

Return to Ravenscar



December 2006

Highlights:

- We return to Ravenscar: is it time to move on?
- It's time to submit papers, panels, workshops and other ideas for Ravenscar
- It's definitely time to rethink and refocus SPR UK: come to Ravenscar and help
- It's time for new blood on the steering group: join up!

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SPR UK has not had a chance to meet in Ravenscar for a couple of years. In 2005 we had a successful joint meeting with the European Chapter in Lausanne and this year, in 2006, we hosted the

biggest ever international meeting in Edinburgh (see below). However, March 2007 sees a welcome return to the old haunt. With this newsletter you should receive a call for papers. Please con-

sider submitting something yourself and also put a copy of the call up in your department to encourage new people to get involved in SPR. The dates for your diary are:

Deadline for submissions: 5th January 2007

Conference: 11th to 14th March 2007

Now is the time
to get involved!

What is SPR UK for?

A huge amount of publicity has been generated following Lord Layard's report into the provision of psychological treatments for depression and this has led to the subsequent CSIP "Improving Access to Psychological Therapies" initiative. Therapists, counsellors and researchers have been visible in the media reminding the public

as well as the government that we must offer and research a full range of therapies. CBT is an important and valuable strand of the therapies but we will offer a much poorer service to our patients if we are restricted in the range of treatments able to be offered and if therapies become "dumbed down" to an oversimplified model as the

BABCP response to Layard underlines. SPR as a multi-disciplinary as well as a pan-theoretical organisation committed to developing the evidence base for psychological treatments has an important role to play in this debate and in the future provision of treatment. Now is the time to get involved.

Edinburgh:
Just before the
opening
Presidential
address



Edinburgh 2006

This year the UK Chapter hosted the International meeting at Pollock Halls, University of Edinburgh. Maggie Pettifer and Joanne Carlyle, ably assisted by UK members Brian Rodgers, John McLeod, Mick Cooper, David Shapiro and Chris Evans had the somewhat unexpected pleasure of organising the largest SPR conference to date (oh

the attraction of the 'auld country'). The final result was a considerable achievement as the venue was chosen because attendance was expected to be down markedly on previous years following 9/11. Starting in fine Scottish tradition with a Ceidilh ('a gathering'), the friendly and lively tone of the meeting was set. An amazing band

of 'student' helpers from the UK, US and the Netherlands made a real contribution to the atmosphere and hopefully will be part of the new generation of SPR psychotherapy researchers. The conference attracted a number of new UK members and we hope that this spurs SPR on in a new direction.

Unmoderated SPR UK Email list

Following the 2005 autumn one day event in Leicester, Kim Dent-Brown started a new announcement list spruk@yahoogle.com.

This is the best way to hear about what is going on in SPR and also a chance for you to make contacts ask for information, publicise your own work.

Topics covered have included announcements about SPR UK but have also ranged from evidence based group work, software packages.

Data protection means that we must have your permission to join you to the list.

Sign up by e-mailing Kim on putting "Join SPR UK List" in the subject line.

Email Kim:

K.Dent-Brown@sheffield.ac.uk

Putting

"Join SPR UK List" in the subject line.

One day meetings

The UK Chapter also held a one day meeting in Leicester in autumn 2005 organised by Kim Dent Brown.

The next autumn one day event is likely to be a joint two day event on post-Layard development of psychotherapy and psychotherapy research to be held jointly with a number of other organisations: more on this at Ravenscar and in the next newsletter.

As part of a rethink of the way SPR UK works, the executive are keen to follow the example of "SPR North" and move to holding more local meetings.

For this to happen, individual SPR members are encouraged to discuss organising one day events around the country, supported by the SPR UK executive.

If you have an idea for a conference and a venue and would like to take the plunge with some additional support, then get in touch with the executive via:

chris@psyctc.org

Want to organise an SPR UK one day meeting?

SPR International: presidential report

Edinburgh was a huge success, feedback was good and SPR made some money out of the conference against dire predictions that it would lose money with people reluctant to travel post 9/11. As is perhaps always the case, there were tensions between programme committee, local organizing

committee and International Executive which have led to talk about different ways of organising the international meetings, moving to a more centralised model led by the International Executive, though at present there have been no formal changes.

We have had a fairly rapid change of Executive Offi-

cer, SPR's one financially supported officer. Tracy Eells has taken over from Bob Lueger who was made a job offer to move that was too good to refuse and too busy to allow him to continue in the EO post. Tracy has carried on Bob's work of trying put SPR's administration and finances on a better footing

**How should SPR UK pay dues and relate to SPR International?
Email: chris@psyctc.org**

If you haven't renewed, renew either through the international web site: psychotherapyresearch.org

Or send, perhaps for the last time, a cheque to:

SPR (UK)
Mrs Trudy Coldwell
Administrator
University of Sheffield
SchARR
Regent Court
30 Regent Street
Sheffield
S1 4DA

Join the steering group: put yourself forward by Email: Linda.Treiving@gpct.Grampian.scot.nhs.uk

SPR International contd.

but this is a huge task with particular problems following 9/11 as laws on moving money between countries have tightened up markedly.

The Journal is now being well served by Taylor and Francis and is increasing in size and space and we have a new UK associate editor: Mark Evans.

The 2008 international meeting will be in the wonderful city of Barcelona, probably 18-21.vi.2008,

just possibly the next week. If you're involved in organising meetings, try to avoid them clashing if you can and I'd strongly recommend planning submissions for Barcelona now!

The International SPR website and Email lists have moved to a new host and been revamped and now have credit card payment. However, decisions about a late payment penalty and only having payment centrally, not within chapters, have already caused com-

plaints from UK members.

At Ravenscar we will be discussing forming a non-profit making company to give a formal legal status to SPR UK linked with attempting to promote a new identity for SPR UK as a genuine lead and home for psychotherapy research in the UK. Do come and add your voice there and Email me with your thoughts.

SPR UK steering group: positions vacant

Partly because we have been without the usual Ravenscar exchanges of ideas for two years, also because we, particularly myself and Jo-anne Carlyle, have been pretty busy with Lausanne and then Edinburgh, we have held only small SPR UK AGMs the last two years and now have a number of positions vacant and others coming up for elections.

A number of new faces have already expressed an interest in getting involved and we are really keen to use the chance of a couple of 'home meetings' to galvanise SPR, get new blood involved and create an agenda for the future.

Now is the time to put yourself forward. We are happy to have people thinking of putting themselves forward shadow the steering group by joining the steering group Email list in read only mode between now and the AGM at Ravenscar.

Do think about putting yourself forward to join.

To stand for an office, please Email our Secretary, Linda Treiving giving your name, work address and title, and which post(s) you want to stand for.

Deadline: 5.i.07

Below is a list of offices and their renewal dates:

UK President (June 2008)
Chris Evans
Past president (June 2007)
Glenys Parry
President elect (June 2007)
Starts summer 2007

[These all turn on the election after Ravenscar in 2007, of the next UK president.]

Secretary (March 2007)
Linda Treiving
Treasurer (March 2007)
Thomas Schröder

Position with special responsibility (1), currently IT and external relations

(resigned)

David Shapiro
Position with special responsibility (2)

vacant
[These have been used flexibly over the years. We are open to new suggestions about how to use them.]

Ordinary member (March 2008)

Chris Mace
Ordinary member (March 2007, eligible for re-election)

Marion Panchkowry
Ordinary member (vacant)

Web-wonder (co-opted)

Sue Wheeler
International conference liaison (co-opted)
Jo-anne Carlyle

David is retiring, long live David the photographer

As noted above, David Shapiro has announced his retirement from psychology and psychotherapy work. Following Ian Macilwain's example, David is moving to a new career as a professional photographer, specialising in photographs of musicians.

David has been a pillar of SPR and SPR UK for many, many years. One story, surely not apocryphal, is that our long association with Raven Hall and Ravenscar for our UK meetings followed

he and Diana having their honeymoon in the hotel.

I am sure that many people have stories about David and his input to SPR over all these years. Do get in touch with me and I'll include anything publishable in the next newsletter and share anything unpublishable at the bar in Ravenscar and Madison unless David pays me enough to secure my silence. (Not serious David!)

Scanning for a revealing photo (I do wish I caught that moment when Ian and David were comparing the size of their lenses in Ravenscar.) I found what now looks a rather worrying photo of Professor Richardson from 2002.



Ian before his defection to photography



David

Dates

5.i.07 – submissions for Ravenscar must be with Kim Dent-Brown

K.Dent-Brown@sheffield.ac.uk

5.i.07 – offers to stand for a steering group position must be with Linda Treliving

Linda.Treliving@gpct.Grampian.scot.nhs.uk

11-14.iii.07 – Ravenscar

20-27.iii.07 – European Chapter meeting, Funchal, Madeira, Portugal

20-23.vi.07 – SPR international meeting, Madison, Wisconsin, USA

18-21.vi.07 – SPR international meeting, Barcelona (possibly the next week)



Careful Phil, those things are dangerously seductive.



Administration:
SPR (UK)
Mrs Trudy Coldwell
Administrator
University of Sheffield
ScHARR
Regent Court
30 Regent Street
Sheffield
S1 4DA

Email: chris@psyctc.org

The Society is an international, multidisciplinary scientific association devoted to research on psychotherapy. The aims of the Society are:

1. to encourage the development of scientific research on psychotherapy;
2. to foster the communication, understanding, and use of research findings;
3. to enhance the scientific and social value of psychotherapy research;
4. to contribute, through research;
5. to enhancing the effectiveness of psychotherapies.

WWW.SPR.ORG.UK
WWW.PSYCHOTHERAPYRESEARCH.ORG



Edinburgh 2006:

Not the presidential address but one of the more successful innovatory panels. Note studied concentration of discussant in the bottom right pondering how to suggest politely that while the cross-chapter collaboration that underpinned the panel was laudable, she had doubts about the analysis by a growth curve model based on the old, old assumption of Gaussian error components. Terry (on bass) is rumoured to have said afterwards that he had always thought the work was quintessentially qualitative and participatory/emancipatory and couldn't understand how the cgi-bin application processing the submission had translated "qualitative" to "quantitative". Gaspare (acoustic) said maximum likelihood methods approaches to translation often did this in Italy.