

MARCH 2017

Newcastle Spiritualist Church Inc



3 Swan Street Cooks Hill
Off Darby Street via Queen Street

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



www.NewcastleSpiritualistChurch.com

Email: admin@newcastlespiritualistchurch.com

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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 & Bill John	Meditation/Healing
	Committee Meeting Bendy yoga with Jim	**7pm** Jim Geddes	14th March 6pm every other Tuesday
WEDNESDAY	11am-2.30pm	Yvonne Warren & Joanne	Meditation/development
	7.30pm	Albert Kohl	Closed Circle
THURSDAY	Readings \$25	Entry Side door.	8.30am-1pm
FRIDAY	7.30 pm - 9.00 pm	Jenny Havebond	Meditation/Development
SATURDAY	Coffee Club	2pm-4pm	18th March
	Bendy Yoga with Jim	8.30am	Each Saturday
SUNDAY	Weekly Services 3pm 7pm Service only 12th & 26th	Various Mediums & Speakers	Each Sunday

Dear Members,

Welcome to another of our Church newsletters. It is amazing how fast the time is flying by. March already!

We get off to a wonderful start with a visit from Sandi and Mark, now on their eighth tour of Australia. Read details further over, check for vacancies, a great opportunity to meet this couple and learn of their work back in UK and be introduced to yet another aspect of Spiritualism.

Sadly the parking situation has changed, as at the moment we no longer have access to RTA parking area across the road. This has been a boon for many years, and steps are being taken to enquire if arrangements can be made to enable our members to use this area, perhaps on Sundays.

As you are all aware, our Sunday 7pm Service is not held each week, it is held 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. The feed back has been supportive.

The purchase of new electrical appliances is under way. New TV, DVD. Disc player and vacuum cleaner. These appliances should make things easier, and perhaps open opportunities for various Workshops. Also book cupboard.

Housekeeping note. The air con. will be adjusted after March, and most importantly, please be aware that windows MUST be closed, before leaving Church. On two occasions recently, windows were left open. A number of years ago, we were burgled, and lost a great deal of items. Since then we tightened our "dead lock" system, but if windows are left opened we have no protection. Even if you did not open the window, please take a minute, before you leave to ensure that they are closed Remember Swan Street Church belongs to us all.

Include in your Circles and Services, our members and loved ones who are battling ill health and problems and extend a helping hand or a willing ear.

Strength in numbers, and Love, *Charles Freeman*

President.

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.*

PROGRAMME FOR MARCH 2017

DATE	SPEAKERS	CHAIR
<u>5th Mar</u> 3pm 7pm	Sandi Clark No service tonight	Jenny Havebond
<u>12th Mar</u> 3pm 7pm	Rose Mayhew Marcia Parkes	Janelle Anderson Charles Freeman
<u>18th Mar</u>	Coffee Club 2pm-4pm with Krys Johnson	
<u>19th Mar</u> 3pm 7pm	David Sumner No service tonight	Assunta Martinelli
<u>26th Mar</u> 3pm 7pm	Monday night Circle Sherynne Smith	Marcia Parkes

Once again a wonderful line-up of speakers. How lucky we are to have so many prepared to give freely of their time to share with us. Thanks Rosie for organising another interesting month. Sandi Clark will be on platform at 3pm service this Sunday, following their week end workshops. May not be too late if you haven't yet booked for either workshop. Check it out.

After Services, do you take a minute to let our Speakers know how much you enjoyed their talk? Only takes a minute, but can make a lot of difference some days. Also when our members are on the platform, let them know they are appreciated. It can be a nerve wracking experience for those learning.

Our newsletter varies a bit this month, not always easy to find articles of interest to members. We are such a diverse group. Proof of Survival comes to my mind as the most commonly held belief we share. Send me an email if there is something of particular interest you would like to know more of. Will endeavour to find an article on your suggestion. Helga is very interested in reading more of the Golden Ratio. Really will try for next month Helga.

Thanks to those members who regularly contribute in so many ways. If you arrive and find the Church not set up, don't just complain, give a hand to set it up. Gladly lend a hand when asked. We have no paid staff, every one of us is a volunteer. And just because "someone" always does a particular job, that doesn't mean it is their responsibility it means they are prepared to help.

At the moment we have another raffle (thank you Debbie) with all donations going to Kids Club at John Hunter. Check their notice on the board to see just what amazing equipment they buy to assist our ill kids. Wonderful machines are being developed all the time.

That's about it for this month, one last joke.....

When asked his name by the coffee shop clerk, my brother answered "Marc with a C" Minutes later, he was handed his coffee with "Cark" on the side.

Quote of the Day: "Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than You." - Dr. Seuss (my favourite philosopher.)

More Bits and Pieces.

The new Circle on Wednesday evenings with Albert Kohl is full, for this first period. As this subject requires commitment, it is closed to casual visitors, and if you are interested, please contact Albert for information on his next term. Albert has many years of experience to share.

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Have you memories as a child, of travelling on the Funeral Train to Sandgate Cemetery ?

Having lived in Newcastle all my life, I remember lots of “things” that are no more. The Funeral Train is one of them. About once a month, all the ladies in the family would pick all the blooms in their gardens, bunch them up securely, and set off for the railway station. Our family group included aunts and friends, and together we walked from Lambton to Waratah station, where with some excitement we would board the train, for Sandgate. It was always crowded. Of course what seats there were went to adults, and young girls stood, at the same heady height as the bunches of flowers, and the perfume has never been forgotten. I can honestly say the only time since I have experience such heady perfumes, was when I was fortunate enough to visit the Flower markets in Amsterdam. Note: it seems to be that young boys were not required to go!

I do not recall it being a sad outing, you met so many you knew on the train, and caught up with news and gossip.

On arrival, you set off in family groups to visit and place flowers on the graves of family and loved ones, water tanks were placed along the rows, and usually your flowers were placed in a vase, or jar. From time to time you would find that someone else, you never knew who, had appropriated your vase, to use on their family grave. This was a problem. Quite often you would spy your vase nearby, and of course you would wash it out and replace it where it belonged. We children learned a lot of family history, we knew who was buried in which section, who was a Protestant, a Catholic, or even a Seven Day Adventist. We learned to tidy and weed around the family plots. This was the only maintenance at that time. Although I did not travel to an actual Funeral on the train, some families did. There was a special spur for unloading coffins, and a Chapel for services. I can't speak of these, never having attended one. It was an amazing departure when with the arrival of more family cars, probably after the war, enterprising people sold bunches of flowers outside the Cemetery gates. In memory we spent most of the day there, till the steam train blew the whistle, and we had to hurry back, or be left behind. We seemed to find it a friendly place, we knew who was laid to rest where, (I still do at 79) we met lots of family and friends, and we learned much about our family background. My Taiwanese born friend told me in their culture there is an official day that everyone must attend their local Cemetery and together clean the area, makes sense to me.

Sister Mary Ann, who worked for a home health agency, was out making her rounds visiting homebound patients when she ran out of gas. As luck would have it, Petrol station was just a block away.

She walked to the station to borrow a can and buy some petrol. The attendant told her that the only can had been lent out, but she could wait until it was returned. Since Sister Mary Ann was on the way to see a patient, she decided not to wait and walked back to her car.

She looked for something in her car that she could fill with petrol and spotted the bedpan she was taking to the patient. Always resourceful, Sister Mary Ann carried the bedpan to the station and filled it up. As she was pouring petrol into her tank, two Baptists watched from across the street. One of them turned to the other and said, 'If it starts, I'm turning Catholic.!!'

BITS AND PIECES

Coffee Club Report. .

Hi all and welcome to our Coffee Club Report for 2017. After a few hiccups, we managed to get our vintage tv equipment to work, with a few stops and starts along the way, threatening to replace the box with a new smarter TV we got through to view the whole film, Ordinary and Extra Ordinary Miracles. A wonderful work through Divine Intervention and faith. Not at first with God but at the end of the journey the strength of Divine intervention through miracles shone through. Divine love of a mother, child and God. Another wonderful social gathering afternoon. Our topic for next month's Coffee Club is FAITH coming from the film.

Do we always have faith in everything we do, everyone who crosses our path, our family, our friends, the life we are given, the obstacles that at times test us along the way, our work, our God? What is Faith?

It is complete trust in someone or something. A strong belief in someone or something without proof or substance. Is it scientific or religious and what is trust?

This should be an enlightening subject to share with each other. I have complete Faith in everyone of you to do so.

Coffee Club Saturday, 18th March 2pm to 4pm, side entrance. \$6 donation to John Hunter Children's hospital includes afternoon tea.

KRYSTYNA JOHNSON

Joke of the month.

I found myself in a pub in Cork, Ireland. A group of American tourists came in. One of the Americans said, in a loud voice, "I hear you Irish think you're great drinkers. I bet \$5,000 that no one here can drink 20 pints of Guinness in 30 minutes ."The bar was silent, but the American noticed one Irishman leaving. No one took up the bet. Forty minutes later, the Irishman who left returned and said, "Hey Yank, is yer bet still on?" "Sure" said the American, "20 pints in 30 minutes for a bet of \$5,000 ."

"Grand, " replied the Irishman, "so pour the pints and start the clock. "It was very close but the last drop was consumed with 2 seconds to spare. "OK Yank, pay up." said the Irishman.

"I'm happy to pay, here's your money" said the American. "But tell me, when I first offered the wager, I saw you leave. Where did you go?"

"Well sir", replied the Irishman, "\$5,000 is a lot of money to a man like me, so before I took the bet I went to the pub across the road to see if I could do it.

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As promised, this year 2017 is already busy, . 4th & 5th March, **yes this week**, we have a visit from Mike Mayes and Sandi Clark Mayes, on their eighth visit to Australia, from their home in UK. All details were in last newsletter, and on the noticeboard at Church. Still time to book, but **don't delay**. If on Facebook check out Rainbows End School of Mediumship and Healing. Or google them to learn more of the work they do. They will be on platform on Sunday 5th 3pm Service, Jenny Havebond will chair.

You will notice that Shirley Darby is not with us this month. Rest assured her page will return in April.

All Circles have been well supported, and the restriction to our parking on Sundays is a problem. We are working on a couple of ideas that we hope will improve things. Situated in the CBD not only has its advantages, but also can bring problems.

Glad our pens were well received. They are good quality, and something we all need. Check them out

From John Calli....<https://www.greatwesternpublishing.org/rising-above-clouds/>

Many years ago I was a commercial pilot. I've always loved flying, and still do. One of the things I love most about it is that exhilaration I always feel as the plane is rising above the clouds and up into the sky. It's a thrill like none other I've ever experienced. The initial exhilaration is nearly always followed by a deep sense of peace, with a spectacular view of the clouds and the earth below. Everything looks and feels different. It's all so beautiful from that high perspective. You never want to go back to earth again. Up there you can see everything with crystal clarity.

Spirit

What Johnny just described is similar to what many people experience when they make that transition you call death.

When you move out of your apparently solid physical bodies, you see everything differently. For one thing, you are no longer seeing with your physical eyes. Your physical eyes are adept at seeing, obviously, physical reality. The thing is physical reality is not reality. It's only something you have created through your perceptions. And your perceptions carry the same limitations your physical bodies do.

When you decide to leave your bodies (and you all do make that decision), you see with "new eyes." You see with the eyes of Spirit. You see as God sees. Your new "eyes" have a far greater range of "vision" than your physical eyes ever had. You are rising above the clouds, the clouds of so-called physical reality. In physical reality you see, to borrow some words from your Saint Paul, "through a glass darkly." But when you're rising above the clouds, above the density of physical life, you see clearly. You see the "real" reality that lies beyond your physical reality. It's a reality many humans only rarely, if at all, can glimpse while in the physical.

But you do not have to wait till you leave your bodies to achieve that glorious, unlimited reality that lies beyond the veil of your earthly vision.

Many years ago we said death is the easiest thing you will ever do. It's an illusion. It is easy precisely because it is an illusion.

At the moment of death, you will realize what a hoax you have played on yourselves for years. You're surrounded by illusions. And they're all hoaxes you've all been pretending are real. But be easy on yourselves—it's all part of the game you decided to play before time began. And games are supposed to be fun. Of course, you do not have to wait till your transformation back into light (what you call "death") to realize how you've surrounded yourselves with hoaxes and illusions. We suspect you'll even get a laugh or two out of that realization. We certainly have. But we laugh at you lovingly. Actually you can make that transformation now—in this present moment as you are reading this. In this present moment you can return to that home you never left. You can live out the rest of your physical lives knowing you have never left home.

Can you imagine what a joy it would be to go through your remaining years, however few or many they may be, with a deep sense of joy and peace? You will know, in every moment, all is well. God is with you wherever you go. You are never alone. You are always loved. You are always protected. You are held in the loving arms of the Creator who made you and has been with you forever. There is nothing to fear. Let go of fear. It's an illusion. Move back into love. Love is the only reality

<https://www.greatwesternpublishing.org/rising-above-clouds/> John has given permission to share his channellings. Well worth checking out his website.

What is our Church ?

The place our members come to, to share their joys as well as their sorrows, their doubts and fears, hopes and aspirations. A place of comfort when distressed, healing when ill, companionship when lonely. A point of unfailing contact with the limitless. Unending power of perfect Love, which never fails or disappoints as earthly love so often, does. A place where Our Lord stands at the ever open door, hands held out in blessing and welcome, no matter who or what we are. His love is our certainty, Strength and purpose. His service our humble commitment, freely given without reservation and given with joy.

Our Church is a beacon of light in the darkness of earthly gloom and despair. A meeting point with those we love who have travelled on, and loving teachers in the spirit world who gently guide with great wisdom, compassion and understanding. A place of fellowship with our Angel friends whose joy it is to serve their Lord by watching over us as we stumble along the stony paths of earthly life, learning and growing in spiritual stature as we journey on.

A living Church, free to change, adapts and grow; hearing and teaching the living word of God our Father, who asks only that we love one another.

A place where young, enquiring minds have their questions properly answered, not fobbed off with empty talk of it being God's Will that mankind should suffer without knowing why. Where the explanation of the law of divine justice makes sense of all experiences of whatever kind.

Where fear of death is replaced by knowledge of life eternal and the continuing love, interest, and continuing companionship of those we have known and loved and are still only a thought away.

The place to come to when we need to be assured of the living presence of Our Lord and His love for each one of us, always. A meeting place between "Heaven" and earth.

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We have been asked to publicise this happening

Come along and hear about life-changing education in one of the world's poorest countries Former Aussie teacher Gemma Sisia opened the gates to The School of St Jude 15 years ago in Tanzania and now, thanks to the support of thousands of Australians, 1,800 promising yet impoverished students have access to a free, high-quality education. Winrose Mollel graduated last year at the top of her class.

Gemma & Winrose are visiting Newcastle/Lake Macquarie on Tuesday 16th March 2017

There are two opportunities to hear their inspiring talks:

7.30am - Breakfast - Merewether Surf House (\$35.00) - bookings needed by 2nd March

7.00pm - Evening Presentation - Toronto Workers Club - entry via donation - no booking required.

For more information contact Monica Scanlon 0447 597 930

The School of St Jude - <http://www.schoolofstjude.org/index-home.html>

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Do you follow Church happenings on Facebook.? If you do, and we have about 7000 hits most months, please contact me, (my numbers are on the back of this newsletter,) when you see any item posted with errors regarding Church programme. Being only human, I sometimes post for wrong day etc. Should you see such an entry, please let me know. Also let me know of any interesting items you find for newsletter

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LAUGHTER

Laughter is a wonderful healer. It shakes out fear and leaves you feeling happier, clearer and more relaxed.

Remember that angels fly because they take themselves lightly, so make light of difficulties and see the funny side of situations.

Laugh at yourself and with others.

When you relax and laugh, your angels drop in new suggestions and ideas which can transform difficulty into delight

Laughter is the sunshine which dissolves the darkness, so be merry, joyous and fun filled.



AFFIRMATION

I see the humour in everything.

Apparently it's no longer politically-correct to direct a joke at any racial or ethnic minority, so:

An Englishman, a Scotsman, an Irishman, a Welshman, a Ghurkha, a Latvian, a Turk, an Aussie, two Kiwis, a German, an American, a South African, a Cypriot, an Egyptian, a Japanese, a Mexican, a Spaniard, a Russian, a Pole, a Lithuanian, a Swede, a Finn, an Israeli, a Dane, a Romanian, a Bulgarian, a Serb, a Swiss, a Greek, a Singaporean, an Italian, a Norwegian, a Libyan, a Muslim, a Hindu, a Buddhist and an Ethiopian went to a night club.

The bouncer said, "Sorry, I can't let you in without a Thai.

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A Frickin' Elephant

Jake is five and learning to read.
He points at a picture in a zoo book and
says, "Look Mama! It's a frickin' elephant!"
Deep breath... "What did you call it?"
"It's a frickin' Elephant, Mama!
It says so on the picture!"
and so it does...

"African Elephant"

Hooked on phonics!
Ain't it wonderful?