differences between the Natal and House

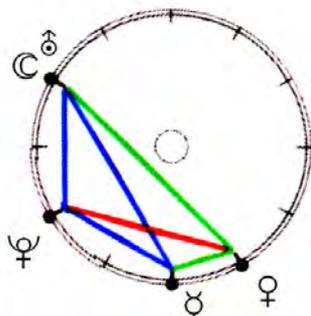
charts, e.g. colour, shaping direction, etc. Aspect structures in the Natal Chart are the forces within ourselves that we put out to the environment, whereas those in the House Chart are forces that the environment would like us to take in. The interpretation of any aspect structure in the House chart may be the same as in the Natal Chart, but it is the environment that is taking control of the House chart aspect structure, until such time as we recognize its influence and begin to take control of it ourselves.

Considering the above, I have to view the Recorder in my House Chart as part of the environmental push to enable me to fulfill my personal growth and development. This involves recalling what I have learned about life as a result of:

- The application of environmental messages.
- The reaction of the environment to the application of these messages.
- The consequences of both of these to myself, and others.

The question that this raises for me is, how have I experienced the Recorder in my life and is it valuable to me now?

The Recorder is a four sided figure, blue and green on the outside and with a trine and a square inside. This is broken down as, 1 Talent Triangle, 1 small Learning triangle, 1 Medium Learning triangle, and 1 Search triangle.



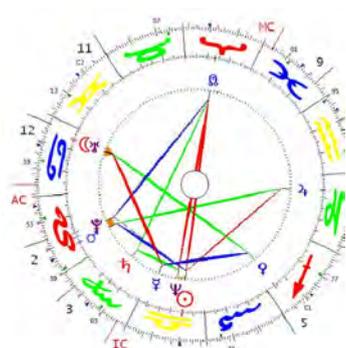
In *Aspect Pattern Astrology* by Bruno, Louise & Michael Huber, it states that

the Recorder stores, among other things, feelings, situations and destinies, and can replay them in such a way that one imagines they are there.

As with all fixed structures security and stability are the key motivations, but this is different. This Recorder is part of my House Chart and it seems to me that it is the environment that wants me to be secure and stable, rather than my natal chart, which might want me to go on a wild fling! This personal filing system has benefits for both myself, and the environment. I am able to recognize what I need for my security and the security that the environment expects from me. I cannot control my destiny but can I feel secure in myself, and in being able to deal with situations that arise, by opening the store cupboard that I have so far acquired in life.

My Natal chart (shown left) has a surplus of red and green, and a dynamic motivation, whereas my House Chart has a surplus of blue and green, and I can see fixed, dynamic and linear motivation.

My Nodal axis in the Natal chart is the 4/10 individuality axis and one of my life tasks is to balance this axis by learning about me as an individual, both on my own at the top of the chart, and how I fit in to the collective. My Mother wanted me to have a safe secure job (4th house) whereas I wanted to be a journalist (10th house). I became a nurse. Although this was not what I wanted, I



recognize that this job has been an invaluable way to learn about my self and the way that I fit in to society, by dealing with people and their situations. Quotes are from *Aspect Pattern Astrology*.

‘A quadrilateral, blue and green on the outside but concealing inner conflict and tension.’

As a child I was required to be quiet and well behaved and generally I was. I do know however that I did not eat or sleep well. There was a lot of tension from my mother who really did not cope with having a child. I am therefore an only one. This blue/green will set its heart on something but will wait for the right moment to come along. My Father is a person who always thinks about a problem and what is to be done about it before he acts. He will wait until the time is right and deal with things and do it quietly and efficiently. This has become mostly my way of dealing with things. I have often said to my partner, “Don’t push the Universe. It will let you know when the time is right but be ready when it is”.

‘The person with the Recorder loves the truth.’

My parents despised lying, unless it was for a good reason, and my message was that I would be in less trouble if I told the truth. I have learned, in my life, that lies destroy trust and respect. I need to be respected and trusted just as much as I need to respect and trust those around me. I can “truthfully” say that I have never lied to my children.

‘The red/blue motivation wants to control matter, give power to justice or give life to human structures.’

A very strong message from my parents was, “do as you would be done by”. Treat others the way you want to be treated. As an adult I can’t stand injustice and I like to know, and try to ensure, that those around me are treated fairly and with respect. My parents did not have a lot of money, but my Father would make me swings and slides out of bits of wood and rope. One very cold winter he poured water on to our garden path and my friends and I had a wonderful ice slide which seemed, as a child, to go on for miles. Mum taught me to cook and bake. My Father was also a landscape gardener and our garden was always beautiful and full of colour. I have been able to pass all this on to my children because they both love and respect their grandparents, particularly granddad, who they think of as a wise person.

‘The red/green planet is the critical observer that spots and immediately tries to fill every gap in logic or experience.’

This planet in my Recorder is Venus in Sagittarius in the 5th house. It is the planet that has not moved in the Nodal and Natal chart. Is there a better placed planet to go out and fill the gaps in my experience by taking all sorts of risks and creating new horizons? Venus sorts out the best for the survival of the tribe and so it has sorted out the best for the survival of me over the years. I have taken note of the highs and lows presented to me. The quincunx from Venus to Moon/Uranus is in both Natal and House charts and complement one another. The Natal Chart wanting sometimes to experience and create unusual things, and the House chart giving me an opportunity to pursue them, i.e. my introduction to astrology.

‘The Search figure (Mercury, Venus, Moon/Uranus) looks where it thinks something is hidden.’

It seems to have presented me with mysteries and questions that the red/green in my natal chart wants to solve. My parents sent me to Sunday School and, although I am not religious, I suppose if they hadn’t I would not have the belief in things

beyond my earthly body that I do now. Mum loved general knowledge crosswords and after Sunday tea we would get out the dictionary and encyclopedia, and we had to answer all the questions. I still like crosswords and puzzles now. Friends that have passed through my life seem to be those who like a glass of wine or two and can sit pondering on the meaning of life etc.

The Medium Learning Triangle (Venus, Pluto, Moon/Uranus) asks the right questions to get to the heart of the matter.

My Father taught me how to mend plugs and tap washers and decorate and similar other jobs. He wanted me to be independent and not to have to rely on men. I think this has made me ask questions and observe and learn from anybody who has come to do a job such as laying carpets etc. I store this information and now I lay the carpets myself and do many other small household jobs myself. Sometimes this is viewed as slightly unconventional.

The Small Learning triangle (Venus, Pluto, Mercury) is retrograde and is the source of communication.

When I was a child, even in to my teens, I was very quiet and shy. This will be a surprise to those of you who know me now! At the age of 17 my Aunt gave me a job in her restaurant. I had to come out of my shell and make small talk with the customers.

This job and my following nursing job made the difference. Now I can, and do, talk like the rest of my fellow Liverpudlians anywhere and everywhere. Having said that I recognize that my shy days made me realise the importance of being able to listen and that silence is sometimes the best answer.

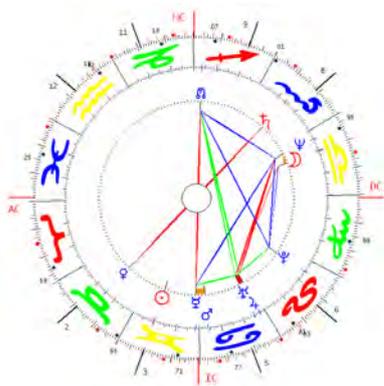
The Small Talent Triangle, (Mercury, Pluto, Moon/Uranus) stores, sorts & integrates all my experiences

As parents, when our children are not able to lead their own lives, we hold the key to the store room of their experience until they are old enough to take it over. My parents and family were no different. “Don’t do that, you remember what happened when you did that before.” I can now say to myself, “Don’t do that, you remember what happened when you did that before.” I can be certain that I, not the environment, own the Store Cupboard. Or can I?

Is this Recorder an important part of my experience? I am certain it is!

Now I have taken over my storeroom I experience it like this: Mercury gathered, and still gathers experience. Moon/Uranus decides what category the experience is and what shelf to put it on and Pluto holds the deep dark secrets of dusty experiences at the bottom of the pile. These, of course, are the ones that I would probably rather forget.

The Decorative in my Natal Chart *by Sara Inkster*



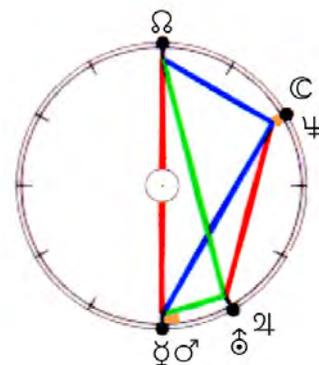
All quotes in this article are from *Aspect Pattern Astrology* by Bruno and Louise Huber.

Like the Recorder the other ‘new’ quadrilateral in my chart, this pattern sits in the You hemisphere. This is a ‘Decoder’ figure that can apparently assist me in converting coded messages into plain language, knowing things others don’t know, being receptive to certain channels. (I am getting a feel from both these figures that they are about assimilating information, and perhaps transmitting that information – replaying, decoding and converting information seems to be the pattern here.) The decorative pattern suggests a person that is ‘tough and gives intensely’ (those red aspects?), someone tenacious and determined, that moves forward unstopably. This makes me smile because when I get that bit between my teeth I don’t give up. I do have, even when I am really tired and ill, a tenacity and underlying determination.

The Decorative ‘aspires to perfection and uniqueness’, harmonising, finding mistakes and rectifying them. I think I definitely search for patterns and order, I am constantly striving to see a balance. In a recent family crisis I noticed I was both

looking beneath the surface of things for information and also trying to get everyone back into balance and communicating effectively. I look for patterns, tending to visualise them almost like aspect patterns or pentagrams in the air in front of my face. When I get that pattern, that perfection, I can then move on and deal with things. So I am trying to put order on things and love ritual and order (perfection) even though I can seem sometimes to live in chaos. I like to put things right: ‘the perfectionism of this figure leads the person to find mistakes easily and to rectify them as soon as possible’.

The semi-sextile between Mercury/Mars and Uranus/Jupiter, to me, relates directly to both technology and communication, areas in which I am really interested. (I used work with and teach about information and communication networks). I can almost feel that pulsing of information (Jupiter – Mercury) across that small green line, with Mars giving it energy and Uranus contributing creativity.



This pattern has been described as the “eternal solution seeker” and I cannot really dispute that. Outside of my work with computers and books, my solution seeking tends to be

in 'You' related matters, relationships, friendships and group interactions. I do tend to try to smooth over and perfect issues. And I have a rather idealised view of life in harmony, everyone working together harmoniously for the good of all – which I suppose is where Moon (conj Neptune) may come into this – especially as it is in Libra.

I am interested in reading between the lines, reading body language, seeing beneath the surface of something. And I do like to have that "long processing time" typical of this aspect. There is a lot of energetic picking up of information in that little green line at the bottom in the unconscious hemisphere but then more time (long green aspect) put into making that information conscious, tapping into the red energy probably to do so. I suspect that the opposition in this aspect represents a clear tug between the comfort of Mercury and South Node in the collective, and my own need for development and to break away from the restrictions of the collective.

I do a lot of the "decoding" unconsciously and instinctively (lower hemisphere) but am learning to be more conscious of it, because with consciousness it is more accurate and more useful. I wonder if with this pattern reaching up to the 9th house Node that its task is to use these skills more consciously. I have done this in the past with teaching (helping people to perfect themselves!) and computing (spotting errors in programs and manuals) but now both of those careers are largely in the past. Astrology interestingly enough is about decoding – decoding or reading a chart in conversation with others. And I do feel when I am looking at charts that I am looking for patterns and for hidden meaning. Again, I think this pattern will make more sense as I learn more, these ideas are all very tentative. Given that this aspect can be a bit of a bulldozer I will no doubt continue to move unstopably on until I get the solution I am looking for!! And hopefully pass it all on to others in the process as this aspect is geared to do.

COUNSELLING – some reflections by *Jane Brooks*

My experience of counselling is very limited. Since starting the Huber astrology course back in the 1990s, my outlook and goals have changed considerably – I have changed considerably. When I found the Huber prospectus I was enthralled and jumped in at the deep end by enrolling on the Diploma Course in Astrological Counselling. I later did a ten-week 'Introduction to Counselling' taster course.

More recently I decided that I would never actually do any professional counselling and hence changed to the non-counselling Diploma.

Back then, I was 39 and in a period of my life where I had overcome some of my demons but was still searching for something more meaningful and experimenting with alternative philosophies. Had I but known it, maybe counselling would have done me good during the tough times of my twenties and early thirties when I could not cope very well and tended to withdraw into myself.

From what I can remember of the counselling course, which is very little, it seemed to show a very sympathetic method of helping people in emotional difficulty, but I did find some of it a little like 'watching paint dry'. We watched a video of Carl Rogers and a client and not much seemed to be said at all. For a Cardinal person like myself, this was not really what I expected.

From my research I know that counselling takes place when a counsellor sees a client in a private and confidential setting to explore a difficulty the client is having, distress they may be experiencing or perhaps their dissatisfaction with life, or loss of a sense of direction and purpose. It is always at the request of the client as no one can properly be 'sent' for counselling.

By listening attentively and patiently the counsellor can begin to perceive the difficulties from the client's point of view and can help them to see things more clearly, possibly from a different perspective. Counselling enables choice or change or a reduction of confusion. It does not involve giving advice or directing a client to take a particular course of action. Counsellors do not judge or exploit their clients in any way. The main requirement of a good counsellor is empathy with the client.

In the counselling sessions the client can explore various aspects of their life and feelings, talking about them freely and openly in a way that is rarely possible with friends or family. Bottled up feelings such as anger or anxiety can become very intense. Counselling offers an opportunity to explore these, with the possibility of making them easier to understand. The counsellor will encourage the expression of feelings and as a result of their training will be able to accept and reflect the client's problems without becoming burdened by them.

Acceptance and respect for the client are essentials for a counsellor and, as the relationship develops, so too does trust between the counsellor and client, enabling the client to look at many aspects of their life, their relationships and themselves which they may not have considered or been able to face before. The counsellor may help the client to examine in detail the behaviour or situations which are proving troublesome and to find an area where it would be possible to initiate change. The counsellor may help the client to look at the options open to them and help them to decide the best for them.

During chart-work sessions at seminars and Huber workshops I have played the role of client and astrologer. I have learnt a lot about myself from the years of astrological study. I have, therefore, realised that my own inherent motivations are not conducive to being a counsellor in the professional sense. I have a blue/red chart, which means I tend to see issues in a black/white, either/or kind of way. I am pretty impatient, with MO in Aries square MA and UR, and am a 'doer' rather than an 'empathiser'.

I have most planets in the upper half and the thinking quadrant of the chart and not much in the lower half. The MO is in the 2nd house but it opposes SA, so my emotions do not like to be exposed. I am not that good at dealing with emotional people either. Intellectually I can see all the techniques of counselling as fine and possibly helpful but in reality, in the practical sense, I would probably be the 'counsellor from hell'. I think that it would depend on the problems the person has as to how I would deal with them.

There is a quite a debate about the merits of counselling generally with opposing viewpoints on the value of it all. Some

statistics demonstrate little or no benefit, others are cited as evidence that the benefits of counselling are irrefutable.

In *Therapy Culture* by sociologist Frank Furedi it is argued that we live in a world gone 'therapy-mad'. Experiences once thought of as normal - disappointment, isolation, tiredness, depression - are being redefined as syndromes requiring medical intervention. In the US counsellors now outnumber librarians, fire-fighters, postmen and dentists. In Britain, footballers and others regularly confess their addiction to drugs and drink. On Reality TV the intimate banalities of family and personal life are exposed for public entertainment. All this emphasis on the private self has, paradoxically, eroded private life - and emptied the public realm of purpose and meaning.

Furedi describes some of the reasons for this cultural shift: the weakening of traditional authority; the decline of religion; the demise of communal spirit; the death of ideology; and, above all, the atomisation of the family. Once there were wise elders to advise those in trouble - now we appoint life-style gurus, personal trainers and "a whole army of counsellors". In short, therapy has become the opiate of the people.

And that, Furedi claims, is sinister. He sees therapy as a sleeping potion used to control the masses, encouraging them to see their grievances as personal problems rather than as justified anger against the state. Therapy is a sedative cynically administered to stifle dissidence and unrest. It's anti-science and anti-reason. And it fosters the "normalisation of illness", driving people in on themselves and blinding them to the socio-economic realities of the day.

His objection to the cult of the "vulnerable self", like Margaret Thatcher's to the welfare state, is that it encourages dependency. He is nostalgic for the stoicism of the Blitz, the era of the stiff upper lip, when women's magazines counselled readers not to express their emotions but control them.

Are we as a nation becoming weakened by our inability to cope with life? I think that there is a lot of scope for interesting debate here. Is our modern, more isolated, world to blame for the lack of support people feel when crisis occurs?

Personally, I think counselling is neither a panacea nor a sinister plot to control the masses. In certain situations, with certain people it can do good. Talking is the great issue. We live in a more isolated society and many people have nobody to talk to. Yes, there will always be charlatans, false gurus and people on ego trips. There will always be people who are looking for someone to be dependent on because they cannot

cope on their own. If the latter meet up with the former then no good will come of it.

My conclusion is that counselling has its place but is not necessarily for everyone. Modern counsellors take the place of the elders or close friends whom we used to rely on. Although I found my own way out of troubling times, I may have benefited from having someone to talk things over with and may have made quicker progress. A Huber counsellor would have determined my motivations quickly, probably noted my fixity and emotional reticence as being part of the problem.

I think the value of the birth chart is incalculable in a counselling situation. Because the chart reveals the motivation and temperament of people in such detail, the counsellor has a short cut into the client's psyche. This can be filled out during the session through dialogue. Age Point and the Nodal axis shed further light on the client's life journey and purpose.

Where I have a problem with the term 'counselling' is that it covers such a broad spectrum of activity and is difficult to pin down. I see various situations which could be termed 'counselling' chatting about a friend's problems over a cup of coffee. The human being needs a sounding board and very often an informal 'getting something off your chest' is all that is needed to put things in perspective and help clarify ideas in the mind - we can all be informal counsellors simply by being there for our friends when they need us.

I see myself as operating at the very basic level of using a birth chart to maybe just clarify someone's current situation and life-path and letting them see how astrology can help them to recognise strengths and weaknesses. I would be coming from an astrological standpoint whereas someone with counselling qualifications is coming primarily from the counselling standpoint.

From an astrological counselling point of view I think most clients will present with more everyday problems to do with career, relationships and so on rather than serious psychological disorders. I would definitely recommend that the latter be seen by a specialist in the psychiatric field. The big question with all of this is ensuring the skill, integrity and good intentions of the counsellor.

This is an edited version of Jane's Assignment No. 24 (pre-modular Diploma Course). The second part of this article will be available shortly in CONJUNCTION EXTRA - available on line to API members only.

Age Progression: Recommended Reading

Lifeclock, Bruno and Louise Huber, 1994, 454pp, £17.00

"When we work with Age Progression or Age Point (AP) the purpose is not to ascertain when something happens but why, what meaning it has for our development...The AP reflects psychological processes within the human being that, in reality, create events."

Astrology and the Spiritual Path, Bruno and Louise Huber, 1990, 194pp, £13.00

"The Low Point stations have a deep spiritual significance, even in our own small lives. They pull us up short, and present us with an opportunity for spiritual development. The Low Point puts us in touch with our soul, the centre of our innermost being, and gives us strength to press onward."

CONGRATULATIONS...

To the following students who have successfully completed their studies:

API (UK) Diploma in Astrology:
Kathy Rogers (with Credit)

Foundation Course "B":
**Julie Jones, Louise Cheval and
azShay Ring Giarusso (Monaco)**

Intermediate Foundation Course:
Diane Kelley (USA)

THE LOW POINTS — CRISIS OR CREATION

by Maria Maw

On Saturday May 12th ten women met to research the significance of Low Points (LPs) and Low Point planets in our lives. We were a mixed group of API Diploma holders, API students and fellow astrologers, interested in Huber methods and ranging in age from 42 to 61.

The day followed a simple format. Each person had already prepared a short history of their personal journeys at the LP ages (3-4, 9-10, 15-16 and so on every six years). Before we began to share these we each intuitively chose a flower essence, the descriptions of which could add to the journey's context. The group then split into threes to share their journeys. The aim was to see if each individual's sequence of LP experiences had a thread or theme running through. Maria, the workshop facilitator, was available for input if necessary.

Most people did find a commonality of experience within each LP. As these themes needed in depth exploration this process took us until lunchtime and a well deserved mental break. In order to reach further into the unconscious and bring out any further images or information that might be useful Maria led a guided visualisation after lunch. Most people had a new insight to add to their unfolding story.

I found it a really rewarding workshop, very healing to share memories of the times when we've been at a low ebb rather than just present the up-side as we often do. We had some great laughs too and the guided meditation was a revelation. Why do we experience these low points as so dark when the inner core is so full of light?
JULIET BROWN

The small groups then rejoined to add this new information and to look at how these LP themes aligned with any overall themes in the chart as shown by the Nodal and Crossing Point axes and the Ascendant. Everyone then shared their personal discoveries, drawing from their LP theme and adding any further understanding the flower essence or visualisation might have given them.

Finally we discussed as a group what we had learned about the LP experience and this is summarised as follows.

We thought our suggested alternative definitions of the Low Point as the Learning Point or Light Point were appropriate and there was a general feeling that these LPs could offer personal freedom through self-knowledge. It was agreed that this usually became apparent in hindsight as LPs themselves were almost always experienced as difficult and were often painful times. The LPs could be seen retrospectively as times for letting go/'death'/separation of something or someone or an expectation or personal belief – a paring away of excess baggage in preparation for the next stage.

During a LP there can be experiences of insecurity/vulnerability/ loss of control. One can feel at a standstill, forced by the environment into a different direction. The LP can then be seen as a stopping or turning point heralding a change, the beginning of a shift in energy (mutable zone of the house).

Some people experienced these LPs as times when they were 'attacking' themselves in order to come to a new level of self-worth, to be able to give, and of equal importance, to

receive love. Others found themselves confronting a crisis of belief which needed resolving – 'Cutting the Ties that Bind'.

Workshops like this are really rewarding as others are willing to share their low point experiences, which helped me to gain more insight and understanding. Connecting low points with the theme of the chart was also very enlightening. LUCINDA TINSLEY

These periods offered a time for accessing healing, spiritual acceptance and rebirth, remind us that we are here as spiritual beings. They are times to live from the centre looking out rather than outside looking in; Opportunities to live in the moment, and experience the infinite possibilities available in every moment; the dawning of a realisation. It's up to us to create the life we want and every moment offers us the opportunity to make new choices about the way we think.

How we think affects the way we feel and act and, therefore, determines the life we create. The LP times are opportunities to consider how the environment is reflecting back to us our beliefs and thoughts. The following mutable zone enables us to change these in order to initiate more precisely what we do want in the next cardinal phase. In this way the LP opportunities help us to find our path/journey.

We also described the LPs as 'distillation points'. The chart themes are concentrated in this time of introversion. We have to look inside and pull on an internal resource. Therefore these periods are a test of faith; 'faith lets go, belief clings'. As mentioned earlier the LP themes are like another layer of the chart theme/s as is also shown by the Nodal axis. In order to understand the LP theme it may be useful to look to the Nodal theme and to bring in any understanding from the Ascendant 'Seed thought'. These seem to complement each other; this is not surprising as they all are indicators of the spiritual path being undertaken. The Ascendant representing the destination, the Nodal axis the route and the journey through the LP's the changes/ choices that need to be made along the way.

"Although grounded in everything that we're taught about age progression and low points, this workshop was exploratory, encouraging us to develop our thinking and to research different ways of looking at our lives through time. The idea that I found very powerful was about finding a story in my low points. Running through my life and thrown into relief every six years would be one or a number of themes, resonating with the potential for growth. This workshop was made special by the stories people shared and the skilled guidance from Maria. A Saturday in a million!"
KATHY OLDHAM

As most of us had been through the 8th house LP (age 45 to 46) we gave some extra consideration to its significance. This LP is highlighted because it is also the LP of the whole chart and is often described as the 'mid-life' crisis. For most of us we agreed that the experience tends to go on longer than other LPs. The disruption and disorientation can last till age 50 but

then it feels like a phoenix rising from the ashes with a new sense of optimism and direction. The 8th house LP seems to bring all the previous LP trials to a head allowing them to be clearly seen and dealt with as best as we are able. It's a time for digesting the past, what we've achieved and what we've missed enabling us to make adjustments, reassessments and new plans in order to be more truly who we are and lead the life we want.

Finally we made a note of how having a LP in an intercepted sign was experienced. Some of the group who had experienced these made a suggestion that these LPs do not always seem to be as intense. This could be for several reasons: the house size being larger than average could give

a less intense quality as the Age Point moves more rapidly over the degrees of the signs involved than in a 'small' house contained within a sign. Also the individual will have already been in the intercepted sign before reaching the LP and, therefore, already experiencing a level of detachment from the outer world with more focus on their inner world.

Obviously there is nothing 'new' here to how Louise and Bruno have described LPs in their work, but for us it gave these descriptions an experience that we could relate to and I hope that a flavour of this has been conveyed here and will promote you, the reader, to explore more fully your own LP journey. And you don't even need your birth chart to do it!

The Meaning and Value of a Horoscope Reading

by Louise Huber

An astrological-psychological reading is a fascinating, new way to find the path to our inner selves. Using a personal horoscope, and with the aid of newly-developed psychological interpretation methods, it is possible to get to the root of individual problems, a result that test psychologists only achieve after many sessions. The individual horoscope as a diagnostic pattern can be understood at a glance and problems quickly identified. Normally, a horoscope reading lasts two hours. The conversation is recorded on a tape recorder so that the client can listen to it again later in peace.

Methods of Psychosynthesis

In an astrological psychological consultation, methods of psychosynthesis are used in order to raise up deeper life issues, mental endeavours and spiritual motivation forces into the consciousness. Astrological synthesis enables both a differentiated understanding of the personality and the integration and reshaping of the whole person. The causality of human behaviour is understood at the root, psychological and spiritual contexts are revealed. This is relevant to the modern human condition.

Causes instead of Symptoms

Most people do not like being judged by their symptoms or their behaviour. They want to know why they react in one way and not in another. They want to be acknowledged and understood in their innermost being and to discover the deeper meaning of a problem. The searching for causes is a concern of our times and the principal objective of the astrological psychology reading.

Astrology is a valuable tool for Self-Help

In an astrological psychology reading, the personal horoscope is experienced as a mirror to the self and provides a new sense of identity, a certainty that one really exists. The integration of cosmic laws leads to a higher mental and emotional dimension. One gains a new attitude towards many things, and difficulties and conflicts take on their correct proportion, one achieves the necessary perspective and therefore a greater objectivity and power of judgement. The causes of problems in choosing a career, bringing up children, in marriage and partnership as well as one's own spiritual development are related to the character as a whole.

Horoscope Reading as a Process

A horoscope reading is a consultation process that aims to increase the person's freedom and awaken their spiritual potential. Careful and discreet personal questions and the corresponding life issues are addressed using the individual horoscope. The psychologically trained astrologer does not just direct the person who confides in him, he treats him much more as a partner whom he leads through a process of self-discovery and creates the conversational atmosphere that encourages the client to open up. He aims for an overall understanding and psychosynthesis of the personality, for the activation of the client's own developmental and constructive powers. He concentrates not on weaknesses and mistakes, but on strengths and abilities. Valuations like "good" and "bad" are strictly avoided. The concept of astrological psychology is based on a positive image of the individual person. It assumes that the person is healthy in the core of his being, that his inner potential can be awoken by approval and has a self-healing effect.

New Questions

It is a trend that more and more people are consulting astrologers to find answers to deeper life issues. With the help of the astrologer, they hope to find a meaning for their life, their true identity or their higher self. They want to get to the bottom of the meaning and purpose of their life, identify their karma and learn about their true vocation and the purpose of their incarnation. Others seek further spiritual development and are trying to change misguided ideas and behaviour patterns. A holistic and spiritually oriented horoscope reading deals with the following questions:

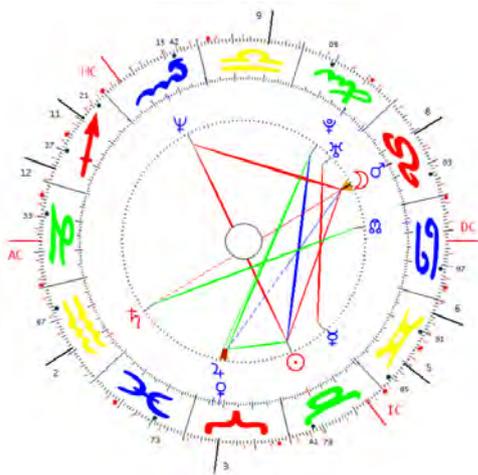
"Who am I – where do I come from – where am I going?"

An astrological-psychological reading is therefore a tool that enables penetration deep into the core of the person's own being. If we help ourselves with a sense of responsibility, we soon discover that we gain insights that lead to a comprehensive understanding of our existence that can be life-changing.

First published in *Astrolog* Issue 60, February 1991, this & other articles will shortly be republished in the *Best of Astrolog* see p4.

ARRIVING IN THE 8th HOUSE *by Helen Lambert*

On 1st May 2005 my age point moved into my 8th house. The previous few months had been a whirlwind of activity as a fierce sense of urgency possessed me – things I'd been "thinking" about suddenly had to be done NOW! Luckily I seemed blessed with both the energy and the inspiration to make these things happen. At the beginning of April I got a new job that was a real "stretch" for me – and took something of a leap of faith on the part of my new employers to give me (however my age point was around the middle of Leo – impressing people wasn't too much of a problem!). Meanwhile I was also finalising plans and negotiations with builders for work on the house which began in July, and I was also finishing my astrology diploma (which I'd begun 12 years earlier).



So as I moved into the 8th house I felt on the crest of an energy wave, it was all coming together and I was relishing it. Then whilst I was away on holiday with my parents in Whitby at the end of May my sister rang to say that my Grandmother has died. Whilst hers was a timely death and one that she had been looking forward to for some time (she was 98 and exasperated with her increasing frailty) it seemed like a seismic shift in our family – she was the last of her generation and we had to get used to the idea of my parents now being the oldest and therefore – in the ordinary scheme of things – the next in line to go. Thoughts which focussed my mind on some of the deeper issues we associate with the 8th house.

At the end of June I started my new job – and had to have the Friday of my first week off as that was the weekend of my Applied Astrology course. The builder started knocking bits of our house down a couple of weeks later and in August I went to Adiswil and got my Swiss diploma.

By September 2005 my energy levels were beginning to wane. The new job was really demanding, the house was a mess and my eldest daughter was unhappy at school and I was struggling to get the school to take the issues seriously. My AP was opposition Saturn – it all seemed like very hard work and I began to doubt I'd made any good decisions about anything.

As my 8th house is a large one I was whizzing through the Leo energy heading towards intercepted Virgo. My AP entered intercepted Virgo on 11 August 2006. Earlier that year – clearly whilst in denial about what was coming – I'd booked to go on

holiday to Ireland, flying out on Thursday 10 August. As you'll recall that was the day the "liquid bomb scare" brought chaos to airports. Our flight was cancelled and we didn't get off on holiday until the Saturday. Not only did that give me a taste of the frustrations of moving into an intercepted sign but one of my astro buddies pointed out the section in the Huber's *The Planets* which reads: "It seems that in such fateful situations, the people affected are mainly those who are unaware and have little self-knowledge.... Having no concept of individual freedom and spiritual development, they easily become the victim of collective currents." So a healthy dose of Virgoan humility meted out at the same time then!

On 1st October 2006 my AP was conjunct Uranus (intercepted in Virgo). That was the exact date that the organisation I was working for merged to become a different one which created huge uncertainty and some real soul-searching on my part about my approach to work and what I really wanted to do in the future. A week after my exact age point I had a strong sense that there were Uranian clues all around me that I was missing. Life was rushing on at its usual frantic pace but I carved out 45 minutes, sat in an M&S café and began to list out everything that had been going on over the last few weeks. In a flash of Uranian inspiration it all became clear – mental health! At work, amongst friends and through an astrology client I had been presented with a variety of issues about mental health. I had thought about undertaking training as a therapist in the past and it felt like the time to make a decision. Again I was thrown into uncertainty – what did I really want to do? What did I feel was the right way forward? The not knowing was really difficult for me – I like to know what I think, where I'm going but I knew that on the feeling level Uranus "generates unrest, nervousness and eccentricity. It causes a mood of dissatisfaction and agitation." (*The Planets*) So I knew I had to just go with it and probably face up to some unpalatable truths about myself and make some hard decisions. October to January were really painful months for me – I saw a greeting card during that time that read "Between me and insanity stand my friends" and that about summed it up!

At the end of April this year I started a new job – downsizing to four days a week and my role includes developing child and adolescent mental health and community mental health services. I've decided not to train as a therapist but I have begun a course on life-coaching.

Whilst the changes on the outside are not enormous, seeds of quite dramatic change have been planted on the inside. I have almost a further 3 years in intercepted Virgo which I see as a wonderful opportunity to nurture these seedlings and start to get a sense of what they'll grow into. Meanwhile I'm in for another interesting October this year when my AP conjuncts Pluto – wish me luck!

CORRECTION to Issue 41

My apologies to new student Janet Thornton who I mistakenly named Janet Thomson in the last issue of Conjunction. (Ed.)

ASTROLOGY AND THE SEVEN RAYS

A Review by Sue Lewis

“One of the main aims of the seventh ray [is] to produce something that goes beyond the person who created it, that persists longer and can be used by others – this is very important.” (p58)

In the above quotation, Bruno was referring to the Age of Aquarius with its mission to support humanity superseding the call to martyrdom of the Piscean Age where “in those 2000 years there were monasteries, where mystical people were sacrificing themselves and their sexuality, suffering until they were so pure that they could get a place in heaven!” (p43)

This very important workshop on the Seven Rays, held in 1998, was the last given in England by Bruno and Louise before Bruno’s death, and a word for word transcription put together by Joyce, Barry, Richard, David and Jane, has been available since 1999. Inevitably, as happens in workshops where the programme is ambitious and the need for interaction with the audience and experiential activity take time, chunks of key material were undelivered. Personality rays were cantered through and rays of the mental body didn’t get an airing. Now we have a book that fills those gaps and gives us much more.

Have you ever wondered, for example, when you loved someone dearly and didn’t want to cause any pain, why you found the lifestyle imposed upon you by this person utterly stifling? Personality quality as indicated by the ray can open up a whole new realm of understanding. One of the insightful supplements to the new edition of *Astrology and the Seven Rays* is an extended look at the personality rays.

Moving from the personality ray to the soul ray, the sessions on ‘Transformations’ and ‘The Law of the Triangles in the Signs’ have been reorganised by Louise to demonstrate more fully what is meant by soul consciousness and at-oneness with the Avatar of Synthesis, and how to build the Rainbow Bridge.

There’s an index and quite a bit extra in this volume to make it useful, even if you already have a copy of the A4 bound transcription.

If you’re unfamiliar with the Seven Rays as the esoteric backdrop to Huber Astrology, this book will inform you of what you need to know and how it relates to the astrology you work with. Bruno and Louise have taken their insightful and well-controlled broomsticks to the complicated and obfuscating-the-uninitiated treatises dictated to Alice

Bailey by her Tibetan Master, related them to Astrological Psychology and shown how important this material is for our times. Formulae for finding your personal rays are included, and all but the soul ray can be generated by the computer. There’s a good notes section directing you to what else you might read if you want to go further.

Esoteric astrology isn’t easy to express because each of us has to find our own way of co-ordinating inner and outer, personal and transpersonal, and often we don’t communicate at the same level. Uranus can grab the profile but still have some way

to go before assimilating the content. Last October, a group of us attended ‘The Golden Seam’ workshop at Buckland Hall, for which excellent material had been prepared, but where the room and its arrangement were oppressive. We couldn’t deal with planes of mind and beyond while turning our backs on the trees and the sky. Two of our group brought in wreaths of leaves and undergrowth, and other plants to energise the space, as we turned the room around. More than ever we need to be grounded and connected at the physical level, as we align ourselves at a higher level to help and to heal.

Several references are made to Jupiter, the Earth and the seventh ray, and their significance in the New Age. I recommend *Astrology and the Seven Rays* to everyone. It’s well produced and set out, and covers important topics you may not take in all at one read; so you’ll want to revisit this territory as your studies and your clientele develop.

Thank you, Barry, for delivering this key text in such a neat and user-friendly edition.

Bruno and Louise Huber, *Astrology and the Seven Rays: Interpreting the Rays through the Natal Chart*, HopeWell, 2006, ISBN 0-9547680-6-X, i-xii + 200pp, rrp £14.00

CONTENTS: Foreword by Louise Huber; Introduction; What Does Esoteric Mean; The Entity of the Seven Cosmic Rays; Finding the Rays in your Chart; The Effect of the Rays on the Personality; Transformations; The Law of the Triangles in the Signs; The Spiritual Planets and Spiritual Growth; Questions (Q&A session transcript); Astrological Psychology by Bruno Huber; Notes and References; Index

If you’ve enjoyed this issue of Conjunction...

Then why not write for the next one? All contributions welcome and student work very welcome indeed. The focus in the next issue will be on working with the other charts (Moon Node and House Charts). I would also like further contributions on the Aspect ‘Variants’ (see pages 215 to 256 of *Aspect Pattern Astrology* by Bruno, Louise and Michael Huber). And, of course, work on any astrological research you are doing. Perhaps with the publication of *Astrology and the Seven Rays* in book form you would like to share your understanding and knowledge of Esoteric Astrology? If you have something to contribute please email or phone me, *Sara Inkster, Conjunction Editor*. Contact details are on Page 2.