

supervision, as well as an understanding of family dynamics and a willingness to deal with families sensitively and flexibly.

Just when you think you have grasped the essentials to family focused grief therapy, you are then challenged with the penultimate chapter, which is dedicated to ethical issues. This is not a litany of pious prescriptions. It is a thought-provoking

chapter of value to any practitioner, whatever their theoretical persuasion. The preeminent injunction is 'First do no harm'.

In conclusion, this book represents a genuine contribution to the repertoire of methods for helping families prior to and subsequent to the demise of a loved one. It is well written in an unpretentious and frank style. The authors' wealth of clinical

experience is evident in their writing, as is their ability to blend a scholarly and scientific approach with a compassionate and flexible clinical one.

David A Alexander, Professor of Mental Health, Medical School, University of Aberdeen, Director, Aberdeen Centre for Trauma Research

miscellany

Mbarara University Teaching Hospital, Uganda

A great opportunity exists for a psychiatrist to work in a new medical school at Mbarara University Teaching Hospital,

Uganda, and to help build up the academic and community psychiatry. The post would best suit a retired psychiatrist, a sabbatical holder or an enthusiastic specialist registrar. A local salary and free accommodation will be offered. Further

enquiries should be sent to Professor Eldryd Parry, The Tropical Health and Education Trust, 24 Eversholt Street, London NW1 1AD (tel: 020 7679 8127; fax: 020 7679 8190; e-mail: ephthet1@aol.com).

forthcoming events

Applications are invited for Semester One of the **MRCPsych Course** run by University College London. **Part I** takes place on Monday afternoons commencing 1 September 2003 and **Part II** takes place on Tuesday afternoons commencing 2 September 2003. The course has been updated in keeping with the Royal College of Psychiatrists' syllabus, and includes mock exams, theme specific revision sessions and patient perspectives. For further information and an application form, please contact Lydia M. Clinton, the Course Administrator (tel: 020 7679 9475; e-mail: mrcpsych@ucl.ac.uk).

The 1st Edinburgh MRCPsych part II Critical Appraisal Exam Course will be held at Pollock Halls, Edinburgh, on the weekend of 6–7 September 2003. The course includes plenary lectures, guided critical appraisal, troubleshooting and how to approach the exam sessions, and a mock exam (with model answers supplied afterwards); organised and presented by the authors of *Critical Appraisal for Psychiatry*. Overnight on-site inexpensive accommodation is available. For further details and application forms, please contact Ms Norma Brearley, Kennedy Tower, Royal Edinburgh Hospital, Morningside Place, Edinburgh EH10 5HF or visit the departmental website at <http://www.pst.ed.ac.uk/index.shtml>.

Mole Conferences would like to announce the following course:

An introduction to cognitive-behavioural therapy. This 2-day basic introductory workshop will take place on 10–11 November 2003 in central London. The event is aimed at those

with little or no understanding or experience of this way of working, and aims to provide those attending with practical skills that can be used safely with clients following completion of the course. The course includes an examination paper and is a generic course, appropriate for staff working in a diversity of settings. The course will involve basic theory, the therapeutic alliance, assessment and case information, structuring sessions, using homework, therapeutic assignments and designing behavioural experiments, thinking skills and effective challenging of unhelpful thinking styles. For further information please contact Mole Conferences, 26 Church Road, Portslade, Brighton BN41 1LA (tel: 01273 242634; fax: 01273 235095; e-mail: enquiries@mole-conferences.com; website and online booking: www.mol-conferences.com).

Clinical and research refresher course on psychological science and mental health issues is the title of a course being held on 27–28 November 2003 at the Institute of Psychiatry. This course, organised by the Department of Psychology, will provide participants with a comprehensive update on empirically grounded developments in the psychological understanding and management of a range of problems. In addition, some presentations will present the latest thinking on key psychological topics which are becoming increasingly influential in the development of psychological neuroscience. There will be a range of topics covered in the two days including the following: Psychosis: understanding and treatment, Bipolar Disorder, Mindful-

ness, Forensic, Genetics, Anxiety Disorders, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, Neuropsychology, Virtual Reality, Children, Families and Cognitive-Behavioural Therapy, Health Anxiety and Substance Misuse. For further information, please contact Lesley Anderson, Department of Psychology, Box P077, Institute of Psychiatry, De Crespigny Park, London SE5 8AF (tel: 0207 848 5038; e-mail: l.anderson@iop.kcl.ac.uk).

The International Conference on Schizophrenia (ICONS) organised by the Schizophrenia Research Foundation (SCARF) India, a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Mental Health Research & Training, and co-sponsored by the World Psychiatric Association will take place on 29 January–2 February 2004 at Chennai (formerly Madras), India. This meeting will showcase the best of schizophrenia research from around the world. There will be a one-day workshop by Dr Judith Jaeger on Cognition in Schizophrenia (2 February 2004) with limited registrations. Themes will include: Epidemiology, Phenomenology, Course & Outcome, Biology, Neuropsychology, Drug Treatment, Disability & Rehabilitation, and Culture & Psychiatry. Key Note Speakers will be Professor Ahamed Okasha, President, World Psychiatric Association and Dr Benedetto Saraceno, Director Mental Health Division, World Health Organization. The deadline for submission of abstracts is September 2003. For further details, please contact Dr R. Thara, Director, SCARF (e-mail: info@icons-scarf.org or scarf@vsnl.com). Alternatively, visit <http://www.icons-scarf.org>