

Tell us what in your
life has attracted
you to attend at the
"Big Talk" Festival.

21-22 June
Big Talk.

Don't forget to bring your
project?

Peter Hamilton

From: "Kenneth McLeod" <ken@icef.info>
To: "HP 2003" <ken@icef.info>
Cc: "Carol Perry" <cperry@nrg.com.au>; "Nadine Hood" <nhood@scu.edu.au>; "Penny Watson" <penny@icef.info>; "Bobbi Allan" <bobbi@mandala.com.au>; "Simon Clough" <simonclo@nor.com.au>; "Terri Nicholson" <terrinnicholson@hotmail.com>; "Kenneth McLeod" <kmcleod@bigpond.net.au>; "margaret louise" <tullera@bigpond.com>; "Miriam Brookes" <miriamandbrian@byrononline.net>; "Susanna Freymark" <susanna@byrononline.net>; "Elly Wilson" <gjwilson@nsw.quik.com.au>
Sent: Saturday, 22 February 2003 10:38 PM
Subject: BIG TALK weekend

Hi everyone,

Planning for Heart Politics 2003 is now focussing around three events:

1. a BIG TALK weekend in June at the A&I Hall in Bangalow
2. a Cultural Action weekend in August (Theatre of the Oppressed, Playback, Indy Media, etc.) possibly at the Byron Bay Community Centre
3. a Residential Retreat in November on the coast

The overall theme is LIVING ON THE EDGE.

We had to let go of the plan for a five-day festival in July weaving together five strands with both residential and day participants as we do not have sufficient lead time to bring this all together in one week. Hence the idea of staging the festival over six months.

A few of us got together on Friday evening to review the overall concept and start planning for BIG TALK. We are waiting for confirmation from Clive Hamilton this week on which June weekend he will be able to visit. The options are June 13-14, 21-22 or 28-29. Lots of topics and speakers were suggested at Friday's meeting. Since then I've been thinking about how to group them into three or four major themes that can provide the underlying structure for the weekend. What I've come up with is...

1. Deep Democracy – possible topics: Self-Managing Communities, Politics and Spirituality, Renewing Local Government, Local Anarchism in the Age of Corporate Globalism
2. Earth Dreaming – eg: Biosphere Reserves, Is Sustainability Possible?, State of the Environment Reporting, Living in Waterworld
3. Rainbow Economics - eg: Ending the Growth Fetish, Tourists and Community – Heart Offerings, Creating a Peace Economy
4. Why Do We Care? - eg: Redefining Success, Life and Meaning in the 21st Century, Dropping Out or Dropping In, Everyday Activism for Everyday People

We also talked about different session formats, allocating time for Open Space on both days, and including some little "tasters" of what might be coming up on the Cultural Action weekend. Another suggestion was that we set up a cinema for the weekend with continuous screenings of films on local communities and grassroots activism. Any offers to co-ordinate this? *Bradbury - Film buffs - Michael Moore?*

So, how about some feedback. And any thoughts on speakers and/or workshop leaders? We need to pull all this together by the first week of March.

The BIG TALK organising group is now: Susanna Freymark, Elly Wilson, Paul Everingham, Simon Clough and Ken McLeod. We'll need more people power as the program takes shape, so here's your chance to volunteer.

Please take a minute or two to share your thoughts on any aspect of this emerging work of art.

With love, Ken

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AUSTRALIA



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Sent: Sunday, 23 February 2003 1:40 PM
Subject: HP planning - a blurb

Hello again,

Since sending out the previous message I've been asked to write a "blurb" suitable for you to cut and paste into an email which you might send on to other potentially interested people. So here it is...

PLANNING FOR HEART POLITICS 2003

So, where are we up to? Well, we've decided that the times demand that we break the established HP mould and experiment with a different format. We are thus planning a Heart Politics Festival that will extend over six months starting in June. The theme will be...

LIVING ON THE EDGE.

The Festival will focus around three events:

1. a BIG TALK weekend in June at Bangalow
2. a Cultural Action weekend in August at Byron Bay
3. a Residential Retreat in November on the coast

The BIG TALK weekend will be organised around four themes:

1. Deep Democracy – revitalising local democracy and our institutions of governance. Some session topics might be, for example: Self-Managing Communities, Politics and Spirituality, Renewing Local Government, Local Anarchism in the Age of Corporate Globalism
2. Earth Dreaming – facing the challenge of sustainability at 1 minute to midnight. eg: Biosphere Reserves, Is Sustainability Possible?, State of the Environment Reporting and Local Action, Living in Waterworld
3. Rainbow Economics – building regional economies for people and the Earth. eg: Ending the Growth Fetish, Tourists and Community – Heart Offerings, Creating a Peace Economy
4. Why Do We Care? - finding meaning in the turmoil of our times. eg: Redefining Success, Life and Meaning in the 21st Century, Dropping Out or Dropping In, Everyday Activism for Everyday People

At this stage we're thinking in terms of a public forum with keynote speakers for each theme on the Friday evening, seminar/workshop sessions during the day on Saturday, a hypothetical on the theme RENEWING DEMOCRACY on the Saturday evening, workshops

again on Sunday, and a performance evening on Sunday night which will foreshadow the Cultural Action weekend. We'll include Open Space time on both Saturday and Sunday. The suggestion has also been made that we set up a cinema for the weekend with continuous screenings of films on local communities and grassroots activism. The whole process is fairly emergent, so the final form will depend very much on where the energy is. If interest justifies it, for instance, we might extend some sessions onto weekday evenings over the following week. But let's see what's on offer first.

Clive Hamilton from the Australia Institute in Canberra has already accepted our invitation to be the keynote speaker for the Rainbow Economics strand. This week he'll confirm his availability for one of three weekends in June – 14-15, 21-22, 28-29 – and that will be the date we go with.

Right now we are looking for ideas for outstanding keynote speakers for the other three themes. We want to cast the net as widely as possible. If you can take a few minutes to put on your thinking cap and share your thoughts on this, we'd really appreciate it. Also any good ideas for workshops, etc.

At this stage we are planning the Cultural Action weekend for late August. We're thinking to include Boal Forum Theatre, Playback, various Indy Media workshops, and something on designing public ceremonies/rituals. Any thoughts on this would also be welcome. The residential will likely be early November at camp Wollumbin on the Tweed Coast.

Where should you send your ideas or suggestions? Either reply to the person who sent you this email or contact Ken McLeod at ken@icef.info or on 02 6687 1789.

Thanks for your ideas and offers.

My Version at SONS Heart Politics p2



Peter Hamilton

From: "Kenneth McLeod" <ken@icef.info>
 To: "HP 2003" <ken@icef.info>
 Sent: Friday, 14 February 2003 9:26 AM
 Subject: Heart Politics

*Biosphere-
 UNEP Beongien*

Hi everyone,

Since the initial planning workshop at Newrybar for Heart Politics 2003, we've been on a roller coaster ride of change. (So, what's new!) The end point is a plan for a series of HP events during the second half of the year, starting with a weekend of "Big Talk" with speakers and workshops in July. IT would be followed by a cultural action weekend of performance, music, art and media, perhaps a "ways and means weekend" workshop a bit later, and finally a residential retreat late in the year.

Having arrived at this format through a fairly labyrinthine journey, we'd like to get all the people that have had some connection with the process so far together in one place to throw around a few ideas and get some organising underway. Can you join us next Friday February 21 at 5.30pm in the RSL Hall in Bangalow followed by dinner nearby for those so inclined?

I'd appreciate it if you could let me know if you can make this date ASAP, so that we can organise an alternative if this doesn't suit.

SPA

With love, Ken

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"Wifatyge"/Murtanbirt

*Keith Smeato
 CSIRO*

*"Mapping the Rainforest
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Ken TRM from Carsan.

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AUSTRALIA

Centre At Shelly Dr.

Carsan

Carol/Pam/Roll/Elle/Suzanna

"Knowledge Management" viz sharing knowledge in a community.

[Chris Power, Kath, Rachel,

1. *Clive Hamilton coming to "Big Talk" weekend, June*

Bob Brown (Greens). Prob Bangalow.

2. *"Cultural Action" (Performance) Forum Theatre, "Independent Media/web. Centre"*

*August 2-22
 Sept "Spirit of Healing" Conference Lake Ainsworth.*