



**Humanists Victoria Public Lectures  
Upcoming Events  
Join Humanists Victoria**

[vichumanist.org.au/public-lectures/](http://vichumanist.org.au/public-lectures/)  
[vichumanist.org.au/events/](http://vichumanist.org.au/events/)  
[vichumanist.org.au/member/](http://vichumanist.org.au/member/)



**Humanists Victoria  
Ex-Religious Discussion Group  
Philosophy Matters Melbourne**

[facebook.com/vichumanist/](https://facebook.com/vichumanist/)  
[facebook.com/groups/ExReligiousDiscussion/](https://facebook.com/groups/ExReligiousDiscussion/)  
[facebook.com/groups/PhilosophyMattersMelbourne/](https://facebook.com/groups/PhilosophyMattersMelbourne/)



**Humanists Melbourne  
Ex-Religious Support Network  
Philosophy Matters**

[meetup.com/Humanists-Melbourne/](https://meetup.com/Humanists-Melbourne/)  
[meetup.com/Ex-Religious-Support-Network/](https://meetup.com/Ex-Religious-Support-Network/)  
[meetup.com/Philosophy-Matters/](https://meetup.com/Philosophy-Matters/)

Download this *Humanists Victoria Events Calendar* at [vichumanist.org.au/calendar/](http://vichumanist.org.au/calendar/)

## I'm an Ex-Mormon (video)

**Sunday 17 November 2019, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm**



Melbourne, Victoria

For this meeting of the Ex-Religious Support Network (ESN), we will view and discuss a short video created by ex-Mormon, Chris Johnson. Chris served in Japan as a Mormon missionary, proselytizing the 'Book of Mormon'. He began to lose his faith when a promised, deeply personal miracle did not happen.

That failing led him on a journey of discovery of how the religious mind is biased towards self-affirmation. After conducting a number of parallel enquiries into the truth of the 'Book of Mormon' and of the Bible, Chris' doubts amplified to the extent that his life began to fall apart. He climbed through the abyss to rebuild his life, seeing the world through different eyes and developing more meaningful relationships. Come and hear his fascinating story and share your experiences leaving religion. To maintain Meetup member privacy, this meeting is private. To see venue details, join the [ESN Meetup Group](#).

## Jehovah's Witnesses Protest Melbourne 2019

**Friday 22 to Sunday 24 November 2019, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm  
Outside Marvel Stadium, 740 Bourke St, Docklands, Melbourne**



Up to 60,000 members of the Jehovah's Witnesses faith will be gathering for an international religious convention, themed LOVE NEVER FAILS! To coincide with the religious convention, a peaceful protest will take place adjacent to Marvel Stadium to draw attention to the religion's harmful practices. The aims of the protest are to inform the community of the church's harmful

teachings and policies, to protect the community from the religion's harmful practices and to warn about the 1000+ alleged child abusers within the organisation in Australia.

## Public Lecture: Why Animals Matter

**Thursday 28 November, 7:15 pm**

**Balwyn Library, 336 Whitehorse Rd, Balwyn, Victoria**



Meg Chanom (Animals Australia)

In this talk, Lisa Chalk will work to unravel our inherited belief systems about the role of animals in our lives and society. She will address how our treatment of animals intersects with other critical issues facing the world today. These issues include the climate crisis, human health and global hunger. Come and be challenged in your thinking about our relationships with and our moral obligations to other species.

## The Problem of Evil

**Tuesday 10 December 2019, 8:00 pm**

**Melbourne Unitarian Church, 110 Grey St, East Melbourne** (Find on [Google Maps](#))



The existence of evil, pain and suffering is considered by many philosophers to be the most vexed question concerning the existence of an omnipotent, omniscient and morally perfect deity. Why would a loving God permit wanton acts of cruelty and misery on the scale witnessed throughout human history?

Leslie Allan (Vice President, Humanists Victoria and Owner, Rational Realm)

leads a discussion on common theistic responses to this problem, exploring how each approaches the problem and outstanding issues. He then examines a theistic defence designed to show that the problem of evil is not a problem at all.

## Casual Get-together at Café and Gardens

**Saturday 14 December 2019, 11:00 am to 1:00 pm**



Melbourne, Victoria

For our last Ex-Religious Support Network (ESN) get-together for the year, we'll meet at a café located in beautiful gardens close to the Melbourne city block. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy in the gardens or get a bite to eat and a drink at the café. The café offers a range of snacks and hot and cold drinks. Be sure to bring a hat and some sunscreen if you plan on enjoying the sunshine. The gardens are family-friendly, so you can let your children play in the beautiful green surroundings. We'll meet on the seats in the open air area at the rear of the café. Look for the guy with the name-tag "Les". ESN is a private Meetup group. Membership of the group is required to see the event details. To see venue details, join the [ESN Meetup Group](#).