



## **JUST A COUPLE OF WEEKS BEFORE WE GET TOGETHER**

### **One final request | The Updated Program | The Pre-GH Activities**

We hope you have found some time to immerse yourself in the pre-Gathering/Hui activities. Don't forget to bring your poster with you as your story of transformation will be integral in helping to build the overall process.

We have been working on the design of the Gathering/Hui for the last 18 months. It has been a challenging and creative process and we are looking forward to sharing it with you.

We promised you a novel and unique process, and this is what we think you will experience. There will be evocative warm-ups, loads of time to talk and explore together, and the opportunity for you to follow your personal and communal thread in ways that are meaningful for you. Situated on the astoundingly beautiful headland of Sydney harbour our inspiration will be each other and mother nature.

We want as many people as possible in our GANZ community and beyond to have the benefit of this community building experience through exploring a contemporary theme of significance.

If you haven't already registered, we encourage you consider being part of this unique and remarkable event. To make this as easy as possible, the Gathering/Hui Organising Committee are offering Graduates who register between now and the Gathering/Hui the early bird rate of \$395 and currently enrolled students the cost price of \$295.

**Attending the GANZ Gathering/Hui counts as 20 CPD points.**

**Gathering/Hui Facilitation Group**

Mike Reed, Brenda Levien, Alan Meara, Gabe Phillips

**And Gathering/Hui Convenor on behalf of the Organising Group**

Ashleigh Power

<h2 style="margin: 0;">Gathering/Hui</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Program &amp; Activities Overview - Registrants</h3>	
Session	
<p><b>Welcome and Hello</b>            Friday            May 3            5.00-5.40</p>	<p><b>Acknowledgement of Country</b></p> <p>On the foreshore of Sydney Harbour, we will acknowledge and be welcomed by the Traditional Owners and ongoing custodians of the land on which we gather.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledgment of Country</li> </ul> <p><b>The ground on which we stand: Gathering together</b></p> <p><b>Theme:</b> The ground from which we come shapes us. Knowing and appreciating our individual and communal ground – the geographical, psychological, community and familial lands of our origin - will inspire this moment of meeting each other through acknowledging and sharing our personal and communal ground.</p>
<p><b>Session 1</b>            Friday            May 3            5.40-7.10</p>	<p><b>The ground of our perceptions: Organising and being organised by the field</b></p> <p><b>Session 1 incorporates pre-Gathering/Hui activity 1: Perception</b></p> <p><b>Theme:</b> In acts of mutual influence, we are continuously shaping and being shaped by our experiential worlds. Our attitudes and beliefs – conscious and unconscious – inform our every engagement with ourselves and those around us --- including the physical world in which we live. We tend to act in ways that are aligned with our attitudes and beliefs: these are the drivers of our acts of compassion and bias; acceptance and prejudice; fairness and discrimination. We are interested in uncovering our perceptual ground and its impact.</p>

	<p><b>Process:</b> In the spirit of gathering together we will introduce ourselves in ways that reveal our attitudes and beliefs and help us know more the ground on which we stand.</p>
<p><b>Refreshments</b> 7.15 – 9.00</p>	<p><b>Hospitality: Finger-food, drinks and chatting</b></p>
<p><b>Opening</b> Saturday May 4 9.00 – 9.30</p>	<p><b>Welcome to the Gathering/Hui meeting space</b></p> <p>On arrival before the opening you will be invited to place your poster on the walls of the meeting room.</p> <p><b>Blessing of the meeting place:</b> Brenda Levien  <b>Welcome to the Gathering/Hui:</b> Ash Power  <b>Welcome:</b> GANZ President (Leanne O’Shea) and Council  <b>Orientation to venue:</b> Ash Power  <b>Overview of GH Process:</b> Facilitation group</p>
<p><b>Session 2</b> Saturday May 4 9.30-12.30</p>	<p><b>Personal stories of transformation: Me and us – individual and community</b>  <b>Session 2 incorporates pre-Gathering/Hui activity 2:</b> Experience</p> <p><b>Theme Part 1:</b> We have all experienced moments of transformation when meaningful change and developmental leaps have occurred that have forever changed our view of the horizon. These moments might be ones of our own or those we have facilitated or witnessed in others. The alchemy of these moments of seemingly magical transformation when the base metal of our ordinary existence is transformed into gold is our focus in this session. Through personal story telling we hope to establish a shared ground that will help us uncover further catalysts for transformation in addition to diversity, inequality and dialogue. We will create space to share our personal stories before we seek to uncover further catalysts for meaningful change that are embedded in our experiences of transformation.</p> <p><b>Process:</b> People will be invited to mingle to view the poster gallery that depicts our personal stories of transformation “as if” they are at a gallery opening. Part of the viewing of the posters will involve “gallery opening” style free-form chats and the naming of catalysts, before concluding with a large group sharing of the felt sense of individuals and the group.</p> <p><b>The treasures in our stories: Uncovering catalysts and the dynamics of transformation</b></p> <p><b>Theme Part 2:</b> Diversity, inequality and dialogue and their polarities of uniformity, equality and isolation reflect some of the “push and pull” dynamics in these catalysts for transformation. This list is not, and was never intended to be exhaustive, even though these designated catalysts capture some of the dynamics influencing transformation in our time. In the remainder of our session we will work together to reveal other catalysts for transformation that</p>

	are embedded in our lived experience and personal narratives. We will focus on not just identifying catalysts but elaborating the dynamics of how these catalysts operate to produce transformation.
<b>Lunch</b> 12.30	<b>Hospitality: Munch, mingle, meet and explore</b>
<b>Session 3</b> Saturday May 4 2.00 – 5.00	<p><b>Grappling with dilemmas: Point-counterpoint – constraints to transformation</b></p> <p><b>Theme:</b> With so many catalysts for transformation why is change so difficult? Delivering transformation on the ground often evokes resistance that reflects forces for change and sameness. Resistance and constraints to transformation are a universal phenomenon that have the capacity to generate endless dilemmas, relentless repetition and ultimately inaction. This session will consider the point-counterpoint phenomenon of transformation and grapple with the dilemmas that emerge when catalysts for change bump into constraints to change, often resulting in stasis or collapse. We will grapple with dilemmas and constraints, and how to catalyse transformation by grounding our exploration in specific areas of personal interest where we observe change is needed in the face of unresolved difficulties.</p> <p><b>Process:</b> Self-organising discovery groups to explore constraints and dilemmas to meaningful change and catalysts for transformation. Free-form conversations and feedback session.</p>
<b>Dinner</b> 6.30–12.00	<b>Hospitality: Celebrating being together - dine, dance and play</b>
<b>GANZ</b> Sunday May 5 8.30 – 9.30	<p><b>GANZ Council Space: Supporting our leaders – leading our community</b></p> <p>A Council facilitated opportunity to clarify the relationships between the roles and responsibilities of Council and the needs of members and the broader community. Includes a consideration of the current dilemmas for Council and opportunities for transformation.</p>
<b>Session 4</b> Sunday May 5 9.30-12.45	<p><b>Actions in the field: Applying catalysts, dissolving constraints and resolving dilemmas</b></p> <p><b>Session 3 incorporates pre-Gathering/Hui activity 3: Action</b></p> <p><b>Theme:</b> Informed by the nature of constraints and resourced by a deeper understanding of catalysts for transformation this session will focus on areas of personal interest and our individual and collective desire to act. We will grapple with dilemmas and constraints, and how to catalyse transformation by grounding our exploration in specific areas of personal interest where we observe change is needed in the face of unresolved difficulties. These areas could include dilemmas in counselling, psychotherapy, organisations (e.g.</p>

	<p>GANZ), research, the environment, community settings, politics and society etc.</p> <p>Intentions for action and support for acting will be identified with attention on how to transform constraining dilemmas in ourselves and others into meaningful action.</p> <p><b>Process:</b> “Making Your Mark” (Pre-activity 3) warm-up followed by a Speaker’s Corner marketplace of proposals for action in an advocacy session supported by self-organising consultant groups.</p>
<p><b>Lunch</b> 12.45</p>	<p><b>Hospitality: Munch, mingle and network</b></p>
<p><b>Session 5</b> Sunday May 5 2.00 – 4.30</p>	<p><b>Every story is us – every action is ours: Going forward together</b></p> <p><b>Theme:</b> Each one of us is the individual expression of our communities and our communities express themselves through us. Development in any location is mutually beneficial development and suffering in any location is shared suffering. This session will review what has emerged in our conversations about: the attitudes and beliefs we bring that shape our perception; the catalysts for transformation embedded in our personal narratives; the constraints and dilemmas that limit our capacity for transformation; how catalysts act on constraints to optimise the possibility of transformation and; how we might go forward together as agents for transformation.</p> <p><b>Process:</b> Warm-up using Placard Parade ritual to help people self-organise into areas of personal interest and possible action. Feedback into the group about what has emerged in the form of a short “communique” before whole group discussion about the experience of the Gathering/Hui.</p>
<p><b>Goodbye</b> 4.30 – 5.00</p>	<p>Completion and farewells Ritual of Transformation and Outreach</p>



## Pre-Gathering/Hui Activity 1

### PERCEPTION - EXPERIENCE - ACTION

#### Self-directed discovery activity 1: Perception

We are inviting you to engage in a personal inquiry into the ground on which we stand; specifically, the ground of our perceptions. In acts of mutual influence, we are continuously shaping and being shaped by our attitudes and beliefs – conscious and unconscious. We tend to act in ways that are aligned with our attitudes and beliefs: these are the drivers of our acts of compassion and bias; acceptance and prejudice; fairness and discrimination. We are interested in uncovering our perceptual ground and its impact.

**We have some inquiry questions to guide your reflections and cultivate your awareness:**

1. What experiences have you had of being the subject of another person's power, exclusion and/or being objectified - in other words being "*othered*"?
2. On what basis do you believe you were "*othered*", for example your class, gender, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, language, religion, age, nationality, world-regions, specific beliefs or attitudes and more.
3. In what ways have you interacted from a position power, privilege, bias, objectification either consciously, or out of your awareness where you have "*othered*" someone?
4. Take some time over the coming month and ongoingly in the lead up to the Gathering/Hui to identify the perceptions, attitudes and beliefs that reflect your personal experience of *othering and being othered*.
5. Your reflections will support your contribution to session one on Friday evening in a novel introduction process.

## **Pre-Gathering/Hui Activity 2**

### **PERCEPTION - EXPERIENCE - ACTION**

#### **Self-directed discovery activity 2: Experience**

We have all experienced moments of transformation. They may be moments of your own or ones that you have facilitated or witnessed in others. In these moments of transformation alchemy is at work. We are inviting you into a process of personal story telling that will establish a shared ground to help us uncover the alchemy of these moments - the catalysts for transformation.

1. This activity involves creating a poster of any size that represents your “first person” account of a story of transformation that you are willing to share at the Gathering/Hui. When creating your poster, you could use words, drawings, images, diagrams as writing, collage, painting or a mix of any of these, all of these and more. You could do this individually, as a pair or a small group – whatever configuration you wish.
2. Our hope is to fill our main meeting place on Saturday morning with a gallery of representations of our lived experiences of transformation. We will encourage you to share your stories of these in free form conversations, and then through engaging in a live-poster making process, to uncover potential catalysts and extend the list suggested in the theme statement.

## **Pre-Gathering/Hui Activity 3**

### **PERCEPTION - EXPERIENCE - ACTION**

#### **Self-directed discovery activity 3: Action**

This activity will provide an opportunity for you (and others) to share an inspirational idea (catalyst) that has the potential to progress an issue that matters to you into transformative action. This activity contributes to the end of Session 3 on Saturday afternoon and the warm-up activity in Session 4 on Sunday morning.

1. We are asking you to connect to an idea that matters to you and which you believe has the capacity to make a transformative difference. It could be small scale or large scale, personal or professional, individual or collective. It could be an idea that you have about gestalt, GANZ, a client, a presenting issue or client group, a social issue, a research question, an environmental issue, an act of prejudice and/or discrimination, a developmental issue, a dilemma ---- anything at all, as long as it matters to you!

2. We are inviting everyone to come prepared to propose their idea to the community. To support the sharing process, we are asking you to prepare a summary A4 sheet (see formatted A4 sheet at the end of activity 3) that addresses each of the following five areas in one or two sentences (i.e. a brief summary):
  - i. An issue that I believe constrains our development and well-being individually and/or collectively and that matters to me is .....
  - ii. The dynamics of constraint influencing this issue are .....
  - iii. The transformative idea I have that I think would make a difference to this issue is .....
  - iv. The transformational action that I think would be needed to create a difference that makes a difference is .....
  - v. The catalysts for transformation that support my idea and action are .....
  
3. As part of Session 3 (on Saturday) our plan is to invite everyone to place their A4 summary sheet on the wall of our meeting space for all to see. While every transformative idea is a valuable contribution to our process you will be requested to choose from all the ideas on display those that speak to you at this time, by placing your mark on the chosen summary sheet. This ‘community selecting’ process will reveal our areas of collective interest and shared energy. This process will be completed before our celebratory dinner that evening.
  
4. The authors of the 15 most selected transformative ideas will be asked if they would like to advocate for their idea and potential action in a **two-minute** presentation to inspire – be creative! The warm-up activity, **Speaker’s Corner** will begin Session 4 on Sunday morning.
  
5. If your idea is selected by the community, we will contact you as soon as possible after Session 3, in order to allow you time to prepare your two-minute talk, if you wish to do so. This means that in addition to preparing your summary sheet you will also need to give some thought to how you would like to present your transformative idea at **Speaker’s Corner: A marketplace of transformative ideas and actions**. If you are selected and do not wish to present your idea and action, the author of the next most popular transformative idea will be approached.
  
6. We encourage you to take some time to consider this invitation, and perhaps to connect with others during your reflections. This activity will hopefully inspire us and warm us up to other free-form conversations in Session 4 associated with transforming our ideas into meaningful actions.



## My transformative idea and action: *A difference that makes a difference!*

An issue that I believe constrains our development and well-being individually and/or collectively and that matters to me is.....

The dynamics of constraint influencing this issue are.....

The transformative idea I have that I think would make a difference to this issue is.....

The transformational action that I think would be needed to create a difference that makes a difference is.....

The catalysts for transformation that support my idea and action are.....