

***Religion is of life, and the life of religion is to do what is good***

*(Doctrine of Life 8)*

**The New Church** is an international organization of people striving to improve their conscious relationship with the Lord, Jesus Christ, the one God who rules heaven and earth.

We extend a warm welcome to everyone, and invite you to take what you like and return it freely. We use the Bible and the Heavenly Doctrine revealed by the Lord and published by Emanuel Swedenborg to guide us in our lives, especially in our relationships. We freely share our love and understanding with each other, and try to give one another support in our spiritual journeys.

Temporarily the Hurstville Society is without a **Pastor**. During this period the Society will be served by lay leaders and visiting preachers.

**Worship Services** are held each Sunday at 10:00 AM. **Sunday School** is held concurrently with the worship service (prior notice required).

**Young People's Group** is held once a month in conjunction with the Young People's Group at the New Church at 2 Shirley St, Roseville.

**A tea and social** in conjunction with **discussion** meets on the 1st Friday of each month (January excepted) beginning at 7 00 pm. This will be conducted by visiting ministers when available or lay led as appropriate.

**Bible Study and Discussion Classes** previously held midweek have been suspended until further notice.

**The Swedenborg Bookroom**, at 22 Dudley Street, Penshurst, contains books by and about Emanuel Swedenborg for sale or loan. It is open by appointment.

Temporary editors – Owen & Margaret Heldon  
22-24 Dudley St., off Hillcrest Ave. in Penshurst  
Tel (02) 9580-1589. Fax (02) 9570-8447  
Email: [newchurch@optusnet.com.au](mailto:newchurch@optusnet.com.au)

<http://www.newchurch.org.au/hurstville>

Call or come at anytime.



---

**The New Church Newsletter**

**Hurstville Society August 2006**

---

**Wonders in the Deep**

by Frank S. Rose

“These see the works of the Lord, and his wonder in the deep.”

Psalm 107:24

Long before we made our way to Australia people were telling us that we must see the Sydney Aquarium. Now we know why. Earlier this week we took the train to Circular Quay and the Ferry to Darling Harbour, which put us right at the entrance to the Aquarium. There were lots of people, partly, I suppose because schools were on holiday. But we soon turned our attention away from the crowds in the corridors to the multitude of fish swimming by.

Our granddaughter, Marin, has a little fish tank, with three goldfish in it. Even that little area has a way of soothing the soul. Now we found ourselves in a glass tunnel with fish above, beside and even below us. After

a while I found myself almost hypnotized by the gentle rhythms of the multicoloured fish as they moved around us, some as individuals, many in clusters with each fish pointing the same way. A school of fish was just inches away from my face, taking up my entire field of vision, each fish larger than my head, and all of them were moving together in perfect harmony. Suddenly they would all turn simultaneously as if under the direction of a master choreographer. The next minute the water above them was darkened by an enormous shark slipping silently through the water. Then a different fish flew by, flapping its wings just like a bird, (but with a little more ripple to its wings.)

Nature can be very tough, and I suppose the ocean itself is not as safe as the aquarium. Even so, I think we were treated to a glimpse of order, beauty, grace and colour that is part of the “wonders of the deep” spoken of by the Psalmist.

In our time there we saw only a fraction of what was to be seen, and the aquarium itself is the tiniest fraction of the ocean itself. But this miniature world confirmed the teaching that the more closely one observes nature, the more miracles one discovers, and it all unfolds in endless variety. This reflects the variety of heaven, as is noted in this passage from *Heaven And Hell*.

### **Heaven and Hell 56.**

Heaven is a unity resulting from the arrangements of various parts in the most perfect form, for the heavenly form is the most perfect of all forms. That this is the origin of all perfection is evident from all the beauty, pleasantness and delight that affect the senses as well as the mind (animus). For these exist and flow from no other source than the concert and harmony of many concordant and harmonious parts, either co-existing in order or following in order, and not from a unity apart from plurality. From this comes the saying that *variety* gives delight, and it is known that it is the nature of the *variety* which determines the delight. From all this it can be seen, as in a mirror, how perfection comes from *variety* even in heaven. For the things that are in the spiritual world can be seen as in a mirror from those that come into existence in the natural world.

A number of people have enjoyed the experience of attending **watercolour painting classes** each Saturday afternoon during July. The artwork produced is a credit to both pupils and teacher **Rev Frank Rose**. Expect an exhibition in the near future!

### **Article on Church Gardens in Burke’s Backyard**

Recently a gentleman by the name of Ben Hewett became acquainted with the gardens at the back of the church and Baringa during a visit to play tennis. It turns out he works for the magazine *Burke’s Backyard* and was so impressed he has written an article expected to run in the October issue which will be on sale Monday the 25th of September. It is called *Norman’s Garden* and details of the church and its location are mentioned in the article.

### **Farewell for Robert Cooper, Huiling and Matthew**

Robert and Huiling recently had their visa applications approved at the US Consulate and will be leaving shortly for the USA where Robert will be studying at the Theological College in Bryn Athyn.

Robert and Huiling have invited the society to their recently renovated house at **15 Rosemont Av, Mortdale** for a farewell luncheon after church on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August**. The food arrangements are as for our usual Pot Luck luncheons *so please bring a savoury or sweet dish to share*. At this time **Rev Frank Rose** has been asked to do a **Blessing on the Home**. This is particularly appropriate following the recent renovations contributed to in large part by Huiling’s father.

### **August Birthdays**

Happy Birthday to **Norm Heldon** (1st), **Grace Horner** (7<sup>th</sup>), **Emily Kermond** (7<sup>th</sup>), **Mark Brettell** (8<sup>th</sup>), **Rhonda Hall** (12<sup>th</sup>), **Rebekah Horner** (17<sup>th</sup>), **Larah Walsh** (21<sup>st</sup>), **Graeme McLeay** (22<sup>nd</sup>), **Robert Cooper** (28<sup>th</sup>), **Ralph Horner** (30<sup>th</sup>).

## News Notes

We are planning a **Society Hike** on Saturday **12<sup>th</sup> August** from the Spit to Manly. This is an easy 3 hour walk taking in some of the best harbour views. Plans are to meet at Wynyard Station at 10 a.m. for a bus to Spit Bridge. Bring a picnic lunch. Return trip will be via Manly Ferry to Circular Quay. Contact Owen or Margaret Heldon on 9545 3823 for more details.

**Peter** and **Stephanie Kennedy** are the proud parents of a beautiful baby boy, **Nathan Edward**, born early Wednesday 5th July. This is the first grandchild for **Gai** and **Merv Kennedy**.

On the other side of the continent **Kayla Grace Phan** arrived on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July. Kayla is the first child for **Verity** and **Tony** and the first grandchild for **Ray** and **Mary Smuts**.

And while we are reporting on babies **Sylvia** and **John Hicks** are grandparents again. Their daughter **Alyssa** has given birth to another healthy boy, Daniel.

**Karen Lockart** has very recently met with a motor vehicle accident in London. A car clipped her Vespa motor cycle, and she's sustained 2 fractures in her foot and a very large gash. Despite this, according to her boyfriend she is in good spirits. Please consider her in your prayers.

**Theo Kirsten** has spent several weeks in hospital with pneumonia. His condition is stable at present. Our thoughts are with Theo and June and family at this time.

**Sydney Heldon**, brother of Norman Heldon who lives near Bryn Athyn in Pennsylvania is also in hospital at this time and we are awaiting further information on his condition. Our thoughts are with Syd, Lib and family.

Summer holidays are drawing to a close for **Jeffrey Heldon** who leaves on August 30<sup>th</sup> to return to the Bryn Athyn High School for his second year of studies.

## More History Concluded

The editors have decided to draw to a close our articles on the early history of the Hurstville Society. These first appeared in August a year ago as a follow up to our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on July 11<sup>th</sup> 2005. In the form of excerpts from Church News in the magazine New Church Life, they have proved to be a rich source of information providing interesting and entertaining reading. It is the desire of the Hurstville Society Archivist, Margaret Heldon, to continue and complete extracting and collating this information into its own volume for future use. Our articles have barely scratched the surface; there is much fascinating reading here. Understanding the history of our forebears, their struggles and achievements can strengthen our own resolve.



Rev Cairns Henderson and his wife Eva with Hugo and twins Ian and Bruce taken in 1939

Due to unavailability of space in our recent Newsletters the last More History article appeared in May this year. Readers were told to await the arrival of Rev W Cairns Henderson. Cast your mind back to August 8<sup>th</sup>, 1935 and imagine yourself as one of forty-five persons welcoming Cairns Henderson and his wife Eva at a social evening held in the church building. We read, *Dancing, songs, sweets and fruits combined to make a very pleasant time.* (NCL October 1935)

Initially Rev Cairns Henderson was assistant to Rev Richard Morse but in January the next year 1936 Mr Morse retired and Mr Henderson became the pastor of the Hurstville Society.

He said of Richard Morse, *Thus closes a first and only pastorate, which extended over half a life-time, and which ever received nothing less than a whole engagement of heart and mind from him who served it.* (NCL August 1936)

Many important events occurred during the eleven years that Rev Cairns Henderson served the Hurstville Society. Bishop George de Charms came in October 1938, the first visit by a General Church Bishop to Australia which had been *long and keenly anticipated.* (NCL January 1939). During this auspicious occasion, *Bishop and Mrs de Charms were present as guests and witnesses at a marriage solemnized privately between the Rev Richard Morse and Miss Annie Taylor, the pastor [WCH] officiating.* (ibid) The Sons of the Academy were formed in July 1938; but overshadowing all was World War II. Five of the Society's young men joined the forces – the Heldon brothers Norman, Sydney and Lindthman; Tom Taylor and Theo Kirsten. A touching quote from NCL February 1946 reads: *A Service of Thanksgiving for the end of World War II was held in our church at 11.00 a.m. on August 16th. With a few changes in the prayers, the service prepared for VE-Day was used. An informal social gathering followed, during which several toasts were proposed and honoured with great feeling; one, of course, being "The Church" another to our men in the forces - this being coupled with gratitude to the Divine Providence that they will all be returning to us.*

One other significance event must be noted. Rev Richard Morse passed into the spiritual world in 1944. The February 1945 issue of NCL featured his life. Included were a full page photo, Memorial Address by Rev Cairns Henderson, Autobiography (written in 1938) and the following Memorial Resolution:

*Presented by the Pastor at a General Meeting of the Hurstville Society held on October 18, 1944.*

*WHEREAS the Rev. Richard Morse, Pastor Emeritus of the Hurstville Society of the General Church, entered the spiritual world on October 14, 1944, in his eighty-sixth year,*

commends us for it, but He also warns of dangers that we will face. In messages to other churches He also gives praise and encouragement, even promising rewards, but warning us especially to repent, an instruction He repeats time and time again. That should lead us to a study of the doctrine of Repentance. "Hold fast that which you have", he says. "Be faithful unto death and I will give you a crown of life." Giving that crown of life is the Lord's purpose in creation, that is, a heaven from people who will become angels.

As these messages show, and Rev Taylor emphasises, regeneration, spiritual rebirth, is not a "one day wonder", but a lifetime journey that continues in the next life, never ending. (Price \$15) *(reviewed by Norman Heldon)*

## **You Can Believe**

Grant Schnarr is the author of a new, highly recommended book with the above title. This book tackles the task of presenting the church's doctrines without getting bogged down in jargon, instead relating to life's experiences as per the following quote:

"Your life is eternal. Your love is eternal. Your relationships that are based on love are eternal. Keep this in mind as you explore your world each day. Look for the higher meaning, and strive for the higher goal. It will open up a new reality to you. You will sense the hand of providence in your friendships, in your marriage. You can grow so much more and on so many deeper levels with this eternal view. Life is forever. Take the long view. See what it brings. The gifts are amazing and enduring." (Price \$15)

## **Pastor's Travels**

Rev Frank and Louise Rose are planning the following travelling over the next month.

Canberra	August 8-10
Brisbane	August 13-17 (tentative dates)
Auckland, New Zealand	August 20-25
Perth	September 6-10
Return to America	September 12

that the Lord is still there with us.

We read in the Word, “By the Lord of Canaan is signified the Lord’s Kingdom and His Church, “a land of mountains and valleys that drinks of the waters of the rain of Heaven’ “ (AC4715, Deut X1-11)

And too though we are in that valley we can look up at the mountain above.

### **Bookroom News**

Recently we received a shipment of books from the Bryn Athyn Bookroom. Two of the new titles are reviewed below. Also there are some new translations of some of the Writings and a “shorter” edition of *Heaven and Hell* compiled by Julian Dickworth and Trevor Moffat (Price \$12) if you or a friend might be encouraged to read a smaller book or want something that will slip in a handbag. We also have some older volumes of the Writings that have been on the shelves for some time and have some marks on the covers. These can be had for free – just ask Owen or Margaret Heldon if you are interested.

### **Landmarks In Regeneration**

This is the title of a very useful new book by Rev Douglas Taylor. In his usual clear style he writes about the messages that John, on the Isle of Patmos, was to send to the seven churches in Asia – what have they to do with us in the 21<sup>st</sup> century? But we must think of the Psalmist’s words, “Lord, open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your Law”, the Law meaning the whole of the Word. Throughout the Word, in allegory, stories, parables, and the miracles the Lord performed, the messages are for us, in fact for people of all time. Rev Taylor shows how those messages to the seven churches reveal lessons that we must learn as we try to make progress in our regeneration.

John’s first message was to the church in Ephesus. When we are in this Ephesian state we delight in learning truths, but not in trying to see how we may apply them to life. Still it is a very useful endeavour and the Lord

*BE IT RESOLVED, That the members of this Society, now in general meeting assembled, record their deep affection and respect for him, and their lasting appreciation of his long ministry. In 1905 Richard Morse took a leading part in the foundation of the Academy movement in Australia, and the care of the circle then established in Sydney eventually felt to him. In 1913, he was authorized to perform pastoral functions, pending ordination; and, in 1919, he was ordained into the First and Second Degrees of the Priesthood. He resigned his pastorate only at the beginning of 1936 when he was in his seventy-seventh year. Mr. Morse was distinguished for his uncompromising zeal in upholding the Divine Authority of the Writings, and his labours will long be held in affectionate remembrance as those through which were laid the foundations of the General Church in this country And further*

*BE IT RESOLVED, That this Resolution be inscribed upon the Minutes of this Society; that a copy be handed to Mrs. Morse, with expressions of our affection and sympathy; and that a copy be sent also to the Editor of New Church Life for insertion in that journal.*

And so an era was indeed ended but the Hurstville Society was well established. The list below shows all the pastors and leaders that have served up to the present time. There is no doubt that the vibrancy of the Society will continue and the Lord will lead in future paths yet unknown.



Rev Richard and Annie Morse taken around the time of their wedding in 1938

## Pastors and others who have served the Hurstville Society

Mr Richard Morse  
Authorised Leader 1913 - 1919

Rev Richard Morse  
1919 - 1936

Rev Cairns Henderson  
1935 - 1936 Assistant Pastor  
1936 - 1946 Pastor

Mr Lindthman Heldon  
1946 - 1957 Leader

Rev Donald Rose  
1957 - 1963 Pastor

Rev Douglas Taylor  
1963 - 1974 Pastor

Rev Michael Gladish  
1974 - 1981 Pastor

Rev Erik E Sandstrom  
1981 - 1988 Pastor

Rev Douglas Taylor  
1989 - 1993 Pastor

Rev Terry Schnarr  
1991 - 1993 Assistant Pastor  
1993 - 1997 Pastor

Visiting Pastors 1997 - 1999

(No permanent pastor)

Bishop Louis B King

Rev Dan Heinrichs

Rev Douglas Taylor

Rev Kurt Asplundh

Rev Willard Heinrichs

Rev Bill Burke

Bishop Peter Buss

Rev Douglas Taylor

Rev Paul Schorran

Rev David Ayers  
1999 – 2002 Pastor

Rev Erik Sandstrom  
2002 July August Visiting Pastor

Rev Garry Walsh  
2002 – 2005 Pastor

Visiting Pastors since July 2005

(No permanent pastor)

Bishop Peter Buss

Rev Dr Erik E Sandstrom

Roslyn Taylor - Lay assistance

Rev Frank Rose

\* \* \* \* \*

Rev Douglas Taylor - due to arrive  
in September 2006

## Talking of Mountains

by Norman Heldon

I was a small boy on my first visit to the Blue Mountains and I remember standing on a high spot near Katoomba Station. What I saw is still very bright and clear in my memory. There were high cliffs in the distance that seemed to shine in the strong sunlight, in great contrast to the wooded valley below. And over all was a light blue haze. I was entranced.

Later there was a pleasant walk following a stream down to the valley, admiring now and then a great waterfall, ferns, palms, caves and a spring of clear water.

We are not like the people of Most Ancient times, who perceived the spiritual correspondences of the things of nature. I think of them as wise children for they also had a lovely innocence. What we can do though is learn those correspondences from the New Revelation, memorise them and think about them, especially say on a visit to the Blue Mountains, with all those beautiful things around us.

We too when we look up at a mountain can think of the Lord, high above all. The heat and light of His sun are His Love and Wisdom, flowing out to all angels and people there.

Water corresponds to truth and following that stream we can think of ourselves as following His Truth as we go along the path of life. What is the correspondence of a waterfall? As far as I know we are not told directly. I often think of a painting of a magnificent white horse standing in the pool below a waterfall. Now the white horse in the Book of Revelation (ch 19) stands for the understanding of truth and I thought it so apt, the horse being in the pool with the water cascading down and around him.

“Yea, though I walk through the valley of shadow I will fear no evil, for You are with me. Your rod and staff they comfort me.” There are difficult times in life when we must walk through that valley of shadow, family problems, financial difficulties and so on. That is when we can remember