

B.A.B.P. BULLETIN
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EDITORIAL

This is the first issue of the bulletin under our joint editorship. The size of the bulletin has been considerably increased and we hope that the new format will prove acceptable.

In this, and subsequent bulletins, we will publish short papers of 2,000 to 3,000 words on issues of relevance to the theoretical basis and practical applications of behavioural psychotherapy. In general, case studies and research reports will not be published, but priority will be given to articles examining basic concepts and both practical and professional matters.

Further regular features will include:-

- Committee activities
- Branch activities
- Correspondence
- Book and Film Reviews
- Forthcoming events

All of this will require your cooperation. Letters, short articles, reviews of books or other materials are all required. We want this to become a forum for the exchange of views and information, not just a platform for a few jaundiced opinions on the world of behavioural psychotherapy.

This first issue inevitably contains a disproportionate number of articles, and other contributions from London members. Distance makes the contingencies weaker! We hope that our second issue will remedy this state of affairs. To shape ourselves to this goal, we have solicited articles from John Bancroft on the training of sex therapists, Gwynne Jones on "why behavioural psychotherapy"? Andrew Mathews on methodological issues, and a host of others. We also look forward to receiving unsolicited contributions--preferably two copies, typed and double-spaced, but initially we will set lower targets.

We hear that there was recently a meeting in that (in)spired city of lost causes to discuss the formation of yet another national coordinating body to act as an umbrella organization for groups interested in the application of behavioural techniques. Apparently some members and many non-members are dissatisfied with the present services, philosophy, or something of BABP. It is notable that the Scottish Group of Behaviour Modification has not yet affiliated to BABP. The correspondence columns of the new BABP Bulletin are open to discuss these issues.

We have also heard from a number of sources that some members of the BABP dislike the term "Behavioural Psychotherapist" and would like to change the name of the association. It is not our intention to express our own opinion on this subject except to say that we would refuse to put "Behavioural Engineers" on our door. Moreover an adequate description of our therapeutic and research endeavours would cover an area of semantic space which cannot be encompassed by terms such as "contingency planning" and "behaviour control".

The next annual general meeting of the BABP will be in May, 1975. Consequently, we suggest that part of the next issue of the BABP Bulletin should be devoted to letters and articles which express an opinion on this subject. We anticipate that this suggestion could provoke letters which oppose the label "Behavioural Psychotherapy" and so we hope that those of you in favour will make sure that your views are represented.

William Yule

Ray Hodgson