



# Hamilton Lodge Of the Theosophical Society Newsletter for 2010

## June Issue

**President:** Tim Sitwell

26 Hillcrest Road,  
Hamilton. 3216

Email: timsitwell@gmail.com Ph: 07 856 6332

Txt: 0274 846697



**Secretary:** Vicki Pennington

142 Victoria Street,  
Cambridge. 3434

Email: john\_vicki@hotmail.com Ph: 07 823 1915

Dear Theosophical Friends,

Here we are at what appears to be the darkest coldest time of the year. Midwinter, when the days are at their shortest and the nights at their longest and the sun has its lowest arc in the sky. Our spirits often echo this darkness.

Medicos call it Seasonal Affective Disorder which is just another way of saying 'We are Light deficient!' Each of us feels that pull of the season that can appear as gloom when the great cosmic clock returns to the Winter Solstice. It has been recognized — and celebrated — in every culture since time immemorial.

Essentially the darkest days are the time of greatest transition. The annual war of light versus darkness, life versus death, cold versus warmth, abundance versus shortage, it spells hope and heralds a turning point in the cycles of nature and the cycles of man. It is a time of introspection. It is a time when the tree is bare but the buds are fattening.

Solstice celebrations are Universal and probably much older than we know. Not only linked to religious holy days, paganism, fertility rituals, and Celtic-druidic rites, some Theosophical writers suggest that the Winter solstice is the most sacred of the four sacred seasons and vestiges of ancient belief and ritual actually camouflage a deeper and more mystical meaning than is superficially seen. Yuletide, Christmas, Beltane and Light Worship in many forms still permeate our entire spiritual outlook, as we continue year after year to celebrate this in some form or another.

**To celebrate this holy time we are planning a midwinter feast at the lodge rooms on Saturday 19th June at 5pm. It will be a joyous happy evening, so bring your friends and family and a potluck celebration plate. If you wish you can share a solstice story, poem or song.**

Our first meeting for June will be on Sunday 13th. We will have our usual potluck shared meal at 6pm. Then Carmel will give us a brief overview of her time at Tauhara in April when Ravi Ravindra was the guest speaker, and this will be followed by 'What calls you Pilgrim?' a talk by Ravi Ravindra captured on DVD.

On Sunday 20th of June, we have June Vallyon from the Tauranga branch talking on her research into Atlantis, that mysterious continent and civilization that is lost in time and myth, June will examine the scientific, geological and cultural possibilities for the location of Atlantis, as described by Plato, Edger Cayce, and modern Theosophical writers. June is an ex member of the Hamilton Lodge and is knowledgeable in many fields. This will be very interesting for you Atlantis theorists.

On Sunday 27th of June, we have a local representative of the Baha'i Faith to tell us the History and foundation of the Baha'i religion and share with us their beliefs and practices. This relatively modern religion has spread quickly around the world and enjoys a large following in New Zealand. Be sure to come along and find out what it is all about.

**No meetings over  
Queens Birthday Weekend  
3rd, 4th or 6th of June**

## THURSDAY STUDY GROUP

Every Thursday at 7:30pm, Study evenings will resume from June 10th. Hearing from Eckhart Tolle gave us much inspiration, but that is not the end of the spiritual path, it is merely a beginning. A place to expand from and venture forth.

## FRIDAY DVD EVENINGS

Every Friday at 7:30pm, watch documentaries, films, talks, or spiritual-cinema. All screenings will have Theosophical themes. Bring a friend, all welcome.

## SATURDAY

### SOCIAL EVENINGS

Celebrations for Members, Friends and Families to enjoy. 19th June, a Mid Winter Feast, Coming soon -18th September.

*“We don’t need more teachings in this world. Our minds are already saturated with such things. What we need are more people actually practicing these teachings in their daily lives. We need an intense commitment on our part. Only then will our hearts taste the sweet nectar of the teachings (Dharma) and only then will our lives truly transform. Om Shanti (Peace)”*  
- Hari Shyam.

“Death is not the opposite of life. Life has no opposite. The opposite of death is birth. Life is eternal.” - Eckhart Tolle

“God can be realized through all paths. All religions are true. The important thing is to reach the roof. You can reach it by stone stairs or by wooden stairs or by bamboo steps or by a rope. You can also climb up by a bamboo pole.” - Ramakrishna

With best wishes from your Committee: Natalie Alexandra-Browning, Carmel Levick, Vicki Pennington, Peter Marley, Suzanne Wood, Una Tasker, Bronwyn Llewellyn, Chris Galbreath, Barry Cope, and Tim Sitwell.

Sender: The Theosophical Society,  
73 Angelsea Street, Hamilton.

### Programme Summary for June 2010

Sunday 6th Queen’s Birthday (No meeting)	Saturday 19th 5pm Mid Winter Feast
Sunday 13th 3:00 pm Committee Meeting	Sunday 20th 7:30 pm ‘Atlantis - Fact, Fiction and Philosophy’ - June Vallyon
6:00 pm Pot Luck Meal	Sunday 27th 7:30 pm ‘The Baha’i Religion’
7:30 pm ‘School of Theosophy’ Report by Carmel Levick Followed by “What calls you pilgrim?” -Ravi Ravindra DVD	All meetings are followed by a light supper. A gold coin donation in the box provided would be much appreciated.