



Newsletter

of the Liberal Democrat Humanist & Secularist Group

May 2007

**HUMANIST & SECULAR
LIBERAL DEMOCRATS**

Birmingham Conference

Saturday 9th June

“Does Secularism foster Lib Dem values?”

The Group's next one day conference entitled Conference “Does Secularism foster Lib Dem values?” will be held at the Birmingham Council House on Saturday 9th June.

The plan is to hold a workshop-based day to explore the relationship between the values of Liberal Democrats and those of humanists and secularists, and hopefully thrash out some of the difficult issues.

The day will be jointly facilitated by **Andrew Copson**, education and public affairs officer of the British Humanist Association, and leading Lib Dem activist (and HSLD Committee Member) **Arnie Gibbons** (see page 2).

Please indicate interest now, even if you are not sure that you will be able to come.

Send a quick email to our Vice Chair, Cllr. Vera Head at: vera.head@tiscali.co.uk or phone 01494 727254.

The aim is have a stimulating day, with time to network with fellow Lib Dems, humanists and secularists.

The day will start at 10:30 am and finish no later than 4:30 pm and includes lunch, teas & coffees. Birmingham Council

House is close to public transport, and has disabled access. A booking form is on page 3.



● Birmingham Council House

Published & promoted by R O'Brien on behalf of The Liberal Democrat Humanist & Secularist Group, The Lodge, Whisgills, Newcastleton, TD9 0TO

Campaigning for Humanist & Secularist views within the Lib Dems

Conference Joint Facilitators



Arnie Gibbons

Arnie has been involved in the party at all levels over the last 25 years. This includes 14 years as a councillor (ten in Leicester and four in

Islington, where he was Executive Member for Finance) and agent for local, general, and European campaigns. He is currently a member of Federal Conference Committee and was recently a member of the party's Tax Policy Commission.

Other posts held in the past include Treasurer of ALDC, Treasurer of DELGA and East Midlands Regional Chair.

He is now also a Committee Member of Humanist & Secular Lib Dems.

Why not get in touch with your State/Regional Rep?

Wales: Cllr. Ed Bridges
edbridges@hotmail.co.uk 07776 233753

South Central: Cllr. Sam Payne
spayne1701@yahoo.co.uk 02392 592072

East of England: Cllr. Richard Carden
r.carden@btinternet.com 01986 788279

East Midlands: Cllr. Richard Church
rchurch1@btconnect.com 01604 719097

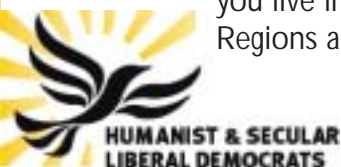
West Midlands: Geoff Freeman
geoff@freeman.org.uk

North West: Mike Quinton
patmikequinton@supanet.com 01524 770220

Northern Region: Paul Cowie
p.j.cowie@ncl.ac.uk 01830 520121

We are still looking for Reps for Scotland, Yorkshire & The Humber, Western Counties and London. If you live in one of these States/Regions and think you might be

interested then email the Group's Chair, Roger O'Brien.



Andrew Copson

Andrew joined the BHA in 2005 and is now responsible for education

and public affairs, co-ordinating the BHA's campaigns.

He came to the BHA from the Citizenship Foundation and has wide experience, including sex and sexuality education, education funding, and curriculum reform, as well as from a number of single issue campaigns.

He has also taught Latin, Greek and Ancient History, having graduated from Oxford with a first in Ancient and Modern History. He was a member of the winning team of the 2005 Young Educational Thinker of the Year Programme.

Committee for 2006-07

Chair: Roger O'Brien
hslld@obrien3.demon.co.uk 01387 375468

Vice Chair: Cllr. Vera Head
vera.head@tiscali.co.uk 01494 727 254

Secretary: John White
John.White@concore.co.uk 01865 891876

Membership Secretary: Cllr. Richard Church
rchurch1@btconnect.com 01604 719097

Treasurer: Peter Dunphy
petergdunphy@hotmail.com 07966 531863

Committee Members:
Arnie Gibbons
arnie_gibbons2004@yahoo.co.uk 020 7278 3601

Marilyn Mason
marilyn.mason@virgin.net 020 8546 4086

Mike Pictor
m.pictor@ukonline.co.uk 01242 244943

Co-opted:
Mark Cole
johnmarkcole@gmail.com 07817 865712

Balan Sisupalan
balansisupalan@aol.com 020 8444 8081

One Day Conference: “*Does Secularism foster Lib Dem values?*”

Following the success of our October one day conference in Northampton, we are planning another in June.

Date: 9th June 2007

Place: The Council House, Victoria Square, Birmingham

(Five minutes walk from ➔ New Street. Lots of car parks nearby.)

The day will start at 10:30 am and finish no later than 4:30 pm.

The cost (*including lunch, teas/coffees*):

- members £15
- non-members £20.

There is disabled access.

I wish to register for the Humanist & Secular Lib Dem Conference on 9th June 2007.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone No: _____ Email: _____

I enclose a cheque (payable to Lib Dem Humanist & Secularist Group) for:

- £15 (Group members)
- £20 (non-members)
- £25 (Conference and Group Membership)

I have special dietary requirements (please give details):

Email Vice Chair, **Cllr. Vera Head** at vera.head@tiscali.co.uk or

post to: 10 Cherry Orchard, Amersham, HP6 6LE.