

# theosophy auckland

#### **HPB Newsletter**

President: Renée Sell

Vice Pres: Carole Van Weede Secretary: Jeanette Blackburn Treasurer: Darryl Crofskey

Committee: Margaret Johns, Joe Swamy, Chris Watkins & Melanie Sell



#### Issue 2 2024

4 Warborough Ave, Epsom, Auckland 1051, NZ

hpbpres@theosophy.org.nz hpbsec@theosophv.org.nz

Date: 27 May 2024

# From the President's Pen



Dear Members,

In light of some recent events in the TS it might be fitting for our members to explore some of the aims of the Theosophical Society and why we were formed; and also to understand that being a member places certain obligations on us. These obligations are not onerous and should quite naturally be part of our personal make-up. We might start by understanding that a primary object of the Society was to become a nucleus where right relationship is formed within our lives, in the understanding that 'Universal Kinship' is more than just words, it is a call to action in recognising the Unity of all life, and respect for each on their own journey of life.

Helena Blavatsky spoke about theosophy becoming a living power in our lives and that right thought is a good thing, but that thought alone does not count for much unless it is translated into action. This action is the application of the ancient wisdom to our everyday lives. These actions are informed by the values we hold dear, such as HPB's Golden Stairs and our Objects, particularly the first one 'to form a nucleus of the Universal Kinship of Humanity, without distinction...' (see page 4). Our branch has a code of conduct which has been articulated into a set of values adopted by our branch and set within the constitutions of our organisation. A copy of the Code of Conduct is on the message board in our hall and I will state **Our Values** here:



Altruism

Respect

Recognising of the Oneness of All Life

Co-operation

Integrity

These values are a basis for how we interact with each other in Lodge life, and of course beyond the TS in interactions with all sentient beings. We may add to this list some standards of conduct also found in our Constitution: honesty, good faith, trust, fairness and responsibility. All of this provides food for thought on how we engage with others, and the many attributes of right conduct for us to ponder upon. No-one would deny that these are important and of value, and living up to them can be quite natural. Yet there are times when personal agendas are strong and can blind us to the basic respect towards others. The Saturday morning discussion group, coming up on 15 June, has topics centred around 'good conduct' this year, from that little theosophical gem: At the Feet of the Master, a really wonderful exposition of attributes to work on in the spiritual life. The Society in NZ has a vision of An Harmonious World of Enlightened Beings; now wouldn't that be magical!

Our second series on Monday evenings begins again on Monday 27 May at 7.30 pm. I hope you are able to attend some of these studies that are on offer. For further details, please check the programme attached to this newsletter. I would like to highlight a special winter offering from the NZ Section of the TS - an Online Zoom Series Theosophical Sundays Exploring Consciousness 9 June – 7 July 2024.

The **Theosophical Library** is open regularly on a Saturday from 10 am − 12 noon over June/July 2024.

Long-time member, Arthur Goodall, passed to higher service on 25 February 2024. Arthur had been a member of our branch for 56 years, and served within the Society in many capacities, including HPB Lodge President and the National President of the New Zealand Section. Theosophy was very close to Arthur's heart and he always enjoyed catching up with friends, having a good laugh when he could. We wish Arthur well on the next part of his journey ahead with love from us all.

We have had a number of new members join recently - a special welcome to you all, we look forward to getting to know you as we explore theosophy. With winter now upon us, I hope you will venture out to the lodge to catch up with friends and like minded people in our studies. If you have any questions or queries, please reach out to me,

With warmest wishes, Renée





#### **Important upcoming dates:**

#### Monday Evenings new series begins on Monday 27 May

Exploring theosophy together, love to see you at the branch starting 7.30 pm with the library opening at 7.00 pm See programme for further details.

Theosophical Sundays online series: Exploring Consciousness

This is a National sponsored series for all of NZ, held online over 5 consecutive Sundays 09 June - 07 July (see attached poster)

Please note: must register for this event online: theosophy.nz 2025 National Convention, Auckland 16 - 21 January. mark your calendars.

<u>Library</u>, open 10 am - 12 noon on Saturdays throughout June and July including the long weekends.

All welcome as we discuss some very interesting topics:

# Monday Evenings ~ 7.30 pm Exploring the Ancient Wisdom

Come join us beginning again on:

Monday 27 May

Details in the attached programme

Short presentations followed by discussion and enquiry

# **National Zoom Online Event:**

Theosophical Sundays

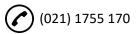
Exploring Consciousness 09 June - 07 July 2024

An online series over five consecutive Sundays in June and July 2024, we'll be joined via Zoom by five International guest speakers from across the globe: Jude Currivan, our own Murray Stentiford, Pablo Sender, Edi Bilimoria and Ravi Ravindra, each taking us on a unique journey in Exploring Consciousness.

For further information see the National website for details:

https://theosophy.nz/events/theosophical-sundays-exploring-consciousness

<u>Must register online for this event</u> (please note Sunday times vary)



# 

All welcome as we discuss some very interesting topics:

15 June Living Theosophy – what is Good Conduct Part II
 13 July Living Theosophy – what is Good Conduct Part III

August Break

13 September Living Theosophy – what is Good Conduct Part IV?

#### THE GOLDEN STAIRS

A clean life, an open mind, A pure heart, an eager intellect, An unveiled spiritual perception, A brotherliness for all.

A readiness to give and receive advice and instruction,
A loyal sense of duty to the Teacher,
A willing obedience to the behests of TRUTH,
Once we have placed our confidence in,
And believe that Teacher to be in possession of it;

A courageous endurance of personal injustice,
A brave declaration of principles,
A valiant defense of those who are unjustly attacked,
And a constant eye to the ideal of human progression,
And perfection which the secret science depicts—

These are the golden stairs
Up the steps of which the learner may climb
To the Temple of Divine Wisdom.

-H. P. Blavatsky

#### The Three Objects of the Theosophical Society in New Zealand are:

- To form a nucleus of the Universal Kinship of Humanity, without distinction of race, ethnicity, creed, gender, sexual orientation, caste or colour.
- To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy and Science.
- To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in the human being.



### THEOSOPHY NZ ONLINE SERIES

# Exploring Congriougness

Join us for our Theosophical Sundays Online Series. Over five consecutive Sundays in June and July 2024, we'll be joined via Zoom by five different presenters from across the globe, each taking us on a unique journey in Exploring Consciousness.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Time</u>
Sunday	Jude	Our Conscious (R)evolution:	7.00PM
9 June	Currivan	Why Here & Why Now	
Sunday	Murray	Consciousness & the	3.00PM
16 June	Stentiford	Crucial Role of Meaning	
Sunday	Pablo	Scientific Validation of	3.00PM
23 June	Sender	Theosophical Clairvoyance	
Sunday 30 June	Dr Edi Bilimoria	Consciousness Came First	7.30PM
Sunday 7 July	Ravi Ravindra	Spiritual Search: East & West	11.00AM

MORE INFO AND REGISTER FOR FREE AT THEOSOPHY.NZ/EVENTS

# Happenings at HPB, Auckland

#### Pictures from Autumn Season in Auckland...

0

M

C

Н

F

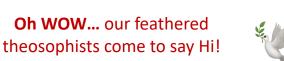
U

Ν

Members and friends having a great time!



Truly lovely evening with members and friends and International guest speaker Barry Bowden. (above)







TOS evening collage from the recent School of Theosophy with Barry Bowden





On Friday 24 May this picture was taken behind our lodge building ~ beautiful autumn leaves reminding us of the transitory nature of life itself

	Auckland Theosophical Centre 4 Warborough Avenue, Epsom, Auckland PROGRAMME 2024		
May 2024			
Monday 27 7.30 pm	Exploring Theosophy <i>Living in Wisdom</i> (1)  John Vorstermans		
	June 2024		
01 – 03 June	King's Birthday Weekend Please note the library is open		
Sunday 09 7.00 pm	National Theosophical Sundays Online Zoom Series  Our Conscious (R)evolution  Jude Currivan		
Monday 10 7.30 pm	Exploring Theosophy  Unfolding our True Nature: The Pilgrim's Journey (2)  Richard Sell		
Saturday 15 10.30 am – 12 noon	Saturday Morning Discussion Group Living Theosophy – what is Good Conduct Part II		
Sunday 16 3.00 pm	National Theosophical Sundays Online Zoom Series  Consciousness and the Crucial Role of Meaning  Murray Stentiford		
Monday 17 7.30 pm	Exploring Theosophy <b>Principles, Practice, Perception</b> (3) Renée Sell		
Sunday 23 3.00 pm	National Theosophical Sundays Online Zoom Series  Scientific Validation of Theosophical Clairvoyance  Pablo Sender		
Monday 24 7.30 pm	Exploring Theosophy <b>The Unfolding Spiritual Journey</b> (4)  Carole van Weede		
Sunday 30 7.30 pm	National Theosophical Sundays Online Zoom Series <b>Consciousness Came First</b> Dr. Edi Bilimoria		
	July 2024		
Monday 01 7.30 pm	Exploring Theosophy  Finding your Soul's Purpose (5)  Carole van Weede		
Sunday 07 11.00 am	National Theosophical Sundays Online Zoom Series <b>Spiritual Search: East &amp; West</b> Ravi Ravindra		
Monday 08 7.30 pm	Exploring Theosophy  The Parables of the Lotus Sutra & the Mystery of the Soul  Journey (6)  Wendy Rapp		

Saturday 13	Saturday Morning Discussion Group
10.30  am - 12  noon	Living Theosophy – what is Good Conduct Part III
Monday 15 7.30 pm	Exploring Theosophy
	The Mystery of Our Being (7)
	Renée Sell
Monday 22	Exploring Theosophy
7.30 pm	Discussion evening (8)
Monday 29	Film evening at the TS
7.30 pm	(final Monday evening before winter break)
	August 2024
	National Section Event: Immersion Weekend:
03 - 04 August	Theosophy, Exploring the Peaks and Valleys of Spiritual Life
05 - 04 August	With various speakers
	Must register event: Details in magazine or online at: theosophy.nz
05 – 26 August	Winter break

# Thoughts to ponder...



True simplicity springs not from ignorance, but from maturity of wisdom.

N. Sri Ram

Having been a member of the TS for many years now, and having seen my share of misunderstandings, I still find myself saying that the Theosophical Society is perfect in every way. It was founded by the Masters for their work. It is a repository for sublime teachings. The only problem with the TS, now and in the past, is the people – you and me. The fact is that all of us are undeveloped and imbalanced in countless ways. The beauty of it is that we are trying. In the Theosophical teachings we have the highest quality guidelines and intimations for this process of self-unfoldment. We are all attempting to perfect our imperfect natures.

Tim Boyd, International President