

Aries 2017 edition:

Interview with Cate Whelan
40 years on - What does Chiron mean?
Famous Aries: burn bright, live strong

From the Editor

It has been the practice of the *Southern Star* to invite upcoming speakers to contribute to our newsletter. While many of you know and love Cate Whelan, I thought we could take this opportunity to get to know her even better and have a sneak peek at the huge amount of research and thought she has put into her upcoming talk: 'Am I, are you, are we Australian? Chiron, Neptune and Australian attitudes to refugees and indigenous issues'.

Below you will find a short interview with Cate, as well as a previously published article, edited for this edition, about the astrological and cultural significance of Chiron. I think you'll agree that while we know Cate, it is fascinating to read more of her insights and astrological motivations here.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Vivien Lowe. Vivien contributed a series of thorough and engaging articles as an introduction to Evolutionary Astrology. These can now be found on the FAASA website, in the digital version of the newsletter. Vivien contributed a huge amount of time and energy, and delivered a concise and easily digestible introduction to her fascinating practice. Please, take a look!

Joel Valentine

Meeting dates 2017

May 6, Cate Whelan - Am I, are you, are we



Australian? Chiron, Neptune and Australian attitudes to refugees and indigenous issues

June 10, Asking the Question: Horary,
Merideth Norman, Kris Svendsen, Anne
Fryer, Joel Valentine

July 1, Olga Morales - Workshop

August 12, Joy Usher

Transits to watch

New Moon 6 Taurus 27 - Apr 26

Venus enters **Aries** - Apr 28

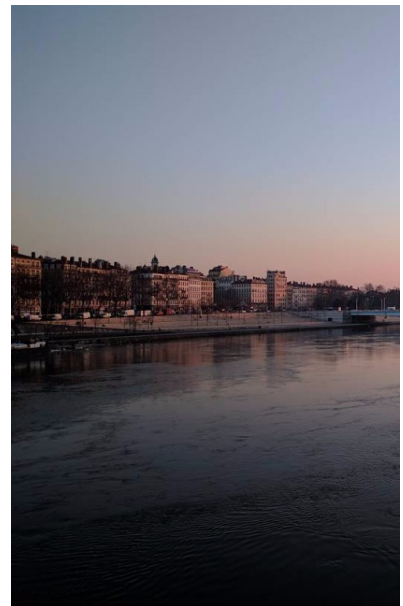
Mercury direct - May 4

Full Moon 20 Scorpio 24 - May 11

Mercury enters **Taurus** - May 16

Saturn trine **Uranus** - May 19

Sun enters **Gemini** - May 21





FAASA next meeting: Saturday May 13, 2 pm



Cate Whelan

Join Cate for a trip around Australia's 1788 chart, looking at transits of Neptune and Chiron to the Cross of Matter and other significant points. The 1788 chart describes the way we see ourselves as Australians. What do these transits reveal about our attitude to our indigenous people and to immigrants and refugees? And who is an Australian?



Cate Whelan has been passionate about astrology for more than 30 years. She gained her FAA Diploma of Astrology in the mid 90s and has been teaching and consulting ever since. She is fascinated by human social relationships, and how people interact and form attitudes and opinions within a society.

2 pm Sat 13th May, TS Rooms behind New Dimensions Bookshop, 310 South Tce

Members \$10, Concession \$8, Non-members \$14

Afternoon tea supplied.

For more information email president@faasa.com.au or call Cate Whelan, 8557 7417

For a recording of this talk, email

vicepresident@faasa.com.au. \$5 members, \$10 non-members

www.faasa.com.au

Strike It Lucky!

with Olga Morales



A workshop hosted by FAASA

Saturday, July 1

Earlybird prices until June 10:

Members \$60

Con. Members \$50

Non-members \$80

Bookings via
president@faasa.com.au

www.faasa.com.au



Do you have a lucky chart or lucky transits coming up?

Certain midpoints are known to bring you luck and abundance.

Learn which ones and how to time lucky days for lotto and other games of chance.

You can always thank your lucky stars, if you know them!

Olga Morales, from ***Astrology for Gann Traders***, has been working with midpoints specifically for lucky lotto days for three years now. She was inspired by her mentor W.D. Gann who used astrology successfully for lotto and horse racing.

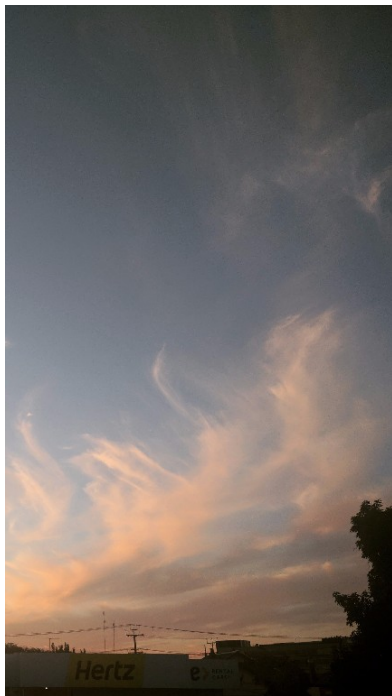
This is the first time she will be sharing her findings and insights with others.

You don't want to miss out!

Your astrology:

Getting to know our community and their astrology

With Cate Whelan



SS: Can you tell us a little about your kind of astrology; what is it that got you interested in this craft, and what keeps you wanting to explore it?

I have always wanted to know what makes people tick. So, I guess I first got into astrology back in the 80s because I'm basically a stickybeak. The 80s also presented some unexpected challenges for me. So, in my efforts to understand them I did a tarot course, joined the Jungian Society, began elementary astrology studies, and eventually ended up studying for four years with Bernadette Brady to complete the FAA Diploma of Astrology (then called the Practitioners' Certificate).

From there, I began consulting and teaching. Teaching is an amazing way to develop your understanding of astrology because you are working with living, breathing charts for extended periods of time. I always worked with small groups, maximum of five, so we were able to work on a personal level as well as an objective one. I don't teach any more, but I love research. I'm a pattern finder. I love sociology – why groups of people think certain ways – so I'm very interested in generational studies, family groups, political attitudes etc.

SS: Do you have any favourite celebrity or event charts? Maybe ones that responded well to techniques you use, or that seemed just too 'perfect' when you saw them.

For this lecture I did extensive work on Ed Tamplin's 1788 chart, January 26 at 5.23am. The traditional chart time was later in the day when the official flag was raised. Ed went back to the ship logs and diaries to calculate this time of the first landing and planting of a makeshift flag. This chart really sings!

SS: Do you have any astrological 'aha!' moments that you'd like to share? Moments when the astrology just seemed to 'work', or where the planets seemed so accurate it left you gobsmacked?

I have a Pluto/Neptune/Venus yod and a Uranus/MC/Jupiter yod in my chart. I have always struggled to define future 'goals' and work towards them, as the gurus say you must. Learning about yods was absolutely an FBO for me (Flash of the Bleeding Obvious). I did a workshop on yods with Karen Hamaker Zondag many years ago and suddenly I found I wasn't just slack, but that this is how my chart works! If you have a yod, try to be the best person you can, maintain your integrity, and follow the path that opens up before you. With a mutable chart, including three planets in Pisces, I found this a wonderful revelation.

Sometime later I had a student with a stellium in Aries, as well as a yod. She found this idea devastating – a life sentence - because she was always looking for challenges and creating goals. That's her Aries life blood. At least she began to understand why this process wasn't working for her. But it was very difficult for her to reconcile these two contradictory parts of her chart. As I said before, you learn so much from teaching. It had never occurred to me that I had accepted the yod analysis so readily because, well, that's how Pisces works!

SS: Can you share with us something about your own chart that you struggle with, and an aspect that you enjoy?

I have a Moon-Saturn conjunction in Virgo in the 10th House. I find my first reaction to things can be judgmental, and I've had to do a lot of work over the years to let go the need to be in control. As I've got older, Saturn has become more of a friend.

I have only one essentially dignified planet in my chart, which is Venus in exaltation in Pisces. It's in the 4th House so it's also angular. I live by the sea in a beautiful bay. Venus rules my 6th and 11th houses, and I must say I have good health and good friends.

SS: Where do you stand on prediction? Do you predict? If so, what is your philosophical framework, how do you deliver it to a client, and what predictive techniques do you find most reliable?

I do predict, but not specific events. I always look first at the Secondary Progressed Lunar cycle to see where a client is at in their lives, and also at the progressed chart. That gives me a background, a context. Then I look at transits. I always take into account the profected year, because transits to the ruler of that year are very significant. And I have a look at the Solar Return to see if it gives me any more information.

My aim is to help the client feel comfortable with the stage they are at in their lives, and to help them understand the energies coming up and how they might use them. Usually, most of my consultation is spent on the natal chart, and then we go to the predictive stuff in light of what they have learnt from the natal chart.

I am very careful about predicting for myself, my family, or sometimes my friends, because I'm too close to the action and can make presumptions. On a personal level, I get together with a couple of astrologer friends each month and we look at our Solar Returns very closely, and our latest technique is to move the SR Ascendant to predict significant days ([Anne-Elisabeth](#) did a

lecture on this a couple of years ago). We use this as a learning tool, and it does go into a lot more detail than I would with a client.

Cate Whelan is an astrologer, educator, and the current President of FAASA. She is also the speaker at our next meeting, Saturday, May 6.

The next FAA International Conference is in Melbourne. Definitely easy to get to from Adelaide.

Have you looked at the early-bird pricing? Find out more about some of the local and international speakers [here](#).

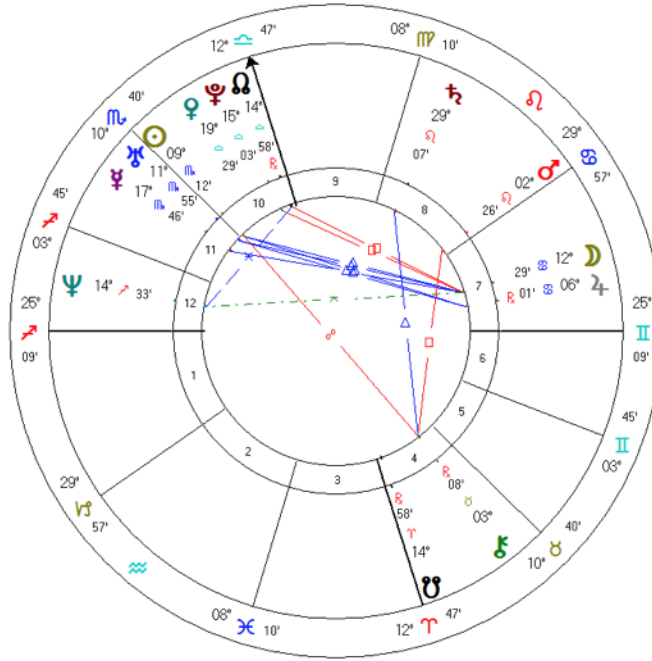


And what has Chiron got to do with all this?

With Cate Whelan

Chiron was discovered on November 1, 1977. Forty years ago this year. Astronomers have struggled to define this new heavenly body, which orbits, most of the time, between Saturn and Uranus. Astrologers, too, have struggled. Some won't look at anything beyond the big ten. Or the big seven, if you want to go strictly classical. Chiron, because of the time of its discovery, is linked in the minds of many to the psychological, stream-of-consciousness astrology that was prominent in the 1980s and 90s. The astrological trend of the 21st Century has definitely been towards the traditional, more saturnian methods and outlook. But Chiron has many important things to tell us about ourselves, and about our world.

Chiron discovery
Natal Chart
 1 Nov 1977, Tue
 9:56 am PST -8:00
 Pasadena, California
 34°N08'52" 118°W08'37"
*Geocentric
 Tropical
 Placidus
 True Node*



Astrology is an ancient art, but we practise it in a modern world. There were major social changes happening when Chiron was discovered in 1977. The date itself is significant. In the Gaelic calendar November 1 is Samhain, the end of the old year and the beginning of the new. Gaelic culture placed a lot of emphasis on boundaries, and the liminal space between. Chiron itself sits between the visible and the invisible planets – in the ambiguous space between. And Chiron has a lot to do with the reconciliation of opposites, and the finding of balance. How apt that this newly discovered body would be named after Chiron, from Greek mythology, who was both man and animal, man and god.

Son of god and human, part man and part horse, Chiron was a centaur. The other centaurs were a wild, barbaric, bunch, embodying all the rawness and lack of order of pure instinct, symbolising chaotic feminine forces that cannot be understood or controlled. In terms of the Greek polarisation of nature and culture, the centaurs definitely fell on the side of nature, and are identified with the horse part of the equation.

Chiron, on the other hand, represented culture, and was therefore not a typical centaur. Being raised by a male god, he identified with the 'masculine' values of skill development, achievement, reason and the power of the mind. Although part human and part horse he is strongly identified with the human, and in particular the man. His skills, including prophecy and healing, were learnt skills and thus we see in Chiron the suppression of the strong instinctual, animal side of his nature and the identification with the educated, the civilised.

But nature will not be denied, and Chiron found his destiny was not within his control, but was ruled by the unacknowledged, repressed part of himself. He was accidentally wounded in the leg by a poisoned arrow from Heracles. But the poison came from the blood of the hydra, a many-headed monster killed by Heracles as part of his Labours. It was a mortal wound, but because Chiron was immortal, he could not die and put an end to his suffering. The blood of the monster, the repressed feminine, caused him immense pain, but despite his knowledge of healing, he

could not heal himself. Knowledge alone is not enough to deal with such wounds. It requires the balance of masculine and feminine wisdom.

It is interesting to note the point in Western consciousness that is marked by the discovery of Chiron in 1977. The decade prior was noted for the development of the peace movement - the rejection of the masculine value of domination by force - and the subsequent rise of the hippy cult. The excesses of which could well be linked to the undisciplined indulgences of the centaurs. Women's Liberation had burst upon the scene, bitterly discarding anything seen as male. The repressed feminine had risen and totally rejected the patriarchal, left-brain culture of western society. But by 1977, when Chiron was first seen, society was taking its first tottering steps towards balancing the two principles. With Chiron, process (the feminine path) is important, not just the goal (the masculine path.) This is true whether we are talking about an individual or a civilisation.

So what were some of the collective wounds that our society was carrying at that time? The world carried huge wounds in terms of injustices to indigenous peoples, and Australia in particular carried the wound of its aboriginal people. The wounding of the earth, and the environmental damage done to it by western civilisation was becoming an important issue. We carried open wounds relating to people marginalised by sexuality, disability, poverty or race.

Since 1977, there has been a major shift in consciousness in relation to the themes from the myth of Chiron, so I will look at some of these. In particular, as they have manifested in Australia, which is, after all, a microcosm of western society.

Some of the first important steps in addressing the wound of our aboriginal people were taken in the late 70s. Indigenous land rights became an important issue and in 1977. The Northern Territory Aboriginal Land Rights Act became operative, giving 20% of the NT to the aboriginal people as inalienable freehold title. In 1978 South Australia became the first state to take positive action when Don Dunstan announced that land would be returned to the ownership of the Pitjantjarra people. By 1983, aboriginal people held freehold title to more than 500,000 square kilometres of land throughout Australia. The wound cannot be healed, the stolen children given back, the lost culture restored, but the process of reconciling, of finding a balance, has begun and has become part of our consciousness. We do this with mostly good intentions, but with little wisdom.

The repeal of the White Australia Policy in the seventies, the arrival of the first 'boat people', and the subsequent migration of people from South East Asia in the eighties provided challenges. The challenge to accept other races and other cultures as equal and entitled to a spot in our country opened many Chironian wounds, and this continues today.

The big challenge now is our treatment of asylum seekers; since the 70s, the majority of refugees have carried the issue of both looking different and having a different culture. In time, we accepted the Vietnamese, whose religions – mainly Buddhist or Christian – did not threaten us. But, as a society, we are having a lot of trouble coming to terms with the Middle Eastern religious culture, in particular Islam. Once again, the centaurs – the 'reclaim Australia' groups

and their sympathisers, as well as the rabid and dangerous Islamic fundamentalists – are wreaking havoc.

The 'coming out' of the gay and lesbian community, begun publicly with the first Gay and Lesbian Mardi-Gras in 1978, has offered the opportunity for mainstream Australians to recognise that any society is wounded when it does not recognise and respect all its members. It is now illegal to discriminate against anyone on the basis of their gender, race, creed, sexuality or disability. There is, and always will be, prejudice and discrimination, but the ideals have been articulated by our society.

The late 1970s and early 1980s marked an important time in the development of environmental consciousness. In Australia, the National Parks and Wildlife Service was established, and Greenpeace and the Wilderness Society began bases in Australia. Intense lobbying and persistent protesting brought about very tight regulations around a budding nuclear industry, legislation about native forests and the woodchip industry, proclamation of the Barrier Reef as a world heritage area, and, in particular, the prevention of the damming of the Gordon River in Tasmania, a landmark case. Now it is virtually impossible for any major project to go ahead without an environmental impact study; the need to take the environment into consideration has become part of our consciousness, even though governments and corporations still find creative ways to ignore them. The damage we have done to the earth is beyond healing, but awareness has been raised. Once again, the people of our society are ahead of our government in wanting the issue of climate change addressed, and accepting the necessity of adopting renewable energy sources.

When Chiron reached the opposition point of its first cycle, at 4 Scorpio in 1997, Pauline Hanson confronted us with our shadow, polarised the country and reopened old wounds of prejudice; the chironic wound of rejection because you look or act differently. And now she has risen again. Perhaps Ms. Hanson is here to remind us that beneath our veneer of civilisation we are all centaurs. A reminder that you don't have to scratch too hard to find the instinctual, reactionary self underneath. And that we are all happy to have a scapegoat to carry our unexpressed rage and feelings of impotence, whether the scapegoat is Pauline herself or the wounded groups she targets.

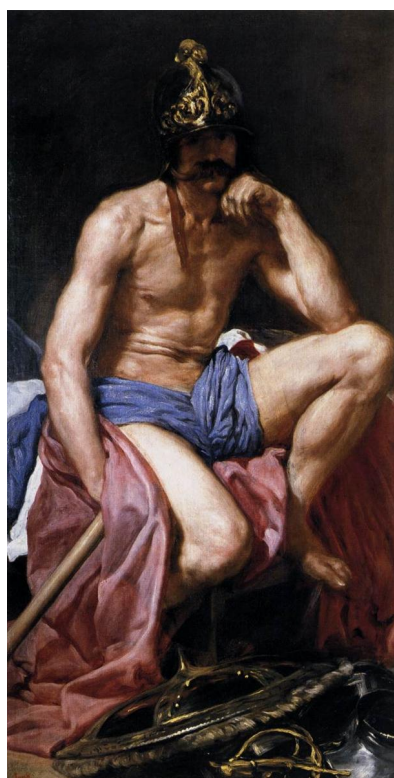
Our governments follow ideologies of economic rationalism, a linear philosophy where social needs are devalued and the goal becomes more important than the process. We face the very real possibility of a huge new coalmine in Queensland which has the potential to destroy the Great Barrier Reef, as well as accelerating global warming. Efforts to 'Close the Gap' between aboriginal communities and the rest of Australia show no results. Do we ever really listen to our indigenous brothers and sisters? We hide asylum seekers in squalid conditions and find excuses to demonise them so that we don't need to acknowledge our shame. The acceptance of gay marriage by the community is not reflected in our political class.

There have been many great changes in our society during this Chiron cycle, which relate to the need to heal our world, and many have been enshrined in legislation. However, this is still

operating at the head level. To reach the heart takes generations, and it begins at the personal level. Until we understand ourselves as best we can, until we develop the wisdom that is gathered on the personal journey, then we will never take responsibility for ourselves and we will always make scapegoats of those who are different. Until we recognise that we are not separate from the needs of the planet and that we are all responsible for ourselves, for each other and for our environment then we will always be victims and our world will always be divided.

So that's what Chiron has to do with all this. We live in a society trivialised by slogans and simplistic solutions. Chiron recognises complexity and paradox, and seeks reconciliation and balance – it provides us with a path. It is up to us to find our way along it.

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Ram Rising: Celebrities with Aries Ascendants

While much of the very recent Western tradition centres around the Sun's placement in the natal chart, some Vedic traditions and early Hellenistic astrologers place more emphasis on the Ascendant and its ruler. Known to some ancients as the 'helm' and 'helmsman', the sign rising over the horizon and its planetary ruler are seen to characterise how the native meets life, and how they appear to the world. Depending on the sign and planet, some helmsman meet life more directly than others. As we exit Aries season, let's take a quick look at those guided through life by the constellation of the ram.

Aries rising individuals are often characterised by the qualities of the sign: hot and dry in temperament, of the fire element, and cardinal energy; at best dynamic, and sometimes impulsive to their detriment. Ruled by Mars, it is a sign that has strong associations with battle, whatever the front being fought on. Traditionally Scorpio is also ruled by Mars, but the battles

there are more clandestine. As characterised by the watery-sign's attributes. Aries tends to wage war a little more openly. But Mars's condition in the chart, by sign and house placement, will have an effect on these attributes.

Ariel Sharon - Aries Rising, Mars in Capricorn in the 10th whole-sign

[Click here for chart and analysis by Robert Hand](#)

While the former Israeli leader's birth time is unconfirmed, the chart used in a [previous Robert Hand analysis](#) seems to reflect Sharon's life expression. With Aries rising, it places the ruler of the Ascendant, Mars, in the last degree of Capricorn in the 10th whole-sign house. Sharon was a member of the Israeli army from its inception, and rose through the ranks to become a fierce leader and fighter. Unsurprisingly, he was also known for his impulsiveness, and for taking decisions upon himself that may have put others in danger. Traditionally, Mars is in its Exaltation in Capricorn and does temper the Ascendant a little; Saturn's sign cools Mars and reminds it to respect protocol. Mars's placement by house (10th house of career) and sign (Capricorn's association with governments and order) seems reflective of Sharon's transition from soldier to politician, and his long tenure in his second profession.



Bette Midler - Aries Rising, Mars in Leo in the 5th whole-sign

[Click here for chart](#)

With an unmistakable voice, Midler's appearance and performances are as eye-catching as her Aries/Leo Ascendant/Lord combination suggests. Many of Midler's film roles were as confident, brash women. The placement of the Ascendant ruler in the 5th house supports her involvement in the arts and self expression, and its trine to her Sagittarius Sun creates an unstoppable fiery flow between these three key points in the chart. Mars is also in square to her natal Moon potentially bringing heightened emotion, and increasing that dramatic feel to her characters and persona. This red-headed diva brings the ascendant ruler, Mars in Leo, to life.



John Lennon - Aries Rising, Mars in Libra in the 7th whole-sign

[Click here for chart](#)

Aries rises in Lennon's chart, but his chart ruler sits in a sign it is not entirely comfortable in. Where Aries battles, Libra makes peace. Planets in Detriment, like Mars in Libra, are not necessarily without resources; they just do things differently. In early life, Lennon was raised by his aunt, as his mother thought him too much of a 'wild child'. But it is a little unsurprising that John settled down to write 'Give Peace a Chance' and present it with his partner (Mars in Libra, in the house of partnerships) while they were laying in a bed. His battle was relationships, and, ironically, making things more peaceful.



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(per calendar year)

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Joint Concession* – \$80

Newsletter Only – \$35

*Concession cards need to be sighted by the Treasurer when paying membership subs. Only pension cards and healthcare cards issued by Centrelink are deemed Concession.

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