

## Chairman's Report.

Hello Everyone,

Following the recent AGM in Crewe the Board of Directors thought that it was important to communicate to everyone the changes that took place at, and subsequent to, that meeting in order to ensure that everyone is up to date with regard to developments. This wish to communicate openly and in a timely fashion will be a feature of the organisation going forward, of which more in a moment.

One of the many changes to report is that, following their first meeting, the new Board of Directors asked me to be Chairman for the coming year, a position that I was delighted to accept. As you will be aware, each year a number of Directors stand down in rotation. This year all the three applicants for the vacant posts were elected and, additionally, our previous Chairman, Sir Bill Connor, also standing down left the vacancy to which I am now co-opted. There was also a Directorship vacant which has also now been filled.

The new Board therefore has the two remaining Directors and five new people, including myself. Such wholesale change can be both a problem and an opportunity of course. It is a potential problem in maintaining continuity, and we will be looking at this for future occasions, and an opportunity to take a fresh look at, and overhaul, existing procedures and systems to promote more effective and harmonious ways of working. We are already working as a team to create the necessary trusting environment in which to conduct the management of the organisation and, I have to say that there is an unusual degree of agreement in the new team in the approach to be taken in dealing with the issues that we are facing and in having a common commitment to shared values of more openness, tolerance, acceptance of alternative views and transparency in our dealings, more of which, again, in a moment.

The year ahead is a challenging one filled with uncertainty on the legislative front for both Hypnotherapists and Psychotherapists. While we can anticipate that a lot of our time will be taken by these developments in protecting our members' interests there are other important issues which will also be highlighted in the year ahead.

I referred earlier to tolerance and acceptance of alternative views within the organisation. Many of you will have been aware of various issues that, over time, have either spilled over into open dissent such as the recent "anonymous" e-mails or others that have remained "underground", one such being the unofficial NRHP Forum which served as a debating chamber for those members who felt excluded from voicing their opinion within NRHP. I am very pleased to say that one of the changes we have already agreed to is that of bringing the unofficial Forum on-board the NRHP website ([www.nrhp.co.uk](http://www.nrhp.co.uk)) and work has already begun on the web site to do so. There is a unanimous commitment from the Board to ensure complete openness of view, respect for others and their opinions and tolerance of difference. Given our profession, we

believe that this should be a norm and we hope that you do too. I hope that you will also agree that this early move to reconcile differences will make for a more congenial, harmonious and effective organisation.

Over a period of time we will be announcing more upgrades to the practical uses of the website which we intend to develop to be a much more useful, interactive asset for us all and specifically as a tool for disseminating information quickly, widely and easily and having discussion groups and features to promote individual therapists interests. Already you will find that another change has happened to reinforce our policy of openness in that the Minutes of the AGM and a report of it are already up on the website for your more detailed interest and the minutes of the Board Meeting will follow shortly and this will be a regular feature going forward. More about further changes to the website in the next Newsletter.

Another focus for us will be on increasing direct benefits to members of being part of NRHP. With the breakdown of the established structures within Hypno-Psychotherapy being brought about by the changes intended by Regulation or Self Regulation, it is clear that there will be increased competition for attracting and retaining members, some more overt than others. If we are to survive as an independent body we need to remain relevant to the membership and meaningful as a representative body in the new world being created around us. Part of that relevance will be to create added value for members as we move forward now as a more united team. More details will appear on the website as they become available.

It was mentioned at the AGM by concerned members that there was a need to extend our relationships with other related organisations and I can empathise with their concerns. I have a personal commitment to building new corporate relationships, widening our influence and becoming more involved with the developments that are leading to standardisation and regulation in the Hypnotherapy sector as they are in the Psychotherapy sector. This will continue to raise our profile and assert our relevance to members.

I ask for your support while the new Board settles into their new responsibilities whilst also creating a new culture of openness within a group of shared values. Key words for the team in the year ahead are Professionalism, Teamwork, Harmony. We look forward to being of genuine service to you and to moving forward as a united team with the development of your interests in mind.

Best wishes,

David Dove.  
Chairman