



To: All Members of the Academy of Professional Dialogue
From: Peter Garrett, Chair of the Board of Trustees

I am pleased to invite your contribution to the three main events in the Academy's 2022 calendar

Members Meeting: *THE ACADEMY AS STORY*

Members only, two-part consideration – no charge

- **What are we trying to do?** Deepening the vision, purpose and direction of the Academy
Tuesday, 26th July'22 (2 to 6pm UK time)
- **How are we going to do it?** Planning the delivery over the next year or two
Monday, 1st August'22 (2 to 6pm UK time)

This is the time and place to bring your story of the Academy, why you joined, your experiences in the Academy, and your understanding of the best way forward for the Academy. I encourage you to come to be heard and to listen to others' perspectives.

Annual conference, *The World Needs Dialogue! 5: DIALOGUE AS STORY*

Open to all Members and the public, our three-day annual conference - See website for fees

- **Learn about the theory, how to improve your practice and have the live experience together of Dialogue as Story**

Three half-days online: 1st to 3rd Nov'22 (Tues, Wed & Thurs, 2 to 6pm UK time)

As a Member of the Academy, you are invited to provide participants with a live experience of Dialogue by co-facilitating an experiential session in whatever way you believe would be most generative. Please send me the title for your proposed session, the name of the co-facilitators and a brief outline of what you would like to do (250 words maximum). The sessions will be for between 15 and 25 participants and last for around 90 mins. To acknowledge your contribution, if you do facilitate a Dialogue on one of the three days of the conference, you and your co-facilitator will be entitled to a third reduction in the conference fees

DIALOGUE AS STORY

Dialogue is experienced and described in different ways: Dialogue as communication skills; life-long practice; unique mode or unfolding process. During the Academy's fifth international conference we will be considering and experiencing **Dialogue as Story**. We do not mean the tradition of storytelling, which would essentially lead us into monologues. Instead, we are thinking of Dialogue as being Story. We may hardly notice our everyday activity of creating stories to make sense of what happened. We combine new information and experiences with what we have thought and felt in the past. This forms our identity and affects how we think about the future. When other people hold stories that contradict our own, we are faced with a communication challenge and the experience of fragmentation. Dialogue is the art of incorporating many disparate stories into a common story where everyone is playing a meaningful part.

The Annual General Meeting: *GOVERNANCE OF THE ACADEMY*

Open to Voting Members (who have a formal role) and to all Members – no charge

- **The formal meeting:** This is when the Chairman provides an Annual Report of the progress of the Academy, the Annual Accounts are approved, and the Trustees resign and are elected.
Tuesday, 15th Nov'22 (3 to 5pm UK time)

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