

## NEXT SPIRITUALITY AND PSYCHIATRY SIG MEETING

Friday April 27<sup>th</sup> 2012



### **‘Spirituality in the Forensic Context: Offending, Reparation and Repair’**

Venue: Society of Chemical Industries 15 Belgrave Square, London, SW1X 8PS

Open to Members and Associates of the Royal College of Psychiatrists

#### **Programme Organiser: Dr Simon Dein**

Working with patients in forensic settings involves addressing spiritual issues, including questions of guilt, forgiveness, evil, reparation and the repair of shattered selves and identities. Spiritual issues may influence offending behaviour through their impact on psychopathology as well as arising from the consequences of such behaviour. Additionally, individuals may experience significant losses and undergo grief processes. This conference brings together mental health professionals and clergy to examine these issues and how the use of spiritual resources may improve care for those in forensic services.

- 10.00 am      Registration and Coffee**
- 10.30 am      Welcome and Notices: Professor Chris Cook, Chair SPSIG**
- 10.45 am      ‘Living with and creating a spirituality of loss in a forensic context**  
**Revd Ros Lane, North Essex NHS Partnership NHS Trust**
- 11.30 am      ‘Psychopathy: evil or mental disorder?’**  
**Dr Kalpana Dein Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist**
- 12.15 am      ‘Their dark materials: narratives of redemption in forensic mental health’**  
**Dr Gwen Adshead**
- 1.00 pm      Lunch**
- 2.00 pm      ‘Identity change, spirituality and desistance from crime**  
**Revd Canon Michael Kavanagh and Liz Bird**
- 2.45 pm      ‘Working with Religious Delusions’**  
**Professor Andrew Sims**
- 3.30 pm      Tea**
- 4.00 pm      Plenary with speakers**
- 5.00 pm      Close of meeting**

## **Programme Notes:**

### **'Living with and creating a spirituality of loss in a forensic context'**

#### **Revd Rosalind Lane**

**Abstract:** This talk investigates how and why prison chaplains support prisoners suffering from 'disenfranchised grief', a condition which people feel when they are unable to access support from family, friends, religious and professional organisations in living with issues of grief and loss. This condition is exhibited by prisoners for whom the acute loss of family, relationships, home, employment, finance, education and parenting is most pronounced, especially when parents or other family members become terminally ill or die during their containment. Prison chaplains are able to help prisoners unlock and liberate the loss experiences they face. The research described here explores how the chaplain may facilitate and build a community of mutual trust and understanding as a 'shepherd away from home'. I am concerned to discover how a spirituality of loss can be established alongside the role of a ministry of presence and encouragement within the pastoral role of the Chaplain. My conclusions highlight the importance of peer group support - being able to share feelings, emotions and the pain of loss – and Faith as an important element for prisoners in seeking support, along with the importance of ritual, prayer, and memorial services.

**About the speaker:** Revd Rosalind Lane is currently Chaplain to the Derwent Centre within the North Essex Partnership Foundation Trust. She is a Registered chaplain with the UK board of Health Care Chaplaincy. She was ordained as an Anglican priest in 1996 and after her curacy became a full-time prison chaplain. After completing an MA in Counselling and a diploma in Forensic Psychotherapeutic studies at the Portman Clinic, she went onto become a doctoral student at the University of Chester. Her area of research is the interaction between the symbolic and structural role of the prison chaplain in enabling the liberation of imprisoned grief.

### **'Psychopathy: evil or mental disorder?'**

#### **Dr Kalpana Dein**

**Abstract:** In this talk I will explore our understanding of psychopathy, disease (mental disorder) and evil. What is psychopathy, as understood by forensic mental health professionals, as opposed to the lay ('Hannibal Lecter') perspective? What is the biblical understanding of evil that has influenced the views of Jews, Christians and Muslims? I will then review the current definition of mental disorder. I will finish with a group discussion as to whether it is felt that psychopathy is evil, or a mental disorder? Or is there a third way?

**About the speaker:** Kalpana Dein is a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist in private practice in London. She has written on ethnicity and the Mental Health Act and Asperger's Syndrome and Offending. She is an editor of the World Association of Cultural Psychiatry Review. She is currently completing an MD at University College London. Kalpana is a practising Christian and runs a yearly prayer conference.

## **‘Their dark materials: narratives of redemption in a secure psychiatric hospital’**

**Dr Gwen Adshead**

**Abstract:** Redemption is a word closely associated with Judeo-Christian thought. It has its origins in concepts of debt; but has come to mean the process by which a bad situation is made good. More recently, sociologists and psychologists have looked at redemption as a process of transformation. In this presentation, I will discuss narratives of redemption in mentally ill offenders, based on therapeutic and research work done in a secure psychiatric hospital.

**About the speaker:** Gwen Adshead is a forensic psychiatrist and psychotherapist. She trained as a group analyst and works at Broadmoor Hospital, where she facilitates different types of therapeutic groups. Her research interest is in attachment theory and its applications to forensic psychiatry and group therapy.

## **‘Identity change, spirituality and desistance from crime’**

**The Revd Canon Michael Kavanagh and Liz Bird**

**Abstract:** The work on desistance from crime highlights the need for the development of a more pro-social identity that allows people to move away from offending. The presentation will explore how religious faith and spiritual practice can contribute to this process with special reference to a faith-informed residential reintegration programme presently being piloted in two prisons following accreditation by the Correctional Services Accreditation Panel (CSAP). This multi-faith programme is set within the context of community living and draws on insights from both cognitive psychology (the ‘what works’ approach) and spirituality.

**About the speakers:** The Revd Michael Kavanagh, Canon Theologian in the Diocese of Liverpool, is the Anglican Adviser to the Prison Service, NOMS (National Offender Management Service) and Consultant to the ESF (European Social Fund) Belief in Change Programme. He is a chartered clinical psychologist.

Liz Bird is Head of Faith-based Interventions for the National Offender Management Service and Project Manager for the Belief in Change Programme. She is a chartered forensic psychologist.

## **‘Working with Religious Delusions’**

**Professor Andrew Sims**

**Abstract:** Since the case of William Hatfield in 1800, religious delusions have been fundamental to the definition of insanity and, therefore, of paramount importance to forensic psychiatry. The nature of delusion is discussed. Why are delusions not infrequently religious? What does this mean for the sufferer? Do religious delusions in any way invalidate religious belief? In schizophrenia, positive symptoms, including delusions, religious and

otherwise, demonstrate permeability in the boundary of self and may be associated with disturbance of function of the right cerebral hemisphere. Religious delusions are not just a psychiatric idiosyncrasy but demonstrate profound disturbance in self-image.

**About the speaker:** Andrew Sims is a former chair-person of the Spirituality and Psychiatry Special Interest Group of the Royal College of Psychiatrists and has written extensively on religious faith and mental illness. He is Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry, University of Leeds and past President of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. He is author of Symptoms in the Mind (first 3 editions) and Is Faith Delusion?

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Reply Slip

**Spirituality and Psychiatry Special Interest Group**

I wish to attend the next meeting of the SPSIG on Friday April 27<sup>th</sup> 2012 on

**‘Spirituality in the Forensic Context: Offending, Reparation and Repair’**

at the Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London, SW1X 8PG

**(This meeting is open to members and associates of the College and their invited guests).**

Name: (Capitals).....College No: .....

Contact phone  
number.....email.....

I wish to bring one or more guests: Name(s): (Capitals please)

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I enclose a cheque for the total registration fee of £ .....payable to the Royal College of Psychiatrists. The registration fee of £70 per person includes lunch and refreshments.

**This reply slip to be returned to Sue Duncan, Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG no later than Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> 2012**

**PLEASE NOTE: places are limited and will be offered on a first come first served basis. Registration will be confirmed on receipt of your cheque. Entry to the meeting cannot be permitted unless registration has been confirmed. With regret, registration fees cannot be refunded in the 4 week period immediately prior to the programme date.**