

Candela



Newsletter of the Swedenborg Association of Australia Inc

Organisational Details are provided on the next page

August 2017

ISSUE 89



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi Everyone

*Spring has sprung
The grass is ris*

And what a glorious finale to winter. Beautiful sunny days with the natural world springing to life again, reminding us of our own regeneration and being remade anew. One of the many delights of spring I think is the abundance of flowers and blossoms that spring brings. The sheer variety of blooms parallels the infinite *"things which are of wisdom"*.

To that end a bunch of us (yes, you're going to have to groan your way through a bouquet of horticultural puns today) went to the Camellia Show and Eryldene Garden in

Gordon last month. The sheer range of varieties of any plant species never ceases to amaze me.

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Please Note: The views expressed in this Newsletter are those of each contributor and do not necessarily reflect any particular position of the Swedenborg Association of Australia or its Committee.

Next Issue – November 2017

The next issue will partly have a Christmas theme so if you have anything you want to share, or questions you want to ask about Christmas please send them in.

The deadline is **20th October 2017**

Email to ruth@duckworth.me or post to the registered office. *Ruth*



SWEDENBORG ASSOCIATION of Australia Inc

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Membership of the Swedenborg Association of Australia Inc. is open to anyone who wishes to pursue an interest in Swedenborg, the man, his science and his spiritual teachings.

For details on how to join, call (02) 9888 1066 or browse <http://www.swedenborg.com.au/membership>

* * continued from page 1 * *

From delicate feminine pink blushed blooms to the completely over the top hybrids, it's almost as if the Divine is showing us Infinity in a Nutshell. The photos here are from a single species of plant, the Camellia.



For a little stroke of synchronicity, while I was typing this an unsolicited email came in.....for a singing pot plant. For a giggle go to this website. You can even play a tune on the leaves.

<http://www.bearntec.com/product/html/?100.html> Marketing gone mad.

And talking of going mad (neat segue there), spring this year brings us local government elections. It's worth pondering the spiritual significance of governance in our lives. Government in the celestial kingdom is called justice and in the spiritual kingdom is called judgement. What kind of governance do we exert over our own lives? God calls upon us at our very best to be just and good. Hopefully you will be able to find that in the candidates you vote for in these upcoming elections. Dr Groves once said words to the effect of 'would you trust the politician to look after your child for a day?' Hmmm

May your days be full of the sweet scents of spring

And your nights be protected by the just and righteous

On a more serious note, it has come to our attention that several members of the SAA Committee have dual nationality. Rigorous investigations are underway. However we wish to assure members that to date we have found no evidence that Section 44 of

our Constitution will cause any difficulties. Indeed it is our heartfelt wish that members of the whole SAA have dual citizenship of both heaven and earth.

Warmest wishes

Jan



THE IMMORTAL LIVES OF ANIMALS AND PEOPLE

By Julian Duckworth

I would imagine that most of us have known someone who had an adorable pet and when the pet finally died, the person, the pet's owner, was absolutely convinced that their pet was now in heaven, over in the spiritual world, still in existence and that one day, when the owner also died and went to heaven, the two of them would be re-united. This is an emotional wish and perhaps it is also an understandable need, and it is often backed up with supporting arguments.



"So you're little Bobbie; well, Rex here has been going on and on about you for the last 50 years."

The owner might say that their pet was almost human, that it always showed love to them as they did to it too. They may also add that their cat or dog was very sensitive to the state and mood of its owner and would often come and rub, or flop close by. They might also say that their particular pet had a very recognisable personality. And the bottom line would probably be that every living thing is from God and there is simply no reason not to think that, as with people, animals will not continue on living for ever in their spirit, in the next life.

And sometimes, in amongst all this, is the suggestion that animals are in fact a lot better than or more advanced than "some of the people I know" and the inference is that such people shouldn't really be allowed to carry on living after they die!

Pets are great. They provide companionship, they arouse affection and pleasure in a lot of people. Children can learn to care for a pet, and become very attached to it. In a real way, a cat or dog or rabbit is easier to be with than another person. They are less complicated, they live what they are like instinctively, and they are often devoted, trusting and even obedient.

Now let's put all of this in a fuller context. If we are talking about the immortal lives of animals, how far down the chain would that apply? Would it be the future lot for every single mosquito, worm and amoeba to live for ever? There isn't a problem with the size of the spiritual world because that isn't spatial like planet earth; it can accommodate to receive an infinite number of beings in it and do so to all eternity.

A more important question is about what the differences are between animals and people. We said earlier that animals behave according to their own nature, or instinctively, even though some of the higher animals can be trained (with rewards) not to behave only according to their own nature but become trained and obedient. People have their basic nature too which is called 'human nature'. This involves survival, self-awareness and focus, the need to love and be loved, and relationships.

But human nature is complicated by other things. We have language so we can communicate in great detail; we can gain knowledge and turn it towards original purposes. Most of all, we can think about thinking, and consider our own existence. We can conceive of God and we can form values and make choices between what we see as being good and evil, right and wrong. We also feel a freedom in all of these. All these allow us to develop and



take up a particular course of life based on what we have come to believe. Even so, our human nature – our initial or lower nature – will still be there, but now it is known and understood and we can manage it and keep it under control.



In religious terms, this brings the idea of an eternal life and our immortality. God (whom we can conceive of) wants human beings to consciously receive his love and truth and for us to love and be true to God in return. This seems to set us apart from animals in a big way, even though our physical bodies and genetics have a huge amount in common with some animals. We are fundamentally different.

Let's bring in what Swedenborg offers us about all this. He consistently says that the whole reason for creation is to reach the point of there being conscious beings (people) who can take part in a relationship between God and themselves. Several times he says that the purpose of creation is to create a heaven of angels from the human race. The ideal is for us to become angels, but there is the permission that those people who reject God and live for themselves will be allowed to do so, and in fact, much prefer that to being obedient to God and caring about other people.

Swedenborg also regularly says that animals do not find themselves existing in the spiritual world because they haven't made any personal choices because, unlike us, they don't have freedom and reason. Here is one passage where he talks about this:

In people there is a connection with the Divine which can become a reciprocal response to God, and so people can never die because they have what is Divine implanted in them. Compare this to the thinking of people who compare people with animals, saying that they will not be alive after death any more than animals are. Such people do not take into consideration the fact that with animals there is no acceptance of the Divine or any acknowledgement of affection leading to a reciprocal response and joining to God.

Nor do these people take into account the fact that, as the animal state is like this, the recipient forms of life which these possess are inevitably dissipated, for with animals that which flows into them passes through their organic forms into the world, where it comes to an end and melts away, never to make any return there. (Secrets of Heaven 5114)

One important thing that Swedenborg says about animals is that they each have their correspondences – a faithful dog, a cunning fox, a gentle lamb, a strong ox, and so on – and that in the way things appear in the spiritual world to portray the spiritual states, loves and intentions of angels and spirits, so animals of all kinds will manifest to symbolise these, including birds flying overhead.

So what then are these animals which appear? Are they spontaneous creations for that moment alone? Did they live before this moment and perhaps before they now appear in the spiritual world, in some pre-existence? Are they reconstructed from some almighty reservoir of life into which their souls went when they died on this earth? Or do



animals simply transfer from earth to heaven without ever realising that they have moved on, and just continue being what they instinctively are?

There is one comforting idea to offer to pet-owners. When they themselves pass into the spiritual world, and let's add, looking forward so much to seeing their beloved Maisie or Scamp once again, there is no reason why they shouldn't be given that joy. Their pet may well come running up to them (which raises a few questions...) and to all intents and purposes Mrs Bridges has got Scamp – or Maisie – back again, and let's hope they are very happy together, but let's also hope that Mrs Bridges doesn't spend much of eternity going round telling everybody, "I told you so!"

What Maisie or Scamp is made of and whether or not they existed in the intervening period is perhaps now rather irrelevant!

A booklet (35 pages) called "The Life in Animals and Plants" is an extract of material written by Swedenborg in one of his theological writings "Apocalypse Explained" in sections. This material is in the exposition of Chapter 19 of Revelation and has been produced by the Swedenborg Society in the UK, in 1981. It contains a much wider look at the life in animals and plants than merely the question of whether they are immortal or not.

If you are interested, you can enquire through the Swedenborg Centre.

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 Contact the Centre on (02) 9888 1066 or
 email joe@swedenborg.com.au"



"The Swedenborg Centre at 1 Avon Road, North Ryde NSW is a place for you to come (or telephone) to hold any conversation associated with the study of ideas and practices of psycho-spiritual regeneration. If you're visiting, this can be done over a cup of tea or coffee, of course! The Centre encourage questions to explore, such as how we can apply the ideas we find in Swedenborg and in similar material to our life. We welcome you sharing your personal experiences. There is a discussion group at the Centre on the second Tuesday of each month starting at 2pm and again at 6pm, but there's no need to come only during those sessions. Feel free to drop in anytime when Joe is at the Centre, which is most weekdays between at least 10:30am and 4:30pm (often earlier and later, but outside those times it's best to check). There are plenty of good books to buy from the Centre at very reasonable prices and there is also an excellent library for free borrowing of books no matter where in Australia you are located. Joe looks forward to hearing from you.

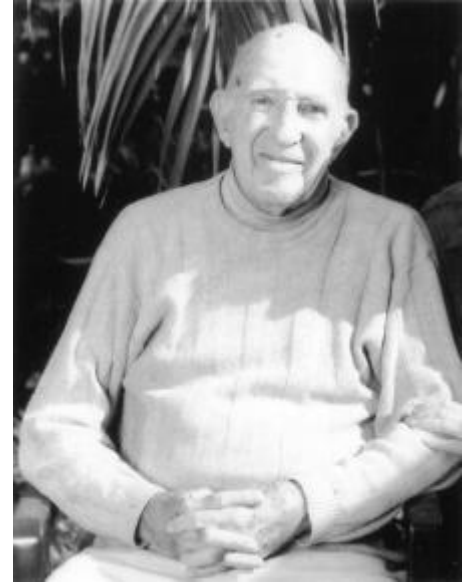


DR GROVES ENCOUNTERS SWEDENBORG TRIBUTE TO BILL HALL 1929 - 2016

Thread one: his search and discovery.....

In one of his class lectures in 1990 Dr Philip Groves disclosed his first Swedenborg encounter:

The first time I ever came across a Swedenborg book was quite accidental, I was in an *Angus and Robertson's* bookshop, looking for a book that had the whole picture of reality, like looking for the impossible. I could never find anything satisfying to my strong feeling for the religious or spiritual nature of things. One day I found this book, *Divine Providence*, the title didn't interest me. As soon as I'd opened the pages, wow, here was something that resonated. And then I found that Swedenborg was a tremendous influence in helping me to express what I had been feeling for a long, long time. But I can't pinpoint where it came from. All I know is that by the nature of my birth and the accidental events in my life I've been very fortunate in stimulating something which has proved very helpful. We can't find any one factor. This is the interesting part about life. It is like trying to find God behind the sunbeams. He keeps hiding behind them. But the search must go on. We must try to find what it is that fires us up.



Thread two: some New Church history...

Thanks to Todd Beiswenger who found this snippet in *New Church Life*, Vol. LXXXV (85), September 1965, No. 9, page 431 under the heading *Hurstville Church News by Norman Heldon*. Norman is still with us and is now an amazing 100 years old!

New Church Day was celebrated with a varied program. A banquet was held on June 19th, and several visitors responded to invitations. Hurstville ladies are first-class cooks, and it was a well-fed company that listened to three addresses on the topic 'All Things New.' The aim was to consider how the new revelation can provide new light and life to literature, science and psychology. One of the speakers was Dr Philip Groves, a visitor who has studied the Writings. He displayed enthusiasm and considerable insight into the application of the doctrines to his own interest, psychology.

On Sunday, June 20, 1965 at a church service for adults and children at Hurstville, Rev Doug Taylor conducted two baptisms including that of Christopher Philip Groves, son of Dr Philip William Groves and Mrs Josephine Irene Patricia Groves (nee Mowbray). In the evening tableaux were shown, interspersed with songs and preceded by short talks to the children by the pastor [Rev Taylor].



Thread three: death of an early student...

Thanks to Julian Duckworth and Michael Chester for passing the following piece on, and especially thanks to Margaret and Owen Heldon for penning many of the following details in a recent *Hurstville New Church Newsletter*.

William (Bill) Alfred Hall was from Hurstville and regularly attended the New Church there before retiring to Rockhampton where he died last December at 87.

Bill Hall was a regular contributor to the church newsletter and he also wrote the occasional article for the SAA *Candela* magazine. Bill loved the New Church, and you could see the strong respect he had for various other New Church authors. His passing was sudden and unexpected, likely from a heart attack. He had lived a full life.

The recent *Hurstville New Church Newsletter* contained an excellent obituary to Bill Hall by Bill's friends Margaret and Owen Heldon. The obituary contained a letter which Margaret and Owen had received recently, which Bill's had originally written in 1998 to Rev Donald Rose, who was then editor of *New Church Life* magazine, in which Bill recalled how he found Swedenborg:



The Gift that Led Me to Discover The New Church

I was interested to note that you had a Friday evening program in January with people describing how they came into contact with The New Church. Perhaps you may be interested to know how I first came into The New Church.

I was introduced to the New Church by Mr Wainscot of the Swedenborg Society in London. The event that led me to contact the Swedenborg Society was my receiving a copy of *TCR* [*True Christian Religion*, Emanuel Swedenborg] from a friend, Dr Philip W Groves, as a farewell gift when I was leaving Sydney in 1962 by ship for London where I stayed just over a year. Dr Groves is a spiritual psychologist.

Philip told me he first came across *TCR* and *Heaven and Hell* while browsing in the religious department of Dymock's, a large bookstore in Sydney's CBD. Philip bought these books. Philip visited London about 1960-61 and visited the Swedenborg Society.

As Philip gave me the copy of *TCR*, I remember he said to me, "You may wish to call into the *Swedenborg Society*. Mr Wainscot is a friendly man." I was indeed grateful to call into the Swedenborg Society and to meet Mr Wainscot. When I enquired about the New Church in London, Mr Wainscot provided me with the complete list of New Churches in London. When I returned to this continent about 1963, I contacted both

the Hurstville Society and the Sydney Society of the New Church.

Above I mentioned Philip Groves as being a friend. Since Philip gave me my first introduction to the *Divine Revelation* you may be interested to learn how we met. We first met about 1950 through Philip's mother when I was on my lunch break in a cafeteria in town. Seated opposite me was a pleasant older woman. Though we did not know one another Philip's mother introduced herself to me and said, "My son is giving some Sunday night lectures. You may care to come along." Then Mrs Groves gave me the city address of the lectures. I went along to the lectures and found them interesting and stimulating. Obviously, there was no mention of Swedenborg in those lectures, as Philip's first contact with the *Divine Revelation* was his coming across the *Everyman's Editions* of *TCR* and *Heaven and Hell* in the religious department of Dymock's bookstore in Sydney about 1960. I feel impelled to express my deep thanks to Mrs Groves and Philip Groves, Mr Wainscot, and to everyone, pastors and laypeople, associated with the New Church for my contacts with the New Church. I pray my life shall express my gratitude.



ABOUT TIME

By John Brogan

To a great extent, time rules our lives.

It becomes critical as the train leaves the platform without us. It means we have to prepare ourselves and get ready in order to arrive in time for such events.

I'm reminded that the Equinox will shortly be upon us. So what?

Well for many it will be time to sow, otherwise the harvest time will come and go and we will be too late. So, I ask myself, to what extent should I worry about time?

Man was not made for the harvest, that's clear. The harvest will come when it is destined to come and if we're not ready, well, so shall we *not* reap.

Jesus put the Sabbath into perspective which is interesting because to the Jews and particularly the Essenes, the Sabbath, day 7, was, is, a sacred day for rest. Come what may one does not lift up a burden on the seventh day. But Jesus was more pragmatic. His view appears to be that if dire circumstances require Man can work and travel on the seventh day. Jesus' view was that he did not observe the Sabbath as sacrosanct (Jn.5: 18).

The Sabbath was made for Man, not Man for the Sabbath.

The year from the longest day to the next longest day is about $365 \frac{1}{4}$ days that can be nicely divided into 52 weeks, each of 7 days. That was a Jewish practice not observed in the Roman world. It's very Pythagorean.

We have adopted 11 months of 30 days plus seven extra days being the 31st. The twelfth month of February is a month of intercalation, usually 28 days but once

every fourth year it is 29 Days. A small intercalation can be made when it suits us to make up the $365 \frac{1}{4}$ days plus the little bit (365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 46 seconds.)

360 days would be easier as it could be divided into 12 equal months of 30 days, then all we have to do is add an extra day (31st) every 3 months to arrive at 364. Its 364 days were divided in to four quarters of 91 days. Each season consisted of three months of 30 days and there was an extra day in every quarter.

This sort of playing with numbers can falsely lead one to think the universe was made for Man.

But it's not only numbers that appear so convincing, that the Universe was made just for mankind. There is a delicate equilibrium of our beautiful Earth, of temperature, air gases, water and tidal movements and, yes, time.

Yes, what I am asking myself is: 'Is Man more important than the Universe?' The universe will survive without Man but Man will not survive without the Universe. The Sabbath is a man-made convenience; the Universe is of a different order of creation.

There is a great temptation to put Man at the centre of all things- or more dangerously, oneself at the centre.



Man, Controller of the Universe
by Diego Rivera



A SWEDENBORG ANTHOLOGY

An explanation of words and terms
used in Swedenborg's writings

The Swedenborg Centre
Suite 3, 1 Avon Road
North Ryde NSW 2113 Australia
www.swedenborg.com.au
published in 2017

The Swedenborg Anthology has been completed and is now available in either print form or online. Its aim is to give clear explanations of many of Swedenborg's terms used in his writings and to give a brief outline of many of Swedenborg's core teachings.

There are 219 entries. At the end of the Anthology there is a list of all these entries, each with a source reference to one or two passages in Swedenborg's writings where this topic is spoken about.

One additional use of this Anthology would be to provide someone wanting to know about Swedenborg's spiritual approach with a wide range of helpful information.

In writing the Anthology, the explanations have been kept brief to a few lines for each entry. Each topic could be further explained at much greater length. Another important point is that where it has been thought to be useful, the paragraphs have been written with our own spiritual experience and practice in mind, and not merely as an intellectual definition. This is felt to be very important in today's world.

Print copies cost \$10 and are available from the Swedenborg Centre.

Online copies are free of charge and to cover costs we invite people to consider a \$10 payment.

SPIRITUAL QUESTIONS?

We would love you to send in questions about spiritual matters, Swedenborg's teachings or the meaning of the Bible and we will use it to write articles in future editions.

Email them to

ruth@duckworth.me

Or phone them through to the
Swedenborg Centre on 02 9888 1066

Question: Do we get sick because of some problem there in ourselves or are diseases more a general correspondence of evil?

Answer:

This is the kind of question which needs to be looked at in several ways. The fact that diseases exist at all goes right back to the creation by the Divine of a world or worlds that appear to exist by themselves. Creation has to look like that, but it is really being continually kept in existence by Divine influx. The created world allows there to be pain and suffering; gravity makes us fall, things are hard or jagged, and passing time can bring on degrees of decay.



The idea that the original creation was sterile and germ-free is a bit crazy. Bacteria are part of creation and they have important good uses. Yet their existence creates the scope for diseases to come into being and to affect living



organisms including us. So it's a bit fanciful to say that if people had not become evil by turning away from the Divine, there wouldn't be any diseases in the world. A better way of putting it would be to say that just as the Divine foresaw people losing their spiritual origin, the Divine permitted disease to come on the scene, to represent this, with the intention of showing people that they need to work back towards the Divine and regain their spiritual health.

Technically, disease corresponds to some spiritual disorder that is present. Swedenborg often says that the hells induce disease when they can. "Heaven keeps all things together in good condition but hell destroys and breaks things apart." But he also says that evil spirits can't flow in as far as our physical tissues or any of our organs, only as far as things that we love harbouring or thoughts that are harmful. If a person becomes caught up in these, it's the person who brings it through to a physical illness and becomes sick, and then evil spirits will try and flow into the disease itself.



Diseases describe various types of spiritual sickness. We all know that cancer is when a healthy cell (or cells) suddenly goes berserk and starts to attack and mutate other healthy cells. That is physical but it powerfully describes the way a disordered mind can ravage perfectly normal thoughts and attitudes and corrupt them to be like itself. It's the same with many other forms of sickness;

. we can become blind or deaf or stiff or feverish and we can be that spiritually as much as physically.

So it seems that the existence of diseases comes from a general influx into creation to picture and alert us to our spiritual condition. There was a town in Britain which in the 1950s experienced an epidemic of polio and nobody could work out why. Eventually they found that this pleasant market town was too physically clean for its own good (and a bit snobbish too) and laid itself wide open for an epidemic to rush in, whereas a bit of dirt around the place might have prevented it.

The tragedy of course, when we bring this matter of disease to individual people's situations, is that illness can strike a person who is the nicest person imaginable, while a total crook enjoys full health for years. Has this lovely person brought on their own disease from some wrong action or attitude? We can't and they probably can't say yes to that, but disease has to find a home in a person. If someone eats far too much and never exercises, it's odds-on that they are going to be sicker quicker than the healthy-eating jogger.

Swedenborg says that we should aim to live with a sound mind in a sound body. This may not prevent us from getting some disease, but it will be a strong defence for us against opening the gate to one.

The reason no one is reformed in a state of serious physical illness is that at such times our reason is not in a state of freedom. The state of the mind depends on that of the body. When the body is afflicted, the mind is as well, if only by being out of touch with the world. A mind that is out of touch with the world may think about God, but not with God because its reasoning is not free. Our rational freedom comes from us being midway between heaven and the world.
Divine Providence 142



Special book discounts for Candela readers this quarter

Candela readers may order any promotion books below within 3 month of this issue's publication, receiving the discounted prices (plus postage) shown on the order form below, while stocks last.

Rise Above It by **Ray and Star Silverman**
276 pages, paperback **now \$18 for a limited time!!**

An excellent guidebook for daily living in the twenty-first century, capturing fifteen years experience in leading spiritual regeneration courses in seminars they ran in universities, parent groups, prisons, and remote African villages. This book is filled with useful, candid and inspiring journal entries from seminar participants which invites you to enter a life of ever increasing love, wisdom and service. Each chapter shows how one of the Ten Commandments occurs in each major religion and how it can be applied to our life to lead to a more rewarding regenerated life.



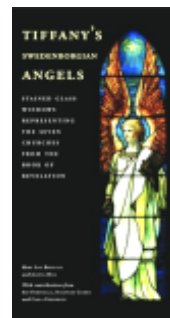
Swedenborg Explores the Spiritual Dimension by **Brian Kingslake**
167 pages, paperback **now \$7 for a limited time!!**

Having travelled as far as Lapland and Zululand, Brian Kingslake became a superb storyteller and shows here his ability to translate and present with his own interpretation some of the vast material contained in Swedenborg's writings into an easy to understand format. E.g. the "heart kingdom" and the "head kingdom" as a summary of the two kingdoms (*celestial* and *spiritual*) described by Swedenborg. This book is worth a look.

Tiffany's Swedenborgian Angels by **Mary Lou Bertucci & Joanna Hill**

96 pages, paperback **now \$19 for a limited time!!**

Louis Tiffany became world famous for the coloured glass art he invented. Commissioned in 1902 by a Swedenborgian church in Cincinnati, he designed some highly symbolic stained glass windows of seven angels containing teachings from Swedenborg. These stunning works disappeared when the church was later destroyed. But they were fortunately found in 2001 in a warehouse and have travelled museums and galleries ever since for all to enjoy. This quality book tells the amazing story of these beautiful works. Adding imagery from other works of art it explains the themes in these windows. Makes a wonderful coffee-table book and an interesting read.



To order, phone: (02) 9888 1066 and mention the Candela, or **email:** orders@swedenborg.com.au with 'Candela Order' as subject. Or fill out the Order Form and return to The Swedenborg Centre.

ORDER FORM: Send to **SWEDENBORG CENTRE, Suite 3, 1 Avon Rd, NORTH RYDE NSW 2113**

I wish to buy the following items (please indicate number of copies and total, but see note on maximum "freight" cost below):-

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Swedenborg Explores the Spiritual Dimension	\$5.00	\$7.00		\$
Tiffany's Swedenborgian Angels**	\$5.00	\$18.00	**	\$
Total Payable by Cheque/Money Order/Credit Card***				\$

* For multiple orders the maximum freight cost will be \$15

** Due to limited stocks this items is limited to a quantity of 1 per order

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

SAA membership renewal notices have been sent out, so if you received one please renew your payments promptly so that you may continue to receive your benefits (and minimise our follow-up costs). Thank you to those who already responded! If you are not yet a member, please contact the Centre for further **info on how you can become an SAA member** as a way to support this valuable work.

For Group events, please check the website www.swedenborg.com.au which has location and contact details of your nearest group convenor, or

It would be good to establish Groups in other areas. If you can help, please phone Joe Vandermeer on (02) 98881066 or email him at joe@swedenborg.com.au;

Our website is continually being updated with special offers, more free study material and latest event info. Take a look at www.swedenborg.com.au and let us know if you would like to be informed via email.

Melbourne: After a successful launch in July with the subject of **Goodness and Truth** here are the scheduled Melbourne meeting dates for the remainder of 2017 (all held at *New Church Hall*, 426 High Street Rd, Mount Waverley, VIC):

Friday **1st September**, 7:30pm on **What makes us Human?**
 Friday **22nd September** 7:30pm (topic TBD)
 Friday **27th October** 7:30pm (topic TBD)
 Friday **1st December** 7:30pm (topic TBD)

Sydney: General info about Sydney events:

There are **monthly discussions ('open door' opportunities)** facilitated by Joe Vandermeer on the second **Tuesday** of each month starting **2pm and 6pm** at the *Swedenborg Centre*, 1 Avon Rd, North Ryde NSW.

There is a **monthly Swedenborg Reading (and Reflection) group** which explores practical growth aspects from Swedenborg's writings – these meet at **6:30pm just before each monthly SAA presentation** event (fourth Friday of each month) at the same venue: *New Church*, 4 Shirley Rd, Roseville NSW.

Info about specific Sydney events:

Friday 25th August, 7:45pm at Roseville: **Exploring Spiritual Experiences** (facilitated by Julian Duckworth and Michael Chester), preceded by 6:30pm **Swedenborg Reading Group**

Sunday 3rd September, 6pm at Roseville: **Symbols and the Unconscious** (presentation by Joe Vandermeer, exhibition curated by Michael Wright of Dr Groves student Minoy Verma)

Tuesday 12th September, 2pm and 6pm at North Ryde: **Open Discussion Session** (facilitated by Joe Vandermeer)

Friday 22nd September, 7:45pm at Roseville: **short AGM**, followed by **When The Snake Bites The Sun** (acclaimed film-maker Michael Edols ACS interviewed by Joe Vandermeer) **NB:** donations to Michael's fundraising project **The Galangala Project** can be made at <https://australianculturalfund.org.au/projects/the-galangala-project> The event will be preceded as usual by the **6:30pm Swedenborg Reading Group**

Tuesday 10th October, 2pm and 6pm at North Ryde: **Open Discussion Session** (facilitated by Joe Vandermeer)

Friday 27th October, 7:45pm at Roseville: **Swedenborg in the Marketplace of Ideas** (presented by David Moffat), preceded by 6:30pm **Swedenborg Reading Group**