



# Campfire IN THE Heart

## What's On: Autumn Update 2026



## Dear friends of Campfire in the Heart,

Recently we gave [a talk](#) reflecting on our journey with Campfire in the Heart to where we are here, now. It was profoundly moving to revisit all the moments that called us to become part of the place and its people and happenings, so much spirit at every turn.

So many unknowns, so much trust, so much encouraging each other, so many lovingly supporting the new season. As our prayer says each morning “more than we could ask or imagine”. So many surprises, so many difficulties, most of which wondrously dissolving as we went on.

Such good people drawn to be part of it, disappointments at times at what didn't happen as we'd hoped. Learning to let go, to trust again and, almost a miracle, things work out wonderfully. Learning to expect miracles, to depend on them, not in a demanding way but with a quiet confidence that is no longer surprised, that simply says 'thank you' and continues on.

A big thank you to each of you journeying with us during the past 5 years, a time of foundations we've hoped, of consolidating a way post-David & Sue, a new model always with the hope of Campfire in the Heart returning to local leadership, while keeping the essence of the place and the [WCCM](#) connection. And deo gratis, it seems to be happening.

With grateful thanks,

## ***Judi & Paul and the Campfire team***

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BENEDICT'S WELL

To watch Judi and Paul's presentation for Benedict's Well [click here](#). (Starting at the 30 min mark.)

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## Latest news

### World Labyrinth Day

Every year on the first Saturday in May thousands of people around the globe participate in [World Labyrinth Day](#) as a moving meditation for world peace and celebration of the labyrinth experience.

The local community was invited to an introduction to Campfire's labyrinth, followed by morning tea, while learning how to draw a classical labyrinth.

Big thanks to our volunteer Jude, for arriving just in time to help that weekend!



### Iyengar yoga pilgrimage to the heart

In May, a group of eight dedicated Iyengar yoga students made the journey from Sydney to Alice Springs to practise yoga with their teacher, Caroline Coggins, upon her invitation *“to go into the heart of our land, to sit in her centre...to find the silence within.”*

The five-day retreat unfolded between Campfire and [Corkwood Collective](#), a short walk down the road where the

group gathered twice daily for their yoga sessions, under its blue, domed ceiling...

[More info](#)

## Coomera College returns to the desert

For the third time we've welcomed Year 11 students from [Coomera Anglican College](#), visiting Alice Springs and Uluru as part of their 'desert retreat', led by their Faith and Spirituality teacher, Dom Fay.

Each year the experience grows in popularity amongst students. This time the Anglican Archbishop of Brisbane, Jeremy Greaves, was inspired to join the pilgrimage...

[More info](#)



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## Upcoming retreats



### Beholding Divine Beauty

When is beauty divine, sacred ... where does meditation sit in it all?

Over the days in the evocative landscape of Central Australia, we will explore these questions, encouraging each other in our 'noticing' in the way of dadirri and other contemplative practices, sharing around the

campfire each evening what has 'come' to us, been revealed.

17 - 22 May 2026

Cost: \$450 - \$1,095

[More info](#)

## Contemplating the Gospel of Saint Thomas

Join Paul & Judi Taylor for a three-day retreat of stillness and reflection, exploring the *Gospel of Saint Thomas* alongside the writings of John Main, founding father of the World Community for Christian Meditation. Through shared silence, lectio divina, and meditation, we will listen for the timeless call to discover the Kingdom within. This retreat offers space to deepen your contemplative practice, nurture inner peace, and encounter the transforming presence of Christ in the silence of your heart.



5 - 8 June 2026

Cost: \$390 - \$585

[More info](#)



## Be Still and Know

A three-day silent retreat led by Friar Bernard McGrath, from St Benedict's Monastery, Arcadia (NSW), with a 2-day option as well.

*"Be Still and know...  
The Temple bell stops –  
but the sound keeps coming  
out of the flowers."*

26 - 29 June 2026

Cost: \$390 - \$585

[More info](#)

## Mind the Gaps

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.

Led by Fr. Bernard McGrath

3 - 8 July 2026

Cost: \$450 - \$1,095

[More info](#)



## Christ as Country: Creation Infused with Grace

In nature there is distinction and no separation: all is Country, all is graced. This retreat will be a chance to explore and experience this reality. To help us along will consider some Australian First Nations theology and spirituality, and the spirituality of the Christian Celts of Ireland and Scotland.

Are there commonalities in these two approaches? How can we learn from

them? How might they change us?  
The input for this retreat will also explore the relevancy of a meditation practice for this time.

26 - 31 July 2026

Cost: \$450 - \$1,095

[More info](#)

## The Gifts of Silence

Josephine Pretorius will offer a 3-day deep silent retreat “The Gifts of Silence”, with a 2-day option available. The proposed themes of the time will be around reflecting on a short reading drawn from various sources:

- \* Entering the Silence – Reverence ( Laurence Freeman Light Within)
- \* Deepening Silence – Poverty (John Main “Second Conference” in The Gethsemani Talks)
- \* Silent prayer (Maggie Ross “The Space of Prayer” in Writing the Icon of the Heart)
- \* Gratitude (Sarah Bachelard “Just Now” in Poetica Divina.)



7 - 10 August 2026

Cost: \$390 - 585

[More info](#)

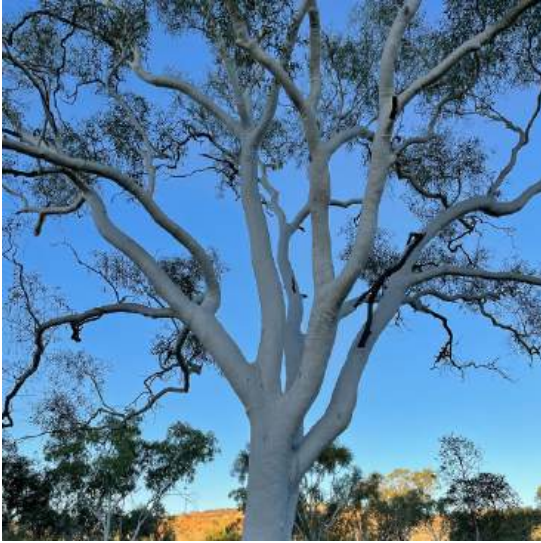
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*"Heartfelt gratitude for the opportunity to share a timeless and tenderly curated journey into silence in the WCCM context"*

- **Entering the Silence** retreat guest

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## Weekly events



### Monday Meditation

**Mondays 5:30 pm**

*Resumes 2 February*

Suitable for beginners, as well as experienced meditators.

[More info](#)



### Labyrinth Walking

**Sundays 2 - 4 pm**

Walking the labyrinth can symbolise being on a pilgrimage to a sacred place, a journey to our centre and an opportunity for learning and transformation.

[More info](#)



Campfire Reflection  
Wednesdays 6:30 pm

*Resumes 18 February*

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

[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.

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## 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](#)

Check out the Facebook page of one of our current volunteers, [Jude Warren - Explore Your True Nature](#) to see video updates on her stay at Campfire and impressions of Central Australia!

 **Jude Warren - Explore Your True Nature** is at **Campfire in the Heart**.  
16 May at 12:17 · Alice Springs, NT · 🌐

Quiet drizzly rain falling out here in Alice Springs.  
I am so enjoying slowing down on retreat as a volunteer at Campfire in the heart ❤️  
I love exploring the garden 🌿 giving the succulent a drink of rainwater.  
Tree hideaways... takes me back to my childhood hiding away amongst the trees! 🌳  
Nothing much else to share today...apart from it is a super new moon today... so take time to write and speak out your wishes for the next 19 year cycle! 🌕🌍🙏 See less

  
And I love being in gardens,  
out in the bush, wherever it  
is, in the  
Campfire in the Heart  
0:12 / 1:57



## Campfire in the Heart

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