

Editorial

Kotahi te kōhao o te ngira e kuhuna ai te miro mā, te miro pango, me te miro whero.

Spoken by the first Maori King, Kīngi Pōtatau Te Wherowhereo

There is one eye of the needle through which the white thread,
the black thread, and the red thread must pass.

Kia ora koutou,

In choosing this whakatauki, Phil Carter asked me “What is the eye of the needle?”

For me, the eye of the needle is wrapped up in AANZPA’s vision. It is our willingness to come together, to give life to AANZPA’s vision of “people all over the place expressing themselves relevantly... a responsive and creative expression that brings joy to the human spirit, that uplifts the soul, that makes us feel part of the universe again”. The eye of the needle is love as we work to create a tapestry using the different threads. Many people have willingly expressed themselves here. They have backed themselves and have done this in a connected relational way that has co-created this tapestry.

Bringing this Journal to life are seven articles and a story reflecting and celebrating a wide range of practices of psychodramatic methods and their impact. Five sociodramatists reflect on their experiences, research and insights and shine light on systemic perspectives to navigate dynamics amongst individual, interpersonal and group vitality, and dysfunction. Three authors reflect on role development in identity formation, in psychodrama groups online and from participating in a clowning workshop.

Jenny Hutt alerts us to differentiate experiences that may appear as interpersonal or political challenges in organisations where the actual sources of discomfort may well be systemic patterns of events which can be recognised and attended to co-operatively.

Sue Christie outlines some of her experiences in developing health professionals and organisation systems after an organisation restructure.

Inspired by Zerka Moreno's invitation Elizabeth Synnot writes as a family therapist with her work with an immigrant family.

Jane Goessi includes her passion for systems perspectives in her approach to role development in coaching an individual within an organisation.

Kevin Franklin writes from his own experiences to his and others' observations, research and insights on the human behaviours resulting in war, systemic and personal dysfunction and the conditions which enable functional identity formation.

How might psychodramatists innovate with technology to assist individuals and groups develop mutually beneficial relationships and function relevantly? John Farnsworth invites us into the world of online groups and includes possibilities and practices for the psychodrama method.

Viv Thomson's story reflects human and social responses to dementia within one person's social atom, and her reflections on the personal and social systems providing care and services.

Neil Simmons writes of his entry into the world of clowning and the impact on his practice as a psychodramatist and medical practitioner.

The cover is the work of artist and advanced psychodrama trainee Yvonne Shaw, reflecting trust in a mutual working relationship of personal depth, vulnerability and sincerity.

How much can we trust that our words speak to our hearts and minds and convey powerful ideas, inspiration and meaning when we have capitals, italics, parenthesis and punctuation to emphasise what we want to say? Patricia O'Rourke and I decided to trust that words in this Journal convey adequate intention without further emphasis. We have implemented an editorial style guide for Journal articles and along with our eagle-eyed final-read editors, have extracted superfluous capitals, italics and punctuation and let the written words speak for themselves.

Diana Jones
Editor