



# World Goodwill

NEWSLETTER

2005 N° 4

A regular bulletin highlighting the energy of goodwill in world affairs

## REFLECTIONS ON WORLD SERVICE

**I**N THIS ISSUE of the newsletter we will be exploring the theme of world service, as it is expressed by the new group of world servers, using a number of quotes excerpted from our literature. Every seven years, the Lucis Trust, the parent body of World Goodwill, places a special focus on the new group of world servers, and 2005 is the latest in this rhythm. The week of 21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> December is set aside as a Festival Week, and public meetings in London, Geneva and New York provide a space for deeper reflection on the meaning and significance of the group. [This year, the week will be preceded by a Seminar on **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December**, featuring invited guest speakers. See our website at [www.lucistrust.org](http://www.lucistrust.org) for details of events in each centre]. The selfless efforts of those who are dedicated to serving the world are surely worth celebrating. By recognising their impressive achievements so far, and learning of their visions for a better world, we subjectively support their work, and open up opportunities for co-operation. Please contact us for further information about the events we have planned, and also if you would like to help publicise the week through distributing literature. The theme of our meetings this Festival Week will be "Living Synthesis".

The phrase, "the new group of world servers" comes from the writings of Alice Bailey, the founder of World Goodwill. Coined early in the twentieth century, the phrase points to a phenomenon of great and growing significance. Aspects of this phenomenon have been recognised by other thinkers, and been given a variety of labels – "cultural creatives", "world citizens", "visionary pragmatism" (see **Visionary Pragmatism**), "the second tier in spiral dynamics", "integral thinking/living", "international civil society" (see **International Civil Society**), and other phrases. What each of these is pointing to is an unprecedented change in human living, a change that at its root has two key principles, which we will explore below – group work, and world service.

One obvious question that springs to mind is, "who are they?" What qualifies a person to be described as a member of this group? More than anything else, it is an attitude of mind and heart, a fixed determination to promote an atmosphere of goodwill in all circumstances. Another way of saying this would be to say they are united through the common purpose of world service. So there are no visible signs of membership. It is likely that most of its members have never even heard the term. And yet, they know, without being told, that they are members, simply because they recognise each other when they meet. So in a sense, the new group is "virtual" – like a multinational work team linked together only by email, it is bound together in subtle, subjective ways.

Why is the group still described as "new", when it was first identified in 1932? The present era of mass transit and telecommunications is the first time in recorded history that it makes sense to talk about such a group as a group – because it is only now that its members are really able to meet and communicate on a worldwide basis. Likewise, this is the first time when the idea of the world being one community has gained widespread acceptance, strongly reinforced by the image of the Earth from space. Also, this may be the first time when there has been a large enough number of such people alive for them to reach a "critical mass" of fruitful interaction. And from a more subtle perspective, it is only now that humanity has evolved enough in consciousness for such a group to be in subjective telepathic rapport, and to be sensitive to group impression from higher sources of light and love. So for all these reasons, the group signifies a *new* trial in human functioning.

The last point about "newness" also links to the principle of group work. As stated before, the group is not a formal organisation, but is united by a common attitude and

### *In this issue*

THE POWER OF TRUE LEADERSHIP

HOLDING THE VISION OF A BETTER WORLD

VISIONARY PRAGMATISM

APPROACHING A GREATER SYNTHESIS

FLUID ALLIANCES

INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SOCIETY

[www.worldgoodwill.org](http://www.worldgoodwill.org)

**Editor:**  
Dominic Dibble

purpose, which its individual members intuitively sense in each other. And it is precisely *because* they recognise this attitude and purpose, that they find it only natural to work together *in groups*. They submerge any personal ambitions so as to better realise specific service objectives. And in addition, the groups they form stand ready to cooperate with other groups of like mind (**see Fluid Alliances**).

The principle (or purpose) of world service also deserves mention here, for it may sound both too grand and too vague for many to relate to. How does one serve the whole world? But to imagine that it implies doing something concrete for every sentient being on Earth is to miss the point. World service can begin on one's doorstep. What matters is that all barriers of race, class or creed have vanished in the server's consciousness. In this way, serving just one other person becomes a microcosmic reflection of serving the whole. In any case, serving the whole world

is possible, through prayer or meditation. This need not mean formal meditation practices in a religious or spiritual context – although many world servers do work in this way – but it does mean deep thinking and reflection on the vision for the work. And the principle of inclusiveness applies with equal force in this case: to meditate or visualise for the exclusive benefit of one group or individual is to lose sight of the unity-in-diversity that is the world. Inclusiveness is part and parcel of goodwill, and so is second nature to a world server. Everyone can aspire to become part of the new group, simply through cultivating goodwill to all.

*The extracts that follow, taken from various addresses and articles on this theme, hopefully give some sense of the nature and significance of this amazing phenomenon that has the potential to save the world. (N.B. All unattributed extracts are by members of the Lucis Trust Headquarters staff.)*

## GOODWILL IS...the heart-beat of service

### THE POWER OF TRUE LEADERSHIP

As well as focusing on various aspects of leadership, we are also acknowledging and celebrating the work of this group of world servers. After all, a celebration is not necessarily a party, but a joyful affirmation whose power is equal to that of prayer and meditation in its effect. The members of this group form a living organism, a movement rather than an outer organisation and they come from all walks of life and all disciplines. Their vision for humanity and common motive to serve creates a subjective inner link between them. Therefore, though some might not consciously consider themselves as part of a world wide group, they are united through aim and intent, striking up an instant and powerful rapport with others in different fields of activity whom they recognise as seeking a similar spiritual objective. It is interesting that the power to influence and affect rapid change is considerably speeded up when a diverse but unified group is formed. In scientific terms one could say that it is a group who, through the influence of its value related ideas, is becoming radioactive in the world. This group of people have broken through the imprisonment conferred by outmoded forms of thought and are therefore free to release new ideas into the mind of humanity. The energy of these ideas is currently ringing out like a clear bell to all who have the capacity to respond to its note.

With the present advent of a group of servers who are capable of being impressed "as a group", we can perhaps say that humanity is beginning to understand and demonstrate the message of Love or Reason. It seems that the idea of Love is profoundly difficult to implement. Perhaps this is because it has largely remained in the realm of ideas, as the sorry history of human evolution has demonstrated, rather than being eagerly appropriated as something to be lived. Now however, a group that is simultaneously responsive to both illumination and to human need and suffering is providing leadership. They stand at the centre of a flow of downpouring and outgoing forces and there hold a point of planetary balance. This standing at the central point of the sphere of influence draws forth the energy of inspiration and enables a dynamic working outward through a fiat of the will. Hence the power of true leadership as demonstrated by this group is first and foremost a subjective one. Its united inspiration radiates out educating human thinking for the better, and conditioning the world to receive new spiritual qualities. A suitable atmosphere in the planetary body and soul is therefore blossoming in which we can all unfold the latent seeds of leadership that lie within, adding the unique qualities that each of us has to contribute to the good of the whole.

### HOLDING THE VISION OF A BETTER WORLD

It is here that the work of that pioneering group which Alice Bailey calls "the new group of world servers" comes in. This group is composed of all those whose first allegiance is to the human race as a whole. Seeing no divisions between people on the basis of race, class or creed, their main concern is to bring into being a world of unity, justice and peace; a world where the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

is a lived reality; a world where everyone enjoys the Four Freedoms - freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from fear and freedom from want. In order to achieve this, they strive to hold the vision of a better world before the eyes of all people everywhere. Working as they do in all the different fields of human life, they each might be said to be responsible for a different aspect of that vision - whether

it is new rituals in religion, new types of beauty in art, new perspectives on education, or new and healthier types of community in politics - and yet, in a real sense, the vision is *one* vision, which is energised by goodwill.

The members of this new group are therefore truly leaders in the human family, leading the way into a better future. As with all pioneers, they must inevitably expect to meet their fair share of resistance to the changes they propose. It is here that the true power of goodwill comes in, for it is their attitude of goodwill to the whole which sustains them in the face of opposition, and enables them to stand firm. Kofi Annan, writing when he was Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, describes this attitude beautifully in the following words:

In the face of indifference, you never lose your sense of the good that one person can do for another alone. You take it into the field by yourself if you must. You take risks. You endure the discouragement of those who do nothing but say that you do not do enough. You ignore the "quick fix" and you go for the heart of the problem. You learn to live without the support of those who promise it and without the welcome of those who would undermine the good you do.

He concludes, "We must let nothing erode our belief that we - as individuals or as nations - can ease the suffering and

better the lives of our fellow human beings."

Another important way in which the members of the new group of world servers are leading by example is in the group nature of their work. They are naturally inclined to band together with others of like mind and heart into organisations which meet humanity's specific needs. Group work makes it easier to leave behind the selfish concerns of the individual, so freeing more energy to realise the service objectives of the group. There has been an amazing growth in this tendency to form groups in the 20th century, suggesting a fundamental change is taking place in human consciousness: we are perhaps beginning to unfold the capacity for group consciousness, in which the best elements of individual minds and hearts are blended together in constructive effort, and given direction by a common purpose. Alice Bailey remarks that, "In the age into which we are now emerging, the Aquarian Age...the world will be saved and reconstructed by *groups* far more than by individuals." Once again, goodwill is of key importance in group work, for it ensures harmonious relations within the group, and also between groups. Indeed, the common note of goodwill which characterises these groups, and their shared recognition of the oneness of humanity, is now leading to the fluid and dynamic creation of mutually beneficial alliances. We may therefore truly speak of the emergence of *group* leadership in a number of important areas.

## VISIONARY PRAGMATISM

(from 1998 Festival Week Seminar **Leadership for the New Millennium**)

**Daniel Wheatley**, Government Relations Officer, National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the UK

I believe we must have the quality of visionary pragmatism, working methodically to achieve attainable, smaller goals whilst keeping our minds and spirits fixed on the greater vision. I have a great personal belief in the creation of a system of democratic world government. To many people this may seem a remote or unrealistic goal. In 1945 when the great proponents of a united Europe such as Monet, Lothian and Spinelli, set to work to build peace in their war-ravaged continent their early designs were widely scorned. Yet working pragmatically, achieving what they could and building the vision piece by piece, starting with institutions such as the European Coal and Steel Board, their dream has become a reality. We have a united European Union, free from war, with our own Parliament and courts of justice, and soon our own European currency.

This summer I was at the diplomatic conference to establish a permanent international criminal court. This was an achievement of visionary pragmatism. It has created a very necessary instrument for defence of human rights in our world and it represents a very real step towards a global government. The manner in which it was achieved was also a demonstration of the principle of unity in diversity. The Coalition for an International Criminal Court represented the collective forces of international non-governmental opinion, pressing for a strong, effective and independent court. Kofi

Annan has singled the Coalition out for praise in his end of year report. The Coalition was a hugely diverse entity, it brought together representatives of Christianity, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, the Hindu Faith, Sikhs, Jains, Zoroastrians and the Bahá'í faith. There were professional bodies from the law, trade union and medical practitioners. Groups advocating women's rights, minority rights, racial rights and children's rights all participated. Academic bodies from a wide spectrum of disciplines supported the Coalition. All in all the Coalition represented 800 civil society organisations from all across the world. These organisations had many different, sometimes conflicting agendas, but they were all able to unite around one common pragmatic aim. Our strength came from the combination of our diversity, channelled into the unity of our purpose.

We have to box clever with how we try to attain our goals. One of my dreams is to cast my vote in a Parliament of humanity, a legislature that might represent the whole of humanity. If I go to my MP and tell him that I want a Parliament for the world he will listen to me, thank me for my thoughts and then mark me down as an unrealistic dreamer. If I choose the strategic path, using the same concept of visionary pragmatism as discussed earlier, I make progress towards the goal I want by selecting my goals with greater wisdom.

Setting strategic goals is not to compromise one's visions and dreams, but to enable them; to set your feet upon the path towards the end you wish to progress towards. To build a cathedral, first one must dig a ditch. Glorious ends often have very humble beginnings and those of us who would change the world must have the humility to work to dig the foundations of the new world order.

All those who see themselves as part of a greater humanity, all those who give service in prayer, thought and deed to creating a world of peace and unity, are all participants in what many commentators now refer to as international civil society. Anyone who works to promote better human rights internationally, anyone who works to overcome racial and religious division, anyone who works to eliminate poverty, anyone who works to preserve the earth's natural environment, is doing a deed of world citizenship.

## APPROACHING A GREATER SYNTHESIS

When we talk about entering a new age, we are really referring to a change in consciousness, an inner expansion which will occur as we leave certain habits of thought behind us to gain new qualities and vision. World events, human selfishness and economic and environmental imbalances, all show up in sharp relief the direction which humanity can choose to take in contrast to those "things" which should be left behind. This process of consciousness raising is one of simplification which, in turn, leads to greater synthesis. The birth of the new group of world servers this century is the guarantee of this synthesis and the founding of a new kingdom on earth - the Kingdom of God. And this is the real impulse behind the Festival week we are celebrating for the focal point of the Christ's effort and the "Agent through

## FLUID ALLIANCES

The guarantee that the new world will appear, and that the painful process of abandoning the old is not simply destruction for destruction's sake, can be found in the many plans for world betterment which are being put forward by a wide diversity of individuals and groups. It is striking that while these plans may use different terminologies, and propose a variety of measures, the vast majority of them are implicitly founded on the recognition that humanity is essentially an undivided whole, a subjective unity which is expressed through diverse forms.

In fact, the many groups and individuals seeking to establish different aspects of human unity, such as world peace or environmental sustainability, are themselves a wonderful expression of that same unity. A beautiful symbol of this is the growing number of group alliances of various kinds which are being formed, for it is the note of goodwill which characterises these groups, and their shared recognition of unity, which allows the fluid and dynamic creation of mutually beneficial relations....

There are some who acknowledge their world citizenship, many others work for a global ethic unconsciously. I believe we all need to recognise our citizenship at the global level because it is only at this all inclusive level that the wonderful diversity of humankind can realise its undeniable unity.

If we are to blend our vision with pragmatism, if we engage all relevant sectors of our society in a positive and constructive manner and if we set our goals strategically, I firmly believe we can transform this world. Our world is, indeed, being transformed in our lifetimes. We must all become involved actors in our own history, promoting goodwill to all of the world. If we combine and complement our efforts, if we work through prayer, thought, word and deed, surely we can confine genocide, mass poverty, war and other human maladies to the pages of our history books.

which distribution of His energy can be made" is the new group of world servers.

Finally, the world service group is a living organism; it "breathes together", bringing the Plan through into outer manifestation. It requires much skill in action to do so but above all, an ability to utilise the energies available. During such a specialised week as this, it is best done in silent meditation. Although the new group of world servers provides sight or vision to humanity, they, themselves, must also listen. And it is only through silencing the chattering mind that the voice of the soul can be heard and the spiritual power of the inner planes can be reached and directed to assuage the pain of others.

The process of allying ourselves with wider wholes can extend beyond the human race to the other kingdoms of planetary life, as the rise in ecological thinking has shown. Those who have been able to consistently demonstrate this completely inclusive identification are recognised as the saints and Great Ones of all spiritual traditions. We may hypothesise that these great Individuals have moved on to identify with wholes even wider than the human mind and heart can grasp, and are thus standing united in one body as a perfect reflection of the greater unities with which they are in contact. This group, called by many names in different religious traditions, and referred to as the spiritual Hierarchy in Alice Bailey's books, is the active, present source of inspiration, whether recognised or not, of all who are seeking to implement the subjective unity which they sense within the human family. The continuing work of the spiritual Hierarchy in the realm of abstract ideas is the guarantee that the new group of world servers will become ever more effective in manifesting the unity within.

## INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SOCIETY

One of the tremendous achievements of humanity in the 20th century is that ordinary men and women are increasingly recognising their responsibility to help resolve issues of local, national and international concern. This marks a shift in consciousness away from dependency upon governments and other elites towards the insight that interdependence is the keynote of all life, implying that it is only through the enlightened thinking and actions of all that global crises can be faced and resolved. The growing number who have decided to live by this insight are the spearhead of a new civilisation, a civilisation which is based upon "that which has never yet before truly existed - right human relations." Although they still represent a small fraction of the global population, they wield a force for good out of proportion to their numbers. And their numbers are increasing - dramatic evidence for this is provided by the growth in the number of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), one of the principal channels through which this new responsible living manifests. From a total of 176 in 1909, the number of international NGOs had reached 28,900 by 1993, and the number of national NGOs is also now swelling rapidly. And while the growth of the NGO community initially occurred mainly in the richest countries, it is now taking root in Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America, Asia and Africa.

One of the most important aspects of choosing to work within an NGO or other civil society organisation is the fact that it is a definite opportunity to work in a group, rather

than as a separated individual. Group work makes it easier to leave behind the selfish concerns of the individual, so freeing more energy to realise the service objectives of the group. The amazing growth of this tendency to work co-operatively in groups suggests that a fundamental change is taking place in human consciousness: we are perhaps beginning to unfold the capacity for group consciousness, in which the best elements of all the individual minds and hearts involved are united in constructive effort. A group of this sort thus represents a true unity-in-diversity: a unity focused by a common vision and the principles through which that vision is realised; and a diversity of expertise within each individual's field of responsibility.

Living up to such a new ideal is not easy, but the reward is a capacity to serve others far greater than would be possible for the individuals alone. And on a wider scale, the ability to create fluid alliances which recognise a shared purpose is one which groups themselves are increasingly demonstrating.

No matter how tenuous the outer links between groups, these alliances are expressions of an underlying subjective unity: groups, just as much as individuals, are increasingly identifying with each others' vision of a future world in which goodwill and right relations are universal, and are responding by synthesising and integrating their constructive activities as a demonstration of the glory of the One.

### Mantram of the New Group of World Servers

**May the Power of the one Life pour through the group of all true servers**

**May the Love of the one Soul characterise the lives of all who seek to aid the Great Ones**

**May I fulfil my part in the one Work through self-forgetfulness, harmlessness and right speech**

This mantram is used by many at 5 pm local time each day,  
as a potent means of invoking energies for world service.

## TRANSITION ACTIVITIES

Throughout the period of transition into a new world of unity, peace and right relations, many groups of people of goodwill are emerging whose activities are characteristic of the new group of world servers.

**Inner Peace for World Peace - Youth Conference - Serving Humanity** is to be held in Nepal, starting 29<sup>th</sup> December 2005, for a period of one week. The conference is being organised by **Children of the Earth**, an educational non-profit NGO associated with the United Nations, in conjunction with the **World Spirit Forum**. In January 2005, fifteen youth leaders from around the world met in Arosa, Switzerland and came to the conclusion that there was a pressing need for a new youth movement, which would live an "inner peace" thus helping to bring about a more peaceful world. These discussions led to the formation of the **World Spirit Council** who are inviting "willing and passionate" youth leaders to Nepal in order to explore ground-making mystical and scientific approaches for creating peace in the world. There is a view that Science and Spirituality are slowly coming together to show us that there is a way to understand life and to create a more peaceful world. It's said the only path to true and lasting peace starts within our own hearts.

Our world mirrors our own state of being. To truly transform the world is to begin transforming ourselves by addressing the causes of war and violence rather than the symptoms. The separation within our own minds, hearts and psyche mirror the separation in the world. Hence facilitators and spiritual leaders from all religions will share their wisdom and views of how to go to the heart of our spiritual nature and scientists will share their understanding of how to tap into the "universal field of Silent Knowledge". Arising from this conference, five young people will be selected to be ambassadors sharing their experiences in Nepal, at the next **World Spirit Forum** to be held in Arosa in 2006. The location of the conference in Nepal would seem to have special significance because it reflects the conflict within humanity as a whole. Nepal holds spirituality in high esteem yet is presently in the midst of conflict, so it is crucial to empower young people to help unify hearts and minds.

Contact Oran Cohen at [oran@livingpeaceproject.org](mailto:oran@livingpeaceproject.org)

## **VALUES TO LIVE BY**

**A Love of Truth** – Essential for a just, inclusive and progressive society.

**A Sense of Justice** – Recognition of the rights and needs of all.

**A Spirit of Cooperation** – Based on the principle of right human relationships.

**A Sense of Personal Responsibility** – For group, community and national affairs.

**Serving the Common Good** – through the sacrifice of selfishness. Only what is good for all is good for each one.

These are spiritual values, inspiring the conscience and the consciousness of those who serve to create a better way of life. The human and world crisis of today is basically spiritual, testing the character and intention of all people. This provides opportunity to re-appraise the values we accept as a personal standard of behaviour, and that of the world society as it attempts to meet its many challenges.

## **HELPING TO BUILD RIGHT HUMAN RELATIONS**

ISSN 0818-4984

World Goodwill is an international movement helping to mobilise the energy of goodwill and to build right human relations. It was established in 1932 as a service activity of the Lucis Trust. The Lucis Trust is a registered educational charity in Great Britain. In the USA it is a non-profit tax-exempt educational corporation, and in Switzerland it is registered as a non-profit association. **WORLD GOODWILL** is recognised by the United Nations as a Non-Governmental Organisation and is represented at regular briefing sessions at UN Headquarters. The Lucis Trust is on the Roster of the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

The World Goodwill Newsletter is published four times a year. Unless otherwise indicated, all articles are prepared by World Goodwill staff members. Multiple copies for distribution are available on request. The newsletter is also available in: Danish, Dutch, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Swedish.

**[www.worldgoodwill.org](http://www.worldgoodwill.org)** is the address for World Goodwill on the Internet. The newsletter is available on this site.

World Goodwill relies solely on donations to maintain its work. The newsletter is distributed free of charge to make it as widely available as possible, but donations are always needed for this service, and are much appreciated.

3 Whitehall Court  
Suite 54  
London SW1A 2EF  
UK

1 Rue de Varembe (3è)  
Case Postale 31  
1211 Geneva 20  
SWITZERLAND

120 Wall Street  
24th Floor  
New York NY10005  
USA