**AAGP**
*Australian Association
of Group Psychotherapists*

**AAGP SYDNEY MEETING 2017**

# HATE AND LOVE IN GROUPS AND GROUPWORK

## PROGRAM

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|---|---|
| 8.30 - 8.50 | Registration |
| 8.50 - 9.00 | Introduction |
| 9.00 - 9.45 | ***Thinking through a Mothers' Group in Prison: What is Love?*** |
| | Andrea Bloom |
| 9.45 – 10.15 | Morning Tea |
| 10.15 - 11.00 | ***Does focus on emotion and intimacy lead to better outcomes in group therapy?*** |
| | Henry Luiker |
| 11.15 - 12.30 | ***Fear and Loathing in Sydney: Experiences of love, hate and reparation in groups and psychotherapy.*** |
| | Tim Johnson-Newell |
| 12.30 - 13.30 | Lunch |
| 13.15 - 14.30 | ***Group Reflection on the Theme*** |

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**WHEN**　　　　**Saturday 25 March 2017**

**VENUE:**　　　**North Sydney Community Centre, 220 Miller St, North Sydney**
Located in park behind the North Sydney Council Chambers, corner Miller and McLaren Sts North Sydney.
Parking: enter via Kelrose Lane, off McLaren St or street parking.

**COST:**　　　　**$80** (GST free) including lunch and refreshments.
Note - Catering will be substantially vegetarian.

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**REGISTRATION**　　　　**(by Mon 20 March)**

NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____ PHONE: _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:
* 　　**Send Form and Cheque** to AAGP, PO Box 1748, Crows Nest, NSW 1585　　OR
* 　　**E-transfer** to AAGP, BSB 063-165, Ac 01013 6603 using code:
　　　　**(Surname) SYD 17** and email registration to angle46@bigpond.com
　　　　*Receipts and PD Certificates available on the day.*

# AAGP SYDNEY MEETING 2017

## Notes on the Theme, Structure, Content and Presenters

**The Conference theme** reflects the evident burgeoning of all manner of antipathies and sympathies in the political/psychosocial domain. It also mirrors the title of Jurgen Reeder's book *Hate and Love in Psychoanalytical Institutions* (Other Press, NY, 2004) in which he explores the navigation between idealization (love) and denigration (hate) that may be seen to permeate most human experience in relationship (intimate and therapeutic), groups and organizations.

**The Conference Structure** allows for breaks in between each presentation and reserves in-depth discussion, comment and reflection for the Reflections Group

**Ms Andrea Bloom** *is a Sydney-based Art Therapist and manager of PIFA (Parent Infant Family Australia) which is now a project of Jesuit Social Services. She also runs a private practice.*

Her presentation describes experiences gained during the co-facilitation of a long-standing weekly mothers/play group at Emu Plains Corrective Services Jacaranda Facility which houses mothers together with their children (0-5 years of age). The presentation aims to stimulate layers of thinking in the conference on the theme of Love and Hate in Groups from a macro (societal) level through to the intimate mother-infant relationship with the aim of promoting a group discussion that will resonate with the experience of others.

**Dr Henry Luiker** *is a clinical psychologist in Sydney whose current interest is the study of magical thinking and primitive emotionally-charged enactment in ostensibly secular, modern, civilized groups and societies.*

His presentation reviews outcome research on the effectiveness of group therapy, highlighting links between work on emotion and intimacy (i.e. love and hate) in the here and now of the group, and therapeutic outcomes.

**Mr Tim Johnson-Newell** *is a Sydney-based psychotherapist and consultant, member of AAGP and a past-president of PACFA. He has studied and worked as a management accountant, teacher and heavy goods vehicle mechanic. Currently a PhD candidate researching psychotherapy as profession, he has a professional and personal interest in and curiosity about emotionally difficult and challenging situations.*

Experiences of both love and hate are never easy: often unwelcome and inappropriate, or so it seems; their arrival a shock, in itself enough to deal with; always begging the question if it is safe or useful to reveal these feelings, now or ever. Tim's paper explores experiences of love and hate and their transformative power to connect, to understand the world and a life but most importantly to bring energy, intimacy and aliveness to situations that otherwise would be simply useful and comforting, affirming of what, safely and reassuringly, people and things seem to be.