



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) 9416 2812 or browse <https://swedenborg.com.au/contact/>

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A nice story, but also a true one. Imagine being one of the two dozen guests and witnessing this pleasant gentleman suddenly becoming alarmed at something no one would normally be able to know. Imagine the thoughts or quiet asides... "Is he in his right mind?" "I've never heard such nonsense!" "Oh yes, he's ... unusual." But this and other situations are fairly sensational examples of how Swedenborg was in full touch with the spiritual world, became aware of his dialogue with angels and spirits in his own mind, listening and accepting what came into his thinking, and trusting it all to be orderly and in line with Divine revelation.



So, did Swedenborg celebrate Christmas? Well, probably, but we've no accounts. Being a Nordic snowy country, Christmas or 'Jul' was big in Sweden. One tradition was the Julbock or Christmas goat which brought presents and people also dressed up as one to deliver gifts.

But while I see Swedenborg smiling on all this pleasant activity, he was not a folk-custom person, and might well have seen them as going back to pagan times. He was increasingly aware of the actual historical coming on earth of God, to bring human beings a closer clearer truth of God in a human form, the Word made flesh, taking on and overcoming the power of hell and darkness to keep us in spiritual freedom.

And with the cosmic power of this coming, Swedenborg may well have gently chided people not only to celebrate it with merry festivity but to understand its truth and purpose for us all. And increasingly, Swedenborg aimed to bring the 'Christmas' coming of God towards the ways in which God comes into us individually and personally, with truth, change, service and gratitude to God for restoring and re-making us.

I would go so far as to say that everything Swedenborg wrote in all his many spiritual writings is to do with our reception of God in our lives, in our hearts and minds. Then it really is Christmas!

So, in 2020, doing Christmas well because of this year's severity is good for everybody, but it's to bring us back and into how we are each meant to be in life, purposeful and sharing, no longer in some bleak place inside us wondering what on earth it's all about.

*Have a real and really good
Christmas.*

Julian

Welcome to our new members

We hope that our new members enjoy being a part of our association. There are now a lot of activities that you can join in with on-line.

Welcome to these new members this year:

Mishka Jambor NSW

David Millar SA

Christina Mimmocchi NSW

Patrick Morahan VIC