



AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF PARAPSYCHOLOGICAL RESEARCH, INC.

Reg. No. Y07380-25 Associations Incorporation Act (NSW). Founded, 1977.

• Telephone: 9816 4279 or (0408) 648 849 • P.O. Box 295, Gladesville 2111 • www.aiprinc.org

Volume 9, Issue 1

Registered as a periodical ISSN 1835-2731

March 2015

# THE A.I.P.R. NEWS

## The AIPR Mini-Convention 2014 by Poppy Katsikaros

### Inside this issue:

**The AIPR Mini-Con** by Poppy Katsikaros (pp. 1-2). Poppy gives a brief run-down on the first AIPR 'Mini-Con' in Sydney on 29th November, 2014.

**Premonitions (Part 2)** by Kathleen Tornqvist (pp. 2-3). Continuing this three-part article, South Australian-born Kathleen Tornqvist, now living in Queensland, talks about her premonitory experiences dating back to her early childhood, through to her adult years.

### Regular features:

- At My Desk by Lance Storm (p. 2)
- Quid Nunc by Hannah Jenkins (pp. 4)
- Promotion for AIPR Website (p. 3)
- Promotion for Australian Journal of Parapsychology (p. 3)
- Subscriber's coupon for Australian Journal of Parapsychology (p. 4)

ON SATURDAY, November 29th, AIPR, Inc., presented the AIPR Mini-Conference 2014 at the Harbourview Hotel, North Sydney, NSW. The event was chaired by Dr. Lance Storm (AIPR Treasurer, and parapsychologist at the University of Adelaide, South Australia).

As I ascended the stairs to the Lavender Bay conference rooms, the iconic Sydney Harbour Bridge loomed impressively just outside the windows. I was looking forward to the conference with anticipation.

I wasn't disappointed. All four speakers

were engaging and their enthusiasm obvious; they communicated their ideas and findings clearly and intelligently to an audience as diverse as the subject matter.

The first speaker was Dr. Tony Jinks (School of Psychology, University of Western Sydney, NSW). Tony lectures and 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.

Tony's talk was titled "Investigating Claims of Disappearing, Appearing, Reappearing and Replaced Objects".

Tony has analysed a phenomenon that has been re-

ferred to as the 'disappearing object phenomenon' (DOP) and 'just one of those things' (JOTT). Several internet sites recount tales of anomalous object disappearances, as well as mysterious appearances, reappearances and replacements. These sites debate the causes—poltergeists, time warps, even fairies—but, with a database of over 400 case studies, Dr. Jinks is the first to undertake a systematic study of these phenomena.

Tony immediately caught

### A woman's "keys mysteriously reappeared . . . a year later, after she had moved house . . ."

our attention with what at first seemed a commonplace account of misplaced or stolen keys. A woman left her keys in her front door at night as she rushed in to answer her phone but could not find them when she returned a few minutes later. The anomalous aspect—the keys mysteriously reappeared on her pillow a year later, *after she had moved house*.

Members of the audience pointed out that the DOP is a common feature of hauntings and poltergeist activity, but Tony made it very clear that he was studying the DOP as a distinct, stand-alone event. What he discovered hints at a far more interesting underlying mechanism: there is a correlation between appearances and disappearances.

Are things actually disappearing from one place and reappearing in another? I found this fascinating and, judging by the number of questions that Lance had to field, so did everyone else.

The second speaker was Mr. Bill Chalker who is an Australian UFO researcher, based in Sydney. His current major research interests include the alien DNA paradigm, the Asian UFO experience, science and the UFO controversy, and so-called UFO 'solid light' cases. His talk was titled "UFOs, Alien Abduction and Contact: The Parapsychological Connection".

Bill's interest and passion for the subject were evident. Drawing on anthropological, historical and contemporary research, the evidence for parapsychological connections in UFO, alien abduction and contact experiences was examined.

Bill covered historical events and descriptive eyewitness accounts of UFOs. Bill had so much material that I felt we were only given a snapshot of his vast experience. The case of Peter Khoury and the alien DNA sample was particularly interesting, along with Bill's personal experience with UFOs. *Hair of the Alien* (2005) is on my reading list.

The third speaker was Kylie Harris of the School of Be-

## At My Desk

You may recall from the March 2014 issue, that I had a winning flutter on the *Emirates Melbourne Cup* which is run on the first Tuesday in November. I argued that I used synchronicity—an acausal but meaningful coincidence—to help clue me in on the Cup winner. Fiorente was the winner that year. I did say I'd try my luck again in 2014. Well, I set about my evening (Monday night) in the usual way—by sitting down to an evening in front of the TV. I watched a re-run of *Agatha Christie's Marple* (an episode called 'Murder Is Easy'). I was looking for a 'sign', but the only thing that jumped out at me repeatedly were blue wild flowers. I kept blue in mind. Interestingly, I had a dream the day before (early Sunday morning) about my riding a brown horse, but there are many brown and 'brownish' (i.e., bay, chestnut) horses in the Melbourne Cup, so 'brown' wasn't going to help much. My clues thus far: blue flower, and brown (or chestnut, or bay!) horse. As was the case in 2013, I expected the blue to associate with the jockey's silks (in particular, one jockey riding the favourite, Protectionist, who was to win), but there were at least six other jockeys in blue silks—I had no exclusion criteria to get a reasonable shortlist of, say, three horses to bet on. But I was in the ball-park. In fact, I found an online ABC NEWS article confirming that bays win the Cup most often, and jockeys in "predominantly blue silks" also win most often. As it happened, I didn't have time nor inclination to get to the TAB anyway — without those extra criteria, and extra time for a little more 'homework' on colour combinations, I didn't fancy my chances.

\* \* \*

Got something to say about parapsychology or the paranormal? Submit your contribution to:

Dr. Lance Storm,  
School of Psychology,  
University of Adelaide,  
SA 5005

or e-mail me at:

aiprnc@yahoo.com

Enjoy this edition of *The A.I.P.R. News!*

—Lance Storm

## The AIPR Mini-Convention 2014 by Poppy Katsikaros

havioural, Cognitive, and Social Sciences, University of New England, Armidale, NSW. Kylie has an Honours degree in psychology, and is completing a PhD, supervised by Dr. Adam J. Rock. Her talk was titled "Exploring Spiritual Emergency as a Pathway to Mediumship".

Judging by their reaction, Kylie's talk resonated deeply with the audience. She discussed spiritual emergency—a process of spiritual awakening resulting in a state of crisis for the experiencer—as a possible spontaneous precursor or initiation into mediumship: a pathway (akin to shamanic initiations) in the development of mediumship abilities. The tendency to medicate the mentally ill, diagnosed under our western model of reality, may therefore be interfering with or preventing a completely natural process.

Although the DSM-IV saw the introduction of a new diagnostic category that actually acknowledges distressing religious and spiritual experiences as non-pathological problems, Kylie mentioned that there is still widespread ignorance of this fact, even among health

professionals. She suggested that mediumship practices could be incorporated into therapy as part of the recovery process.

A member of the audience earnestly thanked Kylie and spontaneous applause followed. It became apparent that many attendees were quite emotional about this urgent need to change the western idea of "mental illness" with its resultant pathologizing of spiritual experiences.

The fourth and final speaker was Dr. Adam J. Rock who is a Senior Lecturer in Psychology at the School of Behavioural, Cognitive, and Social Sciences (University of New England, Armidale) where he teaches and conducts research in psychology and parapsychology. He is President of AIPR, Inc., and a specialist consultant for the *Australian Journal of Parapsychology*.

Adam's talk was titled "The Medium and the Message: Delusion or Communication with the Deceased?"

Mediums claim to experience regular communication with the deceased—but how can we distinguish between claimant mediums who are delusional or

fraudulent, and claimant mediums who actually communicate with the deceased? How can the accuracy of a medium's claims be assessed?

Adam discussed medium studies in the context of these fascinating questions. He very clearly explained an ingenious quintuple-blind study, involving proxy sitters, designed to weed out pretend mediums and preclude accusations of cold reading.

Adam's presentation of some empirical data was very convincing as to the reality and accuracy of such anomalously acquired information. The question now becomes: What is the source of psi? The deceased, super-psi, the 'Akashic Record'? And yes, it can be scientifically tested. Adam tantalised us with just a taste of his plans for future research.

The talks concluded at this point, but the conversations and questioning continued downstairs in the bar, where speakers and attendees took advantage of the relaxed atmosphere.

By any standard, the day was a great success: with a full-house of over 70 people, the organisers may have to book a bigger venue this year. ♣

## Premonitions (Part 2) by Kathleen Tornqvist

MY NAME IS Kathleen Tornqvist (name changed) and I am 66 years old. I live in Queensland, Australia, but was born in Adelaide, SA. I have travelled internationally, and have lived in Japan and USA. I now choose to live a somewhat reclusive life with very little social interaction. I'm very happy and enjoy my own company and that of my husband. I suppose that my precognitive experiences have contributed somewhat towards my preference to distance myself from all but a very few close friends and family.

As well as managing my husband's business (from home) I also operate two online businesses from which I sell textiles and handcrafted

items. I'm actually a warm, granny type of lady; love my books, garden, nature, animals, craft, art, and sewing. I studied Law in the USA and worked in the profession for seven years before returning to Australia to marry.

We lived in rural Queensland where I worked in a managerial capacity for my former husband (deceased). I still work in a similar capacity for my present husband (both of my husbands were/are health professionals). I have adult children, and both daughters are a bit 'intuitive' like me. Some close friends who are well aware of my precognitive 'problem' admit that they find me to be a bit 'scary' (but only because I have made an observation or

expressed a 'feeling' that just happened to be right). My daughters and I have practised sending each other colours and numbers via ESP with some success (or can this be simply 'statistics'?). One of my granddaughters is rather good at playing this game too. My family has voiced disappointment that I can't pick winning Lotto tickets or use my 'skill' for material gain.

The following reports are in chronological order, and continue from where I left off in Part 1 (Volume 8, issue 2). These reports represent some of the more profound premonitions I have had:

**August or September 1978:** Helicopter story, Oakland, California: I flew on a helicop-

## Premonitions (Part 2) by Kathleen Tornqvist

ter from Oakland California to San Francisco International Airport. I had a bad feeling about that helicopter and once again was completely freaked. Well, the same helicopter crashed into the San Francisco Bay on its return flight from San Francisco to Oakland. Nobody was killed.

**May 1994:** Certain that something was wrong with my husband, I double checked with our solicitor to ensure that our affairs were in order before we drove to ACT to join politician friends for The Budget. As it turned out, my husband was diagnosed with a malignant brain tumour on 11th July 1994: When my husband was told he was going to die, he was concerned for my welfare and the welfare of our children. His best friend was divorced. So, he asked his best friend to take care of us. I am now married to that best friend. But, when I first met his best friend 17 years earlier, even though I was happily married and loved my husband dearly, I strongly felt I was going to lose my husband, and I knew I'd one day be married to his best friend. And, there was absolutely no flirtation or hanky panky at any time during those 17 years.

**July 1998:** Skiing at Falls Creek: Saving a friend from going over a cliff: I was skiing at Falls Creek and had taken the lift up to the top of one of the runs. My friend, Sherry, was on the third lift behind me. As I skied off to the side to wait for her, I nearly lost my balance on ice hidden under newly fallen snow. I became immediately worried for my friend and then noticed a taped off area warning people that there was a hazard; a slide or something, and it was almost immediately in front of where people skied away from the lift. So, I slithered over to the barrier just in time to fall on top of my friend as she sped towards the drop. She would have gone over if I hadn't moved to place myself there.

**June/July 2001:** 'Calling up

patients'—an incident with a surgery nurse: I seem to be able to 'call up' my husband's patients (those whom I've met only) by holding their treatment card or asking about them. I think our staff member almost had a heart attack once when I told her that I was pulling 15 cards of patients who hadn't been for awhile, and that after handling those cards at least 5 of them would phone for an appointment that week. As I was telling her I was holding one such treatment card and waiving it around as I spoke. The phone rang, and the poor lady said that she had just sustained an injury and she needed an appointment. And of course, the treatment card I was holding was hers.

**May 29-31, 2007:** Incident at Mt. Lofty House, Adelaide Hills, South Australia: After staying at Mount Lofty House in the Adelaide Hills I can promise you that it is haunted and that I couldn't possibly set foot in the place ever again. The average person doesn't believe in these things and thinks that people who do are a bit crazy. My present husband never believed in such things,

but now, after having known me for almost 40 years, and having lived with me for 18 of those years, he accepts that there is a much wider dimension to our existence as humans than most of us no longer have the capacity or desire to recognise. He now believes in ghosts/spirits or whatever (I don't know much about them so don't know what to call them) after our very scary two nights at Mt. Lofty House. He was not immune to the hostile presences there. And I don't know what a cluster or group of unfriendly presences is called, but there is a team of them working together at that hotel. I can't help but wonder whether they have an unusually high guest mortality rate there, as I am sure I wouldn't have survived another night. We did mention our problem at Mt. Lofty house to close friends who had also stayed there. They said they had been given the same room we were, but asked to be moved because it was eerie and the lights, shower, and taps didn't work properly.

Before I close I will mention that I often 'know' when my adult children are sick or injured or in danger. When one of

my daughters was living in Dubai, I felt so sure her life was in danger that I put a plan into place for her rescue. And just as well too, because she did have to use the plan. She was physically attacked and had to go into hiding with the people I had lined up to protect her before she could get a flight home.

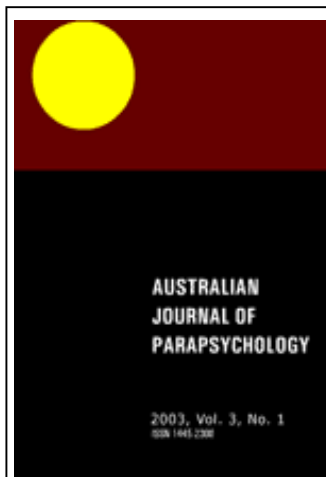
I can strongly sense when I am in danger. For example, I can sense it if there is a snake close by. Also, I somehow feel if there is a spider close by as well, even if it is dark.

Lately, I seem to be a bit more 'intuitive' than usual. For example I know if the phone is going to ring and who is ringing me; 'calling up' people by mentioning their name or thinking of them; selling items (eBay store) in clusters, particularly after handling unpopular items and wondering why nobody wants to buy them, only to sell several within minutes—I could just about write a novel full of weird experiences and 'coincidences' if that is what they are.

More next issue . . .

Ψ

(cont'd September 2015)



The *Australian Journal of Parapsychology* features research articles on ESP (extra-sensory perception), PK (psychokinesis), and the after-life.

**Subscribe Now! (see page 4)**

The Australian Institute of Parapsychological Research is a non-profit community association. Based in Sydney but with a worldwide membership base, it was established in 1977. The aims of the organisation are:

- To collect, assess and disseminate factual information about claims of psychic (paranormal) phenomena.
- To support and encourage parapsychology (the scientific study of paranormal phenomena).
- To undertake or promote activities (e.g., fundraising, social activities, etc.) in support of the above.

**Looking for information on the paranormal?** The AIPR has fact sheets on:

- Psychic and mystical experiences of the aborigines
- Psychic and psycho-spiritual development
- Healing
- Mystical experiences
- Apparitions, ghosts and hauntings
- Out of body experiences
- Near-death experiences
- The human aura

**We're on the Web:  
www.aiprinc.org**

## Quid Nunc by Hannah Jenkins

IT IS A WHILE SINCE I renamed this column Quid Nunc. So, I thought I'd start with a look at why. *Quid Nunc* means 'what next'. I can't remember why I thought using Latin was a good idea; perhaps I'd been shut up in the ivory tower for too long, but I recall I intended the question to be asked in relation to psi. More specifically: What next for the study and understanding of psi phenomena? How will the representation of psi change in the press, TV, movies, online?

The question also has a personal angle. I figured the column could keep track of my own 'what next' after completing a PhD. Long-time readers will know that this has been a many-forked path. In fact, it is often easier to predict what next for psi than it is to predict what next for me.

For instance, I didn't see myself shucking oysters this time last year (no jokes please about my lack of precognition on this score!). Or about the shucking of oysters (I've never had a job title with so many bad pun possibilities). Don't worry, it is not as bad it sounds (free oysters and friendly people abound) and it is all for the good of finally getting my long-

threatened institute off the ground.

Happy to report that I am now ensconced in a dockside office and making small but steady progress with QIPP (Quality Investigative Psi Projects). Within a year I aim to have the institute funded, and within the next year supporting a small team of interdisciplinary researchers. If you are interested, you can find out more here: <[www.qipp.com.au](http://www.qipp.com.au)>

Here are a couple of my thoughts that have cropped up recently which are relevant to some questions Quid Nunc attempts to answer.

### MH370 and remote viewing

As I write, it has been exactly one year since the Malaysian Airlines plane MH370 went missing. It has not been located yet. One can only imagine how difficult this is for the relatives and friends of those onboard.

On a completely pragmatic front alone, the facts and stats of the search are incredible: Cost of the current operation is \$90 million. The area they are searching is 60,000 square kilometres. Since last August they have completed a search of 30,000 square kilometres.<sup>1</sup>

Anyone even vaguely familiar

with the history of remote viewing (RV) must surely be wondering as I do, Why on earth can't we use it to refine the search? Of course, anyone even vaguely familiar with the history of RV will also be aware that it is not a perfect art and that hitting comes in overall at about an 80% success rate.

Does this mean we should abandon the use of it? I'd argue 'no'. It should be seen as just one more piece of 'equipment' that can help and be combined with the others to reduce the time and cost of the search.

Plus, what is there to lose? If you refine the search using RV and don't find it, you'd likely have to cover that ground anyway. You haven't lost anything, and you've increased your chances of an earlier retrieval. Come on guys, you want to shout at the operation leaders, what's not to get about this scenario???

Alas, clearly lots. It is obvious that authorities involved in the search are likely to be ignorant about the use of RV, and even if they are knowledgeable, unlikely to access a reliable remote viewer, or risk the publicity that might result.

These are blocks that we need to address if RV is to move into its next phase as part and parcel of any search operation. Then, of course, we'd have to deal with the pragmatics of getting regular, usable results when there are no more than a handful of successful, experienced RV'ers with operational experience.

The hard work of the remote-viewing pioneers has provided a great platform for practical applications of the protocol. I think the challenge is now to advocate for wider use of RV. How exactly to do this remains the challenge. Check this page for the development of Remote View Central: <[www.qipp.com.au/projects](http://www.qipp.com.au/projects)>. It aims in some small way to address some of these issues.

### Failure to replicate failure to replicate

An article in *Wired* recently came to my attention. In one short paragraph it dismisses the history of research into psi. Here's how:

In 2011, Daryl Bem, a psychologist at Cornell, conducted nine experiments that seemed to suggest people could be psychic. Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence, so researchers replicated one of the experiments three times in 2012. As the newer paper states, 'all three replication attempts failed to produce significant effects and thus do not support the existence of psychic ability.' Bummer.<sup>2</sup>

Now, I won't focus on the glib end note, or the immediately obvious gaff that you can't disprove the entire gamut of evidence for 'psychic ability' with experiments that only focus on one aspect of the evidence for such. And I won't even take them to task for not applying a little more due diligence to the topic, which would have lead them to an article in which 90 (not just 3) attempts to replicate are discussed.<sup>3</sup>

Instead, I want to ask, What makes the *Wired* author think it is reasonable to accept a once-off 'failure to replicate' paper as proof positive that the original experiments must have been somehow wrong?

If, as we all tend to agree, replication is one of the hallmarks of acceptable science, should we not expect the same for experiments that fail once-off to produce significant results? They too could be flawed, or inadequate, or a fluke—not to mention, they could be victims of the 'experimenter effect'.

Is it surprising that at least two of the referenced authors of the 'failure to replicate' paper are noted for their vocal promotion of skepticism about psi?

Will the readers of *Wired* see that they are being hoodwinked into thinking there is nothing to the original experiment and notice that double standards are being applied? Though I tend to be an optimist, I very much doubt it. 'Bummer!'  $\Psi$

### Notes

1. [www.atsb.gov.au/mh370-pages/the-search/about-the-search.aspx](http://www.atsb.gov.au/mh370-pages/the-search/about-the-search.aspx)
2. [www.wired.com/2015/02/scientists-wrong-time-thats-fantastic/](http://www.wired.com/2015/02/scientists-wrong-time-thats-fantastic/)
3. [http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=2423692](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2423692)

<input type="checkbox"/> Visa	<input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard
Exp	Signature
Name	VISA
Address	MasterCard
Country	Postcode

PAY ONLINE  
WITH YOUR CREDIT CARD



My Cheque/Money Order is enclosed (Payable to A.I.P.R., Inc)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
Country: \_\_\_\_\_

THE AUSTRALIAN JOURNAL OF PARAPSYCHOLOGY  
SUBSCRIPTIONS AUD. \$70 PER ANNUM FOR TWO  
ISSUES. JUNE & DECEMBER EACH YEAR.

AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF PARAPSYCHOLOGICAL  
RESEARCH INC. (FOUNDED 1977)  
P.O. BOX 295 GLADESVILLE NSW 2111  
AUSTRALIA  
TELEPHONE: (02) 9816 4279 • [WWW.AIPRINC.ORG](http://WWW.AIPRINC.ORG)