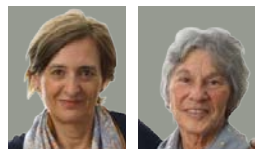


Step up! This moment cannot be what it is without you



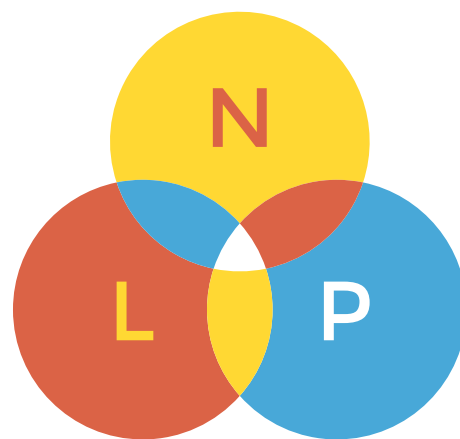
Invitations to the party

So we are really looking forward to meeting you in May '19 and spending what we hope will be an inspiring, magical, practical day together, clarifying and advancing multiple projects, large and small, networking, sharing tools and



Judith and Judith

Judith DeLozier is a key co-developer of NLP from the early Santa Cruz days and her many contributions are woven deep into the fabric of the field. Her background in religious studies, anthropology, health and dance, her love of nature and animals, her humour,



The Passion in Action project is a new seminar arising from one of those interesting challenges.



► they are descriptions, which encompass different areas of human experience. As Robert and I might say, first the cognitive mind, then the somatic and relational minds. Each adding to, enriching and filling in aspects of each other. I think this came about quite a bit by focusing on different areas like beliefs, identity, mission and vision. So the “neurological levels” model (Robert Dilts) was a fabulous way to guide our attention to different spaces for development.

‘The bigger picture is that we are all members of a larger community and like all communities manifest many differences.

‘However, I think we all want to make a difference to something through the tools, techniques and models of NLP. Differences to ourselves as individuals, to our families, businesses and communities.

‘I remember in conversation with John Grinder we would say that a leader needs three levels of congruence: one with the self, one with the vision and one for where the vision will live. In what context? There needs to be a congruence with the community where the vision will be realised. For myself, and I think for Judith as well, we realised that bringing together the people with passion and desire, the people with projects and the people with need would create a very rich and generative association.

‘So some of the exploration focuses on areas of belief, identity, mission and vision. We have a metaphor of finding your “true north” like a compass needle being drawn to the contexts in life that



The issue for most of us is to identify, access, mobilise, enrich and strengthen our resources

most appeal to someone in a natural way. It’s a great and simple way of finding direction and alignment. We also have a process called “Gathering the allies” that for some people is quite life changing and full of surprises. And so we’re looking to supply tools from all the “generations” – the cognitive, somatic and relational – to support the creative ideas that can flow from there.’

Touching the world with love and grace

JL: ‘Judy’s dad, then in his nineties, once sent us a good luck message for this project for people to “touch the world with love and grace”. We are also both inspired by this piece by Gregory Bateson in *Steps to an ecology of mind*:

Aldous Huxley used to say that the central problem for humanity is the quest for grace... he explained the word in his own terms... He argued... that the communication and behaviour of animals has a naiveté, a simplicity, which man has lost. Man’s behaviour is corrupted by deceit – even self deceit, by purpose and by self consciousness.

The problem of grace is fundamentally a problem of integration. And what is to

be integrated is the diverse parts of the mind – especially those multiple levels of which one extreme is called “consciousness” and the other the “unconscious”.

For the attainment of grace, the reasons of the heart must be integrated with the reasons of the reason.

‘Judith DeLozier and John Grinder’s wonderful, completely unique book *Turtles All the Way Down: Prerequisites for Personal Genius* is a kind of love song to Gregory Bateson. In it they explore many of Bateson’s ideas as their inspiration for the new NLP patterns they produced in the ‘80s. It’s where the ideas of “New Code NLP” originate as possible answers to the questions of what types of changes in living systems – and in living communities – possess a kind of wisdom.

‘The premise of the workshops on which *Turtles* is based is that NLP as a field, as developed in a western, more individualistic and technological society, has a tendency to drift, in its practice, to the cognitive and to the conscious, and to metaphors of control. Drawing on poetry, dance, music, dreams and amazing activities like crossing over the Golden Gate Bridge in an altered state, key ideas from Bateson about grace, wisdom and change in living systems get explored in practical ways.

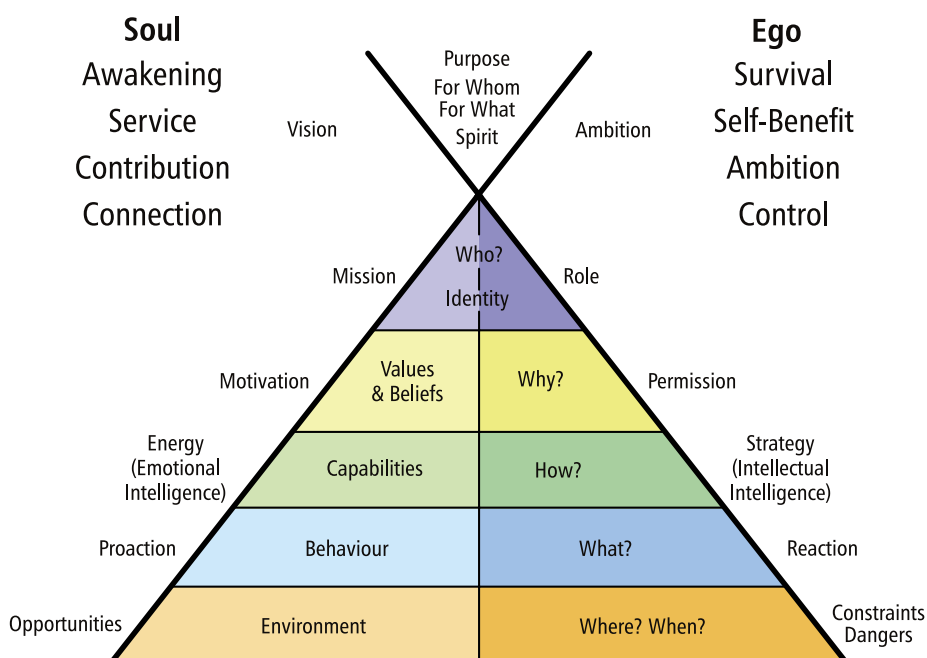
‘In Bateson’s piece he is talking about art and culture and how the art of some cultures is too conscious and that of other cultures too unconscious. We’re talking about personal and social changes and asking similar questions.

‘Can our touch have wisdom and grace? Does it heal or harm? Are the reasons of the heart being integrated with the reason of the reason?’

Look around the room!

We met Judith Lowe’s friend from Texas – Neva, a community activist who had been rallying local help for the Hurricane Katrina survivors and who memorably said, ‘You can’t lend a helping hand with one arm tied behind your ass!’

We modelled some of our students from PPD Learning. Glenda was running an amazing after-school music programme for black youth; John was a churchwarden of an 11th century church and was removing the Victorian pews to make the space of worship more wheelchair-accessible and child-friendly; Simon had recently completed a sponsored ride to raise money to protect gorilla habitats.



The programme really started to come alive – taking their passion, their heartfelt values and bringing them into the world in some kind of action, making a difference from the heart.

For many people this process brings the rich qualities of their values and their vision more deeply into their everyday lives. Your 'project' is yourself and your life.

The second time we ran a 'Passion'-type programme in the UK we were joined by a special guest and friend of Judy's, Rev Patricia Novick, who had marched with Dr. Martin Luther King in the 1960s and who now works as a pastor in a big southside Chicago congregation, near where the Obamas used to live!

She was a great source of inspiration to the group, especially as she shared her living mission to continue with Dr. King's work and vision. It was pretty amazing to be only one person away from one of the great world figures in modern history. At the practical level though she is extremely gifted at getting stuff done – very proactive and persistent. One of the interesting characteristics of her work is what she calls the 'replicability'



**Can our touch have wisdom and grace?
Does it heal or harm?**

of her projects. She gave as an example a workshop she had created aimed at supporting health and self-care for nurses. This project includes art and prayer, movement, breathing and water. Someone from the group then took this self-care project into a London drama school to help the students manage the ups and downs of an acting career.

David and Earl were raising money for an orphanage in Botswana. We drew out the supportive and collaborative way they were working together. We were delighted to be guests of honour, albeit not in our ballgowns, at a black-tie evening the following year, as they raised further funds and celebrated their achievements.

John had been commissioned in his role in the corporate world to find a way to recruit and create jobs in his sector for people with certain types of neuro-atypical conditions. His project was then picked up by an HR manager in the group and another manager in a global energy company and then replicated in their organisations. Someone else just 'stole' a key belief from him about having a go at something even though you don't know what you're doing yet, making a start on something outside your current knowledge and learning as you go. For her, that belief was the difference that made a difference!

Sara helped an elderly stroke victim recover communication and joie de vivre; Paul organised an eco approach to cycling provision in his borough; Rix brings chi gung into mental health wards for patients and nurses together. Rachel

co-authored a children's book on climate change. A group of women from Poland started their own political party!

One evening at a special edition practice group I asked a group of incredible young teachers from an East End primary school to tell us something about their work in a busy, multicultural school from a deprived community. Their belief in what was possible, their certainty about the potential in children to learn and grow, was contagious. Everyone at the group took something wonderful home with them from that session.

Over the years we have met and formally live-modelled some amazing people.

May 17 2019 – It's happening

So we are now in development mode, thinking about how best we can serve the NLP International Conference in May '19 and the unique, amazing NLP people who will join us on the day.

Here are three things we know so far:

- Everyone is super welcome and already full of great ideas and resources.
- Houston, we have the technology.
- It's time for all of us to step up our practice.

Also we'd love to hear from you.

If you have stories, comments, questions, jokes, role models, songs, miracles, arguments, visions, book recommendations, videos, dances, photos of cute animals etc., please send them to us in this dream time to weave into the day next year.

What will make the day so special is you. Come as you are, it's more than enough to get us all started. ●



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