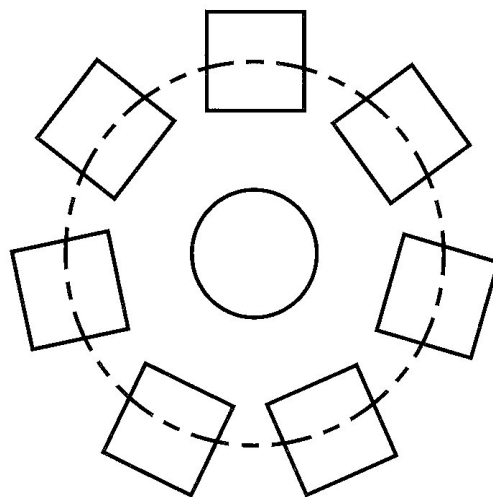


# Group-Analytic Contexts

MARCH 2006

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International Newsletter of

**THE GROUP-ANALYTIC SOCIETY**

Editor: Tom Ormay

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## Editorial

At the time of the 2006 March issue of Contexts the change continues. Or I might want to say with it, because we, Contexts, have not been mere observers in the process. Apart from marking some of the change by a new format, we closely followed some of the events of the last years. Nor are changes constrained to the group analytic movement. Globalisation, the word became cliché even before it actually happened, is with us, but even if we look into the last issue, we find Volcan's treatment of large groups, in a historical or political context. Is last year's politics history, or when does history begin? At any rate, it is exciting to be in the centre of events, and the present issue only reinforces the trend. This time we do not have a long paper, we do not have the space for one. So much is happening or going to happen in this year, that it is quite enough just to witness.

Gerda Winter our president tells us about some of it, including our workshop in Lisbon, then the oncoming Foulkes Lecture and Study Day. More about them later. You will find an unusual number of advertisements in this issue. And if you are allergic to advertisement, as I am, you might lose your enthusiasm right now. But, as I was taught in my university years, when I was still able to listen, the primary function of an advertisement is to provide information. Let us stay with that.

We are told that the next Foulkes lecture will be on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> of May at 8. p.m. given by Victor L. Schermer on Group Analysis and Spirituality. It will be followed by a Study Day as usual, and we hope many of you will attend. Following the above advert, Trevor Mumby gives us his thoughts in advance. He is full of expectations and is quite able to raise ours.

Next we can read that the Editorial Committee of the Journal of Group Analysis is seeking applications from interested GAS or potential GAS members for the role of Editor of the Journal. The Journal of Group Analysis is pre-eminent in the field of clinical and applied group-analytic psychotherapy. All this follows Malcolm Pines' resignation, he has been the Editor for more than 12 years, and during that time made it very difficult to follow him by who ever he or she is going to be.

Kevin Power writes about his far away visit: "Kiev! The Great Gate of Kiev - Mussorgsky's booming theme! and now an invitation to read a paper on large groups and then to convene a further workshop on them! This came to me early in 2005", he lets us know. He tells us about it as a large group experience.

### *1.1.1 The IGA gives information of their series of six workshops on the theme of social disintegration beginning on January 28<sup>th</sup> 2006. The series goes on until June, one in a month.*

Then we have Kevin Power again, this time in: "Molde: mountains, sea, fjord, a town deliberately re-built in a neutral style after destruction in 1940 - this is truthful about its aim compared with much of European re-building that promised a hundred new Athens yet provided a hundred vast slums. My subject concerning the Molde Symposium of 2006 is the large group sessions." He obviously likes large groups, and has the gift to make us like them too.

We are told about a Leadership Retreat workshop in May in Umbria.

There will be another workshop called Breaking the Silence, in Germany in August. This series of workshops is becoming a regular annual event.

The Lithuanian Group Analytic Society is going to have a workshop in July.

Gregory van der Kleij died on May 28<sup>th</sup>, last year. We are having an obituary.

The European Association of Transcultural Group Analysis

is pleased to announce its forthcoming transcultural workshop, to celebrate its 20th Anniversary, in May. I hope we shall have the time to go to all these workshops this year. Then we have a workshop and a series of workshops advertised by Group Analysis North. We are going to have a busy year. I hope you can join in.

Tom Ormay  
Editor

## **President's Page**

12-15 January this year, the 34th Winter Workshop "Group Analysis Today: Concepts and Preconceptions" took place in Lisbon, Portugal chaired by Isaura Manso Neto. It was an extremely interesting and stimulating event from all points of view scientifically, experientially and socially. Around 60 people had signed up. Regrettably only 10 from countries outside Portugal, which was a disappointment to the Portuguese especially because only two participants came from Great Britain. This was probably due to the late announcement, which I think GAS, London has to take on its shoulders. On the other hand it gave us the foreigners a special opportunity to meet a substantial part of the Portuguese Group Analytic Society. And what we took back home was the impression of a group of people who were very well organised very well trained and with a deep commitment to group analysis and what was also remarkable with a large number of young people.

The next event to take place is the Foulkes Lecture and Study Day 19-20 May. Apart from it being a yearly tradition to celebrate Foulkes' work it is also an occasion to listen to outstanding presenters to be inspired and to meet old and new friends and colleagues. The second announcement is now on the website and in this issue and I strongly recommend you to study it and to sign up. I hope to see as many as possible at this event.

The first steps in rethinking the structure and organisation of the Group Analytic Society has been taken. In the near future the Management Committee is going to meet with representatives from EGATIN and EFPP in order to have some introductory talks about a future structure that will better meet the needs of the members from the different organisations. But also IAGP which has a group analytic section should be included in these hopefully ongoing discussions as soon as possible.

In Molde Norway I expressed my wish to improve the basic relations to IGA, London. With this purpose representatives from IGA and GAS have had a fruitful meeting and is going to have another one in the near future. We have not yet any concrete plans, but are exchanging thoughts and ideas and at the same time getting to know each other.

The website and Forum are now working and I hope the membership will use it more and more to get information and to have some fruitful exchanges over the theory and practice of group analysis.

I am sorry to have to inform you that the next Symposium is not going to take place in Slovenia as announced in Molde, Norway. For reasons we don't know the Slovenians have declined to arrange it. They truly regret and excuse this. I think they have taken an insightful and difficult decision at a time when it should still be possible to find another site. It puts however the Group Analytic Society in a not too easy situation, which we are trying to solve at the moment. We still have no definitive solution as to where else to go, but hope of course to have it as soon as possible.

Malcolm Pines' retirement, which has been pending for some time, is now a fact. From 1 January 2006 he has retired from the post of Editor of the Journal of Group Analysis and Tom Ormay one of the associate editors has taken over from the same date and is now interim editor for the next year.

With the retirement of Malcolm Pines an era is over. The contribution of Malcolm to the Journal and to group analysis is outstanding. It is very much to his merit that the Journal today is widely known and recognised in the academic world. The Group Analytic Society wants to thank him for this truly big achievement. And also a thank to Tom Ormay for taking on the Interim editorship.

In this issue you will find an advertisement for a new editor an important and central job that hopefully appeals to many interested applicants, who want to be instrumental in consolidating and further developing the theory and practice of group analysis.

As a Dane and as your president I want to tell how I see the present political situation caused by the Mohammed drawings that were published in a Danish newspaper, Jyllandsposten, four months ago. It has completely turned over the Danes usual picture of themselves as peacemakers. It is totally surrealistic. In my opinion the publication of these cartoons was a stupid and unnecessary act of provocation that has nothing to do with freedom of the press, which does not however excuse the violence that followed. What made the conflict escalate I think was the Primeminister's refusal to accept a wish from a group of Moslem ambassadors to meet with him to sort things out. His stubborn refusal to do that insulted them deeply and from then on the conflict was out of control.

On a larger scale it has been extremely interesting to read again Vamik D. Volkan's article Large-Group Identity, Large-Group Regression and Massive violence and Earl Hopper's response to Vamik Volkan in the December 2005 Issue of Contexts. These two papers explain in a very clear way the dynamics of what is going on for the moment and show how important large group psychology is in the modern world where information and rumours can be spread to an enormous amount of people in seconds.

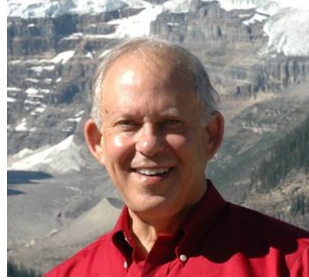
Gerda Winther

**The 30th S.H. Foulkes Annual Lecture, 2006**

**GROUP ANALYSIS AND SPIRITUALITY**

will be delivered by

**Victor L. Schermer**



***“The spirit survives even though ‘swallowed-up’ by life’s conflicts - but  
you have to listen very carefully for its muted sound”***

(Schermer, Spirit and Psyche)

on **Friday 19 May 2006 at 8:00pm**

AT SOUTH HAMPSTEAD HIGH SCHOOL

3 Maresfield Gardens

London NW3

(nearest Tube Station, Swiss Cottage or Finchley Road)

(Free Parking nearby from 6.30pm)

[View Map](#)

**Victor L. Schermer** ([www.philopsych.com](http://www.philopsych.com)) is a psychologist, psychoanalytic therapist, and certified group psychotherapist in private practice and clinic settings in Philadelphia, PA. He is Executive Director of the Study Group for Contemporary Psychoanalytic Process and Founding Director of the Institute for the Study of Human Conflict. He is a Faculty Member of the Institute for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapies.

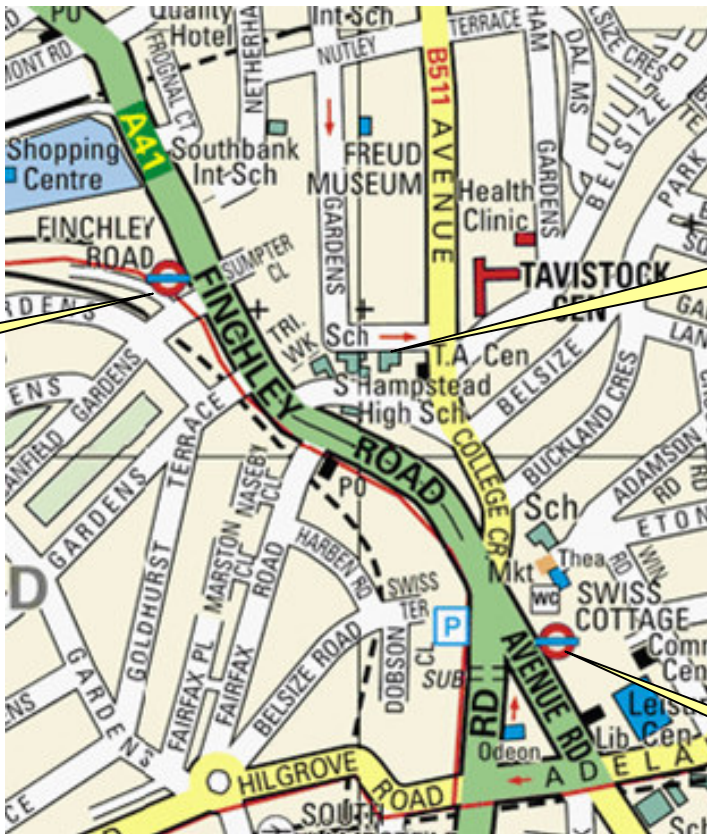
**Respondent:  
Victoria Graham Fuller**

Victoria Graham Fuller is a Jungian analyst in private practice in London. She has taught and supervised individuals and groups in a number of training institutions as well as the NHS. She has contributed to several books and journals and has recently published, with Hazel Robinson, *Understanding Narcissism in Clinical Practice* (SAP Monograph Series, Karnac, 2003). She is currently serving as Chair of Council for the Institute of Group Analysis

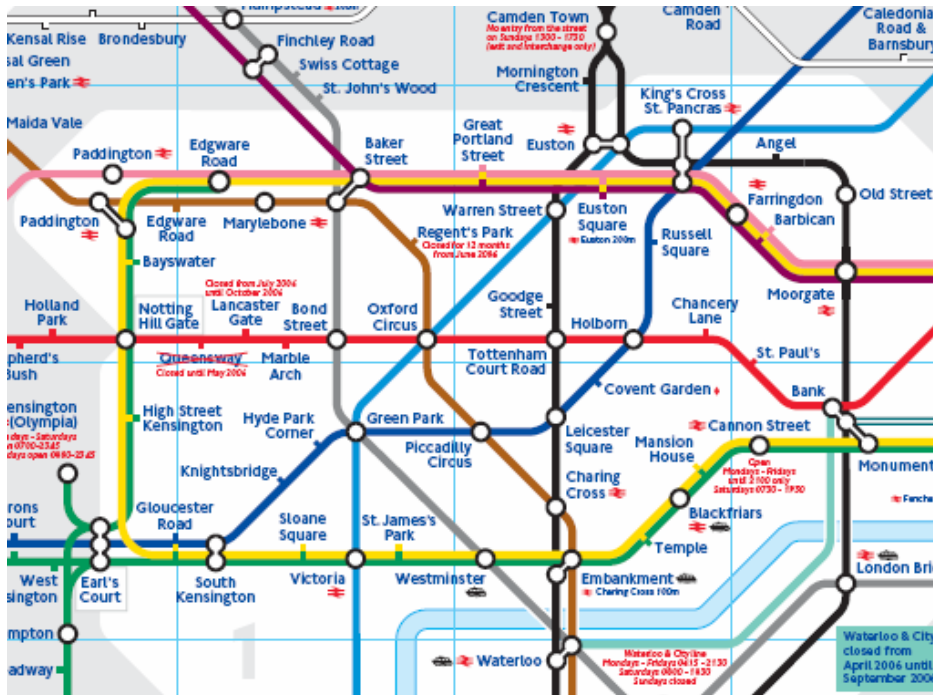
Vic is co-author of *Object Relations, the Self, and the Group* and co-editor of *Ring of Fire* and *Group Psychotherapy of the Psychoses*. His latest book is ***Spirit and Psyche***.

Vic's interest in spirituality as it relates to treatment was spurred by his clinical experience with the treatment of addictions and psychological trauma. It also stems from the writings of Jung and Bion as they related to psychoanalysis and group analysis.

# DIRECTIONS



# LONDON UNDERGROUND (CENTRAL)





### Foulkes Lecture and Study Day.

This year promises to produce really challenging debate and a stimulating Study Day.

We have promoted Vic Schermer's book on the website and will have copies available on the night. I would encourage you to find a copy somewhere. He really asks some fundamental questions about the psychotherapeutic process and especially the practitioner's goals and objectives.

What is the most powerful reason for taking on the task of enabling people to recover some clarity of thought and purpose for their lives?

Is there is sense of spiritual reawakening in the process?

Do therapists even start from the baseline which would develop such reawakening?

My very long time in the work brings back many memories which remind me that it is all too easy to forget that "I came to clear the swamp when I am surrounded by alligators at the time."

Are we representing a professional discipline which represents perennial values or have we forgotten, in the survival game to achieve fame and fortune? Of course they can be combined successfully. It does no harm to ask the question!

I am looking forwarded immensely to hear people's views and think we have been very fortunate to acquire respondents of such a high caliber.

I hope we can explore some of the issues around why we are doing our work and whether we give it enough credence as a powerful profession in the alleviation of conflict and distress?

As our President mentions, there is a global network in GAS now. We can gain immense satisfaction that our growth has developed in such way.

Asking WHY we do what we do and ARE we doing things to have a global influence should be questions we explore.

I have a very deep sense of satisfaction about our Foulkes Week end this year. We have brilliant staff members and a topic which would have brought a smile to Michael Foulke's face.

See you in London!  
Trevor Mumby

**Group-Analytic Society (London)**  
**102 Belsize Lane, London NW3 5BB**

The Editorial Committee of the Journal of Group Analysis is seeking applications from interested GAS or potential GAS members for the role of Editor of the Journal.

The Journal of Group Analysis is pre-eminent in the field of clinical and applied group-analytic psychotherapy.

The Editor chairs the meetings of the Editorial Committee whose responsibilities include:

1. Receiving submitted articles and choosing appropriate reviewers.
2. Stimulating new copy by creating "special issues" and finding suitable guest editors.
3. Meeting with the Editorial Committee up to four times each year and reviewing the progress of the journal, looking at "copy in hand", and together selecting articles which will make for a balanced issue.
4. Working closely with the Executive Editor (currently Ben Davidson) who handles aspects of the relationship with the publisher Sage, and thereby relieves the editor of this task.
5. Working closely with the assistant editor, Maureen Spurgeon, who has extensive experience in journalism and who liaises on a regular basis with Sage, ensuring that papers are well presented before handing them on to the publishers.
6. Working closely with the Books Review Editor (currently Martin Weegman) and Associate Editors when necessary

The Editor is not given a salary, but there is a contribution to expenses incurred in carrying out the role.

The Editor is an ex-officio member of the Management Committee of the Group-Analytic Society

Initial enquiries can be addressed to Kevin Power (+44 01227 731 981) or Gerda Winther (+45 35 55 0916) or Jane Campbell (+44 01865 735 519)

Applications should include a CV and a letter outlining reasons for seeking this honorary post.

Applications should be addressed to: The President, Group-Analytic Society, 102 Belsize Lane, London NW3 5BB.

This information can also be sent by email to : [groupanalytic.society@virgin.net](mailto:groupanalytic.society@virgin.net)

**The deadline for applications is 15<sup>th</sup> April 2006.**

## **A Large Group Visit in Kiev - Kiev, April 15-17<sup>th</sup> 2005**

Kiev! The Great Gate of Kiev - Mussorgsky's booming theme! and now an invitation to read a paper on large groups and then to convene a further workshop on them! This came to

me early in 2005. I took up the invitation gladly, never imagining I would ever travel that way. The invitation came from the clinic as well as the Psychology department of the Kiev University at which Dr Alexandra Khemelvskaia taught. I was told that there would be about 60 participants including the staff of the day and residential clinic for mental health.

I began my journey at the Ukrainian embassy in Notting Hill, London, a throw back to a heavily male world of queuing construction workers, most wearing leather jackets of a wide range of ages, with bushy moustaches and dark bristly hair. The desk officials wore faces without expression. Many people crowded into this small room waiting for visas for their return home. I had learnt only just in time that I did indeed need a visa.

Alexandra was at the airport to meet me, with a driver who took me back to the city. Kiev is a vast metropolis. We were left at a hotel close to the city centre. The hotel room overlooked the grounds of this small residential clinic. From the hotel Alexandra took me to meet her colleagues, Oleg Chaban, Andrij Kovalenko, Irina Baigusina, Tamara Krivonis, Taras Levin and the translator, Constantine (a good name - and prospect - for a translator). (All the staff were trained over some years in Kiev by trainers from Altausee, Austria in a Ukrainian/German educational project in Group-analysis; Alexandra herself was trained over 8 years at Altausee in its residential programme.)

Then I was shown some of the clinic. While the small group rooms were of a size in which small groups meet around the world, the space reserved for the large group sessions was unexpectedly narrow and confined; the size of a railway carriage with seats around the edges. I was told that this was due to refurbishment in the clinic and that other visiting speakers had managed this space for this purpose in the past; I wondered if there was an alternative. Then I was led up a short hill to where the papers were to be read. Into a much older building with chairs laid out as an auditorium. Yet this was a magnificent room for a large group! Tall ceilings and windows allowing plenty of air and light in, away from any public thoroughfare and with no room leading off it. I asked whether there was any difficulty in using *this* room for the group sessions as well as for the papers? It seemed not, for the chairs were in portable rows of four bolted to moveable metal frames.

Alexandra took me then for a walking tour through the streets of Kiev. Our first stop was at an Orthodox church built in the mid-nineteenth century on the Byzantine plan of 1000 years old. Many devout people crowded the floor and a service was in progress. It was a busy church in the way I have never seen a church in western Europe busy, for in the West they are mainly busy with tourists not devotees. The town centre is an appropriate size and grandeur for its position as Ukraine's capital and one of the most ancient of cities in the east of Europe (Oleg had welcomed me to the "centre of Europe", asserting that living in England, I came from its edge, which is true). Much of the architecture is of the massified Soviet style. Yet the streets were packed with people, especially young people. In fact the young seemed everywhere and lacked the knowingness of Western youth, I felt. While obviously wanting to be stylish, they were able to be gauche in a natural way; enthusiasm is still an allowable passion.

I had written a paper on large groups for the initial phase of our two day workshop. Constantine and I had arranged that I would read a paragraph at a time in English and he would then translate it into Russian. This worked very well, considering we had met less than 24 hours before the event; he must have worked very hard during the previous evening. Then came some questions and possible answers, or else further questions from

me. Once this was over, and after a short break, we moved to the first of the large group sessions. Participating young men very quickly moved the rows of four chairs into a broad oval that allowed uninterrupted sightlines across the room, and we began. We were about 65 present at the start.

This was the first time I had worked with a translator in a large group, and this was a big task. All who have worked in group-analysis in translation will know how this is, when the translator works *in vivo* with every comment that is uttered, working hard to provide an accurate translation into the mother tongue of the visiting speaker. It can be a trying time, yet Constantine and I worked well together all things considered. It seems an impertinence to provide detail of what at times was a tense experience, and this is an area of group-analysis about which the boundaries are vague; is a large group as intimate an experience as a small group? If it is then boundaries of confidentiality must apply. If not, then what might be written about? It would be cruel to give the detail of some of the interaction. And to give only some but not other areas seems unbalanced.

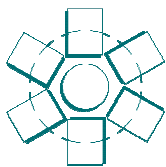
So let me say that I was impressed by the composition of the group: of the 60+ people present, most were from the university course in psychology that they had signed up to. Oleg and Alexandra and their colleagues had somehow managed to persuade these students to attend their day and inpatient clinic each Friday to take part in talks on group-analysis and then to be members of small groups. While a majority were female there were plenty of young men who participated well in the general dialogue, as well as the young women. The remainder of the group were those who worked elsewhere as therapists in the Ukraine, and then there were the five members of staff of the clinic who were group-analysts. I was impressed that such a programme is maintained by Oleg, Alexandra and their colleagues; it makes psychology courses in the UK and elsewhere look smaller and with gaping holes in comparison. Would that UK universities would set up a campaign to provide all undergraduate psychology students with such a provision! I was told that the students enjoy greatly attending a weekly psychodynamic lecture followed by a small group and large group, as the rest of the week is straight, unexciting lectures. This aspect of the course is unsafe, being threatened by action from the University, probably because of money, but also I suspect due to its participatory nature. How have university courses throughout the world come to think that psychology is to be studied like geology or theology, separated from themselves. Marx wrote of how we are alienated from our own humanity and such division in the teaching of psychology demonstrates this. I wonder if group-analysis is so far ahead of the rest of the world it might ossify before it has even flexed the smallest of its muscles?

On the Sunday morning I got up very early and travelled on the Kiev Underground to Babi Yar, a deep ravine which in 1941 was isolated from the city and was the scene where a dreadful two-day massacre of Jews and Roma took place. The area swirled in fog and mist while I was there and there seemed few signs pointing out where to go. Only my guidebook gave me detailed instructions. The Soviet-era memorial is vast, gaunt and sombrely impressive especially in the thick mist. There is a memorial to the children at the subway entrance. A third stands close to the head of the ravine detailing the bare facts of the massacre. Beyond is the ravine which is very steep and empty and with trees and bushes growing on its sides. All signs of the massacre were removed by enslaved labour two years after the original agony. It is an oddly commemorated event, as though embarrassing to the authorities.

The Kiev subway is very deep. The escalators travel in a straight and steep incline for over two and a half minutes; this is so boring many of the local people don't bother walking up or down but sit on the step and wait patiently. However it is cheap; ten kopecks will see you travel between any two stations on the three line network. Eat your hearts and wallets out, Londoners.

What is happening in Kiev so far as group-analysis is concerned is very heartening. That so many young people are involved contrasts greatly with the UK; that there is a dedicated staff group organising this one day per week course in a residential patient setting ties it in with treatment programmes, I.e. it is not just an academic adjunct. Might not group-analysis in western Europe and elsewhere draw some lessons from this, and seek to pressure psychology courses throughout its universities to include similar regular inputs of psychodynamic experience in their teaching programmes. It is not just a question of money but of will. Is there a generation or two of psychology staff who are teaching now and who are averse to authentic human group experience? I wonder if we can in our institutes and through the Society persuade such staff to attend days and weekends of courses aimed at helping them appreciate how enlivening and appealing the inclusion of experiential group-analysis would be to all psychology-based courses? And then let them include such an experience in their courses such as the Kiev institute provides? We in the West need to get cracking.

Kevin Power



The Institute of Group Analysis presents

## GROUPS ON THE EDGE

### 1.1.2

**1.1.3 A series of six workshops on the theme of social disintegration beginning on January 28<sup>th</sup> 2006**

### 1.1.4

**1.1.5 We will explore whether marginalised and embattled population groups are a reflection of social discord.**

### 1.1.6

**1.1.7 Are these groups attempting to find a way of existing within a fragmented and individualistic culture?**

Outstanding speakers and commentators, small and large group discussions will enable us to explore the way in which social and cultural elements permeate the individual to the core.

The series will be of great value not only to clinicians but also to all those who are interested in the way in which social processes permeate the lives of individuals groups and families today.

Workshop A – January 28<sup>th</sup> 2006

Society at the Edge: To Live Outside The Law You Must Be Honest?  
Dick Blackwell & Michael Rustin

Workshop B – February 25<sup>th</sup> 2006

Families on the Edge  
Morris Nitsun & Vic Seidler

Workshop C – March 25<sup>th</sup> 2006

Beyond the Pale: Race and Culture  
Farhad Dalal and Rosamund Grant

Workshop D – April 29<sup>th</sup> 2006

Prisoners on the Edge: Locked in Syndrome: Running Groups  
in Secure Units  
Gwen Adshead, Denis Murphy and Ruth Wyner

Workshop E – May 27<sup>th</sup> 2006

Addictions: Not just on the Edge...completely out of it!  
Barbara Elliott and Martin Weegmann

Workshop F – Vaccines for Affluenza – June 24<sup>th</sup> 2006

Treating the lonely, miserable and successful middle class  
Oliver James

FULL DETAILS OF THE WORKSHOPS ON THE IGA WEBSITE

[www.groupanalysis.org](http://www.groupanalysis.org)

For brochures contact IGA: T 020 7431 2693

[iga@igalondon.org.uk](mailto:iga@igalondon.org.uk)

## **MOLDE SYMPOSIUM 2005: The Large Group**

Molde: mountains, sea, fjord, a town deliberately re-built in a neutral style after destruction in 1940 - this is truthful about its aim compared with much of European re-building that promised a hundred new Athens yet provided a hundred vast slums.

My subject concerning the Molde Symposium of 2006 is the large group sessions. At this gathering there were four of them for the week, Tuesday to Friday in the later afternoon, after small groups, plenary session and smaller plenaries. In earlier years, thinking back to the 1980's in symposia and workshops, the large group experience was usually seen as potentially deeply disturbing while the small groups were for re-establishing emotional equilibrium. The Group-Analytic Society now demonstrates through the timing of events through each day that the experience of large groups among its members and associates is now sufficiently accumulated and in the matrix of Society and group-analysis generally, that participants no longer require mopping up after the large group, but rather that the large group works through whatever remains outstanding for each day of the symposium; this is progress.

The Molde gathering registered 427 participants, probably the largest single gathering of group-analysts there has ever been. About 150 of them were from Norway, which is remarkable for a country that has a population of about 5 million. At such a ratio, the UK would have had 1800 present; if there were this many working full-time in the UK it might be a happier nation. If such a ratio were calculated for the world's population there would have been 180 000 group analysts clamouring to be at Molde. I wonder how many there are right now?

So about 427 people assembled in the large group room of the Seilat Hotel. At the precise opening time our convenor announced her presence and herself, and we began...and now there is this dilemma - what amount, what degree of reportage can be thought admissible to a public that did not attend the symposium, and what amount do all those who attended believe should be written about? After all it is not thrown open to all to attend, but to those who pay. And also does being present give some kind of proprietorship over what was experienced?

We opened with a statement from our Convenor Margit Jorgenson, which came exactly at the start of the first session, announcing herself and her role. Then almost at once was another statement, that there were very few black or non-white faces present and how unusual for someone from London this was. One or two other voices echoed this. A counter-voice spoke of refusing any more to feel guilty that any gathering he was present at did not conform to a standard representation of the world's population. Later this same voice spoke similarly of refusing guilt for all of us present having enough money to spare, and able to pay to be here. So it was declared that the group might concentrate on itself and not on who was not present, a declaration for the group's here-and-now. Those few who identified themselves as not white European seemed well able to speak and remain silent

according to their predilection, considering themselves full members of this group. Indeed to me they seemed non-plussed that a dilemma around ethnicity might have arisen.

Straightaway I must state that I find most of my recollections are about my part in this group, what I said or thought, and not about what others said. I wonder how others recall what occurs in such gatherings? First, the room was large, very tall, lacking any natural light, and with dark colours all around, blue and black; it was the room used for the main plenaries with the tiered seating mechanised away each afternoon and returned the following morning. It also served as the last evening's dinner room and dancing venue.

With 450 chairs in multiple circles on a flat floor, I was disappointed that it was not possible to have tiered seating for these sessions, which gives everyone present a chance to see most members present at a glance. This lack of mirroring for most participants did influence the total proceedings. It came out when in the second session a voice spoke up about being angry that the innermost chairs had been reserved with coats after he had arrived early expecting to get one of those 'ringside' seats. This provoked a lot of lively response, defensive and attacking. My understanding is that the seats at the centre of the seating are highly valued because sitting there provides a sense of privilege; being mirrored among so many who are not gives privileged status. Whereas most other people present had only backs to look at or else side views of many shoulders and hairdos and ears, and necks and backs of chairs. In such a sized group arranged on the floor only provided a sense of privilege being mirrored in full by those others who also sat there or in the row or two behind. This positional hierarchy has as its second position the outer edge, for there most stood and spoke, able to address others almost in a formal way - almost preaching or lecturing? Down among the many, sight lines were restricted and emotion ran higher. This experience seems to say much about how valuable and necessary the mirroring experience is in human life, no matter what age. Also how the absence of mirroring provides the experience of not having mirroring. Foulkes pointed this out first among group analysts. Malcolm Pines, who has written extensively on mirroring phenomena, made from that second point of hierarchy two major points: the first was at this first meeting, to persuade those whose first time this was in such a large group to persevere in attending rather than shy away, for the meaning of this experience lay in the whole four sessions, and provided its own explanation: the total experience building over the week made the whole thing more satisfying and rewarding (my choice of words). Later in the second or third session he spoke of how in the early 1970's many had thought that having one hundred together in a free floating discussion might well induce psychosis, whereas now, 35 years later, over 400 could manage this and not take flight. This is down to the widening use of large groups in virtually all group-analytic trainings (something espoused by EGATIN). I do not recall any remarks concerning whether or not people might go mad in this setting, something that was a regular occurrence in the 1980's and 1990's

My fantasies were that this was the big tent for the three-yearly gathering of itinerant group-analysts, we are a tribe that every three years gets together in this way in order to affirm its collective identity. I was also reminded me of the cruise liners that regularly pulled up alongside the quay at Molde, or else anchored in the fjord. We were all in this together, and our anchor was the convenor who held us while we swung calmly or wildly about the point where the anchor had bitten into the seabed.

That I envied how some people seemed able to attend here once and speak up without any apparent fear or difficulty and even command the respect of the group by being listened to



quietly. I wished I could have had that. In contrast others came each time and hardly ever speak or else were very quickly swallowed up by others speaking.

So we sat and talked together and experienced frustration and discord, and some understanding among one another. It is a grand and unpredictable event in our Society's calendar. I thank our convenor, Margit Jorgensen for having shown us how to understand ourselves and the process and to have kept us thinking when we might have become dominated by affect.

Kevin Power

### **Invitation for Donations.**

The Group Analytic Society, Registered UK Charity Number 281387, invites donations from members and others in any amount for its General Fund.

Donations demonstrate a belief that Group Analysis contributes to local and international communications and relations. Donations may also be given "in memory" or "in recognition" of a person in our community or elsewhere.

Future discussions may identify a new fund for the Social

Application of GA in the modern world. Members and others may discuss donations with any member of the GAS Management Committee, email [drstorck@caregiving-online.com](mailto:drstorck@caregiving-online.com), or contact the Society via email to [groupanalytic.society@virgin.net](mailto:groupanalytic.society@virgin.net). Tax considerations will be based on legal requirements in the donor's region.

Submitted by Lauren E. Storck, MC Member

**Message from Sage.**

Interested in information via email about the latest Journal Content from SAGE? Visit SAGE Online at <http://online.sagepub.com/cgi/alerts> to sign up for the service.

Sign up to SAGE's 'New Product Alerts' service at <http://www.sagepub.co.uk/NewProductAlerts> to get emails that keep you up to date with the latest products, services and special offers from SAGE Publications.

# ***A LEADERSHIP RETREAT***

## ***Reconciling Professional Demands & Personal Costs***

- *for all those working in leadership positions within human services -*  
*(mental health, healthcare, education, penal services, social services)*

***2 – 6 May  
2006***

***Umbria  
Italy***

**Fees :**

**£1075**

**or**

**(€1600)**

**(see overleaf for payment terms & special arrangements)**

**Staff**

**Graeme Farquharson**

**Howard D. Kibel**

**Jane Knowles**

*R e l a t i o n s h i p s   a t   W o r k*

## **Context**

Even in the very best of circumstances, the role of leader can be difficult and lonely. Alas, `the best of circumstances` rarely obtains for very long ....

Establishing and maintaining an organisational purpose, assembling and sustaining a team to accomplish that, ensuring the availability of necessary resources, locating the work within its wider context – to say nothing of dynamic elements which can be relied upon to interfere with organisational functioning - all of this is complex and demanding for those charged with the responsibility of leadership. And there are other considerations which beset the modern leader – `crises of trust` ; the nature, the extent and the rate of change ; unexpected sources of difficulty (e.g. violence, terrorism, natural disaster, etc).

Moreover, from highest governmental levels through commerce to human services, leaders and senior figures have lost some credibility. Across the board, a certain cynicism has emerged in response to the behaviour and ethical practices of senior personnel (often with good reason). As to the management of change - envisioning it, contemplating logistics, carrying the staff team through, its volume and sheer inexorability – here is a major challenge to leaders and operational managers. Perhaps this is particularly the case within human services, where the use and management of therapeutic relationships is central to the work and where these are acutely vulnerable to intrusion and impingement. Change of itself, of course, is not new. What is new is the scale, the rate and the (seemingly) never-ending nature of it. And where the work is concerned with trauma and post-traumatic states, the emotional impact is that much greater.

`It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change`

Charles Darwin

All of this generates enormous pressure – which derives from the role, but is experienced and endured by the person. And the costs of this can be considerable. Across a wide range of leaders, it is striking how often one sees problems of physical or mental ill-health, relationship breakdown, family difficulties, inter alia, ; let alone possible inter-personal difficulties at work, sometimes including bullying or being bullied.

It is also striking how often leaders fail to be `looked after` - by themselves and by their own organisations.

**Purposes of *The Leadership Retreat* -**

- to examine the interplay between role and personal derivatives
- to examine the interplay between individual, small group and institutional dynamics
- to examine the costs and benefits for oneself in role
- to learn from the shared experience of professional peers
- to explore and work on specific work problems
- to replenish and re-invigorate oneself in role

### ***Elements of The Leadership Retreat***

- analytic groups
- task groups to examine `back home` issues or problems
- formal presentations
- informal exchange with professional peers
- a congenial, relaxing setting

### ***Membership***

The issues under consideration will be germane to all leaders and managers, but we are especially mindful of the human relations aspects of organisational life.

There is value and benefit in having two people attend from the same organisation to under-score the learning and maximise the impact on the back home situation.

The working language of the event will be English.

### ***Venue***

Villa Pia is on the edge of the charming medieval village of Lippiano, which straddles the Tuscan-Umbria border in the upper Tiber valley. It dates from about 1700. The villa is situated in five acres of land, including a vineyard, classic Italian box hedge garden, secret garden, vegetable garden and orchard. The estate also has olive groves and chestnut woods. The house is exquisite, with restored hand painted ceilings and stunning views in all directions. Meals are usually in the court yard amongst citrus trees, wisteria and Virginia Creeper.

The swimming pool is just above the vineyard with wonderful views and benefits from all day sunshine. There are beautiful walks along 'white roads' through forests, vineyards and olive groves. The area is famed for its unique flora and fauna.

Villa Pia is centrally positioned between Tuscany, Umbria and the Adriatic Coast. Florence, Siena, Assisi, Arezzo, Gubbio and Sansepolcro are all within easy reach.

The region is well known for its culinary delights, especially fresh pasta, funghi, white and black truffles and many gastronomic festas. The food at Villa Pia is always of excellent quality, using fresh local produce.

### ***Travel***

Bologna Forli is the nearest international airport (one hour north of Villa Pia) and a number of low cost carriers fly into there. (Ryanair flies direct – in early morning - from London Stansted in England.)

Booking early usually means very low cost flights.

Bologna International Airport (in the city of Bologna, two hours north of Villa Pia) hosts a wider range of international carriers.

The event will commence on Tuesday afternoon, to allow morning arrival.

## ***Fees***

**Individuals** : £1075.00 / €1600.00

**Where two delegates attend** from the same organisation ; the fee for the second delegate will be £700.00 / €1050.00

**Bursaries** : 3 partial bursaries will be available for those working in voluntary organisations

Includes all tuition fees, and full board at Villa Pia (Tuesday – Saturday) 2 - 6 May.  
Does not include travel costs to and from Villa Pia

Cheques to be made payable to 'Relationships at Work Limited'

## ***Payment Terms***

All reservations must be made with the full fee or a booking fee of £550.00 / €800.00 per person. The booking fee is non-refundable.

Fees must be paid in full by 1 April 2006.

*N.B. - a surcharge of £200 will be applied to any registration or fees received after that date.*

**Cancellation Policy** : ALL notices of cancellation MUST be made in writing (email acceptable). Cancellations received by 1 March 2006 will receive refund of any fees paid, excluding the Booking Fee (see above). Cancellations received after 1 March 2006 cannot be refunded, but a substitute delegate will be welcome.

## ***Retreat Staff***

## **Graeme Farquharson**

Group analyst and organisational consultant.

Director, *Relationships at Work*, consulting to a wide range of human service organisations and service leaders, particularly those providing for 'difficult patients'.

Previously a therapeutic community director, a leader in project management, and a university lecturer.

Patron, The Zito Trust.

Joint editor, *From Toxic Institutions to Therapeutic Environments* (Gaskell, 2004)

## **Howard D. Kibel**

Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, New York Medical College, Valhalla, New York

Adjunct Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, Weill Medical College, Cornell University, White Plains, New York

Secretary, International Association of Group Psychotherapy

Past President, American Group Psychotherapy Association

Distinguished Life Fellow, American Psychiatric Association

## **Jane Knowles**

The Group-Analytic Practice, London.

Previously Consultant Psychotherapist & Medical Director, psychiatric services in Berkshire. Training Group Analyst, The Institute of Group Analysis.

Chair of the Psychotherapy Faculty of the Royal College of Psychiatrists.

Author of *Motherhood, What It Does To Your Mind* : *Know Your Own Mind* : & *Love, A User's Guide*.

## ***Further Information***

To discuss any aspect of this event, please contact:

Graeme Farquharson

*Relationships at Work*

4 Aislabie Close

Ripon

North Yorkshire

United Kingdom

HG4 2DD.

Tel / Fax : ++ 44 (0) 1765 608452

Email : [jgf49@btopenworld.com](mailto:jgf49@btopenworld.com)

**A Leadership Retreat**

**Umbria, Italy**

**2 – 6 May, 2006**

**Booking Form**

Completed Booking Form should be sent to address below

**Your Details**

Title .....Forename.....  
Surname.....  
Job Title.....  
Organisation.....  
Contact Address.....  
.....  
.....Post Code.....  
Telephone.....  
Email.....

Any specific dietary requirements .....  
.....

**Payment**

Completion of Booking Form denotes acceptance of fee terms, payment terms & cancellation policy detailed overleaf. Please note all bookings to be accompanied by Booking Fee.

**By Cheque** - payable to `Relationships at Work Limited`.  
**By Invoice** - where your employer is funding your course fee, invoice to :  
Name.....  
Job Title.....  
Organisation.....  
Address.....  
.....  
.....Post Code.....  
Purchase Order No. (if appropriate).....

**Confirmation of Reservation**

All reservations will be confirmed in writing and all necessary pre-event information will be sent by April 7.

**Relationships at Work**  
4 Aislabie Close Ripon North Yorkshire HG4 2DD United Kingdom  
Telephone / Fax - ++ 44 (0) 1765 608452  
Email - jgf49@btopenworld.com

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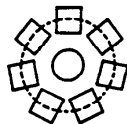




**Breaking the Silence  
Mending the Broken Connections**

**Summer Workshop  
of the GROUP-ANALYTIC SOCIETY (London)  
in the Hunsrück, Germany**

**4 to 6 August 2006**



**GROUP-ANALYTIC SOCIETY (LONDON)**  
258 Belsize Road, London NW6 4BT, UK.  
Phone: 44 207 316 1824 Fax: 44 207 316 1880

Email: [admin@groupanalyticsociety.co.uk](mailto:admin@groupanalyticsociety.co.uk)

Website: [www.groupanalyticsociety.co.uk](http://www.groupanalyticsociety.co.uk)



## **Where:**

### **Soonwald Schlösschen,**

Soonwaldstrasse 30, Mengerschied, Germany

Phone: 00 49 6765/7231

A peaceful setting on the edge of the largest forest in Germany 100km from Frankfurt. We arrange for participants to be met at Frankfurt Hahn or Frankfurt Main if necessary.

Travel details on request.

## **Cost:**

To be advised later. Please contact Teresa as detailed below

## **Staff:**

**Teresa von Sommaruga Howard** from UK and New Zealand

**Ulrich Weber** from Germany

**Herb Chaim Hahn** from UK and South Africa

**Amélie Noack** from UK and Germany

**To register** please return the tear off slip to the Group-Analytic Society  
c/o Teresa von Sommaruga Howard, 9 Westrow, London SW15 6RH, UK with a  
deposit of £50.00 or €75,00.

-----  
✂

I enclose a cheque for the deposit of £50.00 made payable to Teresa Howard:  
'Breaking the Silence' or €75,00 to Ulrich Weber: 'Breaking the Silence' for the  
workshop.

**NAME (in block letters)**

**ADDRESS (in block letters)**

**Telephone No.**

**Fax No.**

Email Address:

## **Report on a workshop:**

### **Breaking the Silence: Mending the Broken Connections**

#### **Germany, 29-31 July 2005**

Four facilitators and nine participants holed up for the weekend in an idyllic country lodge, on edge of a forest in Germany. It sounds like the stuff of drama, but nothing prepared me for what was to unfold: a truly moving and heart-rending experience, with moments of tears, sadness and a great deal of compassion, mixed in with moments of humour and sharing of jokes. By the end of the weekend I felt totally shell-shocked, but glad I had come.

So what was it about? There were three Jews, with varying connections to Germany, two participants with German connections, but growing up outside Germany, two German participants, as well as an Irish and an English participant with no Jewish connections whatsoever. So what brought us together? Mainly growing up in the shadow of terror, growing up in the care of those parents or grandparents who had experienced horrors themselves, felt damaged by it, but were unable to communicate properly or shed themselves free from the horror of it all. All of us had suffered as children, suffered pain inflicted by our own parents or carers, and now were slowly and painfully coming to terms with it all. We were able to look back at our carers with more compassion and understanding, whilst still nursing the pain and the grief, the terror and the feeling of helplessness.

What gave many of us strength and a new sense of hope and compassion, despite the pain, was the ability to share some of the emotions amongst a group of people who could understand some of that pain and terror. This was not easily achieved, this sense of sharing and understanding. The initial hours and initial group sessions were very tentative, people still hesitant, still watching over their shoulders, not knowing whether to dare to speak, dare to disclose personal feelings and emotions. Most participants, however, had been to similar workshops before, or were themselves counsellors or psychotherapists, and had experience of group work. Others still hesitated. I pitched in, but still maintained my reserve.

The first exercise consisted in drawing and visually representing what had brought each of us, individually, to the workshop, and then sharing some of our feelings associated with the drawings. But what really made the difference for me, and really brought us closer as a group, I felt, were the two sessions of social dreaming. We were asked to share within the group some of the dreams we had had the previous night, or dreams that had stuck in our memory, and other members of the group could then freely associate and say what this brought up for them. The idea was to focus on the social dimensions, on the wider social implications and societal forces, rather than focusing on the individual. This helped us to realise some of the common factors and forces influencing our dreams and nightmares, and how our own experiences had elements that we shared with

others, even in our very nightmares. It also added another dimension to what we had recounted to each other in our group sessions, and added new depth and understanding.

On the first morning I talked about my dream, finding myself in a neighbourhood, and within that neighbourhood there was a new housing development. But there was something wrong with the new development; it was cordoned off, its residents evacuated. For some reason I sought to reach a particular house within that new development, walked up to the front door, and suddenly was zapped by some unknown radiation. This led to a discussion on what that radiation might be, on the way we are surrounded by constant background radiation, within society, of violence and terror, abuse and persecution, but usually this remains unspoken; a silent radiation.

So what were the sessions about? I can only give a little flavour of it.

In the initial session we were asked to draw on a large sheet of paper, something about what had brought us there, to this place. I drew a sort of life's itinerary, journey across time and place, with clear breaks, in black: my parents' escape from Germany in the 1930s, my mother's death when I was sixteen, my more recent separation from my wife, were marked out in black. But there were also blotches of vivid yellow and orange, to mark happier times, childhood memories in Italy, searching for community in Africa and in England, married and family life in purple. After some time drawing we were paired up with other participants to discuss our drawings. I was paired up with a German woman, not Jewish, but who had drawn a recent visit with her mother to the newly opened Holocaust monument in Berlin; stark block of stone in neat rows, with stairs going up and down. I explained about my drawing, and she immediately focused on my mother's death, when I was sixteen, and felt abandoned, all alone in Prague, in a strange city, not knowing what had happened to her. Tears began to well up in my companion's eyes; I had not expected such an emotional response. She began to tell me a bit about being abandoned by her mother soon after she was born, and being left in her grandmother's care; only later was she reconciled with her mother and now able to go on visits together with her.

The following day, as we talked in the session about loss and grief, I was asked how I felt when my mother died. I explained about the inability to mourn in any customary manner. I had not been to the funeral in Prague, nobody had; there had been no seven day shiva mourning period, no way of marking the bereavement. Only thirty years later, after the fall of communism, did I return to Prague to visit her grave. And yet, the very last day I had been together with my mother, we had visited that same cemetery together, to visit Kafka's grave, not knowing that soon my mother too would be buried there. For several days I waited for my mother to return to the hotel we were staying in, I waited lonely and abandoned. A few days later the British consulate informed me of my mother's death and I was put on a train back to Vienna, not to return to Prague for thirty years. Only now can I begin to mourn her properly, having revisited Prague several times since; speaking to her at her graveside and saying the Kaddish prayer for the dead. Members of the group felt moved by my story. They asked how they could help me to mourn; somebody brought a candle to the middle of the circle, we lit the candle and

another participant joined me in saying the Kaddish prayer. I felt no longer alone and was amazed by the support and compassion of my companions.

Other memorable moments included a participant getting so impassioned and so caught up with emotions that he could only express it by bursting out in song, in Latin, and it took us all by surprise, and at first we did not grasp the words. Slowly, amongst some of the participants there was a glimmer of recognition, and the next day there was a request for the song to be sung again, and half the participants joined in the singing, in harmony, a Christian hymn to peace, another shared experience that participants found deeply moving. Music was a strong theme which participants felt had helped them over years to overcome some of the grief and pain in their childhood and helped them to assimilate their experiences at a deeper and in some ways more spiritual level. We also talked about growing up surrounded by different languages, leading to some confusion, but that music had been a constant and universal language for most, though, here, my own education had been sadly lacking, having had no musical education whatsoever, not even in singing.

Some of the sessions also brought out the theme of the Holocaust, and though I have been immersed in the literature on the Holocaust over many years and heard many a personal testimony, nothing had quite prepared me for what was to unfold over the weekend. One of the participants had been a child survivor, taken to the camps as a tiny baby, hearing the screams of victims and the barking of camp dogs from a very early age, growing up terrified, even as a child after the war, even after liberation. A sense of persecution, of arbitrary punishments, of dread never really left her. Yet despite the horrifying experiences of her early life, she had survived, had married and had a family, had a successful career teaching others to play. We could listen to her story, feel some of her pain and anguish, some of her terror; we all had a lump in our throat, some tried to hug her, others had tears in their eyes much of the time. We were there for her, but at some level I felt there remained an enormous gulf. We had not endured what she had had to endure. Yet, we could hope that by sharing some of her terror with us, we had somehow helped to lighten her burden that little bit, just that little bit.

It was a most moving and worthwhile experience; I learnt a great deal about myself and others, and would highly recommend it to anyone seeking to relate a traumatic family history to wider social contexts, but a picnic it certainly was not. I would also like to pay tribute to the four facilitators who kept the show on the road, with a gentle touch and a great deal of sensitivity. It could not have been easy for them, but it was enormously enriching for all the participants, it certainly was for me.

David Clark  
3 September 2005

Note: Next time this workshop will be held over the weekend 4 to 6 August 2006.

**FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT  
AND CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

**SUMMER WORKSHOP**

**“Group analysis in  
different cultures:  
diversities and  
tolerance”**

*JULY 05 –07, 2006*

*VILNIUS  
LITHUANIA*

*LITHUANIAN GROUP  
ANALYTIC SOCIETY*

**REGISTRATION FORM**

Name.....

Family name.....

Profession.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Phone.....

FAX:.....

E-mail:.....

I would like to propose a plenary

lecture:.....

.....

.....

I want to conduct a group: YES /

NO (Circle one, please.)

## SUMMER WORKSHOP

### “Group analysis in different cultures: diversities and tolerance”

*July 5 – 7, 2006*

*Vilnius, Lithuania*

The *Summer Workshop* aims at the sharing and exploring Groups analysis culture development in the context of different cultures, challenging and accepting diversities, building tolerance in the society at large as well as in the context of different Group analysis training programs. We are also interested in the applications of Group Analysis in different settings, the place of GA in the health care systems in respective countries, and the possibilities of future growth and cooperation.

*Summer Workshop* is inviting to take part all interested persons: past, current and future trainers and practitioners of Group Analysis from both East and

West of Europe, and students of training programmes of Group Analysis.

*Summer Workshop* will consist of plenary lectures, small discussion groups, and a large group experience.

*Summer Workshop* will take place in the countryside recreational facility, the transportation from Vilnius to the Workshop's site will be provided by the organizers.

Lodging is approximately **20–40 Euros/day/person**.

Vilnius is easily accessible from major European cities by plane, and for this purpose address the travel agencies in your countries, please.

#### Registration fee:

**160 Euros for Western Europeans**

**80 Euros for Eastern Europeans**

**50 Euros for students of the LGAS training program**

Registration fee should be paid to the account of Lithuanian Group Analytic Society. **Bank information:**

AB SEB Vilniaus bankas,

Account LT09 7044 0600 0137 9470,

SWIFT code: CBVILT2X

We are inviting to submit the proposals for plenary lectures on the topic of this Summer Workshop, and the proposals to conduct the small discussion groups.

#### **Address for submissions:**

**GA Organizing Committee**

**Latviu 19a – 8,**

**Vilnius LT 08113, Lithuania**

**E-mail: [ausra@osf.lt](mailto:ausra@osf.lt)**

**Deadline** for submissions and registration: **April 01, 2006.**

**E-mail for registration:**

[jurate.d@takas.lt](mailto:jurate.d@takas.lt)

## [Sign in to GAS London forum](#)

### **Joining the GAS Forum**

The Group Analytic Society forum is accessible to invited subscribers only and is part of Google Groups.

You must be a Group Analytic Society member to gain access to the forum.

To be able to join the group, you must first contact the [Society Administrator](#) (preferably by e-mail) who will then create a membership for you where your user name will be based upon your e-mail address. When this is done, an invitation e-mail will be sent to the address you supplied that contains instructions on how to join Google Groups (if you are not already a Google Groups subscriber) and a link to the 'GASLondon' forum.

If you do not have a Google Groups account, then first click on the link in the invitation e-mail below the section:

'Access to the group on the web requires a Google Account. If you don't have a Google Account set up yet, you'll first need to create an account before you can access the group. You can create an account at:'

You can then enter the password sent to you and can enter an optional 'nick name'.

Now that you have a user name and a password, you can 'Sign in' to the forum by clicking on the link at the top of the page.

The same user name and password will enable you to access the 'Members Only' section of the website – [www.groupanalyticsociety.co.uk](http://www.groupanalyticsociety.co.uk).



## **In Memoriam.**

### **`Wednesday s with Gregory`**

“A teacher affects eternity, he can never tell where his influence stops.”

It is a humbling task to attempt to present the life of someone of the calibre of Gregory van der Kleij, for the life of a person endowed with such a rich abundance of talent and gifts, who sp generously used them so widely and so well as Benedictine Monk and Group Analyst sets a much needed example for our time.

Gregory van der Kleij died on May 28<sup>th</sup> at Milton General Hospital after a long illness. In additions to his outstanding ability as a scholar Gregory was also a great leader people, and an inspirational figure. I do believe that in any career path that he could have chosen Gregory would have excelled, so keen was his intellect and so scholarly his approach. The path he chose to follow – that of a Benedictine Monk meant sacrificing the honour, glory and adulation that would most certainly have been his. For his God had invited him to walk a particular path, a difficult but rewarding path that this man of faith generously and unhesitatingly reached out to grasp. His joining the Benedictine Order meant his foregoing a lot in order to follow the rule of St Benedict, the poverty of the order and community of the brethren. From then on the task of life was what St Augustine described as going “from what is outside to what is inside” reawakened Gregory`s interest and fascination with psychology and ultimately lead him to psychoanalysis and group analysis. Gregory exercised his ministry in many ways, as confessor, therapist, teacher, advisor. He was meticulous and methodical but all times wise and caring. Yet with his keen intellect his wide interest and persuasive personality this man of vision, courage and common sense remained a profoundly private and modest man.

Gregory`s passion for books was real and contagious and the Wednesday evenings that we met he would ask me questions about my life and tell me much about his and the quote lines of wisdom from Freud, Fromm, Buber, Brentano, Merleau-Ponty, Sartre, Rahner, Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Foulkes, Elias, Augustine and Aquinas, T.S. Elliot, Eckhart, The New Testament and Book of Job.

In the field of Group Analysis he was an international figure and his passion for groups and their understanding combined with his unsurpassed skills, intelligence and clear thinking made him a vital figure whose contribution will last into the future.

Though his religion and his belief in psychotherapy did not always sit comfortably together Gregory realised that it was not an either/or, but that they both enriched and enhanced each other – wondering sometimes if they were one and the same.

For me Gregory has been an Icon to look up to and long will I remember his quick step, his ready laugh, his beguiling smile, his sense of devilment, his jokes, his passion for love and love of life, his sense of fair play, his delightful Dutch accent. Though he may be gone, memories linger on, I miss him the `old man`.

Patrick McGrath

THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF TRANSCULTURAL GROUP ANALYSIS\*  
is pleased to announce its forthcoming transcultural workshop, to celebrate its 20th  
Anniversary.

## **EUROPE: MYTHS AND REALITIES**

**BUDAPEST, 25 - 28 MAY 2006**

Speakers: Prof. Antal Örkeny (Sociologist / Historian)  
**Prof. of Social Sciences Faculty of ELTE University,  
Budapest**

Prof. Vamık Volkan (IPA)  
Prof. Emeritus of Psychiatry, University of Virginia.  
Founder of the Centre for the Study of Mind and Human

Interaction

**Chair of workshop: Zsuzsa Sipos**

International Staff: **Giovanna Cantarella (It), Kurt  
Hausmann (D), Bettina Fink (A), Ilona Fonyo (HU), Zsuzsa  
Merei (HU), Zsuzsa Sipos (UK), Mary Spreng-Courtney  
(CH)**

All inquiries: **zsuzsa.sipos@swlstg-tr.nhs.uk**

‘Early Bird’ Application for reduced fee by 28 February 2006

\*The European Association for Transcultural Group Analysis (EATGA) is an  
association of group analysts founded in 1986. It aims to promote research into the  
cultural foundations of groups and of personality, and to further intercultural  
exchanges between group analysts, psychoanalysts and professional  
psychotherapists.

**GOLDSMITHS COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON**  
**UNIT OF PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC STUDIES**

**PSYCHOTHERAPY WITH A DIFFERENCE!**

You are warmly invited to come and join a Department which values the creative, cultural and social context of psychotherapy and which offers pathways in Group Psychotherapy from Foundation Studies through to PhD. There is a flourishing Goldsmiths Association of Group Psychotherapists, which meets regularly and offers support to the graduates. Some of the early graduates were responsible for forming the British Association of Group Psychotherapists, which is a professional association open to all trainees and graduates of Group Therapy/Analysis programmes in the UK. The Director of Group and Intercultural Therapy is Professor Diane Waller, who is both an Art Psychotherapist and Group Analyst. The following programmes are now recruiting for September 2005 and early application is advised:

***Foundation course in Group psychotherapy*** (1 year part-time designed as an introduction to the Diploma or for general interest) Thursday late afternoon/eve

***Postgraduate Certificate in Cultural Diversity in Therapy and Counselling*** (1 year part-time, Tuesday evenings)

This programme is led by Dr Angela Hobart, Fellow of the Royal Anthropological Society and psychotherapist at the Medical Foundation for Victims of Torture, London. It is designed to examine healing interculturally and to examine the effects of racism and cultural dislocation on clients using mental health services. This is currently the only programme in the UK to offer a sociological, anthropological and psychoanalytic perspective on healing and psychotherapy.

Successful completion of the programme (8000 word dissertation) enables you to enter the MA in Group and Intercultural Therapy with remission of 1 long essay.

***Postgraduate Diploma in Group Psychotherapy*** (3 years part-time) This is the accredited (UPCA/UKCP) training in Group Analytic Psychotherapy, now in its 15<sup>th</sup> year. Drawing on the theoretical base of group analysis, this programme also studies the work of Norbert Elias and the Frankfurt School, and includes systems theory and family therapy in the curriculum. As with all other programmes in the Unit, careful attention is paid to the role of ethnicity, sexuality, gender, equal opportunities within psychotherapy. Trainees are provided with placements and run both a brief and longer term patient group during the 3 years. The programme leader is Ms Cynthia Brooks MA, group analyst and researcher. Successful completion of the Diploma enables you to register with UKCP and to enter the MA with remission of 3 long essays (ie you write 1 essay of 6000 words and a 10000 word dissertation).

***MA in Group and Intercultural Therapy*** (1 year full-time, 2-3 years part-time) Flexible programme with ample opportunity to follow individual interests within a theoretical framework which covers sociological, anthropological, philosophical and cultural elements within group psychotherapy as well as reinforcing a group analytic base. Examination (unless you have the PG Cert or Diploma) is by 4 x 6000 word essays and 1 x 10,000 word dissertation. Programme leader is Professor Diane Waller, assisted by Dr Ken Evans FRAS, Dr Angela Hobart, PhD, FRAS, and Mr Okeke Azu Okeke, MSc, MIGA.

***Mphil/PhD:*** These are research degrees for which you need to have a Masters' level qualification or equivalent. You propose a topic and if we are competent to supervise and feel you have the necessary qualification to follow it through, you can enrol at any time of the year. You will be able to join the College's first year Research Methods programme, and be assigned a supervisor who is responsible for ensuring your progress. Currently there are 11 research students in the area, engaged in topics as diverse as spirituality in psychotherapy, the impact of colonialism on identity, the profession of psychotherapy, post-traumatic stress in returning military personnel, development of psychotherapy services for elderly Afro-Caribbean clients. In the first instance you should write or email with a 2-page A4 proposal outlining your interest.

For more information on any of these programme contact Professor Diane Waller on [diane.waller@virgin.net](mailto:diane.waller@virgin.net) or write to her at: Group and Intercultural Therapy, Goldsmiths College, Lewisham Way, London SE146NW.

The Admissions Office (Postgraduate) will provide forms: 0044-207-919-7171 or you can download these from [www.gold.ac.uk](http://www.gold.ac.uk).

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## INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

The new role of CONTEXTS, as it has been described elsewhere, provides us with many exciting possibilities. One of them is to provide you with information about many events relevant to group analysis, which are occurring anywhere in the world.

For this new venture to succeed, we very much need your help. Please send any relevant information to [tomormay@axelero.hu](mailto:tomormay@axelero.hu) as soon as possible, and keep us updated!

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Dear colleagues,

It was a great pleasure to be with you in Molde and to share together beautiful Norway and meaningful experiences.

We certainly hope to further continue this experience at our congress :

**“Imagine:Expression in the Service of Humanity”**  
Creative Approaches to Dealing with Conflicts in Groups  
Israel 2-6 April 2006.

Attached please find details about the conference and about your visit in Israel.

As per many requests Abstracts can be submitted till September 4 2005.

We are looking forward to meet with you all and will try to make your stay in Israel a pleasant and enjoyable experience

Looking forward to hear from you

Please visit the Conference website at <http://www.congress.co.il/Imagine2006>

Dr Pnina  
Co- Chair of the conference

RappoportSuzi  
Chair of the Organizing Committee

Shoshani

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**For further information, please contact G.A.S.**  
Tel. 0207 316 1824; Fax 0207 316 1824  
Email: [admin@groupanalyticsociety.co.uk](mailto:admin@groupanalyticsociety.co.uk)  
Website: [www.groupanalyticsociety.co.uk](http://www.groupanalyticsociety.co.uk)

**GROUP ANALYSIS NORTH**  
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Tel/Fax: 0161 728 1633  
e-mail: [gan@freenetname.co.uk](mailto:gan@freenetname.co.uk)  
[www.gannet.org.uk](http://www.gannet.org.uk)



# Groups for Life

A Series of 6 Workshops, to be held in  
York, between 12<sup>th</sup> May 2006 and 10<sup>th</sup>  
November 2006



This series of workshops will focus on aspects of growth and development through life stages with reference to 'groups' and group membership.

## **1.1.8 PROGRAMME**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2006 10.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.**

### **INFANCY**

Exploring the psychosocial context of birth, mothering and family life; the concerns around the well being of infants and ways of addressing these including the containment of anxieties; and how these concerns bring out the 'infants' in us.

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2006 10.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.**

### **THE CHILD IN THE GROUP**

Exploring the significance of peer relationships and non-familial social context; significance of group experience for the developing child; possibilities for group therapy for children.

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2006 10.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.**

### **ADOLESCENCE**

Exploring the nature of identity and social connectedness; key challenges of this period; group work with adolescents including residential treatment.

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2006 10.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.**

### **MEN AND WOMEN IN GROUPS:**

The significance of gender differences and similarities and the nature of ensuing relationships; exploration through group work with men and women; the way that these concerns will resonate with our experience in the workshop.

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2006 10.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.**

### **MID-LIFE CONCERNS**

Exploring this time of transition within the context of loss but also opportunities; anxieties and feelings associated with biological and physical changes, occupational concerns and generational challenges.

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2006 10.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.**

### **GROWING OLDER**

Exploring the experience of growing older alongside the perception of others; the support provided by peers and the possibilities of transformations at this stage; the application of therapeutic approaches to working with older people.

**INFORMATION AND BOOKING**



Further information can be obtained from:

Bethan Marreiros, Management Administrator, Group Analysis North, The Red House, 78 Manchester Road, Swinton, Manchester, M27 5FG (Tel: 0161 728 1633 or e-mail gan@freenetname.co.uk)

**Fees:** Single workshop £65.00  
The whole series £350.00  
Members of GAN (single workshop) £50.00  
Members of GAN (whole series) £260.00  
*Fees will include lunch, snacks and beverages*

**Venue:** York Medical Society  
23 Stonegate  
York, YO1 2AW

**Contact:** Dr Sue Bradbury 07710 944113  
Nick Tanna 07790 938156

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**BOOKING FORM**

Name: -----

Address: -----  
-----

Tel: -----

Disability/Dietary requirements: -----

Membership of GAN: Yes/No

Please circle the workshop(s) you wish to attend:

**Childhood**

**Infancy**

**Adolescence**

**Men/Women**

**Mid-life**

**Older age**

**Whole Series**

Please include payment as appropriate: £ ..... and return to the GAN Office (cheques payable to Group Analysis North Limited)

**Closing date for applications 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006**

## CONFERENCE ACCOMMODATION IN LONDON

**Visitors attending events held at 1 Daleham Gardens, London NW3 5BY might find it convenient to stay nearby, i.e. in Hampstead or Belsize Park. London hotels need to be booked well in advance and by credit card.**

**Hotels (at between £60 & £95 per person per night)**

**The Swiss Cottage Hotel** at 4 Adamson Road, London NW3, has been well recommended by members who have stayed there in the past. They offer us a special rate of £60 for a single room: when booking, ask for Alex and say that you are a Group-Analytic Society member.

(Swiss Cottage Hotel, Tel. 0207 722 2281),

**Dawson's House** at 72 Canfield Gardens, London NW6, is a small, rather basic hotel at the cheaper end of the local price range. It is situated, two minutes from Finchley Road Tube Station and 15 minutes walk from Daleham Gardens.

(Dawson's House Hotel –Tel. 0207 624 0079).

**The House Hotel** at 2 Rossllyn Hill, London NW3 1PH is a more pricey, but rather nicer place less than five minutes from Daleham Gardens.

(The House Hotel, Tel. 0207 431 8000, Fax 0207 433 1775)

**The Forte Hotel** at 215 Haverstock Hill, London NW3 4RB is a Trust House Forte chain hotel in the same area with all major hotel facilities.

(The Forte Hotel, Tel. 0208 70 400 9037)

**Langorf Hotel** at 20 Frognal, London NW3 6AG

Good, comfortable hotel, with all facilities.

0207 794- 4483

Alternatively, here are some numbers of hotel booking agencies you can use:

0700 080 8800

0207-309 5500

0207 388 4443

### **Bed & Breakfast Accommodation**

We cannot recommend any specific Bed & Breakfast address used by our members in the past, but there is an agency which will find you a B&B in any chosen area. Prices start at around £45 per night.

(London Bed & Breakfast – 0207-586 2768).

If you prefer to stay in Central London, please keep in mind that the central tourist areas, i.e. Bayswater, Marble Arch and Oxford Street, are about 40 minutes from Daleham Gardens by either taxi or tube (you will have to change tubes to the Northern or Jubilee Line).