

Coming Events, Jottings and Announcements

- © **February–March 2006, coinciding** with the Adelaide Festival, *Working with the Stories, Songs, Drama and Poetry of People's Lives: An International Festive Conference Linking the Realms of Drama, Song, Film, Fiction, Poetry, Therapy and Community Work*. Contact dulwich@senet.com.au; www.dulwich-centre.com.au
- © **4–6 August 2006, Working With Marginalised Families and Communities: Professionals in the Trenches**, Oaxaca, Mexico, cost US\$250.00, coordinated by Professor Maurizio Andolfi, Accademia Di Psicoterapia della Famiglia, Rome. Abstracts due 31 October 2005. Further Information: jolandalamberti@accademiapsico.it; www.accademiapsico.it/
- © **3–6 September 2006, the 27th Annual Australian Family Therapy Conference, Hallowed Turf: Common Ground: What's Unique, What's Shared**, at Melbourne's Hilton on the Park, overlapping with the Gestalt Association (GANZ) on the third day. For more information contact Pam Richards (enquiry@prcc.com.au).
- © **20th Anniversary: on 1 July 2005**, Catherine Sanders & Malcolm Robinson celebrated 20 years as Bower Place, working together as practitioners and teachers of systemic family therapy.
- © **Gonzalo Bacigalupe reports that** Virginia Goldner said in her presentation 'Putting Romantic Love on the Conversation Table' 'Marriage culturally sanctions our avoidance of the "challenges of long-term intimacy"' (*AFTA Newsletter*, 91, 2004: 16).
- © **Ora Peleg adds to the research on** Murray Bowen's constructs in 'The Relation between Differentiation and Social Anxiety: What Can be Learned from Students and their Parents?' *The American Journal of Family Therapy*, 33 (2005): 2: 167–183.
- © **Congratulations to Ingeborg Stiefel** and Philomena Renner, whose paper 'Beyond Behaviour — The Importance of Communication and Connection in Parenting Defiant Children: Pilot Study and Program' (*ANZJFT*, 25, 2: 84–93) has been revised and appears as 'Gemeinsam sind wir stärker — Ein beziehungs- und kommunikationsförderndes Programm für Eltern von Kindern mit Verhaltensstörungen' in *Systeme*, 19, 1 (2005): 72–96.
- © **Kurt Ludewig pays tribute to the** research work of Günter Schiepek, who has 'developed mathematical schemes of description and analysis that are compatible with the constantly changing dynamics of therapeutic processes'. It will not surprise you to know that Kurt Ludewig then points out that 'in spite of his indisputable scientific achievements, Günter Schiepek could not find a way to a professorship within a German university' (*Context*, 73, 2004: 5).
- © **Are you searching for ways to make** your training more relevant to the current challenges? Jennifer L. Hodgson, Lee N. Johnson, Scott A. Ketring, Richard Wampler and Angela L. Lamson wrote 'Integrating Research and Clinical Training in Marriage and Family Therapy Training Programs', which appeared in the *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 31, 1 (2005): 75–88. Their experience is worth considering.
- © **When planning a survey of family** therapists, read William F. Northey Jr.'s 'Studying Marriage and Family Therapists in the 21st Century: Methodological and Technological Issues', *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 31, 1 (2005): 99–105. He says, for instance 'It was expected that shifting from a mail and telephone survey to an online survey would improve response rates ... the response rate was significantly lower for the internet group compared with the mail and phone groups' (103–104). He suggests that offering a choice of response by mail, fax, or the internet 'may be beneficial' (104).
- © **Susan Bartle-Haring, Aaron C. Glade** and Rohini Vira, in 'Initial Levels of Differentiation and Reduction in Psychological Symptoms for Clients in Marriage and Family Therapy', *Journal of Marital and Family Therapy*, 31, 1 (2005): 121–131, attempt to look at 'change across the course of therapy as it relates to levels of differentiation' (122).
- © **John Hills' paper 'Holding the** Looked After Child Through Reflecting Dialogue' (*Context*, 78 (2005): 18–23), presents us with a brilliant case example of failed cooperation, where one key worker 'was unable to attend' the coordinating sessions attended by all the other workers assigned to foster child Sean. The 'absent' worker consequently felt marginalised and antagonised, and acted to derail the work. John owns up to the 'mistake' of 'failing to keep Angela onside'. Thanks to John for this useful cautionary tale!
- © **'Long working hours are killing the** Australian family, according to director of the Australian Institute of Family Studies. Don Edgar believes that the stresses on two-income households are worse than ever.' Don Edgar was speaking to Kate Legge, in *The Australian*, 9 February 2005, and the item was picked in by *inCite* 26, March 2005: 33. How can family therapy take more of a preventive role?