

THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

New Plymouth Branch



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Website: <https://theosophy.nz/centres/new-plymouth> Facebook: www.facebook.com/TheosophyNP/

President/Treas.: Jim Scrivener, Ph 021-2511 011 or 06-758 3511; tsnewplymouth@gmail.com

Vice President: Nicola Haines, Ph 021-316 615; nicolainthestudio@gmail.com

Committee: Norah Lambie, Donna Willard-Moore, Jo Watson, Benjamin Upton

PROGRAMME / NEWSLETTER July – December, 2023 revision 1

July 2023	Meeting Type*
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Wednesday 12th 5.30pm An informal chat with <u>National President Richard Sell</u>	MF
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A chance for an informal chat with the new National President.

Followed by a potluck dinner 6.15pm. Please bring a vegetarian dish to share.

Venue: Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth.

Wednesday 12th 7.30pm 'The Seven Human Temperaments' with <u>National President Richard Sell</u>	P
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From the unknown source, the creation of universes their springs forth energy throughout the galaxy. These powerful forces are seven in kind and effect our solar system, our planet earth and us, in fact on every level of manifestation. We can see the amazing diversity of nature and in the human being. Who cannot but be impressed by the richness of diversity, talents and complexity that makes up the collective humanity from its individual parts. Understanding these human temperaments is helpful in our own journey of self-discovery and is useful in understanding the different abilities and approach to life that others too may have on the journey of life.

Venue: Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth.

Wednesday 26th 7.30pm Stories of the Apostles by <u>Donna Willard-Moore</u>	P
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The 1st group - writers of the bible; 2nd group - further Histories of the Apostles, - Filling out the others, and what happened.

Venue: Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth. Or, use Zoom Link below.

August 2023	Meeting Type*
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rev1 Wednesday 9th 7.30pm A History of the Bible by <u>Donna Willard-Moore and Nikki Haines</u>	P
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A general bible history - what was removed and what was added, when it moved from Latin to national languages. Related to this - how the stories were told in art, and how the artists or politicians changed the stories.

Venue: Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth. Or, use Zoom Link below

Wednesday 30th 5.30pm 'The Work of the Group Soul' by <u>Julia Tarnawsky</u>	MF
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"The necessity of bringing groups of people into incarnation together, in order not only that they may work out mutual karmic interrelations, but also that they may learn to labour together towards one great end..." *Inner Life Vol II 378 CW Leadbeater 1911*. In this account the following elements are significant: group resonance, the etheric double, the Seven Rays, deva collaboration, and plasma.

Followed by potluck dinner 6.15pm. Please bring a vegetarian dish to share

Venue: Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth.

Wednesday 30th 7.30pm 'Synthesis in Healing' by <u>Orest Tarnawsky</u>	P
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There is coherence noticeable in five recently examined books that for me validate some key concepts relating to health: Microbiome (Zach Bush); Past lives; Patterns of thought/feelings established in youth; Entities.

These concepts contribute as causative factors within CONSCIOUSNESS as underlying manifesting health conditions. For better or for worse!

Crystalline formations created by "thought/feelings" hold information that limits free expression of life. They are a sound-form of dissonance restricting free flow of soul energy. These thoughts relate to "the Dweller on the Threshold" contrasting with the "Angel of the Presence". Their resolution will allow progression on the path of return.

Venue: Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth.

*Meeting types: MF = Members & Friends; P = Public (all are welcome)

September 2023		Meeting Type*
Wednesday 6th	7.30pm Members' Book Reviews	MF
Bring your latest inspiring book to give a brief review to other members. Venue: Jim Scrivener's place 30 Hine St, New Plymouth (ph 021-2511 011)		
Wednesday 20th	7.30pm Sound as Practical Magic by <u>Benjamin Upton</u>	P
Vibration is fundamental to the operation of our universe: is there latent power to be found by examining sound? Venue: Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth.		
October 2023		Meeting Type*
Sunday 1st	9.30am–4pm 'An Exploration of Theosophy' by <u>John Vorstermans</u> and <u>Renée Sell</u>	P
Value and approach to studying theosophy; Cyclic evolution; Keynote of Theosophy – a journey of self discovery; A discussion session; The society's purpose and a recap of the day, and feedback. Teas and lunch provided. (A free event but registration will be required for catering purposes. Look out later for a link to register.) Venue: Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth.		
Wednesday 18th	5.30pm HPB's 'Light on the Path' by <u>Jim Scrivener</u>	MF
An introduction to this important little book, which was the last H.P. Blavatsky wrote. <i>Followed by a pot luck dinner at 6.15pm - please bring a vegetarian dish to share</i> Venue: Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth.		
Wednesday 18th	7.30pm Annual General Meeting of our branch (See agenda page 3.)	MF
Venue: Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth.		
November 2023		Meeting Type*
Wednesday 1st	7.30pm Discussion – what got you interested in theosophy?	MF
Everyone has a different story about how they came across theosophy and the TS – a chance for an informal chat. Venue: Jim Scrivener's place 30 Hine St, New Plymouth (ph 021-2511 011)		
Wednesday 15th	7.30pm Unmasking the Void by <u>Benjamin Upton</u>	P
Within the limits of observation we know of nothing but vibration and void. Could this basic division really be the source of all that we experience? Venue: Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth.		
December 2023		Meeting Type*
Wednesday 6th?	time TBA End of year either Potluck dinner/ lunch/ picnic or visit to a café?	MF
Venue and date are flexible - suggestions?		

Note: Events may change due to unforeseen circumstances — check the latest programme at <https://theosophy.nz/centres/new-plymouth> and scroll to the bottom of the page, where you can download the latest pdf Newsletter.

*Meeting types: MF = Members & Friends; P = Public (all are welcome)

Zoom meetings: While in-person meetings are definitely the best, if you can't make it person, you can join the some meetings - those marked, by Zoom. (The link is the same for all meetings) **Click on the link below**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4642392089?pwd=bHcyMUJ6SWVzWnZOYkhseUkvTTMxQT09>

or use the following : **Zoom Meeting ID: 464 239 2089** Passcode: **9aR2ZP**

Help with Zoom: let Jim know if you'd like help using Zoom. Ph 021-2511011 or email tsnewplymouth@gmail.com

Brief biographies of the speakers listed

Donna Willard-Moore, BFA, MA, MFA is an Artist, sculptor, art historian, iconographer, public presenter, researcher and joined NP Branch of the Theosophical Society in 2010.

Jim Scrivener is a retired architect with an interest in music and theosophy. He plays french horn in the Taranaki Symphony Orchestra and since 1988 has been involved in various roles of the NP Branch of the Theosophical Society.

Nicola Haines is a Teacher, installation Artist and Designer, based in Taranaki. She has had a lifelong interest in Spirituality and Ancient traditions, and joined the New Plymouth Branch of the Theosophical Society in 2018

Benjamin Upton is a software developer from New Plymouth who spends his spare time uncovering the connections between the scientific and the spiritual. A keen follower of scientific theories that have been swept under the carpet by the mainstream scientific dogma, he hopes one day we as a collective will experience a consciousness renaissance.

Richard Sell comes from a Theosophical family in New Zealand and first joined the Theosophical Society as a teenager. Richard loves all things theosophical, but he is especially interested in the self-awareness and transformation process that is undertaken by the individual and how this can be applied in everyday living. He is a history buff and theosophical history is near to his heart. He is the National President of the Theosophical Society in NZ, and a past President of HPB Lodge in Auckland. Richard has presented throughout New Zealand as a National Speaker and has also presented internationally at Adyar, Indonesia, The Philippines, and the World Congress in Singapore. He contributes articles to theosophical magazines and is very active in promoting theosophy as a founder of the theosophy.world resource website.

Renée Sell is a dedicated student of the Ancient Wisdom teachings and has been active in the Theosophical Society in various capacities over the last 25 years and currently President of the Auckland Branch. She is passionate about weaving the Ancient Wisdom teachings into everyday life and loves to share and explore theosophy with all who touch its shores. She is a past National Vice-president of TSNZ.)

John Vorstermans has a diploma in Ayurveda healing and herbology and for the last 40 years has studied many aspects of Theosophy – the ageless wisdom. Through their practical application the real learning takes place and being able to share this with others so they might be inspired to do the same is one of his goals. He is a past National President of TSNZ .

Julia Tarnawsky. As a teacher and private- practising psychologist earlier in life, Julia's interest has always been in psycho-spiritual development. She has taught in the Adelaide Lodge and has done several speaking tours for the TS in New Zealand. She particularly likes to engage people in the influence of Theosophical ideas on their inner and outer lives. Julia has a Master of Science degree in Esoteric Psychology from the University of the Seven Rays. She lives and teaches with her husband Orest at the Southern Lights Centre meditation school at Akaroa www.southernlights.org.nz

Orest Tarnawsky. With tertiary study in visual arts and education, Orest had an early career as an art teacher and sculptor. Deep interest in the Ageless Wisdom teachings led him to attaining a Masters of Science in Esotericism through the University of the Seven Rays. Combined, these developed Orest's passion for and skill in mentoring those on the quest towards awakening consciousness and in teaching the Ageless Wisdom teachings through creative expression, study and meditation to all that enquire the way. He has a particular interest in plasma, sound and electricity in their microcosmic and macrocosmic aspects. Orest has a Diploma in teaching, Studied Sculpture, Bachelor of Arts (visual arts), is a Teacher of art/photography and has a Master of Science in Esotericism (esoteric psychology)

Annual General Meeting Agenda

- Present/ Apologies
- Minutes of last AGM 19/10/22 & Matters Arising
- Reports: President's, Treasurer's, Library
- Election of Officers
- Delegate to Convention
- General Business

Please do come to the Pot luck dinner and AGM – and for those who have been a member for more than two years (which is most of you), consider being available to stand for committee, or if you are a new member consider being co-opted. We need new committee members! Many of you will already be on committees - this is one is not particularly onerous – we aim for monthly meetings timed with a pot luck dinner prior to either a Public or a Members & Friends meeting. Most meetings are devoted to planning forthcoming programmes and how we can serve our members better. If you are on the current committee but are unable to attend the AGM, could you email the president and advise if you are available to stand for the committee again.

Ideas for future talks or events: Please get in touch with any of the committee with your ideas.

Members & Friends meetings

If you're thinking of bringing a friend to a members & friends meeting, as a courtesy to the hosts, please phone them to let them know beforehand. Ideally we invite people to members & friends meetings after they have been to at least a couple of public meetings and show interest. If your friend hasn't made it to a public meeting and is still interested, then either point them to the Theosophy New Zealand website <https://theosophy.nz/> or hand them first some of the pamphlets and the 'green book' as an introduction, so they will have some idea of what we're about. Ring or email Jim Scrivener (see details above), for extra copies of pamphlets etc.

New Plymouth Branch Programme/Newsletter

We publish this usually every 1-2 months with the programme. We welcome a short article, quotation, event report, book review etc. either your own thoughts or others' that is theosophically related, or generally helpful, please email it in to Jim at tsnewplymouth@gmail.com While inclusion is not guaranteed we will do our best depending on content and space.

NATIONAL EVENTS

see <https://theosophy.nz/events>
Immersion Weekend: 5-6 August

Other events outside our branch – keep an eye on the Theosophy NZ website <https://theosophy.nz/> for upcoming events you might be able to attend. Also keep an eye on neighbouring branch activities via the pages at <https://theosophy.nz/centres> (e.g. Whanganui, Hamilton, Palmerston North, Napier, Wellington) - if there is a talk or event you'd like to attend, email tsnewplymouth@gmail.com to see if other members here are also interested in getting a car-load together.

Events accessible by Zoom

In addition to checking what's on at other NZ branches on the TSNZ website, from time to time some international Zoom talks are available from the very active Theosophical Society in the Philippines and I endeavour to send links to members in emails as they come.

Other resources on the web – Theosophy World

<https://www.theosophy.world/>

Have a look at a wealth of articles publications, ebooks, video and audio archives, all searchable and perfect to help you research something.

New Plymouth Branch Library of over 750 books is now in shelves sorted & catalogued by author at the president's place. Work is under way to classify them by subject to make it easier to use. To visit, please phone or text Jim on 021-2511 011 (or email tsnewplymouth@gmail.com) to arrange a time. We have recently received some new books from National Office.

Membership subscriptions reminder

Subscription invoices issued on 23th August, 2022 for the Sept2022-Aug2023 year were due on 20th September, 2022. A reminder that we have to lapse members when they are a full 2 years in arrears, so please check if you've had a reminder, or if you have any questions, email the treasurer Jim (tsnewplymouth@gmail.com) or ph 021-2511 011. Even if you can't make it to meetings, bear in mind the subscriptions are at a similar level to those for National Section members who are not affiliated to any branch, but still receive the magazine and all the other advantages of membership.

Two of our members are running independent courses in New Plymouth currently:

Donna Willard-Moore

- **Art/drawing** classes; Details - phone 027-349 8372; or email dwm2442@gmail.com

Katherine Kingsbury

– **'Meditation and Relaxation for Beginners'**.

Details - phone 027-697 6660 or email kkingsbury@xtra.co.nz

Appearances do not bind, but attachments do. So, Naropa, cut off the attachments.

Longchen Rabjam, from 'The Practice of Dzogchen. Reprinted from The Theosophist, Vol. 144.7, April, 2023