

# This is the big yin

**H**AVE you seen the provisional programme for the BPS Centenary Annual Conference? Did you wonder for a moment that the Society is going all the way to Australia? Well, you could be easily fooled into believing this, as the new Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre concert hall, where the Centenary Conference will be held, is modelled on the Sydney Opera House. Scotland may not be as exotic as Australia but it is certainly full of beauty and culture, and you will not have to travel half way around the world and spend £600 to get there. Not convinced yet? Let me explain a bit more...

First of all, this year's conference is going to be huge. It is the centenary conference and almost everybody you have ever heard of in the psychological world is going to be there. The SMG (Student Members Group) Annual Conference is held in parallel with the BPS Annual Conference and for the first time in its history, the SMG conference is held over two days. With hundreds of interesting speakers presenting their work at the BPS

The article 'A healthy outcome' in the November issue was of dual authorship (i.e. Sasha Cain and Pavlo Kanellakis). We were unable to show the authors' editorial amendments prior to publication.

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BY ILONA BONIWELL

conference, the SMG conference will also feature many exciting and well-known speakers. How about Professor Della Sala or Professor Geoffrey Beattie (remember *Big Brother*)? And of course, there are all those student presentations, full of new ideas and fresh approaches.

Still not convinced? Perhaps I can tempt you with the social agenda. Numerous social events, including free wine receptions and buffets (yes, free), will be taking place and you will be able to mingle with professional practising psychologists. Additionally, the SMG is holding a reception on Friday 30 March with lots of free wine and beer and maybe the odd 'wee dram' for our fellow students – see you there?

I can guarantee you will not have much free time to spare in Glasgow but I will still tell you – just in case – since there is so much that the city has to offer. Why not visit the West End with its vast number of pubs and bars, or see the city centre with its shops and boutiques,

cinemas, theatres and opera houses. You can simply take a walk around the city and marvel at the fantastic architecture of the historic buildings, such as the famous city chambers or the Charles Rennie Macintosh School of Art. Or you can relax in one of the beautiful parks, such as Glasgow Green or the Kelvingrove Park. The oldest of Glasgow's three universities, the University of Glasgow, is celebrating its 550th anniversary this year – it is the fourth oldest university in the UK.

In 2000, the Psychology Postgraduate Affairs Group

(PsyPAG) Annual Conference was hosted by the University of Glasgow. The PsyPAG conference web pages with all sorts of information on Glasgow, from accommodation and travelling to highlights of city life, are still available at [medusa.psy.gla.ac.uk/postgrads/travellinks.htm](http://medusa.psy.gla.ac.uk/postgrads/travellinks.htm).

Your time at the conference would be well worth the £50 registration, for which you would get full access to all conference presentations organised by various subsystems within the Society, including the SMG. For more information contact me on [ilonasmg@cwcom.net](mailto:ilonasmg@cwcom.net)

■ *Ilona Boniwell is the SMG Conference Officer.*

## PSYPAG TRAVEL BURSARIES

If you need help with the costs of attending the Annual PsyPAG Conference or other conferences, PsyPAG might be able to help! For more information on PsyPAG's International and Domestic Conference Awards, see the 'Students' page in the December 2000 issue of *The Psychologist*, or contact the PsyPAG Information Officer, Tessa Webb, Department of Psychology, Astley Clarke Building, University of Leicester LE1 7RH. E-mail: [tmw3@le.ac.uk](mailto:tmw3@le.ac.uk). The next application deadline has been extended to **10 March 2001**. Find out more about PsyPAG at [www.all.at/psypag/](http://www.all.at/psypag/)