

Art of Hosting New Zealand Newsletter

December 2009

The Art of Hosting combines a people centered way of working with powerful methodologies that create the container for commitment and change. 85 people participated in August and we have a growing Community of Practice. In 2010 we will launch into a series of events to take this work to the next level. Will you join us and invite others to take part? ***This newsletter lets you know how you can participate.***

The Facilitator Team

We have a talented, multi-disciplinary team holding and facilitating our events next year. **Toe** joins us again. **Monica** is an international expert on harvesting, **Tim** is leading large processes for young people and on strategic change. **Bob** is an Aikido Master and has run his own dojo. **Mary-Alice** is a leading narrative practitioner, who has taken culture change to scale. **Helen** has worked with senior and leadership teams throughout the public & private sector. **Craig** has been in senior leadership in the public sector with over 30 years experience. *We're looking forward to working with you!*

Be on the Team

We're looking for people who can help support the Auckland and Wellington training events in the **Logistics team**, working with Logistics Steward, Helen Emmerson. This is a full time responsibility during the events, and you attend at a dramatically reduced rate. Please contact Helen by 10 December on helen@emmersongroup.co.nz.

Sponsorship

We're also keen to have sponsorship that can help us make the events more affordable for community and young people. If you know of possible sponsors, please contact Mary-Alice on mary-alice@getsoaring.com.

A Professional Touch

This year we have the resources of Emmerson Group behind us, giving us professional support in both the administrating and financial organisation of our event series. Thanks, folks!

The 2010 Events



Participatory Leadership: The Art of Hosting & Harvesting Conversations That Matter

4 - 6 March 2010, Waipuna Hotel, Auckland

- Aimed at creating leadership at all levels that gets commitment & results



Teams Creating Strategic Results: The Art of Hosting & Harvesting for Success

11 - 13 March 2010, Te Papa, Wellington

- An opportunity for innovation, change & lead teams to bring their work, issues and plans to a highly interactive session



Bridging the Islands of Achievement so New Zealand is a Great Place to Raise Kids

16 - 18 March 2010, Tatum Park, Levin

- A new conversation about working with and for kids

Full brochures for each of these events are available through contacting Emmerson Group on (04)387-9066, Mon - Thurs 9 - 12 only, or on info@emmersongroup.co.nz

For more information contact Mary-Alice on mary-alice@getsoaring.com



Warrior of the Heart: The Aikido of Balanced Leadership

19 - 21 March 2010, Tatum Park, Levin

- Explore & use power wisely
- Increased capacity for skillful, centered, courageous interactions



Making the most of participation

Last year we told many of you the “frozen chicken” story -- you might have laughed, but you knew it was true! When you come alone to a training experience -- especially one which has such a dramatically different way of working at its core, like the **Art of Hosting** -- you can feel like you’re the only chook to have thawed out and gotten a new way of operating in the world. When you go back to the office, it can feel like a blast from the freezer. People roll their eyes, look at you in that patronising way and say: “You’ve been on a course, haven’t you?”.

And nothing changes...

We’ve learned in our own practice that this way of working takes a team to do it.

If you want to shift the field in the place you work, you need to **be a field**, already operating in the new way -- and you can’t do that alone! We encourage you to come along again (and we have a reduced rate for that!) and to bring others with you. If you know of others who’d like to attend, make sure they come with others so that they can put what they learn to work.

We have a special group rate -- 10 places at \$1,200 + GST each -- which a group can use across our events. That means that 5 people might attend in Auckland to focus on participatory leadership and 3 might attend in Wellington, bringing their strategic project to work on, and another few might go to Warrior of the Heart and focus on their leadership skills. This is one way to get the most bang for your buck!

We’d also like to encourage large organisations to consider being community-minded by using part of their group rate to support community and young people attending. That might mean you decide to send 8 people and sponsor 2 to attend. Or 5 people might come from your organisation and 5 from your wider stakeholder group. This is a great way to move your work forward together. *Contact us for more details.*



Help us network the event series

Maybe you wondered how we were able to get 85 people in the room last August. The key is **personal invitation**. We send hundreds of emails, of course, but we also spent hours on the phone talking about our experience and suggesting ways it could help others. They listened. We all know how New Zealand works -- it works because people know people and people trust people. People trust you. We know you. We’d like to put these two things together to create a movement for a new way of working together. **Please help us to network the 2010 event series by telling people you know about it and forwarding on the brochures. Thanks for being part of our team!**

It’s working!

It has been wonderful to hear stories from participants about how they are using what they learned back in the workplace. We’ve heard about World Cafés popping up all over DOC and the LINZ team leading some great meetings. We’ve listened in as the FACS team at MSD has been sharing what they know with others and bringing this way of working to their wider field. We’ve been part of a team hosting a special event for the community at Great Start out in Taita. We’ve liked the approach the team is taking at Greater Wellington around involving the community in strategic planning. **What are you up to?** Tell us so we can share stories of success and we can all benefit.

Community of Practice

We’ve had three Community of Practice meetings so far in Wellington, covering off Open Space, World Café and most recently the Flow Game. An Auckland group has met as well. They were great opportunities to take our learning further. On **11 February** a hosting team has the opportunity to work with Mary-Alice to host a 2 hour “Good Engagement Seminar” for the Office of the Community & Voluntary Sector. **Two more people are needed for the team**, if you are interested, contact Mary-Alice. In **March** we’ll have meetings with our international team in both Auckland and Wellington. If you haven’t yet joined the Ning (GPS Community), there’s an active trans-Tasman group already there and plenty of resources posted. If you let us know, we’ll send you an invitation.

We’re excited about the energy and skill that will be generated across the event series next year. We see the **Art of Hosting** as a pathway for development, and a way of looking at systems change with methodologies that can support all sizes of endeavours. Our goal is to host a series of events for people who want to answer the question:

How can we work differently, bring people with us, and get more than the results we’re hoping for?

Let us know how we can support you to success!

Mary-Alice, Craig, Helen

