



# Multifaith Association of SA

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 2013

## Welcome to our first Newsletter

This is the first of many newsletters to keep you informed and up to date with our latest events. We have a dedicated committee that meets monthly. We aim to build understandings of different religions, build friendships across those religions and to celebrate commonalities as well as differences. Our annual Symposium is this year called UNITY IN DIVERSITY and this newsletter will be launched at the Symposium. We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter and will join us in learning about each other's religions and taking part in some of our activities and events.

Ann Aisatullin,  
President .



## Unity in Diversity

This year's Symposium is supported with a grant from the Government of SA's Department for Communities and Social Inclusion. We are grateful to UniSA for providing the venue at The Hawke Centre. Also many, many thanks to our extremely hardworking Symposium Committee who met so frequently - thanks to Kris Hanna, Gunhild Jonsson, Damian Outtrim, Janet McKinnie, Rob McPherson and Anna Chiappini.



Government of South Australia  
Department for Communities  
and Social Inclusion





Share a cup of tea or coffee as well as ideas and experiences over multifaith topics

## TED talk meetings

We are planning to start meetings for people interested in online forums and face to face meetings over tea and coffee to discuss various TED talks around multifaith issues.

**TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design)** is a global set of conferences owned by the private non-profit [Sapling Foundation](#), under the slogan "ideas worth spreading". TED talks are offered free online at: <http://www.ted.com/>.

You can follow particular themes within the TED talks. We are thinking of beginning our discussion forums by looking at the talks on Compassion, which come from the perspectives of many different faiths – see: [http://www.ted.com/search?cat=ss\\_all&q=Compassion](http://www.ted.com/search?cat=ss_all&q=Compassion).

If you would like to be part of this new forum, we'd love to hear from you – for more information and to register your interest, please contact the MFA Secretary, Gunhild Jonsson by email: [multifaithsa@gmail.com](mailto:multifaithsa@gmail.com)

## Climate change course

This is a short Interfaith course on the Scientific and Spiritual dimensions of climate change. It is a compilation of recent scientific research via the United Nations and Spiritual Texts from different world religions.

Three main objectives are : to deepen our understanding of the causes and impacts of climate change ; to explore the ethical dimensions and address them within a religious context ; and to discuss and apply practical solutions. It also presents the complimentary nature of scientific truth and religious truth as a solution rather than a conflict.

Welcome to the introduction on Oct. 20th – 3pm at the Unitarian Church, 99 Osmond Tce, Norwood (no cost) - further details contact Darryl: 8554 7262 / [daz9@southernphone.com.au](mailto:daz9@southernphone.com.au)





## Professor Amy-Jill Levine

Several members attended the talk:  
[Jesus: the Misunderstood Jew](#)  
with **Professor Amy-Jill Levine**  
on 31<sup>st</sup> July at Flinders University Victoria Square.  
The talk was organised by *Adelaide College of Divinity* and the *Flinders University Department of Theology* with the support of *The Council of Christians and Jews (SA) Inc* and *Murdoch University*



I have certainly been brought up with the notion that Jesus was rebelling against a rigid and corrupted Judaism....  
*A comment from a member after the talk*

## Oasis, a faith friendly home away from home

We have forged strong networks with the Flinders University Oasis Centre.

Geoff Boyce, Coordinating Chaplain at Oasis will be at our next committee meeting in October to share his insights and experiences in developing Oasis:

*'a welcoming and enabling community, open to all, contributing to personal and communal spiritual enrichment while promoting mutual respect and appreciative understanding of diverse religious paths and cultural traditions.'*



## Visit to Quaker Worship

A group of members attended the Quaker Worship at North Adelaide on a cold, crisp Sunday morning in July. Many of us were new to such a meditative and silent approach to worship but all felt it as a powerful and enriching experience. The historic building was inspirational in its simplicity and beauty.





## Grazie Anna



When we decided that we needed some help with publicising the Interfaith Symposium in 2012 Anna Chiappini answered our advert. Anna became a core member of the symposium group getting involved and helping out with the Symposium far beyond the scope of her duties as a publicity officer. She even got her fiancée Mihal to help out when he came to Australia to visit her.

Anna is from Italy and she came to Adelaide as an international student to do her Masters degree in marketing at Flinders. Anna's enthusiasm energised us all and she extended our on-line presence into Facebook and symposium registrations, something we need in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Anna has now returned to Europe to marry her fiancée and live in Poland. We wish her and Mihal well in the future!

## Thank you Alex Ranse

Thank you to Alex Ranse ([alex@kvr.com.au](mailto:alex@kvr.com.au)) for redoing our website. We still have a lot of work to organize and update all the information and to keep it up to date with recent events.



We welcome any feedback, suggestions and ideas for our newsletter. Also we welcome new members or people interested in receiving regular emails of upcoming events and future newsletters.

Please contact us via email, phone or mail:

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The Multifaith Association of SA is also a member of two international multifaith organisations:

**Religions for Peace**

**Religions for Peace** 

and

**United Religions Initiative**

