

recommendations to promote better educational programmes.

Membership is by invitation and is open to Fellows and non-Fellows of the RSM. People who wish to submit their names for membership should write to: Dr James Hogg, Chairman, Forum on Mental Retardation, The Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AE, indicating their particular area of interest. The annual fees are: Fellow RSM – free of charge; non-Fellows – £30. No-one may join a Forum as a non-Fellow member who is eligible for Fellowship, i.e. those with medical, dental or veterinary qualifications.

New address

The address of the National Schizophrenia Fellowship (formerly 78–79 Victoria Road, Surbiton) is now 28 Castle Street, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey KT1 1SS (telephone 081 547 3937; fax: 081 547 3862).

August Bank Holiday

The College will be closed from 7.00 pm on Thursday, 23 August and will re-open at 8.00 am on Tuesday, 28 August 1990.

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Forthcoming events

The 36th Two-Stream Revision Course for MRCPsych Part I and Part II examinations will be held at the University of Surrey, Guildford from 12–19/20 September 1990. Further details: Mrs Olive Wellden, Administrator, Belmont Postgraduate Psychiatric Centre, Chiltern Wing, Sutton Hospital, Cotswold Road, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5NF (telephone 081 642 6090, extension 365).

The First European Symposium on Drug Addiction and AIDS will be held in Vienna from 22–23 February 1991. Further information: Dr R. Schmid, Psychiatrische Universitätsklinik, Währinger Gürtel 18–20, A-1090 Vienna, Austria.

The Institute of Psychiatry will be holding a conference entitled **Psychiatric Audit** on 1 October 1990. Course fee: £50 (including lunch and refreshments). Further information: Conference Organiser, Conference Office, Institute of Psychiatry, De Crespigny Park, London SE5 8AF (telephone 071 703 5411, extension 3170).

The Third Cardiff Psychogeriatric Symposium will be held on 10 October 1990 at Cardiff County Hall. Further details: Dr Karl Rice, St Cadoc's Hospital, Caerleon, Gwent NP6 1XQ (telephone 0633 421121, extension 232).

The IAAE (International Association Autism Europe) is holding its major International Congress in The

Hague, Holland from 8–10 May 1992. It aims to heighten the understanding and awareness of autism among professionals, the 'policy makers', and the public generally. All areas relevant to autism will be covered. The Programme Committee requests proposals for topics and presenters. All proposals should be sent, preferably by the end of September 1990, to: Mies Hoffmann, The General Secretary IAAE, Rue Emile Leger 4,B-6320 Villers-la-ville, Belgium (telephone 010 32 71 879594; fax: 010 32 71 876690).

Institute of Psychiatry Biometrics Unit Short Courses: **Latent Variable Models Using LISREL and EQS on a PC** will be held on 10 and 11 December 1990. **An Introduction to the Analysis of Epidemiological Data using GLIM-PC** will be held on 25 and 26 September 1990. Fee for each course: £250 (covers tuition, comprehensive notes with example data sets, and refreshments, including lunches). Further details and application forms: Lee Wilding, Conference Office, Institute of Psychiatry, De Crespigny Park, London SE5 8AF (telephone 071 703 5411, extension 3170).

The Fifth Congress of the International Psychogeriatric Association will take place in Jerusalem, Israel from 18–23 August 1991. Further information and abstract submission forms: Fifth IPA Congress, POB 50006, Tel Aviv 61500, Israel (telephone 972 3 654571; fax: 972 3 655674).

The Royal College of Pathologists are holding a one-day symposium on **The Molecular Genetics of Cancer** on 26 September 1990. Further information: Maureen Russell, Royal College of Pathologists, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AF (telephone 071 930 5862).

The Eleventh Annual POP (Paediatric, Obstetric, Psychiatric) Conference entitled **Perinatal Loss: The Impact of the New Technologies** will be held on 1 October 1990 at The London Hospital Medical College. Speakers include Dr L. Doyal, The Rev. I. Ainsworth, Mr K. Nicolaidis, Dr L. Bendefy, Dr E. Lewis, Ms J. Thomas and Dr S. Bourne. Further information: The Secretary, Department of Child Psychiatry, The London Hospital, Whitechapel, London E1 1BB.

The **Portman Clinic's annual Edward Glover Lecture** will be given by Joyce McDougall, psychoanalyst, author of *Theatres of the Mind* and *Theatres of the Body*, on the subject of 'Sexual Deviancy: A Question of Psychic Survival' on 29 October 1990 at 8.30 p.m. in the Peter Samuel Hall, Royal Free Hospital School of Medicine, Rowland Hill Street, London NW3. Admission by ticket only, available by application to: Mrs P. Harrington, Admin. Secretary, Portman Clinic, 8 Fitzjohns Avenue, London NW3 5NA (telephone 071 794 8262/5). £3.50, cheques made payable to Hampstead Health Authority. Any other information: D. H. Morgan, Lecture Organiser at the same address.

The **Annual Conference of the Association of Behavioural Clinicians** will be held in the Monckton Theatre, St George's Hospital Medical School on 5 October 1990. A number of eminent speakers will be talking on 'Teaching Behavioural Psychotherapy to Trainee Psychiatrists' and 'Recent Innovations in the Treatment of Agoraphobia'. Attendance is free. Anyone wishing to attend the Conference should contact Mrs June Lake, Department of Mental Health Sciences, St George's Hospital Medical School, Level 0, Jenner Wing, Cranmer Terrace, Tooting, London SW17 0RE (telephone 081 672 9944, extension 55543) before 7 September 1990.

A **Liaison Psychiatry Conference for Senior Registrars** arranged under the aegis of the Liaison Psychiatry Group, Royal College of Psychiatrists, will be held from 5-7 October 1990. The main themes will be making links and how to set up a liaison service. Further information: Dr Lisetta Lovett, University Department of Psychiatry, Royal Liverpool Hospital, PO Box 147, Liverpool L69 3BX (telephone 051 709 0141, extension 2588).

The Alcohol Interventions Training unit will be running three courses concurrently from 24-27 September 1990 at the University of Kent, Canterbury: **Introduction to Working with Problem Drinkers; Leading Alcohol Education Groups; Residential Projects for Problem Drinkers: Meeting the Challenge**. Course Fee: £230 (residential); £185 (non-residential). Further information: Mrs Margaret Church, Professional Courses Unit, School of Continuing Education, Rutherford Extension, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent CT2 7NX (telephone 0227 764000, extension 3152). *Closing date for applications: 31 August 1990.*

Further information about Alcohol Intervention Training Unit courses: Rosemary Kent, School of Continuing Education, University of Kent at Canterbury CT2 7NX (telephone 0227 764000, extension 3691).

Training in Excellence, a conference on training practitioners in the drugs/alcohol field, will be held from 8-11 April 1991 at the University of Kent at Canterbury and there is now a call for papers. Further information: Conference Secretariat: Mrs Frances Johnson, CONCILIA, PO Box 18, Ilkley, West Yorkshire LS29 6RA (telephone 0943 72763).

The **International Conference on Psychiatric Diagnosis 1990** will be held from 5-7 September 1990 at Meijikenkan, Japan. Further information: Secretariat for ICPD '90, c/o Inter Group Corp., Akasaka Yamakatsu Bldg, 8-5-32 Akasaka, Minato-ku, Tokyo 107, Japan.

The **Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of Medical Education (ASME)** will be held at the University of Manchester on 20 and 21 September 1990. Further information: ASME Office, Level 10, Ninewells Hospital & Medical School, Dundee DD1 9SY, Scotland (telephone 0382 65235).

The Society of Clinical Psychiatrists will be hosting an open meeting on the subject of **Child Sexual Abuse and its Management** on 26 September 1990 at the Medical Society of London, 11 Chandos Street, London. Further information: Dr M. T. Haslam, Hon. Secretary, Society of Clinical Psychiatrists, Harrogate Clinic, 23 Ripon Road, Harrogate HG1 1JL.

An experimental workshop entitled **Recent Advances in Management of Erectile Failure** will be held in Ipswich on 13 and 14 October 1990. One day is designated to teach the technique and sensible use of the intra-cavernous injections. Further information: Dr W. R. Guirguis, St Clement's Hospital, Foxhall Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 8LS.

The Fourth Leeds Psychopathology Symposium entitled **Delusions and Awareness of Reality** will be held from 20–21 September 1990. Further information: Mrs Hilary L. Helme, Department of Continued Professional Education, The University, Leeds LS2 9JT (telephone 0532 333233).

The **Manic Depression Fellowship** will be holding open meetings: *25 August 1990* (Westminster Cathedral Conference Centre, Victoria Street, London), speakers: Dr David Duncan and Andy Croall, Deputy Director of Nottingham Social Services; *13 October 1990* Dr Mogen Schou will speak on the theme of his book *Lithium Treatment in Manic Depressive Illness: Practical Problems and Recent Advances* (copies available from MDF priced £5); *19 October 1990* A one-day conference for health, social services and voluntary organisation workers entitled **Manic Depression: Implications for Community Care**. Further information: Manic Depression Fellowship, 13 Rosslyn Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 2AR (telephone 081 892 2811).

The second **Introductory Course on Crisis Intervention Theory and Practice** will take place from 9–11 November 1990 at Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, Postgraduate Centre. Course fees: £96. Further information: Dr N. Rao Punnukollu, Director, National Institute of Crisis Intervention Therapy and Research, 63 Nabcroft Lane, Crosland Moor, Huddersfield HD4 5DU (telephone 0484 658054).

The Third International Symposium on Schizophrenia Bern entitled **Transactional Processes in Onset and Course of Schizophrenic Disorders** will be held from 4–6 October 1990. Further information: Psychiatrische Universitätsklinik Bern, III Intern, Schizophrenie-Symposium, Sekretariat Frau B. Rindlisbacher, Bollingenstrasse 111, CH-3072 Bern-Ostermundigen, Switzerland.

A course entitled **Gene Expression under the Microscope: Recent Advances in *In Situ* Hybridisation** will be held on 26 and 27 September 1990 at the Royal Society of Medicine, London. Further details: Fiona Morgan, IBC Technical Services Ltd., Bath House, 56 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2EX (telephone 071 236 4080; fax: 071 489 0849).

The **Society of Clinical Psychiatrists** is intending to make a **study tour of China and Hong Kong** from 24 March to 6 April 1991 and to hold its Spring open meeting and Executive meeting in Hong Kong during the latter part of this trip. Further information: Dr M. T. Haslam, Hon. Secretary, Society of Clinical Psychiatrists, Harrogate Clinic, 23 Ripon Road, Harrogate HG1 2JL.

The next **World Psychiatric Association regional symposium** will be held in Cairo from 17–19 January 1991 organised by the Egyptian Psychiatric Association and chaired by Professor A. Okasha. The theme is updating the management of psychiatric disorders. Further information: Professor A. Okasha, PO Box 1071, Cairo, Egypt.

Contributions for this section should be submitted two months in advance of publication

Back to the future

Home treatment

In regard to the question of home or asylum treatment, it depends on many other things as well as the patient's condition. His means are the first of these. Home or private house treatment of a case of mental disease is mostly expensive, from the skilled attendance needed. In the midst of a city, home treatment of almost any case is most difficult. Home treatment is often impossible from the associations and surroundings aggravating the disease. If there is a very intense suicidal tendency, the risks cannot well be obviated in a private house. If there is noise, maniacal excitement, or constant muscular motion, a private house is seldom a proper place for long. In a good hospital

for the insane, most of the means of treatment, safety, skilled attendance, regular exercise, a proper mode of life, the administration of food and medicines, can no doubt be best attained, but then there are the counterbalancing disadvantages of the harm to the patient's prospects, from the cruel popular prejudices about asylums, and the patient's own feelings about it afterwards. If you can treat a case out of an asylum, and he recovers satisfactorily, it is better for you and him.

Reference

CLOUSTON, T. S. (1883) *Clinical Lectures on Mental Diseases*. London: J. & A. Churchill. Pp 30–31.

Researched by Susan Floate, Librarian.