Dear DHP members,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2017. We as a committee are looking forward to working on your behalf this year. Just before Christmas we sent round an update detailing some of the new additions to our award portfolio. You will read in this newsletter that we are about to launch our new DHP blog; I hope that you will be inspired to contribute to it. Our Publicity and Liaison Lead explains more about the blog in this newsletter.

In terms of reporting back on items raised at our last AGM: I am continuing to work on the resolution that was put forward and will be in a position to report back about the membership situation shortly. Your Treasurer, Dr Heather Semper is working with the BPS finance office to address the anomalies we presented at the AGM. The outcome of her report will be shared with you at the next AGM.

On other fronts, we are forging ahead with cementing our relationship with EHPS and will shortly be putting on the first of what we hope will be many joint events that will be of interest to and benefit for, members of both organisations; keep an eye on our website and announcement list for further information. Other things to look out for include the Awards for contributions to health psychology; our research seminar grant, and our public engagement grant. Details of these and the conference bursary awards will be posted on the DHP site shortly.

Your committee is working hard on preparing for the Annual DHP conference which as you know, will this year be hosted in Wales. This is a great opportunity to showcase both the DHP, but also for our members to find out more about the excellent work that DHP Wales are engaged in. Submissions for abstracts are open until Mid-day 22 Feb 2017. Confirmed keynote speakers to date are Prof Jane Ogden and Prof Ann Kazak. See our website for further information. We very much look forward to receiving your abstracts.

And lastly, remember that we like to hear from you; should you wish to share ideas or raise issues concerning the DHP, please contact me using the following email: chairdhp@bps.org I look forward to receiving your feedback.

Best wishes

Karen Rodham
Chair of DHP, Professor of Health Psychology
DHP Awards, News and Grants

The DHP Award for Outstanding MSc Thesis
Congratulations to this year’s winner:

Holly Bear – King’s College London
Thesis title: A cross-sectional investigation of the cognitive, behavioural and affective factors associated with fatigue severity and fatigue-related impairment in paediatric multiple sclerosis

This year the panel chose two worthy runners up, congratulations:

Malcolm Bray – City University
Thesis title: Exploring the experience of being diagnosed with dementia: An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) study

Hannah Long – The University of Manchester
Thesis title: The factors that influence mothers’ experiences of bereavement following stillbirth: a secondary analysis

News & Events

- The DHP-S AGM and scientific meeting will be held on Thursday 23rd February 2017 at University of Strathclyde, Glasgow: All the details are here: https://www.kc-jones.co.uk/dhps2017

- Joint Annual Conference of Division of Health Psychology, Psychological Society of Ireland and Division of Health Psychology NI Branch, British Psychological Society: Behavioural Science - Making a difference. 3rd March 2017, Dublin. Details here: http://tinyurl.com/zlmylx4

- Taking Your Next Steps in Acceptance and Commitment Therapy for Health Problems

- Behaviour Change in Practice, hosted by the MPPHN, 20th February 2017, BPS office London
  http://tinyurl.com/h4hvzq6

DHP Research Seminar Grant applications now open
https://response.questback.com/britishpsychologicalsociety/dhp2017
Closing Date 17th March 2017
From the DHP with love....!

I am pleased to announce that the Division of Health Psychology will be launching a blog on the 14th February! This is something that the Publicity and Liaison (P&L) committee have been looking to do for quite a while and as the Chair of the P&L subcommittee I have been working with the wider team to put our ideas into practice and I am excited that that time has now come.

I am hoping that the blog will be a new way for the DHP to reach out and communicate with a wider audience. The aim is to create an interesting and topical blog that both DHP members and other health professionals, colleagues and the general public will want to engage with.

Members of the DHP committee will be making contributions but it is also hoped that invited guests will agree to provide feature blogs that will allow us to reflect the rich breadth of views, ideas, research and practice that the health psychology community represents.

I am also happy to receive submissions from DHP members for consideration for the blog – ideally we would like to hear from our members at all stages of the professional career so trainee’s and professors alike, your P&L Chair would like to hear from you! If you would like to make a submission for consideration to the blog, please email publicengagementdhp@bps.org.uk.

I hope you do enjoy the blog, I am sure it will develop and evolve over the up-coming months but in the meantime remember, it is sent to you from the DHP committee with love.

Best wishes, Margaret.

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The committee would like to welcome on board Anita Mehay who has joined the P&L committee. Anita will take on the role of Public Engagement Lead and will be publicising DHP activities and items of interest on twitter and Facebook; she will also be involved with the new DHP blog.
BPS Division of Health Psychology 2016 Conference Report

The joint EHPS/DHP conference had an excellent attendance and was enjoyed by many DHP/EHPS members. The main things that people enjoyed were Pre-Conference Workshops, Roundtables and the State of Art Talks. From those who attended the conference: 64% were DHP/EHPS Members 77% of those attending were full members and 33% were students.

The main reasons for people attending the joint DHP/EHPS 2016 Conference were:
- Health/M-health
- Health Behaviour / models / change / interventions
- Public Health & health promotion
- Implementation
- Interventions chronic disease
- Stress, coping, illness, QoL, social support, resilience
- Health Services research
- Occupational Health
- Culture social change and health
- Psychophysiology, Psychoneuroimmunology and Neurophysiology and Methodology

In the future people would like to see more on:
- EMI methodology
- More presentations about methodology
- More positive Psychology
- Research Ethics in Health Psychology
- Mental health promotion
- Implementation & dissemination research
- Health of children and adolescents
- (Health) Behaviour Theories; Theories of (Health) Behaviour Change, and
- More focus on experimental psychology and new research paradigms.

Delegates enjoyed the following and felt that the following aims and objectives were met:
- Enabled the dissemination of good quality research
- Included papers with a range of theoretical approaches to understanding health and illness
- Included papers that applied theoretically based interventions across health care settings
- Included papers with a range of methods to explore research questions
- Addressed issues of relevance to all aspects of a health psychologist’s work
- Provided opportunities to meet and talk with colleagues
- Provided you with ideas and inspiration for your own research, and
- Overall represented the theme of the conference ‘Behaviour change: making an impact on health and the health services’.
Overall, people really enjoyed the conference, but there were mixed reviews about the length of oral presentations and the majority of people were in favor of the Interactive Poster Presentations. However, people enjoyed the Keynotes and ‘Meet the Expert’ session. Feedback on accommodation was varied as people stopped at different hotels across Aberdeen and the majority of people liked the conference venue, but not always the food that was provided.

Saying all of this we would like to invite you to look out for registering for our next DHP Conference which is to be held in Cardiff at the Mercury Hotel and Spa on the 6th-8th September, 2017. Look forward to seeing you there if you can make, what is planned to be a brilliant conference.

Best Wishes
Dr Triece Turnbull – DHP Conference Lead

Click on the conference banner where you can find out information on the venue and conference dates, abstract submissions and sign up for updates from the conference team.

Abstract submissions are now open!

Deadline Mid-day 22nd February 2017