

# SDF Staff Developers **CONFERENCE**



**LEEDS**  
**13-14**  
**THE MET**  
**HOTEL** **November**

## **Programme**

**Creative Leadership**  
how we develop our Leaders  
with originality and impact

**Registration** 09.30  
Refreshments Available

**Welcome & SDF Update** 10.15  
Paul Dixon, SDF Chair / Met Suite

**Unbeatable Energy** 10.30  
Steve Rivers / Met Suite

**Refreshments** 11.00

**Keynote 1** 11.30  
Kerry Leigh / Met Suite

**Lunch** 12.30  
Restaurant

**Keynote 2** 13.30  
James Vincent / Met Suite

**Parallel Sessions** 14.30  
1 - 4

**Refreshments** 15.30

**Parallel Sessions** 16.00  
1 - 4 repeated

**The Leeds Owl Trail** 17.00

**Drinks Reception** 19.00  
Tempus Restaurant

**Conference Dinner** 19.30  
Followed by Karaoke / Tempus Restaurant

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## Unbeatable Energy

The energiser will focus on the use of boomwhackers, which are coloured tubes that create different harmonic tones when played. The facilitators will ask delegates to identify how each colour makes a harmonic tone, and they are given simple rhythms to play in teams.



## Keynote 1 Laughology



**Kerry Leigh**  
Laughology

With qualifications in psychology & over 7 yrs experience delivering presentations and workshops with a variety of groups in the public and private sector, Kerry Leigh combines comedy and knowledge of the subject in a unique and entertaining way. For over 10 years she has worked as a stand-up comedian in the UK and abroad and knows how to engage even the most difficult audiences.

As a comedian Kerry fits naturally into the ethos and psychology of Laughology. Now a fully trained Laughologist Kerry's business experience and people management skills give her an excellent understanding of how, where and why it is important to use Laughology with teams and individuals.



## Keynote 2 Dare to Lead



**James Vincent**  
ActionCOACH

11 years lead High Performance Coach for Badminton England in the North of England centre. Throughout this time James has developed and nurtured over 20 athletes for the GB programme, several of which are now ranked in the top 5 in the world.

Having worked very closely with some of the world's best sport psychologists, and world leading coaches (including Olympic Gold Medal Winning coaches), and also attended two Olympic Games (Beijing & London), he has a broad experience and knowledge of what it takes to reach your potential.

With over 2 years of coaching in business, James now works as a Coaches' Coach & Business coach for ActionCOACH, the world number 1 business coaching firm.

**Welcome Day Two** 9.15  
Paul Dixon, SDF Chair / Met Suite

**Who are You?** 9.30  
Sarah Readings / Met Suite

**Keynote 3** 10.15  
Dave Bunting / Met Suite

**Refreshments** 11.15

**Parallel Sessions** 11.30  
5 - 8

**Parallel Sessions** 12.30  
5 - 8 repeated

**Lunch** 13.30  
Restaurant

**Keynote 4** 14.15  
Steve Chapman / Met Suite

**Conference Close** 15.15  
Paul Dixon, SDF Chair / Met Suite

## Keynote 3 Expedition Leadership



**Dave Bunting, MBE**  
Leeds Metropolitan University

Dave's presentation is an inspirational account of his experiences planning and leading the expedition in which he led a team of elite climbers to become the first British team to climb the formidable and rarely attempted West Ridge of Mount Everest. It is a riveting and awe-inspiring account of the leadership skills and determination necessary to select the right team, motivate and engage them and build a shared vision that will enable them to reach their goal. Dave paints an extraordinary picture of successful teamwork, tough decision-making, personal challenge and enduring friendship in the most extreme environments. With stunning images from the rare vantage point of the West Ridge of Mount Everest, it is a presentation that will inspire, move, entertain and leave a lasting impression.

## Keynote 4 Creative Adventures: Defrosting the Genius Within



**Steve Chapman**  
Consultant,  
canscorpionssmoke.com

This session will be a mix of traditional 'key note' delivery but involve a large amount of audience participation in which participants will be invited to stand up and interact/experiment in pairs or small groups.

[www.canscorpionssmoke.com](http://www.canscorpionssmoke.com)

## Parallel Sessions

**1** **John Drysdale**  
No Guru

**Thinking in a world that doesn't think**  
*Thinking Skills for Leaders*

This session is aimed primarily at leaders, managers and people who make decisions or are tasked with solving problems but may be useful to anyone who wants to think more creatively and critically in their role.

The session helps individuals to "flex" their thinking by establishing more creative paradigms of working, yet also allows them to think critically to create a "higher order" of thinking.

**2** **Chris Fox**  
Create-Ability

**Integrative Leadership**

The session will explore different models of organisational culture and will identify patterns of change across the academic fraternity and non academic departments that enable positive thinking and impact. Delegates will also consider their own leadership style and model for integrative working.

The session will be in two parts: First part exploring different models of organisational culture and those finding success for creative leadership. Then focusing within the sector to identify patterns of change across the academic fraternity and non-academic Depts. that enable positive thinking and impact.

Second part will get delegates to consider their own leadership style and model for integrative working at a local level. Highlighting personal adjustments that can be made to increase leadership influence and support. A summary will tie the two parts of the session together highlighting the links between the two models.

**3** **Jane Ginniver**  
University of Sheffield

**The Sheffield Leader**

This workshop is for anyone responsible for leadership development in their institutions, any leader. There will be an introduction to the Sheffield Leader:

- Why did we introduce it?
- What is it?
- Key principles
- Delivery methods and access
- Impact

This will then be followed by an interactive exercise, introducing one of the core sessions from Sheffield Leader.

**4** **Alison Laithwaite**  
Manchester Metropolitan University

**Aspiring leaders**  
*finding and encouraging the MAD people – those who want to make a difference.*

Anyone who is interested in programmes for developing future leaders internally and effecting culture change within departments.

This session tells the story of a programme that has been delivered to "aspiring leaders", staff currently not on the management ladder or on the lowest rungs, using the principles of empowerment, networking and confidence building. The aim being to make big service improvements and changes to culture within a department. The difference from other development programmes we have run is how we involved department managers and senior managers across the organisation and the outcomes achieved which will have a significant effect on the student experience.

**5** **Alex Hatfield**  
Syndap Development

**Leading Personalities**  
*Stepping Outside the Box*

A presentation based in the discipline of psychosynthesis which explores the seven dimensions of creative leadership.

Leaders have an overwhelming human need for a psychological education rather than an education in psychology. The important elements of Leadership today are connection to their inner world of causes, establishing a sense of values and deepening a search for meaning.

**6** **Paul Gentle**  
The Leadership Foundation for Higher Education

**Tapping into the Creative Leader**

This session is for colleagues interested in exploring developmental methodology which is intended to stimulate fresh approaches to leadership behaviours.

Participants will sample two different activities, and consider ways in which these contribute to bringing about changes in leadership behaviour. We will explore the relevance of the underpinning approaches for leadership development in higher education.

**7** **Angie Allcock**  
University of Bath

**Creative Leadership Development**

*moving from the 'What' to the 'How' and from 'Formal Learning' to 'Sense making'*

Exploring what the reality of leadership in HE is all about, and what we mean by creative leaders.

- Explore what the reality of leading/managing in HE is all about and what do we mean by creative leaders?
- Understand why a formal, structured development programme may not be providing what leaders/managers really need.
- How can we move from a focus upon 'what managers' do to one on 'how' they perform their role?

Explore different approaches, tools and techniques Leader.

**8** **Keith Whitfield**  
Ultimate Performance

**Putting Passion into Leadership**

Session exploring how to tap into the passion people naturally have and ways to harness that to generate more lasting change. Focusing on the role of leaders in making creativity the 'norm' and in allowing colleagues freedom to be creative when resources are scarce, this interactive workshop will offer leaders and those responsible for developing leaders to think about leading differently.



## The Leeds Owl Trail®

The purpose of the Leeds Owl Trail® is to inform and inspire people about Leeds' rich heritage and to create new owls for future generations to enjoy.

*"The Leeds Owl Trail is a unique concept that's brilliant for Leeds. It enables both visitors and residents from all backgrounds to explore and experience our beautiful city".*



# SDF Chair Welcome



Dear Colleagues

Welcome to friends new and old to our second new format November SDF Conference. It is great to be back in Leeds again and I am looking forward to meeting you during the course of our two days together. Thank you to all the team: Wendy Mason and Becky Robson, for getting the show on the road; and particularly Kathy Ashton of Leeds Met, the

local lead for pulling together such a stimulating series of keynotes and sessions on the topic of creative leadership. Now more than ever in the HE Sector we need to experiment with new approaches to keep our leadership approach vibrant, exciting and fun for our own wellbeing and the success of our institutions.

Thanks are also due to the Leadership Foundation for their continuing support of the SDF and continued partnership working, and of course to our Conference sponsors who not only subsidise our Conference but also inject their own personalities and presence to enliven proceedings.

I would also like to welcome two new members of the SDF Executive. Emily Hopkinson of Sheffield University has become our new Secretary, and Linda Robson of the Open University our new Treasurer – both happy to give of their time and energy to support SDF in a more hands on way. I should also thank my long-time friend and colleague Denise Fieldhouse for her wonderful efforts as Secretary over the last two years plus.

Finally thanks again to you for joining us and continuing to engage with the SDF. I hope you have a great couple of days – have fun, bounce off each other and enjoy. Bring on the laughology!

**Paul Dixon**, SDF Chair



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