

HALLIDAY REVIEW

HIEROLOGY • ART • RELIGION • PHILOSOPHY • SCIENCE

The 'In-House' magazine of Eugene Halliday Society

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AUTUMN 2009

EDITORIAL

CHANGE, DEVELOPMENTAL PROCESSES & CYCLES

This Autumn it is 22 years since Eugene Halliday died, and 11 years since David Mahlowe died. That is two sunspot cycles and one sunspot cycle, respectively. Rather a random and meaningless observation, you may opine. However, Eugene often referred to cycles of many kinds, and commented (at least in my hearing) that use of the word 'random' to describe the distribution of occurrences of phenomena, simply means that the persons observing the occurrences haven't looked at them closely enough to see a pattern. A lot of fun can be had comparing apparently random sets of data, but something useful may also be revealed. One such exercise is the book "Freakonomics" by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner (William Morrow, 2005), in which unlikely but interesting and possibly illuminating comparisons are made, for example by linking a drop in the U.S.A. crime rate in the 1990s with a landmark case on abortion which was decided by the United States Supreme Court in 1973 (Roe v. Wade). If you have access to the internet, you only have to google "comparing statistical distributions" to see that comparison of patterns in all kinds of data is a widespread and serious academic scientific activity.

Eugene often referred to sunspot cycles and their effects on the earth and its inhabitants. Sunspot cycles remain of interest to scientists, for example I have just looked at a Nasa website on sunspot cycles, which explains that "the magnetic activity that accompanies the sunspots can produce dramatic changes in the ultraviolet and soft x-ray emission levels. These changes over the solar cycle have important consequences for the Earth's upper atmosphere."¹ It is thought, for example, that such bursts of magnetic activity can affect human communication systems on the earth. Some researchers claim to have found links even with human health.²

To continue with my sunspot theme – and I'm not claiming any direct correlation with actual events – it is approximately four sunspot cycles now since the founding of Ishval. Eugene, David and Zero moved to Parklands at the end of 1964, and the Constitution of Ishval was finally adopted and Ishval recognised officially as a Charity, in 1966. I mention this in the sense of a meditation on cycles in relation to the existence and development of Ishval, for the reason that we are currently going through a period of re-evaluation and re-formulation of Ishval and the work of Ishval.

Notes:

¹ <http://solarscience.msfc.nasa.gov/SunspotCycle.shtml>

² http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar_cycle

ISHVAL VISION STATEMENT - UPDATE

Early this year, the trustees formulated a Vision Statement for Ishval, because we felt that a re-evaluation of our work was necessary in order to create a sustainable future for the work of Eugene Halliday. This Vision was published in the Spring issue of the Halliday Review, and we invited all who were interested to come to a meeting on 17th May to discuss our statement. We were delighted that so many people were interested to come, some travelling considerable distances, and quite a few offering their help as volunteers.

Some of the feedback which we received – feedback is most welcome – suggested that some people felt we had left things "in the air", vague and inconclusive. This was, to a certain extent, deliberate – we were talking about potential, about possibilities. We (the trustees)

cannot hope to match the precise formulation of Eugene Halliday, the organising ability of David Mahlowe, or the unbending purpose of Fred Freeman (or many other of their qualities), but we feel we are “making our way”, doing our best, with a great deal of help, to ensure that Eugene’s work survives and is more available to more beings, for their benefit, in the future. Eugene describes an aspect of the meaning of the “Fool” in the Tarot pack (shown stepping off the edge of a cliff, with faith - his dog), as “making his way”; that is, creating the path on which he travels by each step he takes. We are fools, in relation to Eugene, but we are doing what we can to carry forward what he gave us. We may not always make the best choices, and cannot hope to please everyone, but we are doing our best and hope to improve with your help and feedback.

Since the meeting in May, we have expanded the Ishval Executive, which has met several times, and adopted the name “Eugene Halliday Society” as a working name to attract new people (the official name has not changed). We are continuing to work on the websites, and although progress has been slower than we would like, we are still at work – a website is not a fixed entity, it needs to change and be updated continually. A Newsletter has been proposed, to be shared by email where possible. An extended programme of local meetings in Cheshire has been planned for 2010, and a number of other classes are continuing. We are in process of changing our mind-set from a local focus to an international view. This may sound presumptuous, but with the help of the internet, Eugene’s work is now accessible to anyone with a computer and internet access, who can read English, anywhere in the world. A reading group on Skype has been mooted. Shortly, the first translation of Eugene’s work into another language will appear on the internet – a translation into German of *The Function of Anxiety – Die Eroberung der Angst* - with many thanks to Christian Handschug and Donald Lord.

SELECTION OF EUGENE HALLIDAYS WORK IN THIS ISSUE

With these changes in mind, Shibat asked me to select pieces by Eugene on the subject of change and developmental processes, in order to throw light on the reorientation we are undergoing. I found several enlightening pieces on change and development through the Quotations page³ on the Eugene Halliday Society website – a very useful resource facility provided by many hours, possibly years, of Fred Freeman’s work on Eugene’s book *Through the Bible*. These pieces have, of course, already been published, and one of the founding remits of the Halliday Review is to publish shorter, previously unpublished, pieces by Eugene. However, it does no harm to look at them again, in a particular context, as a form of meditation on a theme. (References to the original books are given with each extract.)

While searching under the heading of change and development, I found myself reading pieces on cycles, which felt to me to be relevant to our current theme. Indeed, I became quite engrossed and found myself digging deeper and deeper into the cycles and their references, with the help of the internet – and with time rapidly running out for our publication date (a stressful cycle!) What I found prompted me to write my observations on Eugene’s methods of study, and what he advised us to do in his *Aims of Ishval*. All of Eugene’s pieces included in this issue are previously unpublished, unless otherwise stated, and are included with the kind permission of Zero Mahlowe.

Notes:

³ <http://eugenehallidaysociety.org/quotations.asp>

HEPHZIBAH YOHANNAN

EDITORIAL CHANGE

This bumper edition of HR is all about change & the developmental process. This was the theme of my recent talk 'The Mystery of Life' at St Lukes where the significant changes taking place in the world around us was highlighted. There are times for change and significantly this is also a time of change for myself – I have been editor of HR for 10 years over 19 Editions and it has been a great privilege to be able to contribute in spreading the essential message of Eugene Halliday's teachings. It is hard work compiling, editing, mailing out, etc and the time has come to spend more time on personal projects which have increasingly been calling. I am therefore handing over the editorship entirely to my co-editor Hephzibah Yohannan with whom it will be in good & secure hands.

SHIBAT WHARDELL

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