



Group Relations Australia Inc  
PO Box 92  
Kangaroo Ground Vic 3097  
Australia

## A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

### ***Between the Image and the Word: Imagination and the Unconscious***

#### ***A 'Viewing' Group***

facilitated by Anne Jeffs and John Newton

*"Only what is seen sideways sinks deep".*

E. M. Forster

This viewing group will meet regularly with the same membership to watch together a purposively selected cinematic drama, in staged sequences.

After each sequence, the group members will be invited to share and to discuss their current understanding, confusion, associations and imagined outcomes. Just as Freud compared the images seen from the window of a moving train to a developing 'train of thought' in an analytic setting, the cinema too offers a series of images that can stimulate a sideways glimpse of our unconscious train of images.

In a space that is neither expressly theoretical nor directly experiential, the facilitators will support the participants to play with their own experiences of 'projector and projected' as a pathway to deeper insight, imagination and creativity in considering individual, group and institutional experience and behaviour.

Towards the end of the program, related conceptual material will be offered and suggested as the facilitators and participants seek the wider relevance of thoughts, feelings, memories and associations which have been brought forward. This will include consideration of the role of the 'Arts' as an indirect conduit to unconscious connections, insight and creativity.

The 'unconscious' in this program may be considered both from the perspective of the Freudian, 'repressed unconscious',

*"....it is the things one can't remember that stay with you".*

*Alan Bennett, Forty Years On.*

and the generative connections made by the 'associative unconscious', as described more recently by Maurita Harney and GRA member Susan Long:

*" (the associative unconscious) is a mental network of thoughts, signs and symbols or signifiers, able to give rise to many feelings, impulses, and images. The network is between people, but within each of them.*

Long (Ed.) Socioanalytic Methods

The program spans 18 hours, beginning and concluding with 4 hour sessions, 1 – 5pm on Saturdays and with four intervening sessions on Thursday evenings 7 – 9.30pm.

There are a maximum of 15 places in the program.

The cost is \$350 per person (GRA member) or \$400 (non-GRA member) payable in advance.

Priority will be given to GRA members in good standing who apply by 14 July.

Session dates and times are:

Saturday 2 September, 1.00 -5.00pm

Thursday 7 September, 7.00 – 9.30pm

Thursday 14 September, 7.00 – 9.30pm

Thursday 21 September, 7.00 – 9.30pm

Thursday 28 September, 7.00 – 9.30pm

Saturday 7 October, 1.00 – 5.00pm

You are discouraged from enrolling if you will need to miss more than one session.

All sessions will be conducted at the rooms of the Victorian Association of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapists (VAPP), 18 Erin Street, Richmond.

Expressions of interest, further details and application forms are available from [john.newton@inet.net.au](mailto:john.newton@inet.net.au)

#### Facilitators

##### **John Newton BBus, MA, PhD**

John is formerly Assoc. Prof. in Organisation Dynamics at RMIT University and is now a freelance consultant and author. He is past president (2012-3) of Group Relations Australia and a member of the International Society for the Psychoanalytic Study of Organisations. He is the lead editor of J. Newton, S. Long and B. Sievers (eds.) (2006) *Coaching in Depth. The Organisational Role Analysis Approach*. Karnac: London and he serves on the editorial boards of the journals *Socioanalysis* and *Organisational and Social Dynamics*.

##### **Anne Jeffs BA(Ed); Grad Dip Prof Writing; BSW; VAPP.**

Anne is a clinical social worker and psychoanalytic psychotherapist working in private practice in Northcote, Melbourne. She works with infants, children and adolescents, as well as adults, and is a member of the Victorian Association of Psychoanalytic Psychotherapists (VAPP), the Victorian Association of Child Psychotherapists (VCPA) and an Associate Member of Group Relations Australia. She is the recent Chair of the VAPP Professional Development Committee and a member of the VAPP Training Committee. Anne has a long standing passion for the creative arts, especially fiction and film, and often draws on them in her conference and journal papers to illuminate theory and clinical phenomena.