



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Dear Members – new, current, former and prospective.

Having its origins in the 1960s, The Australian Association for Religious Education is the professional association for Chaplains and Educators in the field of “religious education” (including service-learning, SRE/CRE, spirituality, ethics, philosophy, and values education).

The **AARE aims** to:

- (i) promote Religious Education as an important part of the educational landscape
- (ii) represent, support and promote the religious educator and the co-operation and understanding among “religious educators” and
- (iii) facilitate the ongoing development of religious education and related fields within schools, universities and other educational institutions.

As with any association, strength and value comes with belonging.

CHANGE IN REGISTERING AS A MEMBER

In recent months significant improvements have been made to the Association’s website and the way in which Chaplains and Educators can register as members. I apologise to those who found difficulty or lack of response when previously attempting to register on-line. We believe that we have rectified any issue and have streamlined the process.

Please advise us should you have any difficulty with:

- Membership: membership@aare.org.au
- Finances: treasurer@aare.org.au

While each State Branch manages its own affairs and addresses the needs of its members in the local scene in the manner it sees is best, there is strength in recognising that this is a national professional body.

To this end, we seek to invite members to register through the Associations’ website so once registered, membership is made to the National Body but affiliated with their particular State. Effectively nothing changes for the member; it is the “behind-the-scene process” of registration that will change. The Membership fee goes through the National body and then to the relevant State; hence the importance of accurately identifying the State affiliated.

Association Membership is for the school year, 1st January to 31st December with a three month grace period; Memberships are due by 31st March each year.

NB: The current way each State registers members will still operate in 2020 in tandem as we transition to the new system.

THE REGISTRATION PROCESS

- 1) Log on to the Website www.aare.org.au
- 2) Navigate through to the Registration Page <https://aare.org.au/registration/>
- 3) Complete the membership details
 - a) Indicate whether you wish to register as an Individual or Organisation.
 - i) Individual
 - *standard individual membership* \$70
 - *concessional membership (F/T student, unwaged, SRE/CRE Teacher)* \$40
 - ii) Organisation (school or institution)
 - *organisational membership* \$200
 - iii) Overseas member \$70
 - b) Identify the State with which you are affiliated
 - c) Fill in the other fields
- 4) You will then be contacted regarding payment details and login access

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Membership of the A.A.R.E. provides a range of benefits. Over the years many members have found it an organisation that has supported them personally and professionally, while helping them to enhance their own ministries and educational work.

The Association seeks to:

- (1) represent Religious Educators and Chaplains with:
 - State (eg PTCWA, SCSA & DET) and
 - National (eg APTA, ACARA)educational bodies & forums and
- (2) meet their varying needs by providing a range of resources and events.
 - Member-only access to new Website (coming soon)
 - Local, State & National networking
 - Professional Development (incl: Local Professional Learnings, State and National Conferences)
 - Resource-sharing
 - Discounts to Association functions
 - Collegial support

Each State also has its own value-adding benefits. In Western Australia, the Association also provides recognition of meritorious service for chaplains and educators through State Awards presented at its Annual Dinner, traditionally held in September.

WEBSITE

There is on-going work to make www.aare.org.au the one-stop shop for information, communications and resources with anything related to chaplaincy and religious education. We seek to partner with resource and service providers to facilitate and promote what they offer. Members in each State are encouraged to contact their State's AARE committee to promote, showcase and share their work.