

Our Contributors

Dr Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965). Born in Alsace, at a time when it was still part of Germany, he studied at the universities of Strasbourg, Berlin and the Sorbonne. He was a doctor of philosophy (1899), theology (1900) and medicine (1913), whose work is of international significance. His influential books include *The Quest for the Historical Jesus* (translated into English in 1910), which entered the heart of British theological debate. A world-renowned organist, his biography of J.S. Bach revived interest in the composer. He is best known for founding the mission hospital at Lambaréné, providing medical aid to thousands. He was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1952.

Rev Harry Lismer Short (1906-1975). BA (London), MA (Cambridge and Oxford), Scholar of Peterhouse 1924-26, Dr Williams's Scholar 1927-29, Hibbert Scholar, Harvard 1929-30. Tutor in Christian History, Warden and Librarian of Manchester College, Oxford. Principal 1965-1974. Editor of the *Hibbert Journal*.

Rev Arthur J. Long (1920-2006). Educated Exeter College, Oxford and Manchester College, Oxford. Hibbert Scholar, Edinburgh. Minister at Stamford Street Chapel, London and Deane Road and Horwich, Bolton. Tutor in Philosophy and Modern Doctrine at Unitarian College, Manchester and Principal 1974-1988. Honorary Lecturer at the University of Manchester. Secretary and President of the Bolton Council of Churches.

Barrie Needham was born and bred in England. He is emeritus professor of spatial planning at the Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands.

Frank Walker is a retired Unitarian minister who most recently served as minister of Cambridge and Bury St Edmonds from 1976 to 1999. He is the author of a number of books including *On the Frontier* (1997) and *The Evil Inclination & other Tales of the Unexpected* (2005).

Graham Murphy was minister at Ullet Road Church, Liverpool and Principal of the Unitarian College, Manchester. He subsequently worked as a gardener and wrote three books published by the National Trust. He is also the author of *Land of Sacred Legends, a Guide to Early Christian Sites in north-west Wales*, Sigma Press.

Rev Laura Dobson is minister with Chorlton Unitarians in Manchester. Laura grew up in a Warwickshire farming family, and studied for a BA then MA in Theology and Religious Studies at Leeds University in the 1990s, before working for various organisations in the private and public sectors in customer service and administration. She completed her Unitarian ministry training in 2021 with Unitarian College, after first walking into a Unitarian church in 2013, a leap of faith that she considers to be one of the best decisions of her life.

Rev Peter Hewis. Before training for the ministry at the Unitarian College and Manchester University, Peter spent three years playing Cornet then French Horn with the Band of the 2nd Battalion Parachute Regiment. He then had three ministries: Bethnal Green in London for seven years, Hinckley for twenty-nine years and finally at Harris Manchester College as the Chaplain, Bursar, Tutor in Ministerial Training and Minister to the Unitarian Chapel Society. Peter also spent a six-month exchange at Knoxville, Tennessee in 1970 and a further six months as the interim minister in 1980. In 1991-2 he was the President of the General Assembly, for more than twenty years he was Secretary of the North (now East) Midland District Association and for twenty years he was Secretary of the Ministers' Benevolent Society. In retirement he plays Tenor Horn with Yarnton Brass Band and is the Band President. His wife Heddwen is a retired NHS Nutritionist and Dietitian who specialised in the treatment of HIV/AIDS patients.

Helena Fyfe Thonemann read Philosophy and Economics at the London School of Economics, in the mid-1960s, under Sir Karl Popper. She is a member of the Church of England, and writes freelance. She lives in Oxfordshire. Her writings include *Confessor to the Last of the Habsburgs: Vitus Georg Tonneman, S. J.* (2008), *Educated Circles and their Mode of Reasoning – Bishop Charles Gore versus T.H. Huxley*, (2011), 'Peter Fyfe of Glasgow; (1856-1940)', *The Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland Journal*, (Summer 2012), 'David Hume's Essay "Of Miracles" Revisited,' *Faith and Freedom* (2018), and 'Christ's fury in the temple at Passover,' *Faith and Freedom* (2021).