



Anthroposophical Society

in Australia, Victorian Branch Inc. A0034703L

Victorian Branch Report 2022-2023

Every year we have the pleasure of looking back at the previous year and reflecting on all the events our wonderful Committee have organised to bring more Anthroposophical impulses and sharing of knowledge as well as being deeply touched by the arts and meet together and connect in a meaningful way. Yet again it was a full year of just that, nourishment on many levels; social, spiritual, artistic and more.

Last year our AGM was combined with the Whitsuntide Festival, and we had the pleasure of sharing two lectures with our members and friends, one of the lectures was given by a Nikki Vuillermin who spoke about the "Four-Fold Man and Anthroposophical Medicine". The second lecture was given by Birgith Lugosi with the topic being "Whitsuntide in Relation to our Karma". The lectures were followed by a soul bathing Eurythmy Performance by the Aurora Australis Performance Group. The AGM was held after lunch and the Committee was able to share with the members various reports of our activity during the year and have conversations about new projects we have on the horizon.

The next festival that the Committee organised with much enthusiasm and joy was the Michaelmas Festive Conference. This was a particularly special occasion as it was the first one in three years we were able to offer as such we had a full day program scheduled. Lukas Ryan opened the Conference with his enlightening lecture on "Creation and Appreciation of Art from the Perspective of Spiritual Science". Atika Rea followed with a truly enlivening lecture on "Lightroot as Nutrition towards Michaelic Thinking", during which we all had an opportunity to try the Lightroot and Atika kindly offered those serious about growing the Lightroot, crop to do so. We had a nourishing meal and time for meaningful connection during the lunch break and then received a deeply insightful lecture titled "Seeing, Feeling and Following Michael's Call" by our special guest speaker, Stephanie Isvik, from Southern Highlands. Finally the Conference was wrapped up by an outstanding full program Eurythmy performance by the Aurora Australis Performance Group.

In November of last year we invited Jane Bradshaw to visit Melbourne. We had an opportunity to meet with her after her trip to Dornach and initially meet with our Committee for dinner and invited members and friends to come for an evening and listen to a report given by Jane Bradshaw on her time in Dornach.

Entering the Holy Season of last year, we held a number of workshops and our much loved annual Christmas Festival to prepare for the special time and celebrate in a Spirit led way. We held two workshops during the months of November and December, one for the Twelve Holy Nights and the second one was a Meditation workshop for those wanting to go deeper and learn how to protect and renew their inner world. During Christmas Festival we had two lectures, one by James Gillian on the "The Two Jesus Children" and second one "The Path of the Alchemist and The Path of the Occultist in Relation to Spiritual Science" by Birgith Lugosi. And of course, no festival is ever complete without a Eurythmy Performance and on this occasion the audience were treated to a truly awe inspiring and deeply touching performance of classical and contemporary pieces by the Aurora Australis Performance Group who were also joined by the Curative Eurythmy Students performing at the end of their first year of training. It was a special day with much warmth and appreciation for all that was given and received.

Apart from our Festivals and Conferences, we have also organised various talks and workshops to share with the members and friends throughout the year. Nigel Hoffman gave a brilliant lecture titled "The Threefold Social Order Understood Through Sculptural, Musical and Political Thinking" in August. And Birgith Lugosi conducted a number of Occult Meditation lectures throughout the year, upon various requests.

Moving into 2023, we started the year with The School of Spiritual Science Conference, and meeting of National Class Holders which was held at Aurora Australis over 3 days in March. The conference was opened on the Friday afternoon by a lecture given by Peggy Day on our "Michaelic Time" which led beautifully into St Johns Gospel Words recital by the Speech Artists and cultivated further by the breathtaking Eurythmy Performance by the Aurora Australis Performance Group. The atmosphere during the eurythmy performance deeply touched the members of the audience. Following the performance the evening was filled with much enthusiasm and renewed hope that we found people didn't want to leave but rather continue bathing in the

afterglow of so much light delivered through the arts. The conference continued into the weekend, with a National Class Holder full day meeting on Saturday and on Sunday, Class Lesson 19 was presented by Birgith Lugosi followed by a workshop led by Riana Vanderbyl and a conversation.

We look back at a wonderfully rich year and look forward to our Good Friday and Easter Festival, as well as to meeting the Eurythmy Section, Stefan Hasler, in May, who will meet the Eurythmists and students of Aurora Australis here in Victoria at Aurora Australis Anthroposophical College of the Arts and will witness a Eurythmy Performance which will be open to all the members to attend.

We feel truly blessed here in Victoria as The Victorian Branch is a lively and striving Society with active participating Members. Over the last 3 years we received many new Members into the Society and welcomed many new Members into the School of Spiritual Science. The very active Branch Committee is a blessing to work with as a collegial team.

We have a very strong Newsletter which is not only loved by the Victorian members but also by Members of other States. In the newsletter we share teachings from Rudolf Steiner and writings from our Members and sharing of different impulses.

Every Thursday the Victorian Branch is invited to meet with Members and Friends in a study group at Aurora Australis, Anthroposophical College of the Arts, which is currently reading the "Karma lectures" by Rudolf Steiner. Study groups are also offered in other locations around Victoria.

The School of Spiritual Science offers the First Class here in Victoria on Fridays and Sundays. One class is offered in the outer suburb, Warranwood and two Classes in the inner city, Kew.

The Australian "Section of Eurythmy" was established here in Victoria since 1996, with Birgith Lugosi as Coordinator. The Melbourne Eurythmy School, part of Aurora Australis College of the Arts, is here in Victoria and established since February 1990. The Diploma is recognised by the Section at the Goetheanum.

Victoria has many Rudolf Steiner Schools and Kindergartens and a number of schools who run a Rudolf Steiner stream in a State School.

Many more initiatives are under way here in Victoria and it is such a pleasure to witness the growth and interest spreading of the Anthroposophical Movement at our doorstep.

Warmly,

Birgith Lugosi
State Secretary
Anthroposophical Society
Victorian Branch