

Welcome!

The Thai Yoga Massage Association of New Zealand is dedicated to promoting and preserving Thai Yoga Massage in an original and authentic form. Originating in India some 2500 years ago, Thai Yoga Massage is rapidly growing in popularity around the world as many people find out about the benefits of this ancient art.

By setting standards of training hours, teachers, and courses, TYMANZ aims to ensure that Thai Yoga Massage is practised in a traditional, safe and beneficial way, while providing support for Member Practitioners of this amazing form of Massage.

On this site you will find: Information on Thai Massage and a List of Practitioners in New Zealand and other places in the world and Support Pages for Members.

Read on

TYMANZ was established in 2002 by Asokananda. (Asokananda was arguably the leading Western Teacher of Thai Yoga Massage, until his untimely death in 2005) Its purpose at that time was to create and promote a high standard of Traditional Thai Massage in New Zealand while the therapy was in its infancy here.

TYMANZ continues in this regard, maintaining a strong relationship with **T.H.A.I. (Thai Healing Alliance International)** An organisation dedicated to standardising Training and Professionalism the Thai Massage community and is also a member of the **New Zealand Charter of Health Practitioners Inc.** an umbrella organisation covering many natural and traditional Therapies in New Zealand

Who was Asokananda?

Asokananda (Harold Brust), was a native of Germany. He began researching Thai Massage in the 1980's after stumbling on Yoga and its benefits , while on a Vipassana meditation retreat, in what was then Ceylon.

He was one of the first Europeans to study Thai Massage under Chaiyuth Priyasith and Piched Boothumme in the Old Medical Hospital in Chang Mai. From there he started teaching Thai Massage, yoga and Vipassana meditation to many, many foreigners in Thailand, New Zealand, Croatia, Hungary, England, Germany and many other countries, for over 18 years. During that time, he trained and authorized some of the most established teachers of Thai massage in the West, including Soul D. Raye from California, Kam Thye Chow from Montreal/Canada, Laurino Bertelli from Bologna/Italy, Kira Balaskas from London, Prabhat Menon from Mumbai/India and Vera Lier from Germany.

His book *The Art of Traditional Thai Massage*, published in Bangkok in 1990, was the first publication ever in any language other than Thai.

Sadly he passed away after a short battle with Cancer in 2005

Om Mani Padme Hum

“More than our teacher. More than our friend.”