

**Eurythmy Therapy Forum Network  
Medical Section Goetheanum  
Newsletter No 2 October 2005**

**Leading Thought**

In the Pastoral Medicine Course Rudolf Steiner described the community building quality as one of „Respect for ones fellow co workers and the work they do. Feeling connected through the awareness of the other“. „Through interest in each other and in what moves the other „ (Letters to the members)

These are the basic foundation stones or pillars that will enable a healthy social community in the future.

**Questions (as freely given inspiration)**

1. What is the current political, legal situation? What issues are there and what should the next steps be?
2. What ET themes or questions are there living in your country? Could you put into words the spiritual intentions?
3. How is the coordination ET Forum perceived? What is seen as useful, or important? What are the wishes?

**Argentina:** Gonzalo Lascano

The situation in Argentina has lead me to the decision to move with my family and my eurythmy therapy to Chile. I am still country Rep for Argentina though and will visit every 7 weeks for one week when I will see my patients in eurythmy therapy sessions. Otherwise, Graciela Kolb remains there as eurythmy therapist.

**Denmark:** Solvejg Kristensen

After several attempts, we have decided not to form an association! We will continue to meet as a study group At present we are reading the ET Course and The Medical Course (for doctors).. The group is made up of about half the eurythmy therapists in Denmark plus one doctor. This work is enhanced by two practical working days a year for all who are interested. The next one is planned for November with the theme -„Hyper active children,,.

There is little interest for international work as we feel the problems here in Denmark first need solving. Maybe we are at a different stage here with the development of eurythmy therapy than in central Europe where the initiatives usually come? However news from abroad is of interest to most of us and we respect all the good work done.

**Germany:** Angelika Jaschke

1. Fortunately for us, a recent legal decision has enabled health insurance companies (within reason) to cover the costs of eurythmy therapy referrals. The umbrella group for anthroposophic medicine (DAMiD) is trying to secure contracts with several companies. All artistic and

movement based therapies have joined a state association. and are working on obtaining professional (legal)status. The German and Dutch training centres are hoping to adopt the international Bachalore status for eurythmy. Alanus University has also submitted the masters degree program for eurythmy therapy for approval

2. Fields of Practice for eurythmy therapy in schools and kindergarten and eurythmy therapists working in special curative education hold regular international eurythmy therapy further training courses.

3. The meaning and importance of the international network for eurythmy therapy is difficult to convey in Germany, even though it is the nucleus of it all! It is also sad that Germany has still not found a country representative which means that I not only have to be the Eurythmy Therapy International Forum Network coordinator but also country representative.

I do hope that in the coming year this will be shared by two shoulders!

**England:** Daniel Maslen

1. The Anthroposophical Health Professions Council (A.H.P.C) continues with its work to create an umbrella group to co-ordinate and represent Anthroposphic Medicine and all the activities and therapies which arise from it. A draft document including membership criteria application forms etc. has been submitted to the Eurythmy Therapy Council for approval.

2. Our study themes include the 'Human Heart' and 'Documentation'. The next conference is planned for November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in Stroud.

3. The Forum Network is considered to be of great value and we hope that it will continue to be a good base for research, sharing and communication.

**Finland:** Anne-Marie Somero

In Finland there is still no legal status for eurythmy therapy. In one Waldorf School it has been named as a core subject in the curriculum and is therefore gained recognition and financial support. In private practice it still has no legal or recognized status.

All active eurythmy therapists are working in schools or curative education centres and we are all happy that Lasse Wennerschous will be giving a course next January in Helsinki and that Frau Ursula Ziegenbeins will be giving us a course next Spring.

**France:** Christine Weber-Stoll

France still has no professional association. OSE has been running for 9 years with president Maryse Rouzes, which works together with eurythmy therapists and is currently engaged in the founding of Choriambe a French eurythmy therapy training. During the last 7 years the OSE has organized further training courses but it is becoming ever more wanted that a meeting with other international professional associations takes place. We need to work on statutes amongst other things.

To this end a new group has been selected: Christian Duchemin, Präsident, Laurent Schimmel, Vicepräsident, Marie-Claude Horner, Sekretärin, Nelly Gayraud, Kassierin.

**Georgia:** Nino Waschakidse

From 25.08.2005 to 2.09.05 we have a part time eurythmy therapy training for doctors planned. Nine student doctors and two guest eurythmy therapists have enrolled. The mornings will be devoted to study of the 6<sup>th</sup> lecture of the Eurythmy Therapy Course and its relevance to practical work with patients. The afternoons will be for study of the 'sounds' given in the 4<sup>th</sup> lecture. We will explore them through group practice then with individual correction.. To conclude we will see how the zodiac forces play into the sound sequences and how the Jupiter line found in the 12 Cosmic Moods Verse corresponds.

The doctors will all be given eurythmy therapy exercises for their own development.

**Italy:** Maria Fossati

1: There is nothing new to report from Dr Giraud, AIPMA Patients Association:

2: Here in Milan, we have been meeting together on a weekly basis to study the Eurythmy Therapy Course by R Steiner Around 20 doctors and 4 eurythmy therapists take part in this. The eurythmy therapists who attend these meetings are determined to keep them going.

3. At present we experience the importance of the International Forum Network in the following way: „Wake up! This profession is real. It exists and needs to be brought out of isolation into the world,,!

**Japan:** Kimiko Ishikawa

1. In Japan anthroposophic medicine is still relatively unknown.

2, We study the Eurythmy Therapy Course in its new edition. We have also been exploring etheric forces in their picture forming reality alongside work with doctors on concrete case studies of illness. In future we want to look at the 'indications' given.

3. We have read this Newsletter with great enthusiasm in the past and hope that this sort of international dialogue continues to thrive in the future.

**The Netherlands:** Alfred Busch

At present the eurythmy therapy world in Holland is waiting with great anticipation for the government decision regarding "Consumentenbondes" (consumer bond). This is the second time that we have had to present eurythmy therapy for assessment to see if it can be included in state funded complimentary medicine. Last years experience was that we failed to reach their criteria in 8 out of 10 points!

While all this is happening the government is brining about all sorts of changes, some of which may effect eurythmy therapy and anthroposophic medicine. We will know more after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2006

A major theme in Holland at present is „ Being aware in the present moment „and „Therapeutic practice in light of the mysteries“. We will soon have a Medical Section Conference with these themes where there will also be workshops and practical courses available.

We would like to thank the coordinator of the Forum Network for all that it has so far given us. It has already been of great use to us in the past year.

**Austria:** Mareike Kaiser

The Association has moved its offices from Karnten to Graz.

The address is: Verband diplomierte Heileurythmisten in Österreich, Freie Waldorfschule Graz, St Peter Hauptstr 182, A 8042 Graz

In order to make this change we had to also change some of the statutes to comply with state requirements which came about in 2002. We met as members of the association in October to discuss restructuring needed to comply with the new association laws.

We are also preparing our website: [www.heileurythmie.at](http://www.heileurythmie.at) which has sadly taken a long time to finish! We have been waiting two months to hear from the lady who offered to make a new logo for the website and we are also waiting for the Curriculum from Frau Allmer for Rhythmical Massage. When all this comes in we will give Dr Jeserschek all the training course plans (Eurythmy Therapy, Physiotherapy, Art Therapy, Rhythmic Massage, etc) ready for the lawyers. Hopefully things will be moving forwards by Christmas so that if it goes through we can join the doctors with official recognition.

My secret wish: That we eurythmy therapists could have a better understanding for each other and a clearer way of working together.

**Peru:** Esthi Herdin Spittler

Frau Spittler has announced, after many years service in Peru that she will be moving back to Europe.

She is willing to answer any questions regarding eurythmy therapy in Peru under:

[espittler@Lagunaseca.com.pe](mailto:espittler@Lagunaseca.com.pe)

**Russia:** Vladimir Simonov

1. The situation here is unstable and a licence for our methods (profession) is still not in sight. There are very few adult clients. Eurythmy Therapy is wanted in the Waldorf Schools although most schools are not state supported so the economic situation is difficult. Parents are stretched to the limit. School fees in Moscow are can reach 400\$ which makes it impossible to pay extra for a therapy. Our next step should be the founding of an association which would help us in our difficult conditions. A professional association would also help to maintain good standards in our work.

2. The main theme is formulation of a job description or professional profile for eurythmy therapy. Eurythmy Therapy should be a major spiritual force in a society that is ill. Anthroposophy is needed as a healing art here and eurythmy therapy can send healing forces into the world. In return it gains strength for its own development.

3. We need support from our colleagues in the West and I believe we should foster a living dialogue together. We are many, all working from a common impulse and we in Russia also have much to share and are ready to take on more responsibility.

**Russia:** Tatiana Strizhak\_

1. On 4. 7. 2005 the Association of Qualified Eurythmy Therapists in Russia was founded! We already have five members (the total number of qualified eurythmy therapists active in Russia is 6)  
6) The association secretary is Frau Tatiana Ermolaeva. Goals of the association include: a)

Promoting eurythmy therapy as a therapeutic profession, b) Obtaining state recognition for the profession, c) Representation of eurythmy therapy through state and private organizations.

The Eurythmy Therapy Training will take part in a three day conference in Moscow with over 50 representatives of anthroposophic medicine from all over Russia. Dr M. Glöckler and representatives from the executive committee IVAA will also attend.

In May 2005 a survey was taken to look into the legal status of Anthroposophic Medicine.

This included eurythmy therapy and it led to the overwhelming conclusion that we need to put ourselves on a firmer legal footing. For eurythmy therapy we need to differentiate strictly between eurythmy as a therapy, in education or as a stage art.

2. a) Practical Themes: Early Years and school age children. Special education. Patients at risk. Cancer etc..

b) Importance of awareness of the inner and outer aspects of our work, eg legalities, content and outer criteria. The need for clear guidelines in training so that both the inner and outer criteria and standards are met.

c) The students of the Educational Eurythmy Course have also completed a Hygienic Eurythmy Course.

d) In July 2005 the second year of the Eurythmy Therapy Training began.

3. Of the greatest importance for us is information sharing and to receive news of new initiatives from colleagues abroad. Otherwise we lead a life of isolation here!

#### **Sardinia:** Korinna Kreuzmann

Frau Kreuzmann reports: There are only a few anthroposophic doctors here on Sardinia. One cannot make a living through private practice. Korinna Kreuzmann offers to cover for colleagues in the German speaking world.

#### **Sweden:** Annica Alvenang

The Vidar-Klinik celebrates its 20 years anniversary and we are all looking forward to this!

#### **Switzerland:** Christine Weber-Stoll

On 3 July new laws were passed which effect complimentary medicine and its funding. Luckily for us this alters nothing as eurythmy therapy is anyway paid for by a supplementary insurance.

Unfortunately however, not all patients have this insurance and must therefore pay themselves.

Already before these new decisions were made a public survey was carried out and 130.000 signatures collected in support of complimentary medicine. This petition handed in to the government in Bern on 15<sup>th</sup> September and we await further developments arising out of this petition.

The eurythmy therapy association, through a clear majority vote is now part of KSKV - Konferenz der Schweizer Kunsttherapieverbände (Swiss Art Therapy Association). This involved some changes and we are now working to get recognition for eurythmy therapy through our state organization DAMiD. Over 1000 people are involved with this.

We hope to establish a higher level of qualification (subject testing) by 2008. Hopefully we will have students by then who have achieved this.

An agreed job description (professional profile) is now drafted and has been submitted.

The executive committee of the association here have a few questions for clarification to the

Forum eg regarding the definition of areas of work and finances, eg -should our association members contributions be used to help finance the Forum?

**Hungary:** Maria Scheily

1. The government has accepted our curriculum which was submitted a year ago! We need this in order to comply with new laws here and are grateful for the help we got from our colleagues abroad.

2, The 3 year part time Eurythmy Therapy Training began in summer with 12 students. All are working in Waldorf schools so our main theme this year will be children of kindergarten and school age.

There has been great interest in ET from colleagues working in psychiatry also. Many know about eurythmy therapy here.

3. Apart from the concrete help the Network gives us we are grateful for the communication it enables between colleagues far and wide. who are also struggling!

**USA:** Susanne Zipperlen

The executive council member Cynthia Gelder reports:

In the summer the council received a large sum of money which has been divided between ET in the schools and to fund conferences and workshops. This legacy was welcomed with enthusiasm but for the association it involves a lot of extra administrative work.

We would like to know if other countries already have guidelines for eurythmy therapy in schools.

We are always looking for work for our eurythmy therapists and this often brings about frustration and worry as work is scarce.

Warmest greetings to you all!