



Psychologists Protection Society Trust – Sandy Murray Memorial Award 2022/23 Essay Competition – Entrants Information

Introduction

The Psychologists Protection Society Trust is a not for profit defence organisation, run for the benefit of members in the talking and listening therapies. The main purpose of the PPS Trust is to provide therapists with assistance when complaints are received from clients and other professional protection matters. The Trust also aims to provide education and advice to and promote high standards of professional practice by practitioners in the talking and listening therapy services.

At the instance of the Trustees of the Psychologists Protection Society, the Murray Family have agreed to offer a bi-annual prize to honour the life work and dedication to the Society by founder Sandy Murray. Since Sandy's passing in 2014, many members have provided testimony as to the helpful support received from Sandy throughout his 40 year service and how he encouraged, inspired and enabled Members to face the difficulties which cropped up in their life as a therapist.



What is the prize?

- The presentation of an engraved glass trophy inscribed with citation SANDY MURRAY MEMORIAL AWARD, with the winner being able to retain an engraved glass keepsake
- A money prize of £500, donated by the Murray family
- The winners will be named perpetually on PPS literature and online media streams

What is the topic?

You are asked to send an essay, a reflective statement on whether a therapist can work online without too much compromise within and towards the therapeutic relationship? Does something need closer attention? The purpose of your essay should be to educate your fellow therapists by way of analysis, implementation and evidence of good practice.

The Rules

1. Competitors must:

- a) be a member of the Psychologists Protection Society Trust on the closing date of this competition.

2. The Essay must:

- a) be written in English, be at least 1800 words and at most 2200 words, excluding references and bibliography. All debts to other scholars must be acknowledged. Your entry must be processed or typed and may not be handwritten. Your full name must be on each page of your essay.
- b) be the original work of the writer and must not have been previously published or submitted to other competitions
- c) be accompanied by the Sandy Murray Memorial Award 2022/23 Essay Competition Entry Form in which all mandatory fields have been completed
- d) arrive at the PPS office by the closing date – **31st December 2022 17:00 (UK time)**

3. Other Rules

- a) Only one entry per person
- b) No revisions to entries are permitted once submitted
- c) Due to the anticipated high volume of entries, we regret that no feedback can be provided. No entries will be returned. It is suggested you keep a copy of your entry for your own records.
- d) The judges decision is final and will be announced no less than on one month before the date of the Psychologists Protection Society Trust AGM.
- e) The winner will be invited to attend the Psychologists Protection Society Trust 2023 AGM. Reasonable travelling expenses within the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland will be paid. We will invite the winner to give a short talk about their essay (approximately 10 mins) at the AGM. We will take a photograph of you receiving your award, you must agree that we can use this in our publicity both online and offline.
- f) We can only accept entries by post, however we cannot accept responsibility for entries lost by the postal service.
- g) We will only acknowledge receipt of your entry if you include a stamped, addressed envelope.
- h) We reserve the right to publish all entries online or offline. You will be credited as the author.
- i) The prize is Five Hundred British Pounds Sterling, if the winner is not a resident of the United Kingdom, this amount will be converted to local currency based on the exchange rate on the closing date of the competition
- j) Entries will be disqualified if they fail to meet the rules.
- k) If the winner is willing there may be an opportunity to give longer presentation on their topic, which will be recorded for our CPD Portal - www.theprofessionalpractitioner.net. We will explore this with you at the time.

Who is judging the competition and against what criteria will the essay be judged?

A panel derived from the Trustees of The Psychologists Protection Society Trust will read through all the entries received by the closing date – **31st December 2022 17:00 (UK time)**. The panel will then meet online to put together a shortlist of 4 essays for final judging. The Trustees reserve the right to seek informed opinion from other PPS Members who have standing in the particular modality of psychology, counselling or psychotherapy.

The Trustees will then announce the winner and up to 3 runners up. These essays will be published online at www.ppstrust.org and www.theprofessionalpractitioner.net

How do I enter?

Please read all the information and follow the instructions carefully. It is essential that entrants carefully complete mandatory fields on the entry form. You can download the entry form from our website – www.ppstrust.org/competition Entries must be posted to:

Secretary of The Psychologists Protection Society Trust
PPS
Lime Tree House
North Castle Street
Alloa
FK10 1EX