

DECEMBER 2011

# Newcastle Spiritualist Church Inc



3 Swan Street  
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DAY	TIME	FACILITATOR	DESCRIPTION
MONDAY	7.30 pm– 9.00 pm	Marcia Parkes	Meditation/Development
TUESDAY	10.30 am – Noon	Carmel John	Meditation/Healing
	<b>**Committee Meeting**</b>	<b>**7pm**</b>	13th December
WEDNESDAY	11.00am-2.30pm	Yvonne Warren	Meditation/Development
	7.30pm-9pm	Jo Burgess	Meditation/Development
THURSDAY	8.30am-1pm	Entry through side door	Readings
FRIDAY	7.30 pm - 9.00 pm	Carmel Colquhoun	Meditation/Development
SUNDAY	3.00 pm & 7.00 pm	Various	Services All welcome

## 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.*

*Dear Friends,*

*As our Circles wind down for the Christmas break, our thoughts turn to the many things this time of year means to each of us.*



*A time of thanksgiving, of worship, a time to renew our friendships with a card, or gift; a time to contemplate the wonders of the year passing, and to speculate just what the next year may bring. Perhaps have a break from our usual routines, and a chance to reconnect and revitalise, ready for the wonders to come. Take time to quietly consider these things, not being too carried away with the shopping, and arrangements, let us focus on the things that matter.*

*As you would be aware, we are taking a break over Christmas period, details are in this newsletter, and on our website. Have you ever checked our website? We are trying to keep up with technology, we even have a Facebook page! When you check these, please let Alva know of any errors, so they can be corrected.*

*Following our final Service for year, 18th December, a Christmas Supper is planned. Everyone is asked to bring along a plate to share.*

*Once again, I feel I must say "thank you" to those wonderful people, Circle facilitators, Readers, Committee members, Speakers, Sandwich makers, Cuppa makers, and all who lend a hand. As I have said before, this Church can only operate with the help of members.*

*Sadly this past month has brought the passing over of two members. Rev. Joy Whittaker was for many years our Minister at Swan Street, and passed after a long illness.*

*Our sympathy is extended to Joy's family.*

*Service at Swan Street was held by Marcia Parkes for the passing of David Marsh. Again, our sympathy and thoughts go to Janette and family.*

*May you all have a pleasant break, reconnect with those you love, and recharge your energy for the coming year,*

*Carmel Colquhoun*

PROGRAMME FOR DECEMBER 2011

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>
<u>4th December</u>		
3pm	Shirley Darby	Jo Burgess
7pm	Jenny Bush	Charles Freeman
<u>11th December</u>		
3pm	Peter Madden	Krys Johnson
7pm	Assunta Martinelli	Yvonne Gibson
<u>18th December</u>		
3pm	Shared platform.	Krys Johnson

Representative from all groups, to take part in this service, followed by a shared Christmas supper. Everyone asked to bring a plate to share.

No 7 pm service on this day.

Services to resume 8th January 2012

**Closing dates for coming Christmas period**

Monday night Circle	closing 19th December reopening 9th January
Tuesday day Circle	closing 20th December reopening 10th January
Wednesday day Circle	closing 14th December
Wednesday night Circle	closing 14th December reopening 11th January
Friday evening Circle	closing 17th December reopening 13th January

The final Thursday Reading Day will be 24th November. Resume `2nd February.

**Sunday Services** Our last service 18th December 3pm Service only, followed by Christmas Supper (everyone bring a plate to share.)

No Services New Years Day 1st January,

AMEN!

"Life is not about waiting for the storms to pass ...  
it's about caring and loving your relatives and friends while you can touch and see them, and they are still among us.

AMEN

## Bits and Pieces

How fortunate we are to live here, and NOW.

At times we feel unhappy with our "lot." I guess that's normal, but we really have only to open a newspaper, or listen to a news broadcast to be brought back to reality.

How fortunate we are.....Living in a peaceful country, no riots, wars or volcanos. Sure it may not be perfect, but it probably is as near as it gets on earth at this time.

Being aware and appreciating our surroundings and opportunities, can bring home to us what a special place we're in. This alone can soften our attitude to our daily hassles, knowing they are only temporary, and the overall picture is positive, and problems eventually resolve themselves.

Christmas is a great time to consider these things, regardless of our Faith, it is a Family time, of getting together and telling others, either verbally, by mail, or email that we are thinking and caring for them. So many give anonymously to Charities and collections to provide for those outside families, or having a difficult time.

This is the Spirit of Christmas in action. Others open their homes to those alone, sharing Dinner and good cheer.

Let us all make the most of our opportunity to hold out the hand of friendship and caring. I believe in the "golden Rule". It has been around even before Christ's birth.

"Do unto others as you would that they should do to you"

Last weekend, as we drove from Salamander shopping Centre, we came across a group of stationary cars, and we were delighted to see the reason for the delay.

A koala mother, with a fairly large youngster on her back was crossing the busy road, (about 11am) on all fours. It was a very hot day, and the tarred road would have been SO hot, but mother koala was not going to hurry for anyone.

Everyone who was lucky enough to see them went away smiling, thinking how great to see such a sight. Once you are in the "right" frame of mind, you are more open to see, and appreciate such events, they really are around us all, but we miss out if we are too preoccupied with the "next" thing we are hurrying to, or the "last" thing on our minds.

Sorry to hear Debbie Mallam is still having problems since her recent accident.

Get well soon Debbie, I am sure you are on lots of healing lists.

I indeed, to all our members not feeling well, or experiencing family problems, know that should you wish to go on our Church Healing list, or need a helping hand, or indeed a shoulder, please let others know. There is strength in numbers, as we all know.

What a great job our Circle facilitators do, right throughout the year. It would be impossible to calculate just how many people attend our Circles through the year, some every week, some when they can, but always the Circle is there, with an experienced and caring leader at the helm, furthering our belief and learning in Spiritualism.

# The Blending of Mind and Spirit to Change your Thought Patterns

We live in our mind with all its limitations, ideas and thoughts and most of us feel very comfortable there. Some of us live with a brief glimpse of our spirit, but many of us never see it at all. Knowing our spirit and blending it with our mind opens many possibilities in life.

Our thoughts are real. As real the electronic device you are reading this on. What we THINK shapes our life. If we think that life is not going well, that we will never succeed in our endeavors, or never find true love then that is what we create. The opposites (life is great, being successful, or finding your true love) can never get to you because your thoughts have set up a barrier.

You have probably heard about thinking positive thoughts and how important this is if you want good change in your life. Breaking down the barriers of your thoughts takes a little more than just positive thoughts. What does "positive thoughts" really mean?

To apply this positive thoughts concept we must examine our thoughts and identify the opposite of what is being expressed and then apply the positive result to our thinking.

Here is an exercise to try. It takes some effort but can open the door to understanding how your daily thoughts are hindering your success. Catalog your thoughts over several days by jotting down notes about your thoughts as often as you can. It's hard to do but be persistent. Include all kinds of thoughts; don't try to pick and choose those you think may be the troublesome ones.

Next it will be important to review what you have captured and spend some time letting the list percolate for a few days. Next start a new list of your thoughts about your original list. I know it sounds kind of confusing, but you are trying to get to a deeper understanding of your day-to-day thoughts.

To get down to a core thought barrier you will need to do some form of introspection during which time you allow yourself to reach out to your spirit. If you are not familiar with meditation, just simply sit in a quiet place and ask your spirit to assist you with this discovery process. Don't enter this process thinking it will only take one session. It may, but not likely. Be patient!

Once you understand what the basis of your negative thought process is, you will have a base upon which you can build positive thoughts. Here's a suggested approach for you to consider. You should compose a positive phrase such as "I appreciate the views of others even when I disagree." The negative thought would be "what a jerk" after your conversation. It is not enough to simply repeat your mantra to yourself during the day. To make a change you will have to catch yourself thinking in your old way and apply your mantra immediately. This step will plant your new way of thinking and allow the change.

It takes time, commitment, and patience to make this kind of change but the result is well worth the effort. An important aspect of making a successful change is to rely on your spirit to provide guidance and support. The more you open to your spirit the easier the change will be. If you meditate daily, keep at it. If you don't know how to meditate look for a class to take or purchase some

All Paths Lead Home

By John Cali on October 10, 2011 in channeling, life purpose, spirituality

Since I started doing this work with Spirit I've often been criticized by family, friends, and opponents for following the wrong path. Especially in spiritual matters.

We don't have to look any farther than the mainstream news media headlines to see graphic examples of people not only criticizing others for having different beliefs and values, but even killing them for it.

Here are some of Spirit's thoughts:

"You would think people on a path they consider good and true would find it in their hearts to look kindly upon their sisters and brothers. Even if those sisters and brothers were following a different path. That would certainly be our idea of a better world.

"You all live in a vast world of vast diversity. When you incarnated you knew the world was diverse, and you joyfully embraced the diversity. You joyfully embraced all your fellow humans, all your fellow creatures on the planet. You found it an exciting new adventure, and you immersed yourselves in the joy of it all.

"But then you grew up.

"By that time, the mass consciousness had probably convinced you the devil is in the diversity. If someone is different from you, there's some evil in that.

"You all have the right to choose your own paths. And you have the responsibility to allow others to choose their own paths. Never is anyone on a wrong spiritual path. Never!

"All paths lead home."

What are your thoughts? Do you believe all paths lead home?  
Do you have a hard time with those whose beliefs are  
radically different from yours?

.....

**A tourist in Vienna is going through a graveyard and all of a sudden he hears music. No one is around, so he starts searching for the source. He finally locates the origin and finds it is coming from a grave with a headstone that reads "Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827". Then he realizes that the music is the Ninth Symphony and it is being played backward!**

**Puzzled, he leaves the graveyard and persuades a friend to return with him. By the time they arrive back at the grave, the music has changed. This time it is the Seventh Symphony, but like the previous piece, it is being played backward. Curious, the men agree to consult a music scholar. When they return with the expert, the Fifth Symphony is playing, again backward.**

**The expert notices that the symphonies are being played in the reverse order in which they were composed, the 9th, then the 7th, then the 5th.**

**By the next day the word has spread and a crowd has gathered around the grave. They are all listening to the Second Symphony being played backward. Just then the graveyard's caretaker ambles up to the group.**

**Someone in the group asks him if he has an explanation for the music.**

**"I would have thought it was obvious" the caretaker says.**

**"He's decomposing."**

Christmas gift suggestions:  
To your enemy, forgiveness.  
To an opponent, tolerance.  
To a friend, your heart.  
To a customer, service.  
To all, charity.  
To every child, a good example.  
To yourself, respect.

### **On Christmas Day**

by Ellen Bailey

Jesus was born on Christmas  
Day  
In a manger on a bed of hay

His arrival was heralded by a  
shining star  
That could be seen both near and  
far

He came in peace and brought us  
his love  
He was a gift from Heaven  
above

Let us celebrate His arrival on  
this day  
For He came to show us the way

To eternal bliss and everlasting  
joy  
For every man and woman, girl  
and boy

Let us ring bells and sing to-  
gether as a choir  
Let us make joyful noise every-  
where

Let us spread good tidings at  
home and away  
Let us glorify Him on this  
Christmas Day.

### **Funny Christmas Story**

A little girl climbed onto Santa's  
lap, and Santa asked his usual  
question of her: "And what  
would you like for Christmas?"  
The child stared at him open  
mouthed and horrified for a  
minute and then gasped: "Didn't  
you get my E-mail?"

### **A Parents Night Before Christmas**

'Twas the night before Christmas when all through the house  
I searched for the tools to hand to my spouse.  
Instructions were studied and we were inspired,  
In hopes we could manage "Some Assembly Required."  
The children were quiet (not asleep) in their beds,  
While Dad and I faced the evening with dread:  
A kitchen, two bikes, Barbie's town house to boot!  
And, thanks to Grandpa, a train with a toot!

We opened the boxes, my heart skipped a beat....  
Let no parts be missing or parts incomplete!  
Too late for last-minute returns or replacement;  
If we can't get it right, it goes in the basement!

When what to my worrying eyes should appear,  
But 50 sheets of directions, concise, but not clear,  
With each part numbered and every slot named,  
So if we failed, only we could be blamed.

More rapid than eagles the parts then fell out,  
All over the carpet they were scattered about.  
"Now bolt it! Now twist it! Attach it right there!  
Slide on the seats, and staple the stair!  
Hammer the shelves, and nail to the stand."  
"Honey," said hubby, "you just glued my hand."

And then in a twinkling, I knew for a fact  
That all the toy dealers had indeed made a pact  
To keep parents busy all Christmas Eve night  
With "assembly required" till morning's first light.

We spoke not a word, but kept bent at our work,  
Till our eyes, they went bleary; our fingers all hurt.  
The coffee went cold and the night, it wore thin  
Before we attached the last rod and last pin.

Then laying the tools away in the chest,  
We fell into bed for a well-deserved rest.  
But I said to my husband just before I passed out,  
"This will be the best Christmas, without any doubt.

Tomorrow we'll cheer, let the holiday ring,  
And not have to run to the store for a thing!  
We did it! We did it! The toys are all set  
For the perfect, most perfect, Christmas, I bet!"

Then off to dreamland and sweet repose I gratefully went,  
Though I suppose there's something to say for those self-  
deluded...  
I'd forgotten that BATTERIES are never included!

## 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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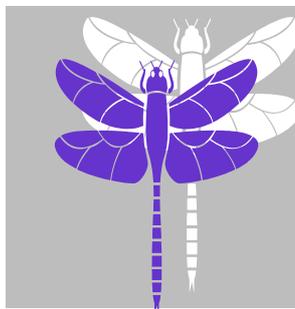
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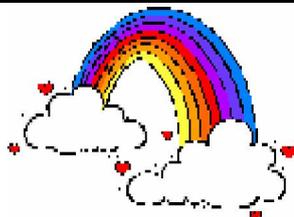
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