

# Editorial

Recently, Sharon Chaiklin, a very well known and experienced dance therapist in the United States, read a copy of *Moving On* and was 'moved' to put a message on the American Dance Therapy Association (ADTA) listserv.

*It is excellent and exciting to read about the vibrancy of what is happening down under. I love knowing that people are truly into research (sadly hard to get going here) and how you have set up the contents...to include possibilities of reading and web pages. Fantastic. I also appreciate all the various kinds of columns...not just formal papers. I think that is what keeps things alive...*

*Congratulations on all you have achieved. Thank you and I shall send my application in immediately not to miss anything more.*

*Sharon Chaiklin*

Sharon, you've convinced me- the hard work is worth it! Last night when I was putting together this publication at 1:00 am (as always everything comes at once) I needed fuel to keep my editing engine going. I considered coffee, but knew I wouldn't be able to sleep later. "What's the alternative I thought?" Fortunately, I saw the above email sitting in my inbox and I thought, "yes, maybe some praise and glory will do the trick!" And it did. It was an inspiration!

I speak for the whole editorial team when I say that positive feedback helps to fuel the important work we do. Although we enjoy the process, it's certainly a lot of hard work and we contribute many hours to organising and refining each publication. You can imagine, then, how reassuring it is to get a pat on the back from time to time, and know that you're on the right track! Thank you to all those who have offered feedback and encouragement. We appreciate your support.

Speaking of support and encouragement we would like to say how pleased we are with the contributions that have been made and encourage you to keep on writing.

This time, we have a theme of ageing and dementia, with a great paper from Heather comparing the traditional model of dementia care to person-centred approaches. Most of you will know that Heather is our dementia Guru, and this paper is based on her PhD studies. Following this is a reflection from Lenore Hervey, who is also very experienced in the field, on relational and non-relational moments in nursing home life, including some interesting

observations on trace memories. Completing the section on dementia is a summary of an ongoing study involving 678 members of the School Sisters of the Notre Dame religious order in the U.S. The study looks at ageing and disease across the lifespan.

For those who didn't attend the recent AGM, we have included the President's address, which provides a good snapshot of the past year for the DTAA. We have a wonderful article by Susan Crouch in collaboration with Helen Anderson, on their work in Melbourne co-facilitating dance-movement therapy groups for children with developmental problems. They present three case studies which clearly demonstrate the power and importance of their work. You may remember reading Karen Bond's article in the last quarterly entitled "Love is Blind: Musings on Research as an Art-Science Duet." We regret that the chart of "Right Dance" was missing, however we have taken the opportunity to print the chart and expand on 'Right Dance.'

Theresa Jackson very gamely tackles the problematic distinction between therapy and therapeutic and comes up with a unique slant, which we hope will stimulate some responses from our readers. "Dancing in the Desert" by Lisa O'Beirne is a beautifully descriptive piece on her experiences with residents of the Woomera Immigration Reception and Detention Centre.

If you didn't go to the professional development day, you may wish to experience it through the eyes of Anna Schlusser, Ben Assan, Iris Solomon and Denis Kelynack as they reflect on the topics explored. Following this is our Australian Moves and Movers section with an update on some active and vibrant dance therapy works. For those interested in professional issues in Australia, we have included responses to our last professional issues section where we discussed the question "Where is the Association situated in trying to achieve legislative authority in the practice of DMT in Australia - in relation to providing certification for legal practice".

Don't overlook our Industrial Relations Column as we have some important news on Professional Indemnity Insurance. If you are interested in taking advantage of this attractive package, you need to act soon as the low cost is contingent upon a reasonable number of members taking up the offer.

Finally we have our regulars: *Notes from the Net*, *Library* (including the Hanny Exiner Collection) and *What's On*. We have updated the international *What's On* for those who are curious about training and workshops overseas.

I hope these pages continue to "fuel" your important dance therapy work! (And don't forget to write and tell us about it!)... *Rachael Byrnes*