

EDITOR'S NOTE

In this June issue of *Australian Journal of Parapsychology* we start with a contribution from Dr. William Roll. An article by Dr. Roll (2006) appeared in a previous issue of the journal in which the survival of consciousness was discussed with a special focus on poltergeist phenomena. This time, Dr. Roll continues a theme started by Bryan J. Williams in a December 2007 article on the so-called 'long body' (see Williams, 2007). Thanks to Dr. Williams' article, the concept of the long body should now be familiar to our readers. Williams claims that:

a tribal member's experience of self is not solely limited to their individual living body, but also includes other family and tribal members (both living and deceased), the objects they possess, and the geographical locations that they inhabit or consider sacred. These can all be seen as extensions of the individual small body and the self that, when taken as a whole, comprise the larger tribal longbody. (p. 134)

Whereas Dr. Williams concentrated on the cultural factors underlying the long body, Dr. Roll considers the long body "as a metaphorical way to understand the interconnection between mind and matter that is suggested in one form or another by all the known types of psi phenomena" (Williams, 2007, p. 134). Dr. Roll takes up this issue in his article, and he opens with an ongoing debate in parapsychology over 'pure' telepathy vs. clairvoyance—do we need a model of 'pure' telepathy if clairvoyance suffices? Indeed, can we ever prove the existence of a 'pure' form of telepathy? Dr. Roll shows how the issue of mind and matter can be drawn into the debate, and readers will appreciate how Dr. Roll handles the problems inherent in this divisive concept. Researchers might also glean some ideas for their work from the thoughtful material generously provided in the appendix of Dr. Roll's article.

Then follows an article from first-time contributor Richard Blumenthal, who considers telepathy in a very different light. I have to admit I was intrigued by his ideas. Blumenthal's clarity is helpful to readers who may struggle, as I do, with the physics of his model. It is a particularly innovative and enlightening proposition that some cerebral functions (e.g., the paranormal ones) might involve quantum processes. Blumenthal's approach augurs well for a new parapsychology that is not afraid to cross the disciplinary divide and borrow from the new physics, even if the ideas are largely theoretical at this stage.

Argentinian researchers, Drs. Alejandro Parra and Juan Carlos Argibay at the Instituto de Psicología Paranormal (IPP), present a stimulating article on facial and name recognition. The IPP has been around since 1994, and researchers there are making inroads into Ganzfeld and RNG-PK research, as well as clinical parapsychology and psychometry. The subject of their article is, in fact, on the phenomenon of psychometry, and the IPP investigators attempt to find evidence that the effect can be controlled.

We close with an article from another new-comer to our journal, Dr. Ronald Bryan. Like Dr. Blumenthal, Dr. Bryan draws on cutting-edge ideas in the field of physics. He conducted tests on the well-known remote viewer, Joseph McMoneagle, and Dr. Bryan strengthens the case that psi can transcend the mundane limits of our day-to-day mesocosmos to other realms beyond the naked eye, both microcosmic and macrocosmic. Dare I say that further research in this area is going to forge inroads in the sciences?

I'm sure readers will appreciate the cross-disciplinary themes and innovative ideas presented in this issue. We take this opportunity to thank our long-term subscribers for their continued support, and we extend a heartfelt welcome to our new subscribers. We also invite any and all subscribers to submit articles on parapsychology to the journal. On that note, it is important to mention that we have just officially listed our journal with RMIT Publishing on their online database Informit. Joseph Gelfer informs me that: "Informit is used in every university and government library throughout Australia and New Zealand as we produce the largest collection of world class research databases and journal collections from the region. Increasingly we are selling our services into South-East Asia, the United Kingdom, and elsewhere." To find out more, please visit <http://www.informit.com.au/>

The editorial board trusts our readers will enjoy this first issue for 2008.

—LANCE STORM

#### REFERENCES

- Roll, W. (2006). A discussion of the evidence that personal consciousness persists after death with special reference to poltergeist phenomena. *Australian Journal of Parapsychology*, 6, 5-20.
- Williams, B. J. (2007). Pueblo parapsychology: Psi and the longbody from the Southwest Indian perspective. *Australian Journal of Parapsychology*, 7, 134-163.