

## Meet the New Editor of *Self & Society*

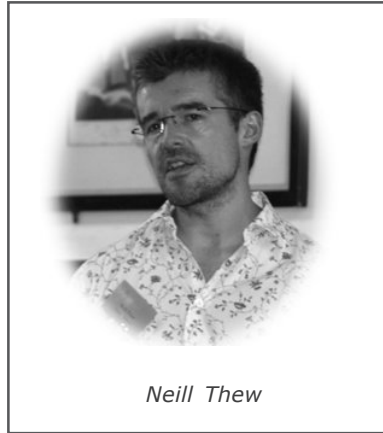
My name is Neill Thew, and I am very pleased to be introducing myself as the new editor of *Self and Society*, taking over after Maxine's extraordinary ten years in the role. (We'll be publishing an appreciation to Maxine in the first edition I will be editing in the New Year - contributions very welcome!)

I am really looking forward to hearing from readers what it is you value about *S&S*, and where you would like to see the journal go over the next five years. For myself, I cherish the fact that we offer a space for high quality thought and writing that is different from that of most

"academic" journals. In *S&S*, we have a significant - and unusual - opportunity genuinely to encounter one another in print; to move beyond the bland safety and anonymity of much academic or professional prose. We rightly publish on a whole range of topics relating to humanistic psychology. We welcome different voices. We support new writers. I have found reading *S&S* by turns thought-provoking, enlightening, challenging, moving, joyous and infuriating. Copies have wilted in steam from the bath; have been covered by crumbs at breakfast; and have on occasion been thrown across the room! Which, I reckon, is the sign of an excellent mix, and of a thriving, *living* publication - and it is a mix I hope, and intend, to maintain.

As for me, I live by the sea, in Brighton, with Trevor, my partner of 17 years. We are Dads to our son, Jonah (going on five). I have spent much of my working life in academia. My original training was in English Literature, and I am particularly interested in modern literature and its changing and contested dealings with gender and sexuality. Over the past seven years, however, I have moved into a new professional life as a more broadly-based educator with a humanistic orientation, working with groups to support participants' personal and professional growth. I have lived with M.E. for several years, and am learning (and re-learning ... and re-learning) how to live in balance with myself, others and the world around me. I am a member of a lively, supportive and challenging Brighton-based IPN group and also work with a core-process therapist.

I am greatly looking forward to the challenge and reward of serving our community through my editorship. Please be in touch!



Neill Thew