

The New Editors – Some Leading Thoughts

By RICHARD HOUSE, DAVID KALISCH and JENNIFER MAIDMAN

Editors Elect, *Self and Society*

As the ‘editorial flame’ passes to us with the next issue we’d like to share in this brief ‘transitional’ piece a few thoughts about the future of the journal and of humanistic psychology more generally.

Firstly, we want to pay tribute and offer heart-felt thanks to David and Stephen for all their hard work – and indeed to thank all the previous editors of this wonderful journal for keeping the humanistic flame alive through these pages over several decades. Their individual and collective contribution to humanistic psychology in Britain has been enormous, and we feel honoured to be ‘taking on the torch’ for the next issue. And to continue the metaphor, we have some Olympian (though hopefully not overly grandiose!) ambitions for the journal and its future! We’d also like to thank all those who have contacted us as a result of our article in the previous issue and the advert in *Therapy Today*, with both their good wishes and their many offers of help (which are always welcome!). It’s certainly not too late to respond to our earlier invitation to support the revamped journal by contacting us with any proposals for help that you can offer - you can email us at editor@ahpb.org.uk

We decided to give our first issue a special theme, ‘The Future of Humanistic Psychology’. With some people arguing that humanistic therapy praxis is ‘in crisis’ or even in terminal decline, we have been enormously heartened by the overwhelmingly positive response we’ve had to our call for articles on this important theme. Some weeks ago we invited contributions from a number of key figures in the humanistic field and we’ve received so many high quality, thought-provoking contributions (some literally by return) from leading practitioners (national and international), that the summer issue promises to be an absolute *must-read*. With synergistic book-publishing possibilities also being actively pursued at the moment, we are confident that rumours of humanistic psychology’s demise are not only inaccurate, but could hardly be further from the truth.

In our new roles as editors of *Self and Society* we hope to contribute to a re-invigoration of humanistic psychology in Britain, and to see its essential place in the psychological therapies firmament both consolidated and enhanced in the years to come. As always, we welcome suggestions for future themes from readers, and proposals for articles or papers to appear in future issues.

So – perhaps it’s a case of watching this (transitional) space...