



## *Hamilton Lodge of the Theosophical Society*

February/March 2007

Greetings, members and friends,

We trust that you have had a refreshing break and wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year. The National Convention in New Plymouth has come and gone and we are now looking forward to the fellowship and inspirations of our new programme, starting with our picnic at the Hamilton lake.

### **February Programme**

#### **11 February**

##### **Our Annual Picnic.**

Last year's picnic was a great success. Come and join us under the big tree on the promontory at Hamilton Lake - go past the kiosk and about half a kilometre along, with parking at right (map above)..

Time: 5 p.m. Bring picnic tea and family and friends if you wish. If wet, we go to the Lodge.

#### **18 February**

**A. Convention Report.** Tim Sitwell will give a Powerpoint presentation.

**B. President's Address.** It is exactly 100 years since the death of the Society's first President, Col. H.S. Olcott. Brian will give a potted biography.

#### **Thursday 22 February**

### *Shambala — The Myths, the Legends and the Reality*

Presented by **Paul Robb** (Queensland, Australia)

A special session from a well-known international speaker.

#### **25 February**

Title: **Angels, Archons and Aeons.** Presented by **June Vallyon** (Tauranga)

What are "angels" and how have they been depicted in our art and culture? June presents a fascinating catalogue of some of our spiritual helpers and their characteristics.

### **March Programme**

#### **4 March** (Members meeting)

Title: **Inspirations** Presented by: **You**

Members are asked to share (for five to ten minutes, say) an article or experience that they have found particularly helpful in their spiritual journey. The session will be preceded as usual by a pot-luck vegetarian meal at 6 p.m. Come and enjoy.

**Thursday 8 March**

## *Have You a Pilgrim Soul?*

Presented by **Ravi Ravindra** (International Vice-President TS)

Ravi develops the theme of what is a pilgrim soul, and what sort of attitudes are helpful. As long as we speak to each other as a New Zealander to an Indian or as a Christian to a Hindu, we tend to fossilize the old associations of religions or nationalities, and cannot speak as a person to a person. The latter requires an inter-pilgrim dialogue, not just interfaith nor just international.

**11 March**

Title: **The Scientific basis of Linga Worship**. Presented by: **Guna Kanniah**

The basis of worshiping stone idols to represent Shiva goes beyond delving into the realms of science to uncover the profound spiritual truth of rituals and prayers amongst the Hindus. "

**18 March**

Title: **Clairvoyance**. Presented by: **Alan and Rebecca** (Open Circle Meditation Group)

Alan and Rebecca will introduce this topic and initiate discussion on this and other aspects of our psychic powers and how we can all use guiding meditation to enhance them.

**25 March**

Title: **Navigating the Spiritual Supermart** Presented by: **Hazel Menehira** (Wanganui)

Civilisation is in the midst of a perception crisis. We get lost in things that have no value whatsoever. Since spirituality moved into the marketplace there has grown up a great spiritual supermart. Navigating it means honing our spiritual discernment. It is only through 'letting go', through absolute surrender to the unknown that spiritual life takes on a deeper aspect. This is an inter-active session.

### **Library**

Tim Sitwell, our new librarian, has completed a physical stocktake of the books. Now it is necessary to do the same with books currently on loan. Hence we are recalling all those books, so can members please return them promptly? They can then be reissued if wanted.

### **Subscriptions**

As you know, these became due on 1 October last year. However many of us prefer to pay at the beginning of the calendar year - that is **now!** If you have not already paid, please send your sub to Peter Marley, our new Treasurer, at 73 Anglesea St, Hamilton, or bring it with you (\$35, or \$45 for a couple).

**Adyar Day** (Saturday 17 February)

HPB Lodge (Auckland) is holding a special regional meeting to celebrate the centenary of Col. Olcott's death. It would be great if we can take a small contingent. Please ring Brian if you would like to go up for the day.

### **Study the Bhagavad Gita**

A Bhagavad Gita Study Group started on Thursday, Feb 1st @ 7p.m. at Srinivasa Yoga House, 154 Old Farm Road. Join us for an evening of chanting, reading and discussion. Learn about the

story behind the Bhagavad Gita (Mahabharata), Krishna's philosophy, Vedic culture, Sanskrit pronunciation etc., and feel free to contribute in your own way. For further information, please contact Sruti - 853 2428 or [sruti74@gmail.com](mailto:sruti74@gmail.com).

With kind regards from Brian, Charles, John, Leo, Peter, Tim and Vicki.