

# WHAT'S POSSIBLE WHEN WE SUPPORT EACH OTHER IN OUR WORK TO STRENGTHEN AND HEAL OUR COMMUNITIES?

## *the* ART OF HOSTING & *harvesting conversations that matter*

3 DAY TRAINING | EUROBODALLA  
25-27 NOVEMBER 2020

Our communities have experienced huge impacts over the past year. The double impact of bushfires and Covid have left us with a compelling need to recover and rebuild - and to do that as well as we can in a complex and changing environment.

In these times, it is vital that we find effective ways to work well together - to support each other and collaborate on projects and initiatives that strengthen and heal our communities.

The Art of Hosting and Harvesting Conversations that Matter (also known as the Art of Participatory Leadership) offers simple and powerful participatory practices, patterns and processes to host generative conversations that can lead to coordinated action and positive change. These approaches have been used effectively in diverse contexts worldwide to harness collective wisdom, encourage compassionate leadership and collaboration, and create better social and environmental outcomes.

We warmly invite you to join this 3 day introductory training in Eurobodalla.

### WHO IS IT FOR?

- Community volunteers who are working to connect and support others.
- Council staff working in recovery and resilience building.
- Support agency officers working in recovery and resilience building. NFP organisations supporting community recovery and wellbeing.
- All who want to explore the power of co-creation and collaboration within their communities and organisations.

### REFLECTIONS of participants from the recent training in the Bega Valley

- *I'm leaving feeling a lot calmer, more courageous and confident to go out and practice. I'm taking connection and support. It's reassuring, awesome and I'm feeling more capable of what I need to do*
- *I'm taking deep learning and possibilities of application.*
- *I'm feeling restored.*                      - *I have a renewed sense of connection and belief.*
- *I'm leaving refreshed. This has come at the right time. I'm taking hope, skills, and a network.*
- *I have a feeling my colour has been brightened. Thank you for the care, patience and guidance*

## WHAT WILL WE EXPLORE, LEARN & PRACTICE?

The quality of our conversations matters. It determines what we pay attention to, how we engage with each other, and where we direct our time, energy and resources. The Art of Hosting will invite us to consciously create and host spaces for collaborative conversations, where we can address challenges and take positive actions.

This training is experiential. You will have opportunities to practice hosting various participatory processes and methodologies. It will support you to host more effective, purposeful meetings, help groups navigate complexity and develop clear direction, and people to work together to create impactful projects. This will help build capacity for community leadership, and community-led recovery.

The learning includes:

- Simple and powerful social tools such as Circle, World Cafe, Appreciative Inquiry, Open Space Technology, Designing for Wiser Action, and more.
- Complementary models and frameworks including complexity theory and practice.
- Conscious presence and leadership, and working with emergence.
- Real world applications to inspire your own work ... and much more.

## PARTICIPATION FEES

Our core principle for this training is one of generosity. The fees are deliberately very low.

We are committed to offering the training in this instance, so that community Volunteers can be supported to come.

We would appreciate any support from organisations that are able to support community volunteers to attend by paying or contributing to the registration fee.

Our aim is to support everyone who wants to attend to be there, regardless of their capacity to pay. You decide what is fair, what you have capacity to pay, or what is within your training budget. We invite you to contact us if you would like a conversation about fees.

- Supported by an organisation: **\$330 inc GST (suggested)**
- Community volunteers: **Fully supported**

## THE TEAM

**Mel Geltch:** I'm a co-founder of Campfire Co-op, a group of people working in public participation and collaborative transformation within organisations and communities. I am committed to more human ways of working, and care deeply about building capacity for people to thrive. The Art of Hosting has become a cornerstone of the way I work and live. I am a new resident of the Bega Valley, enjoying discovering connections to community and the land.

## GUEST TRAINERS

**David Newell:** I have worked in community and organisational development for over 25 years, and draw heavily upon Art of Hosting practices and principles in how I work. I am currently working in bushfire recovery - supporting the Bega Valley and Eurobodalla Shires. I live in Cobargo with my wife and daughter.

**Peter Pigott:** For the past 14 years I have been working as a Landcare Facilitator in the South East, and am currently working in bushfire recovery - supporting the Shoalhaven and Wingecarribee council areas. Art of Hosting practices have become a foundation of my practice - supporting people, ideas and purpose to come together for better outcomes. I live in Berry with my family and shaggy dog.

## COVID SAFETY

We are committed to keep us all safe and healthy during this training, and will have a Covid Safety plan in place.

## FOOD

Please bring your own lunch and snacks OR you can purchase them from [The Gardens Cafe](#) next door. We have decided to go this way to keep you safe, reduce waste and keep fees accessible. We'll provide good tea and coffee.

This training is supported by [Eurobodalla Shire Council](#) and [Campfire Co-op](#).



## WHEN:

25, 26 & 27 November 9am-5pm each day

## CONTACT:

**Mel Geltch** mel@campfire.coop | 0400 412 498  
**David Newell** 0408 213 984

## WHERE:

[Eurobodalla Regional Botanic Garden](#)  
Princes Highway, Batemans Bay

## REGISTER:

[bit.ly/AoHEurobodalla](https://bit.ly/AoHEurobodalla) Numbers are limited