

SUMMER SCHOOL – PILLARS OF WISDOM
Saturday 18th August to Saturday 25th August 2018.

Saturday

14.30 onwards Arrival & Registration

19.30 Welcome by National President, preview of study groups and workshops.

Sunday

07.00 – 08.00 Yoga (daily)

09.30 – 9.40 Meditation (daily)

09.45 – 10.30 Finding the Wisdom Within

Pam Evans

When the inner self or soul opens up to Divine Bliss, there is no way to explain it. When we ask the eternal questions, who am I and why am I here? and really mean it from the depths of our being, the answer can only come from within. Once this happens, you will know. The all-knowing source of all that is will give you the answer. Our job then is to listen.

10.40 – 10.45 *Notices (daily)*

11.15 – 12.30 STUDY GROUPS A (Sunday to Tuesday – synopses on p 5)

1 Signposts on the Spiritual Path: Theosophy in Action

Ted Capstick

2 Textual Evidence for the Divine Proportion's Central Role in Theosophy

Scott Olsen

3 The Bhagavad Gita: The Pearl of the Orient

Atma Trasi

4 The Eagle's Journey – Building the Temple of Light

Susan Bayliss

14.30 – 15.30 Free time, or choose from the following workshops

1 The Delight and Riches of Shakespeare

1 of 3

Elizabeth Crofts

2 Chi Kung

Mike Hall

3 Healing for Mind, Body and Spirit

Veda Hutchinson

16.15 – 17.15 The Blavatsky Lecture – The Wisdom of H P Blavatsky

Leslie Price

Madame Blavatsky was the agent of a Brotherhood whose teachings formed a new revelation. In recent years an expanding academic community has made important contributions to our understanding of HPB's work and how it differs from the occultism of her time. This lecture introduces some of the research which has given us an enhanced appreciation of HPB's wisdom.

19.30 – 20.30 Theosophy in Film

Mike Hall

21.00 – 21.30 Meditation (daily)

Monday

07.00 – 08.00 Yoga

09.30 – 09.40 Meditation

09.45 – 10.30 The Divine Proportion: Theosophical Roots & Renaissance Scott Olsen

The Divine Proportion is the principle of harmony or equilibrium that lies behind the very founding of the Theosophical Society. According to HPB, the rules of proportion were a carefully guarded secret revealed only at initiation within the mystery schools. It was hidden within Plato's esoteric teachings, and today it's at the heart of the most advanced discoveries in science.

11.15 – 12.30 STUDY GROUPS A (as Sunday)

14.30 – 15.30 Free time, or choose from the following workshops

1 TOS AGM (2pm start)

2 Learn the Secret of Giving Great Talks (1 of 2) Pamela El-Hosaini

3 The Delight and Riches of Shakespeare 2 of 3 Elizabeth Crofts

4 Healing for Mind, Body and Spirit Veda Hutchinson

16.15 – 17.00 From Death to Immortality – The Message of the Katha Upanishad Bhupendra Vora

The Katha Upanishad is a deeply mystical Upanishad that deals with the transient and the Eternal. It refers to the attractions of the world that bind the soul to the cycles of birth and death (*preyas*) and the endeavours that lead to the realisation of the Eternal (*Shreyas*). In an interesting dialogue between the Lord of Death and the aspirant Nachiketas the questions of life and death are explored.

19.30 – 20.30 Musical Presentation

21.00 – 21.30 Meditation

Tuesday

07.00 – 08.00 Yoga

09.30 – 09.40 Meditation

09.45 – 10.30 Doctrine of the Heart Wayne Gatfield

In 'The Voice of the Silence', translated by H P Blavatsky, it is said: 'Shalt not thou, Master of thine own Mercy, reveal the Doctrine of the Heart? Shalt thou refuse to lead thy Servants unto the Path of Liberation? ...Learn above all to separate Head-learning from Soul-Wisdom, the "Eye" from the "Heart" doctrine. But even ignorance is better than Head-learning with no Soul-wisdom to illuminate and guide it'. In this talk we will look at how the Path of Compassion reveals itself in Buddhism and many other traditions.

11.15 – 12.30 STUDY GROUPS A (as Sunday)

14.30 – 15.30 Free time, or choose from the following workshops

1 Chi Kung Mike Hall

2 The Delight and Riches of Shakespeare 3 of 3 Elizabeth Crofts

16.15 – 17.00 The Middle Pillar and the Seven Stringed Lyre Susan Bayliss

Symbolically, the Temple of Wisdom is concealed within the allegorical Pillars of the Living Man. We will examine what this means in the context of the seven-fold mysteries of initiation and correlating states of consciousness. These esoteric truths ignite the flame of aspiration and guide us towards the Fountain Spring of Life.

19.30 – 20.30 Public Lecture, Bristol Lodge - Reincarnation & Theosophy Leslie Price

Belief in reincarnation has spread widely in the last century. In particular, there has been a scientific study of children who appear to remember previous lives. The Theosophical Society has played a significant part in the spread of reincarnation beliefs but has serious questions about some of the evidence – and the way reincarnation is popularly understood.

21.00 – 21.30 Meditation

Wednesday

07.00 – 08.00 Yoga

09.30 – 09.40 Meditation

09.45 – 10.30 Eternal Source of the Light Divine Jeff Hide

This lecture develops the week's theme – Pillars of Wisdom, though, on one hand, the teachings of the main religious or spiritual groups, with the manifestations of great artists in music, painting, sculpture and poetry, and on the other hand, the scientific world's tendency to lag behind before realising where wisdom exists.

11.15 – 12.30 STUDY GROUPS B (Wednesday to Friday, synopses on page 5/6)

1 The Yoga of Wisdom, The Yoga of Action & The Yoga of Devotion Bhupendra Vora

2 The Mahatma Letters

Tony Maddock & Janet Hault

3 The Voice of the Silence

Wayne Gatfield

4 The Seven Rays

Michael van Buren

14.00 Afternoon outing to SS Great Britain

19.30 – 20.30 Theosophical Panel

21.00 – 21.30 Meditation

Thursday

07.00 – 08.00 Yoga

09.30 – 09.40 Meditation

09.45 – 10.30 Eastern Mysticism & Modern Science Petra Meyer

Since the discovery of the sub-atomic world scientists, and especially physicists, openly admit that mysticism is taken seriously in their communities now, and that the parallels to modern science are very obvious, that observations in both fields take place in realms that are inaccessible to ordinary senses, and that both approaches are complementary for a fuller understanding of the world.

11.15 – 12.30 STUDY GROUPS B (As Wednesday)

14.30 – 15.30 Free time, or choose from the following workshops

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|------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 <i>Miracles, Magic or Quantum Mechanics?</i> | <i>Jeff Hide</i> |
| 2 <i>Sanskrit 1 of 2</i> | <i>Terri King</i> |
| 3 <i>Yoga Nidra</i> | <i>Jenny Baker</i> |

19.30 – 20.30 Madame Blavatsky & The Great Tradition Barry Thompson

The Theosophical Society is often credited with popularising ‘Eastern’ ideas such as Reincarnation or Meditation in the West. However, it also claimed to reveal a Universal Message at the heart of the religious traditions of the world. In this presentation we will examine some key features of HPB’s message and their relation to the universal spiritual heritage of mankind.

Friday

07.00 – 08.00 Yoga 09.30 – 09.40 Meditation

09.45 – 10.30 Loving Wisdom, Wisest Love Cynthia Trasi

As the title suggests, Love and Wisdom are linked. Love is boundless, Wisdom is changeless. This talk will look at them both.

11.15 – 12.30 STUDY GROUPS B (as Wednesday)

14.30 – 15.30 Free time, or choose from the following Workshops

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|--------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| 1 <i>Sanskrit</i> | <i>2 of 2</i> | <i>Terri King</i> |
| 2 <i>Chi Kung</i> | | <i>Mike Hall</i> |
| 3 <i>Healing for Mind, Body and Spirit</i> | | <i>Veda Hutchinson</i> |

16.15 – 17.00 The Power of Three Jenny Baker

Numbers play an important part in all our lives everyday but some numbers have more significance to us than others, such as 108, 13, 7 and 3. In this talk I will be exploring three aspects of Mankind, three aspects of the Divine and three aspects of Theosophy. When put with knowledge and experience will we be able to say we have achieved Wisdom?

19.30 – 20.30 Quiz Night

21.00 – 21.30 Meditation

Saturday

Departure after breakfast

Study Groups A

The Bhagavad Gita: The Pearl of the Orient – Atma Trasi

The Gita has been a Pillar of Wisdom for spiritual seekers all over the world offering practical advice for leading a spiritual life. This course will look at an esoteric and theosophical interpretation of the Gita. Day 1: How the Gita came about. Day 2: *Karma Yoga*: The Yoga of Action Day 3: *Jnana Yoga*: The Yoga of Wisdom

Textural Evidence for the Divine Proportion's Central Role in Theosophy – Scott Olsen

We will examine the role played by the Divine Proportion in: the founding of the TS following George Henry Felt's lecture on ancient canons of proportion; HPB's references to Pythagoras' and Plato's esoteric teachings; KH's assertion that the Mahatmas recognise but one law, the law of harmony or equilibrium; and the stunning recent discoveries in physics, genetics and cosmology.

Signposts on the Spiritual Path: Theosophy in Action – Ted Capstick

The goal of human evolution is integration. We consider what Theosophy has to say about personality integration; the infusion of the evolved personality by the Soul; how systems of Yoga facilitate these processes; and the building of a framework of understanding of the stages of initiation that represent the culmination of our scheme of planetary evolution.

The Eagle's Journey – Building the Temple of Light - Susan Bayliss

It is through the mysterious process of transformation that we learn to build the Temple of Light. These workshops consider the keys to the Pillars of Wisdom given to us by HPB and the Mahatmas and explore the Soul's journey to find the precious secrets of the Inner Sanctuary. Part 1. The Temple Gate. Part 2. The Eagle's Flight. Part 3. The Seven Lights.

Study Groups B

The Yoga of Wisdom, The Yoga of Action & The Yoga of Devotion (*Jnana Yoga, Karma Yoga & Bhakti Yoga*) – Bhupendra Vora

According to the Bhagavad Gita there are many paths leading to the realisation of Brahman, but the principal one's are The Yoga of Wisdom, The Yoga of Action and the Yoga of Devotion. In this study course the three paths are explored, based primarily on the teachings of the Bhagavad Gita but also considering the paths revealed by other scriptures.

The Mahatma Letters - Tony Maddock & Janet Hoult

Who are we and where are we going – as individuals, as humanity and as a Society? We will study, discuss, and contemplate on these questions, and through selected passages from The Mahatma Letters look at what insights and wisdom the masters offer us.

The Voice of the Silence – Wayne Gatfield

'The Voice of the Silence' introduced the idea of the Bodhisattva path to the general public in the west. Since then dozens of Buddhist sutras have been translated into English, giving weight to what was given out in HPB's translation of that book. This study will look at the teachings of the "Voice" and later developments from other sources.

The Seven Rays - Michael van Buren

During creation, Esoteric Teachings say, the One first divided into duality, then a Trinity and further into seven main streams of force or qualities which effect all levels of the manifested universe. Knowledge of them is useful in understanding creation, our psychology and more effective links with the Masters and Archangels in choosing our best approach in our spiritual life.

Workshops

Healing for Mind, Body & Spirit – Veda Hutchinson (Sunday, Monday, Thursday)

1 hour of “ME” time, to help balance and refresh your “Whole” self.

Chi Kung as a Pillar of Life – Mike Hall (Sunday, Tuesday, Friday)

The simple body movements and breathing exercises have both physical and spiritual benefits and can be practiced by anyone, regardless of age or physical fitness. Chi Kung is a system of cultivating health, vitality and longevity, helping us overcome the imbalances which give rise to disease.

The Delight & Riches of Shakespeare – Elizabeth Crofts (Sunday, Monday, Tuesday)

The language of Shakespeare is a delight in itself and also has the power of transformation. In these workshops we will read and examine some of the speeches from the plays to see what effect the words have on us. Each session will stand alone enabling students to come to as many of them as they wish.

Learn the Secret of Giving Great Talks

Pamela El-Hosaini (Monday, Tuesday)

Fear of public speaking has been listed as the second greatest fear in life!!! This two-day workshop will blow the myth out of the water and show you how easy it is to give a great talk. In a relaxed, informal setting with an experienced teacher-trainer, you will pick up the confidence and skills to engage any audience.

The ABC of Sanskrit

Terri King (Thursday, Friday)

The first session will cover the writing and sounding of the letters of the Sanskrit Alphabet with special emphasis on their correct pronunciation. The second will cover the meanings and correct pronunciation of some of the better-known Sanskrit words we encounter in the ancient teachings, with a view to becoming more ‘at home’ with this most profound of languages.

Yoga Nidra

Jenny Baker (Thursday)

Complete relaxation that energises and uplifts the spirits.

Miracles, Magic or Quantum Mechanics?

Jeff Hide (Thursday)

We consider together the study of divinity in its widest sense, with its boxed limitations caused by religion and with what effect Quantum Mechanics may change this. This workshop does not require specific knowledge but only an interest in the subjects and the wish to have some fun by jointly exploring the logical conclusions based on simple assertions posed.