Welcome to the third edition of the Liverpool programme’s Newsletter. This edition includes information on: staff changes within the team, programme reviews, BPS revised accreditation standards, Liverpool Experts by Experience (LExE) group, various Conference dates, the Supervisor Training programme, trainee publications and job opportunities!

We are circulating the newsletter as widely as possible across the North West but please feel free to pass on to any colleagues or service users/carers who may not have received it. The fourth edition is planned for December, and we would welcome any articles or suggestions of items you would like to see included in future editions. We hope you enjoy the newsletter and look forward to hearing from you!

The Liverpool D.Clin.Psychol. Team

Hello, Goodbye

The programme has recently appointed two new University Clinical Teachers: Katy Lobley and Andrea Flood.

Katy and Andrea bring a wealth of previous experience to their roles and we are very pleased to welcome them to the programme team!

Katy came into her post as a University Clinical Tutor working 0.5 wte for the Academic Team in April 2015. Katy is a clinical psychologist and accredited cognitive behaviour therapist. Her clinical work is with Mersey Care NHS Trust’s Eating Disorder service. Katy has a particular interest in 3rd wave CBT approaches including mindfulness and compassionate mind, and also in developing teaching and supervision practice for training therapists.

Andrea comes to us with many years of experience of working with both children and adults with Intellectual Disabilities, and has a particular interest in exploring how psychological formulation can be used to integrate Attachment Theory and behavioural assessment within a Positive Behaviour Support framework. In addition to the usual activities of teaching, marking, conducting mid-placement reviews, personal tutoring etc. the programme team will benefit especially from her knowledge and expertise in working with people with a diagnosis of autism.

Professor Peter Kinderman is currently acting as the Programme Director, until a new Programme Director is appointed. The post has been advertised: www.liv.ac.uk/working/jobvacancies/currentvacancies/academic/a-588115/ and informal enquiries can be made to Dr Jason Halford, Head of the Department of Psychological Therapies, telephone: 0151 794 2952 or email: J.C.G.Halford@liverpool.ac.uk

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DClinPsychol Events… dates for your diary
Annual Research Conference, Tuesday, 14th July 2015

Each year our third year trainees present their research findings at a conference dedicated to showcasing the excellent, clinically relevant research projects they have carried out during the course of their training. This year, PhD students conducting clinical research within the Institute of Psychology, Health and Society, will also join the event to talk about their doctoral research. The conference promises to deliver information on a wide range of topics and we hope that our colleagues working in clinical services will find it useful and informative. Enquiries to Tom Green, Research Administrator, telephone: 0151 795 5446 or email: tgreen@liverpool.ac.uk
Annual Programme Review, Thursday, 19th November 2015

The review day will focus on current issues affecting the profession, trainees and service users, and there will be an opportunity to discuss some of the programme’s current developments.

We have also arranged a performance of “Chelsea’s Choice” by AlterEgo Creative Solutions Ltd, which comes highly recommended by two of our current trainees who have already attended a production of the play and found it a very valuable experience. “The production is a hard-hitting, 40 minute long Applied Theatre Production that has proven highly successful in raising awareness amongst young people of the issues surrounding Child Sexual Exploitation.” Alter Ego Creative Solutions Ltd. The play will be followed by a plenary session.

Further details to follow...

University Review of the DClinPsychol Programme

The University’s Institute of Learning and Teaching (ILT) undertook a review of the DClinPsychol programme between November 2013 and December 2014. The final review report was completed in January 2015.

The key areas addressed by the review team concerned how the programme is structured and delivered, how the programme operates within the University quality framework, processes and procedures, how the programme interfaces with the postgraduate student management processes and procedures of the University and how the programme is supported and resourced.

The review team’s conclusions included: that the structure and delivery of the programme remains fit for purpose, fit for practice and fit for award; that the programme’s interface with the NHS is complex but very well managed; that the programme continues to meet the needs of the key external stakeholders. The review team also concluded that the process of the review had clarified many aspects of the programme with the result that the supporting infrastructure has been strengthened and the programme is better integrated within the Institutes of Learning and Teaching and Psychology, Health and Society and the University.

A number of changes to the academic components of the programme have been approved within the University and will be brought into effect for the 2015-2016 academic year. Details of these changes will follow in due course.

British Psychological Society (BPS) accreditation visit, June 2016

We are currently gearing up for our next ‘BPS Partnership and Accreditation’ visit, due in the first half of June 2016. As in previous years, the visiting team will wish to meet with our various stakeholder groups (including placement supervisors; trainees; and Service user/carers), and we will be inviting people to attend sessions to meet with the team in due course.

BPS Accreditation standards were revised last year, with a greater emphasis on two main areas.

Firstly, trainees will need to evidence the therapeutic competencies that they develop in a more detailed and transparent way, with reference to existing therapeutic benchmarking tools. This will mean, beginning with the 2016 entry, the trainee logbook will be replaced by a more detailed portfolio, which will include specific benchmarking tools, which supervisors will be asked to ‘sign off’ as competencies and sub-competencies are demonstrated. All trainees will need to demonstrate that they have achieved an acceptable standard of competencies in at least two evidence-based therapeutic modalities, one of which must be CBT. Programmes are free to determine which other therapeutic modalities they focus on, and we have recently established working groups across the three North West programmes to explore options for each programme. Although there are likely to be some differences in emphasis across the three programmes, we are seeking to maintain as much overlap as possible. Final decisions have yet to be made, but the Liverpool programme is currently considering offering the following ‘menu’ of therapeutic model options to our future trainees: CBT; CAT; Systemic; Neuropsychological; and possibly psychodynamic. As the majority of those competencies will be gained on placement, we are conscious of the need to align what we ‘offer’ to the models most commonly used
by our supervisor colleagues. In addition, trainee competence in using assessment tools, including cognitive/performance assessment, and self/respondent reporting psychometrics, will need to be logged and verified.

The second main area for focus in the new accreditation criteria relates to providing evidence of ‘in vivo’ assessment of competencies ‘observed’ (i.e. including joint work, direct observation, audio or video recording), that contributes to the final ‘Supervisors Assessment of Trainee’ (SAT) ratings. In addition to the two assessment and two intervention sessions currently required by all placements, the three programmes in the North West have agreed that we would ask supervisors to additionally observe two non-client related activities (e.g. performance at MDT meetings; service development activities; consultation). It is expected that the visiting team will be interested in how such requirements are monitored/audited.

As part of our consultation process, we would welcome any thoughts or feedback that you may have about these proposals. Please email Susan Mitzman, Senior Clinical Teacher c/o dclin@liv.ac.uk. Many thanks.

Previous accreditation visit reports have consistently highlighted as a key strength the close partnership that we as a programme have with our colleagues in services, not only as placement supervisors, but also in the major contribution made towards teaching, research supervision and marking. We look forward to developing that partnership even further into the future.

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Liverpool Experts by Experience (LExE)

In November 2014, we held our inaugural ‘Beyond them and Us’ day, which marked the launch of our Experts by Experience group. Experts by experience (EbE’s) are those with experience of clinical psychology services as service users and/or as carers. Our aim was to develop the inclusion and involvement initiatives we had already begun on the Liverpool Clinical Psychology Training Programme. Since then, our Liverpool Experts by Experience group (LExE) has come together with the aim of reviewing and developing EbE involvement throughout the academic, research and clinical arms of clinical psychology training.

Together, the group have considered areas of priority for development on which we are jointly working with other stakeholder groups in taking forward. Some examples are developing guidelines for EbE involvement in teaching, fostering early consultation and collaboration in developing research proposals for the major dissertation, and engaging in feedback for trainees on clinical interview skills. We are also building and further developing our already significant role in the selection process. In addition to task orientated sessions, we hold sessions with different stakeholder groups, which are informal opportunities to share knowledge and experience regarding core components of clinical psychology training. For example, we have planned sessions considering the distinction between psychology, psychiatry, and psychotherapy, and sessions with trainees reflecting on involvement in training.

We are planning to have a follow-up event, 1-year on, to reflect on our developments so far and consider our future directions. Thanks to all involved – it’s been both exciting and productive, and we look forward to the LExE group continuing to develop from strength to strength! (Enquiries to the team at dclin@liv.ac.uk)

*(Service users are sometimes referred to as patients, clients, consumers, people with lived experience or people who use mental health services. Carers are people who are relatives or friends of someone who sees a clinical psychologist.)*
Selection 2015

We have recently completed the selection process for the 2015 intake of trainees and we are looking forward to welcoming our new recruits onto the course in September.

Thanks to all who contributed their time and expertise to the selection process; service user and carer representatives, clinical psychologists and course team members, we are very grateful.

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Supervisor Training Programme 2015

Tuesday, 16th June 2015 – all day workshop
FACILITATING TRAINEE LEARNING & THINKING & THE DYNAMICS OF THE SUPERVISORY RELATIONSHIP – CORE
Facilitators – Susan Mitzman & James Reilly

Thursday, 25th June 2015 – all day workshop
SUPERVISING PSYCHOMETRIC ASSESSMENTS WITH CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE: an update on testing, interpretation and making recommendations using the WISC IV and WAIS V
Facilitators – Vicky Gray and Jacqui Vinten

Wednesday, 30th September & Thursday, 1st October 2015 – two days
NEW SUPERVISORS’ FOUNDATION WORKSHOP – CORE
Facilitator – Jim Williams

For further information and registration details, please contact: dclin@liv.ac.uk

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CALL FOR CONTRIBUTORS FOR A NEW EDITED BOOK: DO YOU HAVE FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCE OF RECEIVING A TALKING THERAPY FOR EXPERIENCES OF PSYCHOSIS OR BIPOLAR DISORDER?

Dr Peter Taylor, from the University of Liverpool Doctorate of Clinical Psychology programme team is looking for contributors for a new book he is planning. The book will focus on people’s first-hand experience of psychological therapies such as Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, Family Therapy or Cognitive Analytic Therapy.

The book will be aimed in particular at individuals who themselves are being offered psychological therapy. The goal is for this book to help raise awareness of the different therapies that are out there and empower individuals to choose between different approaches or therapy. The book may also be of interest to family, friends, carers, clinicians, therapists and researchers.

The focus in particular will be on individuals with experiences of psychosis and bipolar disorder. The term ‘psychosis’ covers a wide variety of experiences, including hearing voices, experiencing strong or distressing beliefs that are difficult to change, or being preoccupied with fears that others might hurt you. These experiences tend to be linked with diagnoses like schizophrenia. Bipolar disorder typically involves the experience of mood swings and can include periods of depression and mania.

These difficulties are quite common but there is still much stigma and misunderstanding around these labels and currently very little guidance for those facing these difficulties around the therapies available. For this reason a book focussed specifically on experiences of therapy for psychosis would be helpful.

Writing a chapter can be hard work and so I would be particularly interested in hearing from anyone who has prior experiences of writing for a general audience. Maybe you write a blog, have been involved in producing research papers, or writing in other contexts (e.g., journalism, fiction, etc.).

If you are interested in contributing, please contact Dr Peter Taylor (pjtay@liv.ac.uk). Please provide a brief example of any previous writing you have undertaken. Please also feel free to get in touch if you have any questions.
Points of Interest

Division of Clinical Psychology Annual Conference – December 2015

Division of Clinical Psychology Annual Conference –‘GOING FOR GOLD’
50 Years of Clinical Psychology’ Achievements, Challenges and Opportunities’
Radisson Blu Portman Hotel, London - 2-4 December 2015

Submissions for the DCP’s annual conference are now open. Symposium and Individual Papers - 29 June Posters – 23 September

Confirmed Keynote Speakers:
Professor John Hall, Oxford Brookes University
Professor Glenys Parry, University of Sheffield
Dr Nadine Kaslow, Emory University and American Psychological Association
Professor Francesca Happé, Kings College London
Jacqui Dillon, Chair, Hearing Voices Network England

Single day registration for trainees who are DCP members starts at £65!

Further details can be found at http://www.bps.org.uk/events/conferences/division-clinical-psychology-annual-conference-2015

The North West Division of Clinical Psychology (NWDCP) have now joined twitter. You can follow the NWDCP at @DCPnorthwest - new followers and tweets welcome!
Roisin (NWDCP Membership Services Officer)

The Psychological Professions, Network Annual Conference on the theme of “Wellbeing of the Workforce” will be held on Tuesday, 10th November 2015 for 9.00am – 4.30pm at the Macron Stadium, Bolton Whites Hotel, De Havilland Way, Bolton, Manchester BL6 6SF

You can register for membership of the Psychological Professions Network (PPN) via the network’s website: http://www.nwppn.nhs.uk/

The Psychological Professions Network (North West) launched its new animation at its annual conference in March 2015. Please have a look at the animation which you can find at:- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SUD_5JHiR2kA

If you hear about any upcoming events or news that may be of interest to our readers please e-mail the team at: dclin@liv.ac.uk
Celebrating Success

Join us in celebrating the success of current and former trainees of the Liverpool programme with a list of their recent publications...

Published in 2014


**Owen, M., Sellwood, W., Kan, S., Murray, J. & Sarsam, M.** Group CBT for psychosis: a longitudinal, controlled trial with inpatients. *Behaviour Research and Therapy*

Published in 2015


Job opportunities

**Programme Director for the Doctorate in Clinical Psychology Grade 9**

University of Liverpool, Faculty of Health and Life Sciences, Institute of Psychology, Health and Society, Department of Psychological Sciences

www.liv.ac.uk/working/jobvacancies/currentvacancies/academic/a-588115/

Informal enquiries to Dr Jason Halford, Head of the Department of Psychological Therapies, telephone: 0151 794 2952 or email: J.C.G.Halford@liverpool.ac.uk

Ref: A-588115/WWW - Closing date for receipt of applications: Wed, 08 Jul 2015 17:00:00 BST

Lancashire Care NHS Trust

"After a reorganisation in our older people's services within Lancashire Care NHS Trust, we are delighted that we now have several Band 7 and band 8a posts advertised on NHS jobs. These are permanent vacancies within the older adult mental health service.

We have both full-time and part-time/sessional posts available across Lancashire within our Older Adult Community services in both Community Mental Health Teams and Rapid Intervention and Treatment Teams. The teams are relatively new, with new staff currently joining the reconfigured teams.

We currently have posts suitable for both experienced clinical psychologists at Band 8a and posts suitable for newly qualified clinical psychologists at Band 7. As some posts are on a part-time basis, we would be willing to consider flexible working.

We would also welcome interest and applications for the Band 7 posts from newly qualified clinical psychologists and from final year trainees.

The NHS Job refs are: [351-AC-747](#) and [351-AC-730](#). Informal enquiries/visits are warmly welcome. Please contact either Julie Patel, Locality lead for older adults, North and Central Lancashire at Julie.Patel@Lancashirecare.nhs.uk or Rachel.Domone@Lancashirecare.nhs.uk"
Contributions

We hope you found this edition of the Newsletter both informative and enjoyable. The next issue will be out in the Autumn. We would particularly like to encourage our colleagues working in the NHS to contribute to the newsletter – you continually lend your time, expertise, knowledge and experience to our trainees and are a vital part of the programme here at Liverpool so please feel free to contact the programme team at: dclin@liv.ac.uk

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