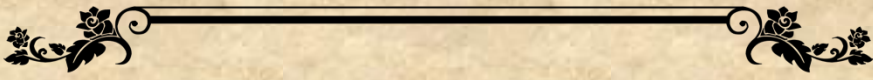




VILLAGE WAYS



Saturday 29th & Sunday 30th July 2023

“It takes a village to raise a child”

*Dusty Hill Vineyard
Moffatdale
QLD*

Proudly brought to you by Milford Lodge
Phone (07) 54456228 E milfordlodge@bigpond.com

About Village Ways...

After travelling large distances for inspirational Early Childhood speakers over many years, the team at Milford Lodge decided to start hosting their own professional development. We began hosting small events at Milford Lodge on the Sunshine Coast, on weeknights or Saturdays, which were all well received by our delegates. However, we still dreamt of hosting our very own full weekend conference.

After a few years of thinking and talking about what we felt would make an amazing experience for passionate Early Childhood educators, we finally hosted our very first two-day conference out at Dusty Hill Vineyard. The name of the conference eluded us for some time, when eventually we decided that "Village Ways" encompassed all the virtues we wished to portray. Village Ways is a 'boutique' conference. Many of our delegates have supported us since the inaugural event, and thus we look forward to Village Ways every year, where we all come back together to connect, share, reflect, laugh, and enjoy the company of our fellow 'villagers'. We hope you will come and join our village.

The Venue...

Hugging the shore of Lake Barambah, Dusty Hill Vineyard is situated on the edge of Moffatdale village in the heart of the South Burnett.

Created by the same family who created Milford Lodge, Dusty Hill was started in 1996 by Frank, Margaretha, Joe & Molly Prendergast, who had purchased nothing more than a cow paddock. Both Milford Lodge and Dusty Hill, dotted with heritage style cottages and chapels, resemble villages. Whilst you are coming for the inspirational speakers, the venue will undoubtedly give our delegates a two for one deal.



The Programme...

There are no electives, so the only difficult choice you will need to make will be Verdelho or Tempranillo. Our villagers enjoy the slower pace that Village Ways offers and thus our programme is designed in a way to allow delegates time to kick back.

Over the years, our night time function has also followed suit, with many delegates enjoying each other's company around the fire.

Registration Includes...

Your ticket to Village Ways includes all workshops, keynotes plus transport to and from (and entry to) the Ration Shed Museum.

It also includes morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea on both days.

Complimentary bus transport will be available to bring all delegates to the night time function on Saturday night at Prendergast's Irish Tavern, and return them at various times. This function, including mandatory samples of Dusty Hill wine, is also part of your registration. Dusty Hill is not open for breakfast, however tea, coffee and Goomeri Bakery goodies will be available for our delegates on Sunday morning if required.

Your ticket does not include accommodation or transport to and from the conference.



Profiles



Dr Shelley Davidow

Dr Shelley Davidow is a senior lecturer in the School of Education and an award-winning international author. Her 47 books, include the highly acclaimed 'Raising Stress-Proof Kids'.

She coordinates the Graduate Certificate in Steiner Education at the University of the Sunshine Coast, QLD, and is a trained facilitator in Restorative Practice as well as being a Heartmath Coach and Mentor. She has been a frequent keynote presenter at several national educational conferences.

www.shelleydavidow.com

Profiles



Michelle Reber & Belinda Reber-Elliott

Michelle has worked in the early childhood sector for many years in a variety of roles supporting services across Queensland to improve outcomes for children as a Quality Assurance Support Officer, Early Childhood Officer, Transition and Partnership Officer, Early Childhood Consultant and Trainer and Assessor. Michelle is a strong advocate for early childhood education and care and continues her passion for improved outcomes for children.

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Since graduating from university with a psychology degree, Bel has worked in the justice system in both Victoria and Queensland, the child protection system, therapeutic child residential settings and is now a Team Leader at a domestic and family violence program in Queensland, supporting women and children impacted by DFV related trauma. She has undertaken extensive further studies and professional development in trauma informed practice and is looking forward to sharing her passion for supporting those who are experiencing or have been impacted by trauma.

Profiles



Paul & Marion Hayes

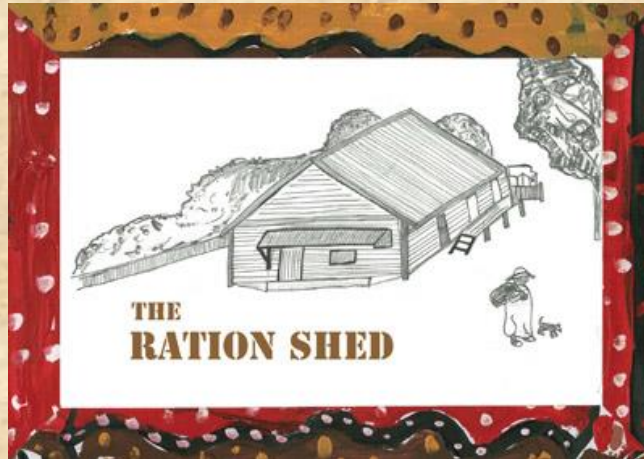
Marion and Paul Hayes began working in Early Learning Education in the late Eighties, opening their service Rainbow Valley Early Learning Centre in 1995. Throughout this time they have developed a service where children are supported on a pathway of natural learning with a focus on nature play.

We have developed a long history of inviting artists into our program to do long term projects with the children. These visits have been for many different time periods, sometimes weeks and at other times lengthy stays. The projects have been varied and have had many outcomes. We have learnt that the most important aspect is not what we create; rather, it is the relationships that are formed between the child, the artist and the materials that are being used.

We see children as rich in potential who are competent investigators, *capable learners*, protagonist in their own learning with the right to their own timeline of development.

<https://www.rainbowvalley.com.au>

Profiles



Ration Shed

Cherbourg is an Aboriginal community in South East Queensland.

It was established by Salvation Army member William Thompson in 1899.

Barambah/Cherbourg was taken over as a Government Settlement in 1904. Under the "Aboriginal Protection Act" tribes from all over Queensland and New South Wales were moved here.

On the settlement, the government administration controlled almost every aspect of Aboriginal peoples' lives; the language they spoke, what they ate, what they wore, where they went, for whom they worked and, in some cases, whom they would marry. Aboriginal people, removed to Cherbourg were either placed in dormitories or lived in camps. Large numbers of boys and girls, men and women were brought up away from families in the dormitories. Anyone breaking the strict laws were severely punished – locked up in jail or sent away to other reserves like Palm Island and Woorabinda.

Traditionally, Aboriginal people ate food they hunted and gathered from the land. They ate food like kangaroo, wallaby, porci (echidna) goanna, snake and fish as well as fruits from native trees, plant roots, seeds, berries and leaves. The government controlled every part of their lives even the food people ate. Small amounts of food were handed out from a shed.

Tea, sugar, rice, salt, sago, tapioca, split peas, porridge, flour and meat, were given out in small amounts as rations. Today that same shed has been restored and is called the Ration Shed Museum and is a standing memorial to those days.

In 1968 Aboriginal people started to gain more freedom and rations ended in Cherbourg. In 1988 Cherbourg became a Deed of Grant in Trust Community (DOGIT) and in 1991 the first independent Cherbourg Council was elected. Today Cherbourg is a vibrant community with its own culture and identity. There are approximately 2000 Aboriginal people living there.

<http://rationshed.com.au/>

Village Ways

~ Workshops ~



The Restorative Approach to
Building Healthy Family
Relationships

~ Dr Shelley Davidow ~

Drawing on her 20 years of experience as a primary and high school teacher in the USA and Australia, on her experience as a facilitator of Restorative Practice and as a researcher during her Masters with the Institute of HeartMath in California, Shelley looks at practical and empowering tools that can enable parents to sustain themselves and support their children even when the going gets tough. This workshop will focus on Restorative Practice as a lens through which we look as we approach challenging behaviour whether at home, in the classroom or on the playground. The session will involve role-play (and laughter), and everyone will leave with 'tools' that can be put to use immediately. The restorative approach offers an opportunity (not magic fairy dust) to build healthy, low-stress, non-reactive relationships.

Coming to Know Joe

~ Marion & Paul Hayes ~

Children experience and relate to the world in multiple ways. In order to understand and support each child we must understand who this child is in front of us in our programs, uncovering the story of who they are, building on their strengths, their passions and interests. On occasion children can be overwhelmed by the big feelings they are experiencing or have sensory processing issues that overrule their ability to think through social problems. We need to find ways to *support children by providing appropriate ways to calm, support their sensory needs and provide to future strategies*

This workshop will unpack the lessons we have learned in working with an Occupational therapy Lenz within our service. *Coming to know Joe* is a personal narrative that takes back to the start of our journey to understand with our own son Joe.

"This attitude of coming to know is the process of understanding without judgment."

Village Ways ~ Workshops ~



*Let's talk about trauma – facilitated
conversations*

~ Michelle Reber

& Belinda Reber-Elliot ~

All too often people's behaviour has been misunderstood. Trauma impacts children's learning and development, staff performance and child rearing practices. Through facilitated conversations, we will draw on the collective knowledge of the group to develop some practical strategies to support participants working with those impacted by trauma.

- Recognising trauma
- Responding to trauma and traumatic events/situations
- Critically reflect on assumptions and attitudes that shape our practice

Village Ways

~ Keynotes ~



Dr Shelley Davidow

Your Stressproof Life: Getting your kids (and yourselves) off the 'Stress Freeway'

This presentation demonstrates how we as the adults in our children's lives can support the healthy functioning of their autonomic nervous systems for optimum cognitive, emotional and physical functioning. The nervous system impacts the heart every second of every day, and the other way around. Everything that happens in the heart affects the brain and our physiology and importantly, the physiology of the children in our care. Emotions are powerful shifters of physiological states.

Drawing on cutting edge 'Emwave' biofeedback technology from the Institute of HeartMath in California, the practical tools gained by learning about 'high coherence', combined with the Restorative approach supports parents, teachers and caregivers to create harmonious family environments.

Michelle Reber & Belinda Reber-Elliot

Trauma informed practice – examining best practice principles in education and care

The new version of the Approved Learning Frameworks, due to be introduced in services from 1st February 2024, has an increased focus on trauma and trauma informed practice. We will look at key factors surrounding trauma to develop a deeper understanding of its impacts. We will also share strategies collected from our workshop to bolster your practice.

- Types of trauma and the impacts this can have on children and the ecology of a family
 - Common causes of trauma
 - Trauma informed principles
 - Shared strategies

Village Ways

~ Keynotes ~

Paul & Marion Hayes

“Holding space”: Working with Artists in Early
Childhood Settings

Learning to see through the eyes of an artist has enabled the educators and children at our service to deepen our own pedagogy of observing. We have learned to slow down, form relationships, value the artist’s process, to really understand what it is to play with materials to understand their properties, to dream, vision, experiment, research and to embrace the concept of uncertainty.

This keynote will dip into various projects over the years that have influenced our practice with children. Highlighting the concept of holding space, requiring, mindfulness, playfulness, experimentation, and joy.



Village Ways

~ Programmer ~

SATURDAY 29 th JULY: WORKSHOPS	
8:00am	Registration
8.45am	Welcome
9.00am	GROUP A: Ration Shed (via Pursers Coaches)
	GROUP B: <i>Michelle Reber & Belinda Reber-Elliot*</i>
10.15am	Morning Tea & Networking
10.45am	GROUP A: Ration Shed continued
	GROUP B: <i>Reflections on Building Cultural Capability*</i>
12.00pm	Lunch & Networking
12.45pm	Dr Shelley Davidow: <i>The Restorative Approach to Building Healthy Relationships</i>
2.00pm	Afternoon Tea & Networking
2.30pm	Marion & Paul Hayes: <i>Coming to know Joe</i>
3.45pm	Discussion & Reflection

SATURDAY NIGHT: Network Dinner

The network dinner is part of your conference ticket and includes food, complimentary wine and live music.

Prendergasts Irish Tavern has a full bar for those wanting to purchase other drinks.

A courtesy shuttle is available, if required, to bring you to and from the dinner.

The shuttle will collect delegates from 5.30pm, and return until 10.30pm.

Your accommodation destination can be shared with us on the booking form, should you wish to take advantage of the complimentary shuttle.

SUNDAY 30 th JULY: KEYNOTE ADDRESS	
8.00am	Tea & coffee, Goomeri Bakery Treats available at Dusty Hill
8.30am	Marion & Paul Hayes: <i>Holding Space: Working with Artists...</i>
10.00am	Morning Tea / Play Time with BRACAS Timber
10.30am	Michelle Reber & Belinda Reber-Elliot: <i>TBC</i>
12.00pm	Lunch / Play Time with BRACAS Timber
1.00pm	Dr Shelley Davidow: <i>Your Stress proof Life</i>
2.30pm	Competition Time!
3.00pm	Close

Getting There & Away

Dusty Hill is on Waterview Drive, off Murgon – Barambah Road, from the Bunya Highway.
Closest Towns are Murgon (10min), Goomeri (15min), and Nanango (20min).

Drive Times:

Brisbane – 3 hours
Sunshine Coast – 2 hours
Gold Coast - 3½ -4hours
Hervey Bay – 2 hours
Bundaberg - 2½ -3 hours
Maryborough - 1½ hours
Gympie – 1 hour

Airports:

Brisbane
– 3 hours

Sunshine Coast – 2 hours
Hervey Bay

– 2 hours

Accommodation Options

Dusty Hill Vineyard

Phone (07)41684700 www.dustyhill.com.au

Moffatdale & Surrounds

Yallakool Tourist Park

Phone (07)41684746 www.yallakoolpark.com.au

Barambah Bush Caravan Park

Phone (07)41681085 www.barambahbush.com.au

Clovelly Estate

Phone (07)38763100 www.clovely.com.au

Also try Lusso Retreats, Bridgeman Downs BnB, Hidden Gold Homestead, Waterview House...

Goomeri

Joe's Grand Hotel

Phone (07)41684171 www.joesgrandhotel.com.au

Goomeri Motel

Phone (07)41684141 www.goomerimotel.com.au

Murgon

Murgon City Motor Inn

Phone (07)41681400 www.murgoncitymotorinn.com.au

The Australian Hotel Murgon

Phone (07)41681095 www.australianhotelmurgon.com.au

*Other accommodation options are available in Wondai & Nanango
If you require assistance with finding accommodation, please contact the Dusty Hill team ☺*



VILLAGE WAYS



Ready for a fabulous weekend?

Booking Tickets

Our tickets are extremely easy to book and are also very reasonably priced!

Standard Rate: \$600.00pp +GST

All you need to do is email us at milfordlodge@bigpond.com with the following:

Contact Name for Booking	
Contact Email for Booking	
Contact Phone for Booking	
Invoice to:	
Address for Invoice	

Delegate Name	Delegate Email	Dietary Requirements

Will you require the courtesy shuttle to and from the Saturday Night Function? Yes / No
 If yes, please note your accommodation: _____

