

**THE THEOSOPHICAL
SOCIETY
IN CANBERRA**

President: Marie McArdle
Secretary: Barbara Harrod
Postal address: C/o PO Box 760, Rozelle, NSW 2039
Telephone: 0402 530 859
Email: canberratheosophicalsociety@gmail.com
Website: <https://canberra.theosophicalsociety.org.au>

A Word from the President	1
Notes	2
School of the Wisdom	3
Slice of Convention	4
Summary of EC Meeting 16.2.19	6
Annual Fees	6
144th International Convention	7
School of Theosophy Springbrook	7
Canberra — Past, Present, Future	8
Everything is Cyclical	9
Karma, the Way of Balance	10
Evolution to Aquarius	11
TOS	13
Program	14



The Theosophical Society in Canberra is not responsible for any statement in this newsletter. Views expressed are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of the Society or the Editor.

A Word from the President

Dear members

Welcome to the 89th issue of the Newsletter.

By the time you read this message we will be well and truly into the year of 2019 but, all the same, it may be worth taking a moment to look at the numerology of 2019.

One of the founders of The Theosophical Society, Helena Blavatsky, mentioned in her book, *'Isis Unveiled'* that "the sacredness of numbers begins with the great First – the ONE and ends only with the nought or zero – symbol of infinite and boundless circle which represents the Universe. All the intervening figures in whatever combination and however multiplied, represent philosophical ideas, from vague outlines down to a definitely established scientific axiom, relating to either moral or a physical fact broad sense, including man and beings, and the evolution of the human race, spiritually as well as physically."

If we look at the numerology of 2019 we can easily calculate 12 (2019: 2+0+1+9=12) and of course if we take this further we are left with the single digit of three (12: 1+2=3), but for simplicity's sake let's stay with the number 12. There are countless examples of the spiritual significance of the number 12, which is one of the reasons why it is considered a master number. For example, there are 12 apostles, 12 houses in astrology, 12 signs of the zodiac and therefore 12 gods who preside, 12 labours of Hercules, 12 months of the year, etc., etc.

The energy of 12 provides a unique and powerful form of creative cooperation, which can appear in any field of life. Dan Millman in his book, *'The Life You Were Born to Live'* says that the energy of 12 is "where people work together to solve problems, do original work, or create sparks together where, individually, neither of them could have accomplished as much."

Have you noticed any creative cooperation happening in your life so far this year?

On a different note, I would like to welcome our new members to the Branch and sincerely hope you have the opportunity to meet like-minded members and enjoy some of the wonderful material and resources we have available on Theosophy (Divine Wisdom).

(continued on page 3)

Notes for Members and Friends

Melbourne 2020



2020 Convention— MELBOURNE

Saturday 18 – Saturday 25 January 2020

Further information will be provided in the magazine *Theosophy in Australia* and on the website.

Meantime, make plans.

Canberra's got email



**For your
enquiries and
comments**

New

New Email Address

Canberra Branch has a new email address

canberratheosophicalsociety@gmail.com

This email address account will now be used for all matters pertaining to Canberra Branch and will be accessed by the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer.

Please feel free to email any enquiries or comments relating to Canberra TS.

Keep Up to Date With



Keeping Up To Date with TS Events

Do you have friends or interested acquaintances who would like to be on our mailing list? They can join the mailing list by giving their email details to:

canberratheosophicalsociety@gmail.com

or

janton@netspeed.com.au

9-12 November

Manila



The Next Triennial Indo-Pacific Federation Conference

will be held in Manila, Philippines, 9 – 12 November 2019.

Theme: Let Your Light Shine

see website <http://ipf-ts.org/>

(A Word from the President - continued from page 1)

I would like to close by coming back to the theme of the number 12, I do hope we can all cooperatively work together this year to bring more Theosophy into our own lives and to share our access to the theosophical teachings with others.

I think it would also be wonderful if we could cooperatively work together to support and encourage each other to put into practice some of this higher knowledge so we may become the embodiment of higher Truth.

Yours in brotherhood

Marie McArdle

President, The Theosophical Society in Canberra

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

To serve humanity by cultivating an ever-deepening understanding and realisation of the Ageless Wisdom, spiritual Self-transformation, and the Unity of all Life.



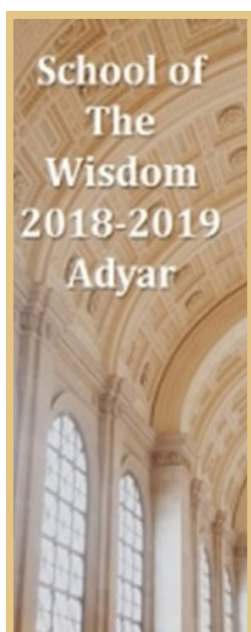
Past School
The School of the
Wisdom, Adyar,
circa 2002

From archives.

Current Canberra TS President attended the School and is seated second from left in the front row.

Some members will recognise friends and TS personalities.

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM 2018-19



19 to 30 November 2018—Dr Pablo Sender, USA:
Higher Consciousness, Its Nature and Awakening

3 to 15 December 2018— Jacques Mahnich, France:
Living Theosophy in 21st Century

10 to 26 January 2019— Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu, France:
Meditation in the Light of Theosophy

The School of the Wisdom aims at bringing each student to survey life 'from the centre', which is intuitive awareness.

All sessions are held in Blavatsky Bungalow, Adyar Campus, Chennai.

See website <https://www.ts-adyar.org/content/school-wisdom>

A SLICE OF CONVENTION

Annual conventions of the Theosophical Society have been held at various university colleges over the years, each with its own motto and what could be more apt than that of Sancta Sophia, University of Sydney, the venue for the January 2019 convention – *In sapientiā ambulate* – Walk in Wisdom.

The talk given by Dr Keith Suter for the Theosophical Order of Service - *Progress in the Search for Social Justice* - started off the week; this was a very apt topic and skilfully delivered.

Well known as a global futurist and commentator on foreign affairs, Keith Suter is, among his many other capacities, a Member of the Club of Rome whose members "*share a common concern for the future of humanity and the planet*". In 1992 he wrote about the New World Order and in his talk delivered on 20 January, 26 years later, he shared with us his views of the current state of the world. A general comment was that, as we are aware, the media focus on bad news and we should not judge the overall state of the world by what we see or hear in the media. Rather, we might give note to, for example, the work of the late Hans Rosling (Swedish physician and academic (1948-2017) to help rid us of some of our preconceived ideas.

Good things *are* in fact happening in the world and, to illustrate, Dr Suter took us through ten factors which he considered to be worthy of mention.

The Nature of the Pace of Change — Although we humans are creatures who can *think* about designing our own future, we are often reluctant to do so, and we avoid focusing on long term issues. Despite being dissatisfied, people are often unwilling to change. We are living in a period of rapid change; we should make the most of this and not be afraid of it.

Reduction in International Conflict — Although we may not realise it, currently there are fewer international wars as compared with the first half of the 20th century - with a reduction in the number of people killed as a result of war since 1950. Why is this? One theory is that by signing on to free trade, a country is linking to the global economy. There are also now many democracies in the world, with the development of more middle classes – the class that changes society.

International Cooperation — Some problems can be solved only at an international level – an example of this was the eradication of smallpox and the difference was pointed out between "political cooperation", which finds difficulty in making progress as opposed to "functional cooperation", when technical experts can in fact bring about progress.

Growth in International Trade — We have become de-nationalised and consumers now do not care so much about the country of origin of products but are mindful of brands. Here there is opportunity for Australia as a training place for students, for tourism and for investment.

Human Rights Revolution — Only 70 years have passed since The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted in 1948. Previously whatever happened within a country was the responsibility of that country and was not criticised by other nations. Now criticism is abundant - we can perhaps look towards the gradual ending of sexism and racism, with a long way to go but we are moving in the right direction.

The Silent Revolution— People are living longer, with better, healthier lives and with higher expectations; the term could have applied to most people in the audience.

People Power— There is hope and vision for people to become increasingly involved in society and to give back to society through groups, including TOS.

The Century of the Environment— The Club of Rome has argued that the 20th century will be known as the century of economics and in the 21st century we are in the century of the environment. Progress is happening and environmental issues have become mainstream .

Information Technology — We have converging technology or technologies merging into new forms. From there being a scarcity of information in previous years and eras, we now have a world full of information.

Insights from Positive Psychology — A new way of looking at things. Change your thoughts and a state of mind can become a way of life. Dr Suter's phrase to take away from his presentation was: *We are all strangers in a strange land.*

Will we remember these positive roadmaps given to us? We should be looking out for the signs of change. Many of us in the audience were born before the watershed of the adoption of the Declaration of Human Rights in 1948 but we have lived in the aftermath of what there was prior to it. Things *have* changed; let us focus on that and on future change.

With kind acknowledgement to Dr Suter's presentation for this summarised and much diluted version of a talk which reminds us to think of the world as an inspirational and positive place.



Delegates at 2019 TS Convention, Sancta Sophia College, Sydney

CANBERRA BRANCH—SUMMARY OF EC MEETING

SHORT SUMMARY BY THE PRESIDENT – OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING – 16.2. 2019

The Executive Committee (EC) met on Saturday 16 February. The following items from the agenda relate directly to Members and are published in the newsletter to keep everyone up to date with the ongoing operation of our Branch.

- 1) **Membership Dues:** At the Annual National Business Convention meeting held this year in Sydney, the Notice of Motion to change the dues structure was carried. This increase will cover subscription to the printed *'Theosophy in Australia'* magazine and its postage to all active members. At the last Branch Executive Committee meeting, the Committee discussed whether the Branch should absorb this additional expense, or pass it on by increasing the overall membership dues. After much discussion, the vote to increase the membership dues was carried. The Committee felt this was reasonable given that there has not been an increase in dues for the past five years and operating costs continue to rise. The increase in dues will take effect for **new members** as at 16 February 2019 and **existing members** from the next renewal date. [See information on fees below.]
- 2) **Membership Application Form:** The Committee approved the new membership application form. The first page of the form must comply with Section's Rules, but the second page allows for some flexibility. As such, the Branch's increase in membership dues is now easier to understand, and the Branch's bank account details have been added (in case members would prefer to make payment by EFT). Furthermore, the Branch's contact details are more clearly displayed, which should make it easier for potential members to make contact with the Branch. The membership application form was recently approved by Section and is now ready for use. The Branch President asked that any old versions of the application form be destroyed to avoid any confusion.
- 3) **Promotion on Meetup:** The Committee promotes the program events on our website and Facebook page, but another avenue available is by way of Meetup. The Committee agreed to continue its subscription to Meetup under the name, *"Theosophical Society in Canberra"*. Some on the Committee suggested that those members who have joined, or plan to do so, should indicate when they are going to a program event, so that others get to see that there will be people attending and this may encourage them to come along.

INFORMATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

CANBERRA BRANCH'S ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

Joining Fee:	\$5.00 (incl. GST)
Standard Rate:	\$70.00* (incl. GST)
Commonwealth Pensioner/ Student/ Unemployed Rate:	\$60.00* (incl. GST)

**includes free annual subscription to the "Theosophy in Australia" magazine.*

Payment may be made by cheque or money order
(made payable to *"The Theosophical Society (ACT)"*)
or by EFT (electronic funds transfer) using the bank details below:

Account Name: The Theosophical Society (ACT)
Account No.: 03423532 BSB No.: 325-185

A membership form can be obtained by emailing your request to

canberratheosophicalsociety@gmail.com

144TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**News on the
144th International
Convention, India****31 December 2019 — 5 January 2020****Note the change of venue to Varanasi**

The International Convention will take place from
31 December 2019 to 5 January 2020 at Varanasi.

The Convention has, in recent times, always taken place in Adyar, Chennai – this year it will be in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, Northern India.

Due to extensive renovations taking place at Leadbeater Chambers, Adyar, the Indian Section's Headquarters in Varanasi have generously offered to host the upcoming convention. This also offers participants the opportunity to explore Northern India and make travel plans accordingly.

Further information will be given by Australian Section as is forthcoming. Keep an eye on the TS Varanasi site at <http://theosophy-india.org/>



**2019
SCHOOL
OF
THEOSOPHY**

**Guest Presenter
Perry Coles**

For Members: 2019 School of Theosophy

**Friday 26 April—Thursday 2 May 2019
Springbrook Retreat Centre, Springbrook, QLD**

Theme: Seeking Out the Way

Guest Presenter, Perry Coles, joined the Theosophical Society in 1991, and has run numerous study groups and well-researched courses at Perth Branch.

The daily themes will be:

Day 1 - The Pilgrim and the Three Halls

Day 2 - Freedom and Discipline

Day 3 - Psychic and Spiritual

Day 4 - Discipleship and Daily Life

Cost: \$360 (includes catering, accommodation, tuition and transfers)

Enquiries: Linda Oliveira, National President
 Email: pres@theosophicalsociety.org.au
 Tel: 02 92642 7056 (Mon—Thurs)

CANBERRA BRANCH

PAST— PRESENT— FUTURE

In the current era of static and sometimes dwindling membership which is of general concern, it is useful and even comforting to read in the Minutes of 20 August 1968 that the President *“called on ideas for attracting new members and decided an occasional advertisement in the Canberra Times would be sufficient.”* It seems to be an age-old problem. In fact, a little digging produced an advertisement two years prior to that, welcoming - or perhaps seeking - interested persons to attend the meetings of the Canberra Theosophical Group, as it then was.

The Canberra Times 14 May 1966

CANBERRA THEOSOPHICAL GROUP

Regular evening discussions on
Eastern philosophy, religion, yoga.

Visitors welcome.
Enquiries Phone 42098

The Canberra Theosophical Study Group did keep going and in July 1971 a Special General Meeting was called to:

- 1) Dissolve the Canberra Theosophical Study Group; and
- 2) Declare the formation of the Canberra Theosophical Society.

The Charter was granted on 17.7.1971.

On 17 July 1971, International President N Sri Ram, gave to Helen M Young, Peter H Fokker, Elsie E Henderson, David Wilson, Hilda Joyce Wilson, Audrey J Godding, Henne Fokker, Gwen Palmer, Vivian L Trail and Janine Shewan, full power to organise a Lodge of the Theosophical Society, to be known as ***The Theosophical Society in Canberra.***

The inaugural meeting was held at the Friends Meeting House in October 1971 when Mr James Perkins, International Vice-President, presented the Charter to David Wilson, President of the newly formed Lodge.

At the founding, there were 13 members and one junior member - the daughter of Mr and Mrs Wilson, Linda (now Linda Oliveira, currently President of the Theosophical Society in Australia).



Left: David Wilson, receiving the TS Charter from James Perkins, International Vice-President

In a similar way to 40 years ago, membership numbers fluctuate, and a genuine concern exists to keep the Branch functioning at an invigorating level. With the Charter granted through the dedication of members in 1971 the Branch of the Theosophical Society in Canberra can look strongly into the future, keeping in mind that the same problems which existed then were resolved and will continue to be so, with the ongoing strength, enthusiasm and good will of our members.

Janice Scarabottolo

EVERYTHING IS CYCLICAL

Everything is cyclical.

In her book, *"The Secret Doctrine"* Helena Blavatsky had more to say about astrology and cycles than any other subject material. You may think that this statement is rather bold and audacious, but if you read her book and highlight every passage, where astrology/astronomy and cycles are mentioned you may come to the same conclusion.

Theosophy suggests that as soon as the Absolute, or what is sometimes called Parabrahman, begins to manifest, or create, the law of duality kicks in so that everything that comes from the Absolute must be born and therefore must die, and as a result creates cycles.

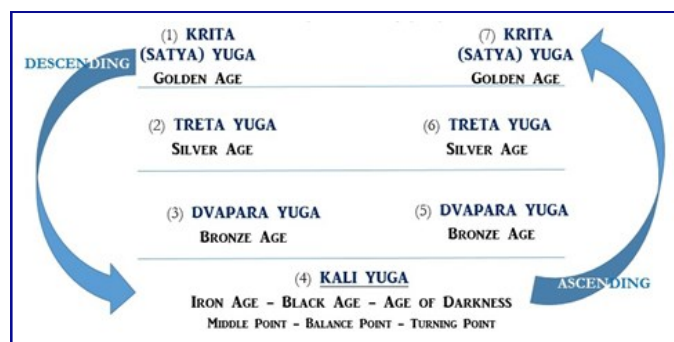
Science now accepts that every atom is cyclical in that each one of them is born and dies and that every great epic period eventually must die (and so must have at one time been born). Likewise, the planets are born and die and while they are cyclical they are also circular in their movement as they orbit a Sun. I should mention here that circles do not have to be spherical; they can also be oval, elliptical, egg shaped, etc. just as long as the ouroboros, or serpent, can bite its own tail.

We experience cycles within us and outside of us all the time. For instance, our breathing and sleeping/waking states are cyclical in that we breathe in and we breathe out, and we sleep and we awake, continuously until we take our last breath, and sleep our last sleep, and then die.

If we observe what is taking place outside of ourselves, we notice the cycle of daytime and night time (being caused by our Earth moving in a cyclical anti-clockwise motion on its axis), and we notice the cycle of the Seasons (being caused by our Earth wobbling while it moves in a cyclical anti-clockwise motion around our Sun).

If we take this line of thinking further, we notice the cycles of the Astrological Ages. Blavatsky and most astrologers and astronomers believe it takes an average 2,155 solar years for the vernal equinox to travel through each of the constellation signs in a circular retrograde motion.

If we allow our thoughts to expand even further we notice the cycles of the Yugas, which are based on the Age of Brahma (equivalent to 311 trillion and 40 billion years) or what we consider to be eternity; as it is quite hard to get our head around such a massive figure! Each Yuga takes approximately 6,250 years to complete its cycle, which is close to three Astrological Ages. If we add the Bronze, Silver, Iron (also known as Kali Yuga or Dark Age) and Gold Yugas together we get what the ancient Greeks called 'A Great Year'.



Whenever we step back and take in the big picture, or adopt what I like to call panoramic awareness, we can't help but notice how everything inside and outside of us is cyclical and how patterns and trends take place within those cycles.

Blavatsky once said.

*“It is the sign of an irrepressible need in humanity to assure itself that there is a power paramount over matter, an occult and mysterious law which governs the world and which we should rather study and closely watch, trying to adapt ourselves to it, than to blindly deny and break our heads against the rock of destiny.”*¹

By appreciating and adapting ourselves to the concept that everything that exists must be cyclical and then observing the patterns within those cycles, perhaps there is a good opportunity for us to hit our head less often against the rock of destiny. We can but hope!

Marie McArdle

¹ H.P. Blavatsky Theosophical Articles, Vol. III

KARMA— THE WAY OF BALANCE

There was an encouraging increase in the number of attendees at the event on Saturday 16 March, when Gerard Brennan, our ACT Representative, travelled from Sydney to present his talk on “Karma—The Way of Balance”. Gerard’s main points or succinct list, are below, for easy keepsake and recall.



- 1) The Law of Karma should not be seen as something punitive, but as something that ensures the law is upheld and that, ultimately, everything returns to a state of balance. Just as a pool of water may be disturbed by ripples, ultimately those ripples will subside and calm will prevail.
- 2) The beauty of karma lies in its potential to absorb all negative thoughts and send them back to the recipients in the form of justice.
- 3) The Law of Karma has to be understood in light of the law of reincarnation or spiritual evolution. The Law acts impartially to uphold justice.
- 4) We are able to choose our own destiny and while our karma cannot be escaped, it may be softened by good thoughts, words and actions.
- 5) The results of our karma may come back in this life; or the seeds of karmic consequences may lie deep in the past.
- 6) Our very character is determined by our thoughts, words and deeds and this creates a complex causal relationship.
- 7) At the heart of bad karma can often be selfish action, while beneficent action often frees us to act altruistically for the benefit of others.
- 8) Karma exists on many levels and may well be increasingly subtle. Attachment and aversion are the root cause of karma.
- 9) Karma explains the misfortunes that befall people and, as such, has the answers in times of great suffering, rather than blaming an external source.
- 10) A deeper understanding of karma leads to greater peace and inspires us to live life well.

Gerard Brennan

EVOLUTION TO AQUARIUS

Our journey to enlightenment is symbolized by the Astrological Ages of the zodiac through the precession of the equinoxes. The rider on the white horse in the Book of Revelation is the symbol for Sagittarius, which is the sign that governs human evolution.¹ It represents the soul astride the human personality as it develops from alpha to omega. The four horsemen of the apocalypse are the four astrological signs: Sagittarius, followed by Scorpio (red horse), Libra (carrying scales) and Virgo (pale horse). They represent stages of the involution of humanity.²

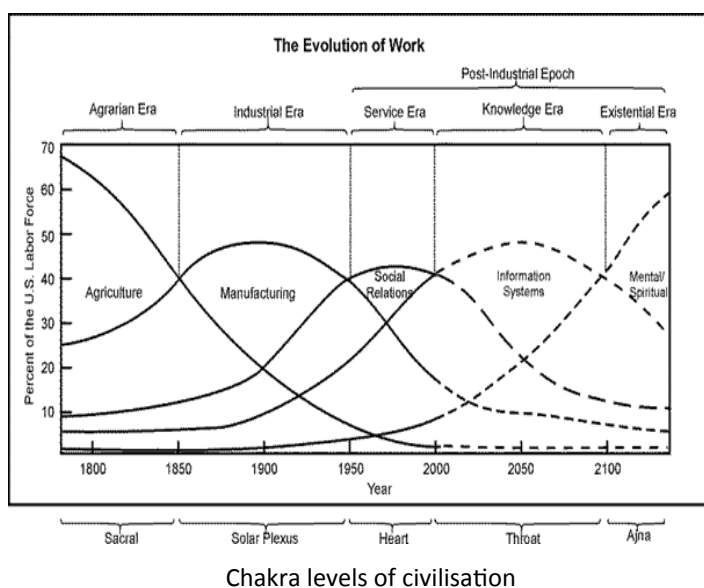
At every stage of human development there has been an avatar to guide humanity. Recent ones have been the Buddha and Jesus, both setting the tone for the Age of Pisces in East and West. We are now on the cusp of the Age of Aquarius, which will have its own great avatar prophesied as the Kalki avatar in Hinduism. The symbol of this avatar is a rider on a white horse, and can also be considered as the return of the Christ.³ It is expected that the Kalki avatar will appear in 1000 years' time and be overshadowed by a greater cosmic Avatar of Synthesis that will blend the will and purpose of God with the Kalki's love of God. However this cannot take place until humanity has sufficiently manifested love-wisdom.

The Exponential Development of Humanity

Human evolution is speeding up. In the chakra stages of development the vanguard of humanity are ascending to Heart, Throat and Ajna levels. These have an auto-catalytic effect on self development that speeds our psychological unfoldment and its manifestation in civilisation. This is due to the exponential increase in the number of chakra petals from Base to Crown. In the human being, chakra petals are energy units of quality and power.

This accelerating progress in the Aquarian Age will bring more and more people into self-generated methods of personal and spiritual development. The result will be both an inner path to enlightenment and an outer integration of civilisation in harmony with divine intent. It will also create conflicts with the older ideas and ways of behaving that are no longer appropriate for Earth's survival and florescence. This progress enables conscious cooperation with the Masters, which creates a further acceleration of soul development as they teach the Mysteries of Divine Wisdom.

A sign of recent progress of psychology and civilisation is Halal's⁴ study of the evolution of work, showing successive waves of major participation in agriculture, manufacturing, services and information technology (IT) since the year 1800 (see diagram right). These waves correspond respectively to the Sacral, Solar Plexus, Heart and Throat chakra levels. We are at present seeing the major influence of IT on work. However, the remarkable inspiration of Halal has been to look to the succeeding influence of the Ajna level, yet to grow rapidly in general population, and to see its beginnings at present. His diagram of the various waves shows a new era of mental-spiritual activity beginning around the year 2100. This timing corresponds to the beginning of the Aquarian Age that is free from the influence of the Piscean energies of the preceding transition period.



Pisces to Aquarius

The major epochal change of energies is from the Piscean influences of Ray 6 working through the planet Neptune to the Aquarian Ray 7 working through the planet Uranus.⁵ This is the transition from an emotional devotion and mysticism to a mental-spiritual science and occultism (i.e. the white or soul magic and integrative organization). The aim of the Piscean era was perfection of the personality by the antahkarana linking through the lower nature to the soul, while that of the Aquarian era is the perfection of the soul with the antahkarana linking from soul to spirit.

There are always a number of major influential Rays during any Age. For the coming Aquarian Age, Rays 1 and 7 are paramount, being Divine Will and power working through order and white (spiritual) magic. The 2nd Ray of love-wisdom is active and is essential to keep the manifestation of Rays 1 and 7 divine. In the early part of the Age, Ray 5 works to establish truth, clarity and spiritual science in order to clear the way for the coming transition to integrative and universal religion, science, economics and politics.

A New Civilisation

The Rays bring change of psychology, civilisation and culture. As within so without. The eventual ascension of consciousness to the Ajna and Crown chakras creates a divine harmony and knowing of oneness. This includes aware cooperation with the Masters and all Life. It is created gradually as our consciousness evolves, and as initiates of varying degrees and relevant Rays incarnate to assist humanity. The new soul science will be one of Love that is understood as union of the Self with God and with all being, in co-creation, under known spiritual law. As this is extended into cultural life it will create a synthesis of all areas of life. Some examples of these areas are:

Spirituality and the Mysteries

Antahkarana revelation
Schools of the Mysteries
Energy and thought

Economics

Sharing equitably
Subsystem of global ecology

Politics

Global sovereignty
One world systems
Election of highly capable leaders

Science

Natural laws, soul laws and spiritual laws
Buddhic intuition and links with Masters
Energy/thought focus

To Capricorn and Sagittarius

The immense transition of the Aquarian age will see a flowering in the following Age of Capricorn of initiation, further synthesis, fusion, idealism and spiritual magic. Then in the Age of Sagittarius there is again the rider on the white horse, now the omega of the triumphant soul warrior of Revelation 19:11. This is not the avatar of Aquarius, but perhaps it will be the soul of all humanity now so evolved as to sit on the white horse of personality and be its own avatar.

Gordon Herbert: (Gordon has given this excerpt from his talk *Evolution to Aquarius* presented on 17 November 2018.)

References:

¹ Djwhal Khul in A Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*, p.64

² www.progressions.info/Articles.htm - The Book of Revelation

³ Djwhal Khul in A Bailey, *The Externalisation of the Hierarchy*, p.304

⁴ In William E Halal, *The New Management*, San Francisco, 1996. The chakra levels in this diagram were added by Gordon Herbert.

⁵ The relationship of the Seven Rays to astrology is detailed by Djwhal Khul in A Bailey, *Esoteric Astrology*.



The Theosophical Order of Service
Representing theosophy in action on a daily basis
The TOS was founded by Annie Besant in February 1908

The Year Ahead

As agreed at the TOS Annual General Meeting held during the TS Convention in January in Sydney, the following projects were passed for nation-wide support in Australia for 2019.

- **Syrian refugees** via TOS in Italy
- **Qandeel Home Schools in Pakistan** (providing basic education for boys and girls) **AND** the Educational Sponsorship Program in Pakistan
- **Golden Link College, Philippines** — which attracts matching donations from the Kern Foundation
- **The Boys' Hostel, Adyar**—HPB Hostel houses about 30 boys free of cost, to enable them to pursue their studies in different schools in Chennai. They are well looked after and are provided with nutritious food and health care

Canberra TOS has been supporting the Pakistan Educational Program for many years. The student we currently sponsor attended class 6 in 2018, and is now attending class 7. Assistance given through this project ensures that families who are enduring hardship can continue to send their children to school.

With your help we shall be able continue our sponsorship of a student as well as assist the other projects which all need our help.

TOS funds go to the projects with no money being used for anything except the projects.

Let us help!

Right: HPB Hostel—from website of the Olcott Education Society



Urgent request

There must be many unused **sleeping bags** lying around! You know, the ones that we have outgrown, that our children no longer use, where camping trips are now a thing of the past and we wonder what to do with the sleeping bags.

Well, wonder no longer. Barbara Harrod is collecting used and new sleeping bags to donate to homeless persons before the Canberra winter sets in. Let's make an impact here!

Barbara's email address is: barbamma@hotmail.com

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN CANBERRA—PROGRAM 2019

Day	Date	Speaker	Topic
SATURDAY 2.00pm— 3.30pm ANU	13 April	Gordon Herbert and Birthe Ross	What is the Soul? The Soul, the heart of the Trinity, is in all things, the spark of awareness that grows and learns. There is one Soul and many individualisations of it, like you and me. Soul Care Care of your own Soul and communicating with and caring for 'another' at the Soul level.
SATURDAY 2.00pm— 3.30pm ANU	18 May	Various members	White Lotus Day and Wesak Festival Will be in three parts: 1. Commemoration of the death of Helena Blavatsky, and a celebration of her service and contribution to the world. 2. Silent meditation to tap into the auspicious occasion of Wesak. 3. Members share their thoughts on the importance of Wesak and commemoration of the birth, enlightenment and death of the Buddha.
SATURDAY 2.00pm— 3.30pm ANU	15 June	Grahame Crookham	Lost Ancient Technology and Metaphysics of Egypt Based on a specialised recent tour of Egypt, the talk will cover the examination of evidence and the indications that a highly advanced civilisation with superior intelligence and capabilities inhabited our planet tens of thousands of years ago.
SATURDAY 2.00pm— 3.30pm ANU	20 July	Various members	Christmas in July Will be in three parts: 1. Members share their talents whether it be musical, artwork, jokes, healing, storytelling etc. 2. Laughter meditation with a difference 3. Members share traditional and not-so traditional vegetarian food.

(ANU = Emeritus Faculty, 24 Balmain Crescent, ACTON)

Meetings will be held at the Emeritus Faculty, ANU, 24 Balmain Crescent, generally on the third Saturday of each month (except April).

For any updates check the program at <https://canberra.theosophicalsociety.org.au>

If you are on the mailing list you will receive a reminder before each event.