

# CONFERENCE COUNTDOWN

AFTER two years of online conferences we are excited that this June delegates will at last be able to meet face to face!

The 2022 Conference offers an opportunity to explore Creativity in Pastoral Supervision sessions, as well as time to network with other delegates, join two workshops and have some space to process what we have heard and experienced.

The conference is being held in the Golden Jubilee Conference Centre and Hotel in Clydebank, outside of Glasgow, on **Tuesday 14th June** and **Wednesday 15th June**. Registration is from 11.30am and our first meal together is at 12.45pm. Our first conference session begins at 1.45pm. The conference concludes on the second day with a buffet lunch at 12.45pm.

### Keynote speaker

This year our keynote speaker is Liz Crumlish – an experienced pastoral supervisor, trainer and published poet. An Associate of the Institute of Pastoral



By **DAVID RYDER**

Supervision and Reflective Practice. Liz is based in Scotland, works in private practice across a variety of professional contexts in the UK and abroad. The book 'Pastoral Supervision Creativity in Action' was published in 2021 by Michael Patterson and Liz.

### Workshops

You will be able to choose from the following workshops facilitated by members of APSE:-

*Exploring image making*

*Using a labyrinth*

*Using the Greenwich Foot Tunnel*

*Considering diversity and inclusion*

*Accreditation within APSE and the impact of transition and change.*

Another workshop will be provided by Inter Faith Glasgow – 'difficult conversations and working in different traditions' facilitated by Magdalen Lambkin. This was a theme suggested from our last conference.

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## FROM THE CHAIR . . .

**Brenda Mosedale writes:-**

EACH time I have written this for Apsical it seems as though the world has become stranger. We have been in and out of lockdowns. There is huge uncertainty about how life is for so many and we often don't know what normal looks like. We have been challenged with

war in Europe in a way that most of us have not known before and the cost of living is becoming unmanageable for so many. All these things and many more affect the people we work with in supervision. They also affect each one of us. One of the messages that has been repeated from the many agencies try-

ing to find their way to support those who may be welcoming refugees into their homes and lives is not to do it alone. That has to be true for us in whatever way we work with others.

In this issue of Apsical you'll find out more about the Conference in June.

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# Search starts for new Trustees

IT'S that time of year again - when we consider the re-election of Trustees and the possibility of new people joining the Trustee Board.

This year 3 trustees are willing to serve for a further term: Deanne Gardner, Andre Groenewald and Peter Gubi.

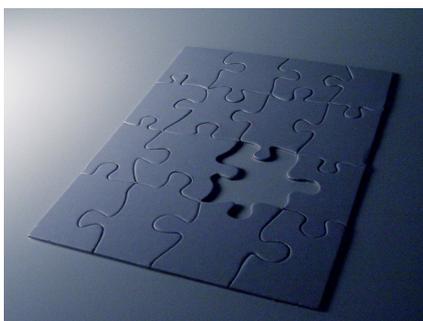
However, three trustees have also left the board during the course of the year for personal/work reasons. We thank Alison Mackay, Dave Martin and Peter Wells for their support and collegueship.

This means there are opportunities for others who have time and enthusiasm for developing the work and support that APSE can bring.

If you are a member of APSE then you are eligible. The

process is for your nomination to be supported by two APSE members. You will need to let the APSE secretary Andre Groenewald know and you can be sent a form which explains what is needed.

You might not feel this is for you, but have an idea of someone who might be interested. Please talk to them and suggest the possibility. If you want to



By **BRENDA MOSEDALE**

talk through a little more what's involved, let me know.

## Do you need special skills for this?

We will ask any new trustees to consider an area of APSE's work to get involved with. It could be planning the conference, developing training,

working on accreditation or exploring how to support members. It may be that you are just the person to make links with other organisations. There are administrative tasks, but not too many.

APSE is growing and we all need to be looking at what the future might be. If you are an APSE member it

already involves you. As a trustee you could have a part to play in helping it to happen. To have a conversation please contact me on [chair4apse@gmail.com](mailto:chair4apse@gmail.com).

For a nomination form please contact Andre on [secretary4apse@gmail.com](mailto:secretary4apse@gmail.com). We would like nominations to be returned by **3<sup>rd</sup> May**.

Thank you for thinking about it.

## Counting down to conference

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The workshops have also been lengthened from 45 minutes to an hour. Further details of the workshops will be sent to delegates before the conference to help you decide on your options.

At the time of writing there are still places available to book. The final communication sent out a few weeks ago, says - any rooms not booked by **Sunday 10th April**, will need to be handed back to the hotel for them to use. The cost for residential delegates will be £200 (which includes lunch on day 1 with an evening meal, bed and breakfast

and lunch on day 2).

Day delegates can still book their place up until **Tuesday 31st May** and the cost for day delegates is £120 (which includes lunch on day 1 with an evening meal and lunch on day 2). Please visit the APSE website for further details and booking instructions.

The conference centre has some beautiful grounds and some leisure facilities which you can take advantage of.

Looking forward to meeting you in Glasgow as we explore together "Creativity in Pastoral Supervision!"



# Accreditation: what's it all about?

EVER since the beginning there have been conversations about the purpose of accreditation with APSE and how to adequately assess who should be accredited.

At first there was a process to acknowledge the experience of those who had been involved with pastoral supervision and had training in this or allied disciplines. It was a rigorous process with interviews and exploration of experience, but it dealt with relatively few applicants. In the years since training in pastoral supervision and reflective practice has grown and so the accreditation process has grown also.

Currently we accredit applicants as pastoral supervisors or senior pastoral supervisors. The criteria for each are not always easy to disentangle for those who are assessing the applications. We ask for the same length of training in pastoral supervision/reflective practice for each but suggest that senior accreditation is for those for whom supervision is a significant part of their work. The reality is that most people apply at senior level. We don't have an easy way to move from one level to the other. The other reality is that many people ask for information and accreditation packs. Not many ever return them. When I have asked why this is, some people say it is just too hard. Of course accreditation is not meant to be an easy process, but it leads me to wonder whether it is time to make a change.



By **BRENDA MOSEDALE**

One suggestion is that we develop a general accreditation pathway for everyone. This would not be less rigorous than the current process but might be more straightforward. Senior accreditation could then follow for those who wish to pursue this at a later date. I would be interested in hearing your responses to this suggestion. I would expect that there might be some exceptions to this, but the majority of applicants are near the beginning of their journey as supervisors. This would then be the norm for those church denominations and organisations that are looking for accredited supervisors.

On another note, some of you will be aware that we suspended application for the educator accreditation. I'm delighted to say that we are almost at the stage of reintroducing this for those for whom it might apply. This follows a great deal of work and consideration from the accreditation processes group in APSE and I am grateful to them for that. I hope to have more news of that at the AGM. Finally – I talked about the work of assessment of applications for accreditation. We have a small but dedicated team of assessors. If you feel you have something to offer as an assessor it would be good to expand the team. Please contact me about this or any of the other questions I've raised here on [accreditation4apse@gmail.com](mailto:accreditation4apse@gmail.com).

## FROM THE CHAIR . . .

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Although APSE has run successful online conferences over the past two years, the feeling was that it was important to be together in one place if we could.

We'll see how this goes and consider what the future pattern might be. You'll see opportunities to work together in the development of APSE if you feel that a trustee role might be something

you could consider. You'll see something about regional groups which is where many members find their support and collegiality. And then accreditation – if this might be something which supports you in your work.

APSE is an association of members and it is through you as members that we can find our way forward. So however the world is looking for you just now, remember we don't do any of this on our own.

ABOUT 50 APSE members from a range of disciplines are linked with the Midlands Group, about half of whom are active in the regional meetings.

Before the pandemic we were meeting once a term in Central Birmingham. Since then it's all been online, but we hope to move to a hybrid model of meeting once a year in person and 2-3 times online.

Meetings in 2021 took place via Zoom in January, March, September and December, covering the topics of **Shame in the Church, Reflecting Theologically in Pastoral Supervision, Being Virtually Creative, and Mediation**, with two external trainers and two APSE members taking the lead. Before moving to input on a specific topic, we always started



**MIDLANDS REGIONAL GROUP — Report by GILL CARDING**

by spending some time sharing news and catching up with each other.

In response to members requests our recent meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 took a somewhat different shape. Entitled “**Sharing Practice and Learning from One Another**”, we explored the questions:-  
 [1] What I find most satisfying about doing pastoral supervision”  
 [2] “What I find most challenging as a pastoral supervisor”

[3] “Recurrent themes that arise with pastoral supervisees”. From this 4 themes were identified to discuss more fully in small groups over 2 time slots; Working with Reluctant Supervisees, Systemic Issues, Ethical Issues, and Holding Appropriate Boundaries.

There was a strong sense that people really appreciated the opportunity to discuss these matters with APSE colleagues; there was good learning going on; and there remained much still to talk about!

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September**, probably in person in Birmingham

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November** via Zoom.

For further information contact group convener Gill Carding by email [gillcarding@btinternet.com](mailto:gillcarding@btinternet.com)

**Welcome!**

SINCE the last edition of Apsical we are delighted to have welcomed the following new members:- **Richard Bubbers; Stephen Currow; Anne Francis; Fiona Kernohan.**

**Well done!**

CONGRATULATIONS to:-  
**Anissa Chung, Dawn Allison and Louise Moore**, who have been successful in their applications for senior pastoral supervisor accreditation.  
**Tricia McIlroy**, who has been become an accredited pastoral supervisor.  
**Ruth Craig**, who has successfully renewed as senior pastoral supervisor.

**Can you help?**

AN exploration of how Christian beliefs might impact on a woman's response to domestic abuse, and how an awareness of this may help the counselling process.



University of Chester

- ◆ Are you a trainee or qualified counsellor? (Diploma level or above)
- ◆ Have you suffered from domestic abuse? (and left the relationship)
- ◆ Do you identify as a Christian?

Caroline Monro would love to talk to you — before April 30th. This is for a MA in Clinical Counselling research project. For more information, contact Caroline at Chester University. Email: [1916525@chester.ac.uk](mailto:1916525@chester.ac.uk)

**STOP PRESS: CONFERENCE BOOKINGS CLOSE ON SUNDAY, APRIL 10TH!**