

# Self & SOCIETY

## Editorial



David Murphy and Stephen Joseph  
editor@ahpb.org.uk

This *Self & Society* is something of a 'bumper' issue. We're pleased to be able to publish this slightly longer than usual issue. Dare we perhaps think this a sign of the green shoots of revival of humanistic psychology in Britain? We're also really pleased to announce that Julian Nangle has taken on the role of poetry editor and we will aim to feature a piece of poetry in every issue. If you'd like to write a piece of poetry and submit for publication then do please send it to [editor@ahpb.org.uk](mailto:editor@ahpb.org.uk).

Relationships are the cornerstone of humanistic psychology and so we are pleased that headlining this issue is a transcript of Gill Wyatt's keynote speech delivered at the recent Relational Depth Conference held at The University of Nottingham. In her talk Gill invited us to consider the opportunities that continually exist for meeting and relating at depth if only we are open to the potential of doing so. Gill also invites us to consider the various levels of relating that exist and of the potential to change the order of things at each of these levels.

We were also encouraged by the response to the last issue that the topic of therapy regulation was one worth exploring. So much so that we've more or less ended up with a second issue looking at regulation. But this time, the case is made in favour of statutory regulation. First, Tricia Scott has passionately outlined her case and makes the point that regulation is one way to bring an end of 'bad old good old days' that was humanistic psychology. The arguments put forward by Tricia are followed by a second piece in favour from Jocelyne Quennell who uses an intriguing set of statements from the 'Integrity' group's meeting to make the point that statutory regulation and particularly the HPC would be a great home for humanistic counsellors and psychotherapists. Finally, Janet Low provides an interesting counter argument to the views expressed by these first two articles in presenting the case that the HPC standards of proficiency and by virtue of their systems, the HPC as not fit for purpose.

We hope you've been enjoying the recent issues of *Self & Society* as much as we have enjoyed putting them together. We hope that you are all finding something of interest. If so, we'd love to hear from you and if not we'd also love to hear from you! Help us make *Self & Society* interesting and stimulating. If you have any particular themes or articles you'd like to see covered then do let us know.

The next issue is going to be looking at the issue of trauma and we'll be running articles that have been lined up for this for some time. Next autumn our plan is to run a special issue on humanistic psychology and education we'll be working closely with Neill Thew who will be guest editing the issue. In the meantime, we wish you all a happy holiday season.

David & Stephen