

Vasanta Garden School Reunion

Do you know anyone who went to the Vasanta Garden School? Did you go, yourself??

Located at what is now 10 Warborough Avenue, Epsom, Auckland, Vasanta School provided an enlightened, holistic education from 1919 to 1959. The site has continued to be a significant base for the Theosophical Society in New Zealand.

This reunion is a once-only opportunity to get together with others who shared this unique start to their lives. **Every one is welcome, regardless of whether they attended the school or not.**

When and where

Sat. 3rd October 2009, 11am - 4pm approx.
HPB Lodge of the Theosophical Society
4 Warborough Avenue, Epsom
Auckland, New Zealand 1051

Accommodation

Limited Accommodation is available at the Theosophical National Centre, 10 Warborough Avenue, Epsom. This is Vasanta House.

Cost \$30-\$70 depending on the room (this is a room share basis)

Bed linen provided.

Please abide by the vegetarian, smoke-free and alcohol-free requirements of the house.

If you are interested in staying, please contact Marilyn on 09 523-1797.

Registration

Please register by 18th of September 2009. There's been a lot of interest in this and we need to know the numbers for catering. To register, contact

Margaret Kelly 027 448-1876 jayandemk@xtra.co.nz or

Sue Howat 09 832-2662 imprint@xtra.co.nz

The registration fee of \$35 covers a vegetarian lunch, a DVD of memorabilia, and entertainment by the NZ Round Table.

We are looking forward to seeing you!

Brief History

From "A Hundred Years of Theosophy in Auckland" by Jack Patterson

In 1918 a small band of enthusiastic Auckland members of the Theosophical Society purchased an estate near Mt St John, Epsom, with a view to commencing a school based on the Theosophical ideals in education. The school opened in 1919, using the present Vasanta House. Later two open-air classrooms and an assembly hall were built. In 1923 Miss Bertha Darroch became principal and, under her guidance, Vasanta Garden School flourished, with a roll that reached nearly 100 pupils. Unfortunately, after she retired, the difficulty of finding capable teachers with an understanding of Theosophical ideas, caused the School to close in 1959. The property reverted to the New Zealand Section, part of it was sold and part of it was subdivided into residential sections on leasehold tenure. This brought more members into the area which has always been a Theosophical Centre.



Vasanta House, with the building that now houses the Vegetarian Society peeking through on the right.



One of the beautiful stained glass windows at Vasanta House.