

FEBRUARY 2013

# Newcastle Spiritualist Church Inc



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DAY	TIME	FACILITATOR	DESCRIPTION
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>7.30 pm– 9.00 pm</b>	<b>Marcia Parkes</b>	<b>Meditation/Development</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>10.30 am – Noon</b>	<b>Carmel John</b>	<b>Meditation/Healing</b>
	<b>Committee Meeting</b>	<b>**7pm**</b>	<b>12th February</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>11.00am-2.30pm</b>	<b>Yvonne Warren</b>	<b>Meditation/Development</b>
	<b>7.30pm-9pm</b>	<b>Jo Burgess</b>	<b>Meditation/Development</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>9am to 1pm</b>	<b>\$25 Entry by side door</b>	<b>Restart 7th February</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>7.30 pm - 9.00 pm</b>	<b>Carmel Colquhoun</b>	<b>Meditation/Development</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>3.00 pm &amp; 7.00 pm</b>	<b>Various</b>	<b>Services All welcome</b>
<b>2nd February</b>	<b>Workshop with Shirley</b>	<b>Understanding the Language of Body for Healing</b>	<b>Fully booked</b>

## 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,

Well our new year is starting with a bang! New classes and workshops planned for the coming months. Opportunity for all to learn and grow.



Our membership is growing, with new members being enrolled most months., and interesting speakers stepping forward for services.. I am sure you will all extend the hand of friendship to our newer members, some of whom are new to Spiritualism; do spare a thought for when you first ventured to Swan Street, and appreciate the difference a friendly word can make.

Our comprehensive Library has been re-sorted and brought up to date. New guidelines for members' borrowings, have been drawn up, as explained in this newsletter, and also on library cupboard.

Simple instructions we are all asked to follow.

Perhaps the worst of the heat and fires are behind us, usually February is our hottest month, let us hope that this year January will have that honour..

Those hundreds of fire fighters , so many of whom are unpaid volunteers have proven to us what determination and grit can accomplish with a large dash of bravery.

Let us support them in our prayers and thoughts, together with those who have lost so much.. Fire is unpredictable, and terrifying , and this last month has brought home that each household should have a "disaster plan", and a "box" with those things important to us, ready to pick up, should we have to evacuate our homes at short notice, not only for fire, but for use in any unforeseen problem. Speed has been shown to be all important.

See you in church,

Carmel Colquhoun

## **ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION**

**Wish to become a Member?**

**Your annual subscription of \$10**

**(\$5 for concession card holders )**

**covers your newsletter, posted or emailed to your home each month, and access to our lending Library.**

• Application forms available

**PROGRAMME FOR FEBRUARY 2013**

<b><u>DATE</u></b>	<b><u>SPEAKER</u></b>	<b><u>CHAIRPERSON</u></b>
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**3rd. February**

<b>3pm</b>	<b>Asunta Martinelli</b>	<b>Gary Hall</b>
<b>7pm</b>	<b>Rosie Connor</b>	<b>Charles Freeman</b>

**10th February**

<b>3pm</b>	<b>Peter Madden</b>	<b>Marcia Parkes</b>
<b>7pm</b>	<b>Maree Miller</b>	
	<b>Yvonne Gibson</b>	

**17th February**

<b>3pm</b>	<b>Dave Everitt</b>	<b>Carmel Colquhoun</b>
<b>7pm</b>	<b>Spider Ward</b>	<b>Charles Freeman</b>

**24th February**

<b>3pm</b>	<b>Gary Hall</b>	<b>Krys Johnson</b>
<b>7pm</b>	<b>Jo Burgess</b>	<b>Marcia Parkes</b>

**3rd March**

	<b>Rev. Mark Penkala</b>	<b>Ivo Van Emmerik</b>
	<b>Vernice</b>	<b>Yvonne Gibson</b>

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**This month we have a wide range of speakers, from our own membership and visiting mediums. Remember, sometimes due to illness or circumstances , a substitute speaker may be on the platform. We appreciate all our speakers, and I remind you that they should all be made welcome, even if you do not agree with their point of view.**

**Assunta is very popular speaker, and spreads her love of life. Rosie is one of our Mediums, planning a further series of Mediumship classes, and workshops for Church members. Peter Madden works through John of God, noted Brazilian Healer. David Everitt returns. Long a friend of Church Dave is healer, and teaches Kinesiology Spider Ward returns. a popular a medium who is widely travelled. Gary Hall and Maree Miller, Church members with lots of knowledge to share Jo Burgess leads the popular Wednesday evening Circle.**

*Yesterday is a cancelled cheque: tomorrow is a promissory note:  
Today is the only cash you have – so spend it wisely. Kay Lyons*

## **BITS AND PIECES**

**Let us hope that the worst of the fires are over, and give silent thanks that most of us have not been impacted by them. Resolve to lend a helping hand where we can, and also be more aware of our own vulnerability to force of nature, and give thought to our own emergency plan, knowing just where our precious things are etc. should we have to make a speedy exit. This is not "fearful thinking", it is "smart thinking".**

**Firstly -----a Healthy and Happy 2013.  
Juggling 5 balls.**

**Imagine life is a game in which you are juggling 5 balls  
The balls are called work, family, health, friends and integrity  
and you're keeping all of them in the air.**

**But one day, you finally come to understand that work is a rubber ball, if you  
drop it it will bounce back**

**The other four balls- family, health, friends and integrity are made of glass.  
If you drop one of these, it will be irrevocably scuffed, nicked, perhaps even  
shattered**

**And once you truly understand the lesson of the five balls, you will have the  
beginnings of balance in your life.**

**James Pattenon.**

### **Why Not Be Happy For No Reason? By John Cali**

Whenever my spirit guides or I tell folks our natural state is to be happy, we usually get some strange responses—and even some angry arguments. Some of the usual arguments go like this:

How can I be happy in a world that's falling apart? How can I be happy when my loved ones are not happy? How can I be happy when I have no money?

How can happiness be our natural state? That doesn't make sense. And so on and on.

One of my favourite cartoons is Peanuts. In a recent one Lucy was asking Snoopy how he could be so happy when he had no idea what the new year would bring. She said he'd be better off to live in "dread and fear"—that would be the safe and sane thing to do.

The common thread in most of these arguments is folks are giving their power away to someone or something outside themselves. Why can't we be happy for no reason?

Here are some of Spirit's thoughts:

- Unhappiness is not your natural state of being, and never has been. Happiness is your natural state of being.
  - Even if you chose challenging circumstances into which to be born, you chose them because you intended to find joy here, to find happiness in exercising your divine creative powers.
  - Happiness is a choice you can freely make. Unhappiness is a choice you can freely make.
- No one, nothing can compel you to be either happy or unhappy.
- You are in control. Don't give your power away. You're far more powerful and wise than most of you imagine.
  - We don't expect you to be happy every moment of your earthly lives. But if you make happiness a habit you will find it much easier to return to it if you temporarily lose it. And to stay happy more and more.
  - We know your modern world is a challenging place to live. But you chose it. And you didn't choose it because you wanted to be miserable. You chose it because you thought there would be some fun in meeting the challenge.
  - So, to echo John's words, why not be happy for no reason?

### **FIFTY SHADES OF .....**

You appeared from no where and shamelessly, without any reservations, you laid on my naked body...

You sensed my indifference, so you applied your hungry mouth to me without any guilt or humiliation, and you drove me near crazy while you drained me.

Finally, I drifted off to sleep.

Today when I awoke, you were gone, I searched for you but to no avail, only the sheets bore witness to last night's events. My body still bears faint marks of your enthusiastic ravishing, making it all the more difficult to forget you.

.Tonight, I will remain awake, waiting for you.....

### **My first mosquito of this summer**

To stop those annoying sales phone calls time to register with [www.donotcall.gov.au](http://www.donotcall.gov.au)  
If you don't have a computer ask a friend to do it for you

The brand new pastor and his wife, newly assigned to their first ministry, to reopen a church in suburban Brooklyn, arrived in early October and excited about their opportunities. When they saw their church, it was very run down and needed much work. They set a goal to have everything done in time to have their first service on Christmas Eve. They worked hard, repairing pews, plastering walls, painting, etc, and on December 18 were ahead of schedule and just about finished. On December 19 a terrible tempest - a driving rain storm hit the area and lasted for two days.

On the 21st, the pastor went over to the church. His heart sank when he saw that the roof had leaked, causing a large area of plaster about 20 feet by 8 feet to fall off the front wall of the sanctuary just behind the pulpit, beginning about head high. The pastor cleaned up the mess on the floor, and not knowing what else to do but postpone the Christmas Eve service, headed home.

On the way he noticed that a local business was having a flea market type sale for charity, so he stopped in. One of the items was a beautiful, handmade, ivory colour, crocheted tablecloth with exquisite work, fine colours and a Cross embroidered right in the centre. It was just the right size to cover the hole in the front wall. He bought it and headed back to the church. By this time it had started to snow.

An older woman running from the opposite direction was trying to catch the bus. She missed it. The pastor invited her to wait in the warm church for the next bus 45 minutes later. She sat in a pew and paid no attention to the pastor while he got a ladder, hangers, etc., to put up the tablecloth as a wall tapestry. The pastor could hardly believe how beautiful it looked and it covered up the entire problem area.

Then he noticed the woman walking down the centre aisle. Her face was like a sheet. "Pastor," she asked, "where did you get that tablecloth?" The pastor explained. The woman asked him to check the lower right corner to see if the initials, EBG were crocheted into it there. They were. These were the initials of the woman, and she had made this tablecloth 35 years before, in Austria .. The woman could hardly believe it as the pastor told how he had just gotten "The Tablecloth". The woman explained that before the war she and her husband were well-to-do people in Austria When the Nazis came, she was forced to leave. Her husband was going to follow her the next week. He was captured, sent to prison and never saw her or their home again. The pastor wanted to give her the tablecloth, but she made the pastor keep it for the church. The pastor insisted on driving her home.

That was the least he could do. She lived on the other side of Staten Island and was only in Brooklyn for the day for a housecleaning job.

What a wonderful service they had on Christmas Eve. The church was almost full. The music and the spirit were great. At the end of the service, the pastor and his wife greeted everyone at the door and many said that they would return. One older man, whom the pastor recognized from the neighbourhood, continued to sit in one of the pews and stare, and the pastor wondered why he wasn't leaving. The man asked him where he got the tablecloth on the front wall because it was identical to one that his wife had made years ago when they lived in Austria before the war and how could there be two tablecloths so much alike?

He told the pastor how the Nazis came, how he forced his wife to flee for her safety and he was supposed to follow her, but he was arrested and put in a prison. He never saw his wife or his home again all the 35 years between.

The pastor asked him if he would allow him to take him for a little ride. They drove to Staten Island , to the same house where the pastor had taken the woman three days earlier. He helped the man climb the three flights of stairs to the woman's apartment, knocked on the door, and he saw the greatest Christmas reunion he could ever imagine

True story submitted initially by Pastor Rob Reid.....emailed to us by Carmel John

*A man walks out to the street and catches a taxi just going by. He gets into the taxi, and the cabbie says, 'Perfect timing. You're just like Frank.'*

*Passenger: 'Who?' Sounds like he was something really special.'*

*Cabbie: 'There's more. He had a memory like a computer. He remembered everybody's birthday. He knew all about wine, which foods to order and which fork to eat them with. He could fix anything. Not like me. I change a fuse, and the whole street blacks out. But Frank Feldman, could do everything right.'*

*Passenger: 'Wow, some guy then.'*

*Cabbie: 'He always knew the quickest way to go in traffic and avoid traffic jams. Not like me, I always seem to get stuck in them. But Frank, he never made a mistake, and he really knew how to treat a woman and make her feel good. He would never answer her back even if she was in the wrong; and his clothing was always immaculate, shoes highly polished too. He was the perfect man! He never made a mistake. No one could ever measure up to Frank Feldman.'*

*Passenger: 'An amazing fellow. How did you meet him?'*

*Cabbie: 'Well...I never actually met Frank. He died and I married his wife.'*

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**LIBRARY NOW REOPENED.**

Guidelines for facilitators for Lending books to members

1. Only facilitators can open the library cabinet and MEMBERS ONLY can borrow.
2. Key is in the cupboard, please replace when finished.
3. All MEMBERS will have a card ready in the box. No loan unless card is there.
4. The borrower to write the name of the book, date borrowed, and put card in the front of the box
5. It is ideal that books are not out more than one month.
6. Librarian to check if books are out more than a month and request return.
7. If borrower wants to keep book a little longer then up to Librarian to allow and put in new date on card of expectation of return. Ivo Van Emmerik is our Librarian

Perhaps if someone wants a special book that is out for a month then they put a note in the front so that the Librarian can see that a particular book is in demand and does not allow an extension.

Your cooperation is asked in the use of this system, previously we have lost a number of books.

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A number of workshops with both Shirley Darby and Rosie Connor are planned, so keep your eyes open, check on noticeboard and newsletter. Remember we have a facebook page too.

Also in planning, two retreats, and another evening visit to cemetery with Jo.

Happy to report that Rev. Meg is now on the mend, we look forward to your return Meg!!

Trust you enjoyed the flowers, Meg. Thanks to Arvid for giving me your new address.

**Reminder to all.**

Please let me know, (my details are always on back of newsletter,) should your address or phone number change. We have a duty to keep an up to date membership list, **Please remember.**

Thanks to all those sending me items for newsletter, this is from Carmel John

As you know at this time of the year, the spot checks come up with great regularity; I would like to share a personal experience with my friends about drinking and driving. As you well know, some have been known to have had brushes with the authorities on the way home from an occasional social session over the years. A couple of nights ago, I was out for an evening with friends and had a couple of cocktails and some rather nice red wine. Knowing full well I may have been slightly over the limit, I did something I've never done before ~ I took a cab home. Sure enough, I passed a police spot check but, since it was a cab, they waved it past. I arrived home safely without incident, which was a real surprise; as I have never driven a cab before and am not sure where I got it or what to do with it now that it's in my garage.

*Alva*

## WHY FEAR DEATH

The most important message that a Spiritualist Church wants to give to people is that there IS a life after death.

I have been involved with Spiritualist Churches for thirty years and have heard over and over again proof that people who have passed over are still watching their loved ones and are in a much happier state than when they were here on earth. I have heard mediums connecting with those who have passed over and giving information that could not be falsified to people attending churches or meetings.



If we hear this information time after time why should we be frightened of dying? We often hear from those who were very ill when they passed over that they are fine and happy and well now. So if we fear dying we have had proof that an ill body is healed when we get 'home'.

I had only been going to a Spiritual Church in Enmore/Sydney for a short while when I had an experience that gave me proof of being watched by our spiritual family. I was studying Astrology and my teacher said that I must be like my father's side of the family because of a certain placement in my chart. I said "no, I am more like my mother's side of the family". I did not think of it again, but a few weeks later a medium who was giving out messages from the platform of the Church said to me. "Shirl, there is an old fashioned man here beside me, he has a bushy moustache and is dressed in an 1800's style. He is VERY angry with you and tells me that he will not leave until you realise that you are like your father's side of the family.

Because I had forgotten about the incident in my Astrology class I did not understand what she was talking about. It was on my way home in the car that I realised that one of my ancestors had been watching me and was not happy with my attitude.

That was one of the first things that convinced me of life after death and I have had thirty years of hearing proof to members of the meetings I have attended. I have also read many books that explain different aspects of the other side.

Michael Newton has written two books that I think are a wonderful help to understand what happens.

His first book *Journey of the Soul* explains that when we arrive in Heaven we go through a process of looking at our life and deciding what we need to learn next. He says that we all have our own Soul Group of about 12 to 20 people with whom we spend lives. Some of the group incarnate and some stay behind to watch and help. These people are the ones we are most connected to each lifetime. We swap roles so that each of us can learn to be a man or woman, mother or father, child or teacher etc. Usually your really close people this lifetime are part of your soul group, mother, father, brothers and sisters, lover, special friends that you feel close to. Apparently there is an 'outer' group of people who pop into our lives to help us or to set us off on different journeys. Our soul group however needs to experience all experiences and feelings so that they can all be totally evolved. Until each member of our group is totally evolved the group cannot move on. This is why we often feel so stressed if one of our very close people is not working to their full potential and we want to help them but often cannot. The other thing that he says in the book is that only part of our soul's energy comes to earth each time we incarnate. The rest stays there so that part of all of our soul group is there at all times. This means that when we die we will be able to join members of our true soul group even if they are still here on earth. He says also that sometimes souls that are about to incarnate decide not to take too much energy with them. Such souls, he says, often find the earth plane much harder to cope with than they expected and often turn to drink or drugs to cope.

This is just one of the books I have read concerning our journey to the other side. He has a following book called *Destiny of Souls* that is more involved with deciding what we are to do and who we are to do it with next time we decide to come back to School on Earth.

A very old book that gave more answers was *A Soul's Journey* by Peter Richelieu. I read that many years ago and found it had other ideas to learn about.

We know that we are Spirit encased in a physical body ( I call it the vehicle) to travel through our current life in order to learn what WE chose to learn this time. When we have learned it then it is time to go.

Time to have a vacation from this School until we decide to try again.

Posted by shirleyd at 20:35 No comments:

Sunday, 13 January 2013      Thanks to Shirley Darby for allowing us to include this article.

## 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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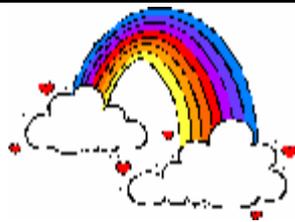
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