

Kathleen Swadling

President's Introduction

Welcome to this inaugural commemorative issue *Conference Flashback* covering the first 30 years of ANZURA annual conferences. It covers the journey undertaken by Australian and New Zealand readers thus far—pioneering steps in this region. The way I see it, our history

is a precious experience worth having on record. We are the first readers in this location on Urantia. I can imagine those who come after us making additional volumes—ANZURA the first century, the 2nd Century, the 3rd and so on...

The *Conference Flashback* was the first presentation at this year's conference in Canberra on the theme of the Spirit of Truth. Verner Verass who produced and presented it as an animated slide show said; "we can only gauge our true position if we have the full picture, if we are informed by the **past**, in relation to the **present**, with the **future** vision to hold our focus—from small beginnings great things grow—knowing where we've been, gives us an overview to really know the truth of the undertaking we have entered."

It stands as a valuable record of early beginnings from a group of friends who organised themselves to build on the foundation of the first study groups and take action to arrange larger gatherings and extend invitations

nationally and internationally. Right from the beginning strong ties with The Urantia Foundation were established and friendships made. Evident by attendance of trustees and members of Urantia Brotherhood (before the split) at our early conferences. John Hales and Berkeley Elliott coming in 1986 and Richard Keeler (with his banjo) attending the 1989 conference on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland.

The *Conference Flashback* features archival photos and descriptions of each conference, the theme and topics presented where that information was available. As this is but one individual's effort with the material on hand, there are some gaps. While there are still those living who were there, we may be able to fill those gaps before they are lost to living memory.

Vern thanks Rita Schaad for her assistance in establishing the right chronological order for the events and I was glad to assist in supplying him with a PowerPoint presentation about ANZURA early days, delivered at the International Conference in Dourdan, France in 2002.

The *Conference Flashback* can also be accessed on Urantia Association's website at <http://urantia-uai.org>

Enjoy this commemorative issue, ANZURA plans to have other such features and Study Aids available for you in future. ■

ANZURA Conference Flashback

30 years of sharing truth

Verner Verass, Canberra



Conference 1983

Sydney, NSW at 7 Walsh St. Narrabeen—*The Kingdom of Heaven*

First conference—meet at Trev and Kathleen's place...

7 come to kick things off



In the Swadling's garden

Conference 1984

Melbourne, VIC—*Introducing The Urantia Book—the discovery of a lifetime*

40 share the good news



First Melbourne Conference attendees

Conference 1985

Sydney, NSW at Narrabeen High School—*The Study Group and its Outreach*

The teachings reach 15



Australians make their mark

Conference 1986

Melbourne, VIC—*Tapestry of Loving Service*

Brotherhood officials, John Hales and Berkely Elliott attend



Tram passing Flinders Street Station

Conference 1987

Sydney, NSW at Elanora—*The purpose of Revelation*

First live-in conference experience



Outdoor session at Elanora

Conference 1988

Robertson, NSW at Ranleigh House, Southern Highlands—*Spiritual Unity and Cultural Diversity*

First South Pacific Conference

International visitors from USA, New Zealand, Tahiti, Fiji, Hong Kong, Europe, UK.



Attendees gather in historic Ranleigh House

Conference 1989

Sunshine Coast, QLD at Noosa—*Kindred Spirits*

First First attendance by Urantia Foundation trustee, Richard Keeler



Attendees welcome Urantia trustee Richard Keeler (front left)

Conference 1990

Warburton, VIC at Warburton House—*Living as we are meant to live*

Urantia Foundation trustees, Martin Myers and Richard Keeler attend



ANZURAs official beginning

Conference 1991

Canberra, ACT at Canberra Youth Hostel—*What if... truth was more readily accepted?*

First Canberra conference

Presenters, Ken Glaziou and Neil Francey



Gathering in the nation's capital

Conference 1992

Sydney, NSW at Elanora—*Human Nature and The Twelve Apostles*

Kathleen Swadling introduces The Apostles theme



Presenters, Rita Schaad and William Wentworth



Attendees in the Sydney conference

With the apostles we have fine examples of men at the time Jesus walked our world. In them we can see ourselves. They represent the various personality types we are likely to meet in our own lives. In looking at the character of each of the apostles, the way in which each of them made decisions and interacted with Jesus and each other is very instructive.

By Showing the thinking and life choices they made we can relate to how we do the same. Choices which transform the person. In the case of the apostles, excepting Judas, taking inherited genetic characteristics to achieve spiritual growth through life with Jesus. Growth resulting from triumph of spirit over the natural material tendencies of animal inheritance. Triumph of love.

The apostles are examples of ordinary men doing extraordinary things.

Conference 1993

Surfers Paradise, QLD at Sea World Nara Resort—*Welcome to the shores of Paradise—Adjusting with your Thought Adjuster*

You will be certain of being warmly welcomed when you experience the resurrection into eternity on the everlasting shores of Paradise. [Paper 25:8.5, page 283:6]

Jesus developed superlative techniques to achieve better communication with his Thought Adjuster. He often engaged in solitary communion with the Father—to gather strength, to seek stores of wisdom, to find better ways to subject his total personality to the consciousness of divinity contact.

In this way Jesus resolved ordinary conflicts of mortal existence and lived his life dedicated to doing his Father’s will. Likewise for each of us, the Father indwells our minds and is yearning to make personal contact, all that he requires is our sincere co-operation.

Jane asked, *how do we know we need adjustment?*

Janelle spoke of her experience, *during sleep I receive personal instruction and it’s up to me to decide if it’s significant.*

Terry shared his situation, *I seek an answer but I never know how long it will be till I get a reply.*

Vern spoke of developing spiritual habits, *to make prayer a habit, first thing in the morning and last thing at night.*



Surfers Paradise conference group

Valerie spoke of asking for help, *I would like to know what I should do to establish a connection with my Thought Adjuster—to be open and positive is my challenge.*

Adjuster attunement leads to:

General wellbeing—feeling the presence of God is confirmation of sonship

Moral responsibility—ethical awareness, your neighbour is your Adjuster indwelt brother or sister

Improved relationships—friends and family are more loved

Commitment to an ideal—to be perfect as God is perfect

Enlarged perspective—when we seek God we seek everything, when we find God we find everything.

Conference 1994

Melbourne, VIC at Sacred Heart retreat and conference centre, Croydon—*Shepherds’ Pie*

*“You who would be the **undershepherds** of my father’s flock must not only be worthy leaders, but you must also **feed** the flock with good food; you are not true shepherds unless you lead your flocks into green pastures and beside still waters.”*

[Paper 165:2.6, page 1819:2]

*Martin McBurney introduces *The Shepherd’s Pie* theme*



Conference 1995

Auckland, New Zealand at Devonport—*Living with The Urantia Book*



The religious challenge of this age is to those farseeing and forward-looking men and women of spiritual insight who will dare to construct a new and appealing philosophy of living out of the enlarged and exquisitely

integrated modern concepts of cosmic truth, universe beauty and divine goodness [Paper 2:7.10, page 43:3]



Meeting with our Kiwi mates

Personal experiences in applying the ideas and values gained from the teachings of *The Urantia Book* as applied to the most important task of mortal existence—experiencing to the full the life you now live.

Built on bonds of friendship, tolerance and a shared vision of brotherhood under the fatherhood of God made during the first South Pacific Conference.

“...Very important is the work of preparation for the next higher sphere, but nothing equals the importance of the work of the world in which you are actually living.... [Page 555:5]

Vision was expanded further by having a forum where attendees were able to share their respective philosophies of living as they have been enhanced by revelation.

Conference 1996

Canberra, ACT at Blackfriars—*Evolution, the beat goes on*

Rita remembers

Remember—A carload of eager friends, Joy, Ysbrand, Jessika & me, on a hot October spring day, joy, and how beautiful the country was we drove through, Macquarie Pass, Robertson—the first people we met outside Blackfriars—Christopher and Bridget, the greeting we got from Nigel, Vern and oh, Clyde ready with his first challenge. The pouring rain, just when we wanted to leave for dinner, and how Val and Jess directed us twice around the roundabout, and to the opposite end of Watson—in the darkest and wettest night.

Remember—Saturday, Betty, the introduction to the conference theme—ascenders we are—in an evolutionary Arena, potential seeds, that need to experience—to actualize a universal reality – to become a unified, diversified and supreme creation like the colourful Floriade.

Remember—the trip to “The Club” under a starry sky Jeremy, Bob, Neil—next time it’s my shout... then Sunday morning, Kathy to the rescue(!) After breakfast, into a beautiful shiny day we gave thanks to our heavenly Father and remembered Jesus, our Brother and Creator and his teaching to be each other’s servant, and how gently the light touched our souls, Remember—Ruth, John, Dennis, Robert, David. Then Ken—I’ve learned more about atoms and neutrinos through your joyous explanation than I ever will again!



Attendees at the 1996 Conference



ANZURA Board members (from left), Michael Pither, Nigel Nunn, Trevor Swadling, Rita Schaad, Ysbrand Oosten, Kathleen Swadling, Neil Francey, Verner Verass

Remember—The music, Trevor, and the “happy hours” we’ve spent, and the getting through topics in a Forum style on Monday morning—remember the photo session in the outer court and the goodbyes—and how we can live in our corners of Urantia, and daily discern the Father’s will, and do it—and because we said goodbye—we can look forward to saying hello again—better sooner than later.

With heaps of affection and thankyou to all.

Vern remembers

Remember—the final flurry of activity, conference kits ready and the attendees warmly welcomed.

Remember—thought provoking presentations on the theme of “Evolution”, causing those present to come away mentally challenged and spiritually uplifted, inspired to go out and do something.

Remember—four major presentations... the historical overview by Rosemary Miners, an intriguing picture of comparison between the normal progression of events of planetary unfolding and the variation/deviation that has resulted from our chequered history; Ken Glasziou’s incisively researched presentation on the revelatory nature of scientific content of the book demonstrating that human knowledge could not have been the source of this information; my ‘Where in the World are we now,’ attempt to answer a few questions regarding our present status on the evolutionary ladder and predict action we as a society need to concentrate on to grow spiritually, with particular reference to genetic improvement and racial amalgamation.

Remember—Bob Sawyer’s evolutionary picture from an individual perspective reminding us that as the individual grows the capacity to love others, society grows; this benign virus infects all society.

One message became clear, that we ought to strive to become spiritually fragrant for others to be drawn to seek our company.

Remember—Monday morning session, which became a culmination and cross-fertilization of ideas as we discussed questions arising from the conference presentations. Various topics were aired, lively debate ensued and the group was uplifted by this opportunity to tease out some of the implications in the conference theme: **“Evolution, the beat goes on.”**

Ysbrand remembers

Remember—the inaugural Central Coast Study Group which lasted for approximately 12 months, meeting on a monthly basis and averaging 4-7 attendees. Subsequent to the 1996 conference, I found myself as secretary to ANZURA following Kathleen and Trevor Swadling’s move to Chicago, USA. Immediately following the 1996 conference again I found myself wrapped up in events which lead to the inauguration of the first Wollongong Urantia Book Study Group, which meets weekly at 6:30 pm on Thursdays.

Remember—the Canberra conference itself was so uplifting, words fail me to describe the total effect. The “Canberra Mob” did a wonderful job in making this conference a remarkable success. They all have every right to feel proud in their individual contribution to its success. Personally I feel immensely privileged to be involved with ANZURA and to serve the fostering of *The Urantia Book*, and any activity which results in the creation of new study groups. The Canberra conference was a unique springboard to the fostering of the “Kingdom.”

Conference 1997

Sydney, NSW at Ave-Maria Retreat Centre—*Dare to be Godlike—the ultimate challenge—a practical for ascenders*



Life is experience which requires response to changing circumstances... making choices.

Daring to be Godlike is simply choosing to share life experience with the Father.

- Dare to dream
- Dare to create
- Dare to live.

Why is this an ultimate challenge?

- For an individual
- For all mankind.

Together, through co-operation—brotherhood—we’ll arrive at a practical for ascenders.



Attendees at the 1997 Conference

Dare to take up the challenge in the example of the pre-baptismal humanity of Joshua ben Joseph, the greatest of all Urantians. A man living a life of complete trust in the Father—a perfect revelation of life lived to the exhaustion of spiritual values attainable in mortal experience. Jesus dared to be Godlike and in so doing showed the way in which each person can do likewise.

Conference 1998

Surfers Paradise, QLD at International Beach Resort—*How Jesus Taught*

“And it will not be so much by the words you speak as by the lives you live that men will know you have been with me and have learned of the realities of the kingdom.” [Paper 140:1.7, page 1569:4]

A look at all the various methods Jesus used to deliver the gospel message that God is your Father and the kingdom is within you.

Jesus was his Teachings set the tone of the conference, Clyde Duncan in his keynote address said each person has the opportunity to be a good example for the benefit of our fellows—to teach by example. Ann Bendall emphasised that teaching is more effective than preaching. William Wentworth presented his understanding that *We teach what we are. We are the revelation.* Which is another way of saying by our fruits we are known—most effective teachers.

With his presentation, The Art of Teaching Others, Martin McBurney looked at how Jesus’ teaching methods changed as he adapted to the circumstances he and the apostles encountered wherever they went with the gospel message.

Conference 1999

Kallista, VIC at Booth Lodge—*Think globally act locally—how goes the birth of Urantia’s fifth age? Are we helping or hindering?*

Marion Steward, New Zealand presenter



No matter how difficult it is to get away, or how short of time we are, I think those of us fortunate enough to have attended the last few conferences would agree on something: that our coming together – contributes to the necessary work of widening channels for the river of truth.

Integration of this fresh dose of clarification into the main stream is a social task. Effected by groups of individuals, enlightened to whatever degree, but all keen to help.



Booth Lodge

At Kallista in the Dandenong Ranges, less than an hour’s drive East of the Melbourne CBD. The forest surrounds and the mountain views made it difficult to believe that it was only 45 kms from the heart of the bustling city. Grounds of the complex were simply inspirational and created the perfect environment for a clear thinking conference.

During the conference everyone relaxed in an environment that allowed reflection, socialising, and space to ponder the big picture: *how goes the birth of Urantia’s fifth age? Are we helping or hindering?*

Conference 2000

Canberra, ACT at Blackfriars—*Lure of the 5th Epoch—ascenders at the brink*

Thinking outside the box—vision of enlarged universe frames of reference



An examination of the steps required to accelerate from the threshold we presently occupy, to a more rapid rate of learning—a unified planetary culture.

Three core presentations:

- 1 The present cultural landscape—signs of the times
- 2 The cosmic viewpoint—big picture
- 3 The role of personality—how valuable each and every person really is.

To help cast light upon the themes explored, each was framed with brief, illustrative scenes acted out by conference attendees. These scenes involved two or three people taking on the role of some significant and/or colorful personality from the Papers, commenting about some issue pertaining to the presentation.



Grand entrance, Finaliter (Jessika Schaad) and Divine Counselor (Daniel Swadling)

Daniel, as a Divine Counselor spent 5 minutes pondering with Jessica, a Finaliter, the ramifications of our Michael’s almost excessive application of mercy upon his creation, Nebadon.

Frances, as a true Discerner of Spirits, would be well equipped to gauge the sincerity and true motivation of these Canberrans, who may appear to be overreaching their grasp.

Trevor Swading shares his philosophy and William Wentworth, first ANZURA president, presents on issues affecting cultural landscape



Trevor, as Soul of Philosophy, imparted appropriate comments about why wisdom has difficulty following where the mercy of Michael elected to go. William painted an overview, the how and why of the Fifth Epoch; Nigel embellished with how people and planets progress; Vern uplifted with Personality and Love. And as a special treat, Nigel revealed in multimedia splendor, prototype speculations on how the finite surfs the attributes of the absonite, allowing *reality to personalize*. This was an entertaining and groundbreaking event held at Blackfriars Conference Centre.



Attendees at the 2000 Conference



Nigel Nunn presented the big picture view, Neil Francy, presented on methods to up-step humanity and Vern Verass presents Personality the Passport to Paradise

Conference 2001

Sydney, NSW at Sydney Lakeside Narrabeen Park—*Organising the Soul for Dynamic Service*



*Religion is not a technique for attaining a static and blissful peace of mind; it is an impulse for **organising the soul for dynamic service**. It is the enlistment of the totality of selfhood in the loyal service of loving God and serving man.*
[p.1096]

The Sydney group, asked themselves: “OK, *what theme would be appropriate for this year’s conference that would follow on the heels of last year’s amazing discussions and presentations?*” While 2000’s conference looked at the wider implications of the revelation to our planet and for our ascension careers, 2001’s took a **2-pronged approach** and explored some of the more fundamental, practical day-to-day issues of how we can bring an awareness of the revelation to the world at large.

The first prong was to look at how individual believers get to that point where they are inwardly motivated to begin to “organise their souls for dynamic service.”

What was Jesus’ secret?



Attendees at the 2001 Conference

The second prong was to look at what avenues of service we can utilize, both on individual and group levels, to help bring the teachings into the lives of spiritually hungry people. Presentations, workshops, study and brainstorm sessions were some of the activities at this conference, as well as socialising with one another and enjoying our surroundings.



Robert Coenraads presents

Conference 2002

Sunshine Coast, QLD at Dicky Beach—*Being and Doing according to The Urantia Book*

Held in Queensland at Dicky Beach on the beautiful Sunshine Coast north of Brisbane. The Brisbane and Sunshine Coast study groups hosted this inspiring sea-side conference on being and doing—walking the talk.



Dicky Beach

Conference 2003

Dandenong, VIC at Mountain Valley Centre—*The Eternal Adventure*



Your short sojourn on Urantia, on this sphere of mortal infancy, is only a single link, the very first in the long chain that is to stretch across universes and through the eternal ages. [p.435]

The **adventure** of divinity attainment lies before you! The race for perfection is on. [p.435]

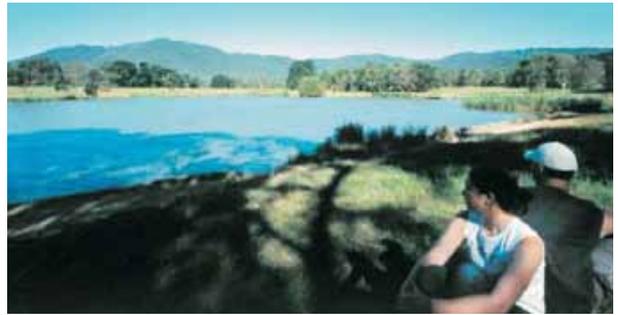
You have just started on the Eternal Adventure.

What has been your adventure so far?

What lies ahead?

Where will your eternal adventure take you...?

During the course of the weekend we explored various aspects of our eternal adventure such as the beginnings of the adventure, the destination of the adventure, steppingstones of the adventure, the physical realms of the adventure, the destination of finaliters, and the physical life in relation to the kingdom of heaven.



Looking ahead

*“...but rather shall your religion become the fact of real experience which testifies that God has found you, idealized, ennobled, and spiritualized you, and that you have enlisted in the **eternal adventure** of finding the God who has thus found and sonshipped you.” [p.1733:6]*



Mountain Valley Centre

Conference 2004

Canberra, ACT at Goolabri Country Resort—*Echoes of Eden*



Think what it would mean on your world if somewhere in the Levant there were a world center of civilization, a great planetary university of culture, which had functioned uninterruptedly for 37,000 years. And again, pause to consider how the moral authority of even such an

*ancient center would be reinforced were there situated not far-distant still another and older headquarters of celestial ministry whose traditions would exert a cumulative force of 500,000 years of integrated evolutionary influence. **It is custom which eventually spreads the ideals of Eden to a whole world.** [p.587]*

What would it mean if superhumans and giants featured in Urantian politics and education?

What if the concepts of Eden and ideals of Dalamatia were the traditional beliefs of all people on our world?

What if all humanity took for granted that Jerusem was their next stop, and that soul growth was the accepted indicator of temporal success?

It would likely mean that humankind would be sharing a common frame of reference. The inner worlds of people would be studded with gleaming opportunities, not hedged about by anxieties and pain.

Their personal arenas of choice would be warmed by meaning and lit by bright values.



Goolabri aerial view

Meanings and values are only perceived in the inner or super-material spheres of human experience. The advances of true civilization are all born in this inner world of mankind. [p.1220]

Adam and Eve had a slim chance at restoring a celestial worldview to the planet. This could have been as valuable as their material donation. But while their biologic mission met with partial success, their priceless perspective, their shared personal frame of reference, was utterly lost.



Nigel Nunn presents

Which brings us to the Urantia Papers—while our world may have lost so much in the way of cultural foundations and conceptual vocabulary, the Urantia Papers make available a potential replacement.

And this time, it is being planted in the inner worlds of agon-donters, rather than being imposed by superhumans or giants.

No Conference in 2005

ANZURA as host country for the Urantia Association International Conference 2006, needed to plan for this event and voted to cancel the 2005 Conference

International Conference 2006

Sydney, NSW at Women’s College Sydney University—*Rewards of Isolation—small teams in deep waters*



...you belong to a well-nigh infinite family of worlds, but your sphere is just as precisely administered and just as lovingly fostered as if it were the only inhabited world in all existence. [p.183]

Our mortal struggles and experience reflect a theme playing at all levels of the current grand universe age: small groups of persons, high and low, finding themselves in unfamiliar circumstances, facing tasks that initially seem too big and too hard, but which somehow they eventually come to master. Like small teams placed in deep waters, and allowed to learn to swim.

Often these struggles involve isolation, and for mortals, they always involve faith. But there is a priceless result: each cycle of struggle and success ripens each person involved by a few more degrees.

And once each context is mastered, this cycle repeats, in waters that are deeper, more marvelous and ever more complex. In this way the Father unfolds the potentials of all his experiential children.

But a deep question remains. Why bother with such elaborate evolution? What needs of the future motivate the Father to set up the entire grand universe, and devote this entire age, to experience and education? What is it about us finite evolving persons that could possibly contribute to the Father’s long-term plan? How on earth might humans make a difference in the universe of universes?

Well, the papers tell of the magnificent perfection of persons populating the central universe, but imply that while such perfection makes for a fine foundation, it is inappropriate, or insufficient, to confront the vastness of the Father’s eternal infinity.



Group photo on steps of the Women’s College

They then contrast such static completion with the main phenomenon of this transitional universe age: trillions of new persons, engaged with evolving themselves. Created as near nothing, then given struggles and troubles and the time to master them—a sequence that allows the full potentials of each person to unfold.

And then the Father plays a wild card—fusing such surprising persons with a fragment of himself. He makes us sufficient to penetrate the place where he dwells, and to begin unimagined work by his side.



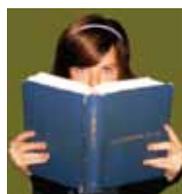
International presenter, Tamara Wood (now Strumfeld) from Urantia Foundation, Chicago



Audience in the main hall

Conference 2007

Lower Plenty, VIC at ‘Amberley’ Edmund Rice Centre—*The Book and I*



Finding, reading and interpretation of the meanings of *The Urantia Book* is a very moving, personal experience.

The Book and I was shared—each speaker expanding on their favourite part which had deep meaning for them or of which they never tire of exploring.



Attendees gather on the pebble maze at Amberley

In addition to the keynote sessions, everyone took part in the workshop—a short talk on how they found the book and how they have changed as a result.

Conference 2008

Canberra, ACT at Goolabri Country Resort—A Moment of Opportunity—when Thought Adjusters seek us out



The Adjuster is an absolute essence of an infinite being... [p.1176:6]

What do the Urantia Papers reveal about these mysterious monitors?

Why does such divinity—an absolute essence of an infinite being—seek us out?



Verner Verass introduces the panel



Attendees at the 2008 Conference

What is man that you are mindful of him? [Psalm 8:4]

The Papers reveal that we are a moment of opportunity, to be or not to be that child for whom the Father yearns—that moment where our Father tries, in us, to zip together two fragments of Himself. As humans we cannot hope to understand what this really means, but we are invited, via the Urantia Papers, to “taste and see”, to illuminate our experience of the Father with TRUTH to beyond the full philosophic limit of our previous, 4th epochal frame.

Conference 2009

Sydney, NSW at Sydney Lakeside Holiday Park, Narrabeen—Happy are the Peacemakers—religion—property of the human race

“Happy are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the sons of God...” [p.1575:3]



Famous Narrabeen Beach and scenes of Sydney Lakeside Holiday Park

Explored the many facets of the term “Religion” as portrayed in the Urantia Papers with an aim to develop a clear understanding of the real nature of religion. Contemplated how individuals who wholeheartedly embrace true religion become peacemakers and find lasting happiness.



Attendees at the 2009 Conference

Jesus’ peace is not of the pacific and negative kind. In the face of trials and persecutions he said, “My peace I leave with you.” “Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

This is the peace that prevents ruinous conflicts.

Personal peace integrates personality. **Social peace** prevents fear, greed, and anger. **Political peace** prevents race antagonisms, national suspicions, and war.

Conference 2010

Blackmans Bay, TAS at Maryknoll House of Prayer and Retreat—Attaining the highest levels of self-realization



First conference in Tasmania.

Explored the themes of **worship**—the highest privilege and the first duty of all created intelligences [p.303:5], and **service**—the goal of time and the destination of space [P316:4], and how together they can lead us to ultimate self-realization.



The girls

The guys

Worship supplies us with the energy and the motivating power that enables us to produce a service ministry to God and man ...which is filled with mercy and motivated by love. [p.1175:1]

Service is love in action.

Conference 2011

Myrning, VIC at Lake Dewar Lodge, YMCA—*The Treasure Chest—purpose of life and goal of existence—heaven and earth revealed*
...embrace thought gems and superior concepts of Jesus’ teachings... [p.1343:2]



Daylesford Lake, excursion destination

In the treasure chest of revealed truth to be found in *The Urantia Book* we uncovered our own precious pearls of wisdom and jewels of self-discovery. Treasures of love and understanding, insight and life-changing knowledge, unlocked from its pages.



Vern, Bevan, Julian, passionate musos

An interactive show and tell. Brief presentations from participants. Experiences of living which gave substance to the transformative power of truth discovered in *The Urantria Book*.



Attendees at the 2011 Conference

In all that we humans experience on a planet whirling through infinite space—all our dreams, resultant joy and success, to all the horrors that mankind can inflict on himself, other species and the earth itself—in all our wandering, squandering, aimless waste and wanton destruction, to all that we can grasp, hold in our hands, hang on to and possess, to the noble, uplifting efforts of those who inspire and are inspired to create and live a wholesome and better life—**there is a meaning and purpose in all we do.**

There is an over-arching and merciful love that penetrates to the core of our existence, life is an eternal adventure transcending into an awe-inspiring life to come.

Conference 2012

Alexandra Headland, QLD at Alexandra Park Conference Centre—*More things in heaven and earth—adapting to an expanded description of reality*



“There are more things in Heaven and Earth, Horatio than are dreamt of in your philosophy [Hamlet Act I, Scene V]

This is a thought which has surely inspired many individuals down the centuries and most probably a few group conferences as well.

A good theme because surely all of us would like to add “more things” to our own respective philosophies, especially high minded ones, as may be found in *The Urantia Book*.



Attendees at the 2012 Conference

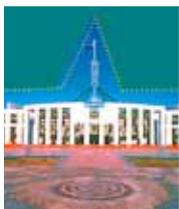
We are treated to a steady stream of depictions of worlds, persons, personalities and realities and so on. It is apparent, for example that we must go from shallow thoughts about the Universe to much deeper thoughts about a Universe of Universes.

Theme primarily invented to provide benefit to be taken away from the conference, but so much the better as it echoed some of the teaching style of the book as well.

Conference 2013

Canberra, ACT at Forrest Hotel and Apartments—*The Spirit of Truth—experience the willingness to go wherever it leads*

When a great truth seeker and a great truth giver meet, the result is a great and liberating enlightenment born of the experience of new truth. [p.1428:1]



Parliament house with concentric circles Aboriginal artwork mosaic in foreground

Responding to the leading of “The Spirit of Truth.”

Looking at the significance of this spirit influence on which each of us depends.

When truth seekers gather there is great opportunity for enlightenment.



Attendees at the 2013 Conference

Drew upon gems of truth from all four parts of *The Urantia Book*

Had opportunity to study “truth” more deeply in small groups.

Experienced space for thinking and recreation—walked to parks and gardens that surround Parliament House.

The Spirit of Truth always speaks saying... *This is the way.*



Visit our website at <http://urantia-uai.org/anzura/>



Summer Thought Gem

Static truth is dead truth, and only dead truth can be held as a theory. Living truth is dynamic and can enjoy only an experiential existence in the human mind.

[1949:04]

November 30

Contacts in

Australia and New Zealand

If you would like to be listed as a contact person, advise about your study Group or if your details have changed – please contact ANZURA.

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