



## Leader to Leader: September 2023 – February 2024

(15<sup>th</sup> Sept, 13<sup>th</sup> Oct, 17<sup>th</sup> Nov, 15<sup>th</sup> Dec, 19<sup>th</sup> Jan, 16<sup>th</sup> Feb – from 12pm to 2pm)

This is a unique opportunity to be in a longitudinal learning conversation with fellow leaders over a period of 6 months, amongst all the challenges that this extraordinary period in our history is presenting to us.



We began this format in 2020 and it has been very fruitful and beneficial for all who have participated so far:

*“a lifeline”,*

*“a refreshing space”*

*“to keep a clear perspective”*

Since the outbreak of the pandemic, we have seen tumultuous wave upon tumultuous wave of unanticipated events.

'The world is not the same' a statement made by one of our Fellows finds its significance in the questions we are asking our-selves as leaders at this time.

As Rainer Rilke says,

*“I want to beg you, as much as I can, to be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and to try to love the questions themselves – like locked rooms and like books that are written in a very foreign tongue. Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given to you because you would not be able to live them. The point is, to live everything. Live the questions now.*

*Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer.”*

Wisdom does not come from relying on old, familiar information. Nor does it come from rapid problem solving and decision-making. Instead, wisdom often unfolds from intentionally sitting with our questions.



## Leader to Leader: September 2023 – February 2024

In this next series, we invite you into the question of 'what does it truly mean to act your age?' - a concept from the work of Joanna Macey, which assumes we all have a buried wisdom within us that is absolutely and particularly necessary for the times that we are in. But do we choose to enact it or does it lie dormant within us? It is often the case that, when we have the courage to trust and speak this out with others, we begin to realise that we are not alone – that there is a shared wisdom that we are all being invited to step into.

Our last series focused on questions life is posing us, this series invites us to step into questions that lie within – what it really means for each of us to 'act our age' as leaders at this time in history.

The series will follow a similar process to the last one – to consciously inhabit these transformational questions and to share our learning of the experience of doing that, with all its ups and downs, joys and frustrations. However, it will be 'primed' by this more radical process of enquiry, that will have us see, choose and face into what we are really being called to in these times.

It is a forum in which we openly share and honestly examine our own responses as leaders to events and experiences as they unfold over time, allowing us each to benefit from the longer term wisdom that emerges as we track our true trajectory through events, rather than being swayed by more immediate peaks and troughs.

We are also planning to run a longer Conversation next year on the theme of 'regenerative leadership' and we hope this series will have the potential to feed powerfully into that.