



# The McKergow Quarterly

News from Mark McKergow and the Centre for Solutions Focus at Work

ISSUE 7 | Spring 2013

## The first SF research conference: 19-20 September, UK

**SF gets serious in the academic world – come and join us**

The world's first academic research conference is happening in the UK in September! SFCT, in association with the University of Hertfordshire, presents **Orienting Solutions 2013**.

SF work has been seen in the past as a neat practical twist for working with clients. This conference is about setting SF work in a wider landscape of ideas, to show this simple practice in a richer and more compelling light. The event is a co-production between the departments of philosophy and nursing/social work at UH and SFCT.

A great array of SF pioneers and researchers is already confirmed. Alasdair Macdonald, Gale Miller, Janet Bavelas, Rayya Ghul are all confirmed, along with leading philosophers including Dan Hutto and Daniele Moyal-Sharrock.

We are seeking abstracts by **June 15**. Please contact Mark directly to discuss what you would like to present, and how you can join in.

The event will be held on 19-20 September at the de Havilland Campus of the University of Hertfordshire. Early Bird rates are available until 20 July, and there

are discounts for both SFCT members and students.



Visit the conference website for full details, abstract submission and booking.

<http://www.asfct.org/research.php>

## London event: Peter Röhrig on using SF Activities



We are delighted to be welcoming Dr Peter Röhrig to London on Monday 1 July 2013. Peter is well-known in SF circles as an expert on using SF activities with groups and in trainings. He is the author of the biggest collection of such activities, **57 SF Activities for Facilitators and Consultants**, with Jenny Clarke.

## Where's Mark?

**Upcoming events around the world featuring Mark McKergow and members of the sfwork team**

### ■ SOLWorld 2013 conference

Bad Pyrmont, Germany 13-15 May 2013

The twelfth international conference sharing and building SF practice in organisations.

[More...](#)

### ■ London Bateson Salon

London, 22 May 2013

Nora Bateson and Mark will be leading a session on Mind – in Trafalgar Square.

Booking at

<http://norabateson.eventbrite.com>

### ■ J-SOL 6

Tokyo, Japan, 22-23 June 2013

The sixth Japanese conference on SF in organisations. [More...](#)

### ■ SFCT UK day - Peter Röhrig

London, UK: 1 July 2013

Peter leads a session on using SF activities.

Open to all, [Click here for full details and booking](#)

### ■ SFCT Research conference

Hatfield, UK, 19-20 September 2013

The first academic SF conference – research, theory, practice. Not to be missed! [More....](#)

### ■ Online SF Business Professional

Online: Starts 6 October 2013

[Click here for full details and booking](#)

# The McKergow Quarterly



Peter is coming to London for our next SFCT continuing professional development day on Monday 1 July. The session is open to all, and will run from 12 noon – 6pm. There will also be time for our usual 'emergent agenda' on the day, so everyone is welcome to bring their challenges and questions for discussion with an experienced group of colleagues.

Full details and booking at <http://sfct-uk.eventbrite.com>. SFCT members attend free (and still need to book!).

## Accelerated Learning – a huge success

Our course in Accelerated Learning and SF for trainers in April was a great success. A group of experienced trainers and facilitators gathered in some unseasonably warm weather at Missenden Abbey for three packed days of learning, practice and training design.

Participants came from as far away as Saudi Arabia, Japan and Bulgaria to join, and left with a

great mass of new ideas and actions to enhance their training work.



Comments after the course included:

*"..an unforgettable and extremely worthwhile course – bravo"*

*"I knew it was going to be good and useful but I never imagined it was going to be so transforming"*

*"The course has also given me much more confidence in the specialness of being a trainer - it's not rocket science, it's much more subtle and fascinating than that."*

We're going to make this an annual fixture from now on – the material and the way it's put together are much too good to be hidden away.

## Transform your SF skills with Mark: next online course starts 6 October 2013

Our next SF Professional course with University of Wisconsin Milwaukee is starting on 24 February 2013. The course is 16 weeks packed with interaction, reading, exercises, coaching practice, project work, tools, ideas and everything you could wish to know about SF work in organisational settings.

The course has many advantages for people seeking a top-class training in SF for organisational settings like coaching, team development, OD and change management:

- Builds from the basic SF tools into more advanced applications
- Work on Skype to coach international partners
- Real-life exercises mean you're working on your own challenges right from the start
- Your final project can count towards professional recognition with SFCT
- Mark works with you throughout the process – commenting, encouraging, expanding on the learning
- Gather a great circle of international friends and colleagues
- Become an SF leader for your own organisation!

*"The impact with clients who I have in the past experienced some sense of "stuckness" has been amazing. I have seen a rise in energy and commitment by the client to take action."*

UWM have produced a great new two-page flyer – [click below](#) to download and share the PDF.

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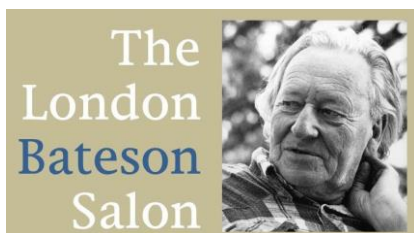


You

You don't need to have SF experience to enjoy and benefit from this course, which can also lead to full membership of SFCT ([www.asfct.org](http://www.asfct.org)). Places are limited and are already going – sign up in advance for the early bird discount and save \$300.

[Click here](#) for more details on the sfwork website.

## London Bateson Salon in Trafalgar Square – Wednesday 22 May



Nora Bateson is back with us towards the end of May for the next London Bateson Salon event. We're looking at Bateson's concept of Mind – in Trafalgar Square!

Only two tickets as I write.

<http://norabateson.eventbrite.com> for more information and booking.

For more notice of future meetings join either the [Facebook group](#) or the [Linkedin group](#) for updates as they happen.

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