

The UNCONFERENCE

A Participant-Driven Gathering



HUNTER VALLEY HOTEL ACADEMY, KURRI KURRI NSW • 21–24 OCTOBER 2014

re-energise • teach • learn • engage • network • relax

A UNIQUE AND TRANSFORMATIVE GATHERING YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS

DISCOVER NEW WAYS OF THINKING

The Unconference key agitators will provide the space and experience to support the emergence of social innovation and transformation using the following practices as the frameworks of discovery;

- Asset Based Community Development
- Appreciative Inquiry
- Circle Work
- Open Space Technology
- Person Centred Practices
- Theory U
- World Café
- Social Enterprise
- Alternative Narratives of Disability

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Anyone who is passionate about a truly inclusive society! Those who seek to excel, innovate and lead by engaging with people's heads and hearts, not just their hands!



An 'Unconference' is a participant-driven gathering. Delegates actively contribute to the agenda sharing lots of dynamic open discussions.

Rather than a single speaker at the front of the room presenting PowerPoint slides, there will be 'Key Agitators' facilitating conversations and debate.

SHARE IN AND BUILD THIS GROWING WAVE OF CHANGE

- Be guided by leading facilitators
- Help shape the agenda
- Hear inspirational stories
- Deepen your practice
- Create pathways to action



heart



hand



head



heel

FOR INFO CONTACT

Dee Brooks m 0403 330 932
Michaela Kennedy m 0409 646 665

REGISTRATION

\$900 / \$450 for Concession
Includes GST & Community Dinner
www.jeder.com.au

UNCONFERENCE

A Participant-Driven Gathering



21-24 OCTOBER 2014

HUNTER VALLEY HOTEL ACADEMY, KURRI KURRI NSW

LEARNING FROM THE EDGE www.theunconference.net.au



Share and receive collective wisdom:

Share your gifts, skills, talents and passions amongst others
Connect with dynamic systems and networks
Increase collaborative partnerships



heart

Practice new methods in a safe environment:

Discover and discuss creative facilitation tools & techniques
Practice the power of storytelling & collecting
Experience hands-on practical facilitation skills



hand



Learn from experienced practitioners how to:

Create authentic pathways to leadership
Build & support inclusive communities
Apply emerging group technologies
Generate the power of social innovation



head

Ground yourself in your learnings:

Revitalise your body, mind & spirit
Relax with meditation & drumming
Explore home/life balance techniques
Explore and discuss community-based stories of success



heel

REGISTER ON-LINE WWW.JEDER.COM.AU

\$900 Regular • Concession \$450 (Registration includes GST and a Community Dinner on 23rd October)

Day 1 will begin at 1pm. All other days run from 9am-4.30pm

Evening activities are held from 5:00-6:30pm and include drumming, meditation and story telling

* Pre-Unconference Workshops are available at www.theunconference.net.au

WITH GRATITUDE TO OUR SUPPORTERS



PATHWAYS TO LEADERSHIP



The Family Action Centre



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA



TRAINING AND
CONSULTANCY
www.h2consult.net



curiousmindsco
drawing out great ideas



INCLUSION



Bespoke
Lifestyles



Community
Connection Inc



Windhorse Wisdom
The Body, Mind & Spirit of Leadership



LIFESTYLE TRUST
interactionz
Tari Whakawhitinga

NURTURE
DEVELOPMENT
development • redefined



Living networks of conversation lie at the heart of our capacity as a human community to create the futures we want rather than being forced to live with the futures we get.

Juanita Brown



KEY AGITATORS

In alphabetical order



SHERRIE ANDERSON AUSTRALIA

Sherrie has worked in the field of disability service for over 25 years. A passionate interest in person centred and person directed work is at the heart of all her work. Sherrie's been most fortunate to have received instruction and mentoring in person centred practices from a variety of recognized leaders, some of whom will be at this Unconference. Sherrie currently works with House With No Steps in the northern part of NSW. Her work is to support others to learn and develop their listening and facilitation skills through a variety of thinking and planning frameworks. Sherrie's worked with individuals, families, groups, and organizations engaged in the unceasing process of creating, re-creating, and pursuing people-empowered services and communities. sherrie@internode.on.net



DEE BROOKS AUSTRALIA

Dee Brooks, Director of the Jeder Institute is a passionate and energetic community engagement and development trainer who provides professional facilitation and keynote addresses for conferences, forums and events. Based on a decade of grassroots work with the Family Action Centre at the University of Newcastle, Dee has trained and presented to thousands of people at hundreds of events. Dee's background is in youth work, and community research and development. She is a firm believer in the power of tapping into the collective wisdom of a community to strengthen and build on what's already there. Dee provides Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) & Facilitating Group Processes training for organisations and government departments and assists with community inclusive strategic planning. Dee is a founding member and Facilitator of the ABCD Asia Pacific Network, an ABCD trainer and consultant, an Art of Hosting trained facilitator, a Flow Game Host and a DRUMBEAT Facilitator. Dee is an International Faculty Member of the ABCD Institute based at Northwestern University, Chicago, U.S.A. and a Steward of the international ABCD in Action Network.



LAURA (MOLE) CHAPMAN UK

Laura (Mole) is one of the world's leading experts in equality, person-centred and inclusive practice for people with disabilities. She is a renowned author and speaker who shares her knowledge with humour and energy. Having presented to leading universities, NGO's and government organisations across the globe, Laura contributes a profound understanding of the theory that affect the cultural landscape in human rights and social justice. Laura advises in the development of inclusive practice and the use of 'respectful language.' She has a unique and personal understanding of the issues surrounding inequality, disabilism and movement change. She has a personal insight into the barriers presented by society towards marginalised groups. www.equalitytraining.co.uk



KEY AGITATORS CONTINUED...



RHIANNON COCHRANE AUSTRALIA

Rhiannon has experience in a variety of settings including the education system and support services. Currently she is an advisor in Person Centred practices at The House With No Steps Southern NSW, providing education around Values in Practice, Person Centred Thinking, and providing the experience of Person Centred Planning to individuals, families, support teams, and managers through Maps, PATHS and Lifestyle Planning. Rhiannon is a mentoree of Jack Pearpoint in graphic facilitation and has worked alongside the late ABCD leader Ted Smeaton. Rhiannon has been involved in this work for 12 years having had a number of interesting roles including: Support Worker, Teachers Aid, Director, Trainer and Advisor. She is passionate about social justice, equal rights, Fleetwood Mac, individualised support, listening deeply, felines big and small, and the vision of a time when her role is obsolete and this work is not referenced as an 'industry'.
www.pathwaystoleadership.com.au



JANELLE FISHER NEW ZEALAND

Janelle Fisher is passionate about *"people leading lives that having meaning to them, with infinite possibilities"*, which is the vision of Interactionz, a community benefit organisation in Hamilton, New Zealand where she is the Quality Practice Leader. Janelle's background is in community psychology and she has worked in the disability and community sector in a variety of facilitation, research and leadership roles for over 20 years. Her work is informed by the principles of person driven practice (a facilitation model developed by Interactionz) and the values of social justice, being of service and courage.
www.interactionz.org.nz



ANN GREER AUSTRALIA

Ann Greer is a long term Townsville resident. She has worked in the disability field as a consultant, in service design, providing behavioural assistance

to people who are so challenged and – for the past seven years – as the Manager of Community Connection Inc, a disability service, in Townsville. Her work is underpinned by a strong belief that community is strengthened when all of its members are welcomed and involved and when we are more interested in the strengths in people and community than when we are counting deficits. She has the lived experience of disability as two of her three adult children are living full and happy lives despite significant levels of disability.
www.communityconnection.org.au



CHERYL CRUTTENDEN AUSTRALIA

Cheryl is a sought after leader and trainer in experiential programs and is one of Australia's leaders in the field of Equine Facilitated Learning and Coaching. She is an experienced horse woman, Certified multiple Brain Integration Technique Coach and Trainer, Archetypal Coach, NLP practitioner and teacher of Mindfulness, along with being a Taiji practitioner of 30 years. As a BodyMindBreath and Presence based coach, her specialty is coaching for Emergent Wisdom. This is a process that connects people with the somatic (felt) senses of their multiple intelligences - Head, Heart and Hara (gut) - to communicate with, align and integrate all three. Cheryl conducts personal and professional development, team building, leadership and corporate programs and has presented at several conferences in Australia and overseas. Most importantly, her passion and belief in the links between nature and human health and wellness for thriving communities, inspires others to tap into their innate wisdom, so they too can live their most compassionate, creative and courageous lives.

www.windhorseeducation.webs.com



SUE JAMES AUSTRALIA

Sue is an experienced teacher, facilitator, trainer, manager & consultant, whose clients include small businesses, large corporations, schools and other non-profits (community businesses). She draws on a wide range of strength-based approaches, including Appreciative Inquiry, and is an internationally recognized practitioner in her field. She has a wealth of experience in the development of cross-sectoral linkages, alliances & partnerships between community agencies, education and training organisations. Sue works with her partner Chris Bennett as BJ Seminars International, focusing on transformational change. They draw on their unique AQ-KQ Framework ® (Appreciative Intelligence and Kinaesthetic Intelligence), Appreciative Inquiry, Tai Chi and other strength-focused approaches. www.bjseminars.com.au



NORMAN KUNG & EMMA VAN DER KLIFT CANADA

Although Norman & Emma are well known speakers and advocates within the disability rights community, they prefer to think of themselves as modern day storytellers, continuing the long held tradition of using humour and narrative to initiate self-reflection and social change. Norman and Emma travel extensively throughout North America and abroad providing in-service and training in the areas of inclusive education, employment equity, conflict resolution, and other disability rights issues. Norman and Emma have a book, several journal articles, and three book chapters to their credit. They are currently working on their doctorates through the Taos/Tilburg Institute exploring the discourse that underlies rehabilitation interventions. Norman was born with cerebral palsy and attended a segregated school for children with physical disabilities; At the age 13, he was integrated into a regular school. From there, he went on to complete a Bachelor's degree in Humanities and a Master of Science degree in Family Therapy. Emma initially worked with non-profit agencies that support individuals with intellectual disabilities. She has since completed a Master's degree in Conflict Analysis and

Management from Royal Roads University and is certified both as a mediator and a negotiator through the Justice Institute in Vancouver. Norman and Emma are married and live in Vancouver, Canada.

www.conversationsthatmatter.org



MICHAELA KENNEDY AUSTRALIA

Michaela, Director of Jeder Institute, is a skilled facilitator and trainer of Person Centred Practices including Maps, Paths, Lifestyle Planning and Support planning, Community Connecting and Inclusion, Team Building and Planning, Inclusive Leadership and Partnership Building. She has worked in the disability sector in NSW (Australia) for over 18 years, has presented at many State and National Conferences and facilitated projects and training for government and non-government organisations. Michaela's extensive experience at all levels of the disability sector and her passion for all people to be valued as contributing citizens makes her a committed and highly regarded Person Centred Practices Leader. She is dedicated to sharing her experiences (professionally and personally), supporting people to lead inclusive self-directed lives, developing partnerships and enhancing leadership via strengths focused approaches. www.jeder.com.au



LYNDA KAHN CANADA

Lynda Kahn works with individuals, families, organizations and governments interested in positive change through facilitating conversations, planning sessions and offering training workshops, together with her partner and husband, Jack Pearpoint. She is based in Toronto with Inclusion Press International. Her 40 years experience has taken her from institution to community settings, involving values-based person-centered practice as a means to facilitate individual and organizational change. She is passionate about leadership, change and personal engagement to realize a more just world where everyone's voice and gifts are welcome. She loves learning, pushing the edges and thinking in possibility to create the futures we want.

www.inclusion.com



LYNDA MILLINGTON NEW ZEALAND

Lynda Millington is the Chief Executive of Interactionz – a community based organisation in Hamilton New Zealand, that works with people with disabilities and their families. She has a Graduate Diploma in Not for Profit Management and a Bachelor of Applied Management (Strategic Management). Lynda is a board member of VASS and is co-chairperson of Inclusive Communities New Zealand (ICNZ). In her role at Interactionz, the team developed a model of facilitation based on the principles of person driven practice. Interactionz has a focus on digital story telling as a methodology for people engaged in the organisation to share their stories and learnings. Lynda has three daughters and eight grandchildren. When not engaged in family gatherings her other great passions are travel and trekking. www.interactionz.org.nz/home.cfm



JACK PEARPOINT CANADA

Jack Pearpoint is an independent Canadian Publisher and catalyst for Inclusion, Diversity, Teamwork and CHANGE! Jointly with his wife and partner, Lynda Kahn, Jack conducts workshops with organizations and collaborates with people with disabilities and their families, to honour the gifts and contributions of all. Earlier, Jack, his late wife Marsha Forest and John O'Brien collaborated to create several person-centered approaches such as PATH, MAPS and Circles of Friends. The collaboration continues now with John and Lynda. Forty years of organisation experience include seven years in Africa; sixteen years as President of Canada's oldest literacy organization, Frontier College; and nearly three decades as a full time publisher and presenter. Jack is the founding director of the Inclusion Press and the Marsha Forest Centre.

www.inclusion.com

*If your dreams don't scare you
they are not big enough!*

Unknown



JORDAN PURCELL-ASHBURNER

Jordan is a passionate social entrepreneur who initiated his first social enterprise at 17yrs. With over 10 years' experience in establishing new businesses, charities and social ventures Jordan has a first-hand insight into the social enterprise movement in Australia. Jordan is a Vocational Trainer specialising in business and management training and has developed accredited training programs to support both organisations and individuals to establish and sustain viable social ventures. He has provided mentoring and leadership training for a range of youth programs, organization and associations and believes the empowerment of young people is one of our greatest avenues to solve the problems of society. Jordan has a strong belief that the social enterprise movement has the capacity to transform the way we address the social agendas of our communities and sustain valuable social initiatives.

www.ccbusinesscollege.com



KATHY REES AUSTRALIA

Kathy has been actively involved in the self-direct field since the early 1990s & since 2000 has managed an organisation that is dedicated to assisting people to self-direct their arrangements. She has the lived experience of disability as a result of her adult daughter acquiring significant disabilities in 1983. In 2013, Kathy completed a Practical Design Fund project that explored the ways in which self-directed arrangements are sustained over time & she continues to assist individuals & organisations with approaches that welcome the opportunities self-directed arrangements can bring to people's lives. Kathy is a keen researcher & maintains a lateral minded view about the ways in which full & happy lives can be sustained. In addition, she provides training to support staff & managers working in this sector, and undertakes projects & consultancy activities within organisations & across communities.

Kathy@gitana.com.au



VALMAE ROSE AUSTRALIA

Since graduating as an Occupational Therapist in 1983, Valmae has worked in the human service field in policy and practice roles across QLD, NSW and NT.

Working as a consultant, she created a suite of accredited training for the disability sector, developed a competency based wage system for workers with disability, and designed and implemented a range of organisational development and evaluation projects in urban, rural and remote Australia. She is a trained auditor, participatory process practitioner, and accredited facilitator of ABCD. Recent highlights of her work have been the engagement of 1500 people around the Blue Skies Vision for an Inclusive Community, coordinating the delivery of numerous state-wide sector development and policy change implementation initiatives, and contributing to a more collaborative culture within the sector. Most recently Valmae has managed the delivery of 35 national workshops to over 550 people with disability, family members, services and community members to support them to imagine and plan for the future under the NDIS. Her current focus is creating conditions for people with disability and their family to navigate the disability service system to get the outcomes they need. www.futurebydesign.net.au

CORMAC RUSSEL IRELAND



Cormac is Managing Director of Nurture Development, Director of ABCD Europe and a faculty member of the Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) Institute at Northwestern University,

Chicago. He has trained communities, agencies, NGOs and governments in ABCD and other strengths based approaches in Kenya, Rwanda, Southern Sudan, South Africa, the UK, Ireland, Sweden, the Netherlands, Canada and Australia. In January 2011 Cormac was appointed to the Expert Reference Group on Community Organising and Communities First, by Nick Hurd MP, Minister for Civil Society in the UK which he served on for the term of the Group. [Attending the Unconference via Skype sessions hosted by Mole Chapman]

He also leads on ten separate learning sites in the UK, including his highly innovative work in the County of Gloucestershire where over forty organisations across the public and third sector are actively engaged in strengths based practices.

cormac@nurturedevelopment.org



HEATHER SIMMONS AUSTRALIA

Acknowledged internationally for her thoughtful approach to facilitating learning to create change, Heather has shared some her learning by publishing her explanation and understanding of the Values of Inclusion. She is committed to finding ways to support workers to be intentional, principled and person centred: able to understand what good looks like in the work and to translate their values in to practical, meaningful action. Heather has been a guest lecturer at the University of Edinburgh and lectures regularly at Curtin University as part of their training for Occupational Therapy students. In 2012, with her colleagues Prof Angus Buchanan and Rebecca Waters, she won an award from the Faculty of Health Sciences for Excellence in Teaching. She maintains her connection to her UK colleagues through The Centre for Welfare Reform. Work and life experiences and challenges cause her to think every single day about what it would take to have the things she teaches and believes make a real difference in the day to day lives of people with disabilities, their families and their communities. She reflects on these experiences in her blog 'Just thinking.' Heather has published her learning in: The Big Plan, A good Life after School, Inclusion Press, 2006 and The Values of Inclusion, Inclusion Press e-book, 2012. www.hsimmons708.blogspot.com.au

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has

Margaret Mead



GRAEME STUART, AUSTRALIA

Graeme is committed to inclusive, interactive processes that build on the strengths of communities and individuals, and help create a more sustainable future.

His teaching, practice and research, at the University of Newcastle's Family Action Centre, focuses on community engagement, asset-based community development and strength-based practice. He is also the convenor of Transition Newcastle (which was highly commended at the 2013 NSW Sustainable Cities awards). He started working with communities in 1983 and has continued to do so ever since in both paid and voluntary capacities. Over the years Graeme has worked as a youth and community worker, supported permanent residents of caravan parks, facilitated 100s of workshop, completed a PhD exploring youth work and a philosophy of nonviolence, taught at the University and TAFE, and volunteered with a variety of peace, environmental and social change groups. He is happily married with two beautiful daughters, helps out with the P&Cs of his daughters' schools, and writes a blog.

www.sustainingcommunity.wordpress.com



RUSSELL VICKERY NEW ZEALAND

Russell has been in a wheelchair his whole life and provides a personal approach to disability awareness in his professional and personal life. Having experienced first hand the reception that many people with disabilities receive from children and the public Russell has seen and used options that make a huge difference in assisting people's perception of disabilities. With a Masters degree in Education, majoring in disability studies, and over 30 years experience covering a wide range of published articles and presentations, Russell brings a great depth of understanding disability/impairment. His involvement in sports for disabled people for over 20 years including participating in the team of "paras" that hand cranked a catamaran 1000 miles up the Nile River circumnavigating Western Samoa, along with partaking in long distance open sea swims and triathlons with a specially adapted three-wheel bike is an inspiration. www.rjv.co.nz



MICHELLE WALKER AUSTRALIA

Michelle Walker has a dual background in science (human physiology & environmental sciences) and fine arts and over the past 20 years, has led many high impact facilitation processes associated with program evaluations, community and stakeholder communications and engagement, and planning projects. Michelle's specialty of working visually using graphic approaches is a feature of her group-work process design and facilitation. She has trained in Graphic Facilitation and brings her creative abilities from her fine arts practice to deliver stand-out results for groups in their meetings, workshops and conferences. Michelle has designed and delivered training programs to government, corporate, not-for-profit and community clients. In particular, Michelle is passionate about sharing her knowledge and experiences about the growing field of graphics practice and offers specialty training for fellow facilitators, coaches and team leaders in how to work visually and get great results.

www.curiousmindsco.com.au

*People need to act
In order to discover
what they face,
They need to talk
In order to discover
what they think,
And they need to feel
In order to discover
what it means.*

Karl Weick

UNCONFERENCE

A Participant-Driven Gathering



Representatives from each of the following networks will be attending and will play an active role in hosting discussions and responding to enquiries. We would like to thank them for their generous time and support



Australian Learning Community includes learning communities from four methodologies - Person Centred Practices, Asset Based Community Development, Art of Hosting and Harvesting and Conversations that Matter. The website will be a central place of information, links and access to Australian practitioners.
www.australianlearningcommunity.org.au

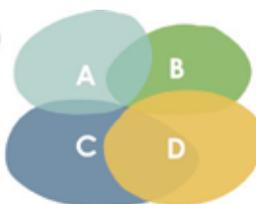


The ABCD Illawarra Network represents the communities of the Illawarra. Collectively we use a strengths based approach to work with communities and individuals to realise their assets in order to mobilise communities to bring about positive social change.
www.abcdillawarra.wordpress.com



ABCD Europe is a place to discuss, share and deepen ways to apply the principles and practices of Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) and other strengths-based approaches. There are now ABCD enthusiasts across Europe who recognise that there is more to a good life than services and more at stake than money. www.abcd europe.ning.com

**ASSET BASED
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
(ABCD) ASIA PACIFIC**



The ABCD Asia Pacific Network is a group well versed in ABCD. We offer support, share successes and help with challenges and evaluation. The Network was founded to encourage discussion, share information and to support communities and ABCD practitioners throughout the Asia Pacific Region. www.abcdasiapacific.ning.com

Art of Hosting Queensland

A place for sharing, learning and inspiration for anyone passionate about building stronger communities

Art of Hosting Queensland is a community of practitioners of participatory processes known as the Art of Hosting and Harvesting Conversations that Matter. We are connected with Art of Hosting members across the world. We are committed to creating a learning space for our community and the wider community – to host conversations and projects that matter.
www.artofhostingqld.wordpress.com

The Unconference is completely funded through the registration fee. Every effort is made to ensure the registration fee is modest, covers expenses and offers a fair remuneration to the key - agitators team. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you wish to discuss your financial position further.