



PPA **GSP**



8th International Colloquium on Dialogical Practice & Dialogical Philosophising

Philosophy in the Community

Thursday 12 to Sunday 15 September 2024

Holgate House, Grey College, Durham University, Durham, UK

FURTHER INFORMATION & PROGRAMME, UPDATED 15.8.24



Directions to Durham and Grey College, South Road, DH1 3LG

Durham is three hours by direct train from London Kings Cross station, which is just across the road from the Eurostar terminal at St Pancras station. Nearest airports are Newcastle (metro to Newcastle station and train to Durham) and Tees Valley (bus/taxi to Darlington and train to Durham). There are direct flights with Lufthansa from Frankfurt and with Eurowings from Dusseldorf to Newcastle. There are also direct flights from Amsterdam and Paris.

Grey College is located just off South Road. The postcode is DH1 3LG. From Durham Railway Station you can take a taxi from the northbound side of the station. To walk it takes about 35 minutes. [Durham \(DHM\) to Grey College, Durham University - Google Maps](#). There is a bus number 42 that departs every 30 minutes between 7.40 and 17.40 from the Railway Station to Mount Oswald. [42 - Durham Railway Station - Mount Oswald – Gateshead Central Taxis – Bus Times](#). Get off at the stop called South Road Colleges [Bus stop South Road Colleges - Google Maps](#) (NOT South College which is further away) and walk back to Grey College.

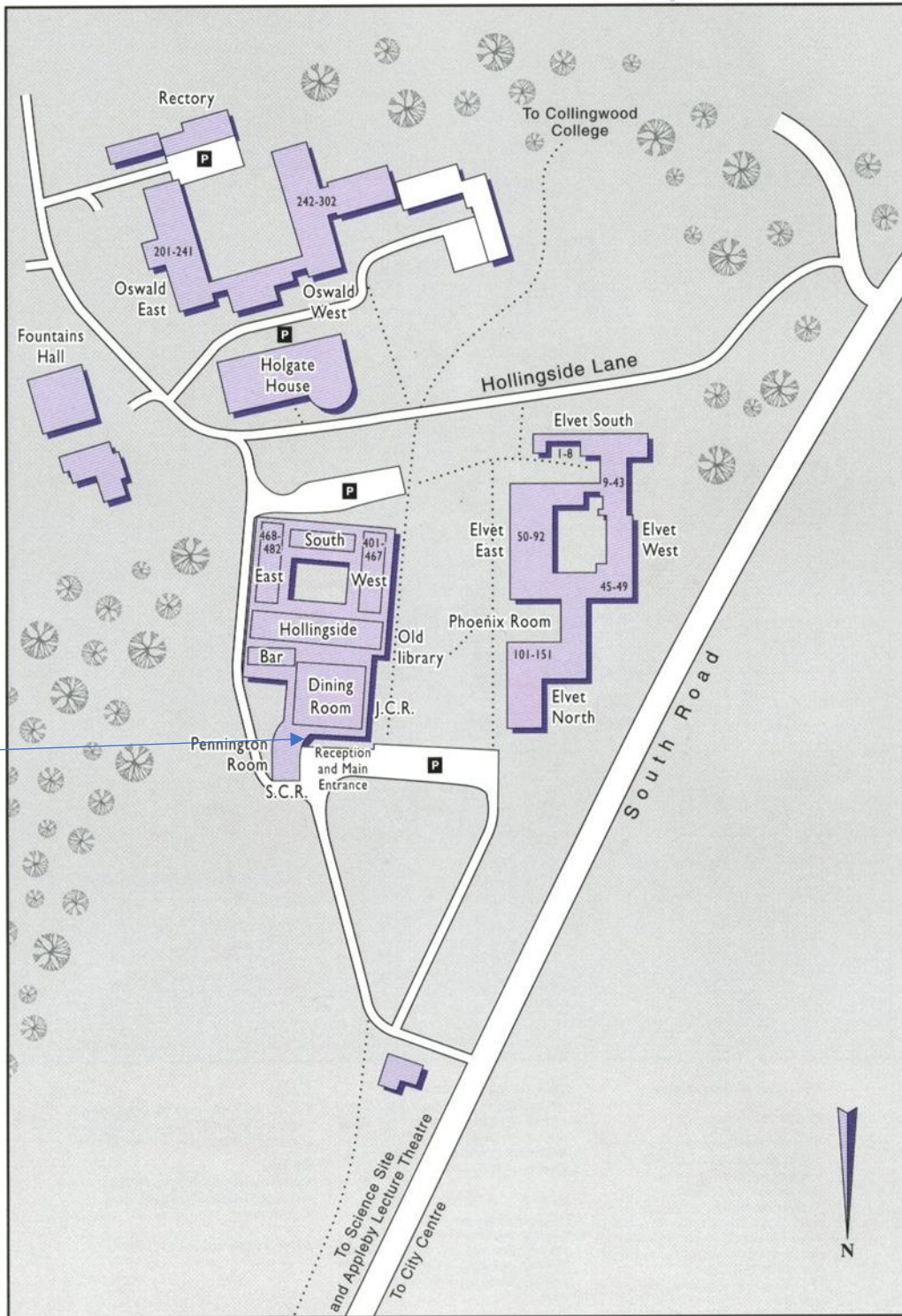
To check in please go to the front of the main college building (which faces down towards the city centre) to Reception. See map of college on p. 2. If you are driving and need to park, please request a parking permit from Reception; you will be advised where to park. The Colloquium base for plenary sessions is Holgate House.

The event starts with dinner on Thursday 12th September (check-in available from 14.00 and tea/coffee available from 16.00 in Holgate House) and ends after lunch on Sunday 15th September. If you arrive early you can leave your luggage at Reception.

If you have any questions or issues, please contact: Sarah Banks, s.j.banks@durham.ac.uk

Grey College: site plan

Bus stop



Reception

City Centre

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Welcome

The [Society for the Furtherance of Critical Philosophy](#) (SFCP, UK), [Philosophisch-Politische Akademie](#) (PPA, Germany) and [Gesellschaft für Sokratisches Philosophieren](#) (GSP, Germany) are pleased to hold our 8th International Colloquium on dialogical practice and dialogical philosophising in the historic city of Durham in the UK. The Colloquium is organised in collaboration with Durham University's [Centre for Social Justice and Community Action](#). The theme is 'Philosophy in the Community'. Further details of the theme are given overleaf.

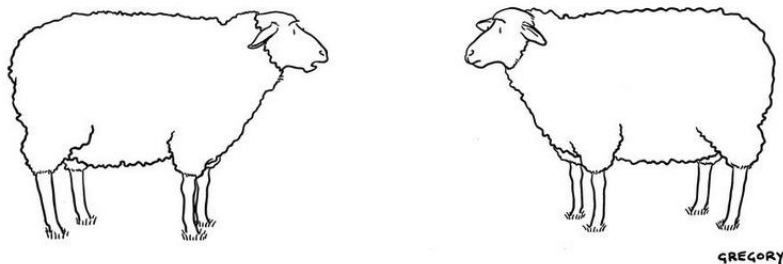
The aim of the colloquium is to create space for dialogue amongst participants, with a focus on group discussion and other collaborative activities. Participants are expected to stay for the full event and engage actively in the colloquium.

If you have any materials (books, articles, posters, leaflets) you would like to share, please bring them to Holgate House, where we will have display tables and boards.

About the theme: Philosophy in the Community

Doing philosophy outside the academy is increasingly popular – in pubs, workplaces, prisons, youth clubs, neighbourhood centres and outdoor settings. Often the aim is to engage people from a range of age groups and diverse backgrounds in collaborative, critical dialogue. 'Communities' may comprise people who live near each other, and/or people who share other common interests and identities. Questions we may address during the Colloquium include:

1. What are some of the benefits and challenges of engaging people in community philosophising?
2. How do we reach people who would not normally think of doing philosophy, and how do we facilitate groups of people from diverse economic, cultural and religious backgrounds?
3. What is the potential of dialogical philosophising for healing conflict, inspiring collective action for change and empowering groups and individuals?



"Sure, I follow the herd—not out of brainless obedience, mind you, but out of a deep and abiding respect for the concept of community."

About the colloquium

The colloquium will comprise a variety of dialogical activities, usually undertaken in small groups, which may include Socratic Dialogues, short dialogical exercises, dialogical and arts-based workshops, an outdoor dialogue, sharing methods and challenges in working with specific communities (e.g. medical professionals, business people) and poster-focused activities. There will be a free afternoon on the Saturday, with opportunities to undertake a guided walk, and/or visit Durham Cathedral, Castle, Botanic Garden, Oriental Museum, tea shops and more. The full programme and abstracts are available on the following pages.

About Durham

[Durham](#) is a small historic cathedral city with a castle and river setting. [Grey College](#) is about 20 minutes walking distance from the centre. The Botanic Garden is just behind the college and there are lovely walks through woods and along the river.



People arriving on Wednesday 11th September, staying in Grey College

There will be no dinner available in the college. If you would like to join Sarah Banks for dinner at a restaurant in Durham, please get in touch: s.j.banks@durham.ac.uk. If any of you would like to experience choral evensong in Durham Cathedral, it is 17.30-18.15. We could meet just outside the main door at 17.15. And for those wishing just to come to dinner, we could meet just outside the main door at 18.15 or you could join us at a restaurant.



8th International Colloquium on Dialogical Practice & Dialogical Philosophising

Philosophy in the Community, Thursday 12 to Sunday 15 September 2024

Programme (as at 15.8.24)

Thursday 12 September

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
16.00-17.00	Tea/coffee & informal chat – optional, drop in any time	Holgate House
18.00-19.00	Dinner	Dining Hall
19.15-20.45	Session 1 – Welcome , introductions to each other and overview of the three Socratic Dialogues on Friday.	Holgate House

Friday 13 September

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
8.00-8.45	Breakfast	Dining Hall
9.00-9.15	Plenary – Checking in , outlining plans for the day	Holgate House
9.15-10.45	Session 2 – choose one workshop <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Dialogical practice with medical trainees during COVID</i>, Mike Jones and Miriam Armstrong <i>Creative connections in community arts-based philosophical inquiry</i>, Rosie Carnall <i>Socratic conversations without questions</i>, Pieter Mostert 	Old Library Holgate House Pennington Room
10.45-11.15	Tea/coffee	Dining Hall
11.15-12.45	Session 3 – Join one Socratic Dialogue and stay in the same dialogue group until 17.00 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Socratic Dialogue – What do we mean when we say we respect someone or something?</i> Anu Virtanen, Finland <i>Socratic Dialogue – What is courage?</i> Paolo Dordoni, Italy <i>Socratic Dialogue – Are there ideas which we should not discuss in the public space?</i> Sára Pokorná, Czech Republic 	Old Library Pennington Room Holgate House
12.45-13.45	Lunch	Dining Hall
14.00-15.00	Session 4 – Continuation of Socratic Dialogues	
15.00-15.30	Tea/coffee	Dining Hall
15.30-17.00	Session 5 – Continuation of Socratic Dialogues	
18.00-19.00	Dinner	Dining Hall
19.15-20.45	Session 6 – Reflections on the day, and optional market place of ideas (Posters 1, 2, 3 and Method 1). The market place of ideas will involve four short 5-minute presentations about a poster or method. Participants can then choose to join one group with one of the presenters, who will offer a short 10-minute taster exercise relevant to their topic, followed by 10 minutes of discussion about the topic/method.	Holgate House

Saturday 14 September

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
8.00-8.45	Breakfast	Dining Hall
9.00-9.15	Plenary – Checking in , outlining plans for the day	Holgate House
9.15-10.45	Session 7 – choose one workshop 1. <i>Dialogical plays and activities</i> , Evelina Ivanova, Bulgaria 2. <i>Debate and dialogue, what interaction?</i> Tatiana Arrigoni, Italy 3. <i>Towards dialogue through shared experience</i> , Sára Pokorná, Adam Lalak, Lukáš Mareš, Eliška Havlová, Czech Republic	Holgate House Old Library Pennington Room
10.45-11.15	Tea/coffee	Dining Hall
11.15-12.45	Session 8 – continue with the same workshop 1. <i>Dialogical plays and activities</i> , Evelina Ivanova 2. <i>Debate and dialogue, what interaction?</i> Tatiana Arrigoni 3. <i>Towards dialogue through shared experience</i> , Sára Pokorná, Adam Lalak, Lukáš Mareš, Eliška Havlová	Holgate House Old Library Pennington Room
12.45-13.45	Lunch	Dining Hall
14.00-18.00	Free time. Optional activities include visits to: Durham Cathedral Durham Castle Crook Hall (old house & gardens) Botanic Garden (behind Grey College) Oriental Museum (nearby) Guided walk via the River Wear to Durham City Centre	City of Durham
18.00-19.00	Dinner	Dining Hall
19.15-20.45	Session 9: Reflections on the day, and market place of ideas (Posters 4 and 5; Methods 2 and 3)	Holgate House

Sunday 15th September

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
8.00-8.45	Breakfast	Dining Hall
9.00-9.15	Plenary – Checking in , outlining plans for the day	Holgate House
9.15 -10.45	Session 10 – Choose one workshop 1. <i>Working with the business community through shorter dialogical exercises</i> , Anna Bromley, UK 2. <i>Freedom or fellowship?</i> Kresten Thue Andersen, Denmark 3. <i>In dialogue with nature</i> , Rachel Kellett and Sarah Banks, UK	Pennington Room Old Library Holgate House & Great High Wood
10.45-11.15	Tea/coffee	Dining Hall
11.15-12.45	Session 11 – Closing session, sharing learning, evaluation etc.	Holgate House
12.45-13.45	Lunch	Dining Hall
14.00	Depart	

Abstracts of workshops, dialogues, posters & methods sessions

FRIDAY

Session 2: Workshop 1. Evaluating themes around ‘managing challenging situations’ developed through dialogical practice by the trainee medical community during the COVID pandemic (2020 – 2021), Miriam Armstrong and Mike Jones, UK

This workshop will examine approaches to managing challenging situations (e.g. breaking bad news) developed, through dialogical practice, by trainee consultant physicians during the COVID pandemic (2020-2021). The aim of the workshop is to review the approaches developed by doctors from lay and patient perspectives using a combination of small group work and wider discussion. The purpose of the review is to consider where, and how, lay and patient perspectives might diverge from those of doctors and consider whether further joint dialogical practice between medical and patient communities, or other approaches, might be beneficial.

Session 2: Workshop 2. Creative connections in community arts-based philosophical inquiry, Rosie Carnall, UK

The workshop will be based on my philosophical enquiry work in community settings, including galleries and pubs. We will start by looking at an artwork together and using it as the stimulus for a series of philosophical thinking activities. These will develop shared thinking and an ideas bank on the theme of community. Following this, there will be the opportunity for participants to develop their thoughts through a simple creative response activity. The final stage of the enquiry will bring the creative expressions together to create a communal response on the theme. We will close with time for a short review and questions.

Session 2: Workshop 3. Socratic conversations without questions, Pieter Mostert, UK

This workshop will offer an introduction to the concept and practice of question-free Socratic conversations. Participants will have the opportunity to practice a short conversation in this mode, followed by a meta-dialogue to reflect on the process. I work for the Youth Justice Service, and in my conversations with the young offenders, asking questions does not work for them. Open questions are too vague (so the answer is “I don’t know”). Closed questions are answered by “you’re not the police”. I had to develop different strategies.

Sessions 3, 4, 5: Socratic Dialogues (choose ONE for all 3 sessions)

Socratic Dialogue 1: What do we mean when we say we respect someone or something? Anu Virtanen, Finland

As children we are taught to respect our parents and teachers, other people's feelings and rights, school rules, our home country and its laws, different cultures. We come to value the respect for these things and may also expect the same from others. Respect has great importance for life in the community. Our lives together go better if we have respect for each other and can discuss issues in mutual respect. Many people also experience a lack of respect and there are calls to respect for nature and members of racial, ethnic, gender or sexual minorities. What do we actually mean when we say or call to respect someone or something?

Socratic Dialogue 2: What is courage? Paolo Dordoni, Italy

To be citizens in a community sometimes requires taking a position and having courage to look at the consequences of our action, both for us and the others affected by us. For instance, taking a position to defend some rights; to be actively engaged in politics; even sometimes to decide who to vote for... What kind of courage is required to be a responsible member of a community? Is there anything that makes this courage peculiar? Depending on the example we choose, we could put our attention on some aspects related to our understanding of courage.

Socratic Dialogue 3: Are there ideas which we should not discuss in the public space? Sára Pokorná, Czech Republic

As a citizen living in a democratic society, I was brought up to believe that barely any topic or idea should be off limits in public discussions. After all, that's what an open democratic society is all about. Or, is it? Have you ever heard or said a sentence such as "let's drop the question about leaving the EU, it will only make more people think about it"? Within this dialogue, we will explore our decisions to restrict what is talked about publicly.

Session 6: Poster 1. The history of the Society for the Furtherance of Critical Philosophy (SFCP), Dieter Krohn, Germany.

This set of posters offers a fascinating account of the origins and development of the Society for the Furtherance of Critical Philosophy in the UK, including photographs of key members and reproductions of archival material.

Session 6: Poster 2. Developing dialogical practice in the medical community during the COVID pandemic, Miriam Armstrong & Mike Jones, UK

This poster and short talk will highlight how dialogic practice was used to engage trainee consultant physicians in making sense of their COVID experiences. The objectives are to outline: how the programme was developed; Introduction of the online format;

preparation for communicating with trainee and trainer audiences; additional support provided for trainees after the dialogues; evaluation.

Session 6: Poster 3. Using Philosophy for Children and graphic novels to teach about the holocaust in Religious Education, Maureen McDevitt, UK

This poster and short talk will introduce and evaluate dialogical and creative approaches to teaching children and young people about the holocaust in religious education classes in schools.

Session 6: Method 1. Philosophy in Pubs (PIPs), Paul Doran and colleagues, UK

We will introduce the approach used by PIPs, using the Community of Enquiry method developed by SAPERE (www.sapere.org.uk). We will share some of the highlights and challenges from our own experiences philosophising in pubs in different parts of the UK.

SATURDAY

Sessions 7 & 8: Workshop 1. Dialogical plays and activities, Evelina Ivanova, Bulgaria

In the workshop some activities will be presented which promote dialogical attitudes and skills. Participants will have opportunity to explore the activities and reflect on their experience. The activities were designed and developed in the frame of the Erasmus+ project “The Power of Consensus”, a partner project between Sokratovske rozhovory, Czech Republic, Plovdiv University, Bulgaria and Collegio Archivescovile, Italy. The aim of the project was to promote democratic culture through philosophical dialogue. The playful nature of the activities is a strategy to motivate participation and to foster dialogical experience in various situations in formal and informal education.

Sessions 7 & 8: Workshop 2. Debate and Dialogue: what interaction? Tatiana Arrigoni, Italy

The goal of this workshop is to have (academic) debate and (neo-Socratic) dialogue interact with each other, thus exploring the potential of each one of them, and their combination, for philosophising in the community. Debate amounts to analysing an issue by means of logically correct, evidence-based arguments for opposite ways for interpreting it (e.g. acceptance of diversity: real possibility or illusion?). Dialogue, instead, is aimed at answering an initial question (e.g. what does it mean to accept diversity?) through conceptual analysis and abstraction. What about the interaction between them? What is its added value, if any? To answer these questions, we will first address a distinguished issue in a debate setting and then have a dialogue about it.

Sessions 7 & 8: Workshop 3. Towards dialogue through shared experience, Sára Pokorná, Adam Lalak, Lukáš Mareš, Eliška Havlová, Czech Republic

The workshop will focus on exploring the impact of experiential activities on understanding within a philosophical dialogue. The Institute of Living Philosophy works with principles of experiential pedagogy and combines them with philosophical dialogue.

Participants of the workshop will have an opportunity to experience a designed activity and to lead a dialogue based on that activity. In the second part of the workshop, we will conduct an inquiry into the question “How does a shared experience influence understanding within a dialogue?”

Session 9: Poster 4: Socratic dialogue for developing wisdom in teacher education, Anu Virtanen, Finland

This poster focuses on an action research project that aims to apply and develop Socratic dialogue for teaching wisdom in primary school teacher education. Through this approach, students seek to identify and resolve ethical dilemmas in everyday life.

Session 9: Poster 5: Promoting dialogue with health care professionals: hints from Socratic Dialogue and from moral deliberation in the ethical discussion of clinical cases, Paolo Dordoni, Italy

This poster will briefly show two different ways to cope dialogically with moral dilemmas in clinical practice: moral deliberation and Socratic dialogue. Whereas the first one represents a modality to transform, when possible, dilemmas into problems by cultivating practical wisdom and our implicit knowledge; the second one offers a chance to deepen into some essential matter related to the case by enforcing our competence in reflecting and searching together. This poster can also be connected to the workshop given by Evelina Ivanova “Dialogical plays/Introducing dialogue/Dialogical activities” because of one of the activities related to dilemmas was developed in the Erasmus+ Project, “The Power of consensus”.

Session 9: Method 2. The Head, Heart and Hands and Soul (HHHS) approach to communication in social work, François Gillet, Belgium

We know that a dialogue between two or more human beings is not just a matter of words, concepts or ideas. It is a complete process that includes all aspects of the personalities involved. This includes the most visible aspects (speech with its intonations, gestures, postures, facial expressions, etc) but also less visible ones (such as emotions, inner affects, intuitions, inspirations, visualizations, etc). This presentation proposes an overview of the HHHS approach and its use and value in the professional education of social workers, with some examples of short exercises and practices.

Session 9: Method 3. The ethical jury, Michael Imison, UK

An introduction to, and short taster of, a method of settling real-life moral questions, based on Socratic Dialogue.

SUNDAY

Session 10: Workshop 1. Working with the business community through shorter dialogical exercises, Anna Bromley, UK

I will explore the integration of Socratic dialogue into a business environment. I aim to provide participants with a view of how to engage with business professionals and encourage critical thinking and reflective insight. It would be good to cover practical approaches to implementing Socratic dialogue in a business setting and address common obstacles such as time constraints and participant engagement. I would like the session to be interactive and make use of dialogical exercises to reveal people's thoughts and ideas. This workshop aligns with the colloquium's theme 'philosophy in the community' by demonstrating the versatility of Socratic dialogue in a business context.

Session 10: Workshop 2. Freedom and fellowship, Kresten Thue Andersen, Denmark

After an introduction to Socratic dialogue viewed through the analogy 'Into the forest' the participants are invited to investigate their upcoming questions in the relation between freedom and fellowship. The analogy 'into the forest', which I have formulated in an article from 2019, visualizes both the interaction of the participants and the aim of Socratic group-dialogue: The analogy is meant to support the sense of being together in the dialogue and that the upcoming wonder becomes common. While sitting, standing, and walking together the participants enter dialogues with one another and together, and during the session the participants change dialogue-partners. The two words 'freedom' and 'fellowship' will be the basis of the participants upcoming ideas in the session. In the end, if time allows, we will formulate different analogies and metaphors that may inspire the group.

Session 10: Workshop 3. In dialogue with nature, Rachel Kellett and Sarah Banks, UK

This dialogue will start in the wood near the college (weather permitting), returning to indoors for the second half. The topic is the relationship between humans and the 'natural world'. We aim to work together to identify a question for a dialogue linked to topics such as: the meaning of 'nature', whether humans are part of or apart from nature, what it means to argue that nature has or should have rights, and what responsibilities humans have for nature. Participants will be invited to notice features of plants, trees, soil, rocks, birds, animals and have conversations together. Having formed a question we will seek a relevant example to explore the question further in a short dialogue indoors. We will reflect on the role of the senses, emotions and bodily movement in the process. The idea of community pervading this dialogue is the ecological community.