



AAGP
*Australian Association
of Group Psychotherapists*

*the group can achieve
more than the sum
of its parts*

AAGP LARGE GROUP 2017

A Large Group can be seen as an analogue of our society, its structure, organisation, processes and preoccupations. Its members, for the life of the group, take up the roles and positions that exist in the wider world. It is inevitably different from what is generated in smaller groups.

In the wider, more digital world, interacting with others via technology and social media has increasingly become the norm. The prospect of communicating with each other face-to-face may seem awkward, time consuming, emotionally demanding, even be avoided.

We have so many means of communication, yet the prospect of finding any common ground, understanding or means of affecting the world we live in can sometimes seem remote.

At the same time our immersion in digital connections challenges us to live our lives within a powerful social and global context.

These conundrums and contradictions are what we face. Often it is felt as a background 'noise' that resonates with more local concerns, values and personal aspirations and continues to echo within and around us.

Attending to this 'noise' is not always easy. Becoming aware of its impact and recognising how it influences the conduct of our lives and relationships is not always straightforward, may even require courage. At the same time, attending to the 'noise', taking it seriously rather than dismissing it, brings all into bas relief. This can be scintillating and empower us to engage constructively with each other as people within the contemporary world of which we are a part.

The Large Group is a structured forum where there is an opportunity for thinking, reflection and dialogue not readily available in everyday life.

Who should attend?

This Large group is open to people from all walks of life who may have an interest in exploring and articulating the harder to hear background sounds - voices, movements and emerging themes of our lives - through being and thinking with others, to begin to recognise and engage with the social and political, conscious and unconscious forces within us, our relationships, work places, communities and wider society.

The Large Group in this event will be conducted by **Teresa von Sommaruga Howard**.

*Teresa has many cultural influences in her personal and professional background. Born in England of a German refugee father and British mother, she immigrated to New Zealand as a child. She is a registered architect, systemic family therapist and has developed expertise conducting median and large groups. Teresa has applied these three disciplines: architecture, systemic practice, and group analysis in larger settings in various contexts around the world. Increasingly Teresa has focussed on the way unrecognised trauma resulting from socio-political upheaval transmitted through generations, reveals itself in the large group. She has written extensively about her work with large groups and co-authored *Design through Dialogue: A Guide for Clients and Architects* (Wiley, 2010). She is an honorary member of the Institute of Group Analysis and currently an Executive Member and Treasurer of the International Association for Group Psychotherapy and Group Processes (IAGP) and co-editor of the journal *Forum*.*

Please note that learning from this event will be experientially-derived and participants will be expected to commit to attend the whole event.



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PROGRAM DETAILS for AAGP LARGE GROUP EVENT 2017

WHERE: **LEVEL 4, CAMERAYGAL BUILDING, The North Sydney Institute, St Leonards,**
213 Pacific Hwy (cnr Westbourne St) St Leonards (Gore Hill).
<http://www.nsi.tafensw.edu.au/campus/StLeonards/Default.aspx>

WHEN: **Please note registration assumes attendance at whole Event**

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|--------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| <u>Friday June 23</u> | 18.30 - 19.30 | Registration, Supper, Introduction. |
| | 19.30 - 21.00 | Large Group Session 1 |
| <u>Saturday June 24</u> | 09.00 - 10.30 | Large Group Session 2 |
| | 11.00 - 12.30 | Large Group Session 3 |
| | 13.30 - 15.00 | Large Group Session 4 |
| | 15.30 - 17.00 | Large Group Session 5 |
| <u>Sunday June 25</u> | 09.00 - 10.30 | Large group Session 6 |
| | 11.00 - 12.30 | Large Group Session 7 |

DIRECTIONS: **Public Transport recommended.** Use Tripview App (free) and find Trains to St Leonards and walk 15-20 mins thru RNS Hospital &/or Buses on Pacific Hwy to Westbourne St, Gore Hill.

Parking: On campus Fri evening (by arrangement – advise as below) and Sat - enter from Westbourne St. Metered Parking on Westbourne St also available.

ACCOMMODATION: There are several nearby options. Negotiated rate before May 26 with: Best Western Twin Towers, 260 Pacific Hwy, Artarmon. 02 9439 1388
<http://www.bestwestern.com.au/sydney/hotels/best-western-twin-towers-inn/>
Negotiated rate \$155(w breakfast) single/\$175 twin share. Quote "AAGP rate" on booking.

COST: **\$280.00 Early Bird before May 26,** AAGP Members and Associates
\$320.00 After May 26, 2017
(GST free; includes Fri supper, Sat lunch and refreshments, Sun refreshments)
All Registrations before Friday June 16, 2017

REGISTER: **Registration assumes attendance at whole event**

By Cheque – send with name/contact/parking details to
AAGP, PO Box 4275, Castlecrag, NSW 2068

OR

By E-Transfer to AAGP, BSB 063-165, Ac 01013 6603

Use Code: "(Surname) LG2017" and confirm to angle46@bigpond.com

Receipts and CPD Certificates will be available Friday evening

Please advise if you require on-campus parking Friday evening

ENQUIRIES: Antony Gleeson angle46@bigpond.com

WEBSITE: www.groupanalysis.com.au