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RICHARD HADDEN

Many readers will remember Richard Hadden, composer and pianist, who died recently. Michael Henderson and I have received some obituaries from the local papers around Mackinac Island where he and Franny lived. We would be happy to send copies to anyone who would like to see them. Please be in touch with Michael by e-mail at:
michaeldhenderson@compuserve.com
or by telephone: 01237 429136.

James Hore-Ruthven

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Michael Henderson speaks on Forgiveness:

* Edinburgh

Wednesday, October 1, 7.30pm
A public meeting in Methodist Central Hall, Toll Cross, at 7.30pm, at the invitation of the Christian Socialist Movement.

Contact Finlay Moir,
tel: 0131 664 3490

* Chatsworth House, Derbyshire

Saturday, October 4, 1.30-5pm
A public lecture in The Hartington

Room, Chatsworth Stables, followed by questions and group discussion.

Contact Barbara Priestley,
tel: 0114 230 3844

INITIATIVES OF CHANGE Discovery Weekend

Friday, October 10—Sunday, October 12
The Hayes Conference Centre,
Swanwick, Derbyshire.
For more information, contact
The Secretary, Initiatives of
Change, 24 Greencoat Place,
London SW1P 1RD.

GREENCOAT FORUMS

Tuesday evenings, 6.30pm
24 Greencoat Place, London
SW1P 1RD

September 23

Participants in the programme
Action for Life will give a talk
with colour slides.

October 14

Dr Yaw Adu-Sarkodie of Ghana
will speak on "Tackling the Aids
Crisis in Africa".

To book, contact 020 7798 6000
or email:
bernice@london.iofc.org

This issue was edited by Mary Jones and Janet Paine, with layout by Blair Cummock. Please send material for the October issue by September 25 to Ann Carpenter, Bourne Cottage, Mill Lane, Mere, Warminster, Wilts BA12 6DA, email: russell.ann@tiscali.co.uk



CAUX – HOPE AND HEALING

Juan Somavia of Chile, Director General of the International Labour Organisation in Geneva, said: "Caux holds a special place in my heart. Caux is about hope and healing. It is about generating ideas, forging networks, strengthening moral foundations. It is about values and practical action."

*He was speaking at the annual official day in the opening week of the summer conferences. Over 100 ambassadors from Geneva and Bern, local dignitaries and neighbours joined delegates in Mountain House at the start of a series of international conferences entitled **From conflict to community in the global home**.*

It is not possible to capture in eight pages the breadth and depth of those seven weeks. We offer personal impressions collected from some of those who went from the UK and, first, some other voices heard in Caux.

Professor Sari Nusseibeh, its Journey of Healing, "The victims do not forget. There cannot be national reconciliation and healing without remembering."

President of the Al-Quds University in Jerusalem: "We cannot control the past but we can control the future, and we must focus our efforts there. Neither of our peoples walk this earth alone. Another group claims the same space, the same rocks and trees, the same history."



The Ethiopian group at Caux

Photo: T Hazell

A Latin American woman: "I did not think that I could do anything, until I came here. I go away feeling that I can make a difference."

An Australian, telling about the National Sorry Day Movement and

start, a strategy capable of turning around international relations – moving the mountains of hate and violence?"

A Croation: "We must plant the seeds of peace in our children."

Chiara Lubich, the Italian founder of the Focolari, a Catholic lay movement: "Where, if not in the great faith traditions, can a strategy of brotherhood

Partnerships in Service, Responsibility and Leadership

July 2-9

Keith Last, from *Learn to Lead*, Sheffield:

This conference was an amazing experience for me, not only for the thought-provoking content of the plenary sessions and workshops but also for the many interesting people who attended the conference. It was my second experience of Caux and no less inspiring than the first.



Photo: B Cummock

Keith Last (right) with the *Learn to Lead* group at Caux

We are all accountable for the world we live in. Through taking steps to change ourselves, we can start to make improvements to our environment. This concept is one I will be taking away from Caux through taking responsibility for my actions and how they can have an effect on other people.

Many of the lessons learnt in business are applicable to partnerships in general. I found the values aspect to be most applicable to my life. Values are important to measure yourself against and it is also important for those values to be visible to others. For example, in a friendship situation it is important to have personal values and for others to understand these values so they can accept them and to ensure friends do not push you to break your values.

The concepts of service, responsibility and partnership gave me many things to think about in terms

of deciding what was important and how I can serve better by changing my behaviour. Transformational leadership stands out for me from the leadership plenary, with good leaders building and maintaining relationships through following their personal values and goals. This is something I found could be taken away from Caux and used in the 'real world' to develop relationships based on my values rather than behaving as other people expect.

The community that has formed every year has been an incredible experience for me. This year concepts discussed during the day inspired much deeper thoughts. These then inspired conversations with different people offering their personal stories and truly listening. This for me is the essence of Caux - people from different backgrounds and countries respecting, serving and caring for each other.

Sommaruga in his Keynote Address, providing a strong framework from which to begin our journey through the conference. Powerful personal testimonies from Uganda to Canada and Serbia and Montenegro gave a human face to issues such as HIV/AIDS, water scarcity, and landmines. It helped us to understand both the progress being made in areas of conflict and the challenges that remain - the latter starkly described by Angelo Gnädinger, Director General of the International Committee of the Red Cross, in his Caux Lecture to the conference.

In view of these challenges, participants were asked to consider how we contribute to a climate of fear and exclusion; where our commitments and responsibilities lie; and significantly, what it means to be human. This daily journey of reflection was guided at each plenary session by conference moderator, Robo Orogun.

The conference was at times an immensely emotional and testing experience - most poignantly following the screening of *The Last Just Man*, a film dealing with the events surrounding the Rwandan genocide of 1994. Yet as the session closed, candles burned in the Main Hall to mark the hope that had prevailed throughout the week, reminding us of Amina Dikedi's words at the start of the week: "Human Security means making sure the fires [of conflict] never ignite..."

BBC RADIO FIVE LIVE

Michael Henderson was one of the guest speakers on an hour-long radio phone-in programme on BBC Radio Five Live at 9am on August 18. It was on the theme: "Is it right to forgive terrorists?" Programme host John Pienaar introduced Michael, author of *Forgiveness: breaking the chain of hate*, and encouraged him to tell stories from the book. Another participant was BBC World Affairs correspondent Mike Woolridge.

Discussion ranged from the New York Twin Towers bombing to South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission and Ireland, including Michael's family history there. He stressed that forgiveness was a personal choice that could not be demanded of others. The programme led to lively phone-in questions and extended for a short time after the 10am news.

Mike Smith

NEW BOOK

George Daneel of South Africa has recently completed his autobiography, now translated into English by Marguerite Horn. George, born in 1904, tells of his childhood in the arid and remote Karoo, becoming a rugby Springbok, meeting Frank Buchman and the Oxford Group in the 1920s, his experiences in World War II as a senior chaplain and his lifelong association with the Oxford

woman to abandon her crutch and join in.

The Israelis and Palestinians were still slightly tentative around each other but determined to continue building the trust born during their long discussions in the previous days. There had been some deeply painful listening to one another, the place where peace building always has to start.

So also for the many Africans from the Great Lakes region – Rwanda, Burundi and the Congo. More than anything I was impacted by the faith and courage of African friends: like those from Sierra Leone emerging into a fragile peace with stories of ex-combatants and their amputee victims reconciling, rehabilitation programmes and the setting up of new agricultural projects. As the Government Minister representing his President said, "We have to learn to live again." I watched as he shook hands with Joseph Karanja from Kenya. Hands across the continent, celebrating the start of something new. For Kenya it was the results of peaceful democratic elections, unsullied by election fraud, an outcome due in large part to the Clean Election Campaign run by Joseph and his friends.

Here were precious examples of hope from a continent where it is in short supply, many stemming from those calls to personal transformation in a few. John Bangura, who has been one of those behind so much in Sierra Leone, saw "a whole

new world" at Caux a few years ago, abandoned his hate, learned to listen to God and heard the call to take peace to his country.

But what touched me unexpectedly was for me a new vision of the continued significance of Caux for this day and age. It was the Senator from the Congo who did it. Founder of the National Women's Union, former Member of Parliament, a victim of imprisonment and torture for her stand for democracy, she was speaking of coming out of "forty years in the wilderness", referring to the lawlessness, atrocities and conflicts which have blighted her country and left four million dead. Then she simply said, "One of the reasons we have for hope in the world is the existence of the meetings here in Caux. There is something sacred here...I am grateful to those who sacrifice for Caux to continue for the love of tomorrow." I recommitted myself to that love that day.

Conflict Prevention through Human Security

August 12-17

Mark Perera, London:

Stirring African melodies welcomed participants to the final week and heralded the start of several days that deeply engaged and moved all involved. The theme of Human Security, which has often proved obscure to many, was ably introduced by Dr Cornelio

Globalisation...as if people really mattered

July 11-15

David Cosens, Cheshire:

As many will know, this year's conference was about Globalisation. It was planned by the new-ish *Caux Initiatives for Business* team, *Hope in the Cities*, the *International Communications Forum* and the *Junior Round Table*. Globalisation is a topic I realised I only knew a very small amount about, and because it is one that I am interested in, and have concerns over, I was very glad to be invited by Mike Smith (*For A Change*) to be part of the press team covering the conference. Each day we produced the *Caux Digest*, a two-sided sheet arriving on breakfast tables and carrying reports of the previous day.

I won't be dishonest and say that I found every conference mentally stimulating, but I found that most of them had a great deal of interesting and startling facts and points of view. In particular, I found J F Rischard's presentation on "20 Global Problems and 20 years to solve them" of great interest and importance. (He is Vice-President for Europe at the World Bank.) A lot of the people I spoke to afterwards found his presentation oppressively bleak, but I thought it was a good way to get people motivated into realising that something needed to be done, and soon.

Dominique Peccoud (a Jesuit priest and special advisor to the Director General of the

International Labour Organisation in Geneva) gave me, and I suppose a lot of other people, a great deal of inspiration and insight into the world's leading issues and problems in a highly theatrical manner.

Over the course of my week there I spent quite a while in the recently redecorated Caux café. It was here that I first met a group of five from Albania. I think it is quite safe to say that I have never been affected so much by the beauty of a group of people my own age as much. I mean to say that there was something about them that Western people of the same age simply do not come remotely close to having. The same went for a lot of the people I met at Caux. I have often found that I get on a lot better with people older than myself but after spending time with the Albanians and others, I discovered that they had just as many interesting insights into life as many of the mature adults that I met.

Well, these are the main experiences that I had whilst spending only a week at this year's Caux conference, and I haven't had so many interesting things happen to me, over such a short space of time in a long while. I must tell you I greatly look forward to coming next year, when I believe the conference will be about the arts, something I also have great interest in.

From Conflict to Community at Home

July 17-24

Annejet Campbell, London:

"Caux is cool!" was the comment of a Dutch teenager who came with his parents, brother and sister. The entrance hall of Mountain House was decorated with dozens of coloured balloons as parents, kids, grandparents, aunts and uncles poured through the front door. The aim of the session was to discover how families can be a source of joy and creativity.

The initiative came from a wonderful group of Norwegians, some of whom had driven over 18 hours to get to Caux. Over the years they have met every winter for a New Year Camp in the snow, where trust and fellowship were forged. The fruits of those times were clearly visible during the family week.

In Caux all ages met every morning at 10am for a lively half hour with songs, skits, puppets and a funny clown illustrating the theme of the day: What does it mean to be a good friend? What makes me happy, what makes me angry? What can we do when we have had a fight? What does it mean to say sorry?

The adults stayed on for an honest time of sharing. One young mother wondered if life was simpler for her parents' generation; was life more black and white then? "Now we are told to be more tolerant and look at everything



Photo: B Cummock

The welcome table at the Family Conference

from all sides and not to judge..."

Another talked of absolute purity as being complete non-attachment. "It is the freedom of real intimacy without manipulating others for their affection, money or sex. To see God in the other person. They are not lifestyle choices, but survival values for our age," he said.

A young man said, "When I came here I felt like a car without petrol. I am leaving with a tank loaded up. I realised here that I have never told my parents that I love them." One woman shared how she had decided not to squash her husband's ideas with her points of view.

There was a choice of seminars on 'getting older, getting wiser?', the quiet time and the traditions of Russian spirituality. One was for men only on the father's role, another for women only on love, sex and marriage. Workshops in the afternoons varied from music, the-

atre, origami and kite-making to building your own home out of cardboard boxes. By the end of the week a whole village appeared on the platform of the most colourful creations.

From The Muslim Council of Britain Weekly E-Newsletter, (August 14)

Caux International Conferences, Switzerland

Between 26 July and 30 July 2003, an international conference on the topic of "The spiritual factor in secular society: can religions be partners in peace-building?" took place in Caux, Switzerland, organised by Initiatives of Change in association with the World Conference on Religion and Peace. The conference dealt with initiatives taken by representatives of religions and other people of humanitarian commitment and explored inter-religious fears and faith in order to support one another.

Imam Abdul Jalil Sajid attended the conference on behalf of the Muslim Council of Britain. Speaking on the subject of European Muslims, **Dr Tariq Ramadan** said, "Islam is...both a simple and very demanding way of life which requires from the Muslim that he does his utmost to be better tomorrow than today and to choose, at any price, the way of generosity, honesty and justice...Together with members of

other religious communities and all men and women of goodwill, they must participate in the necessary debate about faith, spirituality and values in the modern and post-modern era."

A further conference, also attended by Imam Abdul Jalil Sajid, took place in Caux between August 2 and 8 on the topic of Peace-building initiatives. The conference put forward an Agenda for Reconciliation, offering an opportunity to explore the implications of peace building in a complex and violent world, methods and skills for building peace, personal qualities of a peace builder, women and conflict transformation, the process of trust building, and reasons for hope. Attendees included representatives from over 60 countries.

Peace-building Initiatives

August 2-8

Jean Brown, Britain and Australia:

It was one of those balmy evenings under the trees on the terrace at Caux - the final night of the conference, when we were being rewarded with dancing - Scottish, Australian, Ukrainian, Arabic. I was sitting with the retired General from Jordan, a man engaged in creating understanding between his people and Israel. He had been signatory of the peace treaty between the two countries. With us was a Rabbi and his wife whose dance antics enticed an elderly Austrian