



Human Rights Defenders

Marilyn Jarrett from Amnesty International
Saturday 10th December 2.00pm *Moordown*

Amnesty International is a global movement of people who champion and fight for the human rights of other people, often risking their own lives to expose injustice and hold powerful people to account. Following a general introduction to Amnesty International's work, including some moving success stories, Marilyn Jarrett will bring us up to date on the disturbing plight of many 'Individuals at Risk' and 'Prisoners of Conscience' such as Raif Badawi. She will also outline Amnesty's new global refugee campaign. We hope Marilyn can also update us on the government's proposals to replace the Human Rights Act in the UK with a "British Bill of Rights". Join us for festive mince pies and mulled wine after the talk.



Holocaust Memorial Day

Bournemouth and Poole HMD Committee
Sunday 29th January 3.00pm *Life Centre, Moordown*

This year's theme is 'How Can Life Go On?' looking at life after genocide and how survivors and their families have coped. Maggie Pepin will give the Pledge. David Warden has been invited to light a candle during the Act of Commemoration and speak about the gay victims of Nazi Germany. Homosexual prisoners in concentration camps such as Buchenwald were identified by pink triangles and assigned to gruelling and dangerous work. Heinrich Himmler, overseer of the concentration camps, believed that homosexuality was a symptom of racial degeneracy which would deprive Germany of children. When the Allies liberated the camps surviving gay prisoners were treated as criminals and made to serve out the remainder of their sentences. 100,000 more arrests were made up until 1969. In 2008 a pink granite memorial to the victims was unveiled in Berlin.



Sunday Social Walks

See Meetup.com for details

December 18th – Parkstone Woods – 10.15am

A moderate walk (6 miles) around the footpaths, woods and chines of Parkstone, Canford Cliffs and Branksome, and alongside the harbour and sea front. The aim is to take in leafy roads and lanes that you may not have come across before. It is mostly on footpaths (some muddy) but some of the walk will be on quiet roads. There are possibilities to shorten if anyone wishes to. More details on Dorset Humanists Meetup.com.

Please check monthly bulletins, Meetup.com and our website for any late changes to programme



Pub Socials

See Meetup.com for details *Moon*

Thursday 1st December 7.30pm

Wednesday 14th December 7.30pm (silly jumpers)

Thursday 5th January 7.30pm

Thursday 2nd February 7.30pm

Enjoy stimulating conversation over a drink or two in a friendly atmosphere at our pub social evenings. Our current venue offers a wide range of drinks, and food is also available.

Keep an eye on our free monthly bulletins for details of occasional lunches, barbecues and other social events.



Libertarianism

Senior Lecturer in Philosophy Arif Ahmed
Saturday 14th January 2.00pm *Moordown*

Humanism and liberty are natural allies but is libertarianism a step too far? Are libertarians selfish egoists who are indifferent to community and the suffering of the poor and who just want to protect big business? Libertarians tend to oppose welfare because they want to enrich the poor through high growth economies, not through handouts. They also oppose corporate welfare and crony capitalism which captures economic growth for a tiny elite. Arif Ahmed is a senior lecturer in the faculty of philosophy at the University of Cambridge. He has held visiting positions at universities in Sydney, China, and Italy. He is an atheist and he has debated against William Lane Craig, Tariq Ramadan, Rowan Williams and others. His philosophical outlook is most closely allied with those of David Hume and Friedrich Hayek.



Recovering from Religion

Jon Davies and Ruth Haydock
Wednesday 25th January 7.30pm *Green House*

Christianity had a very negative influence on Ruth's life, and this led to her setting up the first 'Recovering from Religion' group in Scotland. This group helps and supports those who are in the process of giving up on a belief in a higher power, and people who are dealing with the emotional scars resulting from believing in a god. Ruth is a previous Chair of the Board of the National Federation of Atheist, Humanist and Secular Student Societies.

Jon's 'Damascus Road' experience in 2013 propelled him into the Humanist camp. His account of his journey from total trust to scepticism will look at the ways in which people can be misled by the church. He recently worked in a large London prison where he was responsible for the health and safety of 2000 staff and inmates.



Out of the Box

Interfaith Discussions *Black Bear*

Weds 7th Dec – The True Meaning of Christmas

A Christian minister will explain why he thinks Christmas was a mistake, and a humanist will explain why he doesn't celebrate Christmas. Join us for festive mince pies!

Weds 1st February – Topic to be announced

'Out of the Box' is a dialogue group for Humanists and Christians to explore differences and identify common ground. The emphasis is on listening, learning and friendly dialogue.

See monthly bulletins or Meetup.com for details.



Science Without Pedestals

Philosopher Julian Baggini Ticketed Event
Saturday 11th February 12.00pm/2.00pm BIC

Celebrate Darwin Day in style with a delicious three course buffet lunch in BIC's Purbeck Lounge, followed by a fascinating talk by our special guest writer, journalist, and co-founder of *The Philosophers' Magazine* Julian Baggini. Humanists and free-thinkers rightly celebrate the many achievements of science, however some go too far in their admiration, and make science the model for all reason. Julian will argue that the scientific method cannot provide the template for reason, partly because there is no such thing as *the* scientific method, and most importantly, science cannot be the source of ethics nor can it debunk it. By challenging the pretensions of those who elevate science too high, we can better appreciate it for what it really is and more fully understand what it means to value reason and rationality.

Lunch & Talk Ticket (12.00pm start): £25 including welcoming glass of wine or soft drink, followed by a 3-course Italian buffet lunch (**£5 discount for paid-up members booking lunches before Christmas**).

Talk only Ticket (2.00pm start): £3 includes coffee or tea on arrival.

Bookings: 📞 Lyn Glass 01202 558763 📧 lyn.glass@btinternet.com



Religion in Schools

Cathy Silman, Hilary Bond, and Dave Pegg
Wednesday 22nd February 7.30pm *Green House*

Hilary Bond, Schools and Children's worker for the Parish of Wareham, Cathy Silman, retired teacher and member of Dorset Humanists Education Group, and Christian schools worker Dave Pegg will discuss the controversial and contested domains of religious education, worship in schools, and faith schools. Can we find common ground? Come along and join this lively discussion.



Venues

Our Event Locations

Moordown - Moordown Community Centre

Coronation Avenue, Moordown BH9 1TW

Green House - The Green House Hotel

4 Grove Road Bournemouth BH1 3AX

Moon - Moon in the Square

4-8 Exeter Rd, Bournemouth BH2 5AQ

Black Bear - The Black Bear

14 South St, Wareham BH20 4LT

Life Centre - Life Centre

713 Wimborne Rd, Moordown BH9 2AU

BIC - Bournemouth International Centre

Exeter Road, Bournemouth BH2 5BH



Welcome to the latest edition of our events programme which, as always, includes stimulating presentations and discussions with a great line-up of guest speakers.

Everyone is welcome to attend our public events so if you enjoy discussing some or all of these topics with like-minded people please come along. Our members and visitors are people with lively minds who want to learn, explore, discuss and debate, while ensuring our society is guided by sound values based on reason, evidence and compassion. We hope finding a group such as ours will also be a source of great friendship and fun! Look out for our monthly bulletins for details of additional interesting events including lunches, walks and pub discussion evenings.

If you like what we do, and share our aims and values, please consider annual membership (details below), which helps us continue hosting these stimulating events and to promote an ethical non-religious approach to life, informed by science, empathy and reason.

We look forward to meeting you.

David Warden
Chairman, Dorset Humanists

About Dorset Humanists...

We provide a forum for lively debate and discussion about a wide range of topics including science, philosophy, religion, psychology, politics, and ethical and environmental issues. We raise awareness of and make charitable donations to worthwhile causes at home and abroad.

We are a Partner of the British Humanist Association which campaigns against discrimination and privilege based on religious belief. We are also a member of the National Secular Society which works towards a secular society.

Annual Membership

Dorset Humanists is entirely funded by voluntary donations from our members and visitors.

If you enjoy our events and share our aims and values, please help us continue our activities by paying our annual membership fee of £15 (Students £5).

Membership also enables you to participate in determining future group activities, obtain discounts on selected events, and vote on constitutional issues. To join us, pick up a membership form at one of our meetings, phone 07910 886629, or see our website.

Free Entry!

Unless otherwise stated, entry to all events in this programme is free to members and non-members alike, although we do appreciate an optional small donation of £1 or £2 towards venue hire.

Parking

Moordown Community Centre: Free on-site parking, including parking for Disabled Badge Holders. Additional roadside parking available nearby.

Green House Hotel: Limited parking onsite. The Green House Hotel can also be accessed from Gervis Road which is well lit and has roadside parking available.

Refreshments

Refreshments can be purchased in Moordown Community Centre café and the Green House Hotel bar.

Mailing List

To receive our free monthly bulletins and regular updates, enter your email details on the website, or email us.

Website: www.dorsethumanists.co.uk
Facebook: Dorset Humanists
Meetup.com: [meetup.com/Dorset-Humanists](https://www.meetup.com/Dorset-Humanists)
Email: chairman@dorsethumanists.co.uk

Annual Membership £15 (Students £5)

For an information pack and membership details, phone 07910 886629 or see website.

Ceremonies

BHA-trained Humanist celebrants are available to meet your needs for non-religious weddings and funerals. Please contact us, or check the 'Ceremonies' page on our website for further details.

Information

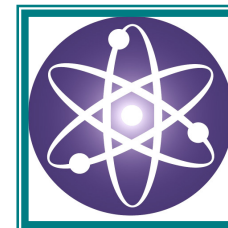
Please check our monthly bulletin and/or website for any changes to this programme. The bulletin is published on our website and can also be posted or emailed to you. Presentations usually last around 90 minutes. The views expressed by speakers are their own and not necessarily those of Dorset Humanists.



EVENTS

PROGRAMME

Winter 2016/17



Free Entry!

to all events unless otherwise stated

**SKEPTICAL ENQUIRY – ETHICS – HUMAN RIGHTS – DEMOCRACY
 ATHEISM – SCIENCE – ENVIRONMENT – SECULARISM**