



Science as King

Peter Atkins

Saturday 8 June 2.00pm *Moordown*

In this talk, Peter Atkins will explore whether science can provide answers to all the great questions. That task involves deciding which great questions are real questions and which are merely projections of human angst. He will then consider the answers that science provides and is likely to provide to the real questions, arguing that it is the only reliable way forward and that its power is unbounded.

Peter Atkins is an emeritus professor of physical chemistry at the University of Oxford and a fellow of Lincoln College. He is the author of over 70 books, which include university-level textbooks and books on science for the general reader, including *On Being* and (most recently) *Conjuring the Universe: The Origins of the Laws of Nature*. He is a patron of Humanists UK.



Bourne Free

Bournemouth's LGBT+ Festival

Sat 13 July Meet Lower Gardens at 10.00am

Bourne Free is one of our annual opportunities to express solidarity with communities that have come under increasing threat around the world. In Brunei, for example, being gay was already illegal and punishable by up to 10 years in prison but the Sultan of Brunei has introduced new laws which make gay sex punishable by stoning to death. In the UK, we are seeing protests against schools which merely inform young children, in an age appropriate way, that same-sex parents exist.

LGBT+ is a human rights issue and Humanism has always been at the forefront of promoting human rights. We invite all of our members, regardless of sexual orientation or gender, to consider joining us on the march this year. It's colourful, it's fun, and it shows Bournemouth that humanists support human rights for all.



Secularism: politics, religion and freedom

Andrew Copson

Saturday 10 August 2.00pm *Moordown*

Secularism is an increasingly hot topic in public, political, and religious debate across the globe. It is embodied in the conflict between secular republics – from the US to India – and the challenges they face from resurgent religious identity politics; in the challenges faced by religious states like those of the Arab world from insurgent secularists; and in states like China where calls for freedom of belief are challenging a state-imposed non-religious worldview.

In his new book Andrew tells the story of secularism, taking in momentous episodes in world history, such as the great transition of Europe from religious orthodoxy to pluralism, the global struggle for human rights and democracy, and the origins of modernity. Andrew is CEO of Humanists UK and President of Humanists International.



Is religion really the reason for the problems in Northern Ireland?

Gerard O'Boyle

Wednesday 26 June 7.30pm *Green House*

Gerard O'Boyle was raised in Northern Ireland and after graduating in Irish Studies and History he voted with his feet to leave this troubled province. Since then he has lived and worked in four countries on three continents and is now able to view the Irish situation dispassionately. Having spent several years in the Irish Republic and England he can see it through the lenses of all the participants. He will explain the history in an engaging and intelligible way.

Before moving to Barton on Sea Gerard was a member of North Devon Humanists.



Living Humanism

Philip Nathan

Wednesday 24 July 7.30pm *Green House*

'Living Humanism: A Guide to Personal Conduct and Action for the 21st Century and Beyond' is a new book by Philip Nathan. Philip is a former Chair, Education Officer and Media Officer for North East Humanists. He has given a range of talks on Humanism and has appeared on both radio and television broadcasts discussing issues related to Humanism and atheism. He is an assistant professor at Durham University and he holds doctorates in molecular biology and applied linguistics. *Living Humanism* is his first book publication and this talk will provide an engaging introduction to its contents.



Belief: How should we regard it?

John Richards

Weds 28 August 7.30pm *Green House*

In this talk, John Richards will argue that we need to re-evaluate the concept of 'belief' today. He will delve into the history of how the concept of belief has been used in the past and contend that definitions of belief place unreasonable emphasis on its association with truth.

John Richards is chair of Worthing Skeptics in the Pub and publications director for Atheist Alliance International. He is also a former science teacher and politician, and an experienced campaigner for critical thinking.



Sunday Social Walks

See Meetup.com for details

Walks start at 10.15am unless otherwise stated. Most walks have short cuts or escape routes to make them about 4 or 5 miles.

Sunday 16th June 10.15am

Sunday 21st July 10.15am

Sunday 18th August 10.15am

Details of walks will be announced in our bulletin and via Meetup.com. Please check for any late changes due to weather conditions.



Pub Socials

See Meetup.com for details *Moon*

Thursday 6th June 7.30pm

Thursday 4th July 7.30pm

Thursday 1st August 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 *Sandford*

Weds 5th June 7.30: Christianophobia. We report on the growing concerns over persecution of Christians around the world, alongside similar persecution of atheists and humanists.

Weds 3rd July 7.30: To be announced

Out of the Box takes a break in August.

'Out of the Box' is a dialogue group for people with different worldviews. Mainly Humanists and Christians but we welcome people of all faiths and beliefs.

See monthly bulletins or Meetup.com for details.



Short Talks

See Meetup.com *Green House*

Tues 18th June – 'Why I am Not a Christian' and 'Why I am Not a Humanist' – David Warden and Dave Pegg

Tues 16th July – no meeting

Tues 20th August – How humanists escape from cults – Gus Atkins and Chris Street

Two or more 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 Dorset Humanists. We are a local charity which exists to meet the diverse needs of people who identify as having 'no religion'. According to surveys, that's more than 50% of the UK population. Non-religious people may want to meet like-minded others, arrange a meaningful humanist ceremony for themselves or a loved one, learn more about

science, make the world a better place, access non-religious pastoral support, reflect on the meaning of life, raise money for good causes, join a personal development course, join an interfaith dialogue group, go for walks in the wonderful Dorset countryside, arrange for someone to speak about Humanism in their child's school, oppose the proliferation of faith schools, have a barbecue on the beach, campaign for changes in the law, have a few beers and a laugh... the list is endless!

Dorset Humanists punches above its weight in the local area. We've spoken to thousands of children about Humanism in local schools, we take part in the Bournemouth Remembrance Service and Holocaust Memorial Day every year, and we raise thousands of pounds for local charities through our Winter Appeal.

If you would like to receive our monthly Bulletin you can subscribe via our website or email us. If you want the non-religious 50% to have a stronger voice in society why not become a member of Dorset Humanists for just £15.00 a year? You can pick up a form at our meetings or join via our website. We also invite you to join Humanists UK which is a separate but related organisation.

Thank you for visiting and we hope to see you soon, either at a real event or online via Facebook and Meetup.

David Warden
Chairman of Dorset Humanists, Honorary Member of Humanists UK, & Council Member of the South Central England Humanists Network

Annual Membership

Dorset Humanists is a registered charity (EW10227) and funded entirely 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

Sandford - Sandford Heritage Hall, Sandford Rd, Nr Wareham, BH20 7AJ (Next to Pine Martin Grange)

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 £2 or £3 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](https://www.meetup.com/Dorset-Humanists)

Email: chairman@dorsethumanists.co.uk

Ceremonies

Trained and accredited Humanist celebrants are available to meet your needs for non-religious weddings, 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

Summer 2019



Free Entry!

to all events unless otherwise stated

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