

## AFFINITY SPACES

It is with great delight we rejoice with our arms wide open to welcome you to the affinity spaces' where you will find the Men's, Women's, Queer, and People of Colour areas. This year we have moved to the Hurdles Field. We have all the usual - camping, central fires and workshops. This year, we are bigger than ever! We welcome you with open arms to find friendship with people who you share an affinity with, whether that is through gender or non-gender, sexuality or as a member of the BAPOC community. We still live in a particularly polarised world, but there is also so much love. There is the will to do things differently. The affinity spaces might be an imperfect pot for people to gather in. It is a space where we don't have all the answers to the questions around gender and even how to transform historic and ongoing issues around race.

However, there is a vast overshadowing consciousness provided in this Buddhafield willing us to build something different. As fellow human beings, we can come together to build connections with people with who we have an affinity which can transform the strife of segregating and polarising rhetoric. Here in the affinity spaces, may there be peace built on love and connection.

It is not by hate that hate ever ceases. With open-hearted generosity, our arms are wide open to provide conditions where people of different views can come together and build a more loving and kinder world.

Come and join in the affinity spaces for; camping, workshops and most importantly a loving cup of tea by the fire, which may be the first, best steps in building a better world.

### **BLACK, ASIAN, PEOPLE OF COLOUR (BAPOC) SANCTUARY**

We invite Afrikan Descent, Asian, dual heritage, black or brown-bodied, and those who do not identify as white to our BAPOC Sanctuary. We would love you to come and camp with us or pay us a visit and help us grow a multifaceted, multicultural community where our beautiful black, brown, beige bodies can inter-weave,

intermingle, and inter-connect, celebrating our differences. Come, play, dance, sing, drum, meditate, explore our histories, share our stories, praise our ancestors, and bring all of your Joys and Sorrows. All genders, and sexualities are welcome to our intentional haven. Bring your uniqueness, magic, voice, and instruments. Meet our stewards- Keith, Aryaraksita, Vibha, Jayasuri, Guhyasakhi, Vimalasara, Noel, Simon and Melanie. Check out our jam-packed program with workshops including Drum Circle, Breath of Fire, Shamanic Journeying, Shadow Boxing, Reflexology, Indian Head and Thai Massage, 8-Step Recovery meeting and much more. On Saturday at 3pm we invite those of you in biracial relationships to bring your partner along and explore the beauty of interracial relationships workshop.

### **QUEER SPACE**

Our QueerDome crew have offered a space for gender non-conforming folx and the whole range of LGBTIQ+ people at Buddhafield for several years. We are pleased to offer our expanded Queer Village We welcome all those who feel comfortable to camp alongside us, whatever gender or sexuality, or to visit and join our activities which include talks, movement and sound, Touch and Consent sessions,

**The Affinity Spaces  
have moved to the  
Hurdles field.  
Come and camp with  
us!**

Check the map and  
check the individual  
areas and info boards  
for times and events  
throughout the  
festival.





fireside chat in the evenings and other workshops. We are also offering confidential circles to share from the heart, as well as other support that can help those who may be having a challenging time; or who just need a more secure space to act as a basecamp for the festival. Our space is co-created so participants can suggest or lead other appropriate sessions as well.

### **WOMEN'S**

A well-held, inclusive, nurturing space where all who identify as women can come and share positive connection with others and feel part of a larger community. Our space is founded on the core values of kindness, respect, integrity, equity, and love. We offer camping for those who identify as women and have space for meditation, yoga and workshops. This year's workshop programme has many wonderful, heartfelt offerings. Here is just a taste! Sonja Maria Devi on Activating Your Soul Mission, Ruth Harvey Working with Rose as a Plant Ally For Blossoming and Boundaries, India Elyn with Tending to Pregnancy Loss Through Connection and Craft, Brydie Rowan teaching Body Medicine for Play, Power, Purpose and Peace and two very special communal singing sessions facilitated by Kate Valentine of Singing Mamas. There will also be daily yoga and chi gung sessions, women's recovery space meetings in collaboration with the recovery space team and much joy, laughter, sharing and cups of tea! Please come and join us, either to camp, or just drop in. Check the main board for our daily programme or pick up a full women's space festival programme at the women's space dome.

### **MEN'S**

A warm welcome awaits you at the Men's Space. We offer community, connection and holding - all of you is welcome. This is your community. You're welcome to camp, drink tea round the fire at any time, join our morning sharing circle (9 - 10 am daily) or attend one of our many well held workshops. You're welcome to bring your food to eat together at 6 pm daily. This is a safe space to ground and connect.

### **OTHER SPACES**

#### **DEATH SPACE**

At the Death Awareness Space, the workshops we facilitate explore our relationship to Death. This year, the team will hold space for the Talking of Death and Dying and Coffin Immersion Experience, and we will hold the Grief Tending Ceremony, a community tool for us to express our personal and collective grief. Living with dying. We have a Sound Journey that you can experience and spaces to discuss advance planning and working with a chosen family, centring LGBTQIA+ and Neurodivergent folk. There will be a Blessing the Body ritual. There will be a space for Tending Loss around Abortion- A circle for women who have experienced an abortion. We will have a dedicated women's space to honour the process around abortion and an open time in the talking space around that topic for men to join, too. Please feel free to come and explore and express your relationship with death. Come on time for workshops and rituals, and plan to stay for the whole session. Additionally, there will be 1-1 drop-in spaces where you're welcome to drop in for tea and a chat.

