

Dances of Universal Peace Australia

Area Connector Report January I 2024 - March 2025 Sawtell Bellingen

Our first Dance circle was 20 January 2024 held at Bundagen in the beautiful Meditation Hall. Organised for us by Cedar Amina who has been able to make bookings for us through the year and after each circle kindly offers tea and cake.

Sue Miriam and I lead the dances, with themes about the seasons or special events..like Harmony day etc. Or a dance is singing and so we make the theme around that. Sue beautifully offering Aramaic prayers and meditations from Saadi. The dances have been held quarterly..on Equinoxes and Solstice, with between 8 and 12 people attending.

I have enjoyed following Linda Amina McMakin and her Mary Magdalene chants and dances. Also the series of Advent prayers. Becoming Honey, and the Aramaic Hail Mary Prayer taught by Jahanara is Beautiful.

It was a great pleasure to follow AnnaSophia and her journey through UK Europe and Turkey..dancing, meeting dance leaders, making circles of peace and love.

I have followed Kayleen Asbo and her Mary Magdalene journey..with poems and journaling.

After last years retreat at Yarrawarra, Freya and I donated money from the sale of our market stall to the Atisha School in Nepal. Since then we have had two more stalls in local markets to send donations to the Atisha School. Via Anahata.

When 2 long time dance circle friends from my early days at Sawtell come to visit. We often join hands and dance. Bridget's day we had some celtic prayers and O Bridget of the green mantle. Last week, The Ocean Refuses No River, also very appropriate this year with storms and floods.

Since the chaos and conflicts of wars around the world and the incredible changes being made by the man in the Oval office, I have found the daily meditations from Matthew Fox, founder of the Creation Spirituality Centre very helpful as he dives boldly and deeply into Hildegard of Bingen Aquinas and other current philosophers as he talks of evil and the Anti Christ. I struggle with this in regard to the huge changes happening in the US, yet co -creating a new earth is the call. Meghan Don and her workshops and writings are wise.

My meditations and prayers are for Love, Light, Peace, and Harmony. My interest and knowledge of Sacred Oils has made the daily use of Palo Santo with its divine essence of protection of all kinds an intuitive use. So the year has been filled with joy, friendship, blessings and beauty. As we gather in Yarrawarra again way we all be blessed with the presence of Jilani.

Warmest Wishes Annie, Stella Noora

This Earth Susan Griffin

AS I go into Her, she pierces my heart. As I penetrate further, She unveils me. When I have reached her centre, I am weeping openly. I have known her all my life, yet She reveals stories to me and these stories are revelations and I am transformed. Each time I go to Her I am born like this. Her renewal washes over me endlessly, Her wounds caress me; I become aware of all that has come between us, the blindness, of something sleeping between us. Now my body reaches out to Her. They speak effortlessly and I learn at no instant does She fail me in Her presence. She is delicate as I am; I know Her sentience; I feel Her pain and my own pain comes into me and my own pain grows large and I grasp this pain with my hands and I open my mouth to the pain, I taste, I know and I know why She goes on, under great weight, with this great thirst, in drought, in starvation, with intelligence in every act does She survive disaster. This earth is my sister, I love her daily grace, her silent daring and how loved I am *how we admire this strength in each other, all that*

we have lost, all that we have suffered, all that we know; we are stunned by this beauty, and I do not forget what She is to me, what I am to Her.

Prayer of the Mother-Ground

Mother of the ground of my being
Spacious eternal womb
May we enter and know you within our own being
May we enter and know you as our being
May our small fears dissolve into your breath
May our small thoughts find their way to you
May we lay down in your Cosmic lap
May we know the movement of your being
And the repose of your nature
May we breathe back into love
Into our eternal happening.

Chant

Eheieh (ah-hi-yah)

I am and I am becoming

