



**SWEDENBORG ASSOCIATION
of Australia Inc**

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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, call (02) 9888 1066 or browse <http://www.swedenborg.com.au/membership>

* * continued from page 1 * *

The Swedenborg Association has also said "So long and thanks for all the fish" to our beloved Julian Duckworth who has masterfully shepherded the Association as President for the past year and will continue his guidance on the Committee for, we hope, a goodly time to come yet. We also extend our huge thanks to Carl Sarelius who has provided much insight over the past seven years of his tenure on the Committee. We welcome Ruth Duckworth, erstwhile editor of this publication, and Tracey Glendenning back on board the SAA Committee and hope they enjoy their time on the Committee as much as we enjoy their input and company.

At this point in time I should introduce myself, Jan, as your new President of the SAA. It is exciting and a bit nerve racking to take on this role, following in the footsteps of many esteemed people and knowledgeable teachers. However when one is given a nudge to do something this worthwhile, one really shouldn't say no :) I first encountered Swedenborg's writings

through the works of Dr Philip Groves. His lectures about Swedenborg's writings on correspondences were the proverbial light-globe moments for me. It made sense of so many of the insights and perceptions that I encounter. A number of years later, again seeking like-minded people, I found to my delight that there was a Swedenborg Association close by and many of the friends of and from Dr Groves were there. The SAA has since then provided a rich source of knowledge and teachings to enable me to continue learning... and hopefully polishing that rough diamond that is within us all.

Those of you who know me are familiar with my love of books (understatement of the year!). One of my current favourites was recommended to me by Elizabeth Kemmis (huge thanks Liz). She said, "read this one, you'll find yourself somewhere in it". How right she was - another light-globe moment!

It is a collection of short writings by Swedenborgian women from around the world, called "Rooted in Spirit - A Harvest

of Women's Wisdom" edited by Alice B. Skinner, the forward of which includes this delightful description "*Spirituality is part of the divine pattern for humanity, the essence of our being, yet it must be discovered and chosen by each person for him or herself.*"

And there I was, in "The Celtic Woman

Sings an Old Song" by Ethelwyn Worden which starts -

"To a Swedenborgian...the overlap of the natural and spiritual worlds, one of symbols and correspondences, is as comfortable as it was and is to the ancient and modern Celts, people who work, farm, and know the earth and sea. I am of Celtic descent through the Scottish families of (my father's parents) and that overlap has long sparked an interest that is a driving force in my life. Part of that

