



# *Hamilton Lodge of the Theosophical Society*

February 2006

Greetings Members and Friends,

Our fond New Year wishes to you all; we hope you will enjoy and profit from the forthcoming Sunday evenings. The National Convention in Whangarei has already passed with plenty of hope for greater understanding by more people of our spiritual nature and union with the Supreme and each other. As usual, we start the year with our annual picnic. Details are shown below, but Brian apologises for the error in our December newsletter - the date is not the 20th, but Sunday 19th February.

## **February Programme**

### **19 February**

We start with our annual picnic, this time at the Rose Gardens. Please assemble at about 5 o'clock with a picnic tea at the band rotunda (Go to Gate 2, opposite Grey Street, though you will have to go up to the Galloway roundabout and come back if you are driving from the Cobham Bridge side). The rotunda is on the right of the car park. We hope to see as many of you as possible; if it is too wet we'll assemble at the Lodge – just ring one of us if in doubt.

### **26 February**

Vicki will give us a report on the Whangarei convention, then Brian will make his grandly named Presidential Address, though the title and details are still uncertain at this stage!

### **Nice One**

This comes from an Auckland TS member - hope you like it:

Many years ago in a small Indian village, a farmer had the misfortune of owing a large sum of money to the old and ugly village moneylender who fancied his daughter and proposed that he would forgo the farmer's debt if he could marry his daughter. Both the farmer and his daughter were horrified by the proposal, so he suggested a compromise: he would put a black pebble and a white pebble into a bag - if the girl drew the white pebble, the debt would be forgiven; otherwise the farmer must pay the debt or let him marry his daughter. Should the girl refuse he would throw the debtor into prison.

He then picked up two pebbles from the path, but the sharp-eyed girl saw that they were both black. Now all of her options were unthinkable. She quickly picked out a pebble and dropped it on to the path, saying "Oh how clumsy; I'm so sorry... but never mind, we can see the colour of the remaining pebble, then deduce that of the one I picked". Moral: never underestimate the power of lateral thinking (or the cunning of young women, for that matter).

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## **73 Anglesea Street, Hamilton**

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Secretary: Vicki Pennington Tel. 07 823 1915 Email [john\\_vicki@hotmail.co](mailto:john_vicki@hotmail.co)

### **Our Vice-President**

You will be pleased to know that Charles Sitwell, who is also Vice-President of the New Zealand Section, has gone on a two-month study trip to Crotona, the TS Centre in California. We will miss him in the interim,

but he will be back in April. We wish him a productive time and look forward to his return.

### **International TOS Conference**

Diana Dunningham-Chapotin writes:

“Dear Friends,

I am happy to inform you that the American Section of the Theosophical Society has offered to host the second international Conference of the Theosophical Order of Service from \*July 27 to 30, 2007\*, following the one held at Adyar in January 2005. Our International President, Radha Burnier, has given her blessing for this initiative. Participants are invited to attend all or part of the TS summer school and annual convention immediately preceding it. The attached announcement is ready for publication. Thank you for sharing this information as widely as possible. If you have any questions at all about the Conference, don't hesitate to get in touch.”

For full details and the announcement, please contact Brian or TSHQ.

If you shut your door to all errors, truth will be shut out.

Rabindranath Tagore

With kind regards from Brian, Charles, Christine, David, Fiona, John, Leo, Tony and Vicki.

Sender: 73 Anglesea St. Hamilton

(band rotunda - Gate 2)

**26th Convention Report**  
(Vicki Pennington)

**Presidential Address**  
(Brian Stokes)  
7.30 pm at the Lodge

The Lodge meets on Sundays  
at 7.30 pm.  
A light supper is provided.

### **Programme: February 2005**

**19th Annual Picnic**  
5 pm at the Rose Gardens