

# INTERVOICE Newsletter

October 2007

[www.intervoiceonline.org](http://www.intervoiceonline.org)

## Introduction

In this edition of the INTERVOICE newsletter we have lots of interesting news to tell you about, as INTERVOICE and the international hearing voices movement continues to spread around the world: Information about a new book published featuring our work; new groups being formed; our new website developing its content and readership daily; and the exciting news that after being in existence for 10 years INTERVOICE is finally to become a formal organisation.

Sadly, we must also announce the passing of two very important members of the hearing voices movement, Dr Terence McLaughlin, the Editor of Asylum Magazine and Mickey De Valda, former chairperson of the Manchester based English Hearing Voices Network, both died in September, their contributions to our work will be irreplaceable.

You can see the Remembrance page for Terence at

<http://www.intervoiceonline.org/2007/9/5/in-remembrance-of-terence-mclaughlin>

And for Mickey at <http://www.intervoiceonline.org/2007/9/21/mickey-de-valda-in-remembrance-died-20th-september-2007>

If you wish, please go to these pages to read about Terence and Mickey, pay tribute to, remember, share experiences and talk about their lives and work.

- **Publications**
- **News**
- **The INTERVOICE website**
- **Training events and conferences**
- **New National Hearing Voices Groups and other initiatives**

## Publications

### **Alternatives Beyond Psychiatry**

An important new book "*Alternatives Beyond Psychiatry*" has been launched simultaneously in English and in German on the 20th September 2007. It includes a chapter describing the development and work of INTERVOICE written by Marius Romme and Sandra Escher, and also includes contributions from INTERVOICE members, Maths Jespersen, Hannelore Klafki, Rufus May, Marius Romme, Philip Thomas.

In all 61 authors from the progressive mental health community from around the world. It highlights alternatives beyond psychiatry, current possibilities of self-help for individuals experiencing madness, and strategies toward implementing humane treatment. The authors (ex-)users and survivors of psychiatry, therapists, psychiatrists, lawyers, social scientists and relatives from all continents report about their alternative work, their objectives and successes, their individual and collective experiences.

You can read more about the publication and how to buy it here:

<http://www.peter-lehmann-publishing.com/books/without/leaflet-without-bw.pdf>

You can read a review of the book here

<http://www.intervoiceline.org/2007/9/21/reveiw-of-alternatives-beyond-psychiatry-by-karl-koehler>

In the UK you can purchase the book from Mind

<http://www.mind.org.uk/osb/itemdetails.cfm/ID/816> and in the USA from Mind Freedom International at <http://www.mindfreedom.org/mad-market/alternatives-beyond/>

For other publications about hearing voices go to

<http://www.intervoiceline.org/publications>

## News

*INTERVOICE has established a not for profit company under UK law:* Marius Romme and Sandra Escher have become the directors of the new company, which is a first step to becoming a full membership charity. The establishment of the company, which is called **International Hearing Voices Projects** has become necessary because of the increasing size and workload of the network, this formal status will allow us to have our own bank account and to raise money from our supporters and from other sources, such as training and publications.

*INTERVOICE supporter donates 4,500 pounds to stimulate hearing voices work across the world:* Thanks to a generous donation INTERVOICE can now help fund the setting up of new hearing voices groups. This funding is going to be offered to groups in India, Ireland, Israel, Malaysia, Palestine and South Africa. Hearing Voices Ireland will be the first group to receive the funding, whilst has also contact has been made with the Hearing Voices Group in Palestine. Over the next year we will be seeking suitable organisations and individuals to work with in the 4 remaining countries, if you would like to nominate a group, please let us know.

## New National Hearing Voices Groups and other initiatives

There are now hearing voices groups in 19 countries across the world. We would like to extend a warm welcome to the two newest members, Ireland and the USA, where new national networks have been established in the last year, you can visit their websites here:

HVN -USA <http://www.hvn-usa.org/>

Hearing Voices Ireland <http://www.voicesireland.com/>

*A new training institute on "Making Sense of Voices" is established in Germany:*

The Experience Focused Counselling Institute has been established by Joachim Schnackenberg with the support of Professor Marius Romme and Dr. Sandra Escher. It is the aim of EFC to accompany a person, who has got experiences, which can be difficult to understand, such as voice hearing, visions, unusual beliefs, etc, in order to jointly work on finding ways and means to understand this experience and live with it. Check out the bilingual website for further information about the new Institute and for contact details at [http://www.efc-workshops.de/index.php?article\\_id=1&clang=1](http://www.efc-workshops.de/index.php?article_id=1&clang=1)

For more information about the hearing voices initiatives across the world go to <http://www.intervoiceonline.org/2006/12/5/information-on-national-initiatives-across-the-world>

## **The INTERVOICE website**

Our website is now live and has new content added on a very regular basis, check it out at [www.intervoiceonline.org](http://www.intervoiceonline.org), if you have your own website we'd be very grateful if you would make a link to the site.

Recent additions include:

*Recovering from voices by changing your relationship with them:* Marius Romme in this new article, considers five questions about the importance of changing your relationship with the voices. Based on interviews with 50 voice hearers who have recovered from the distress caused by their voices. Go to <http://www.intervoiceonline.org/2007/6/29/recovering-from-voices-by-changing-your-relationship-with-them>

*A bibliography of academic papers & articles on the issue of hearing voices and related topics:* Here, you can find an extensive list of research papers, organised by authors name and by subject, includes sections on Children and Young People; Coping with voices; Culture and ethnicity; Experiencing voices; Hearing Voices Movement; "Normal" people and the general population; Medication; Older people; Positive and pleasurable voices; Psychosis; Recovery; Religion, spirituality and other alternative perspectives; Schizophrenia; Self help and peer support; Theories and explanations. If you know of any publication that you think should be included here, please let us know. Go to <http://www.intervoiceonline.org/2007/9/17/bibliography-academic-papers-articles-on-the-issue-of-hearing-voices-and-related-topics>

*Music and songs about hearing voices:* Music and songs directly or indirectly connected to voice hearing, "madness", paranoia and unusual beliefs and/or survival. Go to <http://www.intervoiceonline.org/2007/5/22/music-and-songs> Let us have your suggestions!

*Films concerning hearing voices and related alternative realities:* Films, videos, TV productions with hearing voices themes and associations. Go to <http://www.intervoiceonline.org/2007/6/20/films-about-hearing-voices>. Let us have your suggestions!

## **Training events and conferences**

3rd - 4th October 2007: Hearing Voices - Recovery in practice, Glasgow and Edinburgh. 2 One day workshops on understanding the voice hearing experience through the voice hearer's perspective  
<http://www.workingtorecovery.co.uk/LinkClick.aspx?link=Hearing+Voices+-+Recovery+in+Practice.pdf&tabid=1129&mid=2419>

19th - 20th of Oct. 2007: International Hearing Voices Conference in Berlin, "Regarding and/or Disregarding the Voices". For more information go to <http://www.intervoiceonline.org/2007/2/2/hv-conference-in-berlin>

10th - 11 December 2007, Birmingham & 11th - 12th December 2007, Dundee: 'Talking to Voices' An Exploration of Voice Dialogues with Dirk Corstens and Rufus May. 2 two day workshops exploring the voice's motives and discovering ways of relating to them. For more information go to

<http://www.workingto recovery.co.uk/LinkClick.aspx?link=Voice+Dialoguing+Dec.pdf&tabid=1129&mid=2419>

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