



Resolution 30

News from the Restorative Justice Consortium



Restorative Justice does affect Reconviction:
The Ministry of Justice report into RJ

Restorative Approaches in Schools and
Residential Care

RJC Launches New Projects

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If you would like to submit an article for the next edition of *Resolution* please contact Chris Igoe.
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Deadline: Friday 3rd October

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Introduction

Welcome to the Summer edition of *Resolution* packed with information about all we have to celebrate...

Our first cause for celebration was the Ministry of Justice's release of the fourth and final report on the Home Office Crime Reduction research into Restorative Justice - the long awaited report contains evidence of the impact of RJ on re-offending rates as well as the cost savings that RJ can provide to the Criminal Justice System. With figures such as those shown in the JRC Northumbria trials, which achieved a 27% reduction in the frequency of re-offending, and evidence that the cost savings produced by the trials themselves more than paid for the £5 million research project, the Government now has plenty of evidence of the benefits of RJ as applied in the UK and to the adult CJS. The RJC is calling for action to enable more victims, offenders and communities to benefit from wider use of RJ.

We were delighted to welcome the author of the report to our AGM and Summer Forum event in July - Professor Joanna Shapland spoke to the Forum about the background and findings of the research project as a whole. Later discussion at the event focussed on next steps and the policy implications of the research overall - leading into updates from the RJC and discussion of our Membership Development and RJ Accreditation projects that will be carried out during the coming year.

Recent weeks and months have seen much interest and mention of RJ - in connection with the new Youth Crime Action Plan, associated media reports and in the Houses of Parliament. As we await commitment from the Government to wider use of RJ, awareness of the benefits this would bring is high and the RJC will be building on this with our partners and stakeholders.

Further cause to celebrate was the arrival of a new member of staff at the RJC. Chris Igoe joins us as Information & Policy Officer and Editor of *Resolution*. Chris is based at our office in London and will be managing the website and newsletter as well as supporting our policy development and communication work. We have also widened our team with the selection of John Pepin Associates to carry out our membership development review and standards and accreditation projects. More information about both projects and how you can get involved is

contained in this newsletter - an exciting opportunity to have your say in the development of RJ and the RJC.

I will take this opportunity to promote our next Forum event, the Annual RJ Practitioners' Day on Wednesday 15th October - we have an impressive list of workshops on offer and look forward to a great day of learning, networking and personal development for practitioners across the field of RJ. More information is on the back cover of this issue, as well as on our website - Please do make the most of the Early Bird and RJC members reductions - I look forward to seeing you there!

Harriet Bailey, Chief Executive



Editor's note

Resolution is here to reflect Restorative Justice and Restorative Approaches in all their forms and developments. To this end we welcome your input and ideas. Please get in touch if you would like to submit an article, have suggestions for a feature, ideas for what you would like covered, news of an event or would simply like to share an experience with other readers.

Chris Igoe, Information & Policy Officer

Request for Case Studies

The RJC is frequently approached by the media wishing to speak with people who have experienced a restorative process and are willing to talk about it. If, as an RJ Practitioner or manager, you have case studies which you are willing to share with us, please get in touch*.

Contact: Chris Igoe

Email: chris@restorativejustice.org.uk

*The RJC will never pass the contact details of any individual to the media without seeking prior permission.

News in brief

Restorative Justice and Re-offending:

Fourth report of the Home Office Crime Reduction Programme published

The fourth and final report on the Home Office Crime Reduction Programme Restorative Justice research projects 'Does Restorative Justice affect reconviction?' was released on June 16th.

Examining the use of RJ within the Criminal Justice System with mainly adult offenders, some found guilty of very serious offences, the report found that RJ significantly reduced the frequency of offences committed upon release.

The report studied three pilot schemes using a combination of indirect and direct mediation as well as conferencing over a two year period at a cost of £5million. In addition to the main finding of reduced frequency of offending, the report informs of high demand for RJ amongst victims, reassures that RJ is safe for all participants and provides value for money, with one of the three pilots saving the criminal justice system over £7million in reduced reconviction rates alone.

The report can be found at www.justice.gov.uk/publications/restorative-justice.htm and there is a full page article in this issue on page 6.

Why Me?

Launch of a new voice for victims supporting RJ

The RJC are happy to announce the launch of Why Me?, a new organisation to give victims who have benefited from their experience of RJ the opportunity to add their voice to the call for expanding the availability of RJ. The RJC in partnership with SmartJustice and The Forgiveness Project are delighted to be supporting Why Me? in their early development.

The launch was timed to coincide with the publication of *The Damage Done* by Peter Woolf and *The Woolf Within* a new short film. *The Damage Done* tells the story of Peter's troubled upbringing, rampant criminal career and his transformation following an RJ meeting with his final victim, Will Riley, Chair of the Why Me? group. *The Woolf Within* is a ten minute video about the experience of Will and Peter before, during and after their restorative justice conference.

The Damage Done is on sale in all good bookshops and *The Woolf Within* is available through the RJC.



If you would like to find out more about Why Me? you can visit their website, www.why-me.org

RJC Launches new projects for 2008-09

The RJC is delighted to announce that work on two key projects has started.

The RJC Membership Development project is designed to ensure that the RJC continues to meet the needs of our members as well as encourage growth and breadth of members.

The RJC shall also be undertaking a year-long project to produce a blueprint for accreditation of restorative practices.

To find out more about these two important projects, including how you can get involved, turn to page 7.

Titan Prisons

Following the publication of Lord Carter's review of prisons and government approval of the construction of three so-called 'Titan' class prisons, the Government launched its consultation paper in June.

The Justice Committee, in its recent report on Effective Sentencing described the Carter review as 'deeply unimpressive', not based on evidence and a 'risky strategy' that will not solve the fundamental problems with custodial & non-custodial sentencing.

The RJC shares these concerns and will be responding to the consultation to outline how RJ could be used to make Titans more effective institutions in providing support for offenders and reducing re-offending.

The consultation paper is available at www.justice.gov.uk/publications/

The Youth Crime Action Plan

The Youth Crime Action Plan, published in July, sets out a 'triple track' approach to enforcement including non-negotiable support, tough enforcement and prevention.

The Plan highlights the high level of victim satisfaction with restorative practices reporting a 97% satisfaction rate. The RJC hopes that it is recognised that such success comes with the voluntary participation of all the parties involved including the offender.

Read the report at: www.justice.gov.uk/youth-crime-action-plan.pdf

RJ at work in Ireland

An interim report from the Irish National Commission on Restorative Justice has recommended the extension of restorative caution schemes into inner city areas and the tracking of criminal cases through the justice system.

The report, published by Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform, Dermot Ahern, also highlighted a number of issues which the commission needs to further examine before the introduction of restorative justice, such as how successful it is in helping to reduce the number of re-offenders and how it can meet the needs of victims, offenders and communities affected by crime.

Advancing Opportunity Routes in and out of the criminal justice system

The Smith Institute have published a monograph suggesting a new agenda is needed on crime and criminal justice. The publication looks at different examples of interventions that have sought to reduce offending and to increase the rehabilitation of offenders.

Among the contributors is the RJC's Chief Executive, Harriet Bailey who writes persuasively for a mainstreaming of RJ so that the evidentiary benefits for victims and offenders become the normal experience of our criminal justice system.

You can find out more at www.smith-institute.org.uk

4th Annual Restorative Approaches in Education and Residential



In February 2008, over 100 delegates met in Birmingham for the 4th Annual Restorative Approaches in Education and Residential Child Care Conference. The conference was run in 'World Cafe' style, whereby all delegates were encouraged to explore together the topics of discussion. Input from the experts was delivered in an informal style with lots of examples from experience and recommendations on overcoming barriers to the introduction of restorative approaches at all levels of management and the community. The whole conference was documented not through a written report, but by graphic recorder, Vanessa Randle, who produced the impressive image above, capturing the spirit of the event in great detail and contributing to the creative atmosphere of the conference room.

The event was opened by Belinda Hopkins with an exploration of the links between Restorative Approaches (RA), S.E.A.L. (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning) and social pedagogy in developing an emotionally literate way of dealing with relationship and behaviour management. This set the scene for an exploration of the use of Restorative Approaches with different levels of interaction and conflict management, including conversational interactions and modelling good communication, low level behaviour management and conflict resolution.

Eleanor Macgregor, Headteacher of Tullihallan

Primary School in Fife, was first to speak to the conference, describing the experience of her school, where restorative approaches are firmly embedded and policies are developed to deal with relationships rather than behaviour management. Eleanor took the audience through the steps needed to develop the use of restorative approaches for all children and staff as well as how to involve parents. Ideas included

- restorative approaches induction training and support for new staff and pupils,
- frank and honest conversations with staff to deal with concerns about the 'no sanctions' rule,
- reminders around the school, such as 'big deal or little deal?' posters to encourage pupils to think about how do deal with situations appropriately and
- the use of 'soft start' time to chat and settle down before learning starts.

The effect on the school community has been fantastic, with a move away from nagging towards a culture of problem solving that allows for positive outcomes. The school has aims that are written and understood by the pupils and that underline the ethos of respect, fairness and quality learning. Fife is now looking to roll out the use of RA to 60 primary and 6 secondary schools, all of whom will be required to provide an action plan outlining how they will implement the approach in their school.

Staff of Ormesby School, who introduced RA more recently, also spoke of their move to introduce RA to reflect recognition that relationships matter, people achieve more together and of the close link between high social capital, positive child development and improved educational performance.

The speakers from Ormesby School also explained changes planned to overcome barriers they have encountered and ensure the benefits of a restorative approach would be felt as soon as possible. This involved the use of non-teaching heads of year and learning co-ordinators who are available to pick up issues outside the classroom and support staff and pupils to resolve conflict together. Investments have been made to allow staff time for training and light touch measurement of both formal and informal use of restorative approaches has been introduced. So far, reports of improvements within the school include a better learning environment, better general atmosphere, more responsive students, happier staff, better academic results, better partnership working, school culture and social capital. The wider community has benefited too – with improvements in relationships between family members, different elements of the school community, reduced Anti-Social Behaviour and crime. Links with local partners such as Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, the Police, local government have also been supported.

Child Care Conference - Child, Youth, Adult - Everyone Matters



The conference also heard about work at Iffley Mead School to develop the use of RA with their pupils, many of whom have behavioural, emotional or social difficulties as a primary or secondary need. The school has moved to a non-sanction model and uses restorative processes across the board. Attendance has improved for the students as well as parents at the annual review meetings. Exclusions have dramatically reduced and restorative meetings are now held at the end of a period of exclusion. Staff issues are also dealt with restoratively and everyone is expected to listen and be listened to and put right any mistakes. New staff joining the school are given an introduction to restorative approaches and the opportunity to observe the work for two weeks under the support of a pastoral supervisor.

This approach has enabled very useful conversations between pupils about, for instance, what level of help and support are needed and appreciated, and what impact too much support has on the feelings and independence of the pupil on the receiving end. This work has led to the development and use of techniques such as visual aids to expression and also the facility for teaching assistants to take pupils out of class to deal with issues and reduce disruption to teaching.

James Easton spoke of his experience of bringing RA to the care home sector in Bedfordshire. This is a relatively new setting for

the use of RA and James spoke of how he dealt with staff concerns ranging from difficulties in changing their reactions and 'auto-pilot' when dealing with conflict, to resistance to 'talking about feelings all the time' and the fear that the young people would know staff were employing another technique and try to sabotage this. The flexibility of RA in the care home setting was clear however and the combination of formal conferencing and informal, conversational restorative work presents a useful tool to provide confidence for everyday interactions between staff and the young residents. Starting a conversation with the simple question 'What's happened?' presented a very positive change.

All projects highlighted the importance of starting with training for adults and managers, the need for cultural changes as well as structural alterations to ensure that the space is provided for restorative approaches to be used at all levels within the school, not just with cases of high conflict, but developing staff skills to work restoratively in everyday interactions with students and colleagues. Ongoing support for staff in employing their new skills was also a key factor of success – using recall or refresher training as opportunities to have conversations about what is and is not going so well and what situations are particularly difficult to approach restoratively.

On the second day, smaller 'World Cafe'

discussions were held to discuss the use of Restorative Approaches when tackling bullying, prejudice issues and engagement with gangs.

The event went a long way to encouraging those present to press ahead with their plans to introduce RA within their institution and built links between practitioners with differing levels of experience to allow for peer support in the field. The numerous real life examples can be used to help make the case for Restorative Approaches, as well as inform practice and help avoid and overcome barriers that have been experienced and tackled creatively elsewhere.

Feedback from the event was excellent, and there are plans for further seminars on Restorative Approaches for Youth Offending Teams, Implementation of Restorative Approaches for Senior School Managers and Restorative Approaches in Pupil Referral Units. The 5th Annual Conference will be held at the Think Tank, Birmingham on 26th and 27th February 2009.

Conference organised by:
Public Sector Strategies in partnership with Transforming Conflict and National Centre for Restorative Justice in Youth Settings –
www.psstrategies.co.uk
www.transformingconflict.org
Graphic recording by:
Vanessa Randle – thinkingvisually Ltd -
www.thinkingvisually.com

Restorative Justice does affect reconviction: The Ministry of Justice report into RJ

This June saw the long awaited publication of the fourth and final report on the Home Office Crime Reduction Programme Restorative Justice Research Projects, focussing on the effect of Restorative Justice on reconviction. The report conclusively demonstrates that RJ reduces offending and that it reduces reconviction costs by such a degree as to have the potential to save the criminal justice system millions of pounds. In fact the savings produced by the three pilot schemes studied by the project more than cover the £5million cost of the research itself! The RJC awaits a response from government to these dramatic findings.

Does restorative justice affect reconviction?' is the title of the fourth report into the results of the Home Office projects, now published by the Ministry of Justice and directed by Professor Joanna Shapland, of the University of Sheffield. The series of reports have been examining the twin RJ strategy: the needs and rights of victims and the reduction of re-offending. The fourth report focuses on the second of these aims, measuring the effect of RJ on offending and additionally, whether RJ provides 'value for money'.

Significantly, Professor Shapland's report concentrates on adult offenders convicted of serious offences, particularly violent and property-related crime, whilst most previous studies have looked at young offenders and minor offences. The study also shows RJ working within the criminal justice system, rather than as an alternative to the courts and custodial sentencing. The relative lack of research into the use of RJ in conjunction with custodial sentences for serious crime has contributed to a belief in some quarters that RJ is 'a soft option' or easy alternative to criminal justice.

The report examines three Restorative Justice projects run by REMEDI, CONNECT and the Justice Research Consortium (JRC). The JRC ran projects in London, Northumbria and Thames Valley and offered restorative conferences whereby offenders and victims meet face to face with mediators and supporters present. REMEDI offered a county-wide service across South Yorkshire providing direct mediation where victims met their offenders with a mediator and indirect mediation (also known as shuttle mediation) where the offender and victim communicate via a third party with no direct meeting. Finally, CONNECT offered all forms, conferencing as well as direct or indirect mediation, through two magistrates courts in Inner London over a wide range of offences.

It was noted in the report that there was a high demand for Restorative Justice within the Criminal Justice System displayed by both victims and offenders. Typically around half of victims agreed to participate in Restorative Justice with up to 77% agreeing in some trials. Out of the 840 Restorative Justice 'events' during the study there was not a single incident of assault, nobody was hurt in any trial. The authors describe events as being emotional but never violent. Combined with the high levels of victim and offender satisfaction noted in this and the previous report entitled Restorative Justice: the views of victims and offenders, the research project shows that participants both wanted what they received from their participation in the RJ process and got what they wanted from the interactions this involved.

Restorative Justice and Re-offending

Professor Shapland's report concludes that RJ reduces offending. When looking at all three schemes together there is a statistically significant decrease in the frequency of offending after offenders experienced RJ. The results also show that there was a tendency for RJ to reduce the likelihood of reconviction, although this effect was not strong enough to be identified as statistically significant. This means that although offenders may be reconvicted, the number of offences they commit or their rate of offending is reduced over a two year period. Contrary to international research the report does not find any effect upon the severity of offences committed after RJ but it is important to note here that RJ was proven to be non-criminogenic: RJ does not make people offend more or increase the seriousness of offending.

As an aside it is useful to know that 'statistically significant' for the purposes of the report means an effect of more than 5%. In other words if RJ was found to reduce re-offending by 4% this would not be deemed statistically significant. Due to the size of the individual trials run by the three schemes, it was not expected that any of the trials on their own would be statistically significant. However the results from the JRC trial in Northumbria were so dramatic that significant reductions in frequency of offending, the likelihood of reconviction and the severity of re-offending were all recorded.

The Report examined whether RJ might be targeted to further improve the efficiency of its implementation. However no significant trends in the effect of RJ were found for any group of offenders: RJ works equally well for everybody.

In the schemes examined by the study, Restorative Justice is provided in addition to the traditional criminal justice system. The study shows RJ can be employed alongside custodial sentences as an appropriate response to serious crime, but where RJ is used as an addition to the criminal justice system it necessarily incurs additional costs. The report therefore looks at whether the benefits of RJ in reducing offending, and therefore the financial cost of offending to the Criminal Justice System outweigh the cost of running RJ services. The authors considered this a stringent test, as the benefits to the victim in terms of increased emotional well-being, but also financially of aiding recovery and a speedy return to work were not included in the cost-benefit evaluation of the projects.

Using this strict test across all three pilot schemes RJ produced a net saving of £5.1million. In fact, the savings brought from the running the RJ pilots were extensive enough to pay for the £5million cost of carrying out the research.

An example of value for money calculations

Location of JRC trial.	Cost for RJ cases over the running period	Money saved from decrease in offending
London	£598'848	£8'261'025
Northumbria	£275'411	£320'125
Thames Valley	£222'463	£461'455

Table in Joanna Shapland's presentation at our AGM

Looking at individual projects, the cost of running the service less the cost benefit of the resulting reduction in reconvictions, REMEDI and CONNECT ran at a cost of £1.64million and £526'730 respectively. The authors note that neither project saw preventing reconviction as their primary purpose and all projects produced benefits to the victims which they were unable to include in their calculations. The JRC scheme was able to produce dramatic savings despite the stringent test, with the benefit of decreased reconvictions saving £7.29million taking into account the cost of running the scheme.

It is rare that the Criminal Justice System has access to tools that can reduce re-offending to such an extent and at such low cost. Given the results of government funded research into the impact of Restorative Justice, the evidence this provides of the demand for RJ from both victims and offenders, the reductions in crime that can be achieved and that RJ is not only revenue neutral but actually saves money, the RJC is calling on the Government to respond and increase provision of RJ. We can no longer afford for RJ to be the most researched, most effective tool the Criminal Justice System does not use.

The Long Road

In July, Shelagh Stephenson's new play The Long Road finished a very successful run at Soho Theatre and several London prisons – the result of an exciting collaboration between The Forgiveness Project and Synergy Theatre. The play proved an effective and innovative way of raising interest and issues around forgiveness and engaging the audience in the need for creative ways to tackle the effect of violent crime. Martin Wright reviews:

The enterprising Soho Theatre has not only put on a thought-provoking play about crime and its aftermath, but accompanied it with pre-performance discussions. A young man describes how a young drug addict stabbed his brother, who died before his eyes. The play shows how he and his parents struggle with their grief in different ways, gradually pulling the family apart. The mother, Mary (Denise Black) asks a prison social worker (Alison Newman) to come and tell her about the offender, who turns out to be a teenage girl, Emma (Michelle Tate), who has led a difficult and traumatic life. Mary goes to visit Emma; but so far from showing contrition, Emma reduces Mary to tears. However, Mary tries again, and in the end there is hope, if not yet forgiveness.

The acting and dialogue are excellent: the contrasting reactions of the different family members, Emma's evasiveness and reluctance to face issues, and the social worker's refusal to be drawn into judgement of either party, instead pressing them to express their opinion of what is happening.

The victim-offender mediation, however, exemplified how not to do it; the social worker does not act like a mediator, and even left Emma and Mary alone while she pops out to make coffee, a risk she shouldn't have taken. Just one short line indicated that Emma had had some preparation but had ignored it; but Mary didn't seem to have been warned of what might happen at the meeting, and was re-victimised by the process, before the mildly optimistic ending.

It is to be hoped that people don't think this is what victim-offender mediation is usually like. The play is well worth seeing, for all this – for all audiences, the strength with which all members of the cast show the emotional and human response to crime, will prove the need to deal with these emotions as well as the offence itself. When played to prisoner audiences, the play could certainly evoke the situation of victims of crime showing that such encounters are not unthinkable and can often be very successful in many different ways.

www.synergytheatreproject.co.uk
www.theforgivenessproject.com

ROTA: Restoring Relations Project

This April ROTA held a conference launching the debate on the findings of their Restoring Relations Project (RRP) aiming to reduce Hate Crime and assess the applicability of Restorative Justice to this type of crime. ROTA are a social policy think-tank who work with Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities towards achieving social justice by fighting discrimination and promoting human rights, diversity and equality of opportunity.

Dr Theo Gavrielidies notes in his introduction that hate crime has traditionally been the 'no go area' of Restorative Justice. Yet the RRP highlights how a number of RJ projects are able to tackle the root causes of hate crime - engaging victims and perpetrators in dialogue, in turn allowing a break down of the fear and misunderstanding that breed hate crime. RJ empowers victims, who can take control of what has happened to them and can bring about apologies and meaningful remorse in the perpetrator, all of which can have a significant impact on the victim and their family.

The RRP identified local community projects providing RJ as particularly important in combating hate crime. They provide an alternative system of dispute resolution to the criminal justice system, viewed with high levels of distrust in some BAME communities. At the same time, strong links between the local police and local authorities were identified as crucial to maximising the utility and longevity of these community projects. Concerns were expressed by RRP that RJ may be inappropriate for serious crimes where a diversion from the criminal justice system may be inappropriate and also for particular crimes such as those involving transient populations.

Speaking at the conference, Elena Noel described how her personal journey as a mediator had offered her a practical insight into the proficiency of RJ in dealing with Hate Crime. Bennet Obong, Project Manager of the Race Hate Crime Forum for the Metropolitan Police spoke of the usefulness of RJ in finding positive solutions and encouraging offenders to face up to their actions.

CSAS were commissioned by ROTA to provide two RJ Awareness seminars about the opportunities and appropriateness of using RJ for tackling Hate Crime. These were extremely popular and very well subscribed - further seminars will be advertised in due course.

www.rota.org.uk
www.csas.org.uk

Accreditation and Membership Projects

The RJC is delighted to announce that work on these two key projects for 2008-09 has started. In June, John Pepin Associates (JPA) was chosen as the consultant to deliver on both project plans, a company that comes to us with great experience in the Charity sector and very high recommendations.

The RJC has been growing steadily but slowly over the last few years and you will be aware of small changes in our services to members – the introduction of longer Members' Forums and the new RJC e-bulletin. The RJC Membership Development project funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation is designed to ensure strong planning for the RJC over the next three years. We want to ensure that future changes meet the needs of our members as well as encourage more supporters, practitioners and organisations to join us.

JPA will draw together research into similar organisations and a survey of existing and prospective RJC members. A cost-benefit analysis and assessment of the reality of how the RJC could meet the aspirations of those surveyed will enable the project to deliver a realistic plan for improvement of services to members and strengthen our voice as we continue to call for more and wider use of Restorative Justice.

The RJC has also secured funding through the Wates Foundation to carry out a year-long project to produce a blueprint for accreditation of restorative practices. Building on the Best Practice Guidance and National Occupational Standards produced in 2006 and 2004, this project will enable restorative practitioners to achieve accreditation of their skills as well as provide reassurance of good practice for participants and commissioners of RJ services, thus boosting confidence in RJ.

Alongside the Membership Development project, JPA will be gathering the views and experience of RJC members, practitioners and organisations as well as key stakeholders in the fields of Criminal Justice, Youth Justice and Education as commissioners of RJ. The blueprint for accreditation of RJ, with realistic and costed plans for its provision over the coming years will be drawn up on the results of this research.

You are invited to contribute to these two projects: the survey that will be circulated in September and October and consultation on the draft blueprint for accreditation will begin in 2009. To get involved or to find out more, please contact the RJC office.

info@restorativejustice.org.uk

Date: Wednesday 15th October 2008
Time: 10am - 4.15pm
Venue: University of London

The RJC is proud to be hosting the 2008 Annual RJ Practitioners Network Day in conjunction with Mediation Support and the Mediation and Reparation Committee of the former Mediation UK. The event will be a great opportunity to learn more about RJ, contact others working in the field and explore new concepts and opportunities for use of restorative practices.

Workshops include: What have I done? A new victim empathy pack for Young Offenders, RJ and domestic violence - the big taboo?, SORI programme: RJ in the Criminal Justice System, Art Approaches to RJ, Using restorative approaches in residential care settings: Day to day practice, Restorative Approaches and Diversity, The Youth Rehabilitation Order: Opportunities for RJ and more!

Take advantage of our Early Bird rates (available until 12th September 2008) and RJC members' discount.

For more information visit www.restorativejustice.org.uk, email gemma@restorativejustice.org.uk or call the RJC office on 020 7653 1992

How can Society Best Deal with Guns, Knives and Gangs

Date: Monday 22nd September 2008
Venue: The Royal Commonwealth Society, London

This CPPS seminar brings together key figures from across sectors in the important debate on how to tackle both guns, knives and gangs and their underlying causes. The day encourages brief, focussed presentations followed by engaged discussion by all attending in a relaxed setting.
www.cppseminars.org.uk

Events

For up-to-date information on RJ events go to:
www.restorativejustice.org.uk/?Events

Nacro's 8th Annual Mental Health & Crime Conference

Date: Wednesday 3rd & Thursday 4th
September 2008
Location: University of Derby

The conference, Improving Health Supporting Justice: Meeting the Challenge, will consider the vision set out by the government's offender health and social care strategy: Improving health, supporting justice and will generate ideas and discussion, combining plenary presentations on key developments with workshop sessions to explore issues in more depth.

The conference is aimed at professionals of all levels who work within mental health, criminal justice or social care and come into contact with people with mental health problems.

For more information and a full list of confirmed speakers you can visit the NACRO website www.nacro.org.uk for a flyer or contact Caroline Fuller or Cynthia Sutherland on 020 7840 7219

This events listing is not exhaustive
For a full list of events on Restorative Justice and related fields please visit the RJC website

www.restorativejustice.org.uk

ROTA's Transformative Justice Project Forum

ROTA is currently inviting applications from interested parties to sit on its Transformative Justice Project Forum

The Transformative Justice Forum will be a multi-agency cross-sector partnership that seeks to improve communication and cooperation between London's Third Sector organisations, private and statutory agencies that work to combat hate crime and those that work in close contact with groups that experience high levels of victimisation.

ROTA is inviting applications from individuals who possess specialist knowledge and expertise in criminal justice and equality matters relating to London. Forum members will be expected to commit to attend bi-monthly meetings and comply with certain conditions as specified under the job description. In return for your participation and insight a financial contribution will be made and transport expenses will also be reimbursed.

If you would like a detailed job description or have any queries regarding these appointments please email anthony@rota.org.uk or telephone 020 7729 1310.

Deadline for applications is 1pm on the 29th of August 2008



Join the RJC

It doesn't cost much and will help to keep you in touch and share information about your work on Restorative Justice.

Some of the benefits include copies of the RJC quarterly newsletter, emails about information and events on Restorative Justice, a discount on RJC seminars and conferences, free entry to our regular Forums and the opportunity to place articles and advertise on the RJC website.

For more information on Membership and to download an application form please go to www.restorativejustice.org.uk/?Membership, alternatively contact the RJC directly.