

# RLP news



... keeping track of our stories, meetings, inspirations and more

An Occasional Newsletter

Issue 2: January 2007

## Convergence no. 1: summary

### Day 1: hello!

- \*Lunch at Pillars
- \*Tour/talk about the Pillars of Hercules organic market garden and cafe
- \*Walk through the estate stopping at key sites to highlight stewardship dilemmas and share current questions
- \*[Themes from walk]
- \*[Indicators introduction]
- \*[Mapping activity]
- \*Shared meal, live local music

### Day 2: listening and learning

- \*Checkin + Community building fun activity
- \*Experiences of learning
- \*Ways of Learning
- \*Listening
- \*Principles for great learning
- \*Poems (around reflection and learning)
- \*Action Inquiry
- \*Recap of theoretical framing
- \*Role-play on involving young people
- \*Shared meal, poems, stories, games

### Day 3: what are we going to do next and how do we record it?

- \*Checkin linked to Principles
- \*Outline of a community development framework to help contextualise the programme.
- \*Critical friends / peer support on action steps of each participant around their question(s)
- \*Introduction to participatory monitoring and evaluation through stories and identifying indicators and scoring the 3 days.
- \*Invitation to give written feedback on the 3 days.
- \*Lunch and clean-up



A rainy walk post-Pillars lunch



A rainy walk post-Pillars lunch



Our own indicators of success



## Offers and Requests for sessions

### OFFERS

- \* Guided visualisation and meditative imagery (Ian)
- \* Astrological understandings (Ian)
- \* Visit and guided walk around Falkland estate (George)
- \* Visit to Sugar Acre community garden, Falkland (George)
- \* The threeway shape – imagine it drawn here (Brian)

### REQUESTS

- \* How to break barriers and to go over 'pre-set' situations through images.
- \* Consultation with young people, how they feel about living here, problems, issues etc.
- \* A session on stewardship.
- \* Discussion forum – longer and earlier.
- \* More walking journeys.
- \* Conscious consideration of age, culture, other factors and POWER in our communities, in our heads, in our language (and in our/this group).
- \* Greater cohesion and unity of the group.
- \* Continuity of commitment from me, group, individual.

## People News

**Arrivals:** Catherine Wright will be joining the East Fife cluster, and Sarah Peters, COTE animator for Douglas, is able to join us as a member of the Southern Uplands cluster.

**Departures:** Jude Aspar, Bob Holmes & Fran Thompson will be all be moving on to pastures new before the next (Feb'07) RLP convergence. We wish Jude, Bob and Fran the best of luck for the future.

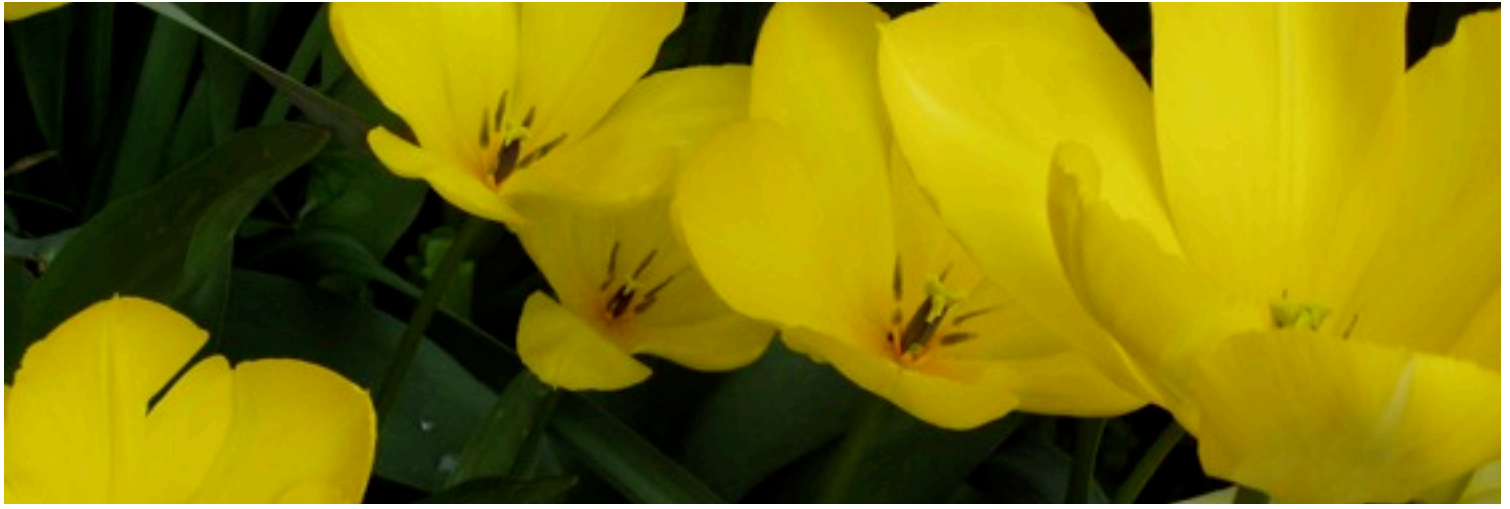
## Principles of Great Learning

- \* Openness to new ways of doing things
- \* Clarity
- \* Practical application
- \* Enjoy what you do and you'll learn more
- \* Working with respect, compassion, trust and understanding for each other
- \* With a practical purpose applicable to us / what we represent / work we do
- \* Not getting too bogged down with jargon
- \* Awareness
- \* Be honest in all transactions
- \* Before you try to meet the needs of others, you must attend to your own
- \* Lets make it real
- \* Pacing
- \* What is meaningful (worth? value?) for us – individually / collectively?
- \* Community and continuing education

## Qualities of an ideal programme

- \* Takeawayable
- \* Honesty
- \* Substantive
- \* Continuing space for the encouraging and support of personal development and journey
- \* Clear vision
- \* Commitment
- \* Staying with struggle
- \* Integrity and trust (integrity of individuals in the group; trust in the container)
- \* Positive energy/fire
- \* Right pace





# The way forward...workshop no.2

*Each workshop will be based around a main 'theme' day on the Thursday: no.2 will be 'Leadership'.. and we suggest following up with 'Stewardship and Power'; 'Field visit to the Southern Uplands' and 'Celebration, Synthesis and Next Steps'. The Action Research CPD programme also kicks off with workshop no.2.*

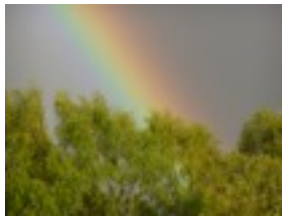
### Workshop 2 Day 1



### Workshop 2 Day 2



### Workshop 2 Day 3



### Action Research CPD



### Big Tent 2007: big opportunity



12.00	Lunch at pillars
1.00	Walk back to stables
2.00	Reconnecting
3.00	Art of questioning
4.00	Tea & cake
4.30	Critical friends/peer mentoring in cluster groups
6.00	End – prepare meal
8.00	Film with decoding

9.30	Revisiting and deepening action inquiry
10.00	Leadership – creative expression
11.00	Tea break
11.15	Leadership – dialogue
12.30	Lunch plus walk
2.00	Leadership – mapping
4.00	Tea & cake
4.30	Leadership – action
6.00	End – prepare meal

9.30	Recording the journey
11.00	Tea break
11.15	Monitoring and evaluating the journey
12.15	Preparation for next convergence and closing
12.30	Lunch
1.30	Tidy up
2.00	Walk (optional)

**Want to engage more deeply with the theory and practice that underlies this programme?**

Now is your chance to sign up to the Action Research CPD qualification accredited by the University of Strathclyde. See <http://www.nickwilding.com/arcpd.htm>

#### To apply

You need to write a letter explaining why you want to take this option, and bring it to convergence no. 2.

**The RLP sister project, The Big Tent Festival, will be from 15-17th June 2007.**

It would be a fantastic way to reach a large number of people by showcasing RLP projects, ideas, outcomes...

We will talk about this during convergence number 2; this column is to plant a seed to see if there is something creative you would like to offer for one of the many tents... from music to yurts to talks to a stand...the Cfs crew will explain more in February...