

The Seventh Exeter Arts & Therapies Conference

Friday 16th May 2008. 10.00 am - 4.30 pm



Nature & Nurture: the image, the word, and the world.

The seventh of these annual events took place at a new venue. These conferences have successfully explored the overlaps between the worlds of the Arts, Psychotherapy and society.

This year's theme of Nature and Nurture investigated the links between, and effective application of, these complementary understandings of development, growth, and resilience to creativity and health.

The theme was approached with the help of speakers and artists who work with text, visual art, the arts in health and psychotherapy.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to this event: our speakers, exhibitors, demonstrators, participants and the staff at Stoodleigh Court. Particular thanks are due to the event's sponsors, The Self Heal Association and Devon Partnership NHS Trust whose support made the event accessible to so many participants.

[Conference Report](#) click for a report on the conference with pictures.

[Mystery Shoppers Report](#) click for a delegates review of the speakers and their presentations. Our original Mystery Shopper was sadly called away at lunchtime and so heartfelt thanks go to her replacement.

[Delegate Feedback](#) click for delegate comments on the event.

The conference was held at Stoodleigh Court, Tiverton <http://www.stoodleighcourt.co.uk/>

Speakers:

Internationally renowned artist Peter Randall-Page. See his work and learn more about him, including his contributions to 'The Core' at the Eden Project, from his website here:<http://www.peterrandall-page.com>

Maggie Crosbie, co-ordinator of Subtext: *'Subtext engages East London's young people and health service users through the written and spoken word combining poetry, rap, graffiti drama film and performance. We are passionate about creating opportunities for hard to reach communities, developing new skills providing a platform for new voices and leaving a legacy for the future.'*

Read more about Subtext and see examples of their wonderful work here:

<http://www.sub-text.org.uk/>

John Wright, clinical psychologist and psychoanalytic psychotherapist working at University of Plymouth and in a local NHS psychotherapy department. He has recently published, (with A. Hodgetts) 'Researching client's experiences: a review of qualitative studies' in *Clinical Psychology & Psychotherapy* amongst many other papers. *John's paper, which formed the basis for his presentation, is available to download from the Publications and Documents page.*

Martin, the 'Dartmoor Hawker', a falconer. For more about his work training and flying 20 different birds of prey, see: <http://www.dartmoorhawking.co.uk>

Carol Harvey, artist photographer exhibited and gave a gallery talk about her intimate and moving portraits, 'Familiars'.

The day was Chaired by Malcolm Learmonth, Arts & Health Lead for the British Association of Art Therapists.

Live music by So What!

Sponsors:

Self Heal Association; <http://www.selfheal.org.uk/>

Devon Partnership NHS Trust <http://www.devonpartnership.nhs.uk/>