

AFA Secretary's Report

Annual General Meeting 2016

One thing about being secretary is that a large part of my activity consists of maintaining a record of the activities of others as they report them to our monthly Committee Meetings. There has certainly been no shortage of things for everyone to do.

People in the Atheist Foundation of Australia (AFA) have taken responsibility for sub-committees and for specific activities essential to our aims. Across the years I have noticed the style of their reports. Most times, the presentation is objective and quietly analytical. Facts and figures, activities planned, tasks completed, results observed and, inevitably, steps taken to deal with the occasional obstacle. Month after month, these concise and clearly stated reports have been a pleasure to read.

Behind it all is the work and brainpower of active members. You will see the evidence for yourself when you read the reports prepared for this AGM. It doesn't take much intuition to read between the lines and mark the dedication and care people have been putting into their roles. It is a source of inspiration to me that keeps me fired up and ready to play my own small part.

I think I speak for most of us when I say that we love doing this - and why wouldn't we?

We can see that when religious oppression is lifted, the human condition improves. When the pseudo-morality of religious prejudice retreats, human civilization grows into the respect that people of many viewpoints can show each other. Incentives like that make the effort worthwhile and if you want to have an active part in this yourself, don't hesitate to get in touch with us.

There's plenty to do and the chance to do it has been hard won for us by so many. Recent history surely serves to remind us of their courage. After centuries of effort, discovery and education, the cause of rational thought has not yet prevailed everywhere. Even right here, if we stop being watchful, things will slip backwards. Still we are gaining ground, maintaining our sense of purpose and we are ready to keep working at it.

Karen Joyce,

AFA Secretary