Just ask: A conference on the experiences of men after disaster

TUESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER, 2013
WILLIAM ANGLISS CONFERENCE CENTRE MELBOURNE

Black Saturday rocked so many lives. We now know that many men didn’t cope, didn’t access formal or even informal support, and sometimes hurt themselves and the people they love. The types of masculinity that make some men heroes, damaged others. The effects of the 2009 bushfires are wide ranging and ongoing. We owe it to our communities, and to these men, to understand their needs and how best to meet them during and after a disaster. This conference breaks new ground in ‘just asking’ men about what their experiences were of Black Saturday and its aftermath and allows men, for the first time, to answer that question in their own words.

Craig Lapsley,
Fire Services Commissioner

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Just ask: A conference on the experiences of men after disaster

*Tuesday 26th November, 2013 — Melbourne*

**CONFERENCE OVERVIEW**

- Dr Elaine Enarson, an Independent Scholar from Colorado, US, and founding member of the global Gender and Disaster Network and the US Gender and Disaster Resilience Alliance joins us as a keynote speaker for the conference.
- Professor Bob Pease contributes his international expertise on masculinity studies as a keynote speaker.
- The first Australian research into men’s experiences after disaster — told in their own words — points to new directions to prevent harmful behaviours in the aftermath.
- Masculinities in emergency services, as in society, play out in ways that can be damaging. Consider the issues with an expert and high-level panel.
- Address this emerging issue - particularly relevant to police, emergency services, disaster management, family violence and health and community services.
- Connect with others working in the disaster and gender field.

**Who should attend?**

Workers, managers, policy-makers, researchers, community members and others working in:
- Emergency management
- Local, state and national government
- Employment and rehabilitation services
- Police, fire and rescue
- Health and social services
- Domestic and family violence

**Pre-conference Drinks & Nibbles**

**Monday 25th November, 6pm — 8pm**

William Angliss Conference Centre, 555 La Trobe Street, Melbourne

Presented in partnership by Women’s Health Goulburn North East (WHGNE) and Monash University’s Injury Research Institute (MIRI), with funding from the National Disaster Resilience Grants Scheme (NDRGS).

This Conference is a White Ribbon event, and sits within the ’16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence’:

“’This Campaign emphasizes that women’s rights are human rights.’ (Center for Women’s Global Leadership, 2013)

“White Ribbon is a unique male-led primary prevention organisation that works to stop violence against women. White Ribbon works to change the attitudes and behaviours that lead to men’s violence against women occurring through a national awareness Campaign, the Ambassador Program and prevention initiatives within schools, workplaces, universities, sporting codes and the wider community.”

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**Conference Organisers**

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Happenings Australia: Phone: +61 2 9341 2007 Email: l.wilson@happenings.com.au

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Keynote Speakers


Elaine is a founding member of the Gender and Disaster Network and of the US-based Gender and Disaster Resilience Alliance. She initiated and directed the development of a FEMA course on social vulnerability, and the electronic Gender and Disaster Sourcebook project. While teaching disaster studies in Brandon University’s Department of Applied Disaster and Emergency Studies (Manitoba, Canada), she helped facilitate community resilience workshops and later developed a gender mainstreaming manual for emergency managers and an emergency preparedness workbook for women’s organisations. Currently, she is a Distinguished Teaching Fellow with the doctoral program in emergency management at Jacksonville State University, teaching on-line.

Professor Bob Pease is Chair of Social Work at Deakin University in Geelong, Australia. He has been involved in profeminist politics with men for many years and was a founding member of Men Against Sexual Assault in Melbourne. He has published extensively on masculinity politics and critical social work practice, including four books as single author and eight books as co-editor, as well as numerous book chapters and journal articles. His most recent books include: Critical Social Work Theories and Practices for a Socially Just World: (co-editor, second edition, Allen and Unwin 2009), Migrant Men: Critical Studies of Masculinities and the Migration Experience (co-editor, Routledge, 2009) Undoing Privilege: Unearned Advantage in a Divided World (Zed 2010) and Men and Masculinities Around the World: Transforming Men’s Practices (co-editor, Palgrave 2011).

Debra Parkinson is a social researcher, committed to feminism and social justice. She co-authored this research into men’s experiences after Black Saturday, and is currently a PhD candidate (Monash University) researching violence against women in the aftermath of the Black Saturday fires. Debra works for both Women’s Health Goulburn North East and Women’s Health in the North. She has completed research on women leaving violent relationships and partner rape, and Living Longer on Less: Women and superannuation. Current projects include a partnership project with the Women’s Legal Service Victoria to improve access to family law advice, entitled Women, Lawyers, Workers, and funded by the Legal Services Board, Victoria.

Claire Zara has been a researcher and health promotions worker with Women’s Health Goulburn North East since 2007 and is currently a PhD candidate at the Monash Injury Research Institute studying men’s experiences in the aftermath of Black Saturday. Claire’s past projects include A Powerful Journey: stories of women leaving violent relationships and Raped by a Partner, women and workers’ accounts of intimate partner violence. Her recent research into family violence after the 2009 Victorian bushfires has contributed to significant policy and practice change in emergency management services, and the development of a family violence after disaster training package for emergency services and recovery workers. She produced the DVD “It’s Real”, a dramatisation of the dangers of sexting, with young people from the Beechworth area.

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Speakers

Andrew Wilson-Annan was appointed as General Manager, Strategy and Risk at Rural Finance Corporation on 9 May 2011. Andrew is a Director of St Luke’s Anglicare and also an active firefighter in the Woodend CFA since 2002, with significant participation in the 2006 Victorian Alps Fires and 2009 February Fires.

Prior to joining Rural Finance, Andrew worked with ANZ Banking Group Limited for 11 years occupying many roles in retail and commercial banking in Australia including; Chief of Staff, Regional Commercial Banking and Head of Capital and Provisioning during the Global Financial Crisis. Andrew is an alumnus of the Williamson Community Leadership Program and Cranlana.

Andrew is an active member of his community in central Victoria, leading the development of a community strategic plan and the creation of a Victorian Business Recovery Network to assist practitioners working with businesses recovering from natural disasters and other business disruption.

Sharon participated in research done directly after her black Saturday experience and has since given first person accounts at a number of conferences. She has worked in arts for mental health program's within local schools and has recently completed her masters of occupational therapy.

Panel Members

Craig Lapsley  PSM– Fire Services Commissioner - Victoria has enjoyed an impressive career in the Emergency Management sector for nearly 30 years.

The majority of this time has been as an employee of Country Fire Authority (CFA), and has served as a volunteer firefighter prior to that. Craig finished his employment with CFA in August 2007 at the rank of Deputy Chief Officer.

In 1996 Craig was seconded to NSW Fire Brigades (Sydney) fulfilling the position of Manager State Operations for a two (2) year period.

Craig was also seconded to Victoria State Emergency Service in 2005 to transform SES from a Government Department to a Statutory Authority. He fulfilled the positions of Director and then Acting Chief Executive Officer of the newly formed Authority.

In 2007, Craig was appointed Director Emergency Management – Health and Human Services, which has state responsibilities across the health and community services sector. With responsibilities for the health sector emergency response to major incidents including mass casualty, pre hospital (ambulance) and hospital surge capability and extend to the state co ordination and management of the Emergency Recovery arrangements for all emergencies.

In 2010, Craig was appointed as the first Fire Services Commissioner for Victoria. The Fire Services Commissioner has legislative responsibility to provide leadership to the three Victorian fire services being CFA, DSE and MFB and is the senior operational firefighter in Victoria who will exercise control over major fires as the permanent State Fire Controller.

The Fire Services Commissioner role includes developing a 3 year rolling reform program for the three fire services; developing and reviewing performance standards; developing and reviewing incident management training, development and accreditation; developing incident management facilities and systems and manage the state control centre.

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Panel Members (cont.)

Acting Deputy Commissioner Stephen Fontana has been a member of Victoria Police for over 38 years and has spent the majority of his career as a criminal investigator; working at busy metropolitan Criminal Investigation Units, in the Crime Squads and on a number of high profile task force investigations. He also spent a number of years working at the Ethical Standards Department leading investigations into complaints against police and police corruption.

He was promoted to the rank of Assistant Commissioner in charge of the State Emergencies and Security Department in early 2008. This involved him performing a significant role during the Black Saturday Bushfire Emergency and he has been instrumental in overseeing and implementing a number of key recommendations arising from the Victoria Police Bushfire Royal Commission. In June 2011, he took charge of the North West Metropolitan Region which delivers frontline police services for the largest region in the state (1.71 million Victorians living in 14 local government areas)

He commenced his current role as the Assistant Commissioner Crime Command on 1 July 2012. This role manages the portfolios of Sexual & Family Violence, Serious Crime, Organised Crime, and Investigations & Specialist Support across the state.

Mark Duckworth is Executive Director, Citizenship and Resilience in the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC), in Victoria. He is responsible for a range of policy, security, emergency management, community engagement, multicultural and public administration issues and chairs the Victorian Disaster Resilience Taskforce. National positions he holds include:

• member of the Australia New Zealand Emergency Management Committee (ANZEMC) and co-chair of its Implementation Steering Group. He also co-chaired the Working Group that prepared the National Disaster Resilience Strategy that was endorsed by the Council of Australian Governments in February 2011.

• member of the Australia New Zealand Counter-Terrorism Committee (ANZCTC) since it was established in 2002 and co-chair of its Countering Violent Extremism sub-committee.

Mark is also a member of Monash University’s Global Terrorism Research Centre Advisory Board. Before joining DPC, Mark worked at the Cabinet Office of New South Wales, the University of Sydney Law School and the Law Reform Commission of Victoria. He is a graduate of the University of Melbourne in history and law.

In the 2007 Australia Day Honours he was awarded the Public Service Medal for his work in establishing the National Counter-Terrorism arrangements.

Peter Farrell has lead bushfire management in north-east Victoria since late 2001 in both parks and forests, which cover around 1.5 M hectares. During this time Victoria has faced some of the worst bushfires in living memory with the 2003 Alpine Fire, 2006 Great Divide Fire and 2009 Black Saturday fires. Peter’s role was to coordinate the response effort across the north-east and his experience has played a key role in reshaping the regional emergency management coordination arrangements in the region.

Peter has lead and overseen a substantial increase in planned burning to better protect communities and reduce the impacts of bushfires, with the area treated each year nearly doubled. This has involved some significant challenges, and in particular bringing along key stakeholder groups impacted by smoke from planned burns.

Peter has also had a key role in the recovery phase from bushfires through ensuring assets on public land were repaired and replaced, as well as supporting affected communities. Also importantly he has ensured affected staff were and are continued to be supported, particularly in the Murrindindi part of the Region, and now in the upper north-east following the tragic deaths of two firefighters earlier this year.

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Panel Members (cont.)

Daryl Taylor—With more than 20 years contributing to personal, organisational and community development, integralevolution and resilient by design founder, Daryl Taylor, has significant 'whole systems' project partnership brokerage and leadership experience. He initiated and led a national pilot project on Masculinities and Men's Health in rural Victoria, evaluated service systems support for men's health and welfare and has been a behaviour change and cultural development facilitator in Men's Violence programs. Daryl’s participatory public health and social planning, anticipatory action research, and organisational and community development project work has been formally acknowledged with seven state and national innovation and best practice awards and commendations. His practice features prominently in VicHealth’s Local Government Good Practice Resource ‘Leading the Way.’

Mark Somers has worked in Emergency Services for over 25 years – with the majority of those with Ambulance Victoria in many departments such as Air Ambulance, Quality Review Team, Driving Standards but predominantly as a paramedic clinical instructor for 18 years.

Mark is the Captain of the Buxton CFA brigade and a wildfire instructor. He is a level 2 incident controller and performed in many operational leadership roles such as Sector Command, Ground Observation and Task Force Leadership at many of the recent large events including the 2009 Black Saturday Fires and 2011 Floods.

Mark recently worked at the Yarra Ranges Council as the Coordinator of Fire and Emergency Management Projects. Here he represented Local Government on several State committees on matters including the Vulnerable Person’s database and MECC Central Software. He developed a new structure for municipal emergency operations centres including introducing the AllIMS (Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System) across the Outer Eastern Metropolitan collaboration of Councils.

Mark’s current role is the Manager Regional Operations and Emergency Management at the Victoria State Emergency Service in Gippsland.

Euan Ferguson is the Chief Officer of the Country Fire Authority in Victoria, with over 30 years fire and emergency management experience in rural fire and land management and rural fire services. He holds a Diploma in Forestry, an Honours Degree in Forest Science and a Master of Business Administration. He is a past Chair and current Board member of the National Aerial Firefighting Centre (NAFC), and a past President of the Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authority (AFAC).

Euan worked in various field operational roles with the Country Fire Authority of Victoria during the mid 1990’s, rising to the rank of Deputy Chief Officer and Deputy Director of Operations. During his time with CFA, Euan led a multi-agency team that investigated the circumstances of the tragic Linton bushfire which claimed the lives of five CFA firefighters in December 1998. The recommendations from that investigation saw significant changes to training, systems of work and safety in the CFA and throughout the bushfire industry.

In December 2001 Euan was appointed as Chief Officer of the South Australian Country Fire Service. In 2003 he also assumed the role of Chief Executive Officer. Following the Wangary Bushfire in January 2005, he instigated Project Phoenix which brought about positive changes in CFS and rural firefighting in South Australia. Euan also managed CFS during the complex and long-running Coronial Inquest that followed the fire. The South Australian Coroner strongly praised Project Phoenix when the recommendations from the Coronial inquest were handed down in late 2007. In November 2010, Euan returned to the Country Fire Authority of Victoria as Chief Officer.

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Panel

An exciting line-up of leaders from the disaster, emergency and community fields will discuss issues emerging from the keynote speakers’ presentations and relate them to their own organisations. They will have the chance to reflect on the practicalities and challenges inherent in their work, and discuss the ways support has been provided to those in emergency service roles and to men in the community. Ways to improve future responses to men in the aftermath of disaster will be a major focus of this Panel discussion.

Craig Lapsley, Fire Services Commissioner

Mark Somers, Manager, Regional Operations and Emergency Management, East Region, Victorian State Emergency Service

Stephen Fontana, Victoria Police Acting Deputy Commissioner

Euan Ferguson, Chief Officer CFA

Mark Duckworth, Executive Director, Citizenship and Resilience in the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) Victoria

Daryl Taylor, Kinglake Ranges Community Recovery-Resilience Committee

Peter Farrell, Regional Director, Hume Department of Environment and Primary Industries

Interest Groups

Interest Groups—A short session will be devoted to allowing interested delegates to discuss findings and/or plan actions. Further details about topics and facilitators will be made available at the conference.

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**Tuesday 26th November, 2013 — Melbourne**

## Program

**What does it mean to be a man in a disaster?**

Delegates will be entertained by the Steel Pan Band who experienced the Black Saturday bushfires. An Art Room will present an opportunity for delegates to take a break and view or create art with Kangaroo Ground painter, Syd Tunn (proudly sponsored by Butterfly Studios).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.00 am</td>
<td>Registration opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.00 am</td>
<td>Welcome to Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.15 am</td>
<td>Conference Opening by Deputy Police Commissioner, Specialist Operations, Graham Ashton</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.30 am</td>
<td>Keynote address: Dr Elaine Enarson, leader in international gender and disaster scholarship</td>
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<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>‘Sharon’ – a Black Saturday survivor who lost not only her home, but her relationship</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 am</td>
<td>Morning Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 am</td>
<td>Keynote address: Debra Parkinson &amp; Claire Zara (WHGNE) launch the ‘Men’s experience of health and wellbeing after Black Saturday’ report.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>Andrew Wilson-Annan speaks of his experience of Black Saturday as a CFA volunteer</td>
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<td>12:20 pm</td>
<td>Interest groups</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45 pm</td>
<td>Keynote address: Professor Bob Pease, Australia’s leading academic on masculinity studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:45 pm</td>
<td>Expert Panel: Emergency Management and community members speak about their roles and the influence of masculinity within their organisations and communities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:15 pm</td>
<td>Plenary closing comments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>Conference close</td>
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</tbody>
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Registration

You can register to attend Just ask: A conference on the experiences of men after disaster Conference online with credit card payments only or via the attached form at the end of this brochure.

Online: [https://www.secureregistrations.com/JustAsk2013/](https://www.secureregistrations.com/JustAsk2013/)

Forms: can be supplied by Email to: l.wilson@happenings.com.au or fax: (02) 9475 4142

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONERENCE REGISTRATION FEES</th>
<th>Early Bird Closes 25 October</th>
<th>Standard</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government and University</td>
<td>$230</td>
<td>$295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Based Registration</td>
<td>$135</td>
<td>$190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre conference nibbles &amp; drinks</td>
<td>$55</td>
<td>$65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All prices are inclusive of GST.
Included in your Conference Registration is morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.

CANCELLATIONS

All cancellations must be received in writing to the conference managers. Any cancellations received 3 weeks prior to the conference (before the 5th November) will receive a refund less $25.00 (AUD) administration fee.

For cancellations received 2 weeks prior to the conference (before the 11th November) will be refunded 50% of the registration fees paid. Any cancellation received after the 11th November will not receive a refund of fees - name changes are allowed.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS
5pm, TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER, 2013

Please contact Happenings Australia (details below) if you have any queries

This Conference is a White Ribbon event, and sits within the ‘16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence’:

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“White Ribbon is a unique male-led primary prevention organisation that works to stop violence against women. White Ribbon works to change the attitudes and behaviours that lead to men’s violence against women occurring through a national awareness Campaign, the Ambassador Program and prevention initiatives within schools, workplaces, universities, sporting codes and the wider community.”

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Conference Venue

The William Angliss Conference Centre
Room: Auditorium—Building A
Located at 555 La Trobe Street, Melbourne.

CAR Parking
The closest Car park facility is located CARe Park at 313 Spencer Street, Melbourne
Maximum daily rate is $15.00 After 6pm entry is $7.00
Car park opening hours are: Monday to Thursday 6am to 10pm and Friday 6am to 1am

Public Transport
The William Angliss Conference Centre is located in prime position and accessible by tram, train and buses.

WILLIAM ANGLISS CONFERENCE CENTRE—BUILDING A

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Accommodation

For your convenience, the Conference Organisers, Happenings Australia, have negotiated the following special accommodation rates for all delegates.

**The Vibe Savoy Hotel Melbourne – 4.5 Star**  
630 Little Collins Street, Melbourne Victoria  
**Telephone:** + 61 3 9622 8888  www.vibehotels.com.au

Blending the zest of the Vibe Hotel brand with the beautiful façade of a heritage building, Vibe Savoy Hotel Melbourne is located only a couple of blocks from the William Angliss Conference Centre and the hub of Melbourne’s Collins Street.

**$184 per night in a standard room (room only)**

To take advantage of this special rate please advise upon booking direct with the Vibe Hotel that you are attending the ‘Just ask’ Conference organised by Happenings Australia.

**Radisson on Flagstaff Gardens Melbourne—4.5 Star**  
380 William Street, Melbourne Victoria 3000, Australia  
**Telephone:** +61 03 9322 8000

One of Australia’s finest deluxe Melbourne hotels, this property is located opposite the lovely Flagstaff Gardens and offers easy access to public transportation, including the Flagstaff train station and the City Circle Tram.

**Rooms are being offered at 10% off the daily dynamic rate** valid for stays between 24th to 27th November, 2013. This discount cannot be combined with any other special offer or package.

You must book by 25th October to receive this discount which is subject to room availability.

Log on to the Radisson on Flagstaff Gardens website:  [www.radisson.com/melbourneau](http://www.radisson.com/melbourneau)

And enter the **Promotional Code: HAAU13**

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REGISTRATION FORM

Please mail, fax or email registration form to Conference Organisers:

Happenings Australia Pty. Ltd.

Att: Lee-Anne Wilson, 909/260 Bunnerong Road, Hillsdale NSW 2036

Email: l.wilson@happenings.com.au  Contact Telephone: (02) 9341 2007  Facsimile: (02) 9475 4142

Personal Details

Title: Given Name: Surname:

Name (as wanted on name badge, if different from above):

Job Title: Division:

Organisation:

Address:

Suburb: State: Postcode:

Business Phone: Mobile Phone:

Fax: Email:

Dietary requirements:

Other special requirements (i.e. mobility):

Registration Fees

Conference Registration Fees - Early Bird Registration closes Friday 25th October, 2013

Government and University – Early Bird

Community Based Registration – Early Bird

Government and University

Community Based Registration

Pre Conference Nibbles & Drinks — Early Bird

Pre Conference Nibbles & Drinks

REGISTRATION FEES TOTAL $
**Payment Details**

Full payment must accompany your registration. This document is a **TAX INVOICE** once payment has been received. Happenings Australia Pty.Ltd.—ABN 83 068 879 390

Please indicate method of payment:

1/ ☐ CREDIT CARD 2/ ☐ CHEQUE  OR  3/ ☐ DIRECT DEPOSIT

1/ CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

☐ VISA  ☐ MASTERCARD  ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

(Unfortunately we are unable to accept payments made via Diners)

Card number: ______________________________________

Name on Card: ______________________________________

Expiry Date: ______________________________________

Total Payment Amount: ________________________________

2/ CHEQUE PAYMENT

Please make your Cheque payable to: Happenings Australia Pty Ltd.
ABN 83 068 879 390

Account Name: Happenings Australia
BSB Number: 033 005
Account Number: 268 365

*Payment reference: JAC “Delegate Surname” E.g JAC Smith

A confirmation letter confirming your registration will be emailed to you. This email will include any further advice and important information pertaining to the Conference prior to your arrival.

Personal information submitted on this form will only be used to inform you of future activities.

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**Conference Enquiries**

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