

LUCIS TRUST/ARCANE SCHOOL VISIT TO RUSSIA

Esoteric Service – Challenging Times in the Transition into the Aquarian Age

Moscow, Saturday 28 September 2019

The conference was held in a quiet conference venue starting at 10.30 am finishing around 5pm. Students and co-workers from all over Russia attended - some of whom came vast distances to be there. The morning session was geared more towards Arcane students and Eugenie Pikalov, a student, kindly agreed to chair the session. He welcomed Christine Morgan and Mintze van der Velde from the Lucis Trust/Arcane School and opened the day. Christine Morgan gave a short presentation to introduce the session. All content and presentations at both events had been translated in advance and printed into packs for people to follow the talks from English into Russian and Russian into English. Following the group meditation, presented in both English and Russian, the opening talk by Christine Morgan addressed the theme and was followed by a talk from Sergei Arujinov, the facilitator of the Russian school. Some of the discussion which followed was translated into English enabling interaction with the audience. There was also an online presence in the morning but unfortunately there was a problem with the sound which was only rectified in the afternoon. Nevertheless, comments from online listeners and as well as from the audience, were shared.





Translator on left, chair of TS Moscow, who helped proceedings a lot.

Students came from all over Russia and some came to both events. The time and effort expended to be there was appreciated and although communications were challenging at times because of the language differences, relations were strengthened. When meeting students individually Google Translate on phones was indispensable, helping those who had questions to translate them immediately into English and similarly convert the answer into Russian.

In the afternoon the chair of the Moscow TS, came up to the main table. He offered to translate questions from English to Russian and then Russian to English which helped the flow of the meeting considerably. Mintze van der Velde gave his presentation on “What are Right human Relations from a Soul Perspective?”, followed by meditation and further addresses by students. Many students shared their appreciation of the visit during discussions and some said that they felt left out of the group because of their inability to attend conferences. There was a lot of debate about the need to form service groups, leading to an exploration of the difference between esoteric or soul service and outer service, as well as the need to anchor it in the form of physical group work. Questions and discussions were lively in Moscow and covered a range of subjects. Many aspects of the work, such as the association and support of the UN and the role of Webinars were discussed and answers to specific questions, such as what to do about non-working triangles workers, were dealt with.

The day ended with the new moon meditation and a reminder about the upcoming festival week of the New Group of World Servers and the posting of the Festival week website in Russian. Students were asked to highlight any events that they are planning for the Festival week. A co-worker, a web designer and IT specialist, offered his help and is currently helping to post the Alice Bailey books on the Russian website.

A copy of the program/talks are available on our web-site:

https://www.lucistrust.org/worldwide_network/notes_from_the_field/lucis_trust_meetings_in_russia_2019 in English and Russian.

St Petersburg Meeting, Tuesday, 1 October 2019

The meeting was held in the private house/conference centre of Mr. & Mrs. Orlov, who live about an hour's drive outside St. Petersburg. They generously offered their lovely home for the event, fetching us from the airport, accommodating us and showing us around the beautiful city of St. Petersburg. On Tuesday the secretarial meeting was scheduled for 10.30 and all three speakers were able to attend in person, which was very much appreciated as they came a considerable distance to be with us. Unbelievably, the electricity failed about 5 minutes before we started but fortunately the Orlovs had a back-up generator which saved the day!

The secretarial workshop was very successful with those secretaries not able to attend joining online. The outcome of this meeting was very pleasing, the talks were good and helpful, providing an opportunity to clarify issues and share experiences. Sometimes students in Russia (and elsewhere) feel they are “on the outside looking in” because of difficulties in attending meetings.



main table at St. P. event from left
Mintze van der Velde (Geneva), Roman
Shchepalov (student and translator),
Christine Morgan and Svetlana Orlova.

Conference room with portal revealing the beautiful garden below.



Conference room



Setting up conference

sharing food afterwards with co workers

The main meeting in the afternoon was held in the conference area. There was a lot of set up needed, chairs ordered in, screens for online connection etc. The meeting included an online webinar for distant participators. The talks were very interesting, with one from a student in the Ukraine that was given online and shown via a TV screen. The event started with an opening presentation by Christine Morgan and included time for meditation and discussion. St. Petersburg offered a more intimate setting and many stayed to share food and continue discussions afterward. It was a joyful and heart-warming experience to share time with students reinforcing the fact that we were all part of the One work.

A real feature of the trip was that although few people spoke English, all came with a phone in hand poised to activate Google Translate meaning that we managed quite well to understand one another. Although the visit was short, there was time for meaningful talks with our hosts, students and co-workers. There was overall a sense that the trip was not only about the talks and meditations but that there was real appreciation that the Trust and the School took the time to visit. For our part, the generosity of students has been deeply appreciated and the comradeship that has come from this visit much valued. We have been greatly enriched by the experience.