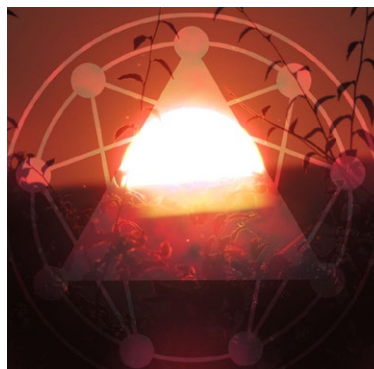
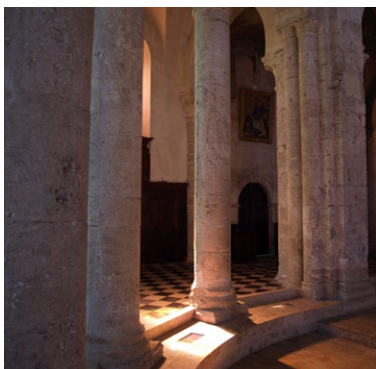




The Call of the Soul

An introduction to the work of the Silent Eye School of Consciousness

Have you wanted to wake up to a world in which you feel you really belong? A world where your experience of life makes perfect sense and you greet each day with both fulfilment and purpose?
A world that recognises your unique beauty... and offers you its own?





A Modern Mystery School

“Your task is not to seek
for love, but merely to seek
and find all the barriers
within yourself that you
have built against it.”

Rumi

‘A Modern Mystery School’ - It’s a simple statement, but it carries a powerful intent and a history of delivery with it.

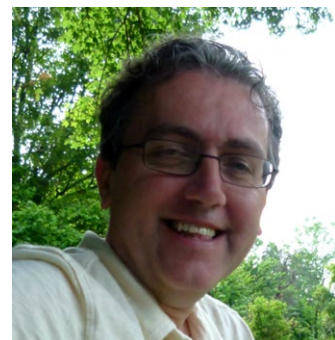
In 2013 three people, Steve Tanham, Sue Vincent and Stuart France came together after decades of service to other mystical and magical organisations to create the Silent Eye School of Consciousness - choosing to establish it as a not-for-profit organisation, letting it stand on the strength of what it taught and the open-hearted way it shared its experience.

They believed it was time to create a new path - a synthesis of modern and traditional spiritual development that would speak across the generations to many seeking greater clarity and straightforwardness of language and approach, while losing nothing of its ancient sacredness.

The Mysteries are considered traditional, but what they address is timeless. Its essence is here and now, in this very second and therefore throughout your everyday experience. This magical ‘now’ is in your eyes - always fresh and full of vitality; but interpreted by our minds into limiting concepts and beliefs that have been growing within our personalities since childhood.

The ancient knowledge of the Self has always been with us. It has been guarded well by the Mystery Schools; but there have emerged powerful new techniques to help us to bridge the gap between our everyday experience and the edge of that exciting and vivid spiritual world, which simply lies beyond the barriers we have all built for ourselves.

The Silent Eye’s approach will nurture and develop your ability to dissolve those barriers. We will invest our time in you; all we ask is that, in return, you invest your time in yourself.



Life seen as a river of consciousness



When we stop to think about ourselves, we can compare our lives to a river, flowing through time and events, from which we collect, and come to identify with, the memories of good and bad things. This collection of mental and emotional self-portraits becomes our own self-image - the way we have learned to portray ourselves to the world. We are what we believe.

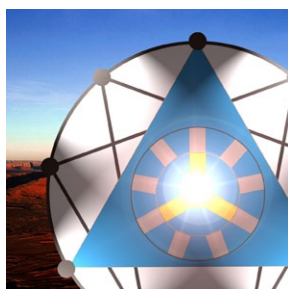
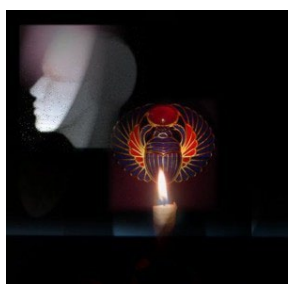
Over time, the brightness of mind and heart that we had as children becomes 'clouded over' by an increasingly fixed way of looking at the world - and the likelihood of it hurting or disappointing us, again.

This 'clouding' affects us all so much that we forget how the bright and supporting world actually looks - yet this personal history is not a necessary piece of baggage to carry around. It has been grown by our reactions to our experience; some of them impacting us at a very early stage in our development and becoming formative.

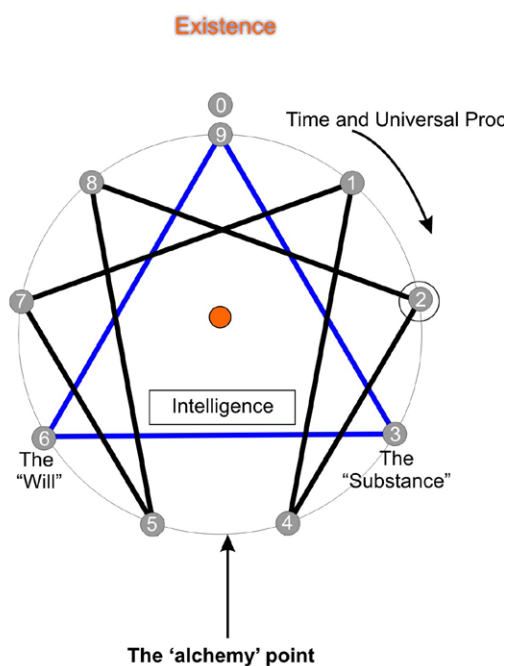
We have the power, gradually, and safely, to remove these 'lenses' that cloud our inner vision of that beautiful life.

The past fifty years have seen remarkable advances in what is known as 'Esoteric Psychology'. Don't be put off by the academic-sounding label; the methods of this new form of personal development rely on learning by a sharing of experience; a desire to regain our bright, spiritual world.

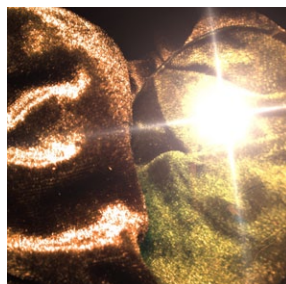
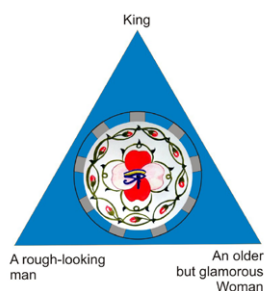
One of the most powerful techniques of esoteric psychology comes from the magical world of 'pathworking' - the ability of the mind to make real an inner, meditative journey, constructed according to traditional principles. The Silent Eye combines this with extensive use of the magical enneagram.



Three journeys around the enneagram



One of many variants of The enneagram - a symbol with a vast depth of meaning and guidance for the mind and heart of mankind.



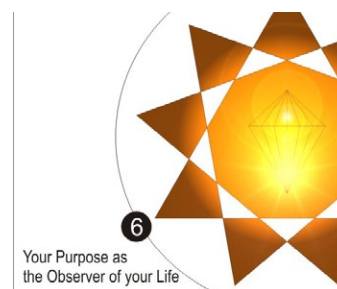
The real and transformative journey does not take place within a symbol - no matter how potent; it takes place within that invisible collection of thoughts and feelings that we call our Self.

But the right symbol can help to provide us with a map to that common journey we all must face - if we are truly to find what is already within us. The spiritual has never been far away from our lives, it is simply lost from sight, like a wonderful vista just over that hillside whose paths we no longer tread. The analogy is a good one, for we need physical, mental and emotional focus to remove what is stopping us being right at the centre of a loving, supporting and challenging world - one constructed by our soul especially for our awakening.

There are deep mysteries here, and an outline document like this is not the place to explore them - that is the purpose of the three-year course which is the main teaching vehicle for the Silent Eye School. We will come to that in the next section. For now, let us introduce the enneagram, our map, across three different realms, for our three-year journey of self-discovery.

This enigmatic symbol was brought to the west in the early years of the last century by the philosopher Gurdjieff. Originally, its application was only taught orally, but recent interest in its insights has opened up deeper knowledge of its potential - and widened how it is applied so that we can now use it to map out human consciousness - our own.

Employing it in this way, and, as long as we are prepared to be honest about our strengths and those parts of us that are not so strong, we can cast what we know of our 'selves' into its structure and have revealed to us the start of the way back to our birthright. That path is not something that we have to find outside of ourselves - it is right here, in this moment, in the soul that is reading this line.



The desert of self-honesty?

Schools of the Mysteries will often begin their introductions with what they need from their students. These attributes might include diligence and hard work. These are, of course, important to any such endeavour, but, for us, the most important characteristic is something else.

To start with, we do not have students, we have Companions. This subtle contrast is not trivial; it is part of an approach to teaching that is centred on a different relationship between 'teacher' and 'pupil'. We don't have either . . . what we have is a developing relationship and a shared journey.

Each person working with us is considered a Companion on a journey we are all taking together. Being human and compassionate is the heart of our approach. It is, after all, your journey. It could never belong to anyone else, since its substance, the inner material of the real you, which is transformed by the journey's alchemy, is what makes up your Self.

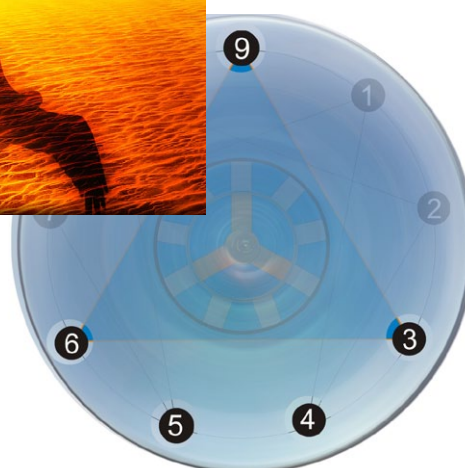
The one condition that makes your progress possible is your degree of self-honesty. We all think we have it; but that tricky ego we all share can hide behind all sorts of screens, keeping its control of our lives by some very devious methods. We don't ask that you are already completely self-honest, the course will show you how hard that can be; but we do ask that such self-honesty is your goal.

We can assure you that you will be tested by the mystical adventures you will have in your own life whilst on this path - but such testing is the essence of personal transformation, and confirms that we are doing something real with ourselves.

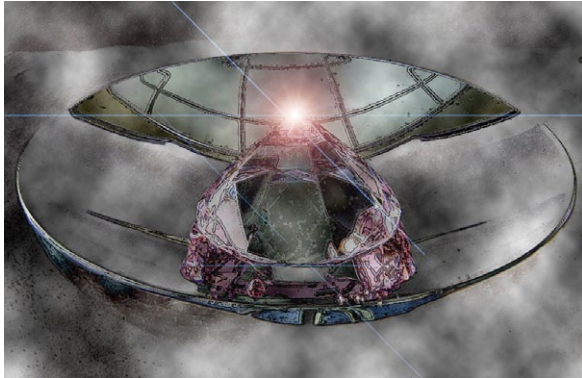
Many seek such challenges; some are surprised when the inner response reaches out to embrace their lives . . .



“The teacher doesn’t teach, not really. The teacher offers stimulation and ways in which the person can educate himself or herself. At best the teacher wakes up that person and makes them hungry”
-Murray Louis-



The three-year journey of the Soul



The primary offering of the Silent Eye School is the three-year 'Call of the Soul' correspondence course.

The course is studied as monthly lessons sent as email attachments in PDF format. Each Companion is assigned a personal Supervisor at the start of their work with the School. Brief, daily journals are kept as the Work progresses, these are summarised and sent to the Supervisor at the end of each week as an email. Daily practice is part of the mutual undertaking - though we understand the pressures of modern life, and your best endeavours are all we can ask. Please bear in mind that our Supervisors are working on a voluntary basis, to help other Companions. They are not paid for their work; our monthly lesson charges are set as low as we can, just to cover the costs of production, nothing else - and these, purchased each month, are your only commitment.



As the course progresses, it deals with deeper parts of the Self. The first year's work - the twelve lessons forming 'The Land of the Exiles' - addresses the seldom asked question 'Who am I?'

The Enneagram is introduced as a basis for our self-discovery. We share a journey through a desert landscape, where we soon meet a mysterious guide, an important aspect of our Soul; one whose role is both to protect and challenge us, often in ways we don't expect. The journey passes us from one encounter to the next, as we meet, in guided meditations and exercises that extend into our daily life, the nine different characters who are the occupants of this desert land. They are psychological archetypes which will affect each person in different ways. We will each discover a pattern of identification with the Exiles. This pattern will be unique to each of us and becomes our 'outer signature' in this Work - but our inner signature is a very different thing . . .

At the end of the first year, we will have both map and knowledge of our inner anatomy. We will be able to make an informed decision as to how the constellation of these archetypes relates to our ego, our personality, and the glimmerings of our soul, awakening to our efforts and empowering us in ways we had never considered.

Each lesson comprises, typically, 15-20 pages, illustrated and laid out in similar style to this document. The lessons are divided between the guided journeys, corresponding theory, and exercises to allow you to deepen your knowledge and check your own progress.

The magical journal, or diary, is a time-honoured way of directing our approach to the spiritual life. Electronic or paper, its daily use to record our experiences helps us make a habit out of regular and deeper observation, and enables us to see, in perspective, what has been gained or struggled with during that period. Keeping the daily journal makes it easier to do the end of week summary to the Supervisor.

This discipline increases the level of self-awareness, which is essential if we are to allow the inner forces to work in our everyday lives. They have the power, but we need to show determined application for them to gauge and value our intent.

Intent is everything . . .

The Land of the Exiles (1st Degree)

The Land of the Exiles comprises the first twelve lessons of the Silent Eye's three year programme - the First Degree.

We can only begin a journey from where we are, now . . . This sounds trite, but is an essential consideration if that journey is to be real and not a fantasy. Fantasy abounds in the world of esoteric teaching. It can make people feel happy and powerful - but it does nothing to provide us with real and personal power in our lives. Sadly, we can all be susceptible to a little self-deception, preferring the comfortable rather than the true. This may sound harsh, but it is vitally important to set out with the goal of the truth in mind. The truth is the only home of the power which transforms . . .

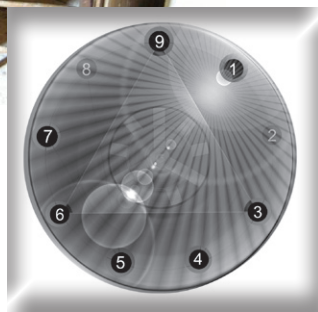
The first year provides practical techniques for self-investigation; but is centred (for this, really, is a path of the heart) on an emotional 'desert' journey in the form of a continuous Guided Meditation. On this colourful path we meet the Nine figures - archetypes from esoteric psychology - which form the outer layer of our everyday Self. Interactions with these nine are not passive - they will expect much from you, too. The Nine, like all good archetypes, are really magical living images. They hold all the characteristics that are formed, from childhood onward, in the outer layer of our souls, in response to the joys, fears, angers, and sadnesses we encounter; and the way we have, and



continue to, react to them. They also contain all the skills and true achievements that now belong to you, earned as you came to terms with your adult world, and found your place in it. These are precious and will survive any fire of personal transformation resulting from dealing with those aspects of us that this journey will show are holding us back.

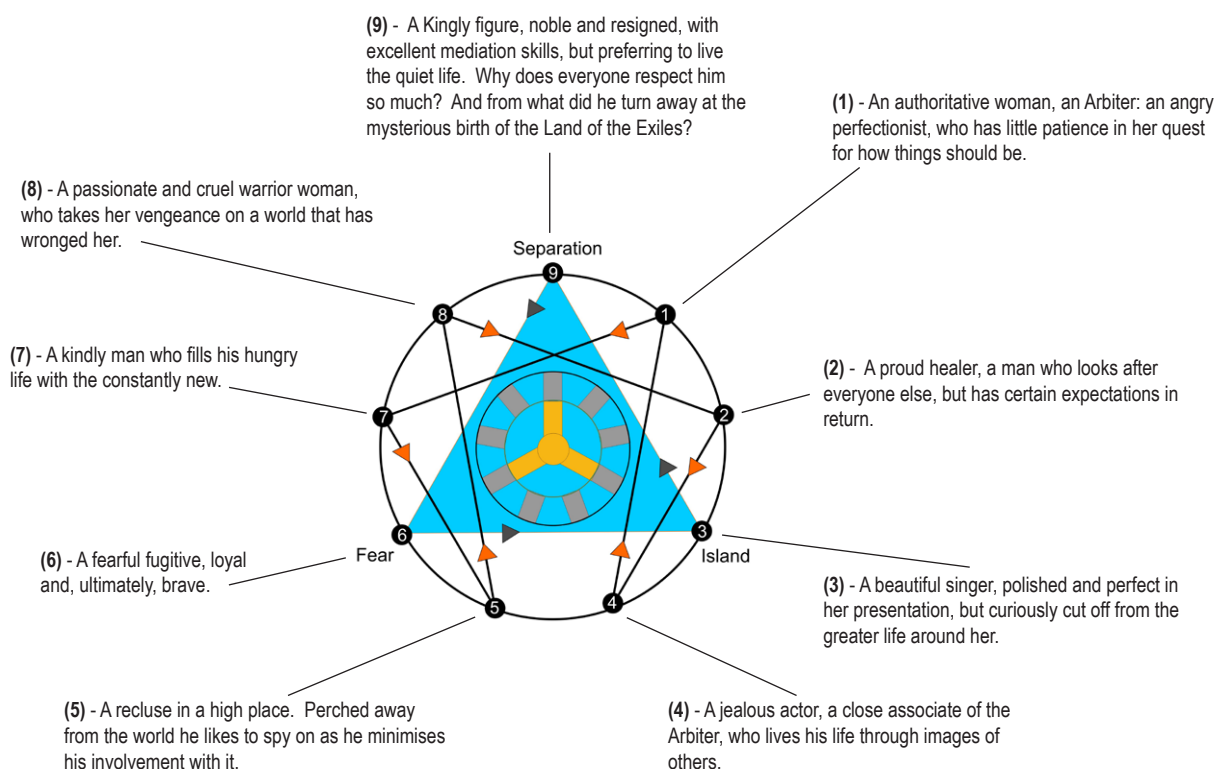
The esoteric paths have always begun this way. Their language may have been different, but the goal was, and is, the same: the spiritual is present and potent, but hidden. It is veiled by the accumulated weight of emotional memory, which has become a consolidated 'suit of armour', forged from a lifetime of reactions. Living and working with the Exiles, we begin to learn the differences between the pervasive habits of reaction and the very silent, and much more powerful, realm of true action.

A special space is built within us - the Chamber of Silence. At the end of this first year, you will be focussed on what really matters to you. You will know yourself much better. You will also have made an inner friend - a guide who will be with you for life, if you wish, even if this figure does seem to challenge you a lot . . .



The Exiles . . . and you?

A constellation of players, all arranged to bring you face to face with the outer aspects of your psyche. They will reveal to you the emotional, physical and intellectual parts of your being - and let you explore what should be happening inside your life.



Years two and three?



We can only say a little about the second and third years of the Silent Eye's correspondence course. The further journeys follow the same learning process, moving deeper into the Companion's Emotional Centre, as we open our hearts to what is being revealed in our lives, and in the very landscape of our existence.

With an opened heart, and a growing sense of our place in our world, the Companion comes to form a very different relationship with their life. No longer is it seen as a series of random events, to which they have to react as in a computer game. Instead; it is appreciated as a living and intelligent stream of evolution, whose focus is themselves - or rather, the higher Self towards which we all work.

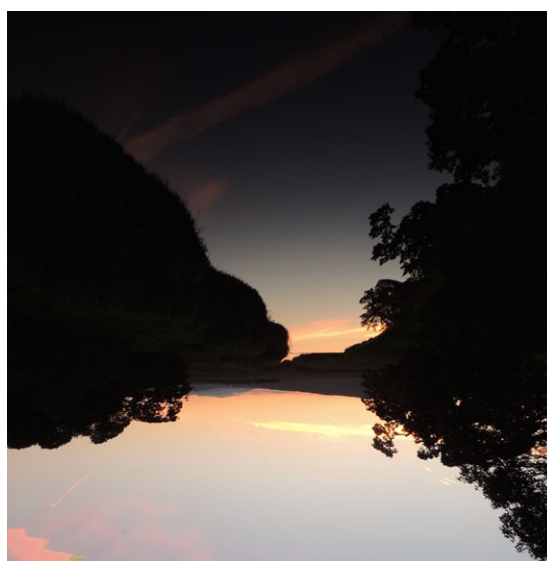
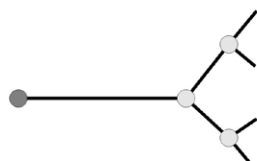


Year two is entitled, "The Shallow Sea"; year three, "Nine Gates of the Sun". The content belongs only to those who graduate, successfully, from the work of the first twelve months. We hope you will join the School and progress to be in their company.

The Silent Eye teachings are a vivid and coherent synthesis of Gurdjieffian in-life work, alchemical symbolism, and magical meditations; all set within a secure and modern framework of esoteric psychology. The second degree work, within the realm of The Shallow Sea, brings this tapestry to the service of the heart.

Mind and heart brought into harmonic purpose.

The ancient components of the path of self-illumination are woven into a landscape with very different laws to that of the desert



From Learning to Being



Above - some of the attendees from the River of the Sun Egyptian workshop in April 2015.

Below, some explanations about ancient sacred thinking being given from behind the Wayland Stone at Wayland's Smithy.



LEAF AND FLAME:

THE FOLIATE MAN

The 2016 Silent Eye April Workshop will look at some of the esoteric aspects of the Arthurian and Grail myths...

By developing the stories of Gawain and the Green Knight, and Lady Ragnall we will explore what it means to be fully human and fully divine.



Residential weekend workshop,
fully catered,



The intent of the Silent Eye is to provide learning through experience.

Four times a year, as close to the Solstice and Equinox points as we can practically make them, we host a cycle of gatherings that reflect the spiritual seasons.

The annual workshop, held in Derbyshire in the second half of April, is the main event of the year. This takes place on a Spring weekend and involves all those attending in a five-act ritual drama, based on the School's teaching programme. Everyone plays a dramatic role for the whole series of (scripted) episodes, coming to live out their parts with increasing intensity. Fun and relaxation are important, too. The Queen Anne pub is conveniently located next to the conference centre for winding down such busy and creative days.

For the Summer Solstice weekend, we meet in a landscape in which we can be close to nature at that beautiful energy high-point of the solar year. For 2015 the location was based around the village of Avebury, home of one of Europe's best-known stone circles.

Autumn sees our return to another mellow set of hills, for the Harvest of Being weekend, where strange challenges have been issued, such as an assisted crossing of a set of river stepping stones; blindfold; - an example of an exercise in trust . . . and faith.

For early December we hold a pre-Solstice gathering to mark the moment when life on Earth 'stops' for a second, as the darkness reaches its maximum and the heart of Mankind is stilled for a second - before the new year of light begins its long ascent.

All the events can be found, with booking forms, on our website at: www.thesilenteye.co.uk Come and join us - it's a really good way to meet!

Left: Leaf and Flame, the Silent Eye's Spring 2016 main workshop, which will use the Arthurian stories of Sir Gawain and Lady Ragnell to involve us all in a dramatic story of life, death and initiation . . . Everyone is welcome - click the link below for more

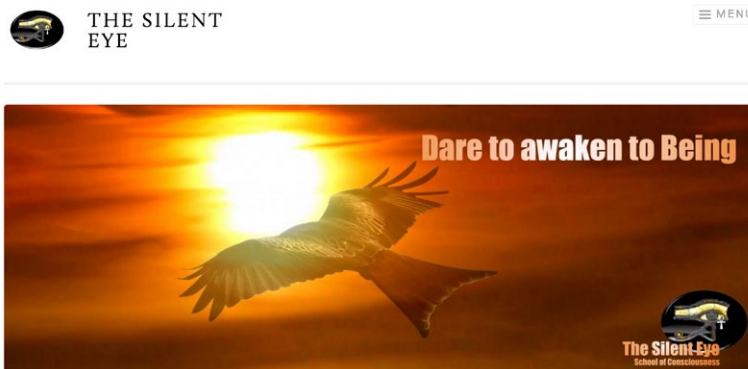
<http://thesilenteye.co.uk/events/leaf-and-flame-the-foliolate-man-workshop-april-2016/>

Reaching out - across geographies

We know the spiritual journey can be isolating. Only a few people share the dedication that the path requires. The School has students from across the world, some of whom live far away from the support and friendship of like-minded people. This is why we took a decision to use social media to create a feeling of community where fellow Companions can meet.

You may have already visited the Silent Eye's website (www.thesilenteye.co.uk). If not, you will find a wealth of information on the School there. You will also see how much we value communication and openness. Below, you will find a chart of how the three directors of the School communicate their collective and personal views about their chosen subjects. Each of us provides input to the Silent Eye website. In addition we each have our own blogs, and Facebook is also used for general updates. Sue and Stuart are prolific authors whose joint works can be found at: <http://www.franceandvincent.com/>

Sue Vincent has overall editorial control of the School's website and publishing via the Silent Eye Press.



Sue Vincent
Director of Supervision



Blog: (Wordpress)
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Director of Teaching



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These links should open in the PDF. If not, please paste them into your browser.