Hand in Hand
Blending Secular and Sacred to Enlarge the Human Spirit

Ian Harris

To be released May 2021
rrp $30 • B format • 230pp • non-fiction/journalism

Selling points:
• Second collection of Faith and Reason columns (Otago Daily Times) by journalist Ian Harris, following the successful New World New God (Mākaro Press, 2018)
• Foreword by Bishop Richard Randerson
• Inclusive discussion of Christianity’s place in the modern secular world
• Nuanced and succinct columns that can be read individually or as a full collection

Scrape away the barnacles, re-examine the origins of Christian faith, take full account of modern knowledge and experience, open your mind to new possibilities, rethink what faith can mean in this new millennium – that’s the plea Ian Harris makes in this challenge to reset faith within today’s secular frame.

Ian Harris’s New World New God showed how this reset can bring to light new interpretations for God, Jesus, the Bible and the great Christian festivals. Hand in Hand goes back a step to show why such a reset is necessary. Harris sees the secular not as hostile to faith, but as the neutral setting for religion in the modern world. He debunks the view that science is its polar opposite, and urges the churches to embrace the new reality as a positive for Christian understanding and for life.

“A powerful book that will speak to all those exploring faith and spirituality, and a challenge to the churches to look beyond ecclesiastical walls.” — Bishop Richard Randerson

Ian Harris was born in Christchurch, taught English at Satya Wacana Christian University in Salatiga, Indonesia, and now lives in Days Bay, Wellington.

He edited The New Zealand Methodist, was assistant editor of The Auckland Star, served as Director of Communication for the Presbyterian Church in New Zealand, and was an editorial writer at The Dominion. Ian’s prime interest is in re-imagining the Christian way in a secular society, as reflected in his Otago Daily Times columns, his books Creating God, Recreating Christ and New World New God, and The Ephesus Liturgies series written with his late wife, Jill.