



THEN AND NOW

The Portman Clinic Today

Carlos Fishman

Thanks to Dr David Rumney's research into the history of both the ISTD and the Portman Clinic, many of the present members of staff working at the Clinic know something about its origins. In 1948 with the birth of the NHS, the clinical arm of the ISTD - the Psychopathic Clinic - became the Portman Clinic, and became a separate entity.

Since its foundation the Clinic has been providing a psychotherapy service for offenders as well as individuals suffering from sexual deviations. The first patient of the 'Psychopathic Clinic' was referred in August 1933. A woman of 47 who had 'violent tempers over trifles' but who at the time of referral had been 'brought to court ... for causing serious bodily injuries to another woman ...'. Sixty two years later, for a patient to be considered suitable for assessment and treatment at the Portman, it is still a precondition that he/she has to have done something i.e. acted out sexual or aggressive impulses.

The Clinic has always been associated with psychoanalysis (Freud, himself was made an honorary Vice-President) and the commitment to a psychoanalytic understanding and dynamic treatment of the patients has been maintained. At present all members of staff at the Portman are qualified psychoanalysts, group analysts or psychotherapists, members of the British Confederation of Psychotherapists. The Portman is now unique in the world as an out-patient centre of treatment, as well as a teaching and research centre operating from a psychoanalytic perspective.

Besides the well-known, seminal contributions of Edward Glover (one of the founders of both the ISTD and Portman Clinic) on the understanding of criminality and the perversions, it is worth mentioning the contributions of other prominent members of staff at the Portman, such as Mervin Glasser. He has written on transvestism, paedophilia and

violent behaviour, as well as the crucial role of aggression in the different kinds of perversion. Most notably this author has contributed to the psychodynamic understanding of the perversions with his description of the 'Core Complex', a psychological constellation found at the root of all perverse behaviour.

The late Adam Limentani (another distinguished psychoanalyst and former consultant psychotherapist at the Portman Clinic) has written important papers on the understanding of homosexuality, bisexuality, transvestism and transsexualism, as well as a classic article on 'Acting Out' that throws new light on ways of understanding this phenomenon so pervasively present in this kind of psychopathology. Estela Welldon, for many years now a prominent consultant psychotherapist at the Portman, has made a substantial contribution to the understanding of female sexual perversions in her book 'Mother, Madonna, Whore'. The contributions of these authors would not have been possible had it not been for their dedicated clinical work with seriously disturbed patients at this Clinic.

With the growing public awareness of the prevalence of child sexual abuse the clinical experience of the Clinic's staff in the understanding of incest and paedophilia has led to the offer of supervision and more formal courses to a variety of professionals including magistrates and the police. In that way we aim to bring closer together the 'law breakers' with the 'law makers', one of the explicit aims of Grace Pailthorpe's original work that led to the creation of the ISTD and Portman Clinic.

Since its beginning in 1933, over twenty five thousand patients have been seen at the Clinic and the complete files of all these patients constitute an invaluable research resource. In the mid seventies, there was an attempt to make use of the archives' resources in order to

create a simple database to make a preliminary study of an epidemiological kind. However, the changes in the NHS as well as the pressure of clinical work and teaching have delayed the progress of a more extensive use of these archives. At present, a study on the origins and consequences of sexual offending against children is using a comprehensive database which is derived from the archives. Hopefully this database will also be used for other research projects.

Another important research project undertaken at the clinic focuses on the Dynamics of the Violent Act. By examining the detailed clinical material from the once weekly psychotherapy with individuals who have committed an act of violence, it aims at studying the causes that trigger a violent act. The unique methodology has been developed by the Violence Research Workshop, led by Dr Glasser.

The Portman Clinic over the past sixty years has become firmly established as a clinical research centre. As such it serves the needs, not only of patients, who receive psychotherapeutic treatment but also of other professionals via research, publications and teaching. Furthermore, because of the specific nature of the clinical experience of its members of staff, the Portman has established itself as a contributor to policy making in health, the law, and social services.

Carlos Fishman is Principal Adult Psychotherapist at the Portman Clinic.

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EDITORIAL

As members will have noted from the last Bulletin, the Annual General Meeting of the Institute will be held on November 7th. Our guest speaker will be the Chief Constable of Sussex Police, Paul Whitehouse. The title of his talk will be 'The Police: Guardians of Liberty?' Your invitation to the AGM, together with a note about the proposed changes to the Memorandum and Articles of Association, appears overleaf. If you intend to come to the meeting, we would be most grateful if you could let us know, by the end of October if possible.

If you are a member, you should also be receiving your Annual Report and Accounts with this mailing. I should be most interested in any comments you may have on either. At its last meeting the Council recorded its satisfaction at the Institute's range of activities, and also at the improvements in its financial health over the last few years. However there is still much to be done. As Andrew Coyle states in his Chairman's Report in the Annual Report, 'In providing such a unique forum the Institute also carries a special responsibility.' These are troubled times for criminal justice and the Institute must take its part, in its own way, in restating its guiding principles.

The programme of events on the right gives an indication of the range of our activities. As you will see we are determined to maintain our commitment to running more events outside London. A fresh visits and seminars programme (January to March 1996) is currently at the planning stage, and details should be sent to you before Christmas.

Friends of CJM may be interested to know that I have been invited to be a presenter at the Charity Forum's seminar on 'Writing Charity Newsletters' in November, a gratifying invitation. Watch this space!

Finally we say goodbye to Jane Marshall who was with us for three months helping primarily with the Directory, and we welcome Julie Adamo, who joins us as a part time secretary.

Julia Braggins



Julie Adamo

Julia Braggins



Jane Marshall

Kings College Law School

FORTHCOMING EVENTS 1995/6

- **Tuesday 10th October - 1.30-4.30 pm. Visit**
HMPLatchmere House, a rehabilitative prison. Ham Common, Richmond, Surrey. 10 max.
- **October 14th-21st 1995**
Members' study tour to the Netherlands.
- **Thursday October 19th. Seminar, KCL 6.30 pm**
Becky Boyton, Mental Health court worker from Highbury Corner Magistrates Court, will talk about the issues around court diversion and will look at models of good practice.
- **Tuesday 24th October - 2-4 pm. Visit**
Metropolitan Police Personal Safety Training. Includes instruction for officers on use of body armour, long handled baton etc. Will take place at Metropolitan Police Training Centre, Sunbury-on-Thames. 15 max.
- **November 1st & 2nd.**
Westminster Central Hall, London SW1
Does Punishment Work? A two-day non-residential conference, to be organised in collaboration with the What Works? Conference Group and Positive Justice.
- **Tuesday November 7th**
AGM - 5.30 pm at KCL to be followed by a reception. Guest Speaker, Paul Whitehouse, Chief Constable, Sussex Police.
The Police: Guardians of Liberty?
- **Thursday November 9th. Seminar, KCL 6.30 pm**
Ian Lockwood, Prison Service Area Manager for the NW will talk about his recent visit to the US, where he was looking at a range of custodial initiatives including Boot Camps.
- **Wednesday 22nd November - 1.30-4.00 pm. Visit**
HMP Wandsworth. London SW18. 10 max.
- **November 30th. HMYOI Glen Parva, Leicester.**
Day Conference: **What Works with Young Prisoners?** To be organised in collaboration with the Trust for the Study of Adolescence.
- **Thursday December 7th. Seminar, KCL 6.30 pm**
Ruth Mann, Principal Psychologist at Prison Service Headquarters, will talk about the Prison Service's Sex Offender Treatment Programme.
- **Friday January 19th 1996 2 pm**
Visit HM Prison Manchester
- **Friday February 9th 1996.**
By kind invitation of the Baroness David. Annual Dinner at the House of Lords. Please send £10 to reserve your place.
- **Wednesday February 28th 1996.**
Day Conference. **Absent from School: Truancy & Exclusion.** One day conference at British Telecom Headquarters, London EC1
- **Wednesday to Friday June 26th-28th 1996**
Annual Residential Conference at Keele University.
Tackling Drugs Together: One Year On.

For further information about all these events please call the ISTD office on 0171 873 2822.

Plymouth Area

Aspects of Communications about Mentally Disordered Offenders

An afternoon seminar to be held in mid January 1996

Contact Gail Bradley on 01647 252001
for further information

The ISTD Council warmly invites you to the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE INSTITUTE

to be held on

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 7th 1995

King's College London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS

(nearest tube Temple)

5.30-6.30 pm Business meeting (members only)
 6.30-7.00 pm Reception (all welcome) plus presentation of John Freeman Memorial Prize
 7.00-8.00 pm Guest speaker: Paul Whitehouse QPM, Chief Constable, Sussex Police
 "The Police: Guardians of Liberty?"

Donations to cover costs most gratefully received

RSVP to Julia Braggins, ISTD, King's College London, Strand, London WC2R 2LS. Tel: 0171 873 2822

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Revised Memorandum and Articles of Association

As you will already know from last year's annual report, we have been working on a revision of the Institute's Memorandum and Articles of Association over the past year. Our governing document was drafted in 1951, when the Institute became a Company Limited by Guarantee, and is out of date, now, in a number of respects. As Francesca Quint, the barrister who has been advising us on the exercise, put it: the document is... 'not surprisingly out of date as regards the formalities. Company Law is now comprised in the Companies Acts of 1985 and 1989...' and there are a number of other similar anachronisms.

Nevertheless the content of the administrative provisions, as Francesca observes, 'has stood the test of time' and the substantive changes suggested are minimal.

The revised objects clause, to which the Charities Commission has agreed, reads as follows:

The object for which the Institute is established is to advance the education of the public, and in particular of those engaged in the administration of criminal justice and the treatment of offenders, in the causes and prevention of delinquency and crime, the treatment of offenders, and the

principles and operation of the criminal justice process both in the United Kingdom and abroad.

Further changes are as follows: the omission of certain provisions in the existing Mem and Arts regarding obsolete membership categories, and the appointment of lecturers, editorial and research workers (as being overly specific and subject to changing circumstances), the introduction of fixed terms for the periods of office of the President and Honorary Officers, a restriction in the size of the Council (from a maximum of 30 to a maximum of 20 members) and the introduction of an age limit of 75 for Council membership.

The format is based on Companies Form 3C (produced by Oyez), a standard format for small charitable companies such as ours, with appropriate additions and omissions to suit our particular circumstances.

The Council will bring the whole document (with copies for all who have announced their intention to attend) to the Annual General Meeting where a resolution to accept it will be placed before the members. However if you wish to see a copy in advance of the meeting, please let the ISTD office know and one will be sent to you.

Does Punishment Work?

A two day non-residential conference to be held at Westminster Central Hall, London SW1 on the 1st and 2nd November 1995

What is the evidence concerning the effects of punishment? Is such evidence relevant to the question of its continued usage? What are the implications of the answers to these questions for criminal justice policy?

Speakers will include:

- David Garland*
(University of Edinburgh)
- Nicola Lacey*
(New College Oxford)
- Doris Layton McKenzie*
(University of Maryland)
- James McGuire*
(Liverpool University)
- Jerome Miller* (NCIA)
- Philip Priestley* (Positive Justice)

The Home Secretary has been invited to attend.

Cost: £175 (£165 to members).

Some bursaries for students and voluntary organisations are available. Please contact Carol Martin at the ISTD office on 0171 873 2822 for further details.

CONFERENCE REPORTS • CONFERENCE REPORTS •

Young People, Crime and the North East. HMYOI Deerbolt 7 June 1995

It is not surprising that discussions on young people and crime, including arguments about how best agencies should respond, remain at the top of the policy makers' agenda. After all crime is overwhelmingly a youthful activity, and young people figure disproportionately in the prison population. Yet beyond such statistical detail, what do we actually know about young people's involvement in crime, and their relations with criminal justice agencies? Certainly, commentaries on youth crime are shrouded in political rhetoric. Invariably discussions fall into crude generalisations neglecting specific regional differences, while often little thought is given to ensuring that national policies tackle local concerns.

With such issues in mind, this conference was developed in an attempt to provide some understanding of young people's involvement in crime and their relationship with criminal justice agencies. Set in the bleak yet beautiful surroundings of HMYOI Deerbolt in County Durham, the conference was also intended to act as the relaunch of the ISTD in the North East of England. Promoted by HMYOI Deerbolt and the University of Northumbria, the conference received support and help from a number of organisations and individuals, including

the young people of HMYOI Deerbolt, who provided refreshments, lunch, and their own views concerning crime.

Chaired by Mitch Egan, Governor HM Low Newton, the conference attracted over seventy practitioners and other interested delegates from surrounding areas of the North East. The morning was taken up with three formal presentations. John Pitts provided a much needed comparative insight into youth crime and youth policy, focusing upon recent work conducted in France and North East London; Tony Jeffs contextualised youth crime in the North East specifically whilst Roger Graef presented a discussion of young people's criminal behaviour and the effects and impact of a number of innovative policy responses. Acknowledging the problem of youth crime in the North East but in no way suggesting its uniqueness, all the morning speakers focused upon what works in crime prevention in an attempt to promote discussion on positive forms of response to young people's involvement in crime and criminal justice.

Following lunch, delegates attended one of a number of workshops designed to engage discussion on particular areas of concern, as highlighted by local media and/or practitioners. *Prisoners'*

Experiences of Differential Regimes allowed delegates the opportunity to view for themselves and talk with young people within the prison setting; *Confronting Drugs in the North East* questioned the common stereotypes and looked at positive mechanism for prevention and control; *Parenting, Crime and Young People* acknowledged the numbers of parents/carers in the prison setting and focused upon an innovative response to prisoners' needs, whilst *Young People and Car Crime* dispelled the myth of its uniqueness to North England, and focused upon the range of options available to divert, reduce and prevent similar incidents.

It was a day to reflect on the progressive initiatives taking place in relation to young people's offending aimed at reduction and prevention, together with building confidence and support. Such forums provide evidence of the positive mechanisms in operation today. Unfortunately, given the current political climate, there is also a reluctance in some quarters to acknowledge their usefulness and effectiveness.

Peter Francis
University of Northumbria at Newcastle.

Sixth Eve Saville Memorial Lecture - Monday June 5th 1995, King's College London. Professor Michael Tonry, Sonosky Professor of Law and Public Policy, University of Minnesota.

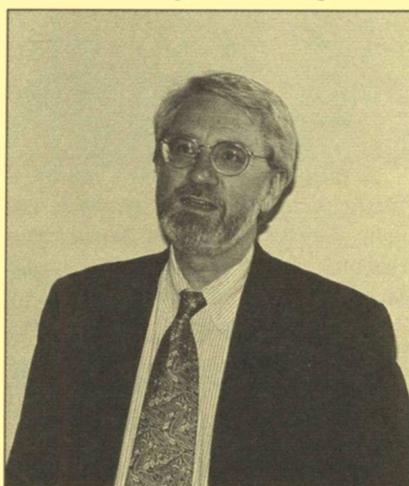
Between Prison and Probation: The Development of Intermediate Sanctions in Western Countries or Be careful what you ask for in Community Corrections Programmes because you may get it.

The sub-title Professor Tonry gave to his lecture on the night told its own story. The lesson he had to deliver was that the best intentions in penal reform could still lead to lamentable results for criminal justice. This unpalatable truth was illustrated with examples from both sides of the Atlantic, in a talk based on his research across Europe and America.

By 'intermediate sanctions' he meant 'penalties that are more punitive and more intrusive than "mere probation" but less punitive and less intrusive than prison'. In *Between Prison and Probation*, written with Norval Morris, he had argued for a proportional system of punishment, which would relate the severity of the penalty to the seriousness of the offence. Their ideas had been taken up with enthusiasm by the

then Attorney General. However the outcomes had been very far from their intentions.

Intensive Supervision Programmes,



Boot Camps, Electronic Monitoring - all had been designed to keep non-violent or non-serious offenders out of custody. But

the 'robust findings' from the American research literature to date indicated that none of these penalties showed any appreciable effect on recidivism, in terms of new crime. Moreover there were significant levels of failure, again across the sanctions, and thus significant revocation (breach) rates. Additionally, since more people were being diverted from 'mere probation' than from prison, these new penalties were not saving money or reducing prison overcrowding. "If the American experience can be generalised, reconstituted community penalties are not going to affect recidivism rates in terms of new crime, they're going to affect recidivism rates in terms of technical violations". So we could end up with more, not fewer, people in prison.

Hence the sub-title.

Julia Braggins, ISTD

The full transcript of Professor Tonry's talk is available from the ISTD, cost £1.50 including UK p&p.

VISITS • VISITS • VISITS • VISITS • VISITS •

Visit to the N.W. Thames Regional Secure Unit: 28th February 1995

Regional Secure Units came about largely as the result of the Butler Report, published in October 1975. These units are required for those mentally disturbed persons, offenders and non-offenders alike, who do not require the degree of security offered by the special hospitals, but who, none the less, are not suitable for treatment under the open conditions obtaining in local psychiatric hospitals. At this time there are only about 650 places in such institutions although twenty years ago the recommendation was for 2000 places.

At the time of visiting, the Unit had 48 patients, eight of whom were female and whilst the nature of the population obviously varies, ethnic minorities, particularly the Afro-Caribbean community, are heavily represented. Most patients are admitted following psychiatric assessment, under Sections 34 or 41 of the Mental Health Act. Those admitted under Section 41 are the joint responsibility of Health authorities and the Home Office. Average cost per head, per annum, in 1994/95 was £80,000 and the length of stay varies between months and years.

Admissions hitherto appear to have been primarily from special hospitals, local hospitals and Wormwood Scrubs prison, but it is hoped that increasingly the Unit will focus on local community needs.

Within the Secure Unit, which is the direct responsibility of two Directors, there are nursing, psychology and education departments. All nurses are psychiatrically qualified, and there is a wide range of

psycho-therapeutic treatments plus activity-based facilities including art, drama, massage, yoga and a well-equipped gymnasium. Medication is obviously an important aspect within the framework of treatment.

Opportunities exist for patients to participate in normal life in the outside community and, dependant upon individual treatment and progress, there are links with local educational institutes; regular visits to normal entertainment such as football matches, theatres and concerts. These can be accompanied or alone, dependant upon individual needs.

Within the unit patients are encouraged to take responsibility for their own lives as much as they can. They can purchase their own food, prepare their own meals and do their own budgeting. Rapport between staff and patients appeared friendly and co-operative.

Staff-patient ratios are 1:7 nursing staff to patient, and staff would appear to enjoy a good network of support from both internal and external psychiatric and counselling services. They also have individual training plans to ensure that they can benefit from new ideas of treatment and can share their own expertise both nationally and internationally.

This was an excellent opportunity to speak to enthusiastic and dedicated staff in what appeared to be a very positive therapeutic environment. Our thanks to Education Officer, Helena McGrath for organising the visit.

Tony Page, ISTD

Visit to HMP High Down, Sutton Surrey: 16th February 1995

High Down is a newly built Category B Local prison for 600+ inmates set in the leafy outer suburbs of South London. The Governor, Stephen Pryor, designed the regime prior to opening and is still in charge.

He runs a progressive prison; for example, mixing convicted and remand prisoners. "This gives the staff greater flexibility and allows them to get to know the prisoners very well." All prisoners can wear their own clothes.

A highlight of the visit was a long 'unguarded' and impromptu talk from a prisoner who had at last found a prison regime that gave him hope to reform himself. The prison also places great

emphasis on re-settlement with 30 inmates on the scheme.

A member of staff even remarked "Being here has given me back my enthusiasm for the job." But drugs remain a big problem. "Sometimes cannabis kept the lid on the big Victorian prisons. If we stopped drugs coming in, we would lose 1 or 2 prisons."

As a result of the Woodcock Report, even ISTD visitors might expect to be searched!

This was a very well organised ISTD trip and we are grateful to the prison and the ISTD staff for making it so interesting.

John Wates JP MA

ISTD

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Contracts to Punish:
Private or Public? £6.00

Dealing with Drugs:
A New Philosophy £6.00

The Directory of
Criminology
Members: £6.50
Non-Members: £11.50

Eve Saville Memorial
Lecture 1995: Michael Tonry
Between Prison and
Probation: the
Development of
Intermediate Sanctions
in Western Countries £1.50

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0171 873 2822**

CLEAN BREAK
Theatre Company

Clean Break was set up in 1979 by two women when they left Askham Grange prison. It produces original productions which explore issues around women's imprisonment and which tour nationally to prisons and arts venues.

Its outreach programme offers talks, presentations by current students or Arts workshops.

Contact Pauline on 0171 383 3786 for further details.