

Editorial

It is with a sense of achievement, and slight disbelief, that we welcome you to the second edition of EPRaP. Right up until the first issue was uploaded there was always a sense that it could run out of momentum, fall foul of technical gremlins or simply go unnoticed. In fact, it has generated a slightly overwhelming response in terms of positive feedback and submissions. We have had contact with colleagues from Dundee to Melbourne, a launch party and, most importantly, some great papers submitted.

In this issue there is a focus on the papers we received which explored children's behaviour, social emotional mental health and wellbeing. They look at the importance of 'risky play', the challenge of 'problematic sexualised behaviour', the motivation of staff in Pupil Referral Units, the use of the 'Tree of Life' approach and the need to retain an interactionist perspective when we think about behaviour. Kurt Lewin was right when he identified behaviour as a function of context and also when he said that there is 'nothing as useful as a good theory'...

It is also wonderful to have a book review from 'Trainer, Author and Broadcaster' Robyn Steward. One of the aims of EPRaP was to encourage 'the voice of service users' and because Robyn prefers speaking to writing she produced a podcast. Her review of Steve Silberman's *'Neurotribes: The Legacy of Autism and how to think smarter about people who think differently'* is engaging and instructive. It is a good example of why we are editing a periodical rather than a traditional academic journal. This policy has allowed us to experiment with different ways of sharing practice, research and views. You can [listen to her review here](#).

Our next issue will have a Guest Editor and a theme; 'Educational Psychology Research and Practice in the light of the new Code of Practice for SEN'. Our colleague, and friend, Dr Mark Fox is retiring at the end of August 2016 after a long and fruitful career. Mark will be known to many, if not most, Educational Psychologists in the UK due to his work in Local Authorities (Solihull, Bromley, Haringey and Essex), University training courses (UEL and the Tavistock/Essex) and his time with SCOPE, the

charity which, according to their website, *'exists to make this country a place where disabled people have the same opportunities as everyone else'*. That tag would sum up much of what Mark's career has addressed; a passionate belief in the potential of psychology to improve the quality of the lives of the disabled and vulnerable. An advocate of Practice Based Evidence, Mark has most recently been looking at the opportunities for EPs to reposition their practice in light of the new Code of Practice. Mark has been a huge driving force behind the creation of EPRaP and it is fitting that one of his final contributions is editing an issue directly addressing how we are trying to make a difference in our work in this radically shifting context. If you would like to submit a paper for consideration for the special issue (or a paper for other issues) do look at our Guidelines for Submission and/or get in touch with us at EPRaP or with Mark directly m.d.fox@uel.ac.uk via email to discuss ideas.'

Dr Miles Thomas