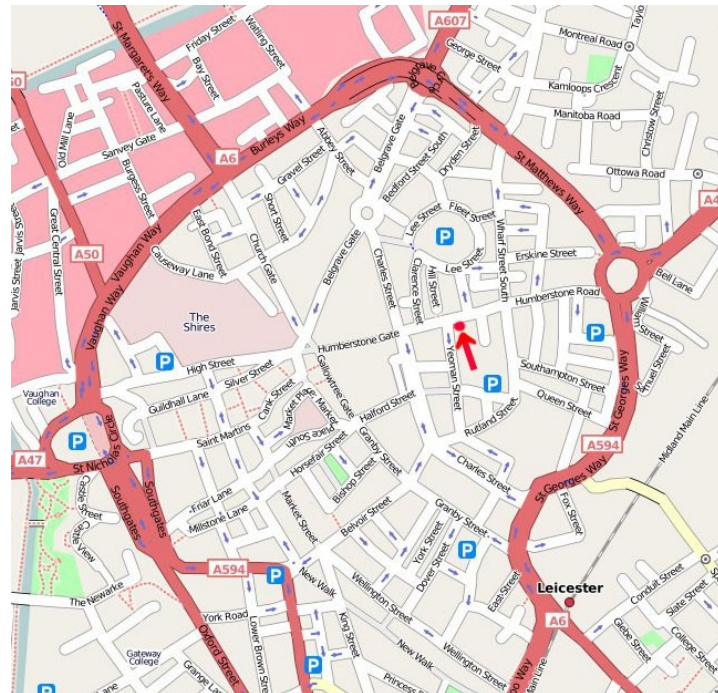


HOW TO FIND US

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, *The 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 2013: 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.

www.leicestersecularsociety.org.uk

**Secular Hall Events
Jan - Apr 2013**

Health and Social Care Act 2012 - what can be done?

Sally Ruane

6.30pm Sunday 13th Jan



Was Shakespeare a humanist?

Liz Brandow

6.30pm Sunday 10th Feb



Drones and the militarisation of space

David Webb

6.30pm Sunday 24th Mar



Subordination of women in British Muslim communities

Anne Marie Waters

6.30pm Sunday 28th April



MORE EVENTS INSIDE

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

Leicester Secular Society
Secular Hall

75 Humberstone Gate
Leicester LE1 1WB

www.leicestersecularsociety.org.uk

JANUARY 2013

Sunday 6th Jan, 6.30pm: Where do kippers come from? Hamish Whiteley with an evening of his poems and stories, including some that have been broadcast on Radio 4. With famous Leicester singer Annie Williamson who'll sing a few of Hamish and Annie's original songs. An ideal way to start the new year!

Sunday 13th Jan, 6.30pm: Health and Social Care Act 2012 - the end of the NHS as we know it? The Act was a highly controversial piece of legislation. Sally Ruane asks what it means and what can be done about it?

Sunday 20th Jan, 6.30pm: Working with the Muslim community. LSS member Mick Jarmaine challenges what he sees as entrenched views about Muslims among secularists.

Sunday 27th Jan, 6.30pm: The birth of God. Student Michael Golden of Leicester University's FLASH Group (Freethinkers of Leicester: Atheists, Secularists and Humanists) explores the birth of the idea of God in terms of evolutionary psychology and the history of religion.

FEBRUARY 2013

Sunday 3rd Feb, 6.30pm: The Annual Darwin Lecture. Genes and behaviour. Prof. Bambos Kyriacou of the University of Leicester will explore recent findings in model organisms and humans about how behaviours like aggression and love are encoded in the genome.

Sunday 10th Feb, 6.30pm: Was Shakespeare a humanist? Liz Brandow looks at the ideas and opinions expressed through Shakespeare's characters. A study of the texts shows that Shakespeare was neither Catholic nor Protestant, but simply a humanist.

Sunday 17th Feb, 6.30pm for 7pm start: The Not So Big Band. Mix and mingle for 30 minutes before the well-known Leicester Jazz musician Richard Everitt performs live for Leicester Secular Society members, guests and visitors.

Sunday 24th Feb, 6.30pm: Transatlantic adventures. Charlotte Jones is a long-term green activist. Several years ago she signed on as crew on a yacht sailing to the Caribbean. She will show

pictures from this adventure and will reflect on long-distance travel.

MARCH 2013

Sunday 3rd March, 6.30pm: All Our Stories project. Marking the 132nd anniversary of the Hall's opening. Feedback in 5-10 minute chunks from the All Our Stories group. Food, drink, singing, and an exhibition.

Sunday 10th March, 6.30pm: Tackling world blindness. Geoff Woodruff will report on the work being done in Bihar, India, and elsewhere, carrying out cataract surgery without the use of sophisticated equipment.

Sunday 17th March, 6.30pm: Breaking their will. Janet Heimlich will be shedding some light on the religious maltreatment of children. Who is at risk and how do we prevent it? Signed copies of Janet's book will be available to buy.

Sunday 24th March, 6.30pm: How drones fit into the militarisation of space. Dave Webb, national Chair of CND and former Director of the Praxis Centre at Leeds Metropolitan University, will consider the increased use of drone weaponry.

Sunday 31st March, 10.30am: Spring walk. Watch the *Leicester Secularist* and the LSS website for details of this traditional event.

APRIL 2013

Sunday 7th April, 6.30pm: Where have all the bees gone? John Bogunavice and Neil Talbot will consider the reasons why the bee population is in decline and suggest ways in which we may help to reverse the trend.

Sunday 14th April, 6.30pm: Headstrong meet. Members and visitors will be invited to raise any matter they wish for friendly informal discussion.

Sunday 21st April, 6.30pm: There be dragons. Mike Chalk of the Leicester Guild of Storytellers gives us a round-up of dragon stories from around the world. Fascinating and entertaining.

Sunday 28th April, 6.30pm: How real is the subordination of women in British Muslim communities? Anne Marie Waters of One Law For All discusses Sharia law, unregistered marriages and polygamy. What are the implications for these British women?

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.