



theosophical centre

HPB Newsletter

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Thank you to those who attended our White Lotus celebration last Sunday, it is an important date on the Theosophical Society's calendar. The evening was enjoyed by all, thanks to the organisation of Renee Sell. The New Spirit Festival was again a great way to get the TS out amongst the public and I personally had a great time behind our stall. Many thanks to all who helped out.

On another topic, I feel our member's meetings need to contain more participation from our members. We need more input for discussion at these evenings from more of you! This was originally a main function of TS Lodges. You don't have to be an expert on the subject. It may be a book or an article that you have read. It may be a topic in current events that you can see fitting onto the framework of the Ageless Wisdom. It doesn't matter if you feel you can speak for 2 minutes or half an hour, remember the rest of us will be there to carry on the discussion. So, if you have anything you wish raised at a meeting please let me know.

Finally, in the light of these trying times, natural disasters and disturbing world events, please remember our special meditation evenings around the full moon times of May and June. Help our Lodge to radiate some light into our world.

Namaste, Darryl

MEMBERS MEETINGS

Opening Doors Meditations Tuesday May 17th & Thursday June 16th @ 7:00pm

Held by Ian Rutherford



Theosophy in Silence Start time is 7:15pm
Sunday 8th, 15th & 29th May Sunday 12th & 19th June

NB] no meditations on May 1st or 22nd & June 5th or 26th

(Reasons for the above dates - the Hall is in use for some of the evenings, long weekend after the Self Transformation Seminar)

The Process of Self-Transformation June 4th – 6th Queens Birthday Weekend

A three day seminar on **The Process of Self-Transformation** (ST) will be held in the HPB Lodge in Auckland over Queens Birthday weekend. Essentially these seminars explore our relationship with ourselves and through interactive learning and exercises, look into our psychological, emotional and spiritual natures.

The seminar series not only coaches us to have a more conscious relationship with ourselves and others, but in its deepest aspects reconnects us to the mystical nature of life and all existence.

One of the major components of the course looks at how to deal with 'push buttons'. In our relationships with others, 1001 things pass unnoticed. Then 'our front doorbell rings' in response to a chance remark, or a deliberate insult seems to lock on like a guided missile and hit right on target.

If you would like to know more or register, send an email to John Vorstermans at john@vorstermans.co.nz or give John or Margarita a call ☎ (09) 815-1627 For more information visit <http://www.theosophy.org.nz/branches/hpb>

Coming up...

Tuesday	17-May	7.00pm	Meditation Evening	Wesak Meditation
Monday	23-May	7.30pm	Discussion Group	T B A
		7.30pm	NEW MEMBERS	INTRODUCTION TO THEOSOPHY – FOUNDATIONS
Thursday	26-May	7.30pm	Members Meeting	
Sunday	29-May	7.15pm	Meditation Evening	Theosophy in Silence
Monday	30-May	7.30pm	Discussion Group	T B A

		7.30pm	NEW MEMBERS	INTRODUCTION TO THEOSOPHY – FOUNDATIONS
Friday	3-Jun	7.15pm	FILM EVENING	
Saturday	4-Jun			PST WEEKEND SEMINAR
Sunday	5-Jun			PST WEEKEND SEMINAR
Monday	6-Jun			PST WEEKEND SEMINAR
Sunday	12-Jun	7.15pm	Meditation Evening	Theosophy in Silence
Monday	13-Jun	7.30pm	Discussion Group	TBA
		7.30pm	NEW MEMBERS	INTRODUCTION TO THEOSOPHY - The HUMAN JOURNEY
Thursday	16-Jun	7.00pm	Meditation Evening	Humanity Meditation
Sunday	19-Jun	7.15pm	Meditation Evening	Theosophy in Silence
Monday	20-Jun	7.30pm	Discussion Group	TBA
		7.30pm	NEW MEMBERS	INTRODUCTION TO THEOSOPHY - The HUMAN JOURNEY

NB] venue - HPB Hall unless otherwise stated

LIBRARY & BOOKSHOP



Library help needed on Mondays & Wednesdays !!!!

2x volunteers required - one for each day, between 11.30am – 2.30pm
(same person for both days is also acceptable)

We have lost two of our library helpers so we are desperately in need of some volunteers. Even one day a month would be helpful and full training will be given. Please contact Johanna Vroegop on ☎ 8177087 or johannav@orcon.net.nz if you are able to help. Meanwhile the library will not be open during the day on Monday but instead will be open before and after the Monday night meeting, from 7pm.

Our numbers of volunteers are dwindling and if no helpers can be found for these days, sadly, the Library will have to remain closed. This would mean the Library would only be open on Fridays and at meetings. So...can you help?

BOOK REVIEW: 'THE PERENNIAL PHILOSOPHY' by Aldous Huxley \$32

The Perennial Philosophy is a masterpiece of English literature - one of the most important books of the twentieth century written in our language. It is the ultimate introduction to all forms of Eastern philosophical and religious thought. But it is more than just an introduction; it is a comprehensive and exhaustive crash course in Eastern religion. This book is an indispensable guide to improving the quality of life simply through a change in attitude. There is an unreal amount of information crammed into this volume. It is in fact a "bible" of sorts. If our society were to be annihilated in some sort of catastrophe, and only one book were to survive for the remaining people to discover, this book would probably be the most advantageous one they could find. It may not be the most profound book ever written, but it is extremely valuable because of the amount and variety of historical information conveyed. It provides wisdom from the viewpoints of dozens of important philosophers and religious thinkers. There are other works that may be more modern and far-reaching, and others that may be more unique and individualistic. But *The Perennial Philosophy* accomplishes exactly what it set out to do, which is catalogue and explain profound quotes from a wide variety of great thinkers. Some readers might have preferred that Huxley interject more of his own ideas, but if you want to benefit from the wisdom of dozens of great authors without having to buy each one of their books (if they're even available), then I highly recommend that you buy this book.

New Procedure

In keeping with the National Theosophical body, HPB Committee has been looking at their process of governance. HQ Executive have recently drawn up a Code of Conduct for HQ membership, and in line with this, HPB Committee have been doing the same for their members. As members, everyone will receive a copy of this, and any associated by-laws which come into being as a result.

The intention is to formally greet new members at the Members' Meeting nearest their date of joining, and hand them a small welcome package: copies of At the Feet of the Master and 'Oh Hidden Life', a bookmark on which is written The Three Great Truths, and a copy of the Code of Conduct.

We know that existing members are a friendly, welcoming bunch and will naturally extend their friendship to newcomers, but it was felt that a return to the old custom of being formally welcomed by the President at a Members' Meeting acknowledged this step in the newcomer's life journey and their quest for knowledge and self development.

The TS Stall at the Recent New Spirit Festival



Building Maintenance

Our roof has been upgraded – and in the process, a number of other small (and not so small!) jobs on our building! This has proved to be a very expensive, time consuming exercise, but very worthwhile, as it will ensure the longevity of our beautiful premises.

There is still work to be done to redo the process for any roof overflow, but this will be completed within the next couple of months. In addition to this, an alert member has discovered a few weatherboards that need replacing – this too will be seen to as soon as our hard-working, building-maintenance Miracle Man returns from some work in the South Island. Once this is completed, the building will be 'chemwashed' to help maintain it.

The recent Working Bee to clear the rubbish from behind the building was very successful - the monstrous Skip was completely full at the end of the day. Members came and went as they had the time, so there was a rotation of people throughout the day. To the delight of the tired labourers, some members set their energies to providing delicious 'fuel' to keep them going. It was not only essential to keep the energy levels up, it was also very enjoyable and much appreciated!!

Thanks to all who gave their time and energy to this project. It was a real example of practical Brotherhood in action.

PS Your ideas are welcome as to the form of the meditation area we hope to create outside of the library!

The team of helpers at the recent HPB Working Bee

