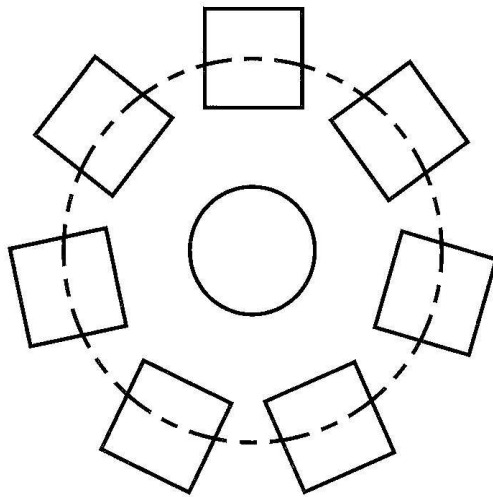


Group-Analytic Contexts

SEPTEMBER 2006

ISSUE NO 33



International Newsletter of

THE GROUP-ANALYTIC SOCIETY

Editor: Tom Ormay

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Editorial

As we promised in our last issue, now we can give you details of the Foulkes Week End. In her reflections Lauren Storck considers the connection between group analysis and spirituality in the light of the Foulkes lecture, given by Victor Schermer. Indeed, spirituality has become a major topic in the world of psychotherapy in general, and particularly in group analysis. To give us a working definition, Lauren includes an Oriental quotation: “*The Chinese describe the Spirit as the part of us (that) is responsible for our overall sense of purpose and identity. A ‘settled’ spirit also allows us to think clearly and have good concentration, memory and sleep.*” Here the connection between spirit, purpose, identity and a clear state of mind is significant. Some of us may think of the self as the agent responsible for those mental qualities. She further explains the difference as she sees it in the group: “Multiple potentials and multiple authenticities means that we each have several valid roles and identities, and these multiple belongings (of individuals) are more relevant and required in our 21st century (as compared to one unique and whole identity or self). “ The distinction she makes resembles that between the social selves and the personal self. The area is fascinating, and she considers a new model of the person.

Trevor Mumby considers the degree of socialisation, or fraternisation, as he calls it, that is considered useful by various people in social situations. He shows that people might be afraid of getting more involved in a group, but once they are in it, they discover its usefulness.

In this issue we advertise many events again. As Gerda points out in her Presidential Page, group analysis has become very busy lately. We are coming alive from a state that used to worry some people. Well, there is nothing to worry about now.

In the Forum section we find Kevin Power’s reflections on the Myth and Reality Workshop given by the European Association for Transcultural Group-Analysis in May this year in Budapest. In his lively and personal style Kevin make us feel there, and sorry that more of us did not go.

Also in the Forum section we have an account of the Mental Health Conference, April 2006 by David Scharff. As he says: “I was invited to give an opening keynote on the family origins of prejudice, but I went mostly with the hope of learning about mental health in Israel and the Palestinian areas.” Then he found that local conditions, “the Palestine issue”, came to dominate the conference, and got involved on a more personal level.

The lively content of this issue reflects the state of our new international group analysis.

TomOrmay

President's Page

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

The year 2006 seems to be an extremely active and rich one for Group Analysis. There has been and will continue to be for the rest of the year an astonishing number of events, where Group Analysis is represented in a wide variety of subjects. Starting with the Winter Workshop in Lisbon in January, the series of 6 workshops "Groups for Life" to be held in York during the year and arranged by Group Analysis North who is also responsible for a workshop on dreams held in May, "Groups on the Edge" a series of 6 workshops on the theme of social disintegration presented by the Institute of Group Analysis, London in the first half of the year and the very active role of Group Analysts in the Imagine Conference in Israel in April. Then came The Annual Foulkes Weekend by GAS in May, The European Association of Transcultural Group Analysis celebrated its 20th anniversary with a workshop also in May in Hungary "Europe: Myth and Realities". Another workshop "Group Analysis in Different Cultures", presented by the Lithuanian Group Analytic Society took place in July, The IAGP conference in Brazil also in July, The GAS Summer Workshop in August and finally comes the 35th GAS Autumn Workshop in November.

This amount of activity is indeed very encouraging and tells about the engagement and energy that so many group analysts put into different sorts of clinical and applied areas.

One of the key events of the Group Analytic Society, London, the 30th Annual Foulkes Lecture and Study Day took place 19th- 20th May. Victor L. Schermer, USA gave a brilliant lecture on Group Analysis and Spirituality and Victoria Graham Fuller, London gave a lively and thoughtful response to the lecture. The event attracted more people than has been usual for the last couple of years which was also the case with the Study Day, where Canon Beaumont Stevenson, Oxford and Mogens Lindhardt, Copenhagen gave their very interesting reflections on the subject. The somewhat controversial combination of Group Analysis and Spirituality seems to have attracted the interest of many people.

Since last year the Management Committee has had a fruitful meeting with EGATIN and has continued talks with IGA clarifying further our different aims and roles and areas of cooperation. A new structure for GAS is still one of the central issues in our work and we are slowly getting nearer a model which in due time will be put to the membership. Also a proposal for a new book series is under preparation and will be presented at the forthcoming AGM on the 12th of November. Our traditional January Workshop we mentioned earlier, has been put forward and is from now on called the Autumn Workshop and will be held 9 – 12 November in connection with the AGM and this year is chaired by Earl Hopper. The theme of the Autumn Workshop "Trauma in Organisations" we think will have the interest of many people. Organisational trauma has long lasting, painful effects on the personal and group level and as such undermines the primary task of the organisation. In the workshop there will be ample opportunity to explore the theme in depth - in lectures, panels, small and large groups and fiction such as theatre and film. So see you in November for the AGM and the Workshop.

Gerda Winther

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Annual General Meeting of the Group Analytic Society will be held on Sunday 12 November from 14:30 – 16:30 at the Institute of Group Analysis. Papers for this meeting will be posted in early October.

*

Reflections on the Foulkes Lecture and Study Day May 2006

THE SPIRIT OF GROUP ANALYSIS: Reflections including a New Model of GA following the Foulkes Lecture and Study Day, London, May 2006

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INTRODUCTION

One of many definitions of Spirit on the Internet: *The Chinese describe the Spirit as the part of us (that) is responsible for our overall sense of purpose and identity. A 'settled' spirit also allows us to think clearly and have good concentration, memory and sleep.*

www.cicm.org.uk/public/chinesemed/glossary_html

The topic of the May 2006 Lecture and Study Day was Spirituality, and the author of this essay was and remains an optimistic skeptic. As usual, however, the May Foulkes Weekend offered many varieties of stimulating groups, and what follows are one woman's reflections, including a new model of GA. The Weekend, and these reflections are shaped by recent and past histories (groups, societies, and intercultural dynamics), and the proposal of the model is preliminary of course. (It is unfinished; it is a 'work-in-progress' that needs more thought and discussion with others.)

This model is actually an inversion and expansion of Foulkes' well-known concentric circles of 'analysis' (Foulkes, 1948; Foulkes, 1990). Instead of 'analysis' however, the author prefers to describe 'understanding' (it's all about groups). Those concentric circles place the individual at the center of the world (life). The ever-expanding circles of 'analysis' were placed *outside* of

the individual, and the circles are closed. The new model is informed by the original, and awareness that modern individuals and groups are increasingly multiple and overlapping, and have multiple authenticities (Storck, 2005).

Multiple potentials and multiple authenticities means that we each have several valid roles and identities, and these multiple belongings (of individuals) are more relevant and required in our 21st century (as compared to one unique and whole identity or self). Groups of individuals therefore become more open and fluid. Groups also have multiple potentials and multiple authenticities (as compared to a rigid or fixed singular group identity). The inside and outside of each person, and each group, are both included in this model to be described below.

The remainder of this essay, everything within it, is a representation of important 'levels' of Person and Groups during the Foulkes Weekend and comprises an illustration of the new model, albeit emergent.

THE "WEEKEND"

For myself and probably for many participants, it is never only the actual programme alone that nourishes and challenges us. The entire two or more days offer opportunities to imbibe GA and the GAS in new and often refreshing ways. This time, it inspires a new way of thinking about what GA is all about, and perchance, something about the GAS as well.

This new model, or revision, is multi-determined, over considerable time as a member among members of the GAS (about 25 years), yet more immediately stimulated by the pleasurable, exhausting, and challenging four days and five nights of my Foulkes weekend. I refer primarily to four intense days of groups of one sort or another including process, experience, task, and eating groups, from Friday morning through Monday evening, all centered by the Foulkes Study Day inclusive of the ever-important two small and one large group experiences, part of the tradition of the GAS (London), and our international GAS (the society) in the world.

My Foulkes Weekend experience was not only two days, due to meetings and meals with GA colleagues and friends, as well as a regular quarterly meeting of the GAS Management Committee (my first year, third meeting since the GAS Symposium in Norway last August). The MC met all day Sunday, and some of us worked during another Monday morning meeting as well. Obviously, my energies were invested not only in the Foulkes programme per se, yet equally in these related groups, for pleasure, for learning, and for cognitive and emotional exercise, intensively.

Altogether, these many nourishing group experiences (still being digested and some forever indigestible) comprise the joy and pain of getting involved in the GAS, in the GA world, and with international communications and relations. The new model of GA presented below is a product of the weekend and reflections about it, including the theme (the spiritual, the ineffable, the

unknown, the oneness one seeks, the balance, and the meaning of it all). The model of GA below is the spirit of GA, a revision of Foulkes' concentric circles. *It inverts his diagrams, and turns them inside out.*

THE NEW MODEL: THE SPIRIT OF GA

We all know how challenging it is to describe and define Group Analysis, and what we especially value about GA, and furthermore, to make it succinct and convincing. We strive to explain to students and seasoned practitioners alike that GA is, in 'truth' something different from other, though overlapping, psychodynamic group psychotherapies.

Some will argue that GA is not distinct or unique, yet I believe it is, and always has been, and remains so, due to its trust in the group and its core value of groups as primary. GA is also similar, in some ways, to other psychodynamic group theories and applications. Yet GA uniquely puts the group first, and it works with groups in multiple authentic ways on many levels.

Putting the group first is to say that the Spirit of GA is all about the balance of our interpersonal relations in groups of three or more people; in small, larger, and very large groups. The primacy of the group in the spirit of GA does not ignore each person however. The new model may seem at first to focus on the person perhaps, yet in essence, I argue that it is the Group and All the Groups within each person which is the Spirit of GA for modern times.

The model takes Foulkes' concentric circles describing a person in the world, and reconfigures that model in two significant ways:

- I. **The Person** - The first way is to put the many levels of groups within each of us. This is to say that the Person is the sum of many concentric and overlapping Group dynamics and Group influences within himself or herself, throughout the lifespan. The Person, always significant and meaningful, contains, carries, and embodies the Group, the Society, and the World. Each Person brings this constellation into each new Group by participation in the new Group (Please see Figure One).
- II. **The Group** - The second reconfiguration is the concept of the Group itself. In the new model, the Group is not a closed circle. It is rather the figure of a flower, comprised of three or more individuals. The GA concept of Group is an open, overlapping, and vibrant collection of people who each embody many levels of *prior* group experiences, and are open to actual (current) new and continual group experience.

Together, they are the Group, each person with layers of groups within. GA works with this group to explore multiple memberships, multiple groups of belonging, and multiple ways to understand how the Group behaves,

creates, and impinges on each person's life, consciously and less consciously. (Please see Figure Two).

The Group (and GA) is an open system with from three to hundreds of persons. The diagram of the Group is a flower rather than a circle, while retaining circular and overlapping dynamics.

>>>(Insert Figures One and Two here.)

AN EXAMPLE OF THE NEW MODEL DURING THE FOULKES WEEKEND

Two small groups -- We live in eight or nine different countries, and we are about 14 people with our conductor. The spirits (or groups) of each person's background, our language, culture, society, GAS, IGA or similar, hopes, fears, and desires for the weekend, were with us, shaped by our overlapping yet different patterns of being. Each of us, women and men, spoke, thought, felt, and left the small group having said hello.

When we saw each other in the LG, life continued, each of us bringing the smaller group experience with us. The LG itself mirrored the GAS – there was talk of IGA and GAS, and a silent struggle to acknowledge our internationality and diversity, as well as our modernity. There were also several empty seats in the inner circle, and one ponders why. Perhaps danger lurks there, or another calm prior to another storm, or empty seats signify an invitation to participate more. The flowering of potential was evident , when we were all together.

At times, the Larger Group is needed, more, rather than less. Multiple potentials and energies animate the space. In a Larger Group, each individual, each small group, the larger group itself,, and the Society all do their best to navigate these complex rolling seas of human interactions.

FURTHER ELABORATION

This new model of GA is a different view of Foulkes' familiar system, with significant differences. The model emphasizes more strongly the importance of many larger groups *within* each person's life, and it also presents the Group as an *open overlapping* circle of persons and groups. Both the person and the group are multiple potentials and become multiple authenticities ("true" identities and roles) that depend upon context, place, time, and all the requirements of emergent group life. Groups of our everyday lives are depicted both inside and outside the individual, and inside and outside of the group.

The group becomes an open flowering of human potential – of human complexity – of group experiences that are intertwined and overlapping. The flower blooms and fades, sheds seed, invites new growth, sustains rooted

histories, and creates something new, perpetually to be understood. It is persistently confusing at times, and powerfully liberating at other times.

These many groups of modern life are more accessible to us than in Foulkes' time, only half a century ago. With Internet and other world-wide reverberations, for better and worse, a new model clarifies, and also may cause concerns. For example, can or should one strive to understand this complexity? Can't a group just be a simple group? Considering the use and misuse of groups we are all familiar with, I'll argue for *understanding* and the continuing development of our GA model.

For example, the spirit of GA strives to understand, via many applications in healthcare and in other societal and cultural spheres, how to improve communications, strengthen relations, and heal or soothe psychological disruptions. We do not have the answers or solutions. We strive to *understand* and then seek decisions (to change or not), using a model (a framework, our boundaries). This model of GA, for individuals and groups, also seeks balance between and among our very many human group connections.

SUMMARY

A spirit can be a vital concept. Group Analysis, is somewhat of a religion for some of us, though I only label it that in the context of a weekend considering spirituality and religion. Science is not my religion, not as much as philosophy, literature and the arts, though I am a trained empirical scientist and can give that a very good circling as well.

GA is a philosophy primarily, though some call it a treatment, a method, and a theory. It is a philosophy of the primacy of Groups. The new model turns our founding fathers' wisdom inside out, with gratitude and appreciation for the original model, ahead of its time, in recognition of how much human life is shaped by shared interactions and destinies.

Is the new model "Flower power?" Perhaps it's timely to reconsider how our Groups *can* make a difference.

"One can readily visualize the dynamic interrelationships between these different fields. They are all operative at the same time, but vary in degree according to the position of the individual and the Analyst's handling of the situation." S. H. Foulkes, 1948, page 33.

(P.S. I would like to especially thank the members of my weekend small group on Saturday of the Foulkes weekend, and also the Large Group. These three GA groups, in spite of the short duration of the experience, have a lasting and meaningful impact on me, and I believe it is due to everyone's unique and passionate interest in the spirit of GA.)

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Storck, L. E. (2005) Large Groups and Women Leadership: Caregiving for Multiple Authenticities. *Group Analysis*, 38 (2): 328-340.

(Editor: The following two figures are to be inserted into the text above where marked with >>>. Here, I have placed one to each page, and I am unable to reduce the size and maintain the configuration needed. If your system can reduce the size of each figure and retain the configuration, that's fine. Thanks. LS)

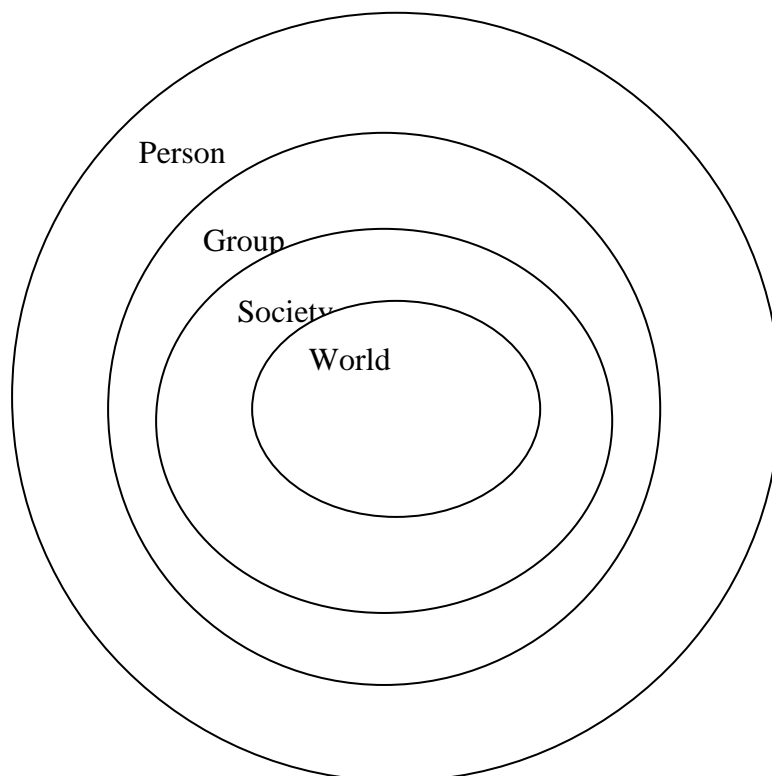


Figure One: A Person in the World of GA = Multiple Groups Within, Part of the Whole World of Groups.

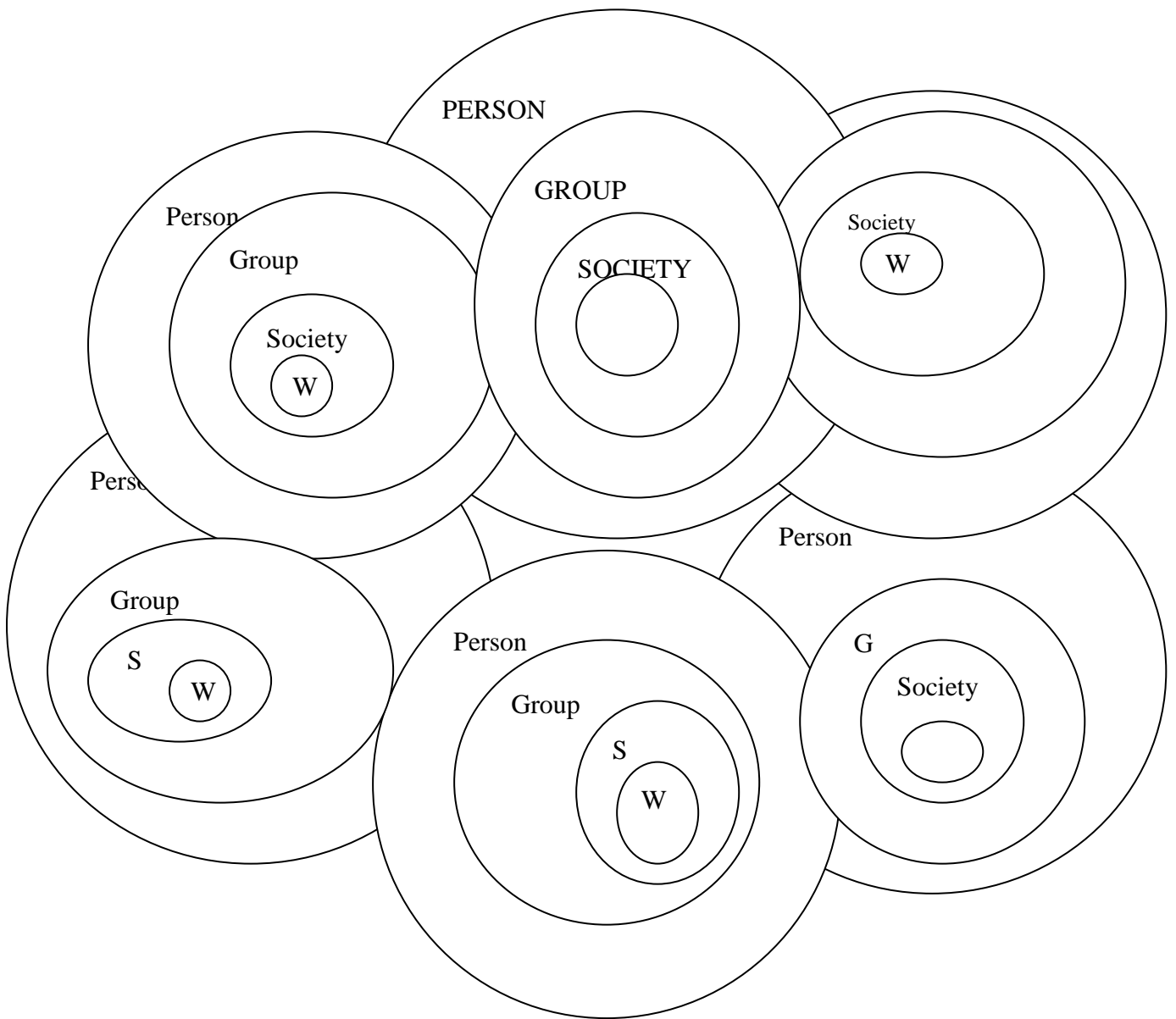


Figure Two: The Spirit of Group Analysis = People in a Circular Group that Becomes a Flowering of Multiple Authenticities.

The Foulkes Weekend.

Is fraternization a good thing?

I remember the President of one of the five big banks asking me if I thought fraternization was a good thing.

He had made a surprise visit to the luxury hotel we were using to conduct a series of five day workshops for senior male and female managers.

Having observed the relaxed atmosphere he had drawn me to one side and with his hand on my shoulder and with a slight frown, asked, "Do you think this degree of fraternization is a good thing"? This was an amazing question because the *purpose* of these workshops was to change the male dominated bank culture. I replied by saying Yes Sir Robert, that is what you are paying for!

Those who attended the Foulkes lecture, 170 plus, a record over the past three years, had the challenge of straining their hearing facility for two hours.

It is not everyday that a sound system engineer, whom I had met on the same day, decides not to show for the actual event!

Victor Schermer gave a brilliant lecture which must have been a difficult delivery without the microphone, but it seemed the audience expressed a lot more intensive effort in their listening. Perhaps people heard more *without* the loudspeakers.

Victoria Graham Fuller gave a highly articulate and intelligent response which was fully appreciated by everyone, including Victor and Chair for the event, Gerda Winther.

Kevin Power who was a tower of strength and did an enormous amount to keep things flowing, made a telling remark at the end of the lecture. He said that it was significant that so many people had stayed on to chat where in previous years the audience had quickly dispersed. I wonder if the lack of loudspeakers actually promoted this or was it the subject matter, or both?

Fortunately the lecture and response will be published, as usual in the December Group Analysis Journal.

The Study Day with 70 plus participants, another record over the past three years, had all sorts of highlights packed into it. The long queues, (standing in a line) was a big feature! We shall reduce that peculiar English ritual next year and speed it up!

It seemed to amuse some and infuriate others that they could not escape from the school playground and go beyond the high wire netting without knowing how to release the lock to get out or get back in again.

Funny what school playgrounds and high wire fencing can do to people?

Mogens Lindhart with profound eloquence and Beaumont Stevenson with his contrasting quick wit were another highlight. What a pleasure and how clever we were to select two such appropriate people to deepen the discussion. It was so satisfying to see Vic Schermer take an active part. The formula for this session was excellent.

My small group sessions followed previous years' patterns. As anyone who has had 'n' hours in groups knows, insights may not surface until weeks and sometimes years after the event. (I am still learning from 'ancient' group experiences).

One highlight, which was perhaps peculiar because of the topic of discussion, was how much my thinking developed around the word 'transcendence'.

I became clearer about the variety of transcendent experiences. To some members; seeing an artistic masterpiece or listening to some music was their definition of experiencing a transcendent awakening. It had not lead them to further levels nor been transformed into a belief in a 'higher' level.

To others, there had been vivid awakening in their consciousness which had lead them to a certainty in a belief that there must be a 'founder' of consciousness and planes of consciousness about which humans can be made aware and experience.

The relevance of this insight was significant for me because it brought out my thinking about the correlation between harmony and discord. I was struck by the discord caused between the individual who expressed transcendence from the visual or musical plane to which they had risen and the 'spiritual' experiences, to which others had risen.

I concluded that there would be *no inspirational harmonious discourse* when the individual experience of 'transcendence' differed so widely. It would need more than two small group sessions.

When I worked on workshops with Permanent Secretaries at the Civil Service College there was an incredible sense of pomp and role rigidity at the beginning of the week. The differences were not only very wide between participants but for me also. They frequently perceived me as someone from another planet!

For most participants it would take at least twenty small group sessions before the mutual recognition of each other's role-free identities released them from their rigidity and create astonishing highly intelligent discussions.

The word fraternizing would amount to 'treason' for this echelon, but by the end of the week they were!

It was no mean feat because they were all double firsts from Oxbridge. When I described their group process as one where 'the first person to move, loses' one man remarked, 'do you mean we are reluctant to make decisions Mr Mumby?' I replied, "Yes Sir Humphrey!" It was fun!

I felt that the large group like many I have experienced at the end of a course resonated with processes which had been running during the weekend. In this case the group felt very benign. My observations of the large group in comparison with previous years, was that no one wanted to create contentious dialogue. Was it because the subject of spirituality had created a sense of harmony and fraternity?

I believe that group conducting skills and group processes are vital and essential for all varieties of circumstances, work, school, family, clinic, and the multitude of group events taking place everyday and everywhere.

Over my 35 years of working with groups of every complexion and nationality, I have yet to discover a better method to make progress in human understanding.

The point I hope the Foulkes Lecture and Weekend will continue to demonstrate is that the body of knowledge for our conceptual grasp of group dynamics exists and does not need reinventing or knitting into incomprehensible patterns of esoteric jargon.

Training and application, perhaps even fraternizing, should be our paramount objectives, not confusion and elitism.

I dread to think what the Weekend would have been like if Julia Porturas, our Admin Secretary and her stalwart husband John had not done such a superb job of organizing the support. They were, as my teenage children would say, 'awesome'.

I would highly appreciate any response so please either join the GAS Forum or contact me on Trevor@lincimp.com.

Trevor Mumby

Message from Sage.

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Second Announcement

**The 35th Autumn Workshop
of the Group-Analytic Society (London)**

‘Trauma in Organisations’

**From 20:15 on Thursday 9 November
Until 13:30 on Sunday 12 November 2006**

**Venue: Institute of Group Analysis
1 Daleham Gardens, London NW3**

Thursday – 9 November - IGA

**19:30 Registration / Administration
20:15 Welcome – Gerda Winther**

**Opening Lecture
Patterns of aggression in ‘traumatised’ social systems
Lecturer: Earl Hopper**

**21:15 Refreshments
21:30 Discussion: Chairman, John Hook
22:30 End**

Friday – 10 November - IGA

**08:30 Registration / Administration
09:00 Small Groups
10:30 Refreshments**

**11:00 Panel: Trauma in Organisations in the Field of Mental Health
Care
Chair: David Vincent
Panellists:
Alan Corbett, Tamsin Cottis and Liz Lloyd: ‘Trauma and
recovery in a learning
disability organisation’
Gerda Winther: ‘Traumatogenic processes in a psychiatric
hospital’
David Wood: ‘Baked beans and mashed potato: (ba) I:A/M in an
organisation treating adolescents with eating
disorders’**

**13:00 Lunch
14:00 Small groups**

15:30 Refreshments
16:00 Large Group
17:30 End

Friday – 10 November - Tavistock Clinic, 120 Belsize Lane, NW3

19:30 Play ‘Compromise’ by John Woods

James Standish’s new psychotherapy patient, Joan, tells him that she had sexual relations with her previous therapist, who happens also to be James’s respected senior colleague....

Through the portrayal of a fictional situation, ‘Compromise’ examines complex ethical issues, their impact on organisations, and the implications for psychotherapy. This dramatised reading is directed by Cynthia Grenville, and co-directed by Sally Willis and Martin de Friend.

21:00 Refreshments
21:30 Discussion with John Woods and actors
22:30 End

Saturday – 11 November - IGA

08:30 Registration / Administration
09:00 Small Groups
10:30 Refreshments

11:00 Panel: The Aftermath of Trauma in Training Organisations
Chair: Victoria Graham Fuller
Panellists: Anne-Marie Sandler
Murray Stein

13:00 Lunch
14:00 Small groups
15:30 Refreshments
16:00 Large Group
17:30 End

Saturday – 11 November – IGA / Film

19:30 Film ‘Hidden’ (Caché) – Director Michael Haneke with Juliet Binoche, Daniel Auteuil and Maurice Benichou.
In French with English subtitles.
‘A typical middle class French couple receive anonymous videotapes of their home being monitored from across the street. The mystery behind the tapes’ creator and the inscrutable nature of their contents gradually envelop their life. Georges begins to reveal the darker recesses of his soul as a strong link to his past makes an unwelcome re-appearance.’

21:00 Refreshments
21:30 Discussion with Roberta Green and Peter Mark
22:30 End

Sunday – 12 November - IGA

08:30 Administration

09:00 Panel: Organisations in Traumatized Societies
Chair: Barry Curnow
Panellists:
Ann Allen (Northern Ireland)
Orit Nuttman-Shwartz (Israel)
Gerhard Wilke (Germany)

11:00 Refreshments
11:30 Large Group
13:00 Refreshments
13:30 End

All inclusive cost:
£300 for non-GAS members
£250 for GAS members
Small concessions for students and the unemployed are available on application.

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Staff participants of ‘Trauma in Organisations’

The small and large groups will be conducted by senior colleagues from the GAS and the IGA including the staff of Introduction to Group Analysis (London), e.g. Nick Barwick, Barbara Elliott, Peter Finn, Susan Freudenberg, Percival Mars, Carmen O’Leary, Jale Punter, Christopher Scanlon and Harjinder Singh Sehmi.

Ann Allen is a Business Manager and Company Secretary and a group analytical Management Consultant. She has had a varied career in teaching, probation service, IT and HR consultancy in Central Africa, Southern England and N-Ireland.

Alan Corbett is a psychoanalytic psychotherapist in Dublin, and a former Director of Respond, a voluntary sector organisation in London which provides psychotherapy and risk assessment to people with a wide range of learning disabilities who have experienced trauma, often of a sexual nature, some of whom have gone on to abuse others.

Tamsin Cottis is a psychodynamic counsellor, currently practising at Respond, where she was an Assistant Director.

Barry Curnow is a group analyst and organisational consultant in London. He is immediate Past Chairman of the International Council of Management Consulting Institutes, and is Visiting Professor of Management Consulting at both Cass, and Durham University Business Schools.

Victoria Graham Fuller is a group analyst and a professional member of the Society of Analytical Psychology in private practice in London. She is currently the Chair of IGA's Council.

Roberta Green is a training group analyst in private practice. She has worked as a clinical manager in the NHS, where she now gives management supervision, and is an organisational consultant. Co-convenor of the IGA/GAS Film Group.

John Hook is a group analyst, a Consultant Psychiatrist in Psychotherapy, Surrey & Borders and Hampshire Partnership NHS Trusts, and an Associate Director for Learning & Development, Surrey & Borders NHS Trust.

Earl Hopper is a psychoanalyst, group analyst, and organisational consultant in private practice in London. He is a member of the Management Committee of the Group Analytic Society (London).

Elizabeth Lloyd is a psychoanalytic psychotherapist in private practice and at Respond.

Peter Mark is a Consultant Adult Psychotherapist and Head of Group Psychotherapy at the Parkside Clinic, West London, (NHS) and a group analyst at King's College, University of London. Co-convenor of the IGA/GAS Film Group.

Orit Nuttman-Shwartz is Head of the Social Work Department at Sapir Academic College, and a lecturer in the Spitzer Department of Social Work at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel.

Anne-Marie Sandler is a Fellow and former President of the British Psychoanalytical Society. She is a training and supervising psychoanalyst.

Murray Stein is an analytical psychologist living and working in Zurich. He is a past President of the Chicago Society of Jungian Analysts and a recent past President of the International Association for Analytical Psychology.

David Vincent is a group analyst working in the NHS as a Consultant Adult Psychotherapist at Forest House. He is a former Chairman of the Institute of Group Analysis.

Gerhard Wilke is a group analyst and social anthropologist. He specialises in organisational consultancy work, coaching and applied large group analysis.

Gerda Winther is a clinical psychologist in private practice, formerly the chief psychologist and co-director of a psychiatric hospital in Denmark. She is the President of the GAS (London), and the Chairman of the IGA (Copenhagen).

David Wood is a Consultant Adolescent Psychiatrist, group analyst and family therapist, specialising in the treatment of young people with eating disorders in in-patient settings, and the Clinical Director of the Ellern Mede Centre in N-London.

John Woods is a group analyst and consultant psychotherapist at the Portman Clinic, London.

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The Dennis Brown Essay Prize

Presentation on 23rd June 2006

About 40 people gathered at the Institute of Group Analysis on 23rd June 2006 for the presentation of the first award of the Dennis Brown Essay Prize. The prize-winner was Douglas Young....., a student on the Advanced Course in Group Analysis in Glasgow. Thirteen entries had been received from a wide range of European countries, as well as the USA., all attempting to address the question that was set as the essay title, "How Does Group Analysis Work? - a critical inquiry" The responses were very diverse, reflecting the openness of the group analytic model, and the prize was awarded to Douglas for a paper that rigorously established the parameters by which the effectiveness of the approach could be evaluated. The paper is due to be published in Group Analysis.

This was a warm, enjoyable event, with a sense of the value of having a two-yearly prize and the opportunity this provided to write and publish our field. There was an introduction by Graham Fuller, IGA chair, and Wil Pennycook-Greaves (chair of the Organizing Committee) facilitated the event. Dorothy Brown, who had been instrumental in setting up the prize, spoke about how it had come about. Meg Sharpe recalled her close and fond association with Dennis Brown. Morris Nitsun, a member of both the Organizing Committee and the Reading Panel, described the nature of the entries and the winning entry, in particular. Finally, Douglas, the winner, responded, expressing his surprise and his delight.

The Dennis Brown Essay Prize has had a successful start and we look forward to a succession of excellent papers over the next few years.

Morris Nitsun, on behalf of the Organizing Committee.

Forum

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION for TRANSCULTURAL GROUP-ANALYSIS;

MYTHS AND REALITIES workshop.

May 25-28, 2006, held in Budapest.

Time changes cities. In 1999 a taxi-driver the size and demeanour of Attila the Hun and like a cool maniac drove me to the symposium hotel on the Buda side of the river: I sat and enjoyed a wild career that cut through traffic as though it wasn't there. For the EATGA workshop this year the taxi almost stuck in gridlock, only this year's driver also knew the back roads, so he wove a to-and-fro progress like the most patient London cabbie. Once bereft of luggage I was off to the venue through the streets of central Budapest. I was late, entering towards the end of Professor Antal Orkeny's paper on National Identity in Central Europe, which had looked an interesting presentation, especially the diagram of how nationalism and fascism grow and link, and may feed off one another; publication of this would be helpful.

The second paper was by Professor Vamik Volkan, who has been providing group-analytic events with his eclectic and personal presentations for several years. His was "The Shared Representation of History: Its Re-activation and Influence" and was a contrast to the first, which was hopeful in its general tone. Vamik is not hopeful but despondent about nations and nationalities, having seen much of the disruption of peoples, tribes and nations in many circumstances and having known and worked with many well known political leaders in the last 30 years. He emphasises the hatred and misery that ensues whenever leaders insist on the fulfilment of ancient myths. Such myths enslave peoples so that they mimic the past in a wretched and deadly present. The examples he brings - from any troubled location of which there are always far too many - are those sometimes on the TV news screens in the West, only more often they are from forgotten conflicts and about the forgotten peoples of those conflicts.

Once the two spoken presentations were complete, the workshop's convenor, Zsuzsa Sipos, showed us a home-movie, "Private Hungary". This was no usual home movie, of the kind that is gradually being compiled in millions of homes across the world - or perhaps so, though without the compilers realising it? "Private Hungary" was put together by Peter Forgacs from probably many hours of Super 8mm filming by a Hungarian enthusiast who began his cine hobby in pre-1939 Budapest. From early staged situations in which he filmed a 'chance' meeting with his girlfriend in a snowy park, through their wedding and honeymoon on a farm in rural areas we captured one person's view of a marriage and an age. Good times and bad times. Heart-stopping when on their honeymoon the couple film the rural orthodox Jews in early 1939 as though they were another species, something one could record for the family film album like amateur anthropologists, yet we knew instantly that these "specimens" would be murdered within two years; this was acutely poignant.

Then as part of the Munich agreement and the carving up of Czechoslovakia the film showed crowds celebrating the gift to Hungary from Nazi Germany of a small slice of Slovakia that had once been Hungarian in culture - a later hostage to fortune. The outbreak of hostilities in Poland was not mentioned or recorded, yet later in 1941 the film recorded German troops marching through Hungary to Yugoslavia as Germany's recompense from Hungary for having rewarded Hungary with that little slice of Slovakia; Hungary owed Germany and the debt was called in, to the nation's shame, a shame that was redeemed in part by the Prime Minister committing suicide, a political and patriotic deed on a parallel with noble Romans. I recalled to mind Walpole's exclamation at the outbreak of war exactly 200 years before: "They are ringing their bells now; they will soon be wringing their hands".

This was grim, fixing us to our seats as the country involved itself in the European war. Despite the war raging hundreds of kilometres away, as we knew, the friends and family had children, and shared larks on the shores of Balaton, and hiked in the beautiful mountains. There was a short mention of the inconveniences of siege from the Soviets - staying in the cellar while under bombardment - and then it is the Communist regime. The family have more children, peaking at four boys and four girls. With barely any warning we see civilians walking past the dead Russian soldiers and home fighters of the uprising of 1956. The film ends with a celebration of family life, perhaps the only thing that provides continuity for our hobby film maker. I found this film moving, and electrifying for the whole workshop; myths and realities, and the consequences of confusing one with another.

For our small group I had prepared myself to struggle through with my small amount of German, yet such was the mix of linguists that we made use mainly of English. Even in the Large Group this was the case, though with the exception of those from Italy, especially of the group of ten from Sicily, who were young students with a tutor who had obviously brought them as part of their training. What a project! A group of ten young students of group-analysis attending a European workshop. They spoke well once they were assured of translation and they were fresh air for us all. In an earlier article in "Contexts" I drew attention to a similar phenomenon in Kiev. Is there no equivalent in the UK, where an undergraduate psychology course includes the living study of a group of which the students are participants? It seems not. So, congratulations Sicily! Congratulations Kiev! Elsewhere in Europe, may we emulate you! The large group was convened by Josef Shaked from Vienna, who provoked us all sharply into searching dialogue, an approach that at first many of us found unnecessarily pushy yet which by the end I was pleased with, as he ensured that we did engage for real and was also able to take our criticisms of him and his style and not be shaken. We had been "shaken" by being "shaked".

Our organising committee had booked a concert for us to attend on the Friday evening. I sat and listened and watched. I found it an odd event. A vast concert hall in which no-one said anything aloud, in which there was plenty of music which moved me not at all, at which the players came in, played, then went out again and then repeated this several times, and the conductor came and went similarly, also several times. The conventional format. I felt like I was

watching a noisy mime. Having so many people together without any speech or dialogue now seems to me a wasted opportunity for having the exchange and experience of a large group.

Saturday evening's event was more interesting and involving. Aboard an old Russian ship we dined well, while on the upper deck throughout the evening and into the night an artist and his helpers built a small glass house and on the large windows painted - a brush in each hand and both brushes active together - semi-abstract pictures of tango dancers. Though he acted "outside the box" which at first left me mistrustful, I was won over as the whole edifice came together and his painting illustrated through tango - and music - the possibilities of a Europe that might just start dancing together instead of either reliving its myths and history as murderous farce or repeating its accumulated culture *ad nauseam*.

My thanks go out to all those who participated in the workshop, and especially to those whom I know spent many hours and much anxiety organising such a large event for us from all corners of the Continent. Thank you Giovanna Cantorelli, Kurt Husemann, Bettina Fink, Ilona Fonyo, Zsuzsa Merei, Josef Shaked, Mary Spreng-Courtney and Gyorgy Vikar, and on top of those, to Zsuzsa Sipos whose task it was to chair and coordinate the entire event. It was definitely worth it.

Kevin Power

Mental Health Conference, April 2006

David E. Scharff, M.D.

A conference for mental health professionals in Tel Aviv in early April, 2006, was billed as an opportunity for dialogue. I was invited to give an opening keynote on the family origins of prejudice, but I went mostly with the hope of learning about mental health in Israel and the Palestinian areas. So I was disappointed when Mohammed, the lone Palestinian psychologist in our discussion group was fairly silent the first day and did not show up for the second. When he arrived the third day, as the discussion raced past us, I heard him explain why he had been absent the day before: He was late because he had to ascertain the schedule of check point closings. In addition, his time at the conference for Gaza on this, its final day might be limited. Perhaps he and some other Palestinians would have to leave early because they had to time their return with the closing of the checkpoints that changes from day to day, often without warning.

What our group had been discussing suddenly seemed trivial compared to what Mohammed and his Palestinian cohorts had to deal with, and focusing on their plight suddenly gave a new perspective to the rest of us. In the ensuing conversations with Mohammed and other Palestinian psychologists and mental health workers, it was plain that we needed to hear their voices. These are professionals who speak with moderation and concern for human suffering. They work every day with patients who are subject to many constraints and who also exhibit short sighted, self destructive

behavior on personal and political levels. This conference offered an opportunity for Israelis and those of us from the international community to hear Palestinian voices that do not often get a hearing in the American media, and as far as I know, in the Israeli and Arab media, a thoughtful, balanced and dedicated voice that is on the same footing as the extremely competent and dedicated Israeli professionals with whom I was already familiar. Like their Israeli counterparts, the Palestinian therapists and researchers work tirelessly and dispassionately to seek improvement for the many victims of conflict. Because the Palestinian population is itself so traumatized, it needs their help desperately, both to heal the wounds of almost daily trauma, and to keep such traumatized experience from continuing to turn the population to expressions of violence as the only salve to helplessness.

The conference, called “Imagine: Expression in the Service of Humanity,” was organized by Lesley University, which has programs in the expressive therapies at campuses in Boston and Tel Aviv. The conference was designed to bring Palestinian and Israeli psychotherapists and researchers together with international contributors. As someone who has worked on the subject of malignant prejudice at other such gatherings, I was invited to participate. So it was with a mixture of interest and dread about the helplessness of the chronic situation in Israel that I prepared. Knowing that Israelis live with threat of danger every day and that Palestinians live daily with oppression, confusion and trauma of a high order, I went with some anticipation of danger, which fortunately did not materialize -- at least not while I was there.

In the three days I was there, I learned more than I taught. When we arrived, we found that organizers had worked diligently to make it possible for the Palestinians to get permission to attend, and had then carried out the complex logistics required to get them through the checkpoints, pay for their food and lodging, and make them comfortable by organizing several pre-conference meetings designed to give everyone a chance to test out their expectations and worries.

The conference turned out offer an unexpected chance to cross the divide. I had worked with Israeli clinicians several years ago when my wife and I taught family and couples therapy there. They are well-educated and sophisticated, and although diverse politically, mostly open to understanding and sympathizing with the plight of the Palestinians and the colleagues who serve them. But this conference offered a unique opportunity for the Israeli and Palestinian groups to hear about each other’s work in depth. Throughout the three days, we heard talks from Israelis and Palestinians, from universities and clinics, as well as from the imported foreigners like me. The range of work was creative and knowledgeable about similar and leading edge practices around the world. There were clinical and research programs in treating trauma, in infant mental health, in family therapy – a wide range representing any well funded and well staffed set of services in developed countries. But it was evident as we listened that the Israelis had a huge advantage in these areas: access to training, to government money, and to exchange with the wider professional world. The workers I met from the Arab Alquds University in East Jerusalem and from Gaza Mental Health Program were wary at first about the grounds of their participation, but they grew increasingly eager to tell their stories. They work with few resources and enormous daily trauma, against the odds, often in government-run clinics that are always short of training, supervision and resources.

Mohammed’s discussion of checkpoints led the group to a larger discussion. Palestinian clinicians are cut off from one another because of these checkpoints in Gaza and the West Bank, and, ironically, can only meet occasionally in Israeli territory. They talk by phone, but can not meet, as the new security wall that now

weaves through the Palestinian territory cuts off access between home and work, and between families.

Later, an English colleague and I sat with Mohammed and his colleague Marwan, as they spoke about the difficulty of their situation, how they dealt every day with the traumatized children in the Gaza Mental Health Program. To illustrate, Mohammed told the story of a group of four 11-year-old girls, who decided that in order to do something about their situation, they would walk to a settlement hiding a knife, and call out to a guard. They imagined he would come out to talk to them, and that they would then stab him, grab his gun, and shoot as many settlers as possible. Fortunately they were overheard by other girls who told the headmaster. Still it was only as they were walking towards the settlement that they were caught. Parents were called. One girl's father was furious at her. As he was yelling at her, she said to him, "How can you be upset with me? When you watch television, you cheer at the news of a suicide bomber, and the more Israelis he kills, the more you cheer. I was only trying to live up to what you expect of our heroes." The mental health workers know how destructive this attitude is for the children, so they worked to introduce more possibilities into the girls' narrowed way of responding. They have seen, over and over, how the Palestinian children respond to their social and personal helplessness by developing a one-track idea of suicidal retaliation, the kind of mentality that leads to suicide bombing and the social support of the bombers. Eventually, through psychodramatic group intervention, these girls came up with a scheme to raise money for victims. At first the girls could only think of helping the families of suicide bombers, but then were able to move beyond that relatively narrow focus to the larger idea of raising money for all children who had lost parents, an enlarged and no longer retaliatory point of view.

Mohammed and Darwan went on to talk about how they work in isolation. They have no support from outside and work with what resources they have. They cannot get out of Gaza with any regularity, and no one comes in to supervise or teach them. The children and families have suffered multiple losses, and the mental health teams see evidence of the constraints and losses everyday. The professionals also suffer with the continuing burden of treating social and personal tragedy.

Later, I talked to a young woman doctor wearing a head scarf, who is pregnant with her first child. She lives and works behind the wall the Israelis are building. While she was born in the US, her family moved back to Israel while she was a child. She spent her young years in the West Bank, but her family decided their children were not getting the opportunities due them, so they moved back to the US where she completed secondary school, college and medical school. She has now decided she needs to give back to the Palestinians.

Her Palestinian husband is also a professional, and yet, can not fully understand her situation, caught between American values and a dedication to helping. She spoke with a kind of altruism many Americans would share, yet she feels she does not fully belong in either culture. In choosing a Palestinian identity, it seemed to me that she has not yet faced the kind of situation with her own children that caused her parents to move back to the US for her education. She is young, idealistic, with a nomadic quality to her identity, hungry for people to understand. She feels she does not quite belong anywhere, not fully as an American nor yet as a Palestinian. She voices many the values I would expect to see in many American women professionals who grow up expecting to be productive at work and full partners in marriage. Yet in wanting assert her identity as a Palestinian, and to be able

to help Palestinians directly, this young woman has no choice but to encounter the different social demands of a culture that calls on women to be subservient to men.

In America, this woman would not necessarily stand out, but she could be liberated. In her new home, she must be constrained by custom and culture, but she has a chance to make an enormous contribution. I admire her, but wonder she accomplish more in a culture of constraint, than she could by staying in the US and taking an easier road.

It seemed clear to many of us at the conference that many important Palestinian voices cannot be heard amid the political din. The strong message I heard from them was matched an equally strong wish on the part of many Israeli professionals at the conference to reach out to them. I'm sure the situation is only worsening as funds are cut off to the Palestinian government and resources dry up for those workers I met. The tragedy is that these dedicated and articulate professionals are voices of hope for peace and reconciliation. The politics of the region and of the world work to silence these voices. These professionals know about the many Palestinians who preach violence, but they also know how self destructive the violence is. They are natural partners for the Israeli and international professionals who would like to help. I came away believing that there are many on both sides of the wall who are try every day to find ways of working together.

David Scharff is a psychiatrist and psychoanalyst. He is Co-Director of the International Psychotherapy Institute in Chevy Chase, MD, a teaching analyst at the Washington Psychoanalytic Institute, a member of the International Psychoanalytical Association, and Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Georgetown Medical School and at the F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences in Bethesda, MD.

West Midlands Institute of Psychotherapy

Presents a One-day Conference

***The Challenge of Trauma from
Within and Without***

SPEAKER AND GROUP FACILITATOR

EARL HOPPER Ph.D.

Psychoanalyst, Group Analyst and Organisational Consultant

Saturday

14th October 2006

9:45am – 3:30pm –

Venue: Beeches Conference Centre
Bournville, Birmingham

Self-Funded WMIP members £70

Self-Funded £85

Employer Funded £115

This conference will address the challenges to organizational life for staff working in the NHS and other settings when working with traumatised patients and their resistances/defences. In many instances the care-giving system around the patient is dealing with its own trauma and stresses and prone to resist thoughtful interventions.

e-mail: admin@wmip.org, website: www.wmip.org

Barbara Chiles, West Midlands Institute of Psychotherapy, 36 Harborne Road, Edgbaston
B15 3AF Tel/Fax: 0121 245 788

Provisional Programme

10.00 REGISTRATION

10.30 WELCOME AND OPENING LECTURE

'The internal worlds of traumatised people and the unconscious life of their organisations'

The psychic survival of traumatised people often depends on their development of crustacean and amoeboid defences against the fear of annihilation, and on their ability to encapsulate their traumatogenic experience, which is then communicated through enactments and other primitive forms of communication. This has profound effects on their organisations in which they work, from which they are offered help, and/or in which they live. The 'life' of such organisations is characterised by social, cultural and communicational patterns and regularities which can be understood in terms of a fourth basic assumption in the unconscious life of social systems. I will outline and illustrate my theory of (basic assumption) I:A/M or Incohesion: Aggregation/Massification. In my view it is useful and appropriate to use concepts of personal experience in order to describe the dynamics of social systems only when such systems are characterised by the experience of trauma. Discussion with the participants in the workshop will be welcome.

11.30 QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

12.30 Lunch and Bookstall

1.30 SMALL GROUPS

2.30 LARGE GROUP PROCESSING

3.30 Close, Tea and Departure

We are delighted to welcome **Earl Hopper**, to the Midlands. He is a psychoanalyst, group analyst and organisational consultant in private practice. He is a supervisor and training analyst for The Institute of Group Analysis, The British Association of Psychotherapists and The London Centre for Psychotherapy. An honorary tutor at The Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust and a member of the Faculty of the Post-Doctoral Program at Adelphi University, New York, he is the author of many books and articles, and an internationally renowned lecturer and teacher. Earl Hopper is also a past President of the International Association of Group Psychotherapy and a past Chairman of the Group of Independent Psychoanalysts of The British Psychoanalytical Society. His recent publications include *The Social Unconscious: Selected Papers* and *Traumatic Experience in the Unconscious Life of Groups*. Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

Application Form

Title..... First Name.....Surname.....

Place of work

Town..... Profession

Contact Address

.....
.....
.....

Tel No

Email address

*Please state what most interests you about the topic of this conference.

.....
.....

Please indicate any special dietary needs/disabled facilities required

.....

Please return your completed application form, together with your payment, either personal cheque or a cheque from your organisation with your application form (cheques made payable to WMIP) to:

Barbara Chiles
West Midlands Institute of Psychotherapy
36 Harborne Road
Edgbaston
B15 3AF

Please note: places can only be confirmed on receipt of payment.

Further forms can be obtained via WMIP e-mail: admin@wmip.org
website: www.wmip.co.uk
or by contacting: Tel/Fax: 0121 245 788

CPD certificates available on request.

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, or contact the Society via email to groupanalytic.society@virgin.net. Tax considerations will be based on legal requirements in the donor's region.

Submitted by Lauren E. Storck, MC Member



INVITATION

Dear All,

Please note that the Inauguration (with finger buffet and wine) for the new First Year Students will take place on Monday 18th September 2006, from 8:15pm – 9:45pm at 1 Daleham Gardens.

I would like to invite you to this occasion, which also marks the beginning of term and is a possibility to meet the new students.

Looking forward to seeing you then.

Best wishes

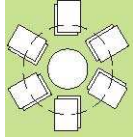
Amélie Noack
Convenor, London Qualifying Course

Reply Slip: Inauguration for First Year Students on the London Qualifying Course

I _____

can / cannot attend the Inauguration on Monday 18th September 2006.

Please return this slip to Samantha Gritton, Training Administrator, at the IGA by Friday 8th September 2006.



The Institute of Group Analysis New Readings in Group Analysis Sunday symposia at the IGA

Presentations by recently qualified members offering the opportunity to discuss **newly emerging ideas, visions, and applications** of Group Analysis in a relaxed and informal environment.

Sunday symposium schedule

9.30 - 10.00 Registration
10.00 - 11.15 Intro and Presentations
11.15 - 11.45 Refreshments
11.45 - 12.30 Discussion

The aims of these readings are:

- To create a relaxed, welcoming and accessible forum for the presentation and discussion of clinical and theoretical ideas
- To encourage the participation of new members
- To contribute to the intellectual life of the IGA
- To develop the confidence and skills of new members in presenting their ideas and experience
- To develop new approaches to presentation

Convened by: Peter Wilson and Amélie Noack

Steering group members:

- Peter Wilson
- Amélie Noack
- Peter Finn
- Rebecca Neeld
- Ken Bledin
- Sara Scott
- Sarah Tucker
- John Schlapobersky
- John Parkes

A creative initiative of the London Core Teaching Group.

We welcome further papers and ideas for future presentation. Members who are interested in contributing to the symposium

please contact: **Peter Finn** at ppetefinn@aol.com or **Peter Wilson** at ptwilson@ntlworld.com

Speakers

- Pam Millard
- Kathryn Craig
- Monica Doran
- Jale Punter
- John Parkes
- Sheila Ritchie

New Readings in Group Analysis

A relaxed and informal opportunity for members to receive and respond to **new contributions to Group Analysis** over refreshments and light breakfast.

Programme

Sunday 25th June 2006 10:00am – 12:30pm

Chair: Peter Finn

Speakers:

Pam Millard: Intimacy and Agency: acknowledging the spark between us.

Kathryn Craig: Institutionalisation.

Sunday 26th November 2006 10:00am – 12:30pm

Chair: Amélie Noack

Speakers:

Monica Doran: Deprivation and Sexual Abuse: nurturing identity through a group analytic experience.

Jale Punter: Trauma and Failures in Containment; group-analytic treatment of women who have been sexually abused in childhood.

Sunday 18th March 2007 10:00am – 12:30pm

Chair: Sara Scott

Speakers:

John Parkes: Silenced Voices, Sub-groups and Emergence.

Sheila Ritchie: Co-constructing a Narrative around Sex, Shame and Relating.

Cost

£7.50 payable on arrival

Time

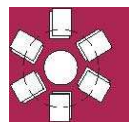
10.00am – 12:30pm

Venue

The Institute of Group Analysis

1 Daleham Gardens, London NW3 5BY

The IGA pursues a policy of equal opportunities and access for all its activities.



IGA

1 Daleham Gardens London NW3 5BY

Tel: 020 7431 2693

Fax: 020 7431 7246

Email: iga@igalondon.org.uk

Website: www.groupanalysis.org

Desire and Sexuality in Group Psychotherapy

*A Workshop in
York
with
Morris Nitsun*

*Saturday 21st
October*

10.00 — 16.30

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Psychotherapy Unit,
Department of Psychological
Therapies,
59 Huntington Road,
York YO31 8RL.



Therapists often feel unsure about how to work constructively with sexuality and desire in groups, a difficulty compounded by the way sexuality has been marginalised in the theory and practice of group psychotherapy. This workshop explores the personal and social tensions that have resulted in this situation and considers the impact of this 'hidden discourse' on clinical practice.

Morris Nitsun is a leading consultant clinical psychologist and group analyst. After a long career in the NHS, he now consults to a number of NHS Trusts and works privately at the Group Analytic Practice in London. His book "The Anti Group: Destructive Forces in the Group and their Constructive Potential," is widely viewed as a classic work.

£75 including a good buffet lunch.

£65 'Early Bird' rate for bookings made prior to 31/8/06.

A maximum of 25 places is available, so do book early!

Selby and York 
Primary Care Trust

A **Bookstall** will be available, stocking Morris Nitsun's new book "The Group as an Object of Desire: - Exploring Sexuality in Group Therapy," published in 2006, & other titles.

St Andrew's Counselling & Psychotherapy Unit

APPLICATION FORM

Desire and Sexuality in Group Psychotherapy

Saturday 21st October 2006

Please complete this form and return *with your payment* to St Andrew's Counselling & Psychotherapy Unit, 59 Huntington Road, York YO31 8RL. Your place will be confirmed only on receipt of your payment.

Name.....

Contact Address.....

.....

Telephone *home/mob*..... *work*.....

E-mail..... Occupation.....

- I have the following personal requirements (access, dietary, other - please delete or complete if applicable)

.....

.....

- I accept the Trust's cancellation policy below. I agree not to discuss clinical or personal information shared in this workshop with anyone outside the workshop.
- I enclose a cheque for my fee of £75, £65 (payment by 31/8/06), £45 (SYPCT applicants only), made payable to **Selby and York Primary Care Trust** (Please circle appropriate fee).

How did you hear about this workshop?

Please tick this box if you do NOT wish to receive information about future events.

Cancellations: Selby and York Primary Care Trust reserves the right to cancel the workshop in the event of minimum numbers not being reached. Participants cancelling are subject to the following terms: more than 6 weeks before: - full refund. Less than six but more than two weeks before: 25% cancellation fee. Less than two weeks before: no refund.

Signed..... Date.....

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 15th 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 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.

SGAZ Conference 23 – 25 February 2007

Zur Feier seines 25 jährigen Bestehens veranstaltet das SGAZ Seminar für Gruppenanalyse Zürich eine Tagung in Zürich vom 23. bis 25. Februar 2007 zum Thema „Die Kunst der Mehrstimmigkeit – Gruppenanalyse: ein Modell für die Zivilisierung von Konflikten“. Das Programm umfasst Referate, Workshops, Selbsterfahrung in Kleingruppen, die Grossgruppe sowie eine Podiumsdiskussion zum Tagungsthema. Zur Teilnahme angesprochen sind Interessierte aus den verschiedensten gesellschaftlichen Bereichen: Psychotherapie, Pädagogie, Politic, Kultur, Wissenschaft, Politic und Wirtschaft.

Information unter www.SGAZ.ch oder lilo.meister@meister-concept.ch

der Kongressorganisatorin, ferner unter Sekretariat SGAZ,
Quellenstr. 27, CH-8005 Zürich.
Tel. + 41 (0) 442718183, Fax + 41 (0) 442717371.

Das ausführliche Programm erscheint in Juli.

In memoriam

IN MEMORY OF HANS COHN

Margaret Farrell

It is now well over two years since Hans died. I am afraid that I missed the comprehensive obituary by Nicola Diamond in *Group Analysis* in December 2004, which told me many things about Hans that I did not know. However, if it is not too late, and to those of us in Cambridge Group Work, whom he visited regularly for a number of years.

I first remember him in a large group at Daleham Gardens in one of the very active and even tendentious January workshops in the 1980's. It was before we sat in spiral formation; he was sitting in the front row, and I was somewhere in the back. I can't remember what he said, but it was in his clear, but heavily accented voice, and brought clarity and good sense to the proceedings. This was to presage for me almost all of his comments and remarks – the clarity, the wry humour, and a slight but very welcome disengagement from the proceedings.

Twice we invited him to workshops in Cambridge; once in a dialogue with Peter Lomas on the subject of the 'ordinary' (Peter's word) or the 'actual' (Hans' word) in psychotherapy, and another time just 'A Morning with Hans Cohn.' This title tickled his sense of himself – always modest, he was amused at the idea – but gave good value.

Those of us in Cambridge Group work conducting therapy, experiential or staff groups then began to gather regularly with him at least once a year, for a day or latterly half-day of 'supervision'. He would stay in the Garden House or latterly in the Arundel House hotel, using the weekend to attend concerts as well. For him Cambridge was a relaxed place to have a pleasant weekend. Not always so for those of us who lived and worked here! Again, his wisdom and gentle humour illuminated our practice, and his form of Socratic questioning often led us in unexpected directions. I remember his once questioning our automatic use of the concept of transference: 'Why do you think it is necessary to think this way?' he asked.

I personally went to him a couple of times for individual supervision, as did also Agi Lloyd. It was refreshing to visit him at FABYC house in Kew, away from our usual colleagues. He was generous: I remember paying him (a modest sum) for the supervision – and he promptly took me out to lunch! Agi has told me that what chiefly characterises her memories of Hans was his intellectual approach 'which seemed most simple and uncomplicated, but which arose from the fusion of very complex ideas...but also had a Buddhist quality' – though she added that she realised that he would have regarded it as more to do with his existentialist approach, 'which I feel enabled him not to project his desires into the outcome of therapy.'

I did not follow all his thinking in the existential-phenomenological field; I assumed there would be more time for him to come to teach us in this area. We knew he was getting older – but I think we thought he might go on forever! We all miss him, and he is impossible to replace.



RECRUITMENT ADVERTISEMENT

Supervisor

Diploma in Short Term Psychodynamic Therapy (October – April 2006)

We have a vacancy for a Supervisor on the above course. The Appointee will have a qualification in psychodynamic counselling and/or psychoanalytic therapy and experience in time limited psychoanalytic or psychodynamic psychotherapy, which enables them to work in time limited way. Applicants should have a qualification in supervision or experience of time limited supervision.

The course runs over two terms commencing in October 2006.

Mondays: 3.45pm– 5.30pm
Actual Salary: £971.00 (paid over 7 months)

For further information and Job Description, please contact:

Netra Mahadani, HR Advisor

wpcf Counselling & Psychotherapy, 23 Kensington Square, London W8 5HN

e-mail : humanresources@wpcf.org.uk Telephone:020 7361 4863/4859

Or visit our web site at www.wpcf.org.uk

**Closing date for applications: Tuesday, 4th September
2006**

**Short listed candidates will be interviewed on either Tuesday, 12th
September or Wednesday, 13th September.**

GROUP ANALYSIS NORTH

The Red House, 78 Manchester Road

Swinton, Manchester, M27 5FG

Tel/Fax: 0161 728 1633

e-mail: gan@freenetname.co.uk

www.gannet.org.uk



Group Analysis North

Groups for Life

**A Series of 6 Workshops, to be held in
York, between 12th May 2006 and 10th
November 2006**



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

Qualifies for CPD: Certificate of Attendance provided

PROGRAMME

Friday 12th 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 9th 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 7th 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 15th 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 20th 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 10th 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)

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 Rosslyn 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 Froggnal, 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).