

SUMMER IN THE MOUNTAINS

NEWSLETTER – SUMMER & FALL 1993

This informal newsletter is meant for the many friends all over the world who share an interest in Krishnamurti and the teachings, to inform them about the current activities of the Schools and Foundations as well as my undertakings and experiences partly personal, partly in connection with those Krishnamurti organizations. I am sure my critics will also find something to their taste in this letter.

Friedrich Grohe, November 1993

Meeting at Saanen and Rougemont

The Saanen Gathering in July has been once more, a fruitful, interesting and happy event. I received many letters subsequently, some of them are re-printed in this newsletter.

Some of the longer term members of the Brockwood staff visited us again and a student from Brockwood remarked that it seems to generate a special quality to have some people



Sulzhuetten at 2100 m, September 1993

visiting who knew Krishnamurti personally. Unfortunately, so many of them have left Brockwood now. A teacher expressed how good it was for Brockwood people to be able to come together away from the School – Saanen is almost the only place where this is possible.

Rougemont broke all records this

year for the number of guests. The list of 52 guests will be printed at the end of this chapter.

Special thanks to Alice, Beata, Francesca, Mary Ann and Loic, who helped wonderfully and made it possible, together with Michael Krohnen's culinary skills, for us to enjoy such beautiful get-togethers.

Correspondence Received

Alan Rowlands, Buchillon, August 1993:

It was a renewed joy to be in Saanenland again this year, first with Gisèle and her splendid team at Le Rosey in Schoenried and then as one of Friedrich's many guests in Rougemont. It is so good that there are still people here making things happen, attracting serious and intelligent people to this beautiful area. There, where seven valleys meet (I counted them this year), providing an unparalleled variety of walks, one can find refreshment and renewal in the lovely surroundings, and there is also the daily opportunity of meeting so many old friends – and, happily, some new ones, often very perceptive people with whom it is possible to exchange moments of deep communication. I think for instance of Norman Taylor, who was so deeply touched by Krishnamurti's last talks at Brockwood.

I participated fairly fully in the Krishnamurti Video programme and thought how well Gisèle organised the whole thing. I was particularly struck by the majesty of K's talks in San Diego in the early seventies. Some of the dialogues I attended were very worth while and the meetings with Dr. Krishna were splendid. A thought that came out of these meetings was how important it is that there should be clear ground rules, 'rules of the game' as it were, fully understood and agreed by all participants from the beginning.

On two evenings I gave piano recitals and was again surprised by how well the small piano in the New School responded. I have several times had the sense that the quiet listening of the group has some mysterious effect on this. Another very pleasant evening was Reza's classical guitar recital.

This year we also tried some community singing. We met after



Fisherboat on Lake Geneva from jetty at Villa Loven, Buchillon, on a November evening, 1993

supper in Le Rosey in the room where there is a piano and learnt and sang a variety of traditional English, Irish, Scottish and American songs. There were also some French and German ones and one song that could be sung in five languages. This seemed to create a very good feeling of togetherness and altogether we had five evenings of singing, in several of which Dr. Krishna joined with great enthusiasm.

I greatly appreciated the opportunity of getting to know Dr. Krishna much better this year and must say how impressed I was by his openness and generosity of spirit. Without com-

promising the integrity of his own perceptions he seemed able to extend a friendly hand to all, even those who had shown disloyalty or rancour towards K. This was apparent in his comments upon Rajagopal and on the book 'Lives in the Shadow' – and also in his attitude to U.G.Krishnamurti.

'U.G.' is someone I have known since 1969 and at that time I was fascinated by what I imagined to be his state of consciousness, though that remained an enigma to me and still is. He spoke with tremendous force of certainty and a great deal of what he said seemed to me undeniably cogent. Later, I came to

feel it was useless to try and plumb another man's mind, or to keep looking 'elsewhere' for clarity, and ceased to listen to his philosophisings, but there was always something about him I liked and we remained on good terms. He is pleasant to talk to about ordinary things, can be an attentive host and, I know, a generous friend.

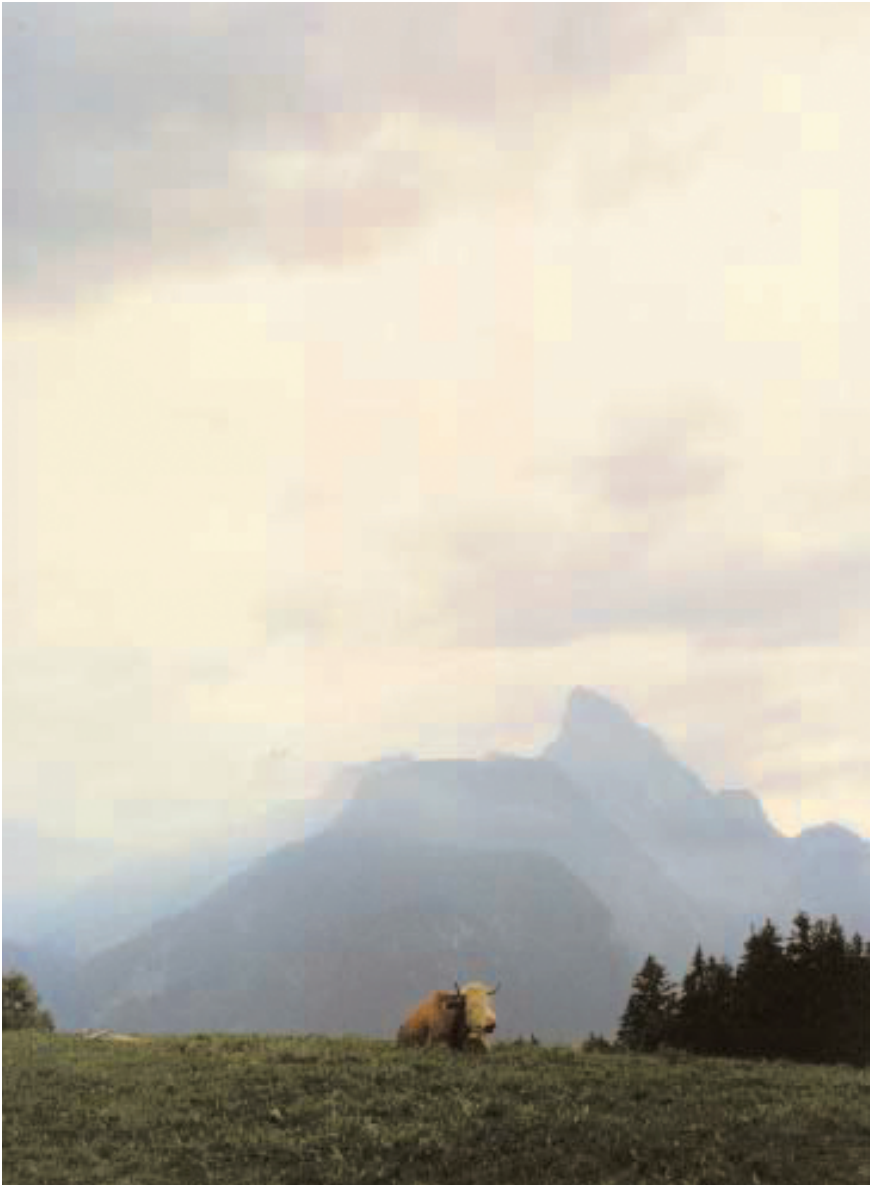
So when Dr. Krishna expressed a desire to meet UG, saying that he had heard a lot about him and that there were some people at Rajghat who thought highly of him, I was happy to arrange it. We sat on the lawn outside Chalet Sunbeam overlooking the Gstaad tennis courts and for the first hour the conversation was mostly about past figures and mutual acquaintances in the TS, both men having had strong connections in that direction. Then Dr. Krishna asked UG, "Why is it that you consider J. Krishnamurti to be a fake?" That started the serious part of the conversation! I couldn't attempt to reproduce it, though things did become quite intense. At first, the only other person present was Michel Langinieux, another old friend (not a disciple), but gradually more and more people arrived and sat around on the grass watching and listening while these two considerable figures locked, so to speak, for the best part of two hours. At the end, matters were still unresolved but the parting was amicable, with Dr. Krishna inviting UG to visit Rajghat. But afterwards on the path

going down he turned to me and said, "I think he is an ordinary man".

An ordinary man is certainly not what he considered J. K. to be. He had many interesting reminiscences and said that, of several great men he had met, K seemed to him different not merely in degree, but in kind – 'dimensionally different' was how he put it.

I also appreciated his willingness, in a meeting with Michel Langinieux, to try out some of the 'seeing' experiments originated by Douglas Harding. I think he got the point straight away of these exercises in direct perception, showing so clearly the distinction between seeing and thinking.

Another very pleasant occasion we spent together was the concert of students from the Yehudi Menuhin School in Saanen church. Peter Norris, whose white bow tie I had only just tied, conducted the opening item in a performance of such stunning vitality that I was almost lifted out of my seat. It was marvelous to watch the eager, attentive faces of the young players, several of whom I recognised from their visits to Brockwood (we had actually done a joint concert there last December), and I thought how lucky we now are to have Peter contributing a day a week of his time to the musical life of Brockwood. At his suggestion, a group of the Menuhin students and I are going to give a concert of chamber music for piano and strings in aid of



Pensive Swiss cow under grey skies between Schoenried and Saanen, with Ruebli in the background

Amnesty International. This will be in London's Wigmore Hall on April 25th, 1994, and I feel very conscious of the privilege and responsibility of working with these brilliant young musicians.

And so to Rougemont, where I had not stayed before. I enjoyed savouring the different ambience of this French-speaking part of the valley – to say nothing of savouring the delights of Michael Krohnen's culinary skills. There were festive days in the village and more new friends to meet. I found walks I had not done before and had several close encounters with the chamois. David Skitt and I shared the delightful little Chalet Cordonnier, which was amazingly well equipped. Judging by the amount of crockery and wine glasses we could have given a party for at least twenty four, though I hardly know how we would have got them in. I had only known David previously as an occasional visitor to my music appreciation classes at Brockwood and after a week in his company I began to relish his perceptive remarks and typically English restrained humour. And I well remember his amazed reaction to his first sight of the view from the top of La Vidamanette.

Now in Buchillon, one sunny day succeeds another. Whether swimming, cycling, eating, sleeping, or talking, it is a joy to be here. But also the piano has been made full use of and I find it marvelous what productive work can

be done when one has this degree of freedom from wordly cares. Thank you, dear Friedrich, for all these opportunities!

Alan Rowlands

Dr. P. Krishna, Rajghat, 10 October 1993

K's Teachings are Alive and Well in Europe

My visit to Europe during July/August 1993 revealed to me that interest in Krishnamurti's teachings has not faded on that continent after his death. There are serious groups of inquirers in every city who are asking the questions K had raised about life and wanting to inquire into them. There is also a revival of interest in K's teachings in Theosophical circles and more and more gatherings/seminars are being held around the questions that K raised in his talks and dialogues.

The first seminar in which I participated was held at the International Theosophical Centre in Naarden (The Netherlands) from July 13 to 16, 1993 on "Right Living in Modern Society". There were about 60 participants drawn from all over Europe who had serious dialogues on the various problems facing modern society. We explored deeply into the source of these problems in the consciousness of the individual and the

need for a radical transformation in our outlook on life. This seminar was followed by another during July 17 to 19 conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Rohit Mehta, who have been very closely associated with K's teachings for decades. I found no significant difference between these gatherings and the ones we conduct in the Krishnamurti Foundation Centres. They afford the same opportunities for "learning". Whether we are able to seize the opportunity and really learn for ourselves depends entirely on the extent to which we are aware of our internal barriers to listening, thereby avoiding the interference of the ego.

From Naarden I flew to Geneva where Alexandra very kindly received me and drove me to Rougemont at Friedrich's invitation. It is such a beautiful drive through the mountains of Switzerland, that one cannot but be touched by a religious quality that is invariably there when one is in close contact with Nature. In Rougemont were several friends from Brockwood and Ojai staying in different cottages and we all ate together in the evenings. There was much sharing of warmth, friendship and laughter which are characteristic of a relaxed group of friends who are not building images. I had gone at the invitation of Ms. Gisele Balley to participate in the Krishnamurti Gathering organized by her in Saanen during the week from July 23 to August 1. There were several

familiar faces and old friends whom it was a great joy to meet and interact with. There were about 60 to 70 participants but this group was quite different from the one in Naarden. They had all read K and were familiar with his teachings. Many of them had attended his talks and even met him personally. We tried to cover the vast field of "Nature, Life and Environment" and had some intense dialogues to investigate into the right use of our consciousness and being right human beings. Perhaps more precious than the group dialogues were the insights gained in the course of individual dialogues held during the walks into the mountains which had that special quality which K described as "two friends taking shelter from the rain" and opening their hearts to each other.

From Saanen I went to Chambery in Southern France where Mr. and Mrs. Duval have started a new centre of learning called "The Open Door". It is located in a beautiful house on top of a hill, overlooking a lake with mountains covering the horizon all around. It is in an exquisitely beautiful location. They had organized a 3-day seminar on Education with about 20 participants who were either school teachers or educationists interested in imparting holistic education to children. We discussed K's approach to education, its implications and the difficulties faced in creating a K-School.

From there I went to a Summer School in Ubbergen (near Nijmegen) in the Netherlands, organized by a group called the “Leer Project”. This is a group of young people who are deeply interested in exploring the implications of K’s teachings in everyday life. The school was organized around the question “Can we live in peace?”. There were about 30 participants between 25 and 50 years of age, including academics, doctors, psychologists, social workers, etc. drawn from almost every walk of life. We listened to selected video talks of K in the mornings, read selected passages from his writings and then held dialogues in the afternoons on the questions raised by him. We met in a large house called “Huize Schoonoord” which operates as a vegetarian and health-food restaurant-cum-centre for various groups that like to meet there.

All the four gatherings in which I participated this year have again invited me to come next year for

holding similar dialogues. There are also many other groups in Europe interested in holding dialogues in almost every country on that continent around the questions raised by K. I think it is important for the Krishnamurti Foundations to help keep these questions alive and to participate in such dialogues/gatherings whenever possible. It is as difficult to answer the question ‘what purpose is served by these dialogues’ as it is to answer why one should inquire into these questions at all. To me it seems to be a wrong question. An inquiry with a purpose and an aim is not a K-inquiry. It has meaning only when one does it for the love of it, not in order to arrive at any profitable conclusions. Is it more meaningful when a free consciousness like that of K conducts the inquiry or is that also an illusion, because the barriers are still within oneself? We must all ask that question to ourselves and perhaps live with that question without answering it.

P. Krishna

David Skitt, 10 August 1993:

Dear Friedrich,

This is just a note to thank you for your kindness in providing me with such a pleasant week in Rougemont. Bringing so many of us together who might normally not have so much time for informal contacts was very beneficial and I liked the atmosphere of freedom – to go to videos or dialogues or not, just stroll around or walk more strenuously in the mountains – it’s interesting to see what we make of such freedom.

Two points occurred to me after the Saanen gathering. First, in what are obviously very turbulent times the only anchor seems to be the depth of one's attention to what is going on – within and without. Much as one watches one's feet in the mountains!

The other allied question I came away with was: what is the 'right' response to the 'wrong' action of others? (the Buddha's words would have been 'skillful' and 'unskillful' – I suppose one could also say 'seeing' and 'blindness'). There seems to be a real trap here. Because if one responds wrongly to wrongness one perpetuates wrongness, albeit in a different form! I'm leaving that question hanging in the air!

*Thanks again and bis bald,
David*

*Hiking from Lauenen
to the Geltenhuetten
on a rainy day, but as
the faces show the
morale was excellent.
From left to right: Lilo
Saba-Engelhaupt,
Dave Robertson, Reza
Ganjavi, Colin Foster,
Mary Ann Ridgway,
Bill Taylor and Loic
Lopez*



Lilo Saba-Engelhaupt, from Chur, Switzerland, who was in Brockwood and Saanen for the first time, wrote in a letter of September 4, 1993:

“...These were special holidays this year. First my sojourn at Brockwood: arriving at the Centre, being led to my room, and then stepping out onto the lawn, I thought I was dreaming. The surroundings were simply beautiful with meadows, fields, huge old trees and rolling hills. I immediately had a feeling of stillness, harmony, beauty, a sense of awe – it is difficult to find the right words.

And after this retreat at the Centre, I visited Rougemont and Saanen, the other side of life, so to speak: talking, laughing, singing, and listening to what others had to say, as well as hiking and having wonderful meals together. Never before did I see so many “great” people in one place. It appeared like a miracle that people from all over the world, interested in K, would follow an invitation and spend time together with such a sense of cooperation and joy. For the first time there even was a Swiss-German group with Rita, Ulrich, Kathie and Rolf Mayr and myself. I feel that I am still carrying and sharing the spirit of those days.”

Lilo

Guests at Rougemont in July 1993

Gisèle Balleys, educator, former Brockwood teacher, Switzerland

Leila Bates, teacher, gardener, Brockwood staff, England

Carol Edgar Brandt, photographer, secretary, former Brockwood staff, Australia

Jürgen Brandt, business manager, former Brockwood staff, Germany

Ulrich Brugger, educator, Switzerland and Ojai, California

Lorenzo Castellari, physics teacher, former Brockwood staff, Switzerland

Juan Colell, pharmacist, President of Fundacion Krishnamurti

Hispanoamericana (FKH), Spain

Maria Angel Colell, pharmacist, trustee of FKH, Spain

Eudal and his wife *Joanne*, trustees of FKH, Spain

Claudette Dedieu, Brockwood staff member, France

Beata Dobrzynska, former Brockwood student, Poland

Christian Docherty, Brockwood student, England and Switzerland

Daniel Docherty, Brockwood student, England and Switzerland

Alice Duchateller, Brockwood student, France

Pamela Ferchl, Brockwood staff member, England

Dominique Fernandez, Centre cook, Brockwood, France

Colin Foster, Director of Academics, Brockwood, England



View of Lake Geneva and Alps from Villa Lovenö in Buchillon

Reza Ganjavi, musician and computer specialist, Iran and California

Friedrich Grohe, host, 'A.G.' appointed by K, Switzerland

Niels Hammer, former Brockwood student, medical student, Denmark,

Paul Herder, educator, former Brockwood staff, USA

Claudia Herr, secretary and teacher, former Brockwood staff, USA and England

Olaf Hess, computer specialist, former Brockwood student, Germany

Derek Hook, restaurateur, host of Yewfield retreat in the Lake District, England

P. Krishna, professor of physics, Rector of Rajghat, KFI trustee, India

Michael Krohnen, K's cook in Ojai, former Oak Grove School staff, writer, Germany and Ojai, California

Loïc Lopez, student of environmental studies, former Brockwood student, France

Jean-Michel Maroger, marine consultant, KFT trustee, France

Elizabeth Martin, artist, Brockwood teacher, England

Frances McCann, photographer, benefactor, Brockwood staff, England and Ojai, CA

Ray McCoy, editor, KFT trustee, Canada and England

Rolf Mayr, architect, educator, Switzerland

Kathie Mayr, educator, Switzerland

Mikel, a friend of Niels, economics student, Denmark

Bill Quinn, editor, lived with K at Arya Vihara during war years, Ojai, California

Mary Ann Ridgway, Montessori teacher, former Brockwood student, England

Dave Robertson, accountant, Brockwood staff member, South Africa and England

Dorian Rosel, former Brockwood student, Switzerland

Alan Rowlands, professor at Royal College of Music, Brockwood teacher, UK

Lilo Saba-Engelhaupt, careers adviser, Germany & Switzerland

Francesca Sayer, Brockwood student, England

Manfred Schneider, businessman, K Committee of Germany, Germany

Nick Short, former lawyer, oriental art dealer, former Brockwood staff, New Zealand

Louisa Simons, artist, former Brockwood teacher, New Zealand

Carol Cavitt, friend of Louisa, from New Zealand

David Skitt, former CERN associate, editor at KFT, England

Stephen Smith, teacher, writer, associate trustee of KFT, former Brockwood teacher, England

Bill Taylor, poet, Brockwood teacher, New Zealand

R. R. Upasani, agronomist, trustee and former Secretary of KFI, from India

Giorgos Vardakis, mathematics teacher at Brockwood, Greece

Rita Zampese, former public relations manager, Switzerland and England

Friedrich in the Mountains

Zermatt, August 1993

After the gathering in Saanen I went to Buchillon and then to Zermatt which I had not visited for some time. The mountains there are breathtakingly grandiose. I still remember very well, when, aged thirty-three, I was skiing in Zermatt and looked with awe at the legendary beauty of the Matterhorn,

thinking to myself that I was already too old to climb this mountain. But at the age of forty-three and in excellent physical condition I did climb the airy and narrow peak, via the difficult “Zmut-Grat”-route, with a mountain guide and friend of mine. Now, twenty years later and at the age of sixty-three, I was thinking again that now I am indeed too old to climb this mountain a



View from Sulzhuetten after a night with snowfall, September 1993

second time. However, that same day I heard of a mountain guide who had climbed the peak this summer at the age of ninety-three! So, maybe, intense training assumed, I might still climb this beautiful mountain once more, some time in the next thirty years.

Sulzhuetten, September 1993

From Zermatt I went to my small mountain cabin “Sulzhuetten”, where I stayed almost the whole month of September. The cabin is situated at 2100m (almost 7000 feet) in the eastern part of Switzerland near St. Antönien.

The border to Austria is just an hour’s walk away; in earlier times the passes around here were renowned for smuggling. A fifty minute steep climb from the last dwelling with road access takes one to the cabin.

In the last years the cabin has turned into an international retreat. Many people from Brockwood came here for the hikes and the solitude: Raman from Kenya, Gary from Canada, Christina, Colin and Stephen from England, Juergen from Germany, Antonio from Spain, Scott and Kathy from the US and South Africa. I have rented the cabin for more than twenty years and have come there often with my sons

and my Swiss friends. I remember spending many evenings up here after long ski-tours with my friend and mountain guide Andreas. Once we took shelter from heavy rains in this at that time practically derelict hut. Andreas made the arrangements that I could rent it and subsequently I renovated it to its present state. Unfortunately, he died the same year in an accident on a mountain trek in which I had also planned to, but in the end did not, participate. But that is another story.

The solitude up here invites one to contemplate, read and write. There is a nice selection of Krishnamurti books, although the cabin is just one small room: there is a table with a wooden bench, two chairs, a wood-fuel stove, a cupboard for food, and bunk beds. To live the simple life up here requires quite a bit of time: starting a fire in the morning, cutting wood, fetching the water from a nearby mountain stream, cooking meals, washing dishes and cleaning up the place are some of the daily activities. Every few days drinking water has to be fetched from a mountain source some twenty minutes away and food supplies have to be hauled up from the valley.

At least once a week I hike down to the simple mountain hotel at the upper end of the valley to have a nice hot shower – what a pleasure! I remember how fifty years ago my grandfather used to warn me that my feet might

turn into flippers if I continued to take a bath every week. He would take a bath only once every fortnight.

The cabin is situated like an eagle's nest on a steep mountain slope. It is above the tree line, but there are a rich variety of grasses, flowers and herbs. Many birds and animals can be seen. The weather can be spectacularly beautiful but tends to change quickly. One morning everything was white with fresh snow like the middle of winter. The snow stayed for three days until it melted quickly in warmer weather. Sometimes the wind rattles the hut so violently that one fears it could be blown away. At other times the nights can be absolutely quiet with starry skies as magnificent as in Rishi Valley in India.

There is a hiking trail close to the hut. One day I watched two heavily laden hikers climb up the steep path. They were a student couple from Vienna and I invited them in for a cup of tea. We had a good and serious conversation for more than an hour and they left with the two brochures "Core of the Teachings" and David Bohm's "A brief Introduction to the Work of Krishnamurti".

When I finally left the hut after 24 days in the mountains, I was surprised to see the trees down in the valley already in autumn colours, in all shades of green to yellow and brown. I was happy when I finally arrived at my car and could unload my heavy packs.

*Beeches in the mist
near Haus Sonne ,
October 1993*



I then visited my old friend from school, Edgar, who lives on a remote farm near Bregenz in Austria, where he nurtures and protects one of the endangered mountain moors.

Haus Sonne, October 1993

From there I travelled mostly along the Rhine and Lake Constance to visit the vegetarian hotel and seminar house “Haus Sonne” in the southern part of the beautiful Black Forest. The house is situated at the entrance of a little mountain valley. With 1030 meters it is at the foot of the third highest mountain “Belchen” of the Black Forest. From up there on clear days hundreds of peaks of the Austrian and Swiss Alps can be seen – the view is spectacular.

Traditional farmhouses in this area have huge roofs to protect the house from hard winters as well as hot



summers. Everything is contained under one roof: living quarters, stable, barn and workshop. “Haus Sonne” is built in the same style. The main building material is wood and a big tiled stove in the common living and dining room creates a cosy atmosphere.

The house is run by Christian Leppert and Eva Wollweber. Christian had visited the Saanen gatherings regularly since 1970 and also visited

Brockwood and Ojai several times. The house provides a good selection of books and videos of Krishnamurti. According to Christian there are more and more guests reading and watching videos, sometimes for hours, who have not heard of Krishnamurti before. For years now I have been meeting Krishnamurti friends there, usually in connection with the annual meetings of the German Committee. In the past our translation group met there. Teachers and students of Brockwood have visited on several occasions and even our Indian friends Rajesh Dalal

and his wife had been there two years ago during a German Committee meeting.

Christian tries to run the house in as environmentally friendly a manner as possible. Electricity is generated to a large extent by solar technology for example. In the beginning of this year he shared his knowledge in that area with the Indian Schools and helped to improve their solar heating systems for hot water as well as building a big solar oven for baking in Rishi Valley.

Christian's broad interests make it easy for him to give seminars on many



Haus Sonne in the Black Forest, October 1993

different topics. Recently he co-directed a film about the future of farming in the Black Forest. Education is the underlying thread of all his activities and we hope to work more closely together in that area. For the Saanen Gathering next summer we are tentatively planning a week on education together with Gisèle.

I enjoy the Black Forest very much, perhaps because I was born there and spent the first five years of my childhood there. Of course, I have visited my birthplace “Schiltach” many times. My grandfather, Hans Grohe, started a brass factory there which still exists today under his name. I remember my utter amazement to see recently – while staying at a Malibu hotel on the shores of the Pacific and by chance watching some TV – a wedding in “Schiltach” as part of an American report on the Black Forest.

On one of my hikes from Haus Sonne I went to the mountain top “Schau-ins-Land” – meaning ‘view down onto the land’. The cable car, which starts a thousand meters below in the town of Freiburg, was the first

cable car in the world, built in 1929, the year I was born. The winding road climbing up the mountain is reknowned for its early mountain races. At a motorbike race in the twenties an uncle of mine won the first price – a beautiful grandfather clock – which he was very proud of. I hesitate to add that he was the only competitor in his category, and even then had to push his motorbike across the finishing line since the strain had been too much for it. Regarding such races at “Schau-ins-Land” I remember another little story from my childhood. My parents had taken me to my first car race there when I was four. This occurred shortly after I had been taken to a circus where I had been particularly fascinated by monkeys riding bicycles. I remember very well sitting in the grandstand – it rained heavily – and the cars roaring by one by one. At that time racing cars were convertibles and the drivers were dressed in heavy, brown leather gear including tight leather caps. When no cars had passed for a while I asked: “Daddy, are there any more monkeys coming?”

Friedrich Grohe

Notes... Notes... Notes

Brockwood Park

Most of you will probably know by now that since August 1993 there has been a change in the management structure of the School at Brockwood. This is the official statement by the Trustees of the School to the public of 5th August, 1993:

“It has been decided by the Trustees that Brockwood Park School should no longer have a sole Principal, but that there should now be three School Directors having equal responsibility. Each will have an individual area of responsibility, as follows:

Harsh Tankha to be Executive/Administrative Director

Colin Foster to be Academic Director

Scott Forbes to be Development Director

It is felt that this will meet the School’s present and future needs, and provide greater opportunities for expansion and development. Scott Forbes will work to strengthen the School’s links with Educators while Harsh Tankha and Colin Foster will have the responsibility for the day-to-day management of the school.

We intend that this new arrangement will incorporate more involvement of the School Council and Staff generally in sharing the decision-making and operation of Brockwood.“

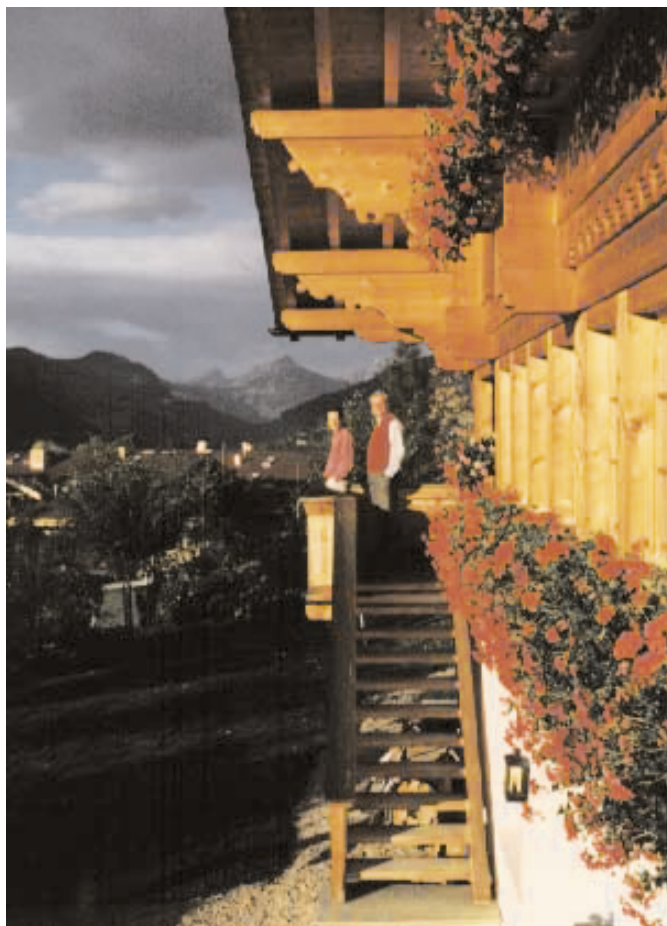
The Trustees of Brockwood Park

International Book Fair at Frankfurt

The following is a letter from Mark Lee, Executive Director of KFA, who represented KFA at Frankfurt:

Surrounded by the spectacular post-war buildings of modern Frankfurt, the International Book Fair hosted over 200,000 visitors for six days this last October. The Krishnamurti Foundations of England, America and for Latin America had a

*Mark Lee and
Jurgen Brandt at
Chalet "Solitude"
in Rougemont after
the Frankfurt
Book Fair in
October 1993*



large stand where all Krishnamurti books currently in print in many languages were displayed along with a full demonstration set-up for viewing the CD-ROM Krishnamurti data base. Publishers from 92 countries had similar displays of their new books. Contracts were arranged for forthcoming Krishnamurti books in many languages and contracts for earlier books were updated and renewed.

It was wonderful to be together in Germany with Ingrid Porter, Harsh Thanka, Juan Colell, Pedro Lopez, Jurgen Brandt, and Friedrich Grohe. We all represented the Foundations at the Buchmesse and some of us spent considerable time

canvassing for new publishers and additional outlets for the Krishnamurti literature and tapes. The former Brockwood student Olaf Hess was our technical man, available every day to rescue us when something computer-related failed. In a Frankfurter country hotel thirty minutes from the Buchmesse all of us collapsed at the end of twelve hour days on our feet.

It was worth the effort and expense to be at the fair because we met publishers with whom we had corresponded for decades and negotiated for contracts that would have been impossible to settle by mail. Thousands of pieces of Krishnamurti literature, publications catalogues, free books and flyers were distributed to publishers and book sellers; and while it will take months and perhaps years to see the results of these efforts, the Frankfurt Book Fair was a place where Krishnamurti's teachings had a long-overdue presence.

After the fair Jurgen Brandt and I went by train and car to the quiet and peaceful Haus Sonne, and from there we drove to Friedrich's classic chalet in Rougemont, Switzerland. Set in a village of chalets dating back two and three hundred years and near Saanen and Gstaad, Friedrich's beautiful retreat is a year around international gathering place for friends of Krishnamurti and staff from the Foundations and Schools. It was a blessing to stay there.

Mark Lee, November 1993

School Project and Curriculum Proposal

Louisa Simons and Paul Herder have been researching and actively exploring ways in which the educational approach presented in the Curriculum Proposal might be of interest to existing educational institutions.

Paul has spent three months in the USA visiting several schools and colleges there. He visited Ojai where he stayed with Ulrich Brugger and learned more about the new educational project Ulrich is developing there. He also met with Mark Lee from KFA in Ojai, and as a consequence of their discussions the Curriculum Proposal was copyrighted and sent to ten schools and professors selected and recommended by Mark. We look forward to fruitful feed-back and new connections as a result of this.

Louisa was at Buchillon for Kabir and Valli's visit in August during which there was much discussion about various educational projects proposed for India, and particularly for "Centre for Learning" in Bangalore. (These projects will be further explored and developed during the winter when Louisa, Paul and Jurgen

will be visiting India). During September Louisa was in England and as well as visiting several educational centres, had meetings with some of the educators with whom she had made contact at the Educational Conference attended in April. As a result of these meetings she has been invited to participate as a tutor on a new masters programme commencing in April 1994 at the University of East Anglia. The programme is titled “MA: Lifetime Learning and Development”, and should be an ideal forum for presenting and exploring further the three-armed approach outlined in the Curriculum Proposal: Thinking, Inquiry, and Creativity.

Currently Louisa is extending the “Creativity” component of the Curriculum Proposal from the theoretical into the practical, a project which synthesises her lifetime research and practical experience in this field.

Louisa Simons and Paul Herder, November 1993

Private Retreat Centre in Ojai for K-Friends

A beautiful and spacious four bedroom house has been rented in Ojai, California, to accomodate guests and friends interested in K’s teachings. Twice a month there are video showings and dialogues followed by a meal. Occasionally there are longer study programmes. Informal gatherings of friends interested in the teachings take place quite frequently at short notice.

From “Rancho Retreat “ it is a fifteen-minute drive to the Krishnamurti Library at Arya Vihara and a five-minute drive to Oak Grove School. The house is run by Ulrich Brugger and friends. As more and more people want to stay at this retreat centre, reservations are suggested.

Please write to:

Rancho Retreat
1060 Rancho Drive
Ojai, CA 93023
U.S.A.

Krishnamurti at Rishi Valley, 1967

Radha Sloss's book about her childhood memories with Krishnamurti has been disturbing for many people, although, since it was published after K's death, verification of the information contained in it is difficult or even impossible. Many felt a kind of betrayal when the book suggested that Krishnamurti had an intimate, sexual relationship as a younger man. I am re-printing an excerpt from the Second Public Discussion, 9 November 1967 at Rishi Valley which may be relevant (copyright KFA):

[Krishnamurti reading a question from the audience:] "Is marriage and sex excluded for a religious man? If so, why?"

Do you know? Are they excluded for you? You're supposed to be religious, aren't you?

[from audience:] We look to you.

Krishnamurti: Look to me? What for? *[laughter from audience]* To tell you – to tell you to marry or not to marry? To tell you that if you want to be a really religious man, you must not have sex? And if I did – if I was so foolish enough to tell you, and you were foolish enough to accept it, would you be ... *[audience responses]*...follow it, sir, to the very end; follow it to the very end. Would you have no sexual feelings at all?

[from the audience, apparently the one who wrote the question:] Sorry, sir, I didn't mean that. What I meant was: once again we have a concept looking at you, that to be truly religious is to have no marriage, and then all the rest that follows.

Krishnamurti: Which is, therefore you have an authority who is going to tell you – who tells you, "Don't marry; don't have sexual feelings. And if you want to reach the highest enlightenment, etcetera, you must be celibate." Are you? Haven't you all your desires, your sexual feelings? What do you mean by sexual feelings? Let's get at that, for god's sake. What do you mean by sexual feeling? To look at a woman? All the biological urges? And to look at a tree, is that not also sexuality? To look at a flower which has great beauty, that's a form of sensuality too, isn't it?

So if you deny – as most religions have denied – sexuality, then you must close your eyes, cut your tongue, put out your eyes, and never look at anything.

Don't laugh sir, this is what you're doing anyhow, because you are not aware of beauty at all. And to you beauty is associated with a woman or with a man. Therefore, the Shankaras of the world have said, "Don't have anything to do with women, if you want to be spiritual." And so you deny the whole beauty of the earth.

Have you ever stopped – you, you particular, each one of us – looked at a tree, looked at a flower? Have you ever looked at a woman or a man who is beautiful, and not said, "Well, I want to get something out of her." – just to look at the beauty of something? Of the hills, the trees, the flowers, the faces, the smiles? You have not, and therefore, you don't know what love is or beauty is. All that you know is: "You must not." and "You must." And so you have starved your heart and your mind. You are dehydrated human beings. And you smile and accept it and carry on.

So, sirs, the first thing is: not to condemn, and then you will know what love is.

J. Krishnamurti

Letters from Readers about these Newsletters

Mr. S. Takahashi, Tokyo, Japan:

"....We were especially interested in the letter to you from Bill Quinn....We hope your marvellous activities will continue as long as possible."

Mrs. Nancy Clayton, Wellington, New Zealand:

"...It is a joy to communicate with our extended family which is how I feel about the newsletter....Bill Quinn's letter gladdened me. I have not read Radha's book, but from what I heard I questioned her motive for writing and publishing it. If the facts are correct who are we with our limited understanding to judge them. In no way did it alter my approach to the teachings as apparently it has done for some..."

Reza Ganjavi, Los Angeles, USA:

"Thank you very much for the newsletter. I wished the arm was longer!"

Prof. R. Linssen, Institute of new Sciences and Philosophies, Brussels, wrote that the comments of Bill Quinn about the publication of the book by Radha have been tremendously helpful, since many people were initially very disturbed by the book.

Mumtaz Ali, principal of Neel Bagh School in India:

“Thank you very much for the copy of ‘The Splendour of California’. Quite a delightful little booklet I must say. I am especially thankful to you for publishing Bill Quinn’s letter to you regarding ‘Lives in the Shadow’. I wish it gets more publicity.”

Prof. Prafulla Kumar Rath, India:

“Many thanks for your newsletters. I have enjoyed them very much. They are like a fresh breeze and full of useful information for me.”

Sri K. Rajesekhar, Chief Conservator of Forests, India:

“In fact I have always been eagerly waiting for your newsletters. They are so nice and enchanting, and I am always delighted to go through them again and again.”

This newsletter was written in collaboration with Nick and Jurgen, and by TYPOAtelier Gerhard Brandt in Frankfurt. All photographs were taken by me. Whoever wants to reproduce extracts is welcome to do so, with the exception of re-printed letters. Anyone may obtain additional copies of this or previous newsletters free of charge by contacting me:

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