The Name Game

This is an exercise which, if used, needs to take place at the first or second meeting of the group. It is simple to organise but normally proves to be stimulating and is often remembered and recalled in conversation by members of the group for some time afterwards.

The Tutor and students sit in a circle. The Tutor begins by saying:

"My name"

The Tutor then instructs the student sitting to one side of him to say:

"My name is and this is" (Tutor's name)

The third person in the circle then says:

"My name is and this is (second speaker's name) and this is" (Tutor's name)

The fourth person in the circle then continues the sequence until the final person in the circle sitting next to the tutor has the task of remembering and naming every member of the group, by which time there is a relaxed but interested and anticipatory mood.

The exercise can be further developed by members moving positions in the group and starting the same sequence at a different place in the circle.

A further development might be for members of the group to say:

"My name is and I am interested in"

followed by:

"and this is who is interested in