



Shelley – a Humanist out of Time

A video presentation introduced by John Webster
Saturday 9th December 2.00pm *Moordown*

One of our greatest romantic poets Percy Bysshe Shelley was also an idealist who passionately advocated social reform, and in this literary and musical presentation, Shelley expert John Webster will reveal how modern humanist ideals inspired much of this revolutionary poet's work. Following an introduction highlighting Shelley's relevance to contemporary humanism, John will present Shelley's verses in song form from his *'Shelley's Golden Years in Italy'* DVD. These musical adaptations of Shelley's poems feature introductory narrations by the poet Benjamin Zephaniah and are illustrated with an eclectic selection of Shelley-related locations in Italy.



Hidden Knowledge

Dr Sarah Goode
Saturday 13th January 2.00pm *Moordown*

Is adult sexual attraction to children a psychological disorder, a sexual orientation, a genetic fault, or the result of trauma? The UK National Crime Agency states that around 750,000 men in Britain are sexually attracted to children. And with the NSPCC estimating that one in 20 children are sexually abused (over 36,000 annually), providing effective protection for our children is clearly a huge challenge. If we want to keep children safe from sexual harm, then gaining a better understanding of what we're dealing with is surely the first step. Dr Sarah Goode has done ground-breaking research in this controversial field, and will be addressing the taboo subject of adult sexual attraction to children. She refrains from demonizing the people who feel this attraction whilst insisting that knowledge, rather than ignorance, is what we need in order to keep children safe.



Sunday Social Walks

See Meetup.com for more details

Walks start at 10.15am unless otherwise stated, and are usually between 6 and 9 miles. Most walks have optional short cuts or escape routes for those who enjoy shorter walks.
17th December – Stour Valley Way.
21st January – Mystery walk starting at the Pier Approach in Bournemouth.
18th February – Hardy's Cottage and Puddletown Forest.

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



Money and Banking: Why the System is Failing and our Radical Solution

Lucy Thom and David Moon, Positive Money
Wednesday 24th January 7.30pm *Green House*

The economy is not working for too many people with ever-growing inequality, rising house prices, private debt and environmental degradation. Lucy Thom and David Moon, members of Positive Money, will explain that commercial banks create new money when they make loans and money is destroyed when those loans are repaid. They will show how this is at the root of our current economic problems and make the case for major banking reform, removing the right to create money from the private sector. Positive Money campaigns for the power to create money to be used in the public interest, in a democratic, transparent and accountable way, rather than by the same banks that caused the financial crisis.



The Day after Tomorrow: Our Oceans and Climate Change

Meric Srokosz
Wednesday 28th February 7.30pm *Green House*

Anthropogenic climate change is now accepted by virtually all credible scientists in the relevant fields. Professor of Physical Oceanography Meric Srokosz coordinates the *Rapid Climate Change* programme looking at how changes in the north Atlantic circulation will affect UK and northwest European climate, and in this talk he will be exploring the role of the oceans in climate and climate change, and explain how our climate is changing and the consequent effects. Points of interest will include the impact of sea level rises, potential changes in global weather patterns, and a look at the effect of ocean acidification on marine ecosystems and human populations.



Darwin Day at Bournemouth International Centre: What Next for Humans in an Age of Machines?

Dr Kate Devlin Ticketed Event
Saturday 10th February 12.00pm/2.00pm BIC

Celebrate Darwin Day in style once again with a delicious three course buffet lunch in BIC's Purbeck Lounge, followed by a thought-provoking talk from our specially invited guest Dr Kate Devlin.

We have become dependent on machines, and we already have robots outperforming us in complicated tasks. We live in an age where automation of our everyday world is becoming increasingly achievable, and we barely notice artificial intelligence because it blends seamlessly into our lives. For as long as humans have existed, we've used technology - from sticks to smartphones - to improve our existence but will we reach a point where that technology usurps us? What happens if, or when, we become redundant, and where does life go next? Join us at our Darwin Day Celebration for an insider's view of what it means to be human in an age of ever-advancing machines.

Kate Devlin is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Computing at Goldsmiths, University of London. She works in the fields of Human Computer Interaction and Artificial Intelligence, and is known for her work on human sexuality and robotics. Kate is the author of *The Brightness of Things: An Adventure in Light and Time*, and was recently named as one of London's most influential people.

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 by 9th December**).

Talk only Ticket (2.00pm start): £3 includes coffee or tea on arrival.
Bookings: 📞 Lyn Glass 01202 767323 📧 lyn.glass@btinternet.com



Pub Socials

See Meetup.com for details *Moon*

Thursday 7th December 7.30pm
Festive Bonus Wednesday 20th December 7.30pm
Thursday 4th January 7.30pm
Thursday 1st 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.



Out of the Box

Interfaith Discussions *Black Bear*

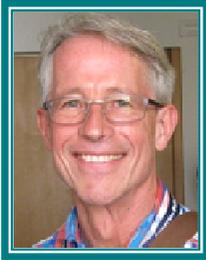
Weds 6th December – “Who Wrote the Bible? An Audience with the Authors.” An imaginative evening in which three Biblical authors time-travel to the present and reveal the secrets of how the Bible was really written as they are interviewed by our host Aaron Darkwood.
Out of the Box takes a break in January.
Out of the Box is a dialogue group for Humanists and Christians to explore our differences and identify shared aims and values.
See monthly bulletins or Meetup.com for details.



Short Talks

See Meetup.com *Green House*

Tues 19th December – ‘Humanists in the Forces’
Tues 16th January – ‘Feeding the World Humanely’
Tues 20th February – ‘Global Warming and Population’
At our Short Talks events, several speakers present short talks on a common theme.
We request that attendees donate £2 to £3 to help us cover the venue hire costs.
See monthly bulletins or Meetup.com for details.



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 Humanists UK (formerly known as 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.

Venue Location Details

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

BIC - Bournemouth International Centre Exeter Road,
Bournemouth BH2 5BH

Refreshments can be purchased at most of our regular venues (please note bar and café opening times on arrival).

Event Pricing

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

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

Email: chairman@dorsethumanists.co.uk

Ceremonies

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

Important Information

Please check our monthly bulletin, Meetup, and/or our 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 2017



Free Entry!

*to all events unless otherwise stated
(Donations appreciated!)*

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