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June Green

Plans are going ahead for the Festival of Humanistic Psychology on 11th October at Hillcroft College, Southbank, Surbiton. The festival is intended as a forum for the public to find out more about humanistic psychology, including courses and workshops that are available, and will also be an introduction to AHP.

The programme for the day will include five main workshops or presentations, as well as space for trainers and presenters to display their leaflets and discuss their work. We are now inviting training schools and centres to take part. There will be a small charge for this, but it will be open to the public free of charge.

If you are interested, please contact

AHP Festival Committee, BM Box 3582, London WC1N 3XX.

Mahrer change of venue

Please note that there is a change of venue for the Alvin Mahrer workshops on June 14th/15th. This will be Regents College, Inner Circle, Regents Park. The room is on the ground floor and therefore accessible to disabled participants. Don't forget to book for these, as the places are limited.

AGM

When you read this the AGM will have taken place, and there will be a report in the July issue.

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Eric Whitton

The first edition of the *Newsletter* went out to members in March and we hope that this will further communication in the Association. Our appreciation goes to Ian Doucet for moving this along so quickly. Now that we have purchased a new computer system, this task and many others will be so much easier and help Ian to keep our information up to date. Our thanks also to Whiz Collis and Tricia Scott for a feature on UKCP. The next edition is planned for mid-October. We are glad to report that Rae Bird, a new member of the

Board, has offered to take over as Treasurer from Michael Preisinger. We recognise the fact that not only has Michael improved the method of record keeping but also held the fort for months after he resigned.

The next General Meeting is on 18th May, when I hope that apart from clarifying some procedural matters we will be able to have time for open discussion on matters of professional concern to members. We will be deciding on the next conference/event; also how we can imple-

ment our humanistic beliefs. Requirements for working in the NHS have been discussed in UKCP, which is a sphere where an increasing number of humanistic practitioners are working. For me it is not so much a case of whether we can be acceptable but rather how can we maintain a person-centred approach in large institutions. One view would be that the more humanistic practitioners are active, the greater the influence we can have. Another is that there are two radically different belief systems at work. Can they

co-exist? My experience tells me that the real issue is power. If those making decisions are concerned with good human relations and providing a service which puts the welfare of the client/patient first, then fine. But the danger is that power corrupts. And I hear the ache from the stress that staff are under which is a need for more humane methods of working. Can we find effective ways of implementing what we believe about people in 'mainstream' environments, or do we have to be alternative?