



**AAGP 'SYDNEY' MEMBERS' MEETING 2022**

**VIA ZOOM**

**Friday March 25 – Sunday March 27**

**FRIDAY MARCH 25**

14.15 – 17.15 Committee of Management Meeting

---

**CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

**Theme: The Social Unconscious**

**NOTE: Program open to Members, Associates & Students  
Please see program notes below**

18.20 – 20.00 (Fri) *Social Dreaming Matrix I* Host: **Eve Steel  
with Margot Solomon**

**SATURDAY MARCH 26**

08.50 - 10.30 *Social Dreaming Matrix II*

10.30 – 11.00 **Morning Tea**

11.00 – 13.00 Two Presentations (see notes) Chair: **Tim Johnson-Newell**  
*...A Very Complex Nation...* **Craig san Roque**  
*Filaments, Fractals or Fragments? Finding the Group in*  
*Contemporary Organisational Life* **Michael Fischer**

13.00 – 13.45 **Lunch** (to be shared online)

13.45 - 15.00 *Group Reflection on the Theme* – involving presenters and attendees  
Conductor: **Chris Fairall**

\*\*\*\*\*

15.30 - 17.00 Meeting of Students with Co-ordinator of Training

## **SUNDAY MARCH 27**

### **Members' and Associates' Meeting**

09.00 – 10.30	PD proposals <b>Tim et al</b>
11.00 – 12.30	Reflections Group *****
13.00 – 16.00	National Training Committee Meeting

---

**REGISTRATION:** Even though the Sydney 2022 meeting is online by Zoom and for the AAGP Community only (Members, Associates and Students), for the purposes of managing the event, ALL attendees are asked to register by return to    Antony Gleeson    [angle46@bigpond.com](mailto:angle46@bigpond.com)

### **Notes on the Theme, Structure, Content**

**The Conference theme** – The Social Unconscious is, ipso facto, an elusive concept, difficult to define and describe yet fundamental to the social nature of our lives and for group psychotherapy and other group applications. This year's conference is designed to extend the experience and learning about the social unconscious from last year's March meeting.

**The Conference Structure** allows for a Social Dreaming Matrix (Note-beginning on Friday evening) to explore experientially the social unconscious, together with two short presentations on the theme reserving in-depth discussion, comment and reflection for the Saturday Reflections Group.

**All attendees are encouraged to bring their own reflections and experiences of the Social Unconscious.**

#### **Social Dreaming Matrix**

will be hosted on-line by **Eve Steel assisted by Margot Solomon**. Eve is a psychoanalyst, group consultant and former member of AAGP. The SDM is an especially structured space of quiet reverie in which participants are invited to report and listen to their dreams. Dreams, here, are regarded as arising from within the social, belonging to the group, not the individual. Associations to the dreams are likewise regarded as arising from the matrix. In this way the SDM becomes a vehicle for exploring the social unconscious.

**The task for participants of the SDM is to report, to listen to and to associate with (not interpret) dreams.** More recent dreams are preferable.

For further reference see [Social Dreaming Matrix | Group Analytic Society International](#).

#### **Protocols for the online Social Dreaming Matrices**

- Participants are asked to log on 10mins ahead of start to settle technical and protocol matters.
- Participants to cover their screens with a scarf or other translucent material so that they are not visible to others, cannot see others or names on screen.
- Participants should remain unmuted for the session, so please ensure against noise intrusions from pets, children or other distractions.



**AAGP**  
Australian Association  
of Group Psychotherapists

the group can achieve  
more than the sum  
of its parts

### Presentations

*...A Very Complex Nation...* **Craig san Roque** offers some suggestions on inter-racial relations, psychological decolonisation, stages of cultural grieving and a possible quantum social unconscious. This contribution arises from attempts to comprehend experiences amid complex non-predictables of the Black/White setup.

*Filaments, Fractals or Fragments? Finding the Group in Contemporary Organisational Life* In this facilitated workshop discussion, **Prof Michael Fischer** will propose three lenses on 'groupishness' in our organisation(s) and society.

### Saturday Reflections Group

is a conducted event wherein conference participants may pose their questions, reflections, experiences, associations and learning on content and theme of the meeting.

### Sunday of Continuing Professional Development

This time is given to members for considering options for CPD, in part because of AAGP's membership of ACPD. Tim along with Margot, Craig, Anne and Antony have been working on how to think about options..

*PD is important because it addresses our development as professionals but also either directly or indirectly as individuals able to bear our responsibilities and remain healthy. A small group of us has begun to address PD in the AAGP, wondering what it's for, how to do that on an ongoing basis and not turn it into a tick box process of accruing hours to meet impersonal criteria. We also have in mind that the AAGP sits within Australia, NZ and the Pacific region and within a culture that is the oldest in the world, one that has ideas about how people learn and become human, adult and functioning members of a community. We have, necessarily, a hybrid social unconscious that sits within and interacts with other ontologies from around the Pacific region. PD must also articulate with and, in turn, affects training and the application to join process. Not every country does PD like they do here. NZ, Canada, Britain all have interesting and sometimes radical ways to approach the PD of a psychotherapist. All, though, do it in a collegial way where individuals engage with their peers to evolve a programme that is applicable to one person and addresses their strengths and undeveloped areas. We would really like to engage you all in evolving this process and give us your ideas and desires so they can be incorporated in a document that will propose something to the management committee and then be trialled by a few of us if that is agreed.*