

THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

New Plymouth Branch



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

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Vice President: Donna Willard-Moore, Ph 027 349 8372; dwm2442@gmail.com

Committee: Jan Gargan, Mary Ann Turbitt, Jo Watson, Benjamin Upton, Dennis Carswell, Teena Carswell

PROGRAMME / NEWSLETTER April — May 2026 - revision 1

April Meeting Type*

Wednesday 1st 5.30pm **Committee meeting** M

Following a healing service and short meditation (please bring one you'd like to share), members are welcome to observe the committee meeting

Followed by a pot luck dinner at 6.30pm - please bring a vegetarian dish to share, and stay for the 7.30pm talk

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

Wednesday 1st 7.30pm **Reincarnation Through the Ages, Pt 2** by Ingrid Vercammen P

From the ancient Egyptians, Greeks, Druids, early Christianity and Eastern traditions to modern Theosophy teachings, beliefs in reincarnation have shaped humanity's understanding of life, death, and purpose.

This second talk of a three-part series, examines scientific, psychological, and near-death research, while Part 3 delves into the soul's journey between lives and the lessons carried across lifetimes.

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

Wednesday 15th 5.30pm **Discussion on the previous talk** MF

Following a healing service and short meditation, (please bring one you'd like to share), a chance to discuss the previous talk by Ingrid Vercammen, books you've been reading, or anything else.

Followed by a pot luck dinner at 6.30pm - please bring a vegetarian dish to share, and stay for the 7.30pm talk

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

Wednesday 15th 7.30pm **The Seven Levels of Creation** by Scott Baker P

"The Seven Levels of Creation" is an overview of the divine cosmos and its organization into seven distinct levels or densities. Each level operates at a different vibration and can be compared to the seven key notes in a musical octave, Do, Re, Me, Fa, So, La, Ti. We are at a critical moment in human history as we are in a transition from the 3rd vibratory density to the 4th density of Christ Consciousness and love. This is called the time of harvest.

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

May Meeting Type*

Wednesday 6th 5.30pm **Committee meeting** M

Following a healing service and short meditation (please bring one you'd like to share), members are welcome to observe the committee meeting

Followed by a pot luck dinner at 6.30pm - please bring a vegetarian dish to share, and stay for the 7.30pm talk

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

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Wednesday 6th 7.30pm **The Mahatma Letters** by Jim Scrivener P

An introduction to the letters between two Mahatmas (also called Masters of the Wisdom or Adepts) and Mr A. P. Sinnett and others between 1880 and 1884 soon after the founding of the Theosophical Society. They offer a profound exploration of esoteric philosophy, detailing the nature of the cosmos, the evolution of humanity, the laws of Karma and Reincarnation, and the hierarchy of the Masters of Wisdom. These letters are held at the British Library. What is their authenticity and significance?

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

***Meeting types:** M = Members; MF = Members & Friends;
P = Public (all are welcome - suggested koha \$2 Members; \$5 Public)

Wednesday 20th 5.30pm Discussion on the previous talk

MF

Following a healing service and short meditation (please bring one you'd like to share), a chance to discuss the previous talk by Jim Scrivener, books you've been reading, or anything else.

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

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Wednesday 20th 7.30pm New discoveries in the ancient world by Donna Willard-Moore

P

A look at new discoveries which keep changing everything we know. Dating of artefacts is reaching further back; more research on intact DNA fragments found in inhospitable environments and the implications of the immigration patterns of some of the people studied—who they were and where they were going.

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

***Meeting types: M = Members; MF = Members & Friends; P = Public** (all are welcome - *suggested koha \$2 Members; \$5 Public*)

Note: Events may change due to unforeseen circumstances — check the latest programme at theosophy.nz/centres/new-plymouth where you can download the latest pdf Newsletter.

Zoom meetings: Some meetings are noted in the 'Venue' part "Or, use Zoom link below". While in-person meetings are definitely the best, if you can't make it person, you can join those ones, 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

**Note: From time to time, the meetings listed with a Zoom option cannot be zoomed for technical or other reasons. We apologise in advance for the inconvenience.*

Brief biographies of some of the speakers

Ingrid Vercammen is an intuitive entrepreneur, author, and former psychotherapist with over three decades of experience in emotional development and spiritual exploration. She holds a Master's Degree in Political and Social Sciences from KU Leuven and spent many years in Belgium practicing psychotherapy, using modalities such as NLP, Voice Dialogue, Regression Therapy, Hypnosis, Script-As, and guided visualisation. She also taught seminars on positive thinking, non-verbal communication, meditation, and conflict handling.

After emigrating to New Zealand, Ingrid co-founded Van Dyck Fine Foods, the company behind the award-winning 'Marcel's' pancakes brand. Under her leadership the company grew into a successful international business.

Her later work in women's empowerment led to the creation of Women Beyond Ordinary, a platform dedicated to strengthening women's inner leadership and confidence.

A member of the Theosophical Society since 2023 — though long connected to spiritual study — Ingrid brings a grounded, life-experienced, and open perspective to the topic of reincarnation

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.

Donna Willard-Moore has a robust research background, presenting at numerous national and international conferences, primarily focusing on Integral Theory, educational topics, and art history.

She moved to New Zealand in 1996 and discovered the New Zealand Theosophical Society in 2010, where she was delighted by the learning and research opportunities it offered. The organization features extraordinary speakers addressing relevant topics, fostering a sense of community among fellow researchers and friends who share her passion for discovery, writing, and research.

Born in Lubbock, Texas, and raised near Houston, Donna holds a BFA, MA, and MFA (all with honours) from the University of Houston and the University of Missouri. She has taught at 12 American universities and served as an Assistant Professor at William Woods University.

Brief biographies of some of the speakers continued

Scott Baker is an internationally accomplished spiritual teacher and martial arts master with over 50 years of experience. He is a native of New Zealand but immigrated to the USA in 1985 to attend university. After graduating magna cum laude, he went on to earn a PhD in psychology in 1995 and spent more than 30 years teaching leadership skills within different corporations throughout the USA and internationally. He returned to his native home in 2015 to dedicate himself to the study of the Law of One, Kabbalah, and Hermetic principles. He is now retired and lives in the blissful countryside of Taranaki, between the mountain and the sea, spending up to 3 hours a day in meditation.

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

Members & Friends meetings

If you've been to a few public meetings or are a friend of a current member, check out first the Theosophy New Zealand website <https://theosophy.nz/> to get an idea about the Society is about. Then, feel free to attend the Members & Friends meetings. These meetings begin with a Healing Service for the benefit of people we know personally, who are currently ill. This is followed by a short meditation. (Feel free to bring a suitable short meditation.) The rest of the meeting is devoted to further discussion on the previous public talk or some other theosophical idea, and is a good way of widening one's perspective.

New Plymouth Branch Programme/Newsletter

We publish this twice or more a year, with updates as necessary. 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.

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.

Events accessible by Zoom

In addition to checking what's on at other NZ branches on the TSNZ website, international Zoom talks and meditations are available from the very active TS in the Philippines. <http://www.theosophy.ph> Email C J Romero theosophilpres@gmail.com to be put on their email list.

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. Palmerston North, Hawkes Bay, 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.

NATIONAL EVENTS

see <https://theosophy.nz/events>

INTERNATIONAL TS YouTube channel

Check out replays of conventions and more at www.youtube.com/@TheosophicalSocietyAdyar

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New Plymouth Branch Library of over 800 books is in shelves sorted & catalogued by author at the president's place. Our wonderful Benjamin Upton has created an online searchable catalogue with brief summary for each book for the library. Type library.tsnp.nz into the address bar of your search engine (not into the search panel). For newer phones there is an app. you can download from there. To visit the physical library, please phone or text Jim on 021-2511 011 (or email tsnewplymouth@gmail.com)

Membership subscriptions reminder

Subscription invoices issued on 3rd August, 2025 for the Sept2025-Sept2026 year **were due on 20th August 2025**. A reminder that we have now to lapse members when they are one year in arrears of the invoice date, so please check if you've paid. 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.

The greatest achievement of humanity is not its works of art, science, or technology, but the recognition of its own dysfunction.

Eckhart Tolle

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