

What is SOL?

We organize conferences and events around the world to help people join the growing movement to use Solutions Focused ideas at work, in consulting, managing, training, HR practice, strategic planning, performance management, team building and organisational development. The first conference was in February 2002 in Bristol, UK, hosted by Bristol Solutions Group.

SOL is not a membership organization. You join in by participating in SOL events, and/or joining the SOL email discussion group listserver, **SOLUTIONS-L**.

SOL is run voluntarily by an **international steering group**. The group meets at SOL International Conferences - if you are interested in getting involved, come to a conference, or contact one of the group in advance.

Anyone is free to organize an event under the SOL banner, as long as it is in line with the **SOL Charter** and has the support of the international steering group. If you have an idea for an event, whether it be geographically based (ie a national or regional event) or subject-matter oriented (focusing on a particular application of Solution Focused work), get in touch with any member of the steering group.

The SOL Charter

SOL stands for **Solutions in Organisations Link-up**.

The strap line is "Sharing and Building Solutions Focused practice in organisations".

For us, sharing is the key word. The originators of the approach, Steve de Shazer and Insoo Kim Berg, have not trade marked their work. Indeed, the SF approach itself is based on collaboration.

It is important to us that SOL retains this generosity of spirit and the collaborative ethos. No-one owns the Solutions in Organisations Link-up name. We do not favour a membership based organisation with the corresponding administrative costs and duties.

National or regional groups holding conferences under the SOL umbrella subscribe to the following SOL principles:

Delegates are SF practitioners working primarily in organisational and business environments

Their practice reflects SF ideas and principles

SF ideas and principles belong to everyone

SOL conferences are designed with processes which exemplify the SF approach

They encourage conversation and dialogue as well as formal presentations and workshops

The distinction between audience and presenters is minimal: the audience is encouraged to participate and presenters are encouraged to join the audience for other presenters

Presenters are expected to attend and participate in the whole event.

International conferences adhere to the same principles. We hope that different countries will volunteer to host the events.

Funds to support this webpage and the SOLUTIONS-L listserver are raised from meetings.

Event organisers are asked to pay a per capita levy of the order US\$5-10 or ?5-10], to be agreed in advance.

SWARMING OUT? HERE ARE SOME TIPS FOR TRIPS

Maybe you feel like getting away from the busy swarm and enjoy the unique surroundings while you are here in Bruges... The historic Centre of Bruges was added to the Unesco's World Heritage list. The current city boundaries still coincide exactly with those of the medieval city centre, and the spaces and structures that were so typical of Bruges in the past have been preserved. Here are some ideas of how you can spend a couple of hours to refresh and enjoy.

For more information look at the Bruges brochure or call the tourist information (050/44 46 46).

- Take a Boat trip on the Canals if you missed it at the optional evening
- There are different things to see and do around the Our lady's Church, namely the Groeningen museum, the former Hospital (St Jan) with the Memling collection and the Canals and parks behind the cathedral.
- Visit the almshouses at the Beguinage near the "Minnewater" (the lake of love): a very picturesque spot to find some peace and quiet
- Have a carriage ride
- Visit the chapel of the Holy Blood on the Burg
- Avoid having food or drinks at Bruges Market place, unless you don't mind paying double.
- Try some of the local brew, in the lovely bars everywhere (e.g. Cookies, the Nano, bistro Zwarthuys, café Vlissingen, Versteende Nacht) (For the beers, try: Kriek, Leffe, Geuze, Maredsous, Duvel, Chimeay, Orval, Faro, ..)
- Just take a walk through busy squares, refreshing parks and quiet, intimate cobbled streets. It's a small place, and it is difficult to get lost.
- Explore the Mozartplein, fishmarket and surroundings or the St .-Jansplein with the "chocostory" (chocolate museum, open from 10 am to 5 pm, Wijnzakstraat 2) ,
- the Lace museum (Peperstraat 3A, 050/33 00 72)
- the museum of folklore (volkskunde), Balstraat 43,
- and the new Diamond museum, Katelijnestraat 43, 050/34 20 56 open 10:30pm to 5:30, pm. "A precious pearl in the Bruges' crown", the press wrote about the museum.
- Take a look at the new and contemporary Concert hall which is one of the most prominent music complexes in Flanders
- Have a yummie Belgian Waffle or tasty Belgian Fries!

RESTAURANTS that were highly recommended by travellers and locals:

Den Dyver,

Dijver 5, tel: 050/33 60 69, closed Wednesday, Thursday noon

Stylish creative restaurant with culinary dishes that subtly incorporate great regional beers and home-grown herbs.

De Cafedraal,

Zilverstraat 38, tel 050/340845,

Bistro restaurant classical fish, meat and shellfish dishes, open from 12 pm to 3 pm and from 6 pm to 11 pm

De Vlaamsche Pot / pancake House,

Helmstraat 3-5, tel 050 34 00 86

Wide choice of various local dishes as Flemish beef, stew "waterzooi" and mussels with French fries. In the afternoon, you also can enjoy the waffles and pancakes and a variety of famous Belgian beers.

Marieke Van Brugghe,

Mariastraat 17, tel 050 34 33 66

Flemish stew, shrimp tomato, smoked or grilled salmon, mussels.

Het Kapittel

Crowne Plaza Burg 10, tel 050 44 68 44, open from 12 am to 2 pm and from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm

Top notch cuisine and prices

Arthies,

Wollenstraat 3, tel 050 33 43 13

A small restaurant off the main square of Bruges, the place is beautiful and the music is mellow and pleasing. Delightful combinations of fresh, unexpected and tasty ingredients.

Bistro Patat,

Vlamingstraat 53, tel 050/61 40 08, open from 12am to 2pm and from 6:30pm to 10 pm.

Trendy place with culinary surprises at reasonable prices

Bistro 't Zwart Huis

Kuiperstraat 23, tel 050 67 62 19

Tapa's, snacks, pasta's, wok-dishes, tournedos and French fries, local beers, world wines, cocktails, cosy mix of latino, jazz and lounge-music.

Karmeliet,

Langestraat 19, 050 33 82 59, open 12 am to 1:30 pm and 7 pm to 9:30pm

Gastronomic perfection, one of our finest 3-star restaurants, don't forget to make a reservation

Versteende nacht,

Langestraat 11, tel 050/33 36 66

International cuisine and jazz café, closed on Wednesday

Nano,

Kuipersstraat 11, 050/34 08 00

Delicious snacks and fresh lunch meals. During the weekend, tables are put aside and the restaurant changes in a cosy café with old and new (danceable) music!

Cookies,

Garre 2, 050 61 35 88, closed at lunch time

Near the Burg, the smallest dead-end street in Bruges. You can eat tapas here and drink beer of course

De Bottelier,

St.-Jakobsstraat 63, 050/33 18 60

From 12am to 2pm and from 6:30pm to 10 pm

Fish, meat and vegetarian food, pastas salads, cosy place!

B.in

Zonnekemeers Oud Sint Jan, tel: 050/31 13 00

Open from 12am to 2:30pm and from 6:30 pm to 10 pm, closed Sunday
reservation recommended

Lounge-bar and restaurant, terrace, gastronomic French cuisine, trendy place

Cafe Vlissinghe

Blekerstraat 2, tel: 050/34 37 37, open from 11 am to...

The oldest Café in Bruges, exploited since 1515 (owners changed since then).

You can get snacks and local beers, other drinks, wines and spirits.

Practical information

1. Hotels

If you want to find out where your (new) friends stay...

Hotel Heritage	Nikolaas Desparsstraat 11	Distance: 1,1 km = 16' walk.
Hotel Fevery Collaert	Mansionstraat 3	Distance: 0,6 km = 8' walk.
Hotel Flanders	Langestraat 38	Distance: 1,1 km = 16' walk.
Hotel Jacobs	Baliestraat 1	Distance: 0,6 km = 9' walk.
Hotel Sablon	Noordzandstraat 21	Distance: 1,5 km = 22' walk.
Hotel Ter Brughe	Oost-Gistelhof 2	Distance: 0,8 km = 11' walk.
Hotel Ter Duinen	Langerei 25	Distance: 0,4 km = 5' walk.
Hotel Ter Reien	Langestraat 1	Distance: 1,0 km = 14' walk.
Hotel Walburg	Boomgaardstraat 13-15	Distance: 1,0 km = 14' walk.
Golden Tulip De Medici	Potterierei 15	Distance: 0,4 km = 5' walk.
Best Western Pr. Acacia	Korte Zilverstraat 3a	Distance: 1,4 km = 21' walk.
Best Western Pr. Navarra	Sint-Jakobsstraat 41	Distance: 1,3 km = 18' walk.
Relais Oud Huis Amsterdam	Spiegelrei 3	Distance: 0,8 km = 12' walk.

2. Emergency numbers

Belgian land code	+32
Ambulance	100
Police	101
Fire Department	100
Physicians' Hotline	Friday: +32(0)78/15.15.90 Weekends & evenings: +32(0)495/52.07.34
Dentists	+32(0)50/28.99.39
Pharmacies	From 18:30-22:00: +32(0)900/10.500 From 22:00-09:00: +32(0)50/44.88.44 (police)
Taxi	+32(0)50/33.44.55
Train information	050/30.24.24 www.nmbs.be
Flight info Zaventem Airport	0900/700 00 (€ 0.45/min) www.brusselsairport.be/en/flightinfo

SOL Emergency Numbers:

Christophe Vancoppenolle	+32(0)473/56.00.17
Chris Verheyde	+32(0)475/65.60.52

3. Trains from Bruges to Zaventem Airport (week and weekends): Change trains in Brussels North Station.”

04:57

06:27

05:29

06:55

06:02

07:27

06:35

07:55

07:02

08:27

... every 02' and 35' min past the hour

... arrives approx. 1h25 later

Last train at 22:02

in Brussels Airport

23:27

4. Bus info

Take busses 4 or 14 to go to the conference venue from the Market Square. Exit at “Duinenburg.”

5. Lost and found

Please, go to the information desk.

6. Bookstore

On Friday and Saturday you will find a SATAS-bookstore at the SOLWORLDCAFE with all the latest on the Solution Focused approach and with recommended books on the Reach Out themes.

7. Storage

If you want to get rid of luggage or portables, please contact the information desk to use our locked storage room (room “Toronto 2007”)

8. Sponsors



SOL2007 Team

Together Each Achieves Miracles!

This years SOL Team was:

Liselotte Baeijaert, Louis Cauffman, Saskia Holvoet, Magda Ral, Anton Stellamans, Christophe Vancoppenolle, Marc Van Houtte and Chris Verheyde (conference coordinator)

It was big fun and a great honour for us to organise this year's SOL Conference.

Thanks to our helping hands:

Annemie Diegenant, Katrien Viane, Bart Roussard, Philip Lievens, Wouter Benoit, Anne-Marie Frisque, Lut Schoofs, Lut Verheyde, Rose Verheyde, Els Janssens, Ward Vantiegheem, Carine Slabbinck, Katrien Maes, Ann Colson, Michèle Jacobs, Nina Claeys and Kristof Saey.

Warm thanks also to the **SOL2006 TEAM** for their advise, all contributors at the SOL2007 conference and Mark McKergow, Kirsten Dierolf, Paul Z Jackson, James Kennedy, Michael Hjerth, Luc Isebaert, Peter Stam, Alasdair Macdonald, Yvonne Oertel, Peter Röhrig, Khouzami Mounir, Wolfgang Klier, Regina Reinhardt, and many more.

***A busy merchant once asked a monk,
'What do you do to slow down time?'***

***The monk answered:
'When I stand, I stand.
When I walk, I walk.
When I sit, I sit.
When I eat, I eat.'***

***Disappointed, the merchant said, 'What is so special about that?
I do the same thing.'***

***The monk smiled a little and commented:
'When you sit, you are already standing.
When you stand, you are already walking.
When you are walking, you already want to start eating.
When you are eating, you already want to sleep.***

And it surprises you that tomorrow is already New Year's Day!

*We hope you will join us in September at the SOL Summer University in Budapest
or next year at the next SOL conference in Cologne 2008.*

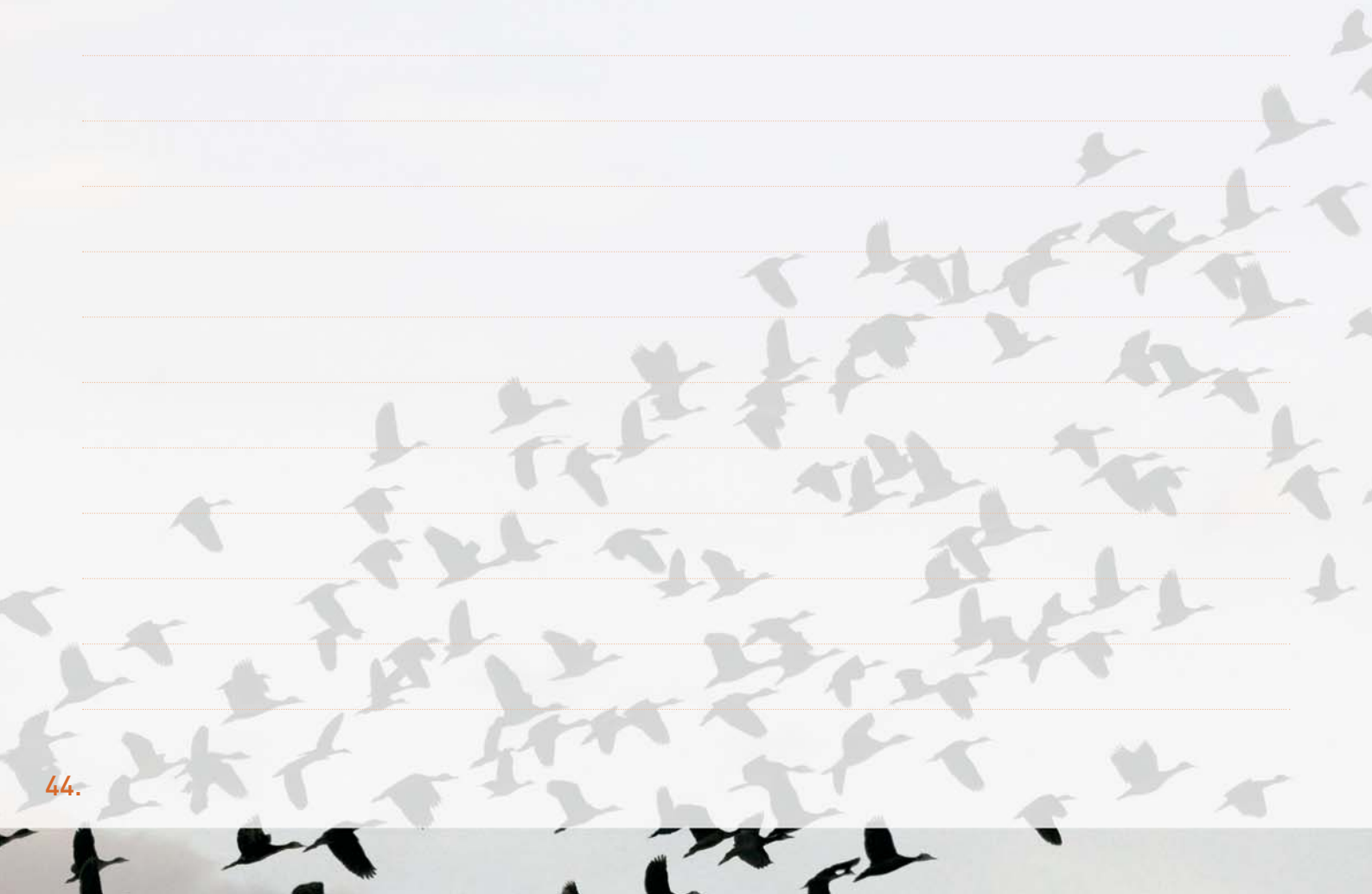
More information on www.solworld.org.

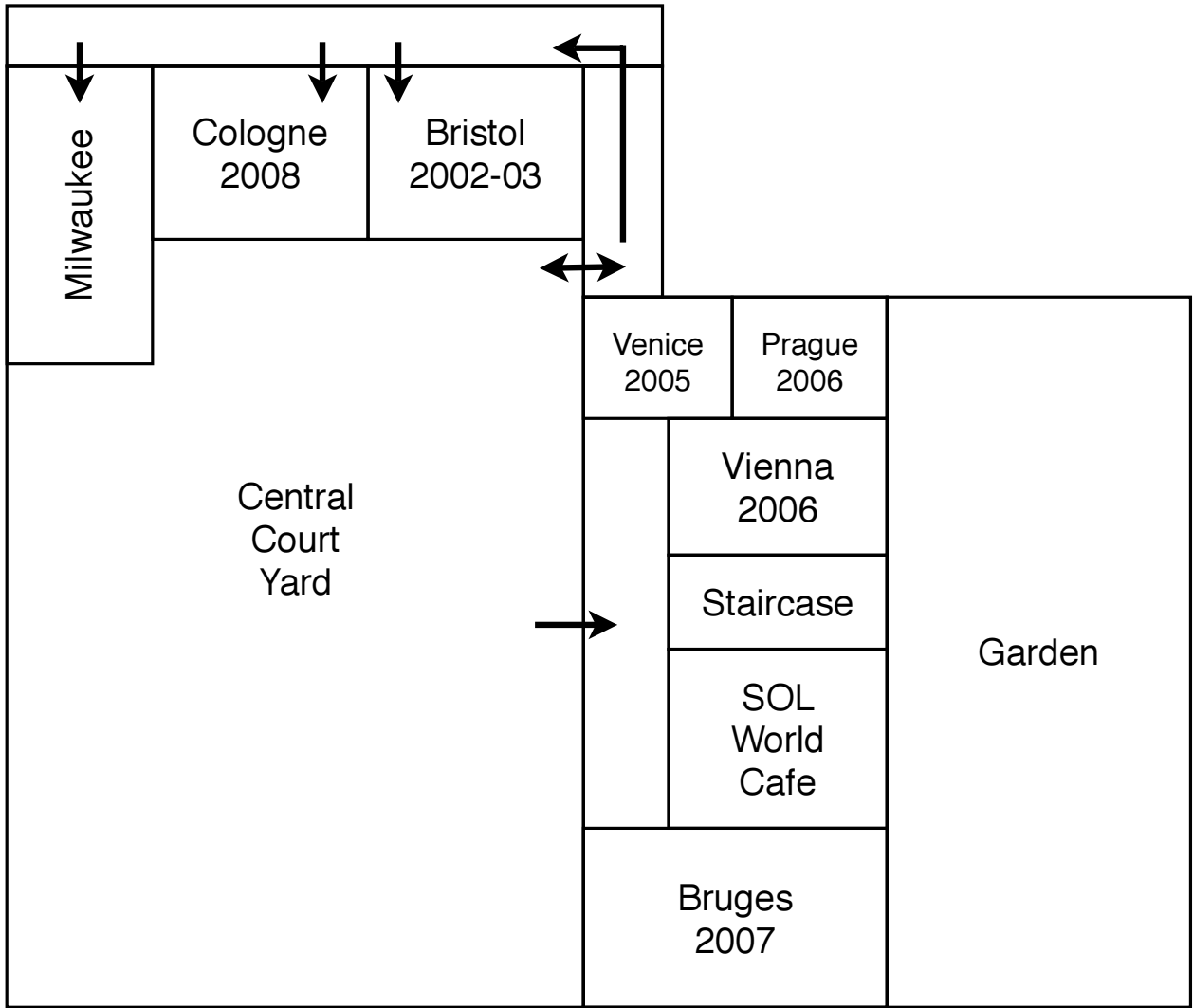


NOTES / SOL 2007



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First Floor

