

Meeting was held at St Luke's in July 1969, bringing together psychiatrists from all over the world.

St Luke's was very early in developing electroencephalogram facilities, a children's unit and a regional secure unit, as well as being one of the first hospitals to have its walls knocked down as a patients' industrial therapy project.

The summaries of escapes are very readable including on p. 85:

"One of the most bizarre episodes occurred in July 1904 when a patient working in the kitchen garden bolted 'hotly pursued by two gardeners' and managed to reach North Ormesby, where he took refuge in a grocer's shop. 'He appeared to take up a cheese knife and threaten those who attempted to stop him,' reported the Medical Superintendent.

An exaggerated account appeared in the *Northern Echo*, the *North Eastern Gazette* and *North Star*. An illustrated account also appeared in the *Police News* published in London. The patient was apprehended and brought back at 10 a.m. having been absent for 50 minutes. He is not a dangerous man."

The author appears motivated by the wish to contrast past and present, and, with copious illustrations and anecdotes, to bring the past into the reader's experience. It may be considered remarkable historical fortune that the relatively unscathed survival of St Luke's can be attested to its small size, having been designed as a town asylum, such that it remains as the core of the multi-faceted academic, hospital and community mental health service.

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**The Aryan Christ. The Secret Life of Carl Gustav Jung.** By RICHARD NOLL. London: Macmillan. £16.99 (hb). ISBN 0-333666-18-6

The title of Richard Noll's book, together with its cheap and sensationalised packaging, is not only provocative but also misleading. One wonders who the target audience is, certainly not trainee psychiatrists who probably already know how to distinguish between ancient symbolic verities and delusional ideas; something alas, Noll may have forgotten.

I was surprised to read in Part 4 of the book that Noll is now convinced C. G. Jung was "indisputably a genius". We are informed that it was genius which inspired Jung's early complex theory and his mid-life typology.

Noll, Zeus-like, uses literary skills and allegations about Jung's dishonesty, unscrupulousness and immorality to hurl thunderbolts at the foundations of Jung's later Archetypal Theory which underpins the working hypothesis of the Collective Unconscious. This Noll considers a sham consisting of "decknamen or cover names".

He believes hidden memories (cryptomnesia) can adequately explain dissociative trance material produced by mediums and the contents of borderline psychotic states and reactive psychoses.

The main thrust of Noll's assault is concerned with Jung's "self-deification" in 1913. This amounts to an interpretation of an episode, in what Professor Henri F. Ellenberger (in his work *The Discovery of the Unconscious: The History and Evolution of Dynamic Psychiatry*, 1970) has preferred to describe as Jung's creative illness, which occurred between 1913 and 1919 after his break with Freud. Why does Noll ignore the importance of the theory of the conscious system in dynamic psychiatry and analytical psychology?

Noll's failure to expand on a reference to Sabina Spielrein, until recently unknown, is disappointing, but in itself points us towards some significant issues, investigated by John Kerr in his book *Most Dangerous Method* (1994). Sabina Spielrein was (until the late 1970s) genuinely Jung's secret. She was a brilliant young Russian Jewess and was cured by Jung of a 'hysterical psychosis' in 1905. After her cure she became a medical student in Zurich and one of Jung's research assistants. Later she and Jung became lovers. In a letter, found by chance in Geneva in 1977, from Jung to Spielrein, Jung pleads to Sabina to return to him after their separation, enforced by Mrs Emma Jung and his own terror of professional ruin. In this letter Jung confesses that he himself is now ill. In fact, Spielrein did not return to Jung but left for Vienna in 1912 and became an accomplished analyst, in Freud's circle, contributing to the training of Piaget. She was later murdered by the Nazis in Russia. Jung had been infatuated with her before Toni Wolff (another former analyst turned assistant) had become his mistress for her life-time, after Mrs Emma Jung, in depressive despair, had asked Toni Wolff to nurse her husband at home during his creative illness and at the time his mental state was deteriorating.

Noll should have emphasised that Jung's anti-semitism only began to take shape after both Spielrein and Freud had rejected him, and finally burnt-out in the wake of his shock at the news of the Holocaust 32 years later.

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**Bereavement Information Pack For Those Bereaved Through Suicide or Other Sudden Death.** By KATE HILL, KEITH HAWTON, ASLÖG MALMBERG and SUE SIMKIN. London: Gaskell. 1997. £5.00 (pb). ISBN 1-901242-08-0

Most of us experience the dark days of grief at some time in our lives. Its severity varies