
Forthcoming events

The Royal Society of Medicine's Forum on Learning Disability is holding a one-day meeting on **Exploring Literacy** on 27 May 1999 at the Royal Society of Medicine, London. Topics will include the relationship between language and literacy, objects of reference as first steps to reading, the principles of tactile books, the skills of symbol reading and access to literature. Further information: Vesna Milenkovic, Academic Administrator, Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AE (telephone: 0171 290 2988, fax: 0171 290 2989, e-mail: vesna.milenkovic@roysocmed.ac.uk).

Autism: DNA to day-to-day living is a two-day conference being organised by The National Autistic Society, Mole Conferences, Pavillion Publishing and St George's Hospital Medical School. The event will bring together the most recent findings from genetics, neurology, psychology, psychiatry, pharmacology, education and social studies. It will explore the interface between advances in academic research and the practical implications for families, practitioners and people with autism. Among the many issues to be examined, the meeting will consider diagnostic issues and the relationship between autism and other disorders of communication. This conference will take place on 10–11 June 1999 at St George's Hospital Medical School, London SW17. Further information: Pavillion Publishing (Brighton) Limited (telephone: 01273 623 222, fax: 01273 625 526, e-mail: pavpub@pavillion.co.uk).

The **UK Psychiatric Huntington's Disease Group** is to hold its first meeting at The Royal College of Psychiatrists on 16 June 1999. The aim of the group is the improvement of mental health services for people with Huntington's Disease in the UK. This could include the creation of assessment and treatment guidelines, service development strategies and training opportunities. Further information: Dr K. Barrett, Consultant Neuropsychiatrist, The Neuro-behavioural Unit, Haywood Hospital, High Lane, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire ST6 7AG (telephone: 01782 425780, fax: 01782 425782).

The **Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health's 4th Annual Summer Conference** will be taking place on 28–30 June 1999 in Bournemouth. The conference will look at how to create opportunities for full participation in the com-

munity by users and carers who have been excluded by prevailing public attitudes and the very nature of traditional approaches to mental health care. Aimed at academic and research staff, as well as practitioners, including nurses, social workers, psychologists and psychiatrists, the conference will also explore how assertive outreach and mobile crisis intervention teams can become vehicles to engage those users and carers on the margin of care who have not had their needs met by traditional services. Further information: Conference Centre, The Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health, 134–138 Borough High Street, London SE1 1LB (telephone: 0171 827 8384, fax: 0171 403 9482).

The Faculty of Health, University of Central Lancashire, and the Ehrenkranz School of Social Work, New York University are the organisers of an International Forensic Mental Health Conference entitled **Creating Caring Communities to Serve Mentally Ill Offenders** to be held at the Harrington Conference Centre, University of Central Lancashire, Preston on 19–23 July 1999. This conference provides an opportunity for practitioners, policy makers and researchers to meet together with the aim of creating an organisation/association where opportunities could be found for learning, collaboration and exchanging of information on effective models of care, intervention strategies, research, training and policy making. Further information: Louise Monks, Centralan Consultants Ltd, University of Central Lancashire, Preston PR1 2HE (telephone: 01772 892 258/938, e-mail: l.a.monks1@uclan.ac.uk).

The Champernowne Trust for Psychotherapy and the Arts will be holding their 28th Annual Summer Course on 24–30 July 1999 at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor Great Park. The theme this year is **Creation and Human Purpose: Intentions, Functions and Values**. The course will be of interest to those involved in psychotherapy and counselling, psychiatry and psychology, the arts, education, the health services and other related professions. The programme includes formal lectures, arts workshops and discussions and may be envisaged as an exploration of practical, creative and inspirational applications of Jungian psychology in personal and professional life. Further information: Andrew Clements, 32 Meadfoot Lane, Torquay, Devon TQ1 2BW.

The Association for Medical Education in Europe (AMEE) will be holding a conference entitled **A Critical Appraisal of Medical Education** on 29 August–1 September 1999 in Linköping, Sweden. The programme covers a number of key issues relating to postgraduate and continuing medical education and there will be a full programme of plenary talks, short communications, poster presentations and workshops. In addition, a further workshop of the Directors of Postgraduate Medical Education Group has been organised. Further information: Mrs Pat Lilley, AMEE Office, University of Dundee, Tay Park House, 484 Perth Road, Dundee DD2 1LR (telephone: 01382 631 967, fax: 01382 645748, e-mail: p.m.lilley@dundee.ac.uk).

The Association of European Psychiatrists, Section of Psychotherapy will be holding the **Second European Conference on Psychotherapy** on 13–16 September 1999 in Barcelona, Spain. Under the topic 'Europe, the XXI Century: psychotherapy hand in hand with pharmacotherapy' themes will include psychiatry and psychotherapy, psychotherapy research and psychosomatic medicine. The scientific programme will consist of plenary sessions, workshops and free papers. Further information: Grupo Geysco, Marina 27, 08005 Barcelona, Spain (telephone: 34 93 221 2242, fax: 34 93 221 7005, e-mail: geybcn@adv.es, URL: <http://www.geysco.com>).

Changing our Practice: Implementing Psychological Approaches to Working with Psychoses is the title of the UK Chapter conference being organised by the International Society for the Psychological Treatments of Schizophrenia and other Psychoses. Taking place on 16–17 September 1999 at the University of Essex, this conference will bring together people with mental health problems, their families, carers, managers of mental health services and mental health practitioners to plan how to bring more

psychological approaches into mainstream practice. Further information: Conference Secretariat, Bell Howe Conferences (ISPS), 1 Willoughby Street, Beeston, Nottingham NG9 2LT (telephone: 0115 943 6323, fax: 0115 943 6440, e-mail: ISPS@bellowecon.demon.co.uk).

The International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT) would like to announce the **VIII International Symposium on Torture – Torture as a Challenge to the Health, Legal and Other Professions** to take place on 22–25 September 1999 in New Delhi, India under the patronship of the United Nations High Commissioner of Human Rights. The event is being organised by IRCT and the National Human Rights Commission of India in cooperation with the Indian Medical Association and the Indian Law Institute. Main themes will include: torture as a challenge to the medical and other health professionals and torture as a challenge to the civil society. Further information: IRCT, Borgergade 13, PO Box 2107, DK-1014 Copenhagen K, Denmark (telephone: 45 33 760 600, fax: 45 33 760 500, e-mail: irct@irct.org, URL: <http://www.irct.org>).

A day conference and workshop on **Self-Esteem and Trauma** has been organised by the Eye Movement Desensitisation and Reprocessing (EMDR) (UK & I) Northampton branch – to be held at St Andrew's Hospital, Northampton on the 1 July 1999. The programme will include topics such as: the development of the self, therapy and practice relating to self-esteem and trauma and the use of EMDR in loss of self-esteem after trauma. The conference is recommended for psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, nurse therapists and other related mental health professionals. Further information: Mary Wild, St Andrew's Hospital, Billing Road, Northampton NN1 5DG (telephone: 01604 616630, fax: 01604 616623).

Contributions for this section should be submitted two months in advance of publication
