

THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

New Plymouth Branch



Correspondence: President Jim Scrivener, 30 Hine St, New Plymouth; jsa@compassnet.co.nz
 Website: <http://theosophy.nz/centres/new-plymouth>

President/Treas.: Jim Scrivener Ph 021-2511 011 or Ph 758 3511

Vice President: Norah Lambie Ph 758 2733

Committee: Nina Vink, Peter Vink, Lynn Hartley, Glen Willard, Donna Willard-Moore, Ben Upton, Kayla Upton

PROGRAMME May - June, 2019

Venues & Time - Public and Members' & friends' meetings will be held where noted, starting at 7.30pm unless shown otherwise. Members & friends' meetings begin with a Healing Group ceremony for the first 10 minutes.

If you're thinking of bringing a friend to a members & friends meeting, as a courtesy to the hosts, please phone Peter or Nina Vink on 758 8174 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, but since there may only be a few of these in a year, this can be limiting. If your friend hasn't made it to a public meeting and is still interested, then 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 Jim Scrivener on the numbers above, for extra copies of pamphlets etc.

May

Wednesday 1 **Studying 'The Secret Doctrine'**

– a meeting to look at setting up a structure to study HPB's 'The Secret Doctrine' for some future Members and Friends meetings. Although there is no substitute for reading the original, because the work is so large and potentially difficult to understand, it would be good to decide the depth we want to delve and how much time we want to devote to it as a group. Come along with whatever useful resources you have been able to find about it e.g. study courses, books, documentaries etc. that look appropriate for use in our meetings and we will try to map out a plan of action.

Venue: Peter & Nina Vink's house, 218 Mangorei Rd, New Plymouth

**Members
& friends**

Wednesday
15

Medicine Wheels

a presentation by Glenn Willard, with discussion

What are Medicine Wheels? Why are they a creation of indigenous societies?



Glenn is inspired by indigenous understandings of the world and their respect for nature and care for the environment. Direct experience of spirit is more important to him than the structure of religious beliefs, thus he is orientated towards Shamanism, which has commonalities throughout the indigenous peoples of the world. Basic to shamanism are the four elements: fire, water, earth, and air; of which he is most attracted to water.

Glenn is an author, film maker and international public speaker on numerous spiritual topics. He has made presentations for the Spiritualist Church, North Taranaki Spiritual Centre and the Theosophical Society of New Plymouth.

Time & venue: 7.30pm at the Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth

Public

Sunday 19

Medicine Wheel Ceremony

Glenn Willard's interest in Medicine wheels has inspired him to build one. Following on from the Wednesday public presentation, here is a chance to experience one in real life. Come along and be a part of an activation ceremony. Refreshments provided.

Carpooling: Ben and Kayla Upton will be taking their car leaving from their place 92 Pioneer Road, NP at 2.30pm. Please phone Ben on 027-517 6739 if you'd like a lift.

Time & Venue: 3pm at Glenn Willard and Donna Willard-Moore's place, 100 Upper Timaru Road, NP.



**Members
& friends**

June

Wednesday 5 The Secret Doctrine – part 1

- studying it in whatever form we decided at the 1 May meeting

**Members
& friends**

Venue: Peter & Nina Vink's house, 218 Mangorei Rd, New Plymouth

**Wednesday
19 Karma**

– a panel presentation and discussion led by Peter Vink, Jim Scrivener, Benjamin & Kayla Upton, Glenn Willard & Donna Willard-Moore, with audience participation.

Public

Although the Theosophical Society had a major hand in bringing the concept of karma to the west in the 1880's, it could be argued that when John Lennon's song 'Instant Karma' came out in 1970 with the lyrics 'Instant Karma's gonna get you...' the word 'karma' became a household word in the west at least with the younger generation of the time. What does it mean? Is it more than revenge/ come-uppance/ just deserts?

Time & venue: 7.30pm at the Disability Information Centre, 28 Young St, New Plymouth



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. Wanganui, Hamilton, Palmerston North) - if there is a talk or event you'd like to attend, see if others here are interested in getting a car-load together. If you can let me know well ahead of time there may be a chance of applying for regional funding to help with travel costs, e.g. petrol. Note that it can't be retrospective.

Other resources on the web – Theosophy World
<http://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 – A reminder - when you're next at a members meeting at the Vink's place, make the time to have a quick browse. Many of the classics are there, but also quite a few more modern ones. We've recently had 3 donated from National Office including an important new one "The Initiate Life" by Geoffrey Hodson. If you'd like to visit when

you have a bit of time, please phone Peter or Nina Vink on 758 8174 to arrange a time.

Overdue membership subscriptions

A gentle reminder to a few with overdue subscriptions that the current ones (to 31/8/19) were due on 20/9/18. We have to lapse members when they are 2 years in arrears, so please check if you've had a reminder, and if you've since paid by direct credit, drop the treasurer an email to let him know. 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.

New Plymouth Branch Programme/Newsletter – We publish this usually every 1-2 months with the programme. If you have a short article, quotation etc. either your own thoughts or others' that is theosophically related, or generally helpful, please email it in to me at jsa@compassnet.co.nz While inclusion is not guaranteed we will do our best depending on content and space.



The first point we have to note is that control over our emotional nature can be acquired only in circumstances from which we generally seek to run away. It is only in conditions of stress and strain that we can acquire that conscious mastery over our lower nature which is a prerequisite of real spiritual development.

I.K. Taimni from his book *Self Culture*
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