



# NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2014

## EXECUTIVE REPORT

Greetings to you all from the Executive, which met in Wellington on October 18<sup>th</sup>. All Executive members were able to be present. As usual, the meeting covered a lot of ground. Considerable time was spent talking about next year's Training Event and Biennial General Meeting.

## TRAINING EVENT AND BIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING

The Executive confirmed that the theme for next year will be:

***'Come in...'***

***Spiritual Directors ReConnect 2015.***

The '***Come in...***' relates to at least the following (and many people will think up more ideas):

- What we say when we open the door for Directees
- What we invite Directees to do when seated (come in to themselves from the outside world)
- What we invite them to do with their God during a session
- What we invite God to do for us as Directors within any session
- What we invite God to do for us as supervisees during a supervision session
- What the National Executive and the Wellington organising group will be doing for attendees at the Event.

The Wellington Working Group organising next year's Training Event then reported to the meeting (through Executive members Molly King and Pip Nicholls) that Patrick Oliver (from Australia) has agreed to be the keynote speaker for Friday of the event. If you google Patrick you will see that he has a website and you will see the range of interests he has as a Spiritual Director.

In addition, we hope that there will be about six workshops led by Spiritual Directors from within our ACSD membership and at least one panel discussion.

## **CONSTITUTION**

At the next meeting of the Executive, there will be discussion on changes deemed necessary in both the Association's Constitution and its policies. Any changes determined as necessary at that meeting will be subsequently advised to the membership well in advance of the Biennial General Meeting in 2015.

## **ASSESSMENT OF NEW ZEALAND TRAINING PROGRAMMES**

The Executive talked for some time about the standards expected of those applying for membership of ACSD, and the relationship of this to the various training programmes offered in New Zealand and overseas.

The Executive repeats that applications for membership of ACSD are assessed on an individual basis, rather than on the basis of the programmes through which people are formed as Spiritual Directors. This means that ACSD does not endorse any of the training programmes available in New Zealand or overseas, or guarantee that the graduates from any specific programme are certain of acceptance into membership with ACSD.

## **SUPERVISION**

Discussed also was ACSD's expectations around supervision of spiritual directors. It is our hope to have a panel discussion around this at the Training Event where we will explore how supervision of directors is to be undertaken, and what level of training is appropriate for those offering supervision.

## **ACSD WEBSITE**

The website will be updated shortly. The executive welcomes feedback on content from members at any time.

Check the members only section of the web page for suggestions for writing up a Book / Film Review which you have found helpful for enhancing some part of your practice of Spiritual Direction. Submissions should be sent through the 'contact' portal on the web page for moderation and then posting to the web page. (Password reminder: 1acsdanz9)

## **MEMBERSHIP**

A warm welcome to new members:

### Full Member:

Sue Cunningham, Nelson

Elizabeth Farrands, Auckland

Lynda Wards, Porirua

Associate Member:

Rex Begley, Palmerston North

Kathryn Fernando, Paraparaumu

Vincent Maire, Auckland

John Pettit, Kopua

Wendy Tyrrell, Hamilton

Emeritus Members:

Anne Hadfield, Wellington

Mervyn McGettigan , Mosgiel

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the ACSD Executive will be held in Wellington on February 21<sup>st</sup> 2015.

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*Everywhere we look these Advent days,  
may our hearts open to perceive the Coming One.*

*Listen to music that helps your heart open.*

*Or, simply open your eyes and let the wonder of God's world  
create within you a deep awareness of God's blessing and presence.*

- David Steindl-Rast