

Editorial

The race continues to catch up and perhaps one day we will actually get there! Meanwhile lets get on with this edition... At least we have caught up with 2006 - which is indeed heartening and are really pleased to receive the first full article from E. Connor Kelly who is based in New Zealand. Connor, collaborated with Lesley Hawkins in a recent contribution to 'Moving On', Vol. 4, No. 3., with a really interesting report on what is happening in New Zealand, in particular in the 'New Zealand Creative Arts Therapies Conference'. Her article in this edition, *Physical Storytelling*, is about creative improvisational practice, which according to Connor has its "roots in contact improvisation, authentic movement, dance improvisation, Dynamic Play Therapy and Playback Theatre" (p.2). It is a 'must read' and we hope, is the first of many articles that we will be receiving from Connor for publication.

So, What Is This Thing Called Dance-Movement Therapy? is a thought provoking article from Michelle Royal. Michelle gradually comes to her own conclusions, having posed the question, by a process of re-definition through her own personal awareness and experiences. She says that "The words had to be assimilated and understood (for herself) at a 'felt' level" (p.9) before she could arrive at her answer.

Judith Mendelsohn, provides an interesting and informative look at DMT in Israel, where dance therapists are a part of *The Israeli Association of Creative and Expressive Therapies* and following this, we have a contribution from Ann-maree Ellis. This offers a participant's response to the recent workshop and forum, *Dancing the personal and political*, led by - community dance artist and activist from the USA - Petra Koppers. The event took place recently in Melbourne, hosted by the Cultural Development Network in liaison with Ausdance.

Lisa O'Beirne invites comment from readers on a preliminary introduction to her PhD research study entitled *The Benefits of Combining Creative Arts and Narrative Therapy approaches* - which she is commencing at RMIT University. Then, Sue Mullane presents her impressions of *Women, Trauma and Visual Expression*, a book written by Amy Stacey Curtis.

Robyn Price, Elizabeth Mackenzie and Sally Denning combine to contribute their Reflections on the recent stimulating and thought provoking excellent Professional Development event held early in March 2006, in Melbourne, presented by Penny

Best from the UK. Our regular items of *Australian Moves*, and *What's On* follow, whilst the majority of *World News* is held over once again due to lack of space. Expect a bumper *World News* in the next edition.

Please note, applications for the Hanny Exiner Memorial Foundation (HEMF), Australian Dance-Movement Therapy Research Grant 2006, close on June 9th. So if it is too late by the time this edition arrives – get ready to apply for the next! It doesn't matter how small the project is - it is still important to the advancement of DMT in Australia.

We would also (diplomatically!)like to draw your attention to the fact that the DTAA membership year is from July 1, to June 30 each year. A bit like the dates for the Quarterly - membership subscriptions always lag well behind! We would appreciate it if some consideration could be given to this from members. All our committee members are hard working volunteers and it does make the job so much more difficult if we have to add things like chase-up memberships. It is not possible for the DTAA to continue without the support of members and we would really appreciate some assistance on this particular issue by forwarding fees by the due date. That is July 1 of each year rather than 6 months later.



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Once again, we wish you all happy reading.

Jane Guthrie and Naomi Aitchison

Dance-Movement Therapy Association Australia