



## Issue Theme ~ Serenity inner contentment ~ outer peace

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

שלום

Shalom!

Most of you no doubt recognize that form of greeting (even if you're not from the Middle East). I decided to look into the significance of that traditional Hebrew salutation and discovered it embodies far more than a casual hello or goodbye. The word *shalom* is often understood to mean peace, but that's only one of its meanings. *Shalom* also expresses wholeness, completeness, perfection, fullness, soundness, welfare, health, peace, tranquillity, harmony and prosperity. Now that's what I call a decent greeting! It's derived from the Hebrew word stem *shalam* "to be perfect, intact, full and complete" and is also used in Urdu and Persian. There is the related Arabic word *salaam*, or in full (*as*)*salam 'alaikum* "peace be upon you," from the base *salima* "he was safe."

Incidentally, an early name for the city of Jerusalem was *shalem* "peaceful." Later it was

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*Two copies of this Newsletter are being sent to members as usual, the second for giving away*

*Yerushalayim* literally meaning "foundation of peace," derived from *yarah* plus *shalom*.

*Yarah* means "throw, cast, shoot, point out, direct, teach, instruct" and suggests throwing or shooting at a target like guiding an arrow to a bullseye. Emanuel Swedenborg says much about 'New Jerusalem' corresponding to a new relationship with the Divine,

*\* \* \* continued on page 2 \* \* \**

### Next Issue – December 2010

Theme : "Endings and Beginnings"

Our next issue will be based on the theme of endings and beginnings. Christmas is certainly a time for a new beginning as we celebrate the coming of God into the world. But it is also the end of the year and the start of a new one, a good time to reflect on where our life is going. But the Lord also gives us a new beginning each morning; in fact we can make a new beginning each moment of our life. Why not put pen to paper, or fingers to the keyboard, and send me your thoughts on this theme? It need not be long but the more writers we have the more wonderful the variety of ideas that we have to think about. Thank you to everyone who wrote for this issue.

The deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> November

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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.

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, refer to page 12.

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** (cont)

in which we look toward the Creator as the source of love, good and truth while we express love, good and use toward our neighbour and acknowledge our wrongs and evils, regret them and work against them with Higher Life to reform and regenerate us (see *True Christianity*, chapters 9 and 10).

I can also recommend Swedenborg's *Apocalypse Explained* paragraph 365 which speaks of the dynamics behind true inward peace, as well as *Heavenly Secrets (Arcana Coelestia)* paragraph 3696 on inner conflict.

Finally, I'll leave you to contemplate some practical wisdom on striving for serenity in the form of a prayer, namely the *Serenity Prayer*, which was brought to *Alcoholics Anonymous* circles by its co-founder Bill Wilson. These groups expanded into the highly popular and very useful *12-Step* self-help movement.

**God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.**

*Joe Vandermeer*



Heavenly peace is like the morning time or dawn in spring, when, once the night has passed, all things of earth begin to take new life from the rising of the sun; the dew that falls from heaven spreads a leafy fragrance far and wide, and the springtime's gentle warmth makes meadows fertile and instills its charm in human minds as well. This is because morning or dawn in springtime corresponds to the state of peace of angels in heaven.

**Heaven and Hell 289**

People say "I want peace." If you remove I (ego), and your want (desire), you are left with peace.

Satya Sai Baba

**Swedenborg Association committee meetings take place at the Swedenborg Centre in Sydney. The new committee will have been voted in on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September, and the next committee meeting is on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 6 pm at the Swedenborg Centre in North Ryde. Our meetings are open to all members to attend so if you are interested, please come along.**



## Reflections in Nature

By Michael Harting ~ Sydney



Gather round, for I have for your heart, your mind, a delight. Rendering this tale makes my heart soar with joy on bird's wing. From Swedenborg, associated correspondences to consider, enhance.

"Birds in general signify existent spiritual, rational, also intellectual states." Arcana Caelestia (A.C. 142)

In True Christian Religion (TCR 69) our teacher writes. "He who draws wisdom from God is like a bird flying aloft, enjoying a wide extensive view, directing its flight to whatever is required for its use."

"Birds know each other by their notes, cries, also by a sphere of life which exhales from their bodies." (TCR 459)

### Bird found me, or Possum's Buffet feast

Bird takes food from my hand, will walk beside, behind or ahead of me for considerable distances. To listen to Bird-calling Currawong-chorusing captures delight. One afternoon, out walking, 'we' saw a bedraggled, rather underfed, Ring Tailed Possum, eating pinkish white Camellia petals. It saddened me to think Possum's straggly struggle might be chronic.

After sunset, after activities settled, most of all neighbouring lights extinguished, Possum arrived carrying her young, aka 'Little One', destination, Orange tree. Possum looks to be in heaven, absorbed in orange. Animals have a sphere of life/ aura. As do we, plants and minerals. Seed displaying its sphere scarlet indicates poison, blue, safety; this colour in humans indicates, peace is what you convey, kindness in fruit, seed 'communication' by gentle sounds, 'eye' contact.

Six or so months later I found Possum amid bark, branches, leaf litter; then buried her, placed a flower; birds calling their calls, strong winds, branches yielding, insects, normality, life moves on – changes in motion, as now I was responsible for one orphaned possum, a use I could not neglect. Needless to say Little One is doing just fine, comfortable to within inches of me, happy in my sphere. Swedenborg tells us, love goes from the Lord to the Lord, in this instance, my ; love for Little One combines with his love for food. Both loves are from the Lord. Love 'to the Lord' completes the cycle; my joy is the Lord's love through me; thus arises inner peace, contentment.

Aqape



*It is right to be contented with what we have, never with what we are.*  
James Mackintosh

**Jesus said,  
"Peace I leave with you, my peace I give you, not as the world gives do I give you."**

*"I believe that the very purpose of life is to be happy. From the very core of our being, we desire contentment. In my own limited experience I have found that the more we care for the happiness of others, the greater is our own sense of well-being. Cultivating a close, warmhearted feeling for others automatically puts the mind at ease. It helps remove whatever fears or insecurities we may have and gives us the strength to cope with any obstacles we encounter. It is the principal source of success in life. Since we are not solely material creatures, it is a mistake to place all our hopes for happiness on external development alone. The key is to develop inner peace."*

Dalai Lama



## The Restlessness of Nature

By Wayne Kasmar ~ Sydney

A potent idea about peace that Swedenborg's system of thought conveys is that it is something that can be experienced only by those who are spiritual. Those who, as to their ruling love, are natural can never experience true peace. What they think of as peace is only satisfaction of their natural appetites. And this is always only a temporary state. As soon as their appetites return the feeling of satisfaction dissipates.



Swedenborg tells us that the inhabitants of the hells know no peace. They are constantly craving to satisfy their selfish and self-centred desires. We have a reflection of it in life in the natural world where never ending struggle is the norm. I have never

forgotten the first sentence in the biology section of my high school science text book

"All organisms strive to survive and reproduce."

The drama of the natural world, the constant struggle by living things in following their natural instincts is captured in this short striking statement. In a way, we have a better sense of this than any previous generation due to the fact that we have wonderfully insightful nature documentaries regularly being produced and presented to us. Few things are more compelling to us than a story from the wild, such as the life of a pride of lions. Life on the African savannah is precarious,

not just for their prey, but for the lions as well. These magnificent creatures may well laze around in the



sun after making a kill, but in a few days hunger will start to gnaw away at their insides, and if they are unable to catch more food, and this is always a distinct possibility, their lives could be threatened should other

factors start going against them. Again should a male suddenly appear who proves powerful



enough to chase off or kill the resident male, he will proceed to kill or chase off all the pride's young.

We may well wonder how these creatures can live under

such constant stress, and we could admire them for the way they seem to take misfortune so stoically. But we need to be careful that we don't adopt an anthropomorphic view of them. Unlike human beings, they don't have a moral dimension to their lives, but are, in fact, complete slaves to their natural instincts.

In recent decades though, we seem to have come to have a decidedly romantic picture of animals. The kind of selfishness and self-centredness that determines their behaviour, and which, through correspondences, pictures for us our lower desires, has probably become lost sight of due to our alienation from the natural world. Our scientific technological taming of the physical world has meant that we are not only likely to have no first-hand experience of wild animals, but due to advances in mechanization we have no contact with working animals either.

This has meant that overwhelmingly our contact with animals is restricted to that of domestic pets. These animals have over a long period of time, been selectively bred to be docile and compliant; qualities which make them good companions for humans. This has led us to base our opinions of all animals on this spectacularly unrepresentative group, and to have a false view of them as being possessed of virtuous natures.

If we lived a hundred years ago when work animals were ubiquitous in the human world, I suspect we would have a very different outlook. Working animals, unlike pets, need to be spirited creatures so as to be suited to the physically hard tasks put before them. This means a much higher proportion of these animals are going to be defiant and rebellious in nature. The basic selfishness and self-centeredness that is part of the natural .....





make-up of all animals is consequently much more evident in them than in our domestic pets.

In the past, people had the idea that human beings were superior to animals, and I think the extraordinary changes in our world that have led to the enormous reduction in our contact with animals are the major reason why this is no longer the case. In comparison to the ornery animals they often had to deal with, our great grandparents may have looked upon their fellow human beings as paragons of reasonableness, co-operation and all the other social graces.

In a way this might make the modern world a more difficult one in which to live. Our human interactions make up such a large and important part of our lives, and if our appreciation of our fellow human beings is diminished then our lives are surely more difficult as a consequence.

The modern idealized notions of animals make us consider wild animals to be noble creatures. Make no mistake about it. Whilst they might be quite magnificent they are not noble in the least. They are totally selfish, which is what they need to be in order to survive and be able to pass on their genes in the wild. It's the natural order of things, as ordained by God the Creator.

Human beings are different from animals

because by virtue of their moral choices they can transcend the natural level of life, and so find relief from the incessant struggle required to look after "number one". Whether someone becomes spiritual and thereby experiences the peace of heaven; something which is ever increasing to eternity, depends on that person making a committed decision to follow the way of life that God recommends.

We start off life altogether natural. We actually need to be selfish initially in order to facilitate the vast input of resources of all kinds that ensures the proper development of a complete and whole human being. This selfishness led Swedenborg to describe newborns as "little hells". And this despite the heavenly sphere that surrounds them due to the presence of celestial angels that are necessarily with them.

Have you ever noticed that whilst awake, babies are never physically still and calm?

They are constantly moving. This pictures the restlessness of the natural level that currently rules them. Only later in life are people able to become physically still and calm. This is only once they have the chance to come into the spiritual nature for which they were created.



### ***On Sleep***

*"And so He gives His beloved sleep."*

Psalm 127:2

We all know how important sleep is to us as a time of restoration, physically, psychologically and spiritually, and for healing. It is amazing, in some ways, how we trust ourselves to sleep and so seem to surrender control and decision-making to the Lord.

Apart from myself I know of others who have episodes of patchy sleep where thoughts of worldly life and daily problems threaten to intrude and take over. Not so long ago I was awake for a

while one night and drew on my recollection of some Psalms and thought about the spiritual world. Then a little voice seemed to speak to me saying, *"The Lord is in charge"*. What a wonderful reminder, that this is so. And it suggested to me that the Lord, in His infinite wisdom, permits - even provides - for us to have these wakeful times so that in the quietness of the night away from the distractions of our daily routine we can reflect on the way our life is going. And don't we need to do that at times?

It helped me relax and for peace, serenity and a desire for sleep to return.

*Margaret Arnold*



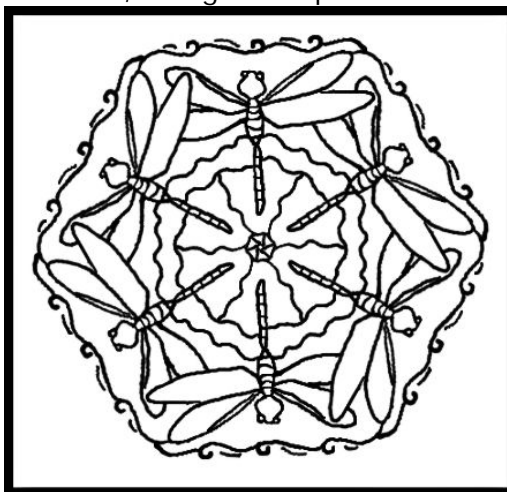


## Living in the Moment

### By Hew Dalrymple ~ Burradoo NSW

Living in the moment is not really a problem, for we really have no option. Life is always in the present moment, but for most of us our unruly minds report differently. Our senses with which we connect with our world, all function in the present, but by the time the message has reached the brain it has been compared with previous experiences and interpreted in relation to the past.

The past may be a series of disasters, errors in judgment leading to financial loss or break up in relationship but they are always learning experiences, grist for the mill of life. Each challenge as we face it in the present is not only a test of our ability but more importantly it is a test on our *acquired* ability, including how we learn, how much we retain from past experience. However, being caught up with past experiences at the expense of a current challenge is to deny our innate need to progress and to evolve. Most of our discontent and unhappiness comes from living with, attachment to negative feelings from the past, causing emotional blocks and thus failing to be aware of life living through us in the present. The process of growth is a series of constant changes, some we notice, most we accept as part of growing up, or part of growing old, but some changes we assess as good or bad, these are the learning experiences, for they grate on our sensibility, tear at what we see as normal, erode our confidence; but more importantly sharpen our judgment. As William Shakespeare wrote in Hamlet "There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so." And the part of our consciousness that assesses relative values is the part that attaches us to the past. That is our ego, which lives to reinforce and update our concept of the self; always based on something that has happened, even if only seconds ago.



Milliande.com

Why is this the way it is? When we are first born it takes some time before we learn that we are separate from Mum and we instinctively develop defense mechanisms for survival. We may learn to yell when we feel the stinging discomfort of a wet nappy, or when the tummy growls about lack of tucker. We may learn not to pull the dog's ear, before we do it to the wrong dog. Should this be more serious and the youngster is frightened more than his innate defences can cope with, the incident may become disowned, and a "shadow" is established in the child's memory. Later, irrational fear of dogs may be present.

Some of us have more deeply-rooted and serious shadows, others may know why they live 'under a shadow' but have become attached to the experience, either way letting go and being more conscious of the present moment is imperative. This may not

be as simple as it appears some will need professional help, but a technique called Voice Dialogue together with Mindfulness meditation can be very helpful(1).

Moving on is a natural occurrence, for change is always with us and to retain that identity which we have come to recognize as the self leads to resistance to change. So as the ocean of change flows around us we remain, in mind anyway, rock solid; and like any

resistance to flow accumulate waste. Soon we become so familiar with the rubbish that we identify it as part of the melee we call self. Being acquisitive has become for most of us a way of reinforcing our identity. Who doesn't feel more 'themselves' in a new suit, hairdo or car? We have all unwittingly become used to these 'add ons' as an improvement to how we feel (about ourselves). Apart from the accumulation of physical possessions is the more subtle and insidious inclination to lay claim to our own thoughts and emotions. Instead of saying "I'm feeling afraid" we attach to the feeling and say "I am afraid". Instead of having a logical sequence of stimulating thoughts we see ourselves as being logical and stimulating. ....cont....

**"For peace of mind, we need to resign as general manager of the universe."**

- Larry Eisenberg



With the advent of the internet, we are now able to expand ourselves into the world of cyberspace, and can intentionally create the person that we want to be by projection. Letting go of the small self may be easier after expanding in such a manner. Certainly this has been the case ever since we learnt to write our names, from cave walls to typed or orally projected script; from wireless to mobile phones and computers.

So 'getting over it' becomes an exercise we can't avoid. Non-attachment doesn't mean that we must deny our part in the totality that is life itself or to relinquishment of all responsibility. On the contrary it becomes easier to attend objectively to issues that are apart from our personal involvement. So for those of us who are burdened with issues of the past, 'Mindfulness' can be a wonderful way to help us 'let go, let God', and live with awareness of the present moment.

1. Developed by Hal Stone PhD and Sidra Stone PhD. <http://www.delos-inc.com/>
- For Mindfulness training see the Internet.

### ***The Third Noble Truth***

*Walter Mason ~ Sydney*

#### "The Four Noble Truths:

1. Life is suffering.
2. The cause of suffering is our own grasping and clinging, our attachments to our desires.
3. Cessation of suffering is possible.
4. Presentation of the Eight-Fold Path that leads to the end of suffering and promotes well-being."

From: *The Lotus Still Blooms* by Joan Gattuso

The core elements of Buddhist teaching have come down to us as numbered formulae, most probably because these were easy to remember in a tradition that was, for centuries, purely oral. So the Buddhist quickly becomes familiar with the Four Noble Truths, or the Eight-Fold Path, or the Twelve-Fold Chain of Dependent Origination, among many others. As a basic statement of faith, the Four Noble Truths are, perhaps, the starkest and most stripped-down statements to be found among the world's religions. These Truths form the very backbone of the Buddhist religion, and so the first statement, for example, that "Life is suffering" can seem a little challenging to the novice – a kind of spiritual tough-love. In recent years there has

been some new discussion about the ways these formulae have been translated into English, and I noticed with interest that, in a recent copy of the glossy American Buddhist magazine 'Tricycle', author and teacher Sylvia Boorstein translates the Third Noble Truth as "Peace is Possible."

This intrigued me because it has taken a step beyond the usual translations (see Gattuso's quote at the beginning of this piece), and has moved the Third Truth from a suggestion – there is a path leading to the cessation of suffering – to an actual, tangible state of being – "Peace is Possible." Of course, the notion of peace is one of those we automatically attribute to Buddhism. Vietnamese Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh said famously that "Peace is every step," thereby implying that this state of mind comes not in some perfect future, but in the way we negotiate our lives right now. Peace is not a quality outside of us – it is a quality we bring to all things we touch. The implication, or so it would seem to me, is that the quality of peace, both internal and external, is the ultimate goal of the spiritual life. St. Paul saw that "the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

Peace of mind is a Noble Truth because it fulfils not just a divine, transcendent purpose, but serves also as an intensely practical and effective way to inhabit the here and now. Our everyday lives are lost to anxiety and worry – sometimes about even the smallest things – if we sacrifice our peaceful states of mind. We are encouraged to cultivate our worries, to privilege our fears and to elevate our anxieties way above our more peaceful impulses. And no matter how great the evidence to the contrary, we still retain those lingering doubts in the backs of our minds. As Mark Twain so wonderfully said, **"I am an old man and have known a great many troubles, but most of them never happened."**

So I've embraced this new translation of the Third Noble Truth, confident that the cessation of suffering is not just a suggested, possible future event. It is right here and now in the ways I choose to react, the thoughts I choose to entertain and the realities I choose to embrace. Peace has ceased to be a goal, because now I live it as a reality, and that is the ultimate truth of my spiritual path. In all things, peace is possible.

苦諦





## ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

### Secretary's Report

This will be my final report as Secretary of the SAA, and I have enjoyed my period here so much. It is wonderful to be able to work with such gentle and intelligent people, but my own career increasingly takes me overseas and interstate, so I feel it is best to vacate the Secretary's seat for someone who can fill it more dependably. In fact, this year quite a number of Committee members are reaching the end of their tenure, and we are quite anxious to have some new faces on board. The duties are not onerous, and the meetings are only quarterly, so if you feel called at all to volunteer, do let us know. All are welcome!

As people who see life (I hope!) from a spiritual perspective, I think that it is fair to say that we often look at things more deeply, and consider things more carefully than is usual. We are not afraid to address some of life's "Big Questions," though whether or not we arrive at any big answers is another matter altogether. An ongoing project of ours has been to put together a series of small essays on these "Big Questions," inspired in part by a similar project undertaken in the journal 'New Scientist'. Our lives are often so taken up with the small considerations that it can be genuinely liberating to turn to the big, the really grand considerations that might scare us sometimes. If you've ever found yourself wondering about things like consciousness, free will and reality, I would encourage you to put pen to paper and record your thoughts and share them with us. Please don't think that your ideas aren't worth sharing: everybody's perspective is of interest, and when we have collected enough material, we hope to have something really special to share with the world.

Enjoy the wonderful Spring, keep thinking about the big things, and keep your hearts open and loving!

Many Blessings,

**Walter Mason**

Secretary



his concept of the psyche, the ego and the shadow together with the function of the psyche. She also provided some background on his life including his association with Freud to put his work in context. Jung was known to have a good working knowledge of Swedenborg and it was left to each person to reflect on how much this influenced his work.

The July meeting involved the showing of a DVD of Dr Groves on the topic of 'The Spiritual Dimension of Biology'. This was necessary as our scheduled speaking Dr Elena Nefedova who was to speak on 'Spirituality and Heredity' was unable to attend at the last minute due to a family bereavement.

We were pleased to have Henry Conlan speaking at the August meeting on the subject of the 'Significance of Numbers'. Henry provided a background to the influence that the numbers contained in birthdays have on a person's life and personality and he was able to give examples from famous peoples' birthdays and some individuals present. The convener gave a brief background to Swedenborg's perspective on numbers particularly as they relate to the Bible.

We have been pleased to welcome new guests to our meetings in recent months.

**Chris Skinner**



### Sydney Group News

In June Kirk Holst gave a personal account of his Spiritual Journey involving Swedenborg's spiritual writings and his growing appreciation of what Scientology can contribute to an understanding of the ego and the mind. Kirk is excellent in showing the relevance of Swedenborg's writings to everyday life.

In July John Maitland gave a wonderful account of Swedenborg's life and times and the major influences in his life. He examined aspects of the intellectual culture of Swedenborg's era and showed how they help us understand his thinking, especially his religious work. A well researched talk and highly recommended.

In August a group of us attended the Festival of Wildflowers. It was a nice sunny day and people joined in bushwalks, and sitting around enjoying each other's company. A wonderful way to appreciate the beginnings of Spring.

### Melbourne Group News

Our speaker in June was Claire French who spoke on the topic of 'Carl Jung and his contribution to Psychology'. Claire has studied Jung for many years and focused her talk on





## ***Freedom to Choose***

*Bill Hall, Rockhampton QLD.*

"Our worst enemy is self-pity, and if we yield to it, we can never do any good in the world."  
(Helen Keller)

Swedenborg's writings teach that all life flows in: the good of life from the Lord through angels and good spirits, and the evil of life from evil spirits from hell. He also teaches that the Lord gives all people the freedom and the power to reject evils as sins against the Lord. This rejection is done by people from themselves, but it is really is "AS IF" from themselves. This teaching is clear, telling us to live according to the Lord's commandments in all the circumstances of our lives. Then, when the action is completed, we are to acknowledge that the motivation and the power to do as the Lord wills for us came to us from the Lord through angels and good spirits.

From my experience, when strong feelings of self-pity flood into my mind, this makes me feel so upset and confused that I just feel so distraught at the impact of this self-pity that I feel completely unable to think beyond this unpleasant state. So I have to make the strong and sustained effort to remember the New Church teaching that people are able to rise above feelings of self-pity and to reject them as coming from evil spirits and then to live positively and hopefully.

When I reflect that the Lord gives people the freedom and the power to be forever free from negative states, including self-pity, I am able to step forward with my life and to try to be useful to the neighbour. There is no doubt in my mind that evil spirits want people to concentrate exclusively on negative states and to remain immersed in them, and thus be unable to be useful to the community.

With the Lord and His angels, the state is completely different. The Lord wants everyone to be content, joyful and useful throughout their entire lives. The Lord does not want anyone to be downcast and sad or depressed.

When we turn away from the power of the hells, the Lord's love and faith flow into our lives so that we feel that the duties and tasks that lie before us are not impossible but are part of the Lord's plan for us, always with the proviso that those duties and tasks are in accordance with the Lord's will for us.

When we participate in communal life, instead of focusing on negative states or

conditions of others, we have the freedom and the power to direct our minds and actions toward drawing out the best in others.

Then our lives can take on a new dimension of always extending courtesy and respect to every person we encounter or remember. This freedom is from the Lord and His angels who always want us to be happy, useful and content with all our circumstances, no matter how demanding those circumstances may be.

When we live according to the Lord's Commandments of faith and charity, we experience the blessings with which the Lord is continually blessing us. Let us rejoice that the Lord always provides us with the necessary power and freedom to obey His Commandments all the moments and days of our lives.

"Loving the Lord and our neighbour is being of service." Heaven and Hell 112

## ***Endless***

*Endless sky above,  
endless sky below,  
endless sky whichever direction  
your mind might want to go.*

*Endless talk all day.  
Amid the yabber yabber,  
a little talk can be as good  
as a magic abracadabra.*

*Shallow thoughts in town,  
endlessly all around,  
far too busy to find much depth  
to dig-in and hold your ground.*

*Shallow news in papers.  
Endless storms of puff  
on endless mindless television.  
When will you see enough?*

*Endless depth within,  
Endless space outside.  
Endless depth is the human condition.  
Hop in. Go for a ride.*

*Endless sky above,  
endless sky below,  
always there in any direction  
your mind might want to go.*

*James Baillie  
Maldon  
27 January 2010*





## I wish you well

I wish you well in everything;  
well in heart, mind, spirit, life and body.  
I wish that you be always well.  
May you be free, strong, happy, true and right.

Let me love you exactly for who you are;  
a fellow traveller on this common road;  
interweaving at times, apart at other times,  
sharing in the fabric together always.

Let me offer you who I am  
and if I bring you benefit, so be that as it happens.  
I am only passing on what is not mine  
but has simply come my way from wherever.

Let us relish our similarities and enjoy our  
differences,  
whatever these are, our paint palette perhaps.  
Whatever there may be between us enriches us  
and makes our meeting points unique and real.

Let me not intrude on your own time and space,  
for you and I have our different designs and  
destinies.

I will do to you what I would wish you do to me  
and that is the immutable law we share.

Let me not control, sway, possess, expect,  
belittle, advise, dictate, put right, slander,  
reproach, rebel, ignore, forget, presume,  
negate, invade, nor cause you any pain.

Let me think often of you and ponder how you are,  
and when we meet, pick up from where we left,  
and realise that distance doesn't count with love,  
and nothing changes.

Let us encourage ourselves in that amazing scope,  
Encouraging myself to encourage you to be you;  
Encouraging yourself to encourage me to be me.  
What needs to stop that from happening, pray?

And let us let this happen, and trust it to the full,  
finding the peace of God that the world doesn't give.  
Oh yes, it passeth all understanding, that peace,  
for the simple reason that we don't plan it, we do it.

I wish you well; I wish you well in everything  
and count my blessing for having you to bless.  
Whoever you may be, and however it comes about,  
the glory of it all is that we are and so we can.

**by Julian Duckworth**



## Discounted Items for the Quarter

As a reader of *Candela*, if you order the following titles in the Sept to Nov 2010 period, you will receive approx. 25% off the retail price (*while stocks last*). (see the discounted price and postage on the form below)

Complete the Order Form (you can copy it) and return it to the Swedenborg Centre or phone on 02 9888 1066 and mention this notice.



### **Inner and Outer Worlds** by Michael Stanley (Audio CD)

**RRP \$9.00**

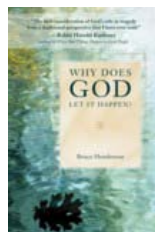
Who am I? Where do I come from? and What is the meaning and purpose of my life? Answers to these basic questions cannot be found in the world around us for they relate to a higher level. We need to touch the spiritual dimension - which is our inner world. We need to rediscover this level and the spiritual teachings of Swedenborg provide a helpful means via his explanation of the lost science of Correspondences. Everything in the outerworld mirrors deeper aspects of our psyche.



### **Collection of talks, Classes & Guided Meditations** by Michael Stanley (mp3 files)

**RRP \$15.00**

Includes 'Effect of the Other World on this World', 'Inner and outer worlds', 'Genesis', 'Guided Meditations' and four sessions of 'Heavenly Secrets' classes. Many of these talks can be downloaded by going to the Free Offer page of the web site and look for Michael Stanley. A wonderful introduction to Swedenborg's ideas.



### **Why does God let it happen?** by Bruce Henderson (90 pages, pb) **RRP \$15.00**

"Why do good people suffer pain and loss? Why does God allow these things to happen? In this simple, straightforward book, Bruce tackles some of the most difficult questions that people face in their lives. He describes a universe in which God allows us free will, subtly guiding the course of our lives with an insight no mortal can comprehend. Pain and suffering ultimately lead to good, and as we walk the path, we draw ever closer to heaven.

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## ORDER FORM ~ Send to: SWEDENBORG CENTRE, 1 Avon Road, NORTH RYDE, NSW 2113

I wish to buy the following items (please insert Number of copies and Total but see "Freight" below):-

Title	* Freight	Discount Price	No.	Total
<i>Inner and Outer Worlds</i> by Michael Stanley (CD)	\$2.00	\$3.00		\$
<i>Collection of talks, Classes &amp; Guided Meditations</i> by Michael Stanley (mp3 files)	\$2.00	\$8.00		\$
<i>Why does God let it happen?</i> by Bruce Henderson	\$3.00	\$9.00		\$
<b>Total Payable by Cheque/Money Order/Credit Card #</b>				<b>\$</b>

# Cheques/Money Orders payable to "Swedenborg Centre" + SAA members 20% discount applies to these titles

\* For multiple orders, actual cost will be charged if less (maximum cost will be \$10)

Your Details (Capitals please)

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_. Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No. ( ) \_\_\_\_

## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

For Group activities, contact your nearest Group Convenor

- Brisbane (Ian Arnold on (07) 33690054)
- Gold Coast (Kevin Attwater on (07) 55452401 and Jack Benson on (07) 55454115);
- Melbourne (Chris Skinner on (03) 94320322; email: cskinner9@optusnet.com.au);
- Sydney region (Michael Chester on (02) 98881066; email:

michael@swedenborg.com.au);

It would be good to establish Groups in other areas. If you can help, please contact Michael Chester.



Our website is updated regularly. Go to meetings on [www.swedenborg.com.au](http://www.swedenborg.com.au) for more details.

Please let us know if you would like to be informed via email.

**Brisbane:** New Church Hall, 21 Agars Street, Rosalie.

**Melbourne:** New Church Hall, 426 High Street Road, Mount Waverley. Last Fridays commencing 8pm.  
24<sup>th</sup> September ~ *Swedenborg: signpost to a modern path for inward growth.*

Speaker: **Joe Vandermeer**

29<sup>th</sup> October ~ *Panel of speakers from different spiritual paths on a Spiritual Principle.*

**Sydney:** Swedenborg Centre, 1 Avon Road, North Ryde commencing 7.45pm.

10<sup>th</sup> Sept ~ *Opening to Divine Presence through Sacred Scripture.* Speaker: **David Millar**

29<sup>th</sup> Oct ~ *The All Seeing Eye.* Speaker: **Julian Duckworth**

26<sup>th</sup> Nov ~ *Sound workshop.* Speaker: **Joe Vandermeer**

## WHY A SWEDENBORG ASSOCIATION?

To promote Emanuel Swedenborg, the man and his message, throughout Australia by personal contact, meetings, etc.

Having active Groups for those with common interests.

Providing information on topical subjects by drawing on Swedenborg's contributions.

Ensuring Swedenborg's writings are kept before the community's awareness.

*To share with others what has been of help to you in your quest for truth.*

*Pursuing areas of interest in Swedenborg through access to material and events.*

*A Free Newsletter every 3 months*

*20% discount on books, etc. other than sets of 3 or more books when a reduced discount applies*

*Free Swedenborgian-based book, CD, DVD, etc. each year enabling you to introduce others.*

## Membership Application Form

I wish to apply for membership of the SWEDENBORG ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA Incorporated and agree to be bound by the Rules of Association (copy available on request).

Name (Capitals Please) Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr/Rev/ \_\_\_\_\_  
Given Name Family Name **n.b. only one person per application**

Address (Capitals Please) \_\_\_\_\_

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Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. No. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / 20

*Subscription:* ☐ \$35 (One year regular) ☐ \$90 (Three year regular) ☐ \$25  
(One year Concession - Students & Pensioners holding a Social Security Card)

*Payment:* ☐ Cheque ☐ Money Order ☐ Bankcard ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa

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(Please note: An additional 5% service charge will be added for payments by credit card)

I am willing to have my name and telephone number provided to other members in my locality Yes / No (please circle)