

3. *How did your first learn about Theosophy or come in contact with the Society?*

My background is that of a friendly and un-dogmatic Christianity. In my teens I became interested in mysticism and eastern religions. In my twenties, the late 1960's and the 1970's, I expanded that quest. I got acquainted with most of the esoteric groups in The Netherlands, and started studying the esoteric in a broad sense, including Theosophy, anthroposophy, astrology, Rosicrucian teachings and so on. I chose to become a member of a Dutch Gnostic Rosicrucian group until 2002, when I found it had become too sectarian and dogmatic. In 2003 I decided to join the TS Adyar, because it was the most tolerant and un-dogmatic of the esoteric societies, where freedom of thought and a universal outlook are self-evident. Thousands of people organised in hundreds of spiritual directions of good will and striving against materialism. Don't say they are wrong or evil just because there are differences with your group and your teachings. Recognize the truth in each and every individual and in each group. The TS Adyar does that.

4. *What does Theosophy mean to you?*

A compass for self-realization; a standard for living; a guide for acquiring knowledge; a touchstone for philosophy; a companion on the Path; daily inspiration.

5. *What is your favourite Theosophical book and why?*

There are quite a few. At the feet of the master by Alcyone, who was indeed Krishnamurti (See '*Did J. Krishnamurti write 'At the feet of the master'?*' by S. Lloyd Williams in Theosophical History Vol XIV, no. 3-4, 2010). But of course also *The Voice of the Silence*, *Light on the Path*, *The Key to Theosophy* and Annie Besant's *The Path of Discipleship*.

6. *What in your opinion is the biggest challenge the TS is facing at the moment?*

To appeal to the younger generations and to attract new members all over the world; the TS must still exist in the 22nd century. I hope all members understand that means work to do. So not only studying together and looking inwards, but also looking outwards and spreading Theosophy, especially the idea of the one truth underlying all religions because a lot of religious