

Chris **A**lmack RMN, RGN, MSc PSI is currently working as the service manager managing and developing Early Intervention services for North Yorkshire and York PCT. He has been working in psychiatry mainly with psychosis for the majority of the last 35 years in the health service. Being an early completer of the Thorne Initiative he went on to lead the development of PSI within the trust, developing the curriculum and teaching on the current Degree in PSI at York University. More recently developing the current EI Module facilitated through the University. Currently leading a piece of research looking at the longitudinal effects of EI within the York's EI Service.

Max **B**irchwood is Professor of Mental Health at the University of Birmingham and Clinical Director of 'YouthSpace' youth mental health services in Birmingham, UK. He has pioneered early intervention in psychosis services in the UK and is PI on the national evaluation of early intervention services (National EDEN) and the GP training trial on the early identification of psychosis. He has been at the forefront of the application of cognitive therapy to psychosis: he has argued that the application of CBT to psychosis should focus on emotional dysregulation and the interaction of affect and psychosis symptoms, rather than on psychosis experience per se. He is leading the MRC COMMAND trial which reflects this outlook in its focus on changing problematic behaviour and affect and not the experience of auditory hallucinations per se. He is patron to RETHINK (campaigning mental health charity).

Michael **C**lark has worked as the National Portfolio Manager for Mental Health R&D at the Department of Health, and Research Manager for NIMHE and CSIP. He currently undertakes work for the National Mental Health Development Unit and the West Midlands' Regional Development Centre. For the latter his work includes supporting the region-wide implementation of the mental health care pathways model.

Ian **C**umming joined West Midlands Strategic Health Authority from his last role as Chief Executive of NHS North Lancashire. With 25 years experience in the NHS, Ian has been a Chief Executive for 14 years in acute hospitals and a PCT. A healthcare scientist by background, Ian has a proven track record of delivery of both strategic and operational management challenges in the NHS. He has a particular interest in developing clinical staff as leaders and in medical education. This is demonstrated in his role as Vice Chairman of the UK's Postgraduate Medical Education and Training Board. Ian also holds the position of Honorary Professor at Lancaster University Management School. Ian started as Chief Executive of NHS West Midlands on 8 June 2009.

Martin **K**napp is a researcher and research leader in the mental health and social care areas. His background is in economics and maths; his foreground is in the application of these and other disciplines in social policy and health economics. Martin holds three academic positions. At the London School of Economics and Political Science, he is Professor of Social Policy and Director of the Personal Social Services Research Unit. At King's College London, Institute of Psychiatry, he is Professor of Health Economics and Director of the Centre for the Economics of Mental Health. Since 2009 he has been the Director of the new NIHR School for Social Care Research in England.

Ashok **M**alla is a Professor of Psychiatry at McGill University, where he holds a Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Early Psychosis, and Director of the Clinical Research Division and the Prevention and Early intervention Program for Psychoses (PEPP-Montréal) at the Douglas Mental Health University Institute. His clinical and research interests have been primarily related to pursuing the goal of understanding neurobiological and psychosocial aspects of outcome in psychotic disorders. He has published over 160 peer reviewed articles, held many peer reviewed research grants and been an advisor on program development and research in early intervention in psychotic disorders in several countries including Canada and the U.S.

Paul **M**cCrone is a Reader in Health Economics at the Institute of Psychiatry (King's College London), where he has worked for 13 years after having previously worked at the University of Kent. He has worked on a large number of economic studies in health and social care. Currently he is involved in evaluations in psychiatry, neurology and palliative care. Key interests are the use of the net benefit approach in economic evaluations and the use of decision tree modeling. He also teaches health economics to Masters level students and has published widely in peer-reviewed journals.

Patrick D. **M**cGorry, MD, PhD, FRCP, FRANZCP, is Professor of Youth Mental Health at the University of Melbourne and Director of Orygen Youth Health and Orygen Youth Health Research Centre in Victoria, Australia. Prof McGorry received his medical degree from the University of Sydney and his doctorate from Monash University in Victoria, Australia. He is a world-leading researcher in the area of early psychosis and youth mental health. Prof McGorry's work has played an integral role in the development of safe, effective treatments and innovative research involving the needs of young people with emerging mental disorders, notably psychotic and severe mood disorders. His work has influenced health policy in Australia and many other countries and he has advised governments and health departments in many jurisdictions.

Prof. McGorry has published over 300 papers and many book chapters, and has edited 6 books. He is a Fellow of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia and has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Australian Government Centenary Medal in 2003 and the Founders' Medal of the Australian Society for Psychiatric Research in 2001. Prof McGorry serves as Editor-in-Chief of *Early Intervention in Psychiatry* and is Chair of the Clinical Committee for the National Youth Mental Health Foundation: headspace, and Treasurer of the International Early Psychosis Association.

As well as his contributions to the field of early psychosis and youth mental health, Professor McGorry has interests in refugee mental health, youth suicide, youth substance use and the treatment of emerging personality disorder.

David **S**hiers is a General Practitioner by background and is currently joint lead with Dr Jo Smith of the NMHDU* National Early Intervention Programme and also GP advisor for the West Midlands Regional Development Centre. His special interest in mental health stems from personal involvement as carer to a daughter with schizophrenia. David and Jo were key contributors to the development of the WHO Early Psychosis Declaration (2004) and its subsequent implementation in the UK. Constructed around that declaration, this programme has supported practitioners and new services at a critical time for EI development in the UK.

**National Mental Health Development Unit*

Jo **S**mith is Joint National Early Intervention Programme Lead with NMHDU (National Mental Health Development Unit) supporting Early Intervention development and implementation across England. Jo is also a Chartered Clinical Psychologist and Early Intervention Lead for Worcestershire Early Intervention Service within Worcestershire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust.

Swaran **S**ingh is Professor of Social and Community Psychiatry at Warwick University and consultant psychiatrist in Early Intervention Service, Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust. He is the Clinical Engagement (Darzi) Lead for Mental Health for the West Midlands Strategic health Authority and the lead for the Mental Health Research Network (MHRN) - Heart of England Hub. He is also a Non-executive Director of the Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust.

He leads several national research programmes including the ENRICH Programme grant to improve pathways to care for Black and Minority Ethnic communities, AMEND project to assess the impact of the Amendments to the Mental Health Act (2007) and the TRACK study on the transition of care from child to adult mental health services. His research interests include epidemiology, onset and outcomes of early psychosis, early intervention services, culture and ethnicity in mental health, health services evaluation, mental health law and medical education. When not working, he is busy with his children, garden, jazz, blues, cricket, theatre, idle speculation and meaningless meandering.

Dave **S**weeney - To what seems like many moons ago I left behind a career in music and began a new life in health and social care. Fifteen years on I have had varied posts for both local authority and more recently for NHS Halton and St Helens

As an award winning Mental Health Promotion Specialist I began to learn the dark arts of commissioning and was successful in the post of Senior Commissioning lead for CAMHS.

During my time in CAMHS I developed a real interest in EI which has remained with me throughout my career. Now as the Operational Director for Partnership Commissioning I continue to follow the national EI picture and hold tight the ethos of World Class Commissioning for sustainable prevention and community resilience.

Claim to fame, had a number 1 in Turkey.