



**An invitation to participate in a warm-up activity for the
Gathering/Hui - March**

PERCEPTION - EXPERIENCE - ACTION

Welcome to the **second of three self-directed discovery
activities – something **creative** to do before you arrive!**

Dear <insert registrant's first name>

Context and purpose of activities

The purpose of the three (3) pre-Gathering/Hui activities is to invite everyone attending (and those not attending) to undertake some personal reflection as preparation for engaging with the interactive nature of the Gathering/Hui. Each activity aims to support us to have an informed voice in certain sessions in the program. **Activity 1 if you missed it is available on the website www.ganzgathering.com.au**

In place of offering panels and the traditional choosing from a menu of workshops or presentations, each day of the Gathering/Hui's overall process-oriented design builds on experiences of the previous day. In effect, the Gathering/Hui is a macrocosm of the gestalt process within a community situation. Rather than focusing on any single social issue, the

intention is to support participation through engaging together across a variety of configurations in exploring and expanding our understandings and learnings around the core theme of ***Catalysts for transformation***.

From our personal and professional experience as citizens and practitioners we know that in our life experiences and the work we do that we all witness a wide range of personal distress within diverse aspects of society. Our craft provides us with the ability to offer transformational processes and to develop personal capacities and skill sets that illuminate a deeper awareness of what catalyses change. Our invitation to you to engage with each of the three self-directed discovery activities reflects our hope to optimise our individual and collective capacity to explore deeply the theme of the Gathering/Hui.

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.

Realities of our being together

As a facilitation group we want to keep before you some realities of our Gathering/Hui and are hopeful that you will commit to some perspectives and ways of being together that will serve us well in our adventure.

1. We represent an incomplete microcosm of global diversity and therefore we all have some form/s of cultural incompetence in relating to our clients, colleagues and the wider community whether individuals, social groups or larger systems.
2. While our Gathering/Hui is unrepresentative and we cannot be more than we are, we do not want to be less than we are. We will work with what we have understanding that this is not all there is.
3. While we may be tempted to speak on behalf of others, we will endeavour to be clear about the personal context of our contributions and not assume our views are

representative. We encourage sensitivity, openness, courage, kindness and compassion in our ways of being together and speaking about others.

4. We profoundly realise that our Gathering/Hui will mirror the dynamics that play out in the wider field. The opportunity in our coming together is that as these inflammatory stuck points of misunderstanding and overreach manifest, rather than moving into isolation and alienation, we will collectively breathe and create the space to discover the catalysts required in the moment to enable transformation.

The facilitation group remains committed to furthering the vision of gestalt therapy's founders, and many others since then, in fostering the contribution of gestalt to individual and social change processes that value inclusive collaboration, develop restorative action, and reject oppression. We have come to realise that these transformative processes are not conceptual - they are at the heart of the Gathering/Hui.

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

Ashleigh Power