

# WMIP e-bulletin

## July 2017

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**Dear Colleague,**

Welcome to the July e-bulletin of 2017. The holiday season is fast approaching and I wish you all a well deserved break and rest. I hope that this edition will both help you to wind down for your summer break, whilst also stimulating you for your return. As a result, I've tried not to overload you too much in this edition. However, that said, we still have a number of brilliant events and reviews to promote.

To make it easier to navigate the bulletin please click on the links below which will then take you to the different sections of the bulletin. Hopefully, this will enable you to get instant access to areas of interest without having to scroll through the entire document. **You may need to click the "view this email in your browser" located top right of the bulletin for this function to work.**

[Monday Evening Events](#)

[Outreach](#)

[Late Summer Conference](#)

[TCCP and JTC Events](#)

[Members news & views](#)

For future reference I request a copy of your proposed article for the bulletin approximately 2 weeks ahead of publication. If you have any comments, suggestions or contributions please send them to me at [shanesneyd@gmail.com](mailto:shanesneyd@gmail.com)

Thanks

Shane Sneyd (Editor)

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[Events Committee \(EC\)](#)



The Events Committee constitutionally needs a chair. Unfortunately, no one stood for chair in the last election. All three professional members who are in the committee also have responsibilities in either Membership or Training Committees. We would really like to invite professional members to attend one of our Events Committee meetings (held on the day of the Monday CPD Events) to get an idea of the responsibilities of a chair. One could come to quite a few of these meetings before making a decision. The Events Committee has done a lot of work in sharing out responsibilities between its members, making the job of a chair much lighter than it has ever been. This matter is quite urgent and the new chair would be supported in settling into their role.

## MONDAY EVENING EVENTS

The Monday evening CPD program since the last bulletin has hosted talks by Philippa Boulter and the Race and Culture group.

The Race and Culture group talk on the 26<sup>th</sup> of June attracted a number of visitors which fulfils our aim to engage in conversation with our community. The evening turned out to be too short to accommodate all thoughts. We encourage people to communicate through Jodie if they would like us to put on a similar event on again in the near future.

We would also like to encourage members to attend some of these evenings to share their own experiences and engage in peer professional development. For those members who are approaching or embarking on retirement, we hope that you will take up Retired membership and continue to contribute to the CPD programme by joining in discussions or presenting some of your experiences in the form of papers, talks or running workshops. The presence of senior members at the events is always greatly appreciated.

We will resume on the 16<sup>th</sup> of September for the summer conference, see the link below. **Please note that we have added further concessions which will see a further £10 reduction if you bring a guest, book as a group and additional concession for psychology and philosophy students. All this is in addition to the early bird fee.**

As we all know writing can help to bring together and deepen understanding our clinical work. One of our members who is an experienced writer and has attended workshops on analytical writing intends to run a writing course in the near future. It might be helpful to register your interest with Jodie to assist us in the planning of this course.



**REVIEW: “Thinking about the roots of narcissism through the therapy of a latency boy”**

**Presented by Philippa Boulter**

Philippa’s fascinating paper explored the struggles of a 9 year old boy’s narcissistic behaviour in the consulting room and his difficulties to grasp the concept of, and too allow, dyadic relating. Her work with ‘Bobby’ on a once weekly basis for 18 months was underpinned by a Kleinian view of narcissism, while also drawing on the thinking of Britton and Rosenfeld.

Bobby was born to a depressed mother and consequently turned from very early on to rely on to his own resources. His retreat into narcissism was contingent on a failure to establish an early diad with his depressed carer who described him as ‘not an easy baby’ and reported that connection via breast feeding and later via language were a struggle for him. In turn the therapist found him difficult to engage. Philippa felt that her thoughts appeared to go nowhere with the boy. He would bring his own objects into the therapy room and ignore the (toy)box in the consulting room. He did not play with or explore the things in the box provided for him. There was a great cut-offness in the boy whose focus was on creating his own internal relationships, leaving the therapist feeling extremely excluded. Bobby did not need her and had no curiosity about Philippa and their relationship. He was self-sufficient and seldom spoke of others. Philippa wondered if he would be able to use psychotherapy.

This was a boy full of anger. He spent the 18 months of his therapy engaged in endless battles with the objects he bought into the room, replayed scenarios again and again. Philippa described how his vicious attack on the beanbag in the room left *her* feeling viciously attacked, and how the feelings in the room were unbearable. However, gradually he became interested in Philippa’s presence and what she was doing, looking to see if she was watching him. Eventually he began to value what the therapist thought about him and to understand that Philippa had created a ‘Bobby-space’ in her mind, a necessary place in the carer’s mind that a child needs. However, he believed he was in charge of what his therapist felt about him, that he had omnipotent ownership and possession of her thoughts and feelings, and he

developed very positive feelings, and so began his ability to own his hostility and envy. Consequently his anger decreased and he became increasingly less cut-off. However, his fury re-emerged with the ending of the therapy and Bobby returned to relying on himself, but now he was more able to show and tell his therapist about his feelings and to acknowledge his anger at her leaving him. The establishment of the diad was only just developing towards the end of the therapy and would perhaps, according to Philippa, have benefitted from further work in order to establish it more firmly.

This is a paper that describes the endurance that is required of the therapist when working with distressed children, and how important it is for the therapist to manage her/his own anger. It was also an example of very thoughtful and patient work.

Lee du Plessis

**Philippa has kindly forwarded us her bibliography for this paper which can be obtained from Jodie, the WMIP administrator.**



**Monday 24 July 2017**  
**7.00 - 8.30 pm**

**"False Bodies, True Selves:  
Exploring Appearance-Focused  
Identity Struggles"**

**Presented by: Nicole Schnackenberg**



**Monday**  
**25 September 2017**  
**7.00 - 8.30pm**

**Members Forum:** An evening hosted by the WMIP's Trustees.



The WMIP OUTREACH programme continues later on in the year with an 'in conversation' between Alf McFarland of WMIP and **Barbara Taylor**, author of *The Last Asylum* (2014). The book (variously described as 'superb', 'riveting', 'relentlessly honest') is in part a 'historical mediation on mental illness' drawing on Taylor's own experience as a patient in psychiatric institutions; in part a provocative reflection on the changes in mental health care over past decades; and an intimate moving account of her own twenty-year analysis. **The date is Sunday 8 October. More details will follow, but in the meantime, please save the date.**

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## LATE SUMMER CONFERENCE

# Saturday 16 September 2017 Freud, Jung and the Modern World

Venue: the studio, 7 Cannon Street, Birmingham B2 5EP

9.30 for 10.00 am - 5.00 pm

Speakers: Ken Robinson, Marcus West and Ray Brown

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Jungian Training Committee  
(JTC)



Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup> 2017

10.15am – 2.45pm



## **SPIRITUALITY IN THE CONSULTING ROOM** *Murray Stein*

What is the difference between religiosity and spirituality?

Should questions regarding these matters be addressed in the context of  
psychotherapeutic practice?

Does it make a difference if the therapist has religious commitments or a spiritual  
attitude?

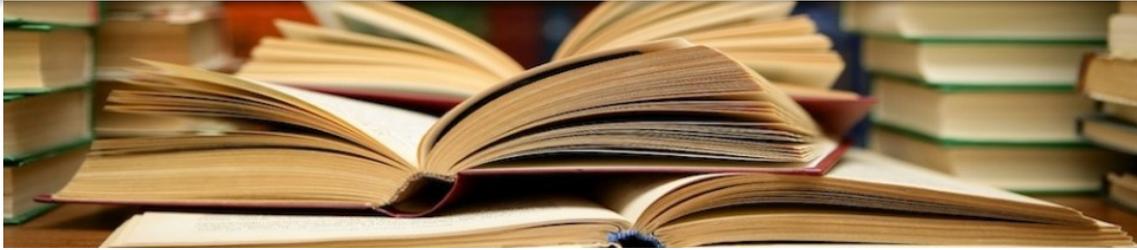
Murray Stein, Ph.D. is a Jungian psychoanalyst practicing in Zurich, Switzerland. He is a former president of the IAAP and is a training and supervising analyst at ISAPZurich. His books include *Jung's Treatment of Christianity*, *In MidLife*, *Jung's Map of the Soul*, *Minding the Self*, and most recently *Outside Inside and All Around*.

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**MEMBERS**



news &  
views



## WMIP Library update

Jill Eley and Lynette Maple continue to catalogue books in the library room at Birmingham Centre for Chinese Medicine (B.C.C.M 245 Alcester Road South, Kings Heath B14 6DT).

Please contact Jill or Lynette should you wish to come and visit the library or to check if we have something you need. Alternatively you can contact Rebekkah Sansoni at B.C.C.M to check availability for you to visit. The library has grown in a way we hadn't imagined at the onset of the project and we are sure there will be books that you may be interested in. We want this to be a living library that is a resource and of interest to members.

We would also welcome contact from any WMIP members able to offer:

- Oversight of the collection with a view to ensuring books reflect needs and interests of members.
- Thoughts and suggestions regarding physical access to the library.

Contacts:

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## THE FORUM

The Forum is accessible at [www.wmip.org/wmipforum](http://www.wmip.org/wmipforum)

You will be asked to log in to the forum page (username: wmipmember, password: psychotherapy)

Once on the forum page you will need to register to use the forum. Please use your own name as a username (not a nickname) and select your own personal password known only to you.

You can contribute to a discussion strand on the forum or initiate one of your own. Share with your colleagues: What you want from WMIP; how we can make psychoanalytic ideas more current in the Midlands; what issues are current for you etc.

**We look forward to hearing from you**

**Our mailing address is:**

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