

SEPTEMBER 2015

Sunday 6th Sept, 6.30pm: The joy of reading. Peter Flack explains how the Everybody's Reading Project sets about taking books, and the joy of reading, out to local communities.

Sunday 13th Sept, 10am to 5pm: Heritage Open Day. Come and discover all there is to know about the history of Secular Hall and Leicester Secular Society. Guided tours of the building. Free refreshments.

Sunday 13th Sept, 6.30pm: The Great Central Railway; past present and future. Tom Ingall will give a fully illustrated talk about the Great Central - the Victorian dalliance with high-speed rail. From construction to closure, now a thriving award-winning heritage attraction with big plans for the future.

Sunday 20th Sept, 6.30pm: The new wild. Fred Pearce will explain why invasive species will be nature's salvation. Invasive species are not dangerous aliens to be repelled as they are kick-starting nature's recovery from the mess we have made.

Sunday 27th Sept, 6.30pm: Truth and concealment in Palestine and beyond. Jazz saxophonist and self-styled 'ex-jew', Gilad Atzmon, talks about Jewish identity politics in the context of the Israel-Palestine conflict.

OCTOBER 2015

Sunday 4th Oct, 6.30pm: Read your poem or story. Bring a poem or very short story to read. Hamish Whiteley hosts this event as part of the Everybody's Reading Festival and will be ending the evening with readings of his own work. Licensed Bar.

Sunday 11th Oct, 6.30pm: Ex-Muslims: double lives and conspiracies. Imtiaz Shams, founder of Faith to Faithless, gives a unique insight into lives of closeted ex-Muslims, now being labelled 'native informants', and how Humanists can help.

Sunday 18th Oct, 6.30pm: Uganda Humanist Schools. Steve Hurd reports on the progress of Humanist schooling in Uganda and the British

charity supporting their efforts. (The Society sponsors a student at one of the schools.)

Sunday 25th Oct, 6.30pm: Jefferson, Madison and their role in secularising the US constitution. Jamie Smith gives us a glimpse into the work of Thomas Jefferson and James Madison in ensuring a US constitution free of religious privilege.

NOVEMBER 2015

Sunday 1st Nov, 6.30pm: Under-nutrition in rural India. Kate Hartley of 'Salt of the Earth' explains why India has the worst rates of under-nutrition and malnutrition in the world - and what is being done about it.

Sunday 8th Nov, 6.30pm: Headstrong session. Bring along your own topics for free and open discussion in a friendly informal atmosphere.

Sunday 15th Nov, 6.30pm: The Diggers, then and now. Andrew Bradstock explains how in 1649 a group of people came to establish a commune on wasteland in Surrey. And why do we still remember them today?

Sunday 22nd Nov, 3pm: Annual General Meeting. Secular Society officers report back on the year. Motions. Elections to the Board. Members only. **No evening meeting.**

Sunday 29th Nov, 6.30pm: End-of-life decisions: law, faith and belief. Jo Samanta, of DMU, considers some of the ethical and legal dilemmas that arise when making end-of-life decisions.

DECEMBER 2015

Sunday 6th Dec, 6.30pm: Bradgate Park: back to the future. Peter Tyldesley, surveyor at Bradgate Park, explores its natural history and how the managers combine conservation, recreation and earning a living.

Sunday 13th Dec, 6.30pm: Headstrong session. Bring along your own topics for free and open discussion in a friendly informal atmosphere.

Sunday 20th Dec, 6.30pm: Winter Solstice Quiz. Seasonal fun and games with a new look. Bring and share buffet and drinks. Everybody welcome as teams or individuals. Free entry.

The Principal Aims of Leicester Secular Society

Challenging religious privilege and dogma: We advocate the separation of religion and state, proper representation of people with no religion, the ending of privileges for religious organisations and the secularisation of 'faith' schools. We challenge religious teachings that divert people away from reality.

Defending rationalism and free speech: We believe people should be free to express and publish their beliefs, however controversial, without fear of prosecution, persecution, or physical harm, as long as they accord the same rights to others. Anyone should be prepared to submit their views to vigorous debate, questioning of their evidence and testing of their conclusions.

Working for justice and fairness: We believe our efforts should be devoted to the elimination of human misery, injustice, poverty and ignorance in the world as it is here and now. We oppose unfair discrimination, bigotry and coercion based on factors such as beliefs, racial or ethnic origins, disability, sex, age, sexuality, or lifestyle.

Promoting a morality for life: We believe moral values and virtues like fairness, kindness, loyalty and honesty arise from people needing to live together in peace and harmony, not from any religion. Moral rules must be judged by their consequences for people now, not by their appearance in the 'holy' writings of ancient societies.

www.leicestersecularsociety.org.uk

**Secular Hall Events
Sept - Dec 2015**



Truth and concealment in Palestine
Gilad Atzmon
6.30pm Sun 27th Sept

Ex-Muslims: double lives and conspiracies
Imtiaz Shams
6.30pm Sun 11th Oct




Under-nutrition in rural India
Kate Hartley
6.30pm Sun 1st Nov

Bradgate Park: back to the future
Peter Tyldesley
6.30pm Sun 6th Dec



MORE EVENTS INSIDE
Feel welcome to come along to debate and socialise over tea and biscuits. Free entry (collection) unless stated otherwise.

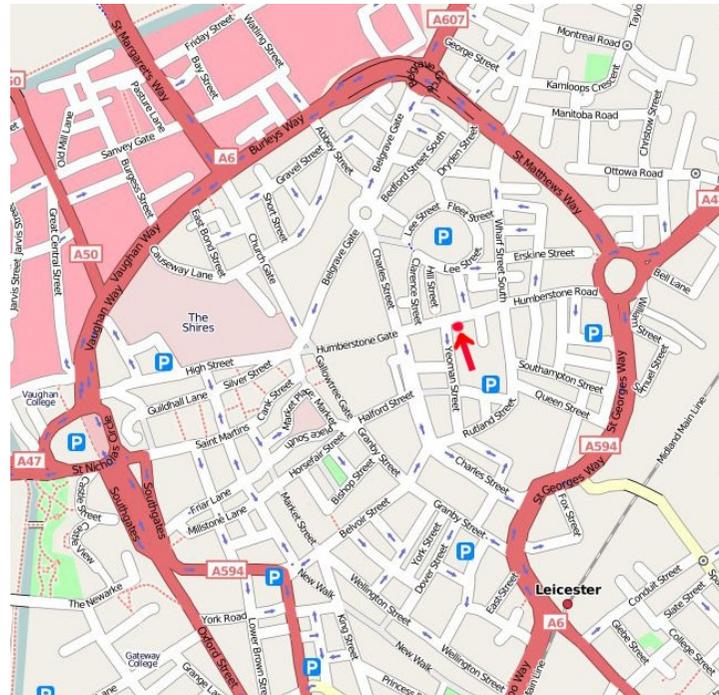
... and the Sunday Assembly!
All welcome to the god-free community that aims to live better, help often and wonder more
Secular Hall at 11am on these Sundays:
20th Sept - 11th Oct - 8th Nov - 13th Dec

HOW TO FIND US

Secular Hall, home of Leicester Secular Society, is very easy to find on Humberstone Gate. It is directly opposite Sainsbury's supermarket and is a distinctive Victorian red-brick building. Its location is shown by the red spot and arrow on the map below.

There is plenty of public transport serving the city centre, including bus stops right outside the Hall and several bus stations nearby.

The railway station is about half a mile away (also shown on the map). There is nearby street parking (free after 6pm on weekdays and all day on Sundays, and metered for stays of up to three hours at other times) and several car parks, multi-storey and open-site. You will need to work out your own journey details but assistance can be gained from the internet on the following site: www.transportdirect.info



Rooms for hire: 07722 782727

Leicester Secular Society

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Members are able to participate in the Society's democratic procedures and receive the monthly publication *Leicester Secularist*.

I have read 'The Principal Aims of Leicester Secular Society' and wish to become a member.

FORENAME

SURNAME

HOME ADDRESS

POSTCODE DoB

PHONE

EMAIL

SUBSCRIPTION* £DATE

How did you hear of us?

*Subscription rates 2015: Individuals £21; Low income £7; Households £28. (50% discount 1st July to 31st December for new members with all annual renewals in January each year.)

Please post your form and payment to The Secretary, Leicester Secular Society, Secular Hall, 75 Humberstone Gate, Leicester LE1 1WB, or hand to one of the Directors. Make cheques payable to 'Leicester Secular Society'. The Board must approve all applications.

Phone: 01509 211468

Email: mail@leicestersecularsociety.org.uk

Leicester Secular Society is a company limited by guarantee, Reg. No. 06292639.

Please note: Your details will be held on a computer unless you indicate otherwise and will be used for administration purposes and to keep you informed of relevant activities.

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