

# 99th Faculty of Homeopathy Congress – Making Positive Waves

Friday, 22nd October 2021

by Meg Brinton MARH and Karin Mont MARH

The theme *Making Positive Waves*, intended for last year's Congress cancelled due to the pandemic, was retained for this year as the world has never been in greater need of the positive waves homeopathy has to offer. This year, as with many other organisations, the event was held online for the first time ever, with shortened sessions, regular comfort breaks and a wellbeing session aimed to keep us all going. Taking advantage of a major benefit of online events, the speakers attended from such far-flung places as France, Hong Kong, Switzerland and South Africa – and I'm sure delegates did, too.



Dr Gary Smyth, President of the Faculty of Homeopathy, welcomed us and introduced the day which consisted of the following seven pre-recorded presentations, and live Q&As.

- 1 Dr Bob Leckridge: *Lessons from the pandemic for our community*
- 2 Professor Michael Frass: *Harmonising oncology through the use of homeopathy*
- 3 Professor Aaron To Ka Lun (translated by Yvonne Fok): *Clinical and research experience of homeopathy in the pandemic*
- 4 Dr Alex Tournier: *A fresh look at the concept of genus epidemicus: Findings from the Clifcol project*
- 5 Dr Jonathan Hardy: *Sensation in sea animals*

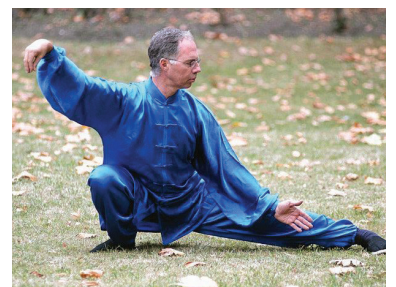
- 6 Dr David Lilley: *Covid-19 – A positive Covid cosmic wave*
- 7 Sue Armstrong: *Radiating ripples.*

## Wellbeing session

The 45-minute wellbeing session *Restore your flow with Tai Chi and Qigong* was led by James Drewe who has studied Tai chi and Qigong since 1975, and has been teaching since 1988. This was of particular interest to me (Meg) as I try to attend a couple of similar classes a week and, although I'm not familiar with his teaching, I found it easy to follow and absolutely loved it. See [www.taiji.co.uk](http://www.taiji.co.uk) for more information.

Finally, Dr Brian Kaplan presented a live, interactive session *Homeopathy, contrarianism and provocative therapy*, before inviting and answering questions from the audience.

Patricia Ridsdale, Vice President of the Faculty of Homeopathy, gave closing remarks and the Congress ended exactly on time.



James Drewe

### Dr Bob Leckridge

Dr Bob Leckridge, a past President of the Faculty of Homeopathy, who retired in 2014 and now lives in SW France, reflected on three issues which have arisen since the start of the pandemic, each of which can be addressed from basic homeopathic first principles. First, individualisation – many people infected with COVID-19 had no symptoms at all, while others died. Others developed Long-COVID and still have



Bob Leckridge

to recover, showing the importance of individual differences. Second, our contexts are crucial. Those hit hardest tend to be people with other chronic diseases, the frail elderly living in care homes, or those living in poverty in poor conditions, working in low paid frontline jobs. Our personal and shared contexts matter. Third, health is a positive state achieved through everyone's capacity to self-heal – a condition of flourishing, not merely surviving. There are no quick fixes, but there are ways to support true healing.

He ended with a great quote from American anthropologist Margaret Mead (1901–1978):

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has.

Bob Leckridge can be contacted via [www.heroesnotzombies.com](http://www.heroesnotzombies.com).



Michael Frass

### Professor Michael Frass

Professor Michael Frass has devoted many years to observing and recording the influence of adjunctive classical homeopathy on the wellbeing and overall survival rates of patients suffering from a range of conditions, from sepsis in the intensive care unit, to oncology.

He shared the results of an impressive recent double-blind placebo controlled trial involving 150 patients suffering from stage 4 non-small cell lung cancer. As part of the trial, all patients received conventional interventions, but one group was also given individualised homeopathic treatment, a second group was also given placebo, and the third group was given nothing extra. The group receiving the add-on homeopathy not only experienced a statistically significant improved quality of life, but also had considerably extended survival times, whereas there was very little difference between the placebo and control groups.

The common factor running through the results of all of Professor Frass's work is that homeopathy makes a positive difference to even the most seriously ill patients, so should therefore be offered as part of an integrated treatment approach, to reduce unnecessary suffering and to optimise outcomes.

Michael Frass can be contacted at [michael.frass@medunivien.ac.at](mailto:michael.frass@medunivien.ac.at).

## Homeopathy makes a positive difference to even the most seriously ill patients

### Professor Aaron To

Large scale data-gathering was the focus of the presentation delivered by Professor Aaron To and his excellent translator, Yvonne Fok. Professor To's Hong Kong-based team is gathering clinical data on a global scale, to measure and record the impact of homeopathy on the treatment of COVID-19.

The project utilises the online database Clifcol, which was established some years ago and is now being used by clinicians across the globe to upload anonymised patient information in order to help broaden our knowledge and understanding of how COVID-19 is evolving, and which homeopathic medicines are the most frequently indicated. Interestingly, right at the beginning of the pandemic (spring



Aaron To

2020), a group of long-established and commonly used flu remedies rapidly emerged as front-runners – including *Arsenicum*, *Bryonia*, *Eupatorium* and *Gelsemium*.

The Clifcol project also records symptom patterns, and recent work undertaken to determine the potential effectiveness of deploying homeoprophylaxis to reduce susceptibility to COVID-19 has yielded some very promising results. Aaron To can be contacted at [aaronto@homeopathyhongkong.org](mailto:aaronto@homeopathyhongkong.org).



Alex Tournier

### ► Dr Alex Tournier

Dr Alex Tournier concluded the research sessions by using the data gathered by the Clifcol project so far to re-visit the concept of genus epidemicus. This is very much work in progress and, as is often the case, the search for answers invariably throws up new questions, or shows areas where the research protocols might benefit from some modification, so for now there are no firm conclusions. Having said that, it is just a matter of time. The Clifcol database provides us with a unique opportunity to significantly extend our knowledge of how homeopathy can be most effectively used during a pandemic. For more information about Clifcol, go to: <https://www.clifcol.net/>.

Alex Tournier can be contacted at [info@hri-research.org](mailto:info@hri-research.org).

### Dr Jonathan Hardy

Dr Jonathan Hardy originally studied zoology at Oxford before qualifying as a medical doctor with additional training in homeopathy, and joining the Faculty of Homeopathy in 1988. Since then, he has used his extensive knowledge of the animal kingdoms to further develop our understanding of the Sensation Method of prescribing, based on the premise that the physical, mental and emotional responses / reactions of every individual are determined by an inherent, distinct inner energy, which shapes our unique characteristics. This inner energy matches elements from either the mineral, plant or animal kingdom. This Method provides a systematic

approach to understanding remedies at a deeper level through the study of the kingdoms, the sub-kingdoms, their miasmatic classification, and the intensity of experience.

Healing is most likely to take place when the core sensation of the patient is closely aligned to that of the remedy and its kingdom. In his presentation, Dr Hardy looked at Sensation in sea animals, exploring the themes which manifest in different groups, where those themes often overlap, and where they differ. For example, pelagic animals swim in the open sea, which can be a dangerous place, so they need to keep on the move; during the consultation, patients needing a remedy from this group may refer to 'buoyancy, floating, moving



Jonathan Hardy

and flowing'. By contrast, benthic animals live on the ocean floor, and many are shelled; patients may refer to feeling walled in, isolated, or living in their own world.

This was a fascinating, insightful presentation, full of useful information, which seemed to leave a lot of participants keen to find out more about this group of remedies.

Jonathan Hardy can be contacted at [drjonathanhardy@havant-homeopathic.co.uk](mailto:drjonathanhardy@havant-homeopathic.co.uk).

### Dr David Lilley

Dr David Lilley began by reminding us that Hahnemann was in the habit of 'making waves', before taking us on a journey with *Raven*, *Plutonium* and *Jet*. He introduced



David Lilley

us, en route, to the mythical worlds of the Norse god, Odin, the Greek god, Apollo, the Amerindian god Demiurge and the Irish female deity Morrigan, and their connections with raven (corvid, in Latin). We also looked at cave-dwelling bats, wolf, and briefly met Cain and Abel, Prometheus, and Count Dracula, before moving on to the connection between bats and *Plutonium*.

The proving of *Raven*, conducted in 1996, is astonishingly relevant to COVID-19. David read extracts from the proving that drew fascinating parallels with the time we are currently living through.

Next we looked at *Jet* (raven black). David suggested its use if *Thuja*, *Arsenicum* or *Silica* fail to help when taken before or after the vaccine. *Jet* may prove to be an invaluable first choice in that situation. We should also consider *Jet* for those vaccinated against their will through pressure of circumstances, or traumatised by social shaming.

In the Q&A, David outlined his recent experience with COVID-19, which remedies he took when and how, after about a week, he 'turned the corner towards true COVID territory' – lack of automatic breathing yet unconcerned about his state. He then took Ivermectin and, within six hours of the first dose, the symptoms went leaving only immense exhaustion; and within four weeks he was back on his bicycle. He was glad to have experienced it ... and to have acquired natural immunity.



In addition to the 1996 *Raven* proving, David referred to Jeremy Sherr's *Homoeopathic proving of Plutonium nitricum*, and his own recently published book *The Raven – A Flight through an Archetypal Force Field*.

David Lilley can be contacted at [lilley padd@gmail.com](mailto:lilley padd@gmail.com).

### Sue Armstrong

Using a timeline to clearly map the evolution of a chronic state has proved to be an invaluable tool for homeopathic veterinary surgeon, Sue Armstrong. Sue used Tom, an 18-month-old French bulldog presenting with a diagnosis of Idiopathic Peripheral Vestibular Disease (IPVD), as an example. The vestibular disease caused Tom to hold his head to one side, and he had poor balance, constantly falling to one side when he tried to walk, and bashing into things.

In addition, he had significant vertebral malformation from a very young age, plus rhinitis, arrhythmia, various skin eruptions, possible allergies, ongoing chest infections, and Brachycephalic Obstructive Airway Syndrome (BOAS), a condition frequently encountered in French bulldogs due to their short noses and high-domed foreheads. Overall, Tom's vitality was low, his coat was dull, and he was uncharacteristically quiet and serious for a young 'Frenchie'. The prognosis was not good.

Sue demonstrated how a timeline can help to reveal the root cause of a complex chronic condition, thereby helping to clarify the most appropriate treatment strategy. In Tom's case,



Sue Armstrong

## Healing is most likely to take place when the core sensation of the patient is closely aligned to that of the remedy and its kingdom

the timeline showed where clusters of interventions (mainly drugs such as antibiotics and steroids) were followed by a further deterioration in health. At one point, a particular antibiotic known to be neurotoxic to some dogs was used; Tom's vestibular disease started a few days later, suggesting it was the trigger which led to this deterioration. By seeing Tom's health and life events clearly in this timeline, the owners could understand more easily the nature of disease, and recognise the obstacles to cure. A treatment plan was agreed, including nutritional advice and microbiome support, alongside Tom's indicated remedy, *Calc carb* 200.

The improvement was significant at Tom's follow-up appointment a month later. His head was almost straight, he could now make eye contact, his coat looked better, he had more energy, and he was generally more cheeky and cheerful. *Calc* 200 was repeated shortly after the first follow-up to address some recurring respiratory problems. A couple of months later, Tom was a completely different character, racing around, a bundle of energy, and clearly a very happy little dog. His case is ongoing, and he still has skeletal issues which will be with him for the rest of his life, but he is now receiving hydrotherapy to help strengthen his muscles and, without question, his prognosis has improved vastly.

This was an inspiring presentation, confirming that when the practitioner clearly perceives what is to be cured in disease, and understands the curative nature of our

homeopathic medicines, wonderful things happen! Thank you, Sue! Sue Armstrong can be contacted at [sue@individualis.co.uk](mailto:sue@individualis.co.uk).

### Interactive Zoom session

The final session of the Congress was an interactive experience held on Zoom that provided an opportunity for all delegates and speakers to re-connect and reflect on the presentations earlier in the day.

The facilitator, Dr Brian Kaplan, explored the relationship between homeopathy, contrarianism and provocative therapy. In 2005, Brian addressed this subject when he delivered that year's Richard Hughes Memorial Lecture. He



Brian Kaplan

reported on his last 16 years' experience of using this system of counselling that, in its contrarianism and paradoxical effect, has been noted by several commentators to resemble the homeopathic principle (see paragraph §226 in the *Organon*).

The session took the form of a discussion and also included a practical demonstration of the approach which is fun, effective, and often helpful in eliciting homeopathic information by getting patients to show us (in addition to telling us) valuable symptoms and general characteristics about themselves.

We were also encouraged to reflect on and 'surf' those positive waves as the Congress ended, helping us to put into practice what has been presented and looking forward to the next Congress. Brian Kaplan can be contacted at [brian@drkaplan.co.uk](mailto:brian@drkaplan.co.uk). □