



WMIP e-bulletin April 2026

Welcome from WMIP Co-Chair Shane Sneyd

Dear Members

I'd like to thank everyone who attended this year's AGM. It was good to see people there and to feel that sense of engagement in the room. I also want to thank everyone who contributed reports. There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes to keep WMIP and the trainings going and the AGM is one of the few moments where that becomes visible. It is much appreciated.

At the AGM I shared some reflections on where we are as an Institute, and I thought it might be helpful to include some of that here for those who were not able to attend. At times it can feel like a lot of our energy goes into the day to day, keeping things going and dealing with what lands. But alongside that there does seem to be a bit of movement, a sense that we are beginning to shape things a bit more deliberately. This can be seen in some of the recent developments around DECCA, the radio work, and the increase in online activity. I suppose what I am trying to hold onto is how we keep both of those things in mind, looking after what we already have whilst also finding ways to develop, connect, and grow as a community.

Part of that, for me, links back to something I spoke about last year around accessibility and who gets a seat at the table. It still feels important that WMIP remains a place where people from different paths and backgrounds can find a way in, and feel that they belong. I have also found myself thinking about the image of Janus, the Roman god of doors and gateways, often shown with two faces looking in opposite directions. In a way it captures something of the position we are in, paying attention to what is happening within WMIP whilst also looking outward and asking how we open doors and create access for others to come in, whilst also helping those already within WMIP to find ways to step forward and get involved.



That also means continuing to reach out beyond ourselves, not just staying within our existing circles but making connections and opening things up. I was struck recently listening to Christopher Bollas on the Granta podcast, where he spoke quite directly about the risk of psychoanalysis becoming too small and too inward looking, and how training institutes can at times close in on themselves.

It is a challenging thought, but one that feels worth holding in mind. Not as a criticism of any one place, but as something that invites reflection. One thing that really stands out to me is the amount of knowledge, experience and commitment within WMIP. The ongoing task for us as a Board is how we make better use of that, how we bring people in, and how we create space for people to get involved and contribute. Thanks again to everyone who attended the AGM and to all those who continue to support the Institute in different ways

Shane Sneyd
Co-Chair WMIP

What's coming up? Dates for your diary

Date	Speaker	Title	Venue
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Subscribe	Past Issues		Translate ▼	RSS
	10:15am – 12:45pm	Elizabeth Anscombe	nervosa as a special interest in autistic girls	Selly Park, Birmingham, B29 7LL
	Saturday 6 th June 2026 10:15am – 12:45pm	APT: Birmingham - Catherine Cox	Awakening in the sepulchre: a journey to eternal becoming the umbilical	St Paul's Convent, 94 Selly Park Road, Selly Park, Birmingham, B29 7LL
	Friday 12 th June 2026 8pm – 9:30pm	WMIP Analytic Film Club	Analysing the film 'The Last Mountain'	Zoom
	Friday 19 th June 2026 1:30pm – 3:30pm	BTTP – Alessandra Lemma	The Digital Superego: Embodiment under the Algorithmic Gaze	Zoom
	Saturday 12 th September 2026 10am – 4pm	WMIP - Philip Stokoe and Susan Mizen	Unbearable Otherness: Working with the Threat of Difference in Psychoanalytic Practice	Zoom
	Monday 12 th October 2026 7:15pm – 8:45pm	WMIP – Anastasios Gaitanidis	Staying with the Trouble: Psychoanalysis Meets Ecological Crisis	Zoom

Please get in touch with Kate Leeson (kate@klevermarketing.co.uk) if you have an idea you would like support to develop or if you are interested in working on developing WMIP events.

Check WMIP events page for full details

WMIP Affiliate Reading Group - hosts needed please

As part of WMIP Affiliate membership, we offer an Affiliate Reading Group. All Affiliate members are welcome to join this group. Hosts circulate an analytic paper of their choice in advance to Affiliate members, they take some time to read and digest the paper, before joining an online discussion about the paper and thinking stimulated.

We are currently looking for members to host the Affiliate reading group sessions. Examples of papers covered previously are below, to give an idea of the type/level/themes:

- Klein 'On the sense of Loneliness'
- Bick 'The experience of the skin in early object relations'
- Holmes 'Mechanisms of Defence'
- Winnicott 'Ego distortion in terms of true and false self', 'Hate in the Countertransference' and 'The Use of an Object', IJP 1969
- Rothschild 'The Body Remembers' and Miller 'The Body Never Lies: The Lingering Effects of Hurtful Parenting'
- Tyminski 'Fifteen Minute Stories about Training' and Crowther et al 'Just Black Sometimes'
- Man and his Symbols
- Donald Kalsched's 'The Inner World of Trauma' called 'The Inner World of Trauma, Archetypal Defences of the Personal Spirit' and 'Opening the Closed Heart: Affect-Focused Clinical Work with the Victims of Early Trauma'
- Andre` Green's: 'The Dead Mother'
- Britton, R. (1989) The Missing Link: parental sexuality in the Oedipus complex
- Christopher Bollas (1996). Psychoanal. Q., (65):1-20 Figures And Their Functions: On The Oedipal Structure Of A Psychoanalysis
- Warren Colman 'Imagination and Imaginary' published in the Journal of Analytic Psychology in 2006
- Paul Hoggett (2020) 'The Grip of the Ideal'
- 'Borderline Desire' Christopher Bollas(1996). Int. Forum Psychoanal., (5)(1):5-9
- James Hillman 'Betrayal'
- Nicola Abel Hirsch's paper 'Bion, Alpha Function and the Unconscious Mind' (2016)
- Chapter 'Gifts of Depression' from Thomas Moore's book, Care of the Soul

Zoom meetings can be set up by members themselves, or we can make arrangements to do this if you don't have a Zoom account.

If you are a Professional Member and would be willing to host a session for our Affiliate Reading Group please get in touch with Kate Leeson (kate@klevermarketing.co.uk)

WMIP collaboration with Black Country Radio

see WMIP Professional member Rachel Dunkley Jones join Shane and Laura in the studio to talk about **The Shadow in the Community - What do we push out of view, in ourselves and in society?**

This session explores the concept of the shadow: the parts of us we disown or deny, and how they show up in prejudice, group dynamics, and scapegoating. We ask: what happens when a community faces its shadow?

This collaboration is part of WMIP's goal to make depth and Jungian psychotherapy more accessible and relevant to local communities, as we celebrate our 45th anniversary!

If you are interested in getting involved please contact Shane Sneyd.

Click [HERE](#) to tune in to Black Country Radio

WMIP Analytic Film Group

You are invited to the next Film Club

'The Last Mountain' on Friday 12th June 2026 at 8:00pm

Watch the trailer below. This is a FREE member only event.

Please email laurachaisty19@gmail.com to register your details. Joining instructions will be sent out just after 5pm on the day.

We look forward to seeing you there.

The Film Group Committee

(Sheila Bonas, Laura Chaisty, Jill Eley)



Watch the official trailer for The Last Mountain

APT: Birmingham Public Lecture series

When Sickness Becomes the Goal - Anorexia Nervosa as a Special Interest in Autistic Girls ~ with speaker Elizabeth Anscombe

**Saturday 9th May 2026 in person only at Paul's Convent, 94 Selly Park Road, Selly Park, Birmingham B29 7LL
10.15am and 12.45pm (GMT).**

This paper explores the four-year psychotherapeutic journey of a 13-year-old autistic girl diagnosed with Anorexia Nervosa, aiming to understand her internal world and the interplay between her neurodivergence and eating disorder. In clinical practice, autistic girls often develop intense special interests; for some, anorexia becomes such an interest, characterized by a compulsion to excel in

fail to recognize that academically capable adolescent girls might not be psychologically prepared for the responsibilities of adulthood.

For more information visit <https://apt-birmingham.co.uk/events/lecture2025-4/>

Awakening the Sepulchre: A Journey to Eternal Becoming the Umbilical ~ with speaker Catherine Cox

**Saturday 6th June 2026 in person only at Paul's Convent, 94 Selly Park Road, Selly Park, Birmingham B29 7LL
10.15am and 12.45pm (GMT).**

"My works are fundamentally nothing but attempts, ever renewed, to give an answer to the question of the interplay between the 'here' and the 'hereafter.'" — C.G. Jung, *Memories, Dreams, Reflections* Sonu Shamdasani, editor of *The Red Book*, describes how Jung, in 1945, articulated what he described as a critical reformulation of analysis:

The whole goal of analysis is conceived ... as the preparation for the detachment of the soul from the body. Not how is your life going, but how is your death coming along, would be the critical question from this perspective. Thus, analysis became reframed as a modern form of the *ars moriendi*.

This seminar invites a profound reorientation in how we live our lives. It is an invitation to drop into a deeper, more vital current of being— challenging, requiring sacrifice, but also alive with joy

**For more information and to book, please contact Sue Harford 07789 545908 aptc@wmip.org
www.apt-birmingham.co.uk**

Check APT: Birmingham Public Lecture series page for full details

BTPP Summer Lecture - The Digital Superego: Embodiment Under the Algorithmic Gaze ~ with speaker Alessandra Lemma

Friday 19th June 2026 1:30pm – 3:30pm online

This lecture introduces the concept of the *digital superego* to conceptualize how algorithmic systems reorganize adolescent embodiment. Under the algorithmic gaze, the body becomes a monitored surface subjected to perpetual judgment, where recognition is quantified and conditional. Drawing on clinical material, it explores how interoceptive awareness - the felt sense of bodily interiority - is displaced by exteroceptive evaluation, a mode of relating to the body as an object of scrutiny. Psychoanalytic practice, in turn, is called upon to reclaim the body as a site of uncertainty and relational encounter, resisting the algorithmic conversion of selfhood into performance.



Booking is required for this event. Please visit <https://btpp.space/open-lectures> or email BTPP administration at info@btpp.co.uk to reserve a place.



Shalini Masih ~ 'Madness and Otherness: Moments of Possibility'

Last Monday evening, April 20th, psychoanalytic psychotherapist Dr Shalini Masih presented her paper "Madness and Otherness: Moments of Possibility". The subtle dance between what might be described as "madness" and what as "otherness" ran through the paper, woven into the clinical material and supported by a wide range of theoretical sources.

As a writer and clinician Dr Masih is interested in her patient not 'only' as a case, someone with a diagnosable disorder and extremely disturbed relational history, but a distinct and unique subjective other, whose symptomology was sometimes almost tenderly described even when shocking. She managed to stay astonishingly close to the patient's fragmented internal world, to play peek-a-boo, as she put it, with his psychotic core. She charted what happens when the lack of distinction between self and other prevails, or when that distinction between self and other was too painful and intolerable. Her paper reminded me that psychosis is not conventionally analysable, and I gratefully appreciated her frank exploration of what happens when we run into the limits of 'ordinary interpretation', an activity that differentiates the analyst's separate mind, which may not be tolerable. The paper had a satisfying social and cultural breadth and depth too, and I enjoyed the associative and natural way in which she links these dimensions into her writing. Anyone who heard Dr Masih talk last year about possession states as a way of understanding psychosis, will recognise this ease of cross / counter-culturality and her comfortable way of integrating 'big' ideas with clinical detail.

Dr Masih was candid about her own struggle to keep thinking under the fire of intensifying sexual acting out. This included giving way to concrete responses, to reinforce her safety (I for one was relieved to hear she had a security guard outside the room!). Bodies – patient's, analyst's and eventually the patient's mother's – played a key role throughout: transforming, de-fusing, pressurising, communicating... and again I was grateful to Dr Masih for sharing her countertransference discomfort and the ways in which it informed her interventions. Listening to her, I felt the embodied impact of being on the receiving end of sexually aggressive interactions, and it was a privilege to hear the detail of an analyst's courageous and creative journey through this difficult terrain. I look forward to her return in future.

It was great to see this online event so well attended, and thanks again to Jools and Kate for organisation and technical support.

The full paper can be accessed here: <https://guilfordjournals.com/doi/10.1521/prev.2020.107.2.175>

Carrie Worrall





The recording of Shalini's paper is available for purchase should anyone have missed the session - please contact Jools ~ admin@wmip.org

Shalini's book is available on Amazon [Psychoanalytic Conversations with States of Spirit Possession: Beauty in Brokenness eBook : Masih, Shalini: Amazon.co.uk: Books](https://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B085L3L3L3)



Good news - the minimum donation that can be processed by Give as you Live Donate is now just £2 (previously £5).

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