



# The T.O.S. Village News

(The Theosophical Order of Service)

30 November 2016

## Coming Events

- \* **Taizé Meditation** - 2 December 2016 @ 6pm  
Liberal Catholic Church, Lacey St Perth
- \* **Movie "The Fencer"** - Sunday 4 Dec 16 @ Cinema Paradiso, Northbridge. Movie session—3:10pm .  
Join us for Coffee at 2pm at the Dome across the road.

## Welcome to the Village

The World is changing in interesting ways. Changes driven by people power. It seems the world over, people are sick and tired of manipulation by big Government, big Banks, big Pharmacy and big Charity, to name a few. We have grown suspicious of our own leaders and are turning away.

The TOS is an alternative to big Charity. People who donate to us, know us and we know the people that receive our donations. The donated money is not used on administration, manipulative advertising and PR or travel. Every cent goes to the intended recipients.

Then later, we usually receive photos and thanks from both our local and overseas recipients. Remember the photo of the Filipino people holding up a thank you sign outside their new homes. We had provided money, along with many other TOS groups, to build simple one room homes after the super typhoon Yolanda. In this digital age, it costs nothing to send a Thank you photo to tell the donors the money had reached its goal.

Recently we received an article on the Italian TOS, which is included at the end of this newsletter. The TOS members are working to alleviate the suffering of the Syrian refugees because the Italians remember the jack boot of war. They have assisted a Syrian refugee surgeon to set up a small clinic. Thank God for Dr Ali Nasser. Even though he and his family are suffering and struggling, he still cares for others. When the going gets tough some people rise to the greater good. He is such a person.

Don't forget our TOS movie this Sunday afternoon at the Cinema Paradiso. Please join us for coffee and a movie. Your gold coin donation will help us continue with our good causes.

### Best wishes

Rhonda Phillips,  
TOS Chairperson [tosperth@gmail.com](mailto:tosperth@gmail.com)

## RUAH Backpacks



### Xmas 2016



Thank you for your generous donations towards the RUAH Homeless Drop in Centre backpacks. We have successfully made up 50 back packs, which are worth approximately \$40 each. These backpacks will be handed out at the RUAH Christmas party.

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### GIVIT

Another way to make direct donations, is through the website GIVIT. <http://www.givit.org.au>

GIVIT connects those "who have" with those "who need", in a safe and private way. Through GIVIT's website, trusted Australian charities are able to request exactly what is needed for their clients. Donors can pledge their offer of donated items into their virtual warehouse. Details of this offer will be lodged online for all local charities to see.

When a need is matched to a donation, the GIVIT portal sends an email exchanging the donor and charity's nominated contact details. Then, the charity and donor agree between themselves on a delivery option. Once the charity receives the item, it is privately passed onto the recipient. The donor and recipient never meet because GIVIT aims to preserve the dignity and privacy of recipients.

### Press Release: TOS Fundraiser Tour to Southern India 05 Jan - 17 Jan 2018

The National Australia TOS is planning a 12 night tour of Southern India.

The tour is scheduled to depart from Adyar Campus immediately following the TS International Convention 31 Dec 2017 to 5 Jan 2018

This Tour will visit spiritual sites such as the Ramana Maharishi's Ashram and Vivekanda Rock Memorial at the very southern tip of India. An Ayurvedic resort stopover and a cruise on the Kerala backwater canals, plus major temple sites.

A detailed itinerary with costing will be available at our TS Conference in January 2017.



## TOS MEMBERSHIP FORM

I \_\_\_\_\_ (first name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Surname)  
wish to join the Theosophical Order of Service – Western Australian Incorporated.

My address: \_\_\_\_\_

My email: \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

My Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership Fee: \$5.00

Cheque to: "The Theosophical Order of Service"  
Mail to: TOS, C/- 21 Glendower St, Perth, 6000

Or

EFT \$5.00 in to the TOS Bendigo Bank  
BSB: 633-000 Account: 116559105  
Reference: Your full name

And send an email to [tosperth@gmail.com](mailto:tosperth@gmail.com) advising of the deposit including your name, address and phone number.

**Never believe that a few caring people  
can't change the world. For, indeed,  
that's all who ever have.**

*Margaret Mead*

## The Link of Hearts Healing Meditation

Anne Bower is coordinating a team of Meditators who will provide long distance healing to people on our TOS healing list. The person's name will remain on the list for one month and during that time the team will regularly send healing energy.

Contact Anne on [tosperth@gmail.com](mailto:tosperth@gmail.com) or 0408 784 443

## The Theosophical Order of Service - WA Inc.

We are a humanitarian service group who work to help others, near and far, and in the process transform ourselves.

Postal Address : C/- 21 Glendower Street, Perth WA 6000

Email: [tosperth@gmail.com](mailto:tosperth@gmail.com) Phone: 08 9328 8104

New members are welcome, however it is not necessary to be a member to attend our functions.

**You are welcome.**



# The Fencer



## November movie fund raiser

An audience favourite at the 2016 Scandinavian Film Festival, Klaus Härö's elegantly crafted, multi award-winning drama is set in post-war, Soviet-occupied Estonia, and movingly depicts the true story of fencing master Endel Neils, who risked his life to give a group of children something to believe in.

It's 1953, and Endel (Märt Avandi) is on the run. With his war-time affiliations catching up with him, he eludes the secret police in Leningrad and flees to a remote Estonian village. There he tries to keep a low profile by taking a menial job in the sports department at the local school, but his efforts to give the students a proper physical education are quickly frustrated by a lack of resources.



But once Endel – a skilled fencer – locates a few foils in the gym, he starts an after-school club for the kids, who for their part are eager to learn. Yet the strong rapport he builds with his young students only raises the ire of the party-loyalist school principal, who's already suspicious of his past. Soon it's impossible for Endel to avoid attention.

This beautifully acted and stunningly-shot film is a deeply affecting and memorable story of compassion, sacrifice and bravery against the odds.

2016 Golden Globe nominee – Best Foreign Language Film

2016 Academy Awards – Best Foreign Language Film (SHORTLIST)

2016 Finnish Academy Awards – Best Film, Best Cinematography

2016 Palm Springs International Film Festival – Best Film

**When:** Sunday 4 December @ 3:10 pm

**Where:** Cinema Paradiso

**Note:** *Meet at the Dome café across the road for a cuppa and socialising.*

@ 2 pm





*The work the TOS Italy has been doing to aid Syrian refugees has been inspiring so much interest and respect across the Theosophical Movement that we asked TOS Italy to tell us about it and received this report:*

### **TOS Italy aids Syrian refugees**

We have always suffered because of wars, and the Syrian conflict with so many fleeing refugees seemed like a reminder of the responsibilities to which it was impossible not to respond. We asked ourselves together with the whole theosophical group how we could help, how to achieve that all-embracing brotherhood which is the First Object of the Theosophical Society.

In 2012 we started with some associations to collect medicines, food and clothing



to be sent directly to those affected populations. The war has since escalated and in September 2015 a human flood got to Europe via the Balkan route and the Italian coast: thousands of desperate men, of women with very young children, of elderly, of disabled with no shoes or shelter from cold. In those tragic days we made friends with Gaetano Turrini and Feras Garabawy, founders of the charity 'Speranza-Hope for Children', and we started working actively in fundraising and

sending material. Feras knows Arabic, which is very important for relations with refugees, while Gaetano is expert in coordinating non-profit organisations.



***The TOS Italy has been actively helping Syrian refugees by sending clothes, food, medicines, shoes, toys and tents for the winter to immigrants on their way from Asia to Europe.***





***Wood is a much needed commodity in the refugee camp. Without it even food that is donated cannot be cooked.***

outside in the Turkish town of Kilis. There are a lot of them, and they live in unbearable conditions.



***TOS Italy fundraises to support a paediatric clinic at the Bab al Salam refugee camp.***



***The clinic treats Leishmaniasis disease which affects Syrian children who live in bad conditions due to the war.***

In December, representatives from TOS Italy are very likely to go to Belgrade temporary camp, to distribute meals to migrants, and bring all the aid that we will be able to collect in the meantime.