

## **Our Contributors**

**Howard Oliver** read physics and Oxford and meteorology at Reading Universities before a career with the Natural Environment Research Council. He was involved in water, agriculture and climate research in the UK and overseas. He was also UK manager for the World Meteorological Organisation programme providing hydrological support to developing countries. Later he was appointed college lecturer in physical meteorology and Supernumerary Fellow at Harris Manchester College, Oxford. He has been a member of the Manchester College Chapel Society for about forty years and has regularly taken services there. Now retired and living on the Dorset coast he still returns to take two services per year.

**Paul Richards** is now retired from full time employment which was as an economist in the telecoms industry. He was brought up in a non-conformist Christian family (Christadelphians) and which takes a somewhat unconventional approach to much of conventional Christian theology. His mother was Jewish coming to this country just prior to the Second World War. In the 1990s he joined the Unitarian movement feeling at home with the diversity of views and freedom to find spirituality absent formal doctrines. He resides in Godalming in Surrey and is a Trustee of Meadow Unitarian Chapel.

**Ann Peart** is a retired Unitarian minister, former Principal of Unitarian College Manchester. Her interests include the history of Unitarian women, ecofeminism, LGBTQ+ matters and social justice. She is a past president of the Unitarian Historical Society, a founder member of the Unitarian Women's group and a trustee of the British and Foreign Unitarian Association.

**Feergus O'Connor** has, since 2006, been Honorary Secretary of the World Congress of Faiths and was a founding member of the Animal Interfaith Alliance and has served as its chair since 2014. He trained for the Unitarian ministry at Harris Manchester College, Oxford and was awarded an MA in 'Death and Immortality' by the University of Wales in 2009. He has served as minister of Golders Green Unitarians in North London since September 2001. He has led the only annual interfaith celebration of animals in the UK since 2004.

**Robert Oulton** is a retired NHS GP and member of Godalming Unitarians. With a qualification as a Mindfulness teacher, he has, for the last 14 years co-facilitated, with his wife Rev Sheena Gabriel, a weekly meditation group at Godalming Unitarian chapel. He has an interest in the interface between contemplative spirituality and depth psychology, and is currently playing an active part in the 'on-line' activities of the Unitarian Christian Association.

**Philip Orr** is currently training as a therapist in St Albans, England having worked for many years in Northern Ireland as a teacher of English and Drama, a researcher, writer and historian. His recent book of poems and prose *The Illustrated History of Flight* deals with the subject of his own fundamentalist background. Philip is a member of the Royal Irish Academy.

**Marcus Braybrooke** is a retired Anglican vicar, Joint-President of the World Congress of Faiths and author of many books on religions and spirituality.

**David A. Williams** is Emeritus Perren Professor of Astronomy at University College London, and a former President of the Royal Astronomical Society.