# Leicester Secular Society MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

### Membership rates:

#### Individuals £24; Low income £8; Households £32.

Please post your form and payment to:

The Secretary, Leicester Secular Society, Secular Hall, 75 Humberstone Gate, Leicester LEI 1WB, or hand to one of the Directors.

Please make cheques payable to 'Leicester Secular Society'. The L.S.S. Board must approve all applications. Phone: 01509 211468

# Contact details and online membership application form are also available at www.Lsec.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.

# Aims of the 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, caste, 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.



Summer programme 2024



Prof Alan Winfleid - 28" April How to make an ethical machine and why we probably shouldn't





Kate Smurthwaite: Firesnake - Sunday 12th May



### SUMMER PROGRAMME

# 6.30pm, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April Matthew Britt & Jaaron Wingo - Christ Before Jesus

A first-of-its-kind analysis using proven, peerreviewed software which reveals a 2nd century origin of the New Testament

#### 6.30pm, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April

### Harsha Kotecha – Get Trained - Save a Life

Harsha Kotecha from the East Midlands Ambulance Service Community Training Team will give a one hour training session on CPR and using a Defibrillator.

### 6.30pm Sunday 28th April

# Prof Alan Winfield - *How to make an ethical machine* & *why we probably shouldn't*

Professor Alan Winfield outlines the work to build ethical robots, then explains why real-world ethical machines are a bad idea.

# 6.30pm Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May

## Marta Uminska - Abortion in Poland

Marta will look at Poland's extremely restrictive anti-abortion law and its roots in the increasing power of the Catholic Church after 1989. She will look at the dire consequences of that power and the organisations and people who work to provide access to safe abortion.

### 6.30pm Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May Kate Smurthwaite: Firesnake

Join the comedian and activist for a brilliant (achievable) alternative future. Kate asks us to contemplate whether being foot soldiers in the death march of disaster capitalism is really as much fun as we hoped.

### 6.30pm Sunday 19th May

# Rhys Everquill – *The Great Central Gazette*

Rhys is managing editor of the Great Central Gazette and he will discuss the question "Are co-operatives the answer to the crisis in local journalism?"



### 6.30pm Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May Dave Brazier - The Renters' Reform Bill

Every day, 172 private renting families in England are handed a Section 21 no-fault eviction notice by their landlord – that is one every eight minutes.

The government promised that their Renters Reform Bill would create a fairer, safer system for renters. But after months of parliamentary debate, it's disappointing and full of loopholes for rogue landlords to squeeze through.



# 6.30pm Sunday 2nd June

# Bill Leigh - Indian Troops in WW1 Trenches

After the outbreak of the Great War, 100,000 men and 7,000 horses were shipped the 10,000 km from Mumbai to Marseilles. Many of these men and horses died in France and this talk was last given there in the coastal resort of Hardelot, where some of those men are buried.

## 6.30pm, Sunday 9th June FILM: Walter Rodney - What They Did Not Want You To Know

This is the first showing in Leicester of this original 72-minute documentary. It features murder, Cold

War conspiracies, Black Power, the end of the Empire, and shows how that connects to the policing, surveillance practices, and social movements of today.

# 2.30pm Sunday, 16th June. Meet at University Road entrance opposite Peace Walk

# Ned Newitt: Welford Road Cemetery Tour & Picnic

This tour visits the graves of local Jacobins, Chartists, Radicals, & Secularists. Ned will provide details of their lives and there will be a picnic at the end. (weather permitting)

## 6:30pm Sunday, 23rd June Elbit - Leicester - Gaza

Activists from Palestine Action have been mounting action at UAV Tactical Systems (U-TacS) in Meridian East Business Park in Leicester. The factory is owned by Israeli-owned arms manufacturer Elbit Systems. We will have a speaker to talk about what has been happening in Leicester.



# 6:30pm Sunday, 30th June FILM: Dead End Street

Dead End Street is a film written and directed by Kirti Joshi. It based on her earlier play and the plot revolves around drug addiction, mental health, homelessness and denial in Leicester. Kirti will introduce the film followed by Q & As. The follow up 'Heartache Avenue' will be released this summer.