

Robert Douglas Hinshelwood, Emeritus Professor of Psychoanalytic Studies at the University of Essex and former Clinical Director of the Cassel Hospital, has been a prolific writer for over 35 years, with his wide-ranging work covering clinical and theoretical psychoanalysis and also the applying of psychoanalytic thinking to other fields, especially groups, organizations and social science and clinical research.

Before coming to psychoanalysis, Hinshelwood became interested in therapeutic communities as a new model for psychiatry. Fascinated by Bion's work on groups and Menzies-Lyth's on social systems, he became interested in the dynamics of groups and their application for psychiatry. Also his wish to understand psychosis better was a motivator to enter into psychoanalytic training and to choose a Kleinian approach.

He studied Klein in great depth. Fascinated by the rich but difficult to digest writings of Melanie Klein, he was interested in making them more accessible. Therefore, he published *A Dictionary of Kleinian Thought* (1989), which was an attempt to explain the meaning and historic development of Kleinian concepts. Also, the later published, *Clinical Klein* (1994) was a clinical approach to those concepts.

Hinshelwood has had a particular interest in therapeutic communities as a social form of treatment. Using a Kleinian psychoanalytic approach, he developed creative ways of understanding the unconscious life of organizations and how their manifest functioning is shaped by socially shared anxieties, unconscious phantasies and defenses. He also developed a psychoanalytic method of observing institutions (2000), built on Bick's method of infant observation.

Hinshelwood was interested in the history of psychoanalysis which led him to studying various historical papers and book chapters on Klein, Bion, Isaacs, psychodynamic psychiatry and Virginia Woolf and, very recently a book on Bion's intellectual influences (2013). Other areas of interest include the ethics of psychoanalysis and psychotherapy (1997b) and the problems of research in psychoanalysis (2013).

He founded three journals, the *International Journal of Therapeutic Communities* in 1980 and the *British Journal of Psychotherapy* in 1984, both of which he edited for some years, and *Psychoanalysis and History* in 1998. All these journals continue to thrive. Furthermore, he has encouraged many, often junior colleagues to write and has supported them in their efforts.