

resume professional counselling. You will be able to record his response, which may be in a return note, at the end of his case file. If any mutual friends query the situation, you will be able openly and honestly to say that you were not free to accept Sam's first invitation, but that if you receive another, you will be glad to go. The choice is his.

Of course, many village doctors and clergy do the neighbourly drinks round

Yvonne works in conflict resolution and mediation.

with all their patients and parishioners without any feelings of fear about compromising what they hear and do in the surgery and confessional, and that is OK for them. Could you not be like them? Yet, Maurice, you sound anxious, or else you have especially scrupulous standards, otherwise you would not have raised the issue. So that is why I have responded by suggesting you consider these questions. Either way, do enjoy village life!

The AHP Page

Our AGM took place on 13th April during the Conference at Leicester University and was well attended. Officers and Committee were elected as follows:

James Mackenzie, Chairperson
Ruth Finer, Secretary
Mark Fotherby, Treasurer
Camilla Sim, Administrator
John Buckle
Marolyn Burgess
Whiz Collis (AHPP)
Judith Furner
John Graves
June Green
Sue Mickleburgh
Margaret Novakovic

Thanks go to Sue for being in the Chair again last year, when no one else was prepared to do the job, and it is good that she is able to stay on the Committee.

Thanks also to Mark for managing our finances so ably and for taking on another year in that role. We welcome James and Ruth as our Chairperson and Secretary respectively. They have been named in these roles as required by our Constitution, but some of their tasks will be shared with other Committee members.

There seems to a more optimistic air around — the Committee has grown to include new people as well as keeping our experienced members. There is still room for others with time and energy to give. Membership is growing and we are in good financial order. The initiatives from last year will go on — the Festival planning committee, groups on Economics and Power, Publications, Networking and close liaison with our valued friends at *Self & Society*. We are looking forward to pursuing AHP aims both within and without the organisation.

The AHPP Page

Whiz Collis

There has been a lot happening since my last letter, with the Conference and also a General Meeting. Although the Conference numbers were down, making in the end a loss for AHP and AHPP (why? timing? venue? presenters? theme?), there was a terrific atmosphere. We had wonderful feedback about all workshops: I attended Joy Schaverien's Art Therapy talk and experiential workshop, and Dominic Davies's on 'Gay Affirmative Therapy' (he has edited and published a new book, *Pink Therapy* (to be reviewed in a forthcoming issue of *S&S*), and the subcommittee went to the launch last week — buy it! it's really good!); there were really high-quality ones I didn't attend; and I'd like to thank all the presenters who do this without being paid. John Rowan's key speech on Integration was very well received, and is reprinted in this issue. The place was freezing, it snowed on Friday night, but as the weather warmed so the atmosphere did too. By the end it was boiling in the plenary meetings! What with AHP members providing lots of early morning activities, and the usual chat, disco and book shop, it was a very rich experience. Several newcomers said they had never been to a similar conference and I am always aware that something wonderful is created that is much more than just a sum of all the parts.

We have just had our mid-year General

Meeting which, as usual, was preceded by a workshop. Tricia Scott facilitated an interesting and explosive discussion on 'Healing the Rifts between the Medical Model and Humanistic Model'. I think it would be safe to say that we are in the first stages of that process, exploring real differences in attitudes here. Well, that is the first step to healing. I found it fascinating to hear how people who were working in medical settings had a different view from those wholly in private practice. I don't mean necessarily that they were opposed, but that contact with the NHS changes perspectives.

The meeting itself was well attended and again pretty lively. We are working on defining our core beliefs before trying to apply them to such procedures as accreditation, the complaints procedure and ethical practice. It is an enormous task, with many varying and sometimes opposing views. We hope to have reached some sort of statement by November. I think that this is a process that we seem to need to go through every five or ten years; last time it was 'Re-visioning AHPP'. Perhaps we need to do this in the context of an outside world that is continually changing, to look at what remains fixed and what evolves. It is a process that is immensely difficult and passionately argued — but that is what being in AHPP is all about!