

SCOTTISH CENTRE FOR GEOPOETICS

affiliated to the International Institute of Geopoetics founded by Kenneth White in 1989

Newsletter 14

On Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 August at 8.30pm Kenneth White will be at the Edinburgh International Book Festival to launch two new books (Polygon).

The Wanderer and His Charts is a new essay book which lays out the practice of intellectual nomadism in White's first explorations and researches in Glasgow, includes essays written in the Pyrenees and in the north coast of Brittany, and proposes a cultural project for Scotland in his concept of geopoetics.

Across the Territories is a new waybook which takes us out on the road with White from the Orkneys to Polynesia via Scandinavia and the Baltic regions, the Iberian peninsula, the Atlas mountains, and North America.

It is best to book right away for these EIBF events since there are only a few tickets left.

On Monday 30 August at 7pm in the Hillhead Library, Byres Road Glasgow Kenneth White will also launch these two new books. To book tickets at £2 each write or e-mail Norman Bissell at the address below.

In June at the University of Paris 8 Kenneth White received the Édouard Glissant prize "for his openness to the cultures of the world" and five talks were given on his work. An interview with him and review of *Open World, Collected Poems 1960 – 2000* can be found on the Hi-Arts website (December 2003).

Orders continue to come in for *Geopoetics: place, culture, world* by Kenneth White, the first introduction to geopoetics in English, from our Alba Editions imprint, and we intend to publish later this year a book of papers given at the Forty Years of the White World conference at the University of St

July 2004

Andrews last October. A report of the conference is still available in *Markings* magazine which can be obtained from John Hudson at j.hudson@btinternet.com.

In April some of us took part in a "Patrick Geddes: the French Connection" conference in Edinburgh, and in June in the Imagine the Clyde sail to the Kyles of Bute on the *Waverley* (reports of discussions and photos are on the website imaginescotland.com). For further information about future conferences and exhibitions to celebrate 150 years since the birth of Geddes see: www.patrickgeddestrust.co.uk, www.ballaterscotland.com/geddes/index.htm, www.trp.dundee.ac.uk and www.cockburnassociation.org.uk.

At our June meeting we discussed our successful visit to the Isle of May in which 23 members and friends took part, and agreed that our Islands day, in conjunction with *island* magazine, should become an Islands weekend in May 2005, and should be held on either the Isle of Cumbrae in Ayrshire or the Isle of Luing in Argyll. Any suggestions about speakers, activities, preferences for which island, and expressions of interest in taking part would be most welcome.

It is hoped that a special geopoetics issue of *island* magazine will result from our Islands weekend.

We also agreed to organise the following **Autumn Events:**

Sunday 12 September at 2 pm Visit to Little Sparta: Ian Hamilton Finlay's Garden This famous garden of the Scottish poet and artist has been created in the Pentland Hills and contains a rich mixture of trees, plants, ponds, wild spaces and, in unexpected places, poems and sculpture.

Saturday 16 October at 10.30 am

Visit to the John Muir Way and Museum at Dunbar.

We will meet at the harbour and walk along the coast to the Geology Trail and lighthouse at Barns Ness and beyond, have lunch and hold our **Annual General Meeting** at the Hallhill Healthy Living Centre in Dunbar from 1.30 pm onwards, then visit the John Muir Birthplace Museum (see details on www.jmbt.org.uk).

If you intend to come to either of these events, it is essential to book a place no later than 2 weeks beforehand by contacting either Richard Browne, if coming from the east, or Norman Bissell, if coming from the west, at the addresses below. Travel directions and further information will be sent to those coming.

Subscriptions: New and Due Please send your name, postal and e-mail address with a cheque for £10/£5 concessions, payable to the Scottish Centre for Geopoetics, to the treasurer, Richard Browne, at the address below. **All annual subscriptions are now due unless paid since July 2003.**

Contacts:

Norman Bissell, director, 340 Lincoln Avenue Glasgow G13 3LP tel. 0141 959 6033 or at norman@rbissell.fsnet.co.uk

Simon Ross, secretary, 14 Union Street Stonehouse ML9 3LF tel. 01698 792283 or at rosssim73@yahoo.co.uk

Richard Browne, treasurer, Main Point Books, 8 Lauriston Street Edinburgh EH3 9DJ tel. 0131 228 4837 or at jennie@essbc.demon.co.uk

Previous Newsletters and links can be found on the *International Institute of Geopoetics website*: www.geopoetique.net. Please copy this Newsletter to those whom you think may be interested.

Special Offer to Members

The following books by Kenneth White are available to Scottish Centre for Geopoetics members at our events and by post at a special discount (including post and packing):

Geopoetics : place, culture, world at £5 cf. £6

Coast to Coast, Interviews and Conversations at £6 cf. £7.95

Orders and cheques payable to the Scottish Centre for Geopoetics should be sent to Norman Bissell at the address below.