



The Henry Williamson Society

STUDY DAY, 3 MARCH 2018

Swedenborg Hall, Barter Street, Holborn, London

'All things linked are' (Francis Thompson)

An examination of that extra dimension, that visionary quality, those rather mystical threads, that sense of spirituality, which underpins much of HW's writing. It is rather an abstract quality and has many aspects and different meanings for each of us as individuals: a broad subject with room for many interpretations and perspectives. In general, it includes a sense of connection to something 'other', something bigger than ourselves (that possibly epitomises 'Romanticism?'). The roots of this many-branched tree lie mainly with Richard Jefferies and Francis Thompson but have many other manifestations. It is an aspect that has not really been previously fully examined, but I think that it is something that we all recognise, and all of us who read HW probably find that quality in some form inherent in his work.

Programme:

10.15 Arrival – Coffee

10.55 Welcome by the Chairman

11.00 **'A Medium in the Spirit of Life'** (HW in 'Some Notes on *The Flax of Dream . . .*'): **Some thoughts on 'visionary' influences in the writing of Henry Williamson**, by *Anne Williamson*

12.00 **'A Revelation of Truth?': Further Reflections on *The Star-born***, by *Tony Boakes*

13.00 LUNCH – either bring your own sandwiches, or there are shops and cafés close by

14.00 **'I am in Eternity now': Some brief notes on Richard Jefferies**, by *Anne Williamson*

14.30 **'From the floor':**

This gives you all an opportunity for some input. Even if you do not plan to come to the meeting you might like to contribute your own ideas and thoughts on the subject, perhaps with examples from HW's books. If you put them in writing and send to me (details below) they can be read out by a committee member as part of the discussions. We are really hoping for a tremendous response, so please send your thoughts and contributions well before the end of February 2018 to:

Anne Williamson, Keepers, West Dean Woods, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0RU
Email: annawatwork@gmail.com

15.30 TEA

16.00 Continue discussion?

This meeting will be followed up by a visit to 'Jefferies Country' for our Spring Meeting on 11–12 May, at which there will be some input also from the Richard Jefferies Society.

There is a charge of £10 for the day, payable at the door. To give us an indication of expected numbers, if you plan to attend would you please either write to, or email:

Janet Harris, 46 Brambledown Road, Wallington, SM6 0TF Email: wjh@blueyonder.co.uk