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## Editorial

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What a strange year it has been! Cancelled conferences, cancelled TA exams, cancelled workshops, cancelled one-to-one and group sessions - and major changes to everyone's stroking patterns.

A sad year also for many of us, and for many families and friends. As well as those lost to the pandemic, we have said goodbye to some well-known TA names -Graham Barnes and Jenni Hine, whose Obituaries conclude this Issue.

Covid-19 has also had some impact on the journal but fortunately only in the sense that some research has been postponed and therefore cannot be written about. Hopefully the move to online working, which is now becoming so extensive within the TA community, is even now being extended to the ways in which research can be done.

Meanwhile, this issue contains material from Brazil, Bulgaria and Italy. In the last issue we added Guatemala (via a Polish author) and Syria, to Belgium, Brazil, China, Germany, India, Italy, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and USA - and now we add Bulgaria to bring it to 16 countries over 11 years - and we already expect to add Australia in 2021.

We begin this issue with a fascinating development of a proposed typology of scientists based on ego states and contaminations and exclusions. By Patrick Whitehead, the typology can also be applied to TA practitioners - and I can't resist applying it to how we may have responded to Covid-19. Have you been using all of your ego states as you have updated your Parent with reliable information from experts, paid enough attention to your Child needs, and used your Adult to problem solve and identify options? And have you still been able to stay integrated if Covid has impacted directly on you or your loved ones? Or might you be struggling with Parent only, unable to decide which experts to believe, or with Child only and distressed because life is so different to what you want, even though you and yours have escaped any life threatening Covid-19 outcomes? Something to reflect on. . . .

Next in this issue we have the story behind a research study to develop an Italian language version of the Ego State Questionnaire (ESQ-R) created by Loffredo and colleagues (references in the article). Fiorenzo Laghi, Giuseppe Crea, Claudia Filipponi, and Giorgio Cavallero have provided a full account of how they translated, researched and refined to create the ESQ-RI, and have even provided copies so others can use it.

Whilst 'in' Italy, we have included another practical contribution from Cesare Fregola, with a focus on today's 21st Century Skills - and how young people have access to so much learning via their mobile phones. Published originally in Italian, the translation for this has been in the opposite direction to that needed for the ESQ-RI, and brings more of Cesare's material to a wider audience.

The fourth article in this issue continues the process of translation to bring TA ideas to a wider audience - in this case we have translated, from Portuguese, Regina Berard's work on TA and multiple intelligences, and how this combination helps with diagnosis and intervention.

After that is another practical application of TA that is also an organisational case study research report -Vladislav Yordanov reports on an extensive project in Bulgaria where he combined functional analysis with transactional analysis. He reports on some thorough planning for a project with multiple stakeholders, sets out the stages of functional analysis, and illustrates how he combined it with the TA model of the Sailship Success to draw out the unconscious beliefs held by any individual about any company.

Happy reading as we move into 2021 and hopefully an end to Covid-19.