

DECEMBER 2015

# Newcastle Spiritualist Church Inc



3 Swan Street  
Off Darby Street via Queen Street

P.O. Box 2251, Dangar 2309  
Phone 02 4926 3402



DAY	TIME	FACILITATOR	DESCRIPTION
MONDAY	7.30 pm- 9.00 pm	Marcia Parkes Close 14th Dec.-4th Jan	Meditation/Development
TUESDAY	10.30 am - Noon	Carmel & Bill John Close 15th Dec.-5th Jan	Meditation/Healing
	Committee Meeting	**7pm**	8th December
WEDNESDAY	11am-2.30pm	Yvonne Warren & Joanne Close 15th Dec-20th Jan.	Meditation/development
	7.30pm	Albert Kohl Close 2nd Dec-6th Jan.	Spiritual Healing
THURSDAY	Readings \$25	Recessed till February 2016	
FRIDAY	7.30 pm - 9.00 pm	Jenny Havebond Close 11th Dec.-8th Jan	Meditation/Development
SUNDAY	3.00 pm & 7.00 pm	Changed over Christmas.	Services. Check dates inside
SATURDAY	Coffee Club Bendy Yoga with Jim	In recess till 16th January Close 5th Dec- 30th January	

## *Our Philosophy is based on Seven Principles*



*(With liberty of interpretation)*

1. *The Fatherhood of God.*
2. *The Brotherhood of Man.*
3. *The immortality of the soul and its personal characteristics*
4. *The proven facts of communication between departed human spirits and mortals*
5. *Personal responsibility.*
6. *Compensation and retribution hereafter for all good and evil deeds done here*
7. *A path of Eternal Progress open to every human soul who wills to tread it by the path of eternal good.*

*Greetings friends,*

*Merry Christmas to all, as we move on to the end of another beautiful year. It has been busy ! So much has happened.*

*Wonderful time with Karen and Matthew : thanks to all our members who contributed in so many ways to the success of this past year.*

*We have been visited by so many inspiring speakers, always members prepared to step up and help.: our wonderful Circle leaders who come along week after week, sharing their knowledge and encouraging their Circles: the Thursday "readers" who show up each Thursday, and Marcia who enables all who come along, to see someone. for a "reading". Our secret shopper who makes sure our cupboards are full, and the lady who makes our Church sparkle. All important parts of our vibrant Church. Thank you all, and thank you to those that do the thousand and one little jobs along the way.*

*Christmas is indeed a season for Family, with Good will to all, take time to check on others who may be alone, and come along to 3pm Service 20th Dec. to share Christmas spirit with your Church family at our party. Come along and bring a plate. There will be no 7pm Service that day.*

*From Me and Mine to You and Yours*

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year*

**Charles Freeman**

**President.**

## **Tasting Life**

**Before the young man began his studies, he wanted assurance from the Master.**

**"Can you teach me the goal of human life?"**

**"I cannot," replied the Master....**

**"Or at least its meaning?"**

**"I cannot."**

**"Can you indicate to me the nature of death and of life beyond the grave?"**

**"I cannot." The young man walked away in scorn. The disciples were dismayed that their Master had been shown up in a poor light.**

**Said the Master soothingly, "Of what is it to comprehend life's nature and life's meaning if you have never tasted it? I'd rather you ate your pudding than speculated on it."**

**Anthony De Mello ~**

**~ An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him 'How do you expect to get into Heaven?'**

**The boy thought it over and said, 'Well, I'll run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until St. Peter says, 'For Heaven's, Dylan, come in or stay out!''**

## PROGRAMME FOR DECEMBER 2015

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPEAKERS</u>	<u>CHAIR</u>	
<u>6th December</u> 3pm	Dianne Parker	Chair	Jenny Havebond
7pm	Peter Madden	Chair	Marcia Parkes
<u>13th December</u>	Cecile Trapman	Chair	Anona Unicomb
	Aidan Pontifax	Chair	Charles Freeman
<u>20th December</u> 3pm	Shared platform		
Final Service for year, followed by our Christmas Party together. No 7pm service tonight			
<u>3rd January 2016</u> <u>3pm Service only.</u>	Susan Glynn	Chair	Marcia Parkes

### **Groups go into recess**

<b>Monday evening</b>	<b>14th Dec. resume</b>	<b>4th January</b>
<b>Tuesday morning</b>	<b>15th Dec. resume</b>	<b>5th January</b>
<b>Wednesday morning</b>	<b>16th Dec. resume</b>	<b>20th Jan</b>
<b>Wednesday evening</b>	<b>2nd Dec. resume</b>	<b>6th Jan</b>
<b>Friday evening</b>	<b>11th Dec. resume</b>	<b>8th January</b>
<b>Coffee Club returns</b>	<b>16th January. 2016</b>	
<b>Bendy Yoga</b>	<b>5th Dec. 30th Jan</b>	

**Thursday Readers return in February.**

**Our latest raffle, thanks to all who organised this, will be drawn at Christmas Party**

**Just checking through everything, and remembered I didn't report on Coffee Club Christmas Party. We had a great time, good company, good food and lots of time to talk and share. This is an important part of our intention. To spend time in sharing and discussing things in general. Not always time for this in Circles, but we certainly do plenty at Coffee Club. Great idea Krys, certainly proving itself each month. See you all at January meeting.**

**This is the final page I am typing, so trying to remember all the bits I have missed. Thanks to those members who submit items for newsletter, through the year. If you have an item you would like included, please email it to me, my address is on the back page, or leave it at Church for me.**

**Think seriously about getting more involved. I can promise you that you will get back much more than you are prepared to put in. Offer to help out on the platform, be friendly to those visiting for first time, lots of ways, and REMEMBER to bring a plate to share at our Christmas. Let's all enjoy the break, and come back recharged, ready for anything.**

.....  
.  
**Group work can be done with the wistful thinking of all the individuals as one humongous brain, that can only be achieved when all of us wants to be part of it and finally it is cemented clearly in a agreement of the strongest way because we want to achieve it.**

**Ivo van Emmerik**

## BITS AND PIECES

Well another great year almost over, so much has happened, our membership grows, as does our Circles, and members are reaching out to new experiences and people. The amazing speakers and mediums who have given us their time this year, open new doors and possibilities, sky really can be the limit.

A Facebook reader contacted us, and has delivered many cartons of books for our members. She is relocating to Tasmania, and she is delighted to find a home for her books. Some are for our library, the others are available for members to take. Such a generous gesture.

As we all know, everything happens for a reason. Earlier this year we had a problem with interference with our website, and were experiencing difficulty having in removed. I received a phone call from Matthew, member of a South Australian Spiritualist Church, Spiritual Mission of Noarlunga. Matthew had noticed our problem, and offered to fix it, at no cost, (he runs a computer business) Of course we were delighted, and from that contact came the recent visit of Karen Line-Jones from UK. From little things big things grow.

A number of our members have passed over this year, and as happens, we have more younger people stepping forward, after time spent in Circles and Mediumship classes. We should not lose the memories of those older mediums, and members, no longer with us, they gave us our foundation, and we should still mention them and the part they have played. I am delighted that Albert Kohl is now teaching Spiritual Healing on Wednesday evening Circle. Albert was an original trustee when this building was purchased, indeed he and his late wife Ilse were responsible for so much. I was looking for a Christmas story to include in this newsletter, and so I have included the following, I hope you think this one is appropriate. So much fighting and war going on each day, papers and news broadcasts are full of it, miracles do happen, perhaps one happened Christmas 1914.

The Christmas Truce by David G. Stratman From his book We Can Change the World

It was December 25, 1914, only 5 months into World War I, German, British, and French soldiers, already sick and tired of the senseless killing, disobeyed their superiors and fraternized with "the enemy" along two-thirds of the Western Front (a crime punishable by death in times of war). German troops held Christmas trees up out of the trenches with signs, "Merry Christmas." "You no shoot, we no shoot." Thousands of troops streamed across a no-man's land strewn with rotting corpses. They sang Christmas carols, exchanged photographs of loved ones back home, shared rations, played football, even roasted some pigs. Soldiers embraced men they had been trying to kill a few short hours before. They agreed to warn each other if the top brass forced them to fire their weapons, and to aim high.

A shudder ran through the high command on either side. Here was disaster in the making: soldiers declaring their brotherhood with each other and refusing to fight. Generals on both sides declared this spontaneous peacemaking to be treasonous and subject to court martial. By March 1915 the fraternization movement had been eradicated and the killing machine put back in full operation. By the time of the armistice in 1918, fifteen million would be slaughtered.

Not many people have heard the story of the Christmas Truce. On Christmas Day, 1988, a story in the Boston Globe mentioned that a local FM radio host played "Christmas in the Trenches," a ballad about the Christmas Truce, several times and was startled by the effect. The song became the most requested recording during the holidays in Boston on several FM stations. "Even more startling than the number of requests I get is the reaction to the ballad afterward by callers who hadn't heard it before," said the radio host. "They telephone me deeply moved, sometimes in tears, asking, 'What the hell did I just hear?' " You can probably guess why the callers were in tears. The Christmas Truce story goes against most of what we have been taught about people. It gives us a glimpse of the world as we wish it could be and says, "This really happened once." It reminds us of those thoughts we keep hidden away, out of range of the TV and newspaper stories that tell us how trivial and mean human life is. It is like hearing that our deepest wishes really are true: the world really could be different.

## AS I AGE, I REALIZE THAT:

1. I talk to myself, because sometimes I need expert advice.
  2. Sometimes I roll my eyes out loud.
  3. I don't need anger management. I need people to stop pissing me off.
  4. My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance of idiots that needs work.
  5. The biggest lie I tell myself is "I don't need to write that down, I'll remember it."
  6. When I was a child I thought nap time was punishment. Now it's like a mini vacation..
  7. The day the world runs out of wine is just too terrible to think about.
  8. Even duct tape can't fix stupid, but it can muffle the sound.
  9. Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes; come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller.
  10. At my age "Getting Lucky" means walking into a room and remembering what I came in there for.
- Hi Alva

No matter who we are or how spiritually enlightened we become, there will always be moments in life when our compassion toward others is challenged.

It might happen while in line at the grocery store, or when you receive that unwanted sales call, but most likely, it'll sneak up on you while you're stuck in a plane, train, or automobile waiting to get somewhere :) In these momentary lapses of compassion, there is usually a target "villain" that we project our frustration onto. The key is to recognize this in the moment, bring ourselves back to presence, and begin holding space for that other human being.

Easier said than done, right? Well, I want to share a simple prayer that I've fallen in love with over the past few months. It is for moments exactly like these. Try reaching for these words during any potentially stressful interaction with another - I hope they serve you well.

The "Just Like Me" Mantra

(When saying the words below, focus on the individual you are frustrated with.)

Just like me, you are seeking some happiness in your life.

Just like me, you are trying to avoid suffering in your life.

Just like me, you have known sadness.

Just like me, you want to be loved.

Just like me, you were once an innocent child.

Just like me, you are a spirit on a journey.

We're all trying to be good to one another, and little soul-reminders like this can help us get there, especially when the going gets tough.

Nick Polizzi Director, The Sacred Science

Nick Polizzi has spent his career directing and editing feature length documentaries about holistic alternatives to conventional medicine.

Nick's current role as director of "The Sacred Science" stems from a calling to honour, preserve, and protect the ancient knowledge and rituals of the indigenous peoples of the world.

### PECANS IN THE CEMETERY - love it!!!

**On the outskirts of a small town, there was a big old pecan tree just inside the cemetery fence. One day, two boys filled a bucketful of nuts and sat down by the tree, out of sight, and began dividing the nuts.**

**"One for you, one for me, one for you, one for me," said one boy.**

**A couple dropped and rolled down toward the fence.**

**Another boy came riding along the road on his bicycle. As he passed, he thought he heard voices from inside the cemetery. He slowed to investigate. Sure enough, he heard, "One for you, one for me, one for you, one for me.." He just knew what it was. He jumped on his bike and rode off. Just around the bend he met an old man with a cane, hobbling along. "Come here quick," said the boy, "you won't believe what I heard! Satan and the Lord are down at the cemetery dividing the souls!" So the old man hobbled slowly to the cemetery, with the boy close behind him.**

**When they got to the fence they stood still and heard, "One for you, one for me. One for you, one for me." The old man whispered, "Boy, you've been tellin' me the truth. Let's see if we can see the Lord." Shaking with fear, they peered through the fence, yet were still unable to see anything. The old man and the boy gripped the wrought iron bars of the fence tighter and tighter as they tried to get a glimpse of the Lord.**

**At last they heard, "One for you, one for me. That's all. Now let's go get those two nuts by the fence and we'll be done". They say the old man had the lead for a good half-mile before the kid on the bike passed him.**



## OUR GREATEST GIFT

The greatest Gift we can receive is the knowledge that we are Spiritual Souls attending the School of Life in order to learn the lessons we have chosen for this lifetime. We have created a vehicle (called a body) that we travel in.

When life's journey is complete the vehicle wears out and allows us to return 'home'. Sometimes the vehicle is broken or attacked by illness and this lifetime's journey is completed.

However, once we understand that we have many journeys to this planet (and some time others) in order to learn the thing we want to know, or learn how to do the things we want to do, then being able to leave is much easier for us than to those who think that death is the end of the journey.

Many times I hear people say that they won't come back again, but when we get to the other side and realize how far we still have to go to perfect our Soul we think differently about it.



Many people also do not understand the role that our Guardian Angel (or Angels) play in our lives. We are all assigned a Guardian Angel to help us through life. This Angel has our life plan and knows what to do to arrange for us to meet certain people and to be in certain situations so that we can carry out the work and learning we decided on before we left our Heavenly Home.

During our lifetime we walk on many paths and often have different jobs to do. When we need special guidance or special knowledge to help us to fulfil our tasks special Angels or Guides are assigned to us to help us to achieve our goal. Once we really understand and believe that these Angels and Guides are working with us we know we can achieve many tasks that we would have thought impossible.

Often we learn because of difficulties we have to work with. Think back to troublesome situations in your life and look at all the things you have learned and often people you have met because of that situation.

Years ago people were learning about their Sub Conscious. We learned that our Sub Conscious does not think for itself, it only does what the conscious mind tells it. So we began to realize that what you say is taken literally by the Sub Conscious mind and it tries hard to please you by making it happen. I have learned not to say 'give me a break' because friends of mine who often used that phrase often ended up with broken legs. Affirmations became popular because of this understanding and many people thought that all they had to do was say affirmations over and over and what they wanted to happen, would happen. Depending on the sincerity of the affirmation sometimes what they wanted did happen.

In recent years people have been talking about the Universal Energy (which is like the Universal Sub Conscious) People have been finding that if there was something that they were needing they only had to 'put it out there' and leave it to the Universe (instead of fretting and fuming) many times their need was fulfilled (not usually in the way they expected)

I can vouch for this as I have had my needs filled over and over again just by letting the Universe know what I needed and it has been delivered to me. Usually in a way that I had never thought of.

We are not talking about winning the Lottery or gaining huge amounts of money. The things that are most important to our happy life are often simple things. And they are usually delivered in an unusual manner. Before we came back we worked out our 'Plan' for this lifetime and our 'soul' partners agreed to work along with us in order for us to learn the particular things we wanted to learn to help our Soul grow to its full potential. Once we understand this, (even though things are often difficult for us,) we can know we are working on our life's plan. So we can do our best and relax our stress because we know that once our job is finished we can return 'Home' for a rest before setting out again.

Thank you once more Shirley Darby, for sharing with us. Also included in Shirley's post is the following about her new book.

This book will give you an insight into the needs of each Astrological sign. I have also added the Decans as each Astrological sign has three different ways of expressing themselves. As you know, often we meet someone who is the same sign to us who acts differently to us. This is because each Decan of a sign works a different way. Other planets and signs in an Astrological Chart will naturally make each person different. This book will be a great help if your child is doing something that you can't understand or your friend or partner does not understand your needs. I would like to see it being used by teachers to get and insight into different children and partners using it to understand the needs of the other.

I will take a few copies with me to our Tuesday Group and on Sundays at the 3 o'clock service if you would like to purchase one. They are \$20.00 each.

## A FEW MORE BITS AND PIECES

**Who didn't bother to read the back page last month, and missed out on the jokes? I hear more feed back about the jokes than anything else, so as my Christmas gift to faithful readers there are extra jokes for all. Found out from Facebook that things go better with a mix and humour. Last month we had over 11,000 contacts one week! Unbelievable!**

### Story of a Mighty Girl from Facebook

**When Maggie Doyne decided to take a year off after high school to travel around the world, the adventurous 19-year-old New Jersey native never imagined the unexpected direction her life would take. While backpacking around Nepal shortly after the end of the Nepalese Civil War, she was struck by the plight of the many children who were struggling to survive and made a radical decision. She asked her parents to wire her the \$5,000 she had saved from years of babysitting and used the money to open an orphanage.**

**Ten year later, the now 28-year-old Doyne is the mother and legal guardian of nearly 50 children and has built a community school that educates 350 students. In recognition of her incredible dedication to improving the lives of Nepalese children, Doyne has just been named one of CNN's Top 10 Heroes of 2015!**

**From her earliest days in Surkhet, the Nepalese city where she built the Kopila Valley Children's Home and the Kopila Valley School, Doyne has worked closely with the local community: "I learned very early on, from the beginning, that I couldn't come in and just be like, 'Here, I have a vision. This is what we're going to do.' That doesn't work. It has to be slow; it has to be organic. And it has to come from the community and be a 'we' thing."**

**Over the years, Doyne has continued to expand the breadth of their work to tackle various needs in the community. "We run the school lunch program. Then we needed to keep our kids really healthy, so we started a small clinic and then a counselling center," she explains. "From there we started getting more sustainable and growing our own food. And then from there we decided to start a women's centre."**

**This year, they bought more property and converted to solar energy. Soon, Doyne says, "we'll have a high school and then a day care, preschool, elementary, all the way up, and a vocational center where kids can become a thriving young adult with everything they need to succeed moving forward."**

**Doyne is thrilled to be selected as one of CNN's Heroes of 2015, a recognition which makes her eligible for CNN's Hero of the Year and a \$100,000 grant to help further her work. "It's become so much more than just a little girl with a backpack and a big dream," Doyne says. "It's become a community. And I want to teach and have other people take this example and hope this sets a precedent for what our world can be and look like." And, while she knows that her path has been unconventional, it's certainly been the right choice for her: "I wake up every day saying 'I love my job.' That's my message for young people, especially for young women: do what you love and what makes you feel good."**

.....  
*This is a wonderful example of just how one committed person, on seeing a need, can do something about it, and enthuse others, and by their combined efforts something wonderful, almost beyond belief can happen. The number of lives effected by this young woman's decision to help is ENORMOUS.*

.....  
A nursery school pupil told his teacher he'd found a cat, but it was dead.  
'How do you know that the cat was dead?' she asked her pupil.  
'Because I pissed in its ear and it didn't move,' answered the child innocently.  
'You did WHAT?' the teacher exclaimed in surprise.  
'You know,' explained the boy, 'I leaned over and went 'Pssst' and it didn't move'

Well I think that's about it, as always, the mistakes are mine, and I wish each of you a wonderful Christmas with family and friends, please read the changes to Services and Circles. Come back with recharged batteries, ready to hop in, learn lots, share lots and extend a helping hand to any that could use it, **ALVA**

## Church Classifieds

When a vacancy occurs, you may advertise your product or service on this page for six months for a free will offering of \$50.

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*I think this was originally written about an Aussie couple.*

The first man married a woman from Italy. He told her that she was to do the dishes and house cleaning. It took a couple of days, but on the third day, he came home to see a clean house and dishes washed and put away.

The second man married a woman from Poland. He gave his wife orders that she was to do all the cleaning, dishes and the cooking. The first day he didn't see any results, but the next day he saw it was better. By the third day, he saw his house was clean, the dishes were done and there was a huge dinner on the table.

The third man married a girl from Ireland. He ordered her to keep the house clean, dishes washed, lawn mowed, laundry washed, and hot meals on the table for every meal. He said the first day he didn't see anything, the second day he didn't see anything but by the third day, some of the swelling had gone down and he could see a little out of his left eye, and his arm was healed enough that he could fix himself a sandwich and load the dishwasher. He still has some difficulty when he pees..

...A man observed a woman in the grocery store with a toddler-aged girl in her shopping trolley. As they passed the biscuit section, the little girl asked for biscuits and her mother told her no. The little girl immediately began to whine and fuss, and the mother said quietly: "Now Monica, we just have half of the aisles left to go through – don't be upset. It won't be long." Soon, they came to the sweets aisle and the little girl began to shout for chocolate. When told she couldn't have any, she began to cry. The mother said softly: "There, there, Monica, don't cry – only two more aisles to go and then we'll be checking out." When they got to the checkout stand, the little girl immediately began to clamour for lollipops and burst into a terrible tantrum upon discovering there'd be none purchased. The mother patiently said: "Monica, we'll be through this checkout stand in five minutes and then you can go home and have a nice nap." The man was very impressed with the woman's handling of the situations and followed them out to the car park and stopped her to compliment her. "I couldn't help noticing how patient you were with little Monica," he began. The mother sighed and replied: "Oh, no. My little girl's name is Tammy... I'm Monica."

A man in a hot air balloon realised he was lost. He reduced altitude and spotted a woman tending to the flowers in her garden. He descended a bit more and shouted, "Excuse me, can you help me? I promised a friend that I would meet him an hour ago, but I don't know where I am."

The woman below replied, "You're in a hot air balloon hovering approximately 30 feet above the ground.

You're between 40 and 41 degrees north latitude and between 59 and 60 degrees west longitude."

"You must be an Accountant," said the balloonist.

"I am," replied the woman, "How did you know?"

"Well," answered the balloonist, "everything you told me is technically correct, but I have no idea what to make of your information, and the fact is, I'm still lost. Frankly, you've not been much help at all. If anything, you have delayed my journey."

The woman below responded, "You must be in Management." "I am," replied the balloonist, "but how did you know?" "Well," said the woman, "you don't know where you are, or where you're going. You have risen to where you are due to a large quantity of hot air. You made a promise of which you have no idea how to keep, and you expect people beneath you to solve your problems. The fact is you are in exactly the same position you were in before we met, but somehow it's now become my fault!"