

# Australian REVIEW

Studies Volume One, Number 1 April 1988



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The Australian Association for the Study of Religions is a professional organization with a membership of more than 350, made up of teachers, academics, students and others with knowledge and experience of religious traditions.

Many members also hold membership in other societies representing specific disciplines and cross-disciplinary fields. The AASR aims to function as a meeting place where the study of religion in its broadest dimensions may be fostered. It owes a considerable debt of gratitude to the Charles Strong Trust for financial support.

Membership confers participation in the AASR program which includes:

- Annual Conferences
- Access to AASR Publications (books and monographs)
- A.R.S. Review (articles, book reviews, news and notes on personnel, publications, seminars, conferences, course offerings, school and tertiary curricula).
- AASR Women and Religion Caucus
- Affiliation with the International Association for the History of Religions (IAHR)
- Strong ties with institutions in Melanesia and New Zealand.

Membership subscriptions should be sent to:

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### Editor's Note

From its beginnings in 1975, the Australian Association for the Study of Religions has featured a strong sense of community, opportunities for wide and varied participation and a generous style of communication.

These traditions were reflected in the early *Newsletters* sent out by Dr. Norman Habel (1977-1980), *Newslink* prepared by Dr. Victor Hayes (1981-1985) and the *Bulletin* edited by Dr. Richard Hutch (1986) and Dr. Peter Fenner (1987).

The Australian Religion Studies REVIEW is designed to build on these much valued AASR activities and to provide an even wider forum in Australia for the exploration of issues and research in our subject-field. The REVIEW will be produced with the assistance of editorial committees, and be published in April, August and November of each year.

The Editor wishes to thank contributors to this first issue of the ARS *REVIEW*, and especially Dr. Victor Hayes, Editor of AASR Publications, for his support and advice. The cooperation of all AASR members is invited in the evaluation of the various sections of the *REVIEW* for the planning of future issues.