

Progressive Atheists Inc.

Est. 10 Jan 2010 Reg: A0054119U Member of AAI

Progressive Atheists Inc. Open Meeting | 22 November 2014

Our next Progressive Atheists Inc. Open Meeting will be held on Saturday 22 November 2014, 12 pm – 4 pm for lunch and discussion at Clover & Rye Café: 410 Bridge Road, Richmond, VIC. All who support our purpose are welcome.

Progressive Atheists Purpose Statement:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/about-us/purpose-statement/>

Melbourne Atheists MeetUp Group | Event Calendar

Keep in touch with atheists around Melbourne via the Melbourne MeetUp:

<http://www.meetup.com/Melbourne-Atheists/events/calendar/>

Membership Term 2015 | 1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015

Progressive Atheists Membership is \$20 per annum / \$10 concession.

JOIN US | Purchase New Membership Online:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/about-us/membership/application/>

For other methods to renew and join please see our website:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/about-us/membership/>

Email our Membership Officer:

membership@progressiveatheists.org

OR ASK the person who gave you this bulletin

Progressive Atheists Inc. 'Proudly Atheist' T-shirts & Badges

T-shirts ONLY \$15 for members!

Badges \$2.50 each ~ 2 designs / 3 colours

Order your t-shirt or badge on our website:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/products-for-sale/>

Sales Rep. Elida Radig: sales@progressiveatheists.org



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"Your participation is PA's future"

November 2014

... we seek to go beyond divisive racial, religious, tribal, and sectarian constructs, and instead, contribute to a universal humanity.

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MEMBERSHIP

Term 2015: 1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015

***** ONLY \$20 Annually *****

Purchase Membership Online:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/product-category/membership/>

CONTACT PROGRESSIVE ATHEISTS INC.

President: president@progressiveatheists.org

Vice President – Andrew: 0438 043 050

Secretary: secretary@progressiveatheists.org

Website: progressiveatheists.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ProgressiveAtheistsInc

Twitter: twitter.com/ProgAtheistsInc



Progressive Atheist Inc. | Headlines

Campaign: Victorian State Election – Saturday, 29 November 2014

The Progressive Atheists are currently conducting a 10 Question Survey of all candidates standing in the Victorian State Election on 29 November 2014.

Enroll NOW Online to Vote in the Victorian State Election

<https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/Enrolment/Default.html>

Candidate information, electorate areas, links to policies and candidate answers to our 10 Question Survey will be published on our website **Campaign Page**, as well as having downloadable A5 leaflets to distribute at your local polling booth.

Your participation is required to make this campaign a success!

1. Share the **Campaign Page** on Twitter, Facebook, Google+, LinkedIn...
2. Register with us to phone your local candidates and ask for their answers to our 10 Question Survey
3. Give out leaflets at polling booths in your local area

<http://progressiveatheists.org/campaigns-projects/victorian-state-election-campaign-2014/>

Text / Call: 0422 907 106 / 0438 043 050

Email: elections@progressiveatheists.org

Electoral Authorisation: Election Campaign Material in this bulletin is authorised by Andrew Rawlings on behalf of Progressive Atheists Inc., 25 Banksia Street, Blackburn, VIC 3130

Report: Progressive Atheists Annual General Meeting

Monday, 27 October 2014 Progressive Atheist got together to hear about the activities of Progressive Atheists Inc. over the past 12 months and elect our new committee for Term 2015.

You can see the results of that election on our website:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/about-us/committee/>

You can also find the **Annual Report – July 2013 – June 2014** on our website:

<http://progressiveatheists.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Progressive-Atheists-Inc.-Annual-Report-July-2013-to-June-2014.pdf>

Report: Bill Shorten & The Australian Christian Lobby

Opposition Leader Bill Shorten has become the first Australian political leader to confront the Australian Christian Lobby on same-sex marriage, telling them he is a Christian who believes in marriage equality. Religion should never be used as an instrument of division or exclusion, he said. Mr Shorten read from the scriptures and said he couldn't remain silent about those who said marriage equality was the first step on the road to polygamy and bigamy and bestiality.

The ACL has campaigned strongly to prevent the passing of marriage equality laws. "It is the first time a leader of either major political party has used the forum to challenge the agenda of the conservative lobby group," acting director Ivan Hinton-Toeh said. "Some people disagreed with me coming here to say my views. We're members of Parliament. We've got to talk to people." [Bill Shorten]

Liberal Democrats senator David Leyonhjelm is working on a new bill to allow same-sex marriage, but won't introduce it until he's reasonably confident the numbers are there to pass it. The Liberal Party is yet to decide whether to allow a conscience vote on the matter, but Labor MPs have a free vote.

<http://www.smh.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/bill-shorten-tells-christian-lobby-he-supports-samesex-marriage-20141025-11bool.html>

Question: Does Islam need a Reformation?

Maajid Nawaz, co-founder and chairman of Quilliam, believes that Islam needs reform. Quilliam is the world's first counter-extremism think tank set up to address the unique challenges of citizenship, identity, and belonging in a globalised world. Quilliam stands for religious freedom, equality, human rights and democracy.

Challenging extremism is the duty of all responsible members of society. Not least because cultural insularity and extremism are products of the failures of wider society to foster a shared sense of belonging and to advance liberal democratic values. With Islamist extremism in particular, we believe a more self-critical approach must be adopted by Muslims. Westophobic ideological influences and social insularity needs to be challenged within Muslim communities by Muslims themselves whilst simultaneously, an active drive towards creating an inclusive civic identity must be pursued by all members of society.

Quilliam seeks to challenge what we think, and the way we think. It aims to generate creative, informed and inclusive discussions to counter the ideological underpinnings of terrorism, whilst simultaneously providing evidence-based recommendations to governments for related policy measures.

Read more: <http://www.quilliamfoundation.org/>