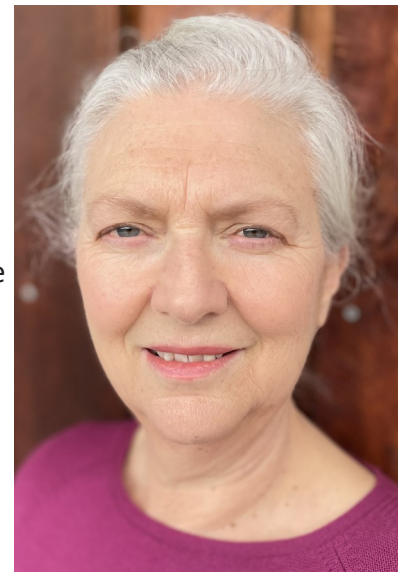


Anthroposophical Society in Australia

News from the General Secretary

Issue No. 1, November 2023

Welcome to the first edition of this newsletter



**General Secretary
Jane Bradshaw**

Dear Members,
Welcome to the first edition of my newsletter as General Secretary.

As your representative, I welcome your feedback and input as to the content of these communications. I hear from your branch reps and I hope to hear from you also.

It has been three years and three months since I took on this destiny role.

I started at the same time as the Covid pandemic — these years and restrictions have confronted and changed us all so much. Modes of communication have become more sophisticated in IT, encouraging worldwide participation.

There are so many opportunities online.

To balance, let us continue to come together face to face, in each other's "heart space", only

here we can bring the much-needed connection and healing to our communities.

Thanks to all the striving individuals who have continued to provide meetings, festivals and other events.

Such an opportunity will be at the Christmas Event organised by the ASinA with the School of Spiritual Science and the branches in Victoria.

And in May 2024 the NSW Branch will host the ASinA AGM and an associated two-to-three day event for all to meet.

Changes in membership of the Management Committee

Judith Howard has stepped down as ASinA treasurer.

Leanne Sarah has generously offered to take up the role.

Peter Fern has stepped down as a committee member and his recent role as Chairperson.

Helen Vogel has taken up the role.

It is with the utmost gratitude that I thank Peter and Judith for all their work and support for the Australian Anthroposophical Society and me in my General Secretary role.

The teamwork has been exemplary.

Branching out — What an Anthroposophical Society membership means

Membership: recently I met a member who was not aware that they were a member of the General Anthroposophical Society (GAS), they thought they were only a member of the Australian Society and their branch. As a result, I am sharing with you that the GAS is comprised of country-based societies, anthroposophical groups, branches and initiatives in more than 35 countries around the world.

When you become a member, you join the GAS. You are then recognised by your country and are almost always connected with your local branch. The intention is that you connect with local branch activity.

Some branches in Australia have their own constitution, some do not.

The ASinA provides support and insurance for activities for the branches if desired.

The ASinA requests an annual financial contribution from all members, some branches ask for a financial contribution for themselves in addition to the country-wide contribution.

The ASinA request is as follows:

School of Spiritual Science \$28, GAS \$128, ASinA \$74.

If we receive a smaller amount from you or your state it is allocated on a pro rata basis, unless specified by you.

This amount has been the same for several years and will not increase in 2024.

* * *

Welcome to new Members in November: Jane Walmsley (Sydney), Ronja Schneller (Queensland).

Ueli Hurter in Australia next year



Ueli Hurter will travel to Australia early in May next year.

The BD centenary group have been organising his schedule and his themes for talks and meetings.

The idea across the country is that the Anthroposophical Society branches/ groups work with the BD groups in each local area. He will travel to Victoria, Tasmania, New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia.

Ueli's topics are broad and encompass "Threefolding", soil and social health. He wants to reach as many people as possible.

In some places, he will be speaking with high and seminar school students, and/or teachers, members and friends of the Anthroposophical Society, doing radio interviews, and conversation circles, lectures etc.

Some of the background to the Goetheanum members' forums

In the members' forums that began in May 2023, and take place both at the Goetheanum in person and online, a development process has been initiated in which the membership worldwide can participate.

The topics of the eleven groups involved include those concerns and motions from the Annual General Meeting that were not put to a vote at the time, because, at the suggestion of Ueli Hurter and Justus Wittich in consultation with the Country Representatives, joint work on these issues was promised in the form of neutrally moderated dialogue forums.

These members' forums aim to present proposals for the further development and renewal of certain processes and the social structure of the Society for representation at the next General Meeting (26-28 April 2024) .

These Forums are at a time that is not at all social for the Asia/Pacific area and English speakers are especially challenged.

Myself (Aus), Michelle Vette (NZ), Kai Irima (Japan), Nirmala Diaz (India) and Michael Hughes (Hawaii) negotiated for English-speaking time appropriate opportunities for our members to participate.

There have been two Forums, both scantily attended by all countries.

Why is this? Many people are too busy, some are "Zoomed" out.

We are all different and one person's priority is not the same as another's.

Some people perceive a problem when others do not.

The evens provide an opportunity to have a conversation about the topics and the future of these international forums.

From the Goetheanum, Justus Wittich, Ueli Hurter, Harald Jackal and Johannes Kronenberg were present, which I perceive as a big investment in time and energy and a true expression of a willingness to engage with a worldwide society.

They continue to make themselves available for conversations for members to ask their questions.

It ought to be clear now that much work has been done in Dornach, for more than two years to address "hot topics", both face-to-face in Dornach and now online.

Anyone interested in the issue of the Constitution can cite certain links . . . I can only find German so far: <https://vimeo.com/user/124680973/folder/18005457>

On the Forum on 3/11/2023 we were asked to be self-organised in the future and to find our questions.

The four countries all agreed to work internally in conversation groups before the next linked forum meeting, in mid-March 2024.

It is essential that we can have informed conversations with depth.

The countries all agreed to work internally in conversation groups, so as to be prepared for constructive conversation before the next linked forum meeting.

Japan and India will work together to also include other Asian countries. Thanks to Kai iruma_kai@ybb.ne.jp

Some people in Australia and NZ expressed that there has been little opportunity provided, so far, in the country to be informed and to speak about topics such as WHO and the Constitution.

Some said they are busy building community as a focus and they don't feel the need to be involved other than building peaceful meetings with a community-building focus.

Other participants stated that they were grateful for the opportunity and to hear about all the open forums that have been happening in Dornach with these hot issues.

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The deadline for the 2023 Journal is next week. For more information contact the Editor, Jan Schjottelvig jschjottelvig@yahoo.com.au

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Please let us know if you would like to contribute to the content of the website.

<https://www.anthroposophyau.org.au/>

* * *

Website request from Fiona — to add items to the website if they are in Word format — and the images, along with who to credit them to, come *separately*.

I would like to say something about the intention

of the website being predominantly for people seeking a Spirit path rather than for members.

As such when I wrote the last input re my Panel contribution I missed out the bit about the so-called Dead.

A mood of gratitude enables community, not only on earth but for those across the threshold, the so-called dead. Only through this mood on earth, we can hear, can connect across the threshold.

— Jane Bradshaw

Subscribe to Branch Newsletters

Many of our branches create their own newsletters.

If you want to subscribe, please contact the distributors directly to be on the mailing list.

Contact

Sydney: annet.vankesteren@gmail.com

Victoria: anthroposvic@gmail.com

S.A: robertbickle@gmail.com

NSW: markgallagher049@gmail.com

Canberra: canberaanthropos1@gmail.com

Antipodean Astro Calendar

Brian Keats is the author of *The Antipodean Astro Calendar* -- the most comprehensive biodynamic guide for the Southern Hemisphere, now in its 34th year. It is a calendar of the Milky Way, stars, sun, moon and planets as well as charting biodynamic planting rhythms and long-range weather forecasting.

Brian was born in 1952 under a wandering star. He grew up in Zimbabwe, travelled extensively around the world and arrived in Australia in 1976, where he has further pursued his interests in agriculture, weather forecasting and teaching for his publishing ventures.

His publications include 'Moon Planting Primer', 'Biodynamic Growing Guide' and 'Betwixt Heaven & Earth.'

Other compelling interests include telling Greek and Aboriginal stories of the night skies whilst under the stars.



BD Tasmania and the ASinA Tasmania Branch shared space at the Tarremah School Fair recently. Pictured are branch secretary Cole Bradshaw with Trish Wykman from BD Tasmania.

A spiritual-scientific work of art coming into being
Three Conferences
The Constitution of the (General) Anthroposophical Society
2nd. Conference: What has come about
November 24–26, 2023

About the second conference:

To incarnate, the spiritual requires a form. The form must fit the purpose if life is to flourish within it. Rudolf Steiner re-founded the Anthroposophical Society at the Christmas Conference of 1923/24. One year later, the statutes of this form were replaced - without having been generally realized and understood. Thus, even today, the Anthroposophical Society no longer lives in the form appropriate and intended for it.

How could this happen? What were the reasons? What were the consequences of this replacement in the various phases of the Society's development, and what is its significance today?

If we can, we wish to try and resolve these questions.

* * *

It's this weekend. Livestreams in Australian time are 5am - 6:30am, 7pm - 8:30pm, Sunday
5am – 6.30pm, 7pm - 8:30pm and 10pm - 11pm.

There is one other but it's at an unfavourable time. We are 10 hours ahead.

From the Goetheanum:

Extended Board meetings happen monthly, with three nominated Country Reps and Goetheanum Leadership. The last meeting was on 31/10/23.

The country representatives consider this regular contact with the Board is very important to convey a real picture of the global Society beyond our own countries.

Present were: Justus Wittich, Ueli Hurter and Matthias Girke, who met with Marjatta (Great Britain), Monika (Germany), René (France).

Ueli reported he travelled as the Representative Circle for Agriculture and the BD Federation meeting on his trip to Kraljevic in Croatia, the birthplace of Rudolf Steiner in 1861. He visited the house where Rudolf Steiner was born, in which a cradle had been found in the attic that may have held the new-born.

Rudolf Steiner can be found in many places in Croatia, for example in thermal baths built by an investor. Its interior is decorated with anthroposophical seals and elements.

Rudolf Steiner is also very well commemorated in a museum, being an important person from Croatia. It is astonishing how Steiner is honoured there as an historical personality, without any reservations. The house in Kraljevic continues to exist as a memorial site, there is BD agriculture, schools and curative education.

[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Rudolf_Steiner_Geburtshaus,Donji_Kraljevec,_Croatia.JPG]

* * *

Matthias Girke, former Vorstand member and co-leader of the Medical Section, recently visited Colombia, where 110 people attended a very positive meeting on palliative care. The group of doctors there produces rhythmised remedies from local plants (rhythmical shaking each morning and evening).

The Weleda remedies are very difficult to obtain in Colombia. A group is currently forming for this specialist field, consisting predominantly of women, as the third branch in the country.

Matthias also reported on a trip to Bratislava (Slovakia) where a successful conference concerning the Threshold was held.

* * *

The recent World Conference was deemed a great success, however, the impetus it provided must be carried forward into the future. The meeting can be compared to sowing seeds.

You can view some reflections from me on the website.

<https://www.anthroposophyau.org.au/updates/>

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On 25/11/2023 Tanya Coburn will be sharing her reflections of the Conference hosted by the Christian Community in Melbourne.

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Visit Anthro WW for more updates and reflections. <https://anthroposophie.org/en/>

* * *

There are already 600 registrations for the Christmas Conference Dornach.

Planning for the GAS AGM has begun.

Contact Jane Bradshaw:

generalsecretary.asina@gmail.com

0483 442 906

RECOGNISING AND AFFIRMING THE MYSTERY DEED OF THE CHRISTMAS CONFERENCE AS WE CONTINUE TO CULTIVATE THE LIFE OF THE SPIRIT IN OUR TIME

Wednesday 27th to Sunday 31st December

The Michael Centre
Wellington Park Dr, Warranwood, Victoria
Artwork by Birgith Lugosi

We welcome your participation in this important event to commemorate and celebrate the Christmas Conference which was held 100 years ago in Dornach, Switzerland. This was an earthly and supersensible event held through Rudolf Steiner to place the Foundation Stone for the Anthroposophical Society, the second Goetheanum and the future unfolding of Spiritual Science on earth; into the hearts of those present. It is on this Foundation that we stand today when we work out of Anthroposophy on Earth.

On this, the 100th Anniversary of the Christmas Conference, it is our deepest wish to gather together a group of like-minded, like-striving souls to raise our consciousness to understand what was placed before humankind 100 years ago so that through this our hearts may be warmed and our thinking enlivened so that we may strive towards the future with Michael strength and Christened heart for the good of mankind.

"O Light Divine,
O Sun of Christ!
Warm Thou
Our Hearts,
Enlighten Thou
Our Heads,
That good may become
What from our Hearts we would found
And from our Heads direct
With single purpose."

The Foundation Stone Meditation

Wednesday 27 Dec

	Registration open 2.15pm to 5.00pm
3:00 to 4:00	Class Lesson 14 Guenter Zimmermann Blue card required
5:00 to 5:15	Welcome & Acknowledgement to Country
5:15 to 6:30	Lecture: "The Mystery Deed of the Christmas Conference" Helen Vogel
6:30 to 7:45	DINNER
8:00 to 9:30	Performance: "Foundation Stone Rhythm in Eurythmy & Eurythmy Performance" Aurora Australis Performing Group

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	Thursday 28 Dec	Friday 29 Dec	Saturday 30 Dec
8:00 to 9:00	Class Lesson 15 Marilyn Lewis Blue card required	Class Lesson 16 Philip Quenby Blue card required	Class Lesson 17 & 18 Peggy Day Blue card required
9:20 to 9:35	7 Rhythms in Eurythmy & Speech	7 Rhythms in Eurythmy & Speech	7 Rhythms in Eurythmy & Speech
9:35 to 9:45	Announcements	Announcements	Announcements
9:45 to 10:45	Lecture: "The Divine Plan" Philip Quenby	Lecture: "Humanity between Michael & the Dragon" Glenn Rawlinson	Lecture: "The Creation & Appreciation of Art from the Perspective of Spiritual Science" - Lukas Ryan
10:45 to 11:00	Dadirri - Jules Healey & Jennifer West	Dadirri - Jules Healey & Jennifer West	Dadirri - Jules Healey & Jennifer West
11:00 to 11:40	MORNING TEA	MORNING TEA	MORNING TEA
11:45 to 12:45	Lecture: "The Esoteric Musicology in Relation to the Zodiac & 7 Planets & 7 Life Processes" Birgith Lugosi	Drama presentation: "Proverbs" Phil Ingelmo & others "The Being Sophia" Cheryl Nekvapil	"Community building without hierarchy" Rod Tomlinson "Healing through Grace for a new Community: A Nurse's Perspective" Jane Bradshaw
1:00 to 2:15	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
2:15 to 3:30	Artistic/Creative Workshops	Artistic/Creative Workshops	Artistic/Creative Workshops
3:30 to 4:15	AFTERNOON TEA	AFTERNOON TEA	AFTERNOON TEA
4:15 to 5:15	Conversation Focus Groups	Conversation Focus Groups	Conversation Focus Groups
6:00 to 7:15	DINNER	DINNER	DINNER
7:30 to 8:30	Performance: "Rime of the Ancient Mariner" Katrina Stowe	Conversation with David Morgan "What are Michael & the future asking of us in our tasks & collegial working?"	Conversations

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Sunday 31 Dec

8:00 to 9:00	Class Lesson 19 Helen Vogel Blue card required
9:20 to 9:35	7 Rhythms in Eurythmy & Speech
9:35 to 11:00	Workshop Sharing/Performances
11:00 to 11:30	MORNING TEA
11:30 to 12:30	Lecture: " Into the Future: May we hear the call that has been resounding. May we truly direct with single purpose what we from our hearts now found. Which deeds do we enact into the future as humanity is called to take up the redemption of darkness and the winning of love born freedom for the cosmos?" Peggy Day

Register by 1 December 2023

Conference fee: \$350

Register your attendance and get further fee information and payment options through our online registration portal.

<https://events.humanitix.com/asina-christmas-mystery-conference>

Information about accomodation options can be found on the online registration portal.

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Information on Workshops & Conversation Groups

Participants will select one workshop and one conversation theme to attend for the whole conference (e.g. if you select SPEECH you will attend the SPEECH workshop held on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday).

Artistic/Creative Workshops - held on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday at 2.15pm

SPEECH with Annika Andersdotter

In this workshop we will explore the Foundation Stone Meditation and its Rhythms through Creative Speech

SINGING with Dale Jones

Dale will re-present his musical composition of the Foundation Stone Meditation for choir and piano. This workshop offers the opportunity for participants to approach the Foundation Stone Meditation through music, specifically the harmonisation of human voices.

EURYTHMY with Birgith Lugosi

We will explore Tone Eurythmy. Participants will have the opportunity to experience the Intervals in relation to our physical organs and planets; beat, rhythms, and pitch; an introduction to the Saturn melody in relation to the spleen - a health giving exercise to strengthen the immune system.

ART with Katherine Rudolph

This workshop will focus on the columns of the First Goetheanum, their interpretation into hexameter poetry as well as the artistic, therapeutic, and social inspiration that they provide for our times in relation to the mysteries of 7-fold processes.

Conversation Focus Groups - Thursday, Friday, Saturday at 4.15pm

The Being Sophia with Cheryl Nekvapil

Participants will contemplate various representations of Sophia and the context of those images. What are contemporary images of Sophia? Can we become aware of how the presence of the Being of Sophia guides our spiritual striving in Anthro-Sophia.

The Journey through the Class Lessons with Glenn Rawlinson

Blue card required

Mental Health & Social Hygiene in Communities (Thursday)
Deference to Authority or Mutual Reliance on Colleagues? (Friday)
Anachronistic Hierarchies or Precipitous Anarchism? (Saturday)
with Rod Tomlinson

Art as a schooling path for spiritual scientific research & development
with Fiona Campbell

Space for the youth to meet and work together

For more information about the workshops or conversation groups, please email Helen Vogel - hvogel09@gmail.com