



# LEICESTER SECULAR SOCIETY

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The Oldest Secular Society in the World  
Formed in 1851

## APRIL NEWS 2008



Photo: Mike Burden debates with a visitor

### Ken Ham - God of the Gullible

A group of us handed out over 140 leaflets and flyers regarding the threat to science education posed by the creationist misinformation in Ken Ham's Parklands Leisure Centre talk on 3<sup>rd</sup> April. My husband Chris and I expected to go home once the talk started but when someone from the organisers "Answers in Genesis" (AiG) invited us into the talk we couldn't resist the offer...

I was interested in the mixed emotions the talk evoked in me. I laughed a little (not at the bits that Ken Ham seemed to think were humorous), felt angry (mainly at his tactics), irritated (at his followers' gullibility), depressed (seeing the number of children there) and, fleetingly, deep sympathy for Ken Ham. For that moment, I saw him as a young child in short grey trousers, drumming his heels on the floor, screwing up his little face and shouting, "Tis true, 'tis true. It is, it is, it is!"

The feeling of pity disappeared when he explained that "Creation Science" is just like "Secular science" except that creationists start with the Bible. Scientists, he said, far from +starting with the EVIDENCE, start with their own suppositions, hopes and human prejudices. Of course, he didn't go on to explain peer review or how that works but then, he wouldn't would he? Either he doesn't understand

it, or he deliberately conceals it from his largely scientifically illiterate audience (judging from the conversations we had outside).

Ken Ham then asked why Richard Dawkins would spend so much time and energy hating something he claims not to believe in. Again, had he missed the point or was he relying on his audience's credulity? Does he know that atheists don't "hate God" – it WOULD be stupid to hate something one doesn't believe in - what they oppose (and some people probably do "hate") is the power and control the BELIEF in God has over people.

Of course, he brought up abiogenesis and said that scientists don't know how life came from non-life – as if "da magic-man, he done it" is a sane explanation and "we don't know (yet)" proves that da magic man DID do it.

Having said all this, I didn't feel that the audience was as sympathetic to him as I had expected. Not one person (NOT ONE) clapped at the end of the first, and major, part of his talk (I don't know if they did at the very end or, if they did, how "prompted" they were to do so). We also laughed at the fact that, whereas an open, honest talk or a lecture would end with fifteen minutes of Q & A, Ken Ham's talk ended with fifteen minutes of marketing!

Five of us couldn't stomach the second part. One man who did, joined us later and said that the people handing out leaflets (us!) had been referred to as "scientologists"!

Chris was quite taken aback by it all. He went to help and support me, feeling strongly about keeping creationism and ID out of science lessons but feeling much less strongly than I do about the role of religion in general. He had expected the talk to be a sermon, with Ken Ham preaching. "That wasn't a sermon", he said afterwards, "it was a pseudo-science lecture, distorted and dishonest." I couldn't have said it better myself.

All in all, I'm pleased we did the leaflets. Some people DID read them and, as Chris said... "If it saves one child...."!

Pennie

### Upcoming Events

**Sunday 20th April** at the Hall - **Sharia Law** – What is it? Abdul Halim will tell us about Sharia. In return they have agreed to a return match where we tell them about Secularism

**Friday 25th April** at the Y Theatre - a **Tribute to Linda Smith**; £13/£11, Box Office: 0116 255 7066

**Sunday 27th April** at the Hall - **'Morality and Atheism'** – Pennie Blatchford asks "Is it possible to be truly moral with god?"

**Thursday 1st May** at Central Library, Bishop Street - **Leicester City of Sanctuary**: General meeting open to all. Refreshments 5.30 pm, starts 6pm. Constitution and plan of action. Election of Committee.

**Sunday 4th May** at the Hall - **'Headstrong evening'** - what's bothering you at the moment? Come and tell.

**Sunday 11th May** at the Hall - **'Freethinking Glass'** - John Cook considers glazing from a new angle

**Sunday 18th May** at the Hall - **'C-Change Project'** – Margaret Fleming – will give a talk on climate change. What can be done without causing despair?

**Sunday 25th May** at the Hall - **The 'Nueva Esperanza' Project, El Salvador** - Caroline Moles and Michael Gerard report on their recent visit.

### President's Column

I have been a member of the Society for many years and on the committee, now the Board, for some time. During recent years our membership and our local standing have grown markedly - membership trebled, the Newsletter revived, more recognition and support in the media. This is evident, even from the outside.

From the inside, what is encouraging is the increased attendance at meetings, the wider awareness and the greater social interaction at meetings, and the richer variety of events - general Sunday meetings, focussed Ideas meetings, events like Burns' night and outings (we shall be adding music concerts in autumn and we are considering having a society dinner).

We have an increasingly competent and professional management team, now the Board of the Society. We have been fortunate that members with the needed skills have been willing to come forward for election to the Board, but we have to look to maintain this competence in the future. Ultimately we depend on members, so please let me or another Board member know if you would like to

help, either on the Board or by offering some particular skills and experience. The Board can co-opt members and there will be elections at the Annual General Meeting in November.

Some specific points: the application for a Project Planning Grant is now with the Heritage Lottery Fund and invitations to tender for professional help have been sent out; the Hall roof is now sound; the website [www.humanismforschools.org.uk](http://www.humanismforschools.org.uk) is now on the Leicester City Council website (under Homework Help); we had outside support in the Mercury in response to Bishop Tim Stevens' assertion that secularism suppressed expressions of conscience; in keeping with our free speech principles we have responded to a request to tell us about Sharia Law by arranging a meeting (20 April) and a return meeting where we will present secularism; we are participating in Leicester College's 'Faith Ambassadors' team; and, finally, we are going global - with an email from a student in Slovenia who will join us when in Loughborough on an Erasmus Exchange!

Allan Hayes

### Ekklesia, so near and yet . . .

In the words of Margaret Thatcher, "It's a funny old world". Every so often I find a group of people who seem pretty fine on the face of it, but lift the lid too far, and the shine comes off. Take, for example, Christian think-tank Ekklesia. These people are sound on a number of issues, not least the need to be sound on "concrete practices like reconciliation, non-violence, economic sharing, hospitality (welcome and inclusion), restorative justice, social equality, forgiveness, neighbourly freedom, the community of women and men, nurturing life as 'gift', environmental sustainability, and global solidarity with all those pushed to the margins.". And, they sum it up nicely when they look for "change coming through risk-taking hopefulness, not through a destructive lust for security and certainty."

But then it all goes pear-shaped: "Life in all its fullness (such as the Gospel proposes) cannot be achieved by the social and natural sciences, technological advance, economic development, democratic accommodation, autonomous reason and political operation alone - it requires a major change of heart and mind; a turnaround (*metanoia*) in the basic way we relate to each other, the world and God."

Damn. It's same old 'you can't change the world unless you change yourself' mantra that slows down every social movement. You can take the person out of the church, but you can't take the church out of the person. Still, I suppose we have to deal with the world as it is, rather than the way that we'd like it to be. In the words of Ned Kelly, "Such is life".

Chris Williams

### The Jesus Restaurant Debate

There are a lot of very different points I wanted to respond to (from the last edition), so I apologise if this reads as a series of disconnected arguments with no common theme.

Mike Clutten defended a strong link between secularism and socialism, saying "*Right-wingers naturally side with the Establishment as they have so much in common*". Although socialists typically tend to be secularists, it does not follow that secularists tend to be socialist - and in fact we find secularists at both ends of the political spectrum. To me, secularism seems more closely aligned with capitalism. Both oppose government controls. Secularism opposes government control of religion, promoting freedom of belief. Capitalism opposes government control of distribution of wealth, promoting the freedom to trade. Theocracy and socialism have much in common - they both favour government control over individual freedom.

Michael Gerard asked what I meant by "association with socialism" and asked for some specifics. By "association with socialism" I mean wherever the society allows itself to be used as a platform for typically socialist, rather than secularist political issues. This would include:

•Anti-Trident campaigns leaving from Secular Hall and

promoted in the Leicester Mercury

•Strong opposition to using Secular Hall for "commercial purposes" even though the profits gained would be used to promote secularism.

•Apparent links with the Palestine Solidarity Campaign

•Co-hosted events with Leicester Cuba Solidarity Campaign

To clarify - I oppose the use of LSS as a platform for any political issue not relating to secularism: socialist, capitalist or otherwise.

Michael: by socialism, I mean any political system that promotes government controlled distribution of wealth. You asked "*Is it possible that by 'socialism' he means 'progressive'?*" Answer: no. Do you know what I mean by the term *equivocation*?

George Jelliss wrote "*If individual members think that their particular views are not represented in the Society it is up to them to make their views known and argue their case*". You've missed my point. I do not wish to have a platform within the society on which to promote capitalism. Because capitalism, like socialism; is not relevant to secularism. It acts as a distraction - distracting both new and existing members from what the name of our society suggests we are about.

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# THE · LEICESTER REASONER

*This is a first in a series of short biographies of prominent Leicester Secularists by member Ned Newitt*

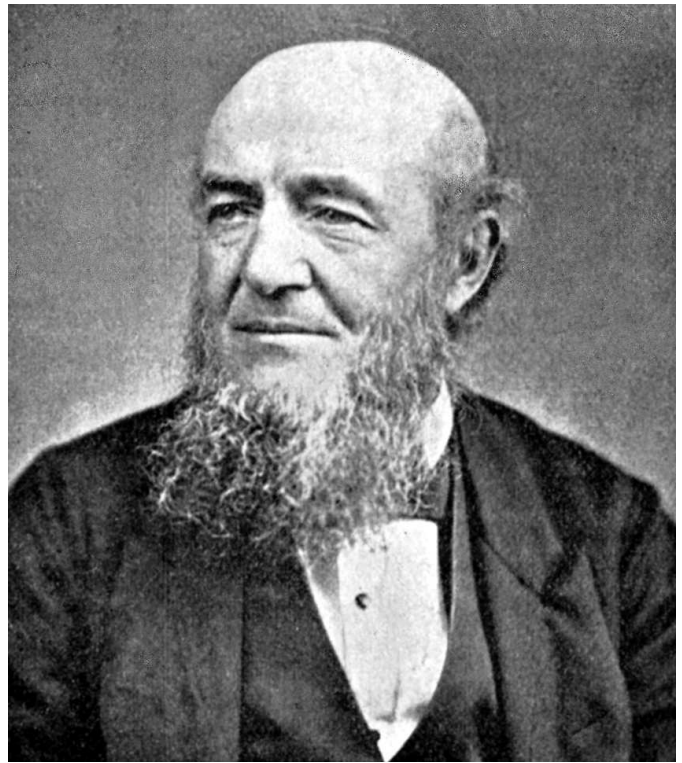
## Josiah Gimson

Josiah Gimson was the most prominent of Leicester's C19th secularists. He was active in the society from its beginnings and was the largest contributor to the building of the Secular Hall. He was born locally in 1818, his father being a carpenter and a Quaker.

Josiah Gimson worked as an iron founder before setting up his own engineering factory. During the 1840s he was active in support of Robert Owen's socialist ideas and was president of the local Owenite branch. In the 1850s, Gimson became the leader of the Leicester secularists who were much influenced by the rationalism of G.J. Holyoake (another former Owenite). Gimson stood consistently for the utmost freedom of discussion, and this cause was one to which he gave his heart. In 1873, he became a major shareholder in the Leicester Secular Hall Company which paid £4,500 for a plot of land on Humberstone Gate.

During the 1870s, Charles Bradlaugh and Holyoake offered two different approaches as to how Secularism could best be advanced. This hinged on whether the Secularists should directly attack the churches. Holyoake and Gimson's view was that they should not do so, but rather work for the diffusion of Secularist principles, even attracting liberal-minded churchmen to the ranks of Secularism. Bradlaugh and his supporters, however, took a different view. They maintained that the churches stood in the way of Secularism and believed that Secularists should do everything possible to weaken the Church's hold on the people.

When in 1877, Bradlaugh and Annie Besant were prosecuted for publishing a book on birth control, Gimson and Holyoake believed that Bradlaugh's leadership of the National Secular Society was too controversial and attempted to get him to stand down. When that failed they backed the formation of Holyoake's short-lived rival British Secular Union. This schism was reflected in the existence of a Leicester Secular Society and a rival Leicester Branch of the National Secular Society. Yet, such was Bradlaugh's standing among ordinary secularists that he and Annie Besant were present to open the new Secular Hall in 1881 and his portrait was hung next to that of Gimson and



Holyoake in the upstairs hall.

Gimson's business grew and expanded into the Vulcan Works, which he established on Humberstone Road/ Nedham Street. He became one of the largest employers in the city. In 1881, the firm employed 270 men & one boy. Gimson prided himself on the favourable wages and conditions he offered his workers. Circa 1872, the firm introduced a system of industrial partnership which, it was claimed added a bonus of 11% to wages.

This share of the profits was initially entrusted to 'leading workmen.' Those selected could in turn nominate others whom they believed to be "capable and willing to increase the prosperity of the company by zeal and judgment in the discharge of their duties."

In 1877, Gimson was elected to the town council as a Liberal for West St Mary's ward and he became vice-chairman of the Floods, Highways & Sewerage Committee. In 1881, Gimson lived at 112 New Walk with his wife, several sons and daughters and three servants. Despite all of Josiah's secularist activity, his wife, Sarah, remained a Unitarian. On his death in 1883, he left a personal fortune of £20,000 as well as his engineering factory.

Sources: Midlands Free Press, 10<sup>th</sup> January 1874, F. J. Gould, *The History Of The Leicester Secular Society*, 1900, George Jacob Holyoake, *The History of Co-operation*, 1875, David Nash, *Secularism, Art and Freedom*, 1881, census returns

Ned Newitt

### Ring-in your changes

Please keep the Society informed of any change of contact details: address, email, phone number, etc. Just include the Society on your mailing list for change of address cards or email changes to: [harry.perry1@btinternet.com](mailto:harry.perry1@btinternet.com) or phone me on 07795 097635.

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I hope Frank Friedmann re-reads my original newsletter article. I certainly don't remember writing a "tirade against the left". In fact, I spent a lot of time carefully ensuring that I said nothing negative about socialism because I didn't want to distract from the point I was trying to make.

It was nice to see at the bottom of the page that both Harry and the committee understood my point exactly. However I'd go further than their proposed suggestion; I don't think the LSS should even be providing a platform for any issues not related to secularism. It sends out a confused message. Clear messages speak louder.

Simon Perry

### A Cause for Shame Not Celebration

The creation of the State of Israel was the Palestinian's "Nakba" (Catastrophe)

On May 14<sup>th</sup> this year, Israel will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of its declaration of independence. No doubt, over the weeks to come, there will be much celebration, both in Israel and here in the UK. What will be presented to the world will be a commemoration of the legitimate and legal creation of a safe haven for Jews escaping from Europe. What you won't be told about is what actually happened in 1948 - a series of massacres, bombing of civilians, kidnap and other terrorist atrocities that culminated in the ethnic cleansing of the land of over 750,000 Arab Palestinians and the destruction of over 400 of their villages. The Israeli state legitimised the theft of their lands, houses, property and businesses offering no compensation and has continued to refuse the right of the refugees to return. The creation of the state of Israel was an act of dispossession – a brutal, colonialist assault on the Palestinians and 2008 marks 60 years since that first ethnic cleansing of Palestine and the creation of the state of Israel.

Details of the Israeli atrocities indicate that they were as inhuman and violent as those that have been roundly condemned by the International Community in other conflicts. On April 9, 1948, Zionist forces that included the notorious Stern Gang and Irgun units entered the village of Deir Yassin and sprayed the houses with machine-gun fire, killing many of the inhabitants. The survivors were then collected together and murdered in cold blood. The death toll included 30 babies. Between 100 and 200 Palestinians were murdered at Deir Yassin (the Irgun boasted of 256) and the village was razed to the ground. The scale of this operation was loudly (and proudly) proclaimed by the Zionists in order to demonstrate to other Palestinians just what would happen to them if they did not take flight. Menachem Begin, head of the Irgun terrorist organization and later a Prime minister of Israel exulted:



*"As in Deir Yassin, so everywhere ...Oh Lord., Oh Lord, you have chosen us for conquest"*

The United Nations had proposed a partition plan giving 55% of ancient Palestine for a Jewish state, but the Zionists, who had targeted the whole of Palestine for the creation of a Jewish State long before the Nazi atrocities, took 78% of the land using terrorist tactics and military force. These acts were war crimes but Zionists, then and now, see them as the wholly necessary and justified means for the creation of their Jewish State.

Those 750,000 refugees and their descendants, over 7 million of them, still live today dispossessed and destitute in refugee camps throughout the region. Israel is in illegal occupation of Palestinian lands in violation of numerous UN resolutions. It is still persistently and grossly breaching international law and infringing fundamental human rights with impunity, especially in the Gaza strip. Its own deeply racist society treats its Palestinian citizens with institutionalized discrimination. We therefore owe it to these people not to allow Israel or its supporters worldwide, in celebrating the events of 1948, to obliterate from history the sufferings and injustice the Palestinians have endured.

(From an LSS member who wishes to remain anonymous)

Fed up with eurocentric foreign affairs reporting on the BBC? Try Aljazeera TV news on Sky channel 514. Reporting straight from the streets of the world's hot-spots, stuff you just don't see on the BBC. Harry

### Popemobile hits traffic

An extract from an interview with Carlo Bernardini, Emeritus Professor of Physics at La Sapienza in Rome, (from the New Scientist 1/3/08):

*"In this university we teach our students that they should learn to reason through inductive processes, to doubt what they learn through their personal interpretations, and to reject prejudices, which are widespread in the Catholic tradition. I do not believe it is possible to reconcile the dogmatic thinking of the Catholic church with the phenomenology on which scientific research is based. During the opening ceremony, our pro-rector read the talk the pope had wanted to give. In a nutshell, it said that science does not achieve any truth without faith, which is exactly why we thought the talk would be inappropriate."*

The article goes on to say that the Catholic church

costs Italy 4bn. euros a year and that there are 25,000 religion teachers in Italy, paid by the state. When a teacher divorces then remarries they are banned from teaching the Catholic religion. Bernadini continues:

*"I come from a family of intellectuals, who set much store by education. My father greatly despised fascists, priests and military. I had an education that made me suspicious of hierarchies and the truths that priests were talking about. However, I did not become suspicious of Jesus, a revolutionary figure who always sided with the poor, just as I am not suspicious of the Buddha or Confucius."*

Carlo Bernardini voted with sixty-seven of his colleagues, and won, against the Pope giving a talk at the annual academic opening of his University earlier this year. The Pope cancelled.

John Cook

Dear all

I had a very enjoyable (and very heated!) debate with a Muslim speaker as part of Islamic week at Bilborough College, Nottingham.

They give me about 1 to 1.5 hours a year during this regular event - this year I persuaded the Chairman to let it go on until we were kicked out of the room - so we started at 12:30 and were still at it at 3.00pm! I have to do what the teachers cannot do - take a single-minded non-belief line and hit them with all guns blazing. So, with each year-group that goes through the college I have to get a lot across in a very short time - they therefore do not have a quiet time of it!

As usual, the Muslim speaker said there must be a god because it is obvious that something must have created everything. (Duhh!) He also said that all other religions were wrong, all non-Muslims would go to hell and that only Muslims know the right way to carry out god's will. (Double duhh!)

The speaker claimed that ALL Muslims rejected evolution - any Muslim who did not reject it was an apostate and should be killed.

Actually, I think he could be a very scary person if he really got going (not as scary as me of course, but close.)

Good stuff eh?

As usual I was accused of "not addressing the question" - i.e. not "proving" that there was no god. (They did not accept that god was an unnecessary postulate, that proving a negative is a daft idea, and that thinking it was just silly superstitious nonsense was not good enough.) However, I have an agenda beyond this age-old and pointless argument - I want to get them to THINK for themselves!

The slides I used are available via the Resources menu on the Secular Derby.org web site or directly at:

<http://secularderby.org/resources/bilborough2008.ppt>

Mike Lake

Derbyshire Secularists and Humanists

### Free Book!

The De Bona Foundation has made an on-line version of the following book available free of charge: **"ATHEISM, GENETICS TO GEOLOGY"** by Maurice de Bona Jr. Sub-title "How the facts of science destroy the myths of religion" Blurb: 'Atheistic thought that goes beyond the average concept of what is real in the Universe'. Just email your email address to [atheistbook@edabss.com](mailto:atheistbook@edabss.com).

Allow five days for transmission.

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We have a circulation of 150 copies and a readership of a whopping 165 at least! (All in social classes A-Z.) Go on - promote your whatever and help subsidise the newsletter at the same time.

All copy to Harry at the Hall or to [harry.perry1@btinternet.com](mailto:harry.perry1@btinternet.com). Cheques must be sent to John Catt or HP c/o the Hall.

Added bonuses - free graphic design service and spot colour at no extra charge!

(Limited offer - small print applies)

**SALE!**

Dear Friends,

On behalf of Campaign Against the Arms Trade (CAAT) I am delighted to be able to bring you the news that along with *The Corner House* we have WON our Judicial Review! The High Court has ruled that the Government acted unlawfully when it curtailed a corruption investigation into the BAE Systems' Al Yamamah arms deals with Saudi Arabia. The full text of the judgement, as well as the judges' summary and the CAAT press release is available on the website <http://www.caat.org.uk>.

As a result of this judgment the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) will have to reconsider the decision to end its investigation. CAAT is calling on Gordon Brown to make a commitment that there will be NO FURTHER GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE.

Your help is needed!

- The implications of the judgement mean that it has been widely reported in the media; a great opportunity to write to the papers, email online news sites or contact TV and radio programmes again voicing your support for the judgment.

- And please make a donation to CAAT today. It would not have got this far without the supporters who provide a vital 80% of its funding. Your donation will help ensure it can continue the campaign and build on this fantastic result! You can donate through their website <http://www.caat.org.uk/fundraising/donate.php>

Thank you for your support.

Dave Ray

### Winning new members

We continue to attract new members on a regular basis through our activities, publicity, voluntary enquiries and by prompting from existing members. The latter is often the most effective, so if you know of someone with secularist leanings why not ask them if they would be interested? Or simply pass their address to me at the Hall and I will send a promotional leaflet and an invitation to join. The more the merrier! Harry

### Prize Puzzle Corner

A Really Fabulous Prize to be Won!

#### Shaped numbers

Those who came to my talk about "Numerology and Mathematical Mysticism" on Sunday, 06/04/2008 (a curiously even date), will have learnt, among other odd things, how the notorious number 666 is equal to DCLXVI in (six different) Roman numerals. It is also the 36th Triangular number. This means that it is the sum of all the numbers from 1 up to 36. Thus it is equal to  $36 \times 37 / 2$ . These numbers 36 and 37 also have graphic properties, which is probably why mystics like them.

#### Puzzle

36 counters can be arranged in either a square (6x6) or a triangle (1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8), while 37 counters can be arranged in either a hexagon (4+5+6+7+6+5+4) or a star (1+2+7+6+5+6+7+2+1).

**For the April Prize I offer the following question: What are the next four numbers that can be shown in two of these regular shapes?** To save anyone counting too far, the answers are all less than 333.

It turned out that I had gathered far more material than could be presented in the time available, so I never got round to the I Ching, and the Tarot only got a passing mention. Most time was given to the Cabalistic "Tree of Life" which I conjecture is related to a diagram of the factors of 60, the base of Babylonian numeration. Also touched on was the "fine structure constant", and whether it is a physical or mathematical constant. This relates to the "anthropic principle" of whether the constants of physics are "tunable", leading to differently structured universes in a multiverse (the currently fashionable theory), or whether they have the values they do out of mathematical necessity.  
George Jelliss

#### Frank's faith

Some say only God can create a universe - I happen to know this is not so. Lisa Simpson can do it as well (although she doesn't tell everyone, and so far I haven't been able to persuade her to demonstrate). But I *know* she *can*.

Frank Friedmann

#### Contributions welcomed

Don't forget the Editor is always on the lookout for YOUR contribution for the newsletter. Either email it to: [harry.perry1@btinternet.com](mailto:harry.perry1@btinternet.com) or post to the Hall FAO of Harry Perry. If you have an image to go with it so much the better.

### March IDEAS Group Review

A (possibly biased) report on the last IDEAS meeting (20th March). This discussion, on "Evolution of Ethics", attracted the most members so far. Allan Hayes gave a brief introduction citing work by evolutionists on altruism being compatible with natural selection and by psychologists on how people are hard-wired for moral choices. This led to lively debate, and nearly everyone had something to say. There are question marks over the concept of "group selection" and whether artificial dilemmas (e.g. diverting a runaway van to kill one instead of five) mean anything in practice. No agreement was reached in the end on what "Secular Ethics" might be. There were indeed diametrically opposing views. One group thinking that the non-religious section of the ten commandments (e.g. honour your father and mother, do not commit adultery) were still a valid guide, the other group favouring more radical freedom. This is a subject we need to discuss further. I may raise it in my "Power of Logic" discussion on 17th April.

George Jelliss

### Secular Thought for the Day from Cee Martin

'Give me a firm place to stand, and I will  
move the earth' - Archimedes

#### Prize winners

The "Spot the Politician" competition winner was Sam Turner with 18/21 correct names. He is now the proud owner of a signed copy of Wilf Gaunt's "Common Sense".

Well done Sam and thanks to all for trying!

The political leaders were: Nelson Mandela, Fidel Castro, Hillary Clinton, Vladimir Putin, George W Bush, Hugo Chavez, Ramsay MacDonald, Robert Mugabe, Screaming Lord Sutch, Benito Mussolini, Leon Trotsky, Boudicca, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, Malcolm X, Mao Ze Dung, George Galloway, Indira Ghandi, Julius Nyerere, Osama Bin Laden, James Connolly and Sun Yat Sen.

There were four correct entries for George's "HARRY + PERRY = EDITOR" puzzle, from: Sam Turner, Simon Perry, Chris Blatchford and Peter Thompson. Sam Turner's name was drawn from Michael Gerard's hat at the Society meet on Sunday 13th April but he generously (I struggled for the right word there) declined a second copy of Wilf's tome and so second draw Simon Perry is now another owner of that prized possession. (Thanks to Wilf for donating them and thanks to George for the puzzle.)

The solution was:

0123456789 = DERHTOYPAI

Or equivalently: ADEHIOPRTY = 8013957246

Or if you prefer:

38226
<u>71226</u>
109452

The mystical significance of which is that this total contains all the digits required to make up my birth date - 12/11/1945! How do you explain that?

Harry (PS Save your cards for Feb 14th.)

#### Disclaimer and Code of Conduct

Please note that the views and proposals expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Board of the Society and the Society and its officers accept no liability for views expressed. As a Freethought organisation any member's views will be published subject to the usual constraints of avoiding libel and occasional editing to fit the space available. When writing please abstain from intemperate language and avoid being unnecessarily offensive, especially to other members! Thank you.