

**Minutes of the London Branch DHN meeting
held at the Connaught Hall, Tavistock Square on
Sunday afternoon of 30th November**

There were 14 members present, and apologies were received from a further 5 members.

Following initial introductions we shared healing news, and significant personal work. Angie Buxton-King spoke of her involvement and progress with the Voluntary Self Regulation of healers through the latest group working with the FIM. (Details are to be found on the web-site.) She also disclosed that 4 NHS Hospitals had been accepted to receive a Sam Buxton Bursary for a healer to work on the wards. The first 2 were at Cambridge and the Isle of Wight Hospitals.

It was generally noted that there was a steady increase in interest in healing from hospitals around the country. New audits on healing were being published e.g. Walsall Hospital under Sandy Edwards, and Mount Vernon Hospice under Lucy Locking. Small grants were sometimes available for these audits.

Claudia Koppel spoke of her work using a variety of therapies to help those with addictions. Chris Harbon then described his work in the field of drama helping those with addictions. Roxana Rizul then spoke of her work at the Psychiatric wards of Guys and the Maudsley hospitals. She used a variety of therapies depending on the needs of the patient. 2 therapists per day were working on these wards at a time, their work was being evaluated as a short term project.

Michael Dibdin spoke of his current discussions with a GP with a view to working with him in the future.

Louise Wilde spoke on the of the web-site, and encouraged members to look more regularly on the doctorhealer.org for new articles and information. She also welcomed any contributions that members might wish to make.

Dr Tim Ridge then talked of his work as a GP for 32 years, and his more recent work since 1990 into healing and complementary therapies. Tim described being excited by the DHN healing conference in the 1990's which stimulated his thirst for knowledge in this area. Tim then founded the 'Enfield Centre for Natural Health' in 1993. Here speakers are invited to give talks and workshops throughout the year on subjects that relate to complementary medicine. Weekly sessions of meditations are also held and Tim is able to refer his patients to this group to learn to clear their stress.

Tim's personal path has involved a year's work with Turning Point, and the Field workshops. He described how he has come to accept his own personal and domestic problems, and to start to turn them around. Bio-energetics, EMT, and "the finger trickle" have also played their part. He has also taken a course in leading small groups and uses both the angel and devil cards as an introductory tool. We were then all asked to take one of each of these cards and comment on them for ourselves. We finished by listening to a fine female vocalist's version of "forgiveness". Tim, well grounded as ever, then supplied us with a small glass of mulled wine and a mince pie and wished us all a happy Christmas.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday 31st January at 2.00pm at the same venue.

Jean Galbraith, Chair of the DHN London group.