

Limbus Lectures 2015

Totnes, Devon

[www.limbus.org.uk](http://www.limbus.org.uk)

**Rose Verney**

**Late Connections, New Beginnings: Art Therapy in a Hospice**

**Feb 28, 2015**

Working as an art therapist in a hospice over the last 6 years has presented a particular set of surprises. Many of my initial assumptions have been shaken up or thrown out, & the conventional boundaries of therapeutic practice are regularly and firmly challenged. Mortality, & what really matters, are right up front, every time.

The desire for connection, and for 'significant' or special form, that is recognition through form, which the arts are so well placed to provide, are often the focus. On occasion this might offer the chance to engage & enter in to life in ways which have not previously been possible, or imagined - truly a new beginning.

**Rose Verney** is an artist and art therapist.

She has worked in adult mental health in the NHS for 10 years, in care homes with people with dementia, and in a Devon hospice.

Previously she worked for many years as a community artist, undertaking group projects in different settings, including schools, residential homes, and prisons. She is a judge for the annual awards of the Koestler Trust, which promotes the arts in prisons and special hospitals. Since retiring from the NHS in 2014, she continues to work in the hospice, & has a small private practice. Her main occupations otherwise include her studio, where she makes sculptures and assemblages, her family, & her garden.

Paul Atkinson

Heart and soul in the grip of neoliberalism. What kind of players do we psychotherapists want to be?

May 16, 2015

*"What's irritated me about the whole direction of politics in the last 30 years is that it's always been towards the collectivist society. People have forgotten about the personal society. And they say: do I count, do I matter? To which the short answer is, yes. And therefore, it isn't that I set out on economic policies; it's that I set out really to change the approach, and changing the economics is the means of changing that approach. If you change the approach you really are after the heart and soul of the nation. Economics are the method; the object is to change the heart and soul." Margaret Thatcher May, 1981*

How successfully has the neoliberal project captured the heart and soul of the nation? What kind of player has the profession of counselling and psychotherapy been in its penetration of our psychological life? Are we now thoroughly recuperated by the market, or do we yet have scope as therapists to contribute to alternative visions of the personal and the communitarian?

**Paul Atkinson** has been working as a Jungian therapist in private practice for 30 years. His first encounters with psychotherapy were in humanistic groups, men's therapy and radical therapy groups in the 1970's. He worked with north London school refusers in the 80's. He has chaired the Guild of Psychotherapists and the Jungian training in the West Midlands, and was a member of CPJA (UKCP) exec committee for many years. He joined other members of Psychotherapy and Counselling for Social Responsibility in supporting the Occupy camp at St Paul's and has since been reorienting his thinking about psychological life, individual and social change towards a more communitarian practice. He has helped set up the Free Psychotherapy Network ([freepsychotherapynetwork.com](http://freepsychotherapynetwork.com)), organises men's therapy groups, works with the Alliance for Counselling and Psychotherapy and the Political Activist Reflection Group. He has two adult children. He is very tired of money.

**Jocelyne Quennell**

**Multi-Disciplinary Approaches to Working with Children and Young People**

**September 19, 2015**

**Multi-Disciplinary Approaches to Working with Children & Young People**

This seminar/workshop will explore multi-disciplinary perspectives in the promotion of well-being for children and young people sharing influence from social work, youth work, mental health, therapy and education.

There will be opportunities for creativity and imagination in the discussion and reflective process. The emphasis is on creative and relational approaches to well-being which value the arts, sports, leisure, communications technology and complementary health.

The training has recently moved from Kids Company to the Institute for Arts in Therapy and Education and Centre for Child Mental Health following in the tradition of developing holistic services which are genuinely child-centred, learning from vulnerable children how to care better and championing their needs and capabilities as agents of change.

**Jocelyne Quennell** has been practicing as a psychotherapist for over twenty years and is Director of Education and Innovation at Kids Company. She is responsible for the *Certificate in Therapeutic Communication Skills with Children* and the *Diploma in Well-being practice for Children and Young People*. She was the former Principal of the Institute for Arts in Therapy and Education where she worked to support the development *Integrative Child Psychotherapy* and *Arts Psychotherapy* courses. She was the course leader for the Sesame training in *Drama and Movement Therapy* at Central School of Speech and Drama and has a long held commitment to increasing access and enhancing the quality of therapeutic services for adults, children and families. She is inspired by emotional literacy through creative and relational approaches to well-being with experience in health, education and social care, in private, statutory and voluntary sectors.

**Stephen Roundhill**

**Being Mindful of the Brain: Neuropsychology in context**

**November 14, 2015**

Over recent years neuroscience has been more and more present in our lives, from the popular science bookshelves to the now familiar sight of MR scans in the press documenting the latest discoveries or hopes for the future. A wave of therapies appear to have sought credence and acceptance by the incorporation of neuroscientific ideas within their theories, and neuropsychology has ridden high on the crest of this swell.

This talk will consider the practice of neuropsychology from a personal perspective and evolving viewpoint on the contribution of neurosciences to our understanding. Do neuropsychology and neuroscience have much to offer in informing individual practice, and what might be the limitations and pitfalls of such an approach?

**Stephen Roundhill** is a clinical psychologist and neuropsychologist. He works mostly with people who have experienced a traumatic brain injury (TBI), in the independent sector. This involves both assessment of the influence of brain injury and working with clients and families to 'cope' (such a small word!) with the myriad of changes that often accompany such injuries. His earlier research interests regarded the experience of loss and adjustment following TBI, and subsequently he has maintained a focus on working therapeutically within rehabilitative frameworks.