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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.

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Editors' Note

It is somewhat daunting to take on what has been in effect someone's cherished infant. The ASR REVIEW is what you see today because of the inspiration, vision and sheer hard work of Penny McKibbin. It was Penny's energy and drive which created a stylish, professional journal from a group newsletter and added a new dimension to the AASR and to the study of religions in Australia.

We are delighted that Penny considers us worthy sucessors and thank her for the well organized files, the carefully prepared instructions, and her time and patience in guiding us through the many traps and pleasures of preparing the REVIEW. We also appreciate the confidence in us shown by the Executive in sub-contracting the editorial task to the Christian Research Association.

In putting this our first issue together our task has been made much more simple by Albert Moore acting as Guest Features Editor and co-ordinating the articles in that section.

We have also been heartened by the quick and encouraging responses from collegues we have approached across Australia and New Zealand. We have now assembled quite an impressive team of correspondents (informers) who should keep us well supplied with news and items of special interest. If in casting the net we missed someone who would like to be a regular contributor please contact us.

Our policy in taking over the editorship of the REVIEW is to continue to produce a high quality periodical which reflects the diverse research and teaching interests of our members and, at the same time, provides up-to-date information and news on the many religious events and conferences happening both here and overseas. Religion, even within the Australian context, is a vast field and we will be dependent on all members to keep us informed of new and exciting developments.

We hope that in editing the REVIEW we can convey our personal conviction that religion is not only an exciting academic study but one that in its many forms is applied in all aspects of life. With the help of AASR members the REVIEW should continue to play a vital part in the study of religions in Australia.

Errata, Vol 2, No 3 Omitted from end column 2, page 49 the words: 'generalists in their chosen field'.