



columns

forthcoming events

The Professional Education and Training Unit (PET) of the Mental Health Group, University of Southampton would like to announce the following conferences: **Adult Severe Mental Illness** (20 January 2000, London); **Cognitive Behaviour Therapy for Children and Adolescents** (27–28 January 2000, Swindon); **Personality Disorders** (15 March 2000, Salisbury); and **Children of Mentally Ill Parents** (23 March 2000, Southampton). Further information: Mr David Beck, The PET Unit Director, Mental Health Group, University of Southampton, Royal South Hants Hospital, Brintons Terrace, Southampton SO14 0YG (telephone/fax: 01703 825543; e-mail: dkb@soton.ac.uk; web site: <http://www.groups.medschool.soton.ac.uk/mentalhealth/>).

A debate on the motion **ECT is barbaric and ineffective**, chaired by Dr Raj Persaud, will take place on 26 January 2000 in the Wolfson Lecture Theatre at the Maudsley Hospital and Institute of Psychiatry, De Crespigny Park, Camberwell. Admission is free, open to the public and the proceedings will begin at 6.00pm. Further information and enquiries: Dan Charlton, Press Office, Maudsley Hospital (telephone: 0171 703 6333).

The International Attachment Network Introductory Course 2000 will run from January to July 2000. Topics to be covered in the first term include: introduction to attachment theory; early development and attachment styles; meta-cognitive knowledge and reflective function and attachment; and projection and projective identification. The second term looks at the clinical application of attachment theory. The course will be held at the Tavistock Institute in London. Also organised by the International Attachment Network is a workshop entitled **Attachment, Violence and Men**, which will take place at the London Centre for Psychotherapy. Further information about the course and workshop: Ms Brenda Ling, Administrator, The International Attachment Network, 6 Oman Avenue, London NW2 6BG (telephone/fax: 0181 438 0340).

Professor R. N. Mohan, Consultant in Old Age Psychiatry and Clinical Tutor, Northern Birmingham Mental Health NHS Trust is the organiser of three two-day

courses which will take place in February 2000. **Mental Health Law Update for Non-Consultant Career Grade Doctors** will be held on 3–4 February 2000 and will focus on key issues related to the Mental Health Act and Mental Health Law. The other two courses aim to prepare trainees for the MRCPsych Part II examinations: **Critical Review Paper Preparation Course MRCPsych Part II** will be held on 8–9 February 2000 and **MCQ/PMP Course MRCPsych Part II** on 24–25 February 2000. For further information about all the courses, which will be held at the Birmingham Medical Institute, contact: Mrs Denise Makepeace (telephone: 0121 685 6574).

A series of paired one-day meetings on **Therapeutic Perspectives on Violence** will be held in Liverpool and London on 18–19 February, 31 March–1 April and 16–17 June 2000. Speakers will examine the biological, psychological and social origins of severe violence in children and adults and will present clinical and research findings referring to a range of psychological treatments. This series will be of particular interest to forensic psychiatrists, child and adolescent psychiatrists and all mental health professionals who encounter severe violence in their clinical practice. Further information: Professor Jonathan Hill, Alder Hey Hospital, Liverpool, L12 2AP (telephone: 0151 252 5509).

The Midland Course in Group Work with Children and Adolescents is to be held at St Andrew's Hospital in Northampton on three weekends: 20–21 May, 27–28 May and 17–18 June 2000. The course is suitable for beginners and experienced professionals who are interested in group work with children and adolescents. Further information and application forms: Dr Kedar Dwivedi, Course Director, c/o Child, Adolescent & Family Services, 8 Notre Dame Mews, Northampton NN1 2BG (telephone: 01604 604608; fax: 01604 604531; e-mail: Kedar@dial.pipex.com).

Two courses of **Practical ECT** will be held at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital on 22–23 March and 28–29 June 2000. Practical demonstrations of empirical estimation of the seizure threshold and EEG monitoring will be given. Notes of interest should be sent to: Ms Fiona Morrison, Andrew Duncan Clinic, Royal Edinburgh

Hospital, Edinburgh EH10 5HF (telephone: 0131 537 6452; fax: 0131 537 6116).

What is Evidence in Mental Health Care is the title of an international one-day symposium which will be held at St Bartholomew's Hospital in London on 11 April 2000. What constitutes evidence and how it is applied in mental health care will be discussed from very different perspectives. Further information: Unit for Social & Community Psychiatry, St Bartholomew's and the Royal London School of Medicine, East Ham Memorial Hospital, London E7 8QR (telephone: 0208 586 5272; fax 0208 586 5273; e-mail: evidence@qmw.ac.uk). CPD points: 6.

The Behavioural Science and Law Network is offering the following courses: **The Voice of the Child – A New Millennium or the Same Old Story?** (9 February 2000, London), **Managing Risk in mental Disorder Services** (17 January 2000, Bristol; 4 April 2000, Leeds; 15 May 2000, West Sussex) and **Managing Risk in Child Protection Services** (19 January 2000, Bristol; 6 April 2000, Leeds; 17 May 2000, West Sussex). Further information: Ms Jill Elliott, BS&L Network Manager, Faculty of Law, University of Southampton, Highfield, Southampton SO17 1BJ (telephone: 01703 592376; fax: 01703 593885; e-mail: jill.elliott@soton.ac.uk).

A national conference **Which Brief Psychotherapy?** hosted by the Departments of Psychotherapy at Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals in conjunction with the Association of Cognitive Analytic Therapists (ACAT) will be held on Friday 3 March 2000 at the Royal Institute of British Architects, London. This conference will aim to compare and contrast a range of models and their clinical and contextual indications with special reference to their evidence base. It should be of particular importance to those involved in planning in various mental health settings. Speakers and discussants include Gaie Houston, Dominic Lam, Duncan Maclean, Frank Margison, Stirling Moorey, Annie Nehmad, Glenys Parry, Anthony Ryle with Chess Denman and Jeremy Holmes. Further information from: Jonathan Lopez-Real, ACAT Office, Academic Department of Psychiatry, St Thomas' Hospital, Lambeth Palace Rd, London SE1 7EH (telephone: 0171 928 9292 ext. 3769).