



Campfire IN THE Heart

What's On: Winter Update 2025



Dear friends of Campfire in the Heart,

So much happening at Campfire - more than we could ask or imagine. It is indeed awesome to feel the Spirit in the generous offerings of so many: the volunteers who appear, blessing the place with their talents and presence; the meditators-in-residence and their engagement with the place even before they arrive.

June will see our first meditator-in-residence for 2025, Rod Marsh, who will be leading two [Deep Silent Retreats](#) over 3 nights, during his stay with us. Modelled on the [WCCM](#) retreats offered at [Bonnevaux, France](#) they will 'provide an

opportunity to benefit from the sustained silence and stillness of meditation over an extended period...these retreats offer a unique opportunity to join with other practitioners and go to a deeper and simpler place – together in solitude into the ‘great silence’. Rod will also offer Christian meditation introductory talks in Todd Mall under the trees - beautiful creativity, such an abundance of gifts ... truly wondrous!

World Labyrinth Day on 3 May was an opportunity to welcome new visitors to walk the labyrinth for the very first time. Every year on the first Saturday in May thousands of people around the globe participate in a moving meditation for world peace and celebration of the labyrinth experience. We also enjoyed a morning tea together, and learned how to draw a classical labyrinth.

In April we were happy to host Coomera Anglican College (Qld) for the second time, following their inaugural Faith & Spirituality retreat in 2023. Their Desert Retreat is an "an immersive faith & spirituality experience, offering attending students a space to deepen their sense of self, spirituality and belonging, through encounters of awe and wonder in nature." We look forward to their next visit.

As we enter these shortening days, we pray with Michael Leunig:

Dear God,

We give thanks for places of simplicity and peace;

let us find such a place within ourselves.

Judi & Paul and the Campfire staff and board



Upcoming retreats

Radical Simplicity: Meditation for Everyone

"The one who made the universe dwells in our hearts and in silence is loving to all." Chandogya Upanishad

The world's wisdom traditions all agree that our source of peace is within us.

"If we can find stillness at the centre of our being, we will experience a wonderful transformation of our lives" (Laurence Freeman).

This retreat will also offer optional extra days with extra activities for those who are able to stay longer.

30 May - 1 June 2025

Cost: \$180 - \$490

[More info](#)



Deep Silent Retreats x 2

A deep silent meditation retreat provides a rare opportunity to benefit from the sustained silence and stillness of meditation over an extended period. These retreats offer a unique opportunity to join with other practitioners and go to a deeper and

simpler place – together in solitude into the ‘great silence’.

13 - 15 June or 23 - 25 June 2025

Cost: \$300 - \$400

[More info](#)

HEART Red Centre Retreat

Come to a special week in the Red Centre NT Australia. Start the journey in Alice Springs, travelling and witnessing Tjoritja (West MacDonnell Ranges), a Standley Chasm tour with Indigenous Guide and have a swim in the Ellery Creek Gorge. Take the scenic road trip to Yulara, and explore the magnificent Uluru and Kata Tjuta National Park guided by Jane Anderson.



June & August 2025

Cost: \$2,900

[More info](#)



Mind the Gaps

Fr. Bernard McGrath, Benedictine monk, will be returning to Central Australia this year...

The landscape in which Alice Springs and Campfire in the Heart are set, with the various Gaps: Simpsons, Emily, Jessie, Honeymoon...and Pine Gap!

The gaps in our knowing and the ‘gaps’ in our location offer us a

wonderful opportunity to reflect more deeply on what really matters, when it come to the past, the present & the future of humanity.

20 - 25 July 2025

Cost: \$450 - \$1,095

[More info](#)

Space to Be

Following 2024's retreat Mind the Gaps presented by Fr Bernard McGrath, this retreat continues to explore the spiritual wealth available when we engage with the vastness of the universe in the context revealed in the landscape of the desert.

Reflecting on the unsolved mysteries of the created universe, and the space encountered in Central Australia, the retreat will invite participants to be wise and ponder our human experiences and the tensions they can give rise to.

1 - 6 August 2025

Cost: \$450 - \$1,095

[More info](#)



Celtic/Core Cellular Healing Circle

Come to a special week in the Red Centre NT Australia. Start the journey in Alice Springs, travelling and witnessing Tjoritja (West MacDonnell Ranges), a Standley Chasm tour with Indigenous Guide and have a swim in the Ellery Creek Gorge. Take the

scenic road trip to Yulara, and explore the magnificent Uluru and Kata Tjuta National Park guided by Jane Anderson.

29 Aug – 3 Sep 2025

Cost: \$40 - \$550

[More info](#)

Reflections

Farewell to Hugo

"Since quitting university and leaving his home of France at the age of 19, Hugo has been on a heartfelt spiritual quest for the past 6 years that has taken him to India, Nepal, New Zealand and Australia...After living the solitary life of a hermit until recently, Hugo was 'like a rusty wheel' in his words..."

Written by Nicola Pitt

[Read here](#)





Outside embrace

*"If people knew,
what it is like for me to sleep outside.
There is no 'outside' anymore,
once you get rid of this roof,
between your place of rest and the
clear sky..."*

Written by Hugo Daniel

[Read here](#)

Inviting Divinity into dialogue

Jorge returned inspired from a community development field trip in Nepal, led by Peter Westoby and Rachael Donovan of [Community Praxis Co-op](#)

"For many in Nepal, life starts with yoga, prayer and meditation as well as honouring the sacred in private and public shrines and temples..."

Written by Jorge Luis Basave

[Read here](#)



Weekly events



Monday Meditation

Mondays 5:30 pm

Suitable for beginners, as well as experienced meditators.

[More info](#)



Campfire Reflection

Wednesdays 6:30 pm

A pot-luck dinner, followed by time of reflection and sharing around the campfire.

[More info](#)



Labyrinth Walking

Sundays 2-4pm

The labyrinth is available to walk one hour prior to each of our weekly events, and on Sunday afternoons.

[More info](#)



Online Offerings

Weekday mornings

Campfire in the Heart offers a free online meditation every weekday morning, followed by morning prayers.

[More info](#)

Have you attended our weekly gatherings or a retreat? Have you organised your own event here?

We would love it if you could leave us a testimonial on our [Google listing](#) or [Facebook page](#).

Share your feedback and help other people discover and enjoy this unique space in Alice Springs.

Interested in volunteering?



Volunteers are integral to our capacity to provide our desired level of hospitality to our guests, as well as to maintain this special environment in the midst of the desert.

Opportunities also exist for a **'meditator-in-residence'**, staying ideally between 2-6 months.

[Find out more](#)



Campfire in the Heart

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