



## S.A.A. MEMBER'S PAGE

We have started this page to encourage members and readers to write small articles, comments, interesting happenings or events. It can be rather intimidating to attempt a full article so we hope this will inspire you to put pen to paper. You can even remain anonymous if you would prefer that. I know that readers have told me before that they enjoy short paragraphs written by different people as well as the longer more erudite articles.



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### SURPRISES

One of the delights of being familiar with Swedenborg's works, particularly in reference to correspondences, is the surprising places where one encounters his influence.

I recently had the pleasure of reading C. S. Lewis' **Chronicles of Narnia** for the first time. I could hardly believe my eyes. There was the story of Creation in the first book, **The Magician's Nephew**. **The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe** contained the Crucifixion, complete with the innocent being slaughtered for the sins of others. **The Voyage of the Dawn Treader** focused on the deadly sins of greed, sloth, anger, envy etc. And our passage into and place in Heaven, 'further up and further in', delightfully expressed in the final book, **The Last Battle**.

In every chapter Swedenborg's correspondences jump off the page. Plants and animals, human traits, virtues and sins, are all woven into a delightful fairytale.

Little wonder then, that C. S. Lewis was influenced by George MacDonald, novelist and Victorian visionary, who "like many of his friends, pored over Swedenborg. One of his (MacDonald's) friends from early days was Garth Wilkinson, the famous Swedenborgian doctor and homoeopath".

C. S. Lewis was close friends with J. R. Tolkien and a common thread can be

found in their writings. They were part of the **Inklings**, a wonderfully named informal writers group.

Swedenborg can be found in the most unlikely places. Where have you noticed his influence?

*Delighted*

### Secretary's Report

One of our committee members **Jennifer Danckert** has agreed to become our new Secretary. She has been a reader of Swedenborg since being introduced to his writings by Dr Philip Groves.

We would like to welcome some new members to the SAA:

**Timothy Gordon** and **Gwen Barnes** both from NSW.

Thank you to everyone who renewed their membership so that we can continue with our work of making the works of Swedenborg more widely available.

*We can have a kind of faith which is based on various truths we have heard or picked up and this faith gets turned on and off according to what happens. When we are in fear and anguish, we turn it on but when the anguish subsides, we turn it off. A real faith, which is a spiritual confidence that is based on the decision to do what is good because of what you believe about the Lord...a real faith does not come and go but has been deeply rooted and developed over the course of our life.*  
**Arcana Caelestia 4352**