

will find much to support the growing concern that the diagnostic shift from validity to reliability may be more costly than we realise. Parker responds by sketching out a return to an evidence-based diagnostic formulation, based on pattern recognition. A portrait rather than a sketch would have been welcome here.

Finally, he describes how his disillusion with the psychiatric establishment prompted him to approach businessmen and politicians directly, setting up an institution dedicated to mood disorder treatment and research that practised as Parker preached. His Black Dog Institute has evidently gone from strength to strength. The same cannot be said for his fluency in the last section of the book. He serves the reader with a salad of opinions, vignettes and excerpts from earlier publications, sprinkled over an essay on the style and substance of psychiatric practice that feels

incomplete, but consistent with a life spent giving people a piece of his mind.

The true hero of this biography is Australia itself. Parker paints a picture of a rich, creative Western culture that for all its success retains a willingness to care for its mentally ill and do something about it, all the way from clinic to parliament. The understanding of mood disorders and their management has a long and troubled history. Anyone with an interest in its future will gain from this idiosyncratic book.

Mark Salter Consultant Psychiatrist, East London NHS Foundation Trust, London, UK. Email: mark.salter@eastlondon.nhs.uk

doi: 10.1192/bjp.bp.112.110551

advances in psychiatric treatment

Editor:
Patricia Casey

Volume 18, Issue 6
November 2012
<http://apt.repsych.org>

CONTENTS

Home assessment in old age psychiatry: a practical guide

Bradley Ng & Martin Atkins

Community forensic psychiatry and the forensic mental health liaison model

Muthusamy Natarajan, Jayanth Srinivas, Gill Briscoe & Steven Forsyth

Supervision: an issue for supervisors and supervisees

Jill Munro Wickham

Your patient and weight-loss surgery

Tom Stevens, Samantha Spavin, Samantha Scholtz & Lisa McClelland

Controlling the confusion: using barrier analysis in the care home sector

Robert Colgate, Karyn Davies, Helen Lambert & Alison Turner

Commentary: Is this old age psychiatry's rocket science?

David Jolley

ADHD with comorbid substance use disorder: review of treatment

Rakesh Magon & Ulrich Müller

Good (or bad) vibrations: clinical intuition in violence risk assessment

Andrew Carroll

To scan or not to scan: neuroimaging in mild cognitive impairment and dementia

Victoria Sullivan, Biswadeep Majumdar, Anna Richman & Sobhan Vinjamuri

What clinicians need to know before assessing risk in sexual offenders

Rajan Darjee & Katharine Russell

For further information on subscribing to *Advances* please contact:

Subscriptions Dept, Maney Publishing, Suite 1c, Joseph's Well, Hanover Walk, LEEDS LS3 1AB, UK.

Tel: +44 (0)113 386 8168. Fax: +44 (0)113 386 8178. Email: subscriptions@maneypublishing.com

Order online: www.maneypublishing.com/apt

For US orders: Maney Publishing North America, 875 Massachusetts Avenue, 7th Floor, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA.

Tel: 866 297 5154 (toll free). Fax: +1 617 354 6875. Email: NorthAmerica@maneypublishing.com