

Australian Association of Group Psychotherapists
Melbourne Conference Open Day
Saturday 17th November, 2018, 9am -4pm

Group analysis in its diversity: Applications in the wider community

08.30 Registration

09.00 President Antony Gleeson: Welcome and introduction to the day

09.05 – 10.30 Dr Paul Coombe *'The Northfield Experiments 70 years on'*.

The so-called Northfield Experiments occurred near Birmingham in the UK during the early 1940's. They were the catalyst for some far-reaching innovations in the fields of analytic group therapy, psychoanalysis, psychoanalytic psychotherapy, therapeutic communities and much more. The fact that these opportunities developed during a cataclysmic world war, with so much destruction all around, demonstrates their counterpoint significance: human creativity in the face of human destructiveness. These matters will be unpacked in the presentation.

Paul Coombe is a psychiatrist and individual & group psychoanalytic psychotherapist in private practice. Formerly Consultant Child Psychiatrist at the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne, and Overseas Senior Registrar in Psychotherapy at the Cassel Hospital, London, 1990 to 1993. He is a Past President of the AAGP and member of the VAPP. Paul has published widely in local and international journals including in the areas of family therapy, psychoanalytic aspects of eating disorders, small and large analytic groups, Munchausen's Syndrome by proxy (also included as a book chapter), the works of William Shakespeare, and most recently on Epistemology and the Nature of Truth.

10.30 – 11.00 Morning Tea

11.00 – 12.30 Dr Rob Gordon *'Theory and technique of reflective group practice in high stress settings: Parallel processing in maintaining personal and group identity against the assaults of difficult work'*.

Rob Gordon is a clinical psychologist working with psychotherapy for individuals and groups - both youth and adults. For many years he has also been a consultant to the Victorian Government and Australian Red Cross, working with communities in times of natural disasters. Rob is a Past President of the AAGP and served on the Executive committee for many years. He is current President of the newly formed Australasian Confederation of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapies.

12.30 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30 – 14.30 A/Prof Campbell Paul (presenting) and A/Prof Frances Thompson-Salo *'Adapting group process with Infant Parent Psychotherapy: Some concepts and applications'*.

In Melbourne is a long history of analytically-informed infant-parent and group psychotherapy for parents and young children. We aim to place the baby at the centre of our therapeutic engagement, meeting infants as individuals in their own right, yet perhaps paradoxically an inextricable part of the family and social group (video clips will demonstrate some infant-parent psychotherapy groups).

Campbell Paul is a psychiatrist and group psychoanalytic psychotherapist, and currently the Director of the Infant Psychiatry Dept, the Royal Children's Hospital, Melbourne. **Frances Thompson Salo**, with whom Campbell has worked closely in the Infant/Parent groups, is a psychoanalyst with the APAS and a former member of the AAGP. She also works as a consultant at the Royal Women's Hospital, Melbourne.

14.30 – 16.00 Open discussion with all three presenters.

16.00 Closing remarks from the President.

Venue: VAPP building, 18 Erin St, Richmond

Cost for the day: \$75.00 Trainees free.

RSVP to Maryana@melbpsychcentre.com

Payment via bank deposit by Thursday 15/11 or cash only on the day.

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