



From the Chairperson

Rev Dr Tom Cassidy OP

Dear Colleagues,

Once again we are late in getting *Nexus* to you! Please accept my apologies. We would have hoped to have had it out before now, but alas things have prevented this from happening till this time.

Many of you would have received your membership/subscription renewals for 2007. If you have paid, thank you very much for being prompt. If you have not yet sent it in, we would be very grateful if you could send it in as soon as possible or let us know what is happening.

Much is happening this year and much has indeed happened since *Nexus* last went out and I hope through this newsletter to inform you of some of these things.

Office Matters: The move to the Adelaide College of Divinity has given us a large amount of room to spread out and give all staff an area to work in. This year we have again had an increase in staff numbers. We now have 5 people working part time in the office with the Executive Officer, Hilary Regan. They are: Brenda Scott, office administrator, who works three mornings a week; Wendy Baker, copy editor, who works in the office one day a week and some other periods from home; Astrid Sengkey, web master and layout/type-setting, who works some hours from home. New in 2007 are: Meredith Hodgetts, our book-keeper (replacing Lindi Hide) who works one day a week; and Alan Cadwallader, general editor, who also works one day a week.

Board Matters: In the last few months we have welcomed new members Mrs Rose Marie Prosser and Rev Merrill Kitchen, both of Melbourne. We look forward to their contribution. At the same time we have farewelled from the Board Ms Colleen Arnold Moore. I would like to thank her for her contribution over a four year period.

Trustees of the ATF Literary Trust: Rev Dr Dorothy Lee and Mr Hilary Regan resigned as trustees during 2006. In their place Mr Clive Rodger, of Canberra, and Dr Anne Hunt, of Ballarat, have been appointed with Mr Clive Rodger elected as Chairperson of the Trustees.

Web Sites: Over the last three months an enormous amount of work has been undertaken in revamping the various ATF web sites. I would like to thank Hilary Regan and Astrid Sengkey who have worked with Andy Steele in Melbourne to do this. The web sites are:

- 1) Main web site: www.atf.org.au
- 2) ATF Press: www.atfpress.com
- 3) ATBR, the book review we run jointly with the Adelaide College of Divinity and Rainbow books: www.atbr.atf.org.au.

The new web sites are very user friendly. Please con-

sider joining up to the Yahoo groups for receiving email up dates. To do this go to the ATF main web site and scroll down and put in your email and send, or fill in the form and send back to the office.

ATF Book Prize for 2006: The judges completed their work early in the new year for the 2006 Book Prize and the Board met in early February and awarded the prize to Dr Anne Hunt from Australian Catholic University for her book *Trinity: Nexus of the Mysteries of Christian Faith*, published by Orbis books. I would like to congratulate Anne on this achievement. Enclosed with this mail-out is the application form for the 2007 Book Prize, which is for books published in 2006. Submissions must be in by 31 May 2007

ATF Post Graduate Essay Prize for 2006: The judges are completing their work on this at present and a decision will be announced in the next *Nexus*. Submissions for the 2007 Prize must be in by the end of November 2007. Forms are with this mail-out.

Conferences: In 2007 the ATF will be involved in a number of gatherings. Here I will mention two. The first, the *Forum for Ideas in Science and Religion* will be held in Adelaide June 21-24. Program and registration form are included with this mail-out. The second, is the next *Task of Theology Today* colloquium which will be held in Canberra in November. Forms enclosed here with this mail-out. Please pass both of these on to those who you think might be interested in attending. Information concerning both are also on the main ATF web site.

Capital Endowment Fund: The ATF is a totally independent body which relies principally on membership/subscription fees and sales of books for its cash flow. To date there have been no reserves. In 2004 the Board agreed to set up a Capital Endowment Fund the interest of which will assist us with running the book prize, the essay prize, providing research grants and monies to promote publications. The Trustees of the Literary Fund are managing the fund, with only the interest from the fund being available each year. To date we have around \$50,000 promised. You will hear more about this over the next year or so.

The first quarter of the year is over. We are planning on publishing 20 books this year—a huge task. We hope that you will consider purchasing some of them for yourself or for others. With this mail-out we draw your attention to just a few of these up-coming books. Please consider!

Yours sincerely,
Rev Dr Tom Cassidy OP
Chair, ATF Limited