The Australian Institute of Parapsychological Research, Inc.

with the support of the Cardigan Fund

presents

The AIPR Mini-Conference 2018

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 8th, 2018

Time: 1:00pm to 5:30pm

Donation $20 (Concession $10)

Four Lectures on the Afterlife and Related Themes

Chaired by Dr. Lance Storm¹
Research psychologist and author
School of Psychology
University of Adelaide, Adelaide, SA

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Mini-Conference Programme

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

"Reincarnation Research: An Old Idea Rebirthed in the 21st Century"

Dr. Terry Olesen²
Psychologist/Psychotherapist, Coomera, QLD
Researcher, Reincarnation Research Foundation, San Francisco, California

Reincarnation investigator Dr. Walter Semkiw identified major patterns in reincarnation cases across lifetimes, such as changes in nationality, religion, race, persistence of features (e.g., face, birthmarks), phobias, talents and personality traits. Reincarnation may involve ‘karmic’ lessons. Dr. Olesen will show how reincarnation research is transforming rapidly as out-dated methods (e.g., séance, hypnotic regression), have been supplanted by newer ones (e.g., case studies of remembered past lives, and exceptional talents/abilities expressed early on, such as artistry, mathematical genius, xenoglossy). Dr. Olesen will discuss Facial Recognition, Interviews with Families, and contributions of Theosophy, Hindu, Buddhist, and Spiritualist traditions, with special focus on the use of modern technology to detect evidence of reincarnation across lifetimes.

¹ Dr. Lance Storm earned a B.A. (Honours) in psychology (1998) and a Ph.D. in psychology and parapsychology (2002) at the University of Adelaide, South Australia, where he conducts research in psychology and parapsychology.
² Dr. Terry Olesen, B.A. (Hons), M. Psych., Ph.D. Psych, MAPS, is a nationally registered psychologist with over 30 years of experience in helping people via psychology-based counselling. Dr. Olesen writes and conducts research for the Reincarnation Research Foundation.
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Lecture 2 (2:00pm to 3:00pm)

"Do Near Death Experiences Offer a Portal into Survival?"

Mr. Peter B. Todd
Psychoanalytic Psychologist, Sydney, NSW

In this presentation, Mr. Todd will define the Near-Death Experience (NDE), and describe his own personal NDE. He will describe NDE phenomenology, and summarize research in the field, including possible implications for post-mortem survival. The work of Pim van Lommel, Peter Fenwick, Bruce Greyson, Sam Parnia, etc., will be featured, focusing on nonlocal consciousness. Mr. Todd will also explore possible ways of integrating the 'dual-aspect monism' of Jung and Pauli with 'metaphysical idealism', which regards nonlocal consciousness as fundamental, causal, and the origin even of the material world.

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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)

"C. G. Jung, Active Imagination, and the Dead"

Dr. Stephani Stephens
Jungian Scholar & Teacher, Canberra, ACT

Since the publication of Jung's The Red Book, a significant amount of material on the dead has come to light and points to the possibility that when Jung referred to 'the dead' in his personal material he was, in fact, referring to the literal dead as a separate category of psychic experience. In this presentation, Dr. Stephens introduces material from Jung's Memories, Dreams, Reflections, and The Red Book, to raise questions about how Jung experienced the dead during his initial encounters with his visionary material. Dr. Stephens will question some assumptions that have been made previously about visionary encounters within the therapeutic technique known as 'active imagination'.

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

"Exploration of High-Realism Veridical Perception in OBEs"

Dr. Alex De Foe
Transpersonal Psychologist and Researcher, Melbourne, VIC

The Veridical Mind project involved exploration of out-of-body experiences (OBEs) grounded within a reasonably realistic perception of the real world. Thematic and content analyses of OBEs that fit this strict criterion included numerous language-relevant themes that give insight into how experiencers described their accounts, as well as clear content-based themes. Dr. De Foe’s research indicates differences and similarities across accounts—his qualitative work will have clear implications for further studies into the taxonomic and definition issues around OBEs.

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3 Mr. Peter B. Todd (MAPS) has been a research psychologist at the Neuropsychiatric Institute Sydney, a member of the Biopsychosocial AIDS Project at the University of California, a consultant in the department of immunology at St. Vincent’s Hospital, and a research coordinator at the Albion Street AIDS Clinic Sydney. He is currently a psychoanalytic psychologist in private practice.

4 Dr. Stephani Stephens, Ph.D. (University of Kent, UK), has served on the Executive Committee of the International Association of Jungian Studies (2004-2013). She has published in the International Journal of Jungian Studies. Dr. Stephens teaches Psychology and Latin in the International Baccalaureate program at Canberra Grammar School.

5 Alex De Foe earned a Ph.D. in Psychology at Monash University (2016), and a Master's in Counselling (Monash University, 2010). He is actively involved in transpersonal psychology and parapsychology research in the areas of mind-body integration, consciousness studies, and clinical translation.
“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.”

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.
“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.