

40th Anniversary Celebration 1977-2017

The Australian Institute of Parapsychological Research, Inc.

with the support of the Cardigan Fund

presents

The AIPR Mini-Conference 2017

Venue: North Sydney Community Centre
(The Morton Room, Ground Floor)
220 Miller Street, North Sydney, NSW (rear of Stanton Library; near North Sydney Station)
(car-parking, 200 spaces)

Date: Saturday, December 2nd, 2017

Time: 1:00pm to 5:30pm

Donation \$20 (Concession \$10)

Four Lectures on 'Otherreal' Experiences



Chaired by Dr. Vladimir Dubaj¹
Paranormal Investigator
Melbourne, Victoria

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Mini-Conference Programme

Lecture 1 (1:00pm to 2:00pm)

"The Otherreal: Reality, Altered States of Consciousness, and Paranormal Experience"

Dr. Tony Jinks²

Psychologist
School of Psychology, Western Sydney University (Penrith Campus) Kingswood, NSW

From the standpoint of 'mainstream science', paranormal experiences are not legitimate because they have no basis in objective reality. This is particularly applicable to experiences associated with altered states of consciousness (ASC). An alternative view is that while ASC experiences may not be 'real' in the framework of reductive materialism, they nonetheless possess *authenticity*. Generally, both perspectives agree on the biological bases and phenomenological structure of ASCs (the '*what is happening*' aspect). The difference between camps lies in the perceived 'purpose' (or lack of purpose) of the experience. Furthermore, proponents of the authenticity of ASCs have developed various analogies to account for *how* ASCs are phenomenologically generated, although these have not been widely considered or consolidated. The current talk provides an overview of reality, consciousness and ASCs, evaluates seven analogous interpretations of ASCs, and discusses how these analogies may assist our understanding of 'otherreal' experiences.



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¹ **Dr. Vladimir Dubaj** earned his B.Sc. (Honours) in Neurophysiology, and a Ph.D. in Biomedical Instrumentation. He is founder and President of the Australian Parapsychological Research Association (APRA), through which he conducts research into the survival of consciousness, ghosts and haunting phenomena, poltergeist activity, and out-of-body and near-death experiences.

² **Dr. Tony Jinks** lectures at the Western Sydney University, where he teaches neuroscience and paranormal studies to psychology students. He is a specialist consultant for the *Australian Journal of Parapsychology* and publishes in a wide variety of scientific fields.

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Four Lectures on 'Otherreal' Experiences

Lecture 2 (2:00pm to 3:00pm)

"Poltergeists vs. Haunts: What's the Difference?"

Mr. John Dixon³

Paranormal Investigator
Sydney, NSW



There are many different schools of thought on poltergeists and haunt phenomena and theories abound on the causes of each. Leveraging his own research into a poltergeist case, John will first provide a comparison of common 'ghost hunting' and parapsychology theories for both poltergeists and haunting, before delving into ways to determine if a case is caused by a poltergeist or not. Finally, John will discuss the importance of determining the cause of disturbances and share ways that people can help to further research in the field.

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Tea Break - 1/2 hour (3:00pm to 3:30pm)

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Lecture 3 (3:30pm to 4:30pm)

"A Doctor in Two Worlds: My Spiritual Project with Psychic Medium Owen Potts"

Dr. John Diamond⁴

Psychiatrist/Healer/Therapist/Author
Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatry



Dr. John Diamond began his career in medicine, specializing in psychiatry, but moved on to looking holistically at his patients which included not only the physical and mental but the spiritual as well. He has studied with healers, psychics and mediums over many years dedicating his research to achieving an understanding of the Spiritual side of life. This talk will be based on his incredible experience in a Spiritual Project of over 25 years with the extraordinary British psychic medium, Owen Potts (1927-2016).

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Lecture 4 (4:30pm to 5:30pm)

"The Search for Australia's Bigfoot: The Yowie"

Attila Kaldy⁵

Paranormal Investigator & film-maker, Sydney, NSW



Many cultures around the world speak of giant ape-like creatures like Bigfoot wondering the wilderness. Australia's Bigfoot, the Yowie, featured in the indigenous culture centuries before English colonization. Attila's theory, based on a compilation of anecdotal cases as well as observations, describes the characteristics and culture of the enigmatic Yowie, if such a species exists. Attila's fascination in 'cryptids' began years ago during an expedition in the Blue Mountains. What happened will be part of his presentation.

* * *

³ **Mr. John Dixon** has an M.Ed. in Adult Education, and is currently completing a Degree in Psychology. John conducts a range of independent research in Parapsychology and acts as a consultant to investigation groups.

⁴ **Dr. John Diamond** (MBBS) works in medicine (including holistic), psychiatry, and spirituality to help people overcome problems relating to body, mind and spirit. He is a Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatry, a Foundation Member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, and a Fellow and past President of the International Academy of Preventive Medicine. He has lectured extensively throughout the world, and is a best-selling author of over 35 books. www.drjohndiamond.com

⁵ **Mr. Attila Kaldy** is a film-maker specializing in documentaries on paranormal themes, and has been filming such content for over 10 years. In one of his recent productions, which looked at the paranormal field from a journalistic point of view, he produced a number of episodes relating to the indigenous Yowie.



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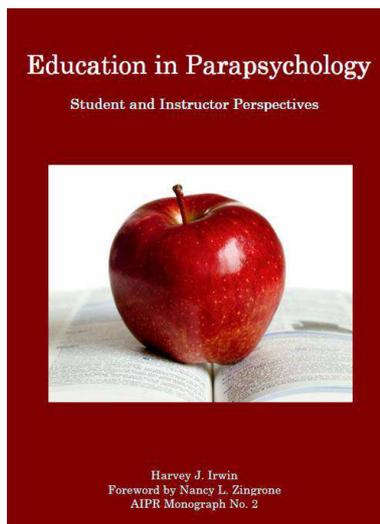
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Education in Parapsychology

Student and Instructor Perspectives

Harvey J. Irwin

Monograph No. 2 in the AIPR Monograph Series in Parapsychology
Dr. Lance Storm and Dr. Adam J. Rock, Editors



“This monograph addresses the provision of educational experiences in the field of parapsychology and is designed to meet the needs of both students and instructors. Part 1 of the monograph discusses issues of primary importance to the person who would like to study parapsychology. Topics examined here include motives and misconceptions about parapsychology; and unrealistic expectations and potential benefits of studying parapsychology. Part 2 looks at teaching a course in parapsychology, including the design of a balanced curriculum that maintains critical standards while still accommodating the wide range of students’ interests. The future of the discipline of parapsychology depends on the quality of its educational programs. Accordingly, this monograph, by drawing on many of my own successes and failures in teaching parapsychology, will help to enrich the educational experiences of both parapsychology instructors and parapsychology students.” *Harvey J. Irwin, PhD, Adjunct Research Fellow,*

University of New England, Armidale, NSW, Australia

Professor Harvey J. Irwin is an Adjunct Research Fellow at the School of Behavioural, Cognitive, and Social Sciences, University of New England, where he conducts research on the psychology of parapsychology.



Education in Parapsychology: Student and Instructor Perspectives

Harvey J. Irwin

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Psychic Phenomena and the Brain

Exploring the Neuropsychology of Psi

Bryan J. Williams

Monograph No. 3 in the AIPR Monograph Series in Parapsychology
Dr. Lance Storm, Editor

“Psychic phenomena such as extrasensory perception (ESP) and psychokinesis (‘mind over matter’) have been reportedly experienced by people from all walks of life. But are these phenomena real? And how could they possibly fit into our knowledge of the human brain? In this monograph, Bryan Williams examines some of the latest findings to emerge from efforts that parapsychologists have made to explore how psychic phenomena may be linked to brain functioning. Although they do not yet lead to a fully working theory, these initial findings do point to possible brain correlates that could be a focus for further study using advanced brain wave monitoring and functional neuroimaging techniques.” *Bryan J. Williams, Research Affiliate, Psychical Research Foundation, Carrollton, Texas, USA.*



Bryan Williams is an affiliate with the Psychical Research Foundation. He was a co-recipient of the 2008 Eileen J. Garrett Scholarship Award offered by the Parapsychology Foundation in New York.

Psychic Phenomena and the Brain
Exploring the Neuropsychology of Psi



Bryan J. Williams
Foreword by Edward Kelly
AIPR Monograph No. 3

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