



Bhakti Manning <REDACTED>

Easter Sunday at Mangrove

Working Together <workingtogethertf@gmail.com>

Sat, Apr 12, 2014 at 11:33 AM

To: REDACTED

Dear Bhakti,

thanks for writing to me. Yes, I'm on a little group that has formed to support Mangrove in the process that's going on in relation to the history of abuse. The group is called Working Together. I am the person liaising with those who were abused. I'm writing to you from this email address as it's the one I'm using for such communications and no-one else has access to it.

You may have heard that we are in touch with an organisation called Real Justice (www.realjustice.org). Their director, Terry O'Connell is facilitating the session on Easter Sunday. I went to Mangrove last week when we met with him about this. The work he does is very much about being inclusive, discovering what needs to happen by embarking on a journey which is open, heartfelt and supportive. I've let Mangrove know that you may be interested in being part of that and I'm waiting to hear back from them. If you don't end up coming, that doesn't need to mean there is no other opportunity. This is something that will unfold while it happens and our sense of the direction it will take will become clearer on that Sunday. If you feel at any time that being part of what we are doing can help make things better for you, then just let me know. Many stories are being told and the hurts are very deep, as you know. It sounds like the hardest thing for you has been carrying the knowledge that you could have spoken so early on, REDACTED been sure that action would have been taken. For the reasons you state, that didn't happen, and no blame rests with you. There are many others who have also been burdened by knowing they could have acted but didn't. The past cannot be changed but the future can. It all depends on what we do now. I wonder if you have a sense of what needs to happen for you to be able to move out of the pain?

Please stay in touch. The Sunday workshop starts at 1.30 and will go on for as long as it takes. Afterwards there will be a havan and tree planting. Not sure if you were considering coming for other parts of the program. The rest of the weekend will consist of talks and practices by senior teachers. Swami Shankardev, Muktibodhananda and Rishis Nityabodh and Diwali will all be giving sessions. Monday is about future directions. As I mentioned above, if you prefer not to come to Mangrove for Easter but are open to the direction that is now being taken, please let me know and we can see what path to take.

I'm travelling to Sydney today for a few days with the family. Then to MM later in the week.

Kind regards,
Ahimsa