



Welcome

Welcome to Enquiry 2010. This weekend sees a fantastic array of guest speakers discussing the contemporary issues that face non-believers today – hence the topic “atheism in the 21st century.” I am sure you will enjoy their talks, and I would like to thank them for being here this weekend.

Enquiry is designed to be a social platform in which everyone can get to know each other over a beer or two (or perhaps an orange juice!). I hope you will join us for the socials taking place Friday and Saturday night.

Over the weekend you will also get the chance to hear about some of the exciting new projects we are launching and I would like to thank you for supporting these efforts by attending this conference.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Chris Worfolk".

Chris Worfolk
Trustee, Chris Worfolk Foundation

Programme

	Saturday
09:00	Registration Please bring your booking reference so we can register you
09:30	Welcome Chris Worfolk introduces the event and the work we are doing at the Chris Worfolk Foundation
10:00	Andrew Copson Objections to Humanism
11:00	Norman Ralph Consuming Atheism: Is it past its sell by date?
12:00	Break
14:00	Maryam Namazie
15:00	Professor Chris French The Psychology of Anomalous Experiences
20:00	Simon Munnery Evening entertainment starting with comedian Simon Munnery, followed by a disco

	Sunday
	Dr Antony Lempert
	Chris Worfolk Inside the Evangelists' Lair: My Experiences with the Christian Union
	Break
	Professor A. C. Grayling
	Dr Gijsbert Stoet Theory and practise of humanist chaplaincies

Speakers



Anthony Clifford Grayling is a British philosopher and author. He is Professor of Philosophy at Birkbeck, University of London and a supernumerary fellow of St Anne's College, Oxford.

After moving to England in his teens, Professor Grayling studied at Sussex University (while there he simultaneously studied for an undergraduate degree of the University of London as an external student), and Magdalen College, Oxford, where he obtained his doctorate in 1981. The subject of his thesis was "Scepticism and Transcendental Arguments." He lectured in philosophy at St Anne's College, Oxford, before taking up a post at Birkbeck, University of London in 1991, where he subsequently became Reader in Philosophy (1998), and then Professor of Philosophy (2005).

Professor Grayling is also a director of and regular contributor to Prospect Magazine.

Having spent five years working as co-ordinator of the British Humanist Association's work around education and public affairs, Andrew recently became Chief Executive of the BHA. He has written on humanist topics for the New Statesman and The Guardian and is director of the European Humanist Federation as well as a delegate of the International Humanist and Ethical Union to the Council of Europe.





Chris French is a psychologist and vocal skeptic specialising in the psychology of paranormal beliefs and experiences, cognition and emotion. He is currently Professor of psychology at Goldsmiths College, University of London, is head of their Anomalistic psychology Research Unit which he founded in the year 2000, and is the co-editor of The Skeptic (UK) magazine.

Frequently appearing on radio and television, Chris has taken part in programmes dealing with a wide range of such claims including psychic predictions, telepathy, faith healing, hypnotic past life regression, ghosts, UFO abductions, out-of-body experiences, astrological claims and so on. He is a regular science news contributor in the Guardian exploring skepticism and anomalistic psychology.

An experienced presenter, broadcaster and campaigner, Maryam Namazie is a former recipient of the Secularist of the Year Award and spokesperson for the Council of Ex-Muslims of Britain and the 'One Law for All' campaign which opposes any implementation of Sharia Law in Britain. Her human rights work is extensive: as an active campaigner for 'Iran Solidarity', spokesperson for the 'Equal Rights Now' Organisation Against Women's Discrimination in Iran, and as a Central Committee member of the Worker-Communist Party of Iran.



Speakers



Anthony is a General Practitioner and currently co-ordinates the Secular Medical Forum, formed in 2007. The group produces position statements and actively campaigns on medical issues commonly influenced by the religious lobby, including Abortion and Stem Cell Research. The SMF is actively engaged in work to end ritual genital surgery. In January 2010, Dr Lempert met with senior GMC officials in London. The SMF works closely with like-minded organisations such as Norm-UK and the Lawyers Secular Society in order to achieve protection for children.

In December 2009, the SMF and the National Secular Society jointly submitted a response to the Director of Public Prosecution's Interim Policy for Prosecutors on Assisted Suicide. The consultation followed the ruling in the House of Lords in the Debbie Purdy case that the existing law should be clarified.

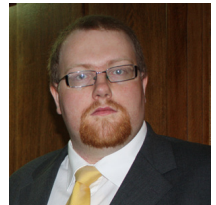
Gijsbert is a neuroscientist and psychologist of Dutch origin. He has worked and lived in Germany, England, Japan and the United States. Currently he works at the University of Leeds in the Institute of Psychological Sciences. At Leeds University, Gijsbert is staff coordinator of the Humanist Chaplaincy, and is actively involved in the Humanist Community of Leeds.





Chris is vice president of Leeds Atheist Society, head of Leeds Skeptics, trustee of the National Federation of Atheist, Humanist & Secular Student Societies and co-founder of the Humanist Action Group. He previously founded Leeds Atheist Society, now the most active student atheist society in the UK. He now heads up the Chris Worfolk Foundation.

Founding president of the National Federation of Atheist, Humanist & Secular Student Societies, Norman “The No Man” Ralph guided the AHS through it’s first year of operation and continues to play a part on a national scale, regularly speaking at conferences and local groups.



Providing the entertainment on Saturday evening, Simon Munnery, also known under his stage names Alan Parker: Urban Warrior and The League Against Tedium is best known for his BBC2 series Attention Scum and his BBC Radio 1 show.

His satirical style of comedy makes for an excellent choice to join us at Enquiry having previously supporting Stewart Lee on his recent tour If You Would Prefer a Milder Comedian, Please Ask For One. His rant on Professor Richard Dawkins is not to be missed!

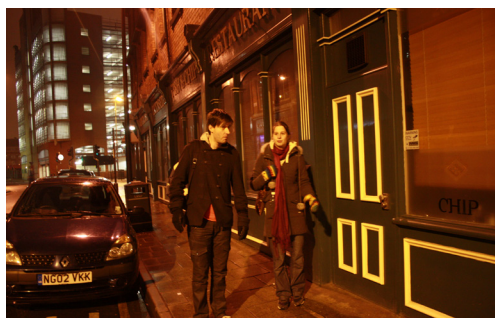
Chris Worfolk Foundation

The Chris Worfolk Foundation is a humanist charity dedicated to inspiring people to make a difference in their local community. We do this via a wide range of projects and initiatives designed to improve society by building on humanist principles.



The Humanist Action Group (HAG) was founded in early 2009 as a project to get humanists involved in volunteer work. The idea of HAG was that people would take direct action in their local community. We began by going out each week and feeding the homeless and soon expanded into community work as well. Now we're looking to start up further HAGs around the country.

In February of this year, we founded our first Humanist Community, hopefully the first of many across the UK. A Humanist Community is a group which meets on a regular basis to encourage local humanists to get together and form a community as a secular alternative to church.



After all, you don't need to be religious to enjoy the company of others!

Over the past few years we have developed a number of courses including the highly popular One Life course, a series which asks the big questions such as the meaning of life and death, but from a secular perspective. Our acclaimed Perspective course has brought the religious and non-religious together in a non-confrontational format to improve understanding between faith and non-faith communities.

We also publish a range of resources made freely available to free thinking and student groups across the United Kingdom including Atheist Stock, a stock photography website indexing atheist and humanist photos and Secular Portal a resource library for free thinking groups.

With your support we are going to continue to expand our activities over the coming year. Upcoming projects include the Humanist Chaplaincy Network and training and support for group leaders.

Get involved

There are many possibilities to get involved with the work we do at Chris Worfolk Foundation.

If you are interested in any of the roles, speak to a member of CWF this weekend or contact us at info@chrisworfolkfoundation.org.



Volunteer chaplains: As part of our new Humanist Chaplain Network, we are looking for volunteers in every region to serve as humanist chaplains. Full training is provided.

Regional representatives: We are also in much need for regional reps in each region to recruit volunteers, coordinate local activities as Humanist Action Group activities and help us spread the word.





Chris Worfolk Foundation



Photo policy

Photos

You can take photos but for personal use only. If you require photos for anything else please get in touch with us.

Video

Sorry, no video. Look out for official videos from the conference though!

Atheist Stock

If you do take photos, we would like to invite you to add them to Atheist Stock. Atheist Stock is the world's only stock photography website dedicated to the freethought movement, providing groups across the world with free access to relevant photos to use in their materials.

You can find more information on www.atheiststock.com.

Atheist Stock^{Beta}

Acknowledgements

Thank you to our speakers who gave their time to be with us this weekend.

Thank you to the Crowne Plaza Hotel for being so amenable to our requests.

Thank you to all those who supported us, with special thanks to:

Mark Allen
Adrian Bailey
Tim Stephenson
Nigel Melly
Charles Anderson
Allan Hayes
Jim Nugent

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