



DR MIKE RUSH

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MY AIMS & OBJECTIVES

- To provide support for anyone affected by spiritual crisis/emergency by offering counselling & consultancy, peer-support, resources, and signposting.
- To raise awareness about spirituality and wellbeing in general and spiritual crisis in particular by providing training and education.
- To increase understanding of spiritual crisis by undertaking and reporting on relevant academic research.



MY EDUCATION

PhD in Professional Practice Psychological Perspectives | Canterbury Christ Church University supported by the Professional Development Foundation and the Alef Trust.

2019 – 2024

I performed a service evaluation of the UK Spiritual Crisis Network (SCN), an IPA study of the meaning and lived-experience of grounding in spiritual crisis, and a case study using the Hero's Journey for a narrative analysis of one person's path from spiritual crisis to peer-support.

Diploma in Hypno-psychotherapy (Distinction) | National College of Hypnosis & Psychotherapy

2014 – 2017

My essay evaluating Jung's psychological types was published in the *BPS Psychotherapy Section Review*. Other topics covered included diversity & equality, psychopathology, and online therapy.

PGDip in Consciousness & Transpersonal Psychology (Distinction) | Liverpool John Moores University

2009 – 2011

My essay on the history of Western Esotericism and transpersonal psychology was published in the *BPS Transpersonal Psychology Review*. Another essay on Near-Death Experiences was published in the *Journal of Near-Death Studies*.

MA in Religious Experience (Distinction) | University of Wales, Lampeter

2001 – 2009

My thesis was a thematic evaluation of spiritual experiences in contemporary Western Esotericism. My essay on the neuroscience of religious experience was published by the Religious Experience Research Centre (RERC).

BSc (Hons) in Biomedical Science (2:1) | University of Keele

1993 – 1997

Topics covered included: human physiology, mammalian biochemistry, molecular genetics, biophysics, pathology, microbiology, psychology, and epidemiology.



MY EXPERIENCE

Co-Director | Spiritual Crisis Network

2016 – PRESENT

I volunteer with the SCN by providing email support and co-facilitating peer-support groups (face-to-face and online). I also run the SCN Research Group for anyone interested in research into spiritual crisis/emergency.

Trustee | Alister Hardy Trust

2016 – PRESENT

I ran a monthly discussion group on religious and spiritual experience for ten years, support member events, and maintain the Trust's website.

Committee Member | BPS Transpersonal Psychology Section

2022 – PRESENT

I presented on the influence of Western Esotericism on Transpersonal Psychology, with a focus on Psychosynthesis and western magic at the BPS Transpersonal Psychology Section conference in September 2023.

ICT Service Desk Manager | North East Derbyshire District Council

2011 – PRESENT

I manage a team of 14 technicians who provide first and second-line ICT support to 1,200 staff and Councilors at Bolsover, Derbyshire Dales, and North East Derbyshire District Councils. My team won the Top Team award in the employee awards in 2015 and 2022.



COUNSELLING & PEER-SUPPORT

- Hypno-psychotherapist registered with the CNHC and the National Society of Talking Therapies.
- Spiritual Emergence Coach (SEC) trained by Emma Bragdon of the IMHU.
- Certificate in Online Therapy, NCHP.
- Certificate in Mental Health First Aid.
- Certificate in The Essentials of Psychosynthesis from The Psychosynthesis & Education Trust.
- Co-facilitator of peer-support groups for the SCN and IMHU.



TRAINING & EDUCATION

- I ran a monthly study group on spiritual experience for ten years for the Alister Hardy Society.
- Essay marking for the National College of Hypnosis & Psychotherapy.
- Level 3 Certificate in Delivering Learning, City & Guilds.
- Taught ICT skills and the European Computer Driving License (ECDL).
- Supervision of ICT apprentices at North East Derbyshire District Council.
- Facilitated volunteer training workshops for the SCN.



RESEARCH & DISSEMINATION

- Evaluation study of the UK Spiritual Crisis Network.
- IPA study on the meaning & lived experience of grounding in spiritual crisis.
- Organiser of the online SCN Research Group, which is attended by researchers from the UK, US, Sweden, and Greece.
- Thematic evaluation of spiritual experiences in contemporary Western Esotericism.
- Co-organised the online SCN conference in 2022.
- Presented my research to the SCN, Alef Trust and Alister Hardy Trust.



COMPUTING & MANAGEMENT

- Over 20 years' experience of ICT in the voluntary, private, & public sectors.
- Leadership, supervision, recruitment, appraisals, sickness management, & ILM3 certification.
- Administration of MS Windows 10 and M365, including MS Teams and MS Intune.
- Building, configuring, and maintaining websites.
- Knowledge of cybersecurity and Data Protection & GDPR.
- Managing projects with a certificate in Project Management Fundamentals.



PUBLICATIONS

- (2019) Rush, M.J. An Evaluation of Jung's Psychological Types and their Relationship to Psychopathology, *BPS Psychotherapy Section Review*, 63, Spring 2019, 32-39.
- (2016) Rush, M.J. The Contribution of Western Esotericism to Transpersonal Psychology, *Transpersonal Psychology Review*, 18, 1, 32-43.
- (2015) Rush, M.J. Theosophical Experiences, *Esoterica: The Journal of the Foundation for Theosophical Studies*, 6, 1, 25-27.
- (2013) Rush, M.J. Critique of "A Prospectively Studied Near-Death Experience", *Journal of Near-Death Studies*, 32, 1, 1-56.
- (2013) Rush, M.J. Spiritual Crisis in the U.K., *Journal for the Study of Spirituality*, 3, 2, 168-171.
- (2011) Eyre, W. Porter, T. & Rush, M.J. Psychic Sensitivity: Photographic Experiment, *Anomaly*, Vol. 45, 73-83.
- (2011) Rush, M.J. The Esoteric Experience: Positive or Negative?, *Paranthropology: Journal of Anthropological Approaches to the Paranormal*, Vol. 2, No. 3, 3-8.
- (2009) Rush, M.J. On The Side Of The Angels: Neuroscience & Religious Experience, RERC 2nd Series Occasional Paper #49.

References available upon request.