

HUMANISM

Humanism is concerned with moral issues from a non-religious viewpoint and with the achievement of a more open, just and caring society. There is a long tradition of organised secularism in the North East reaching back to the 1860`s.

Beliefs

North East Humanists (with the British Humanist Association) hold that:

- morality is developed from experience, reason and knowledge, not derived from supernatural sources.
- human beings can lead happy, creative, fulfilling and meaningful lives whilst in this world.
- as far as we can know, our life here is the only one we will ever have.
- men and women must take responsibility for their conduct and for the welfare of others.
- in common with other life forms, human beings have evolved naturally over millions of years and will continue to do so.

Aims

North East Humanists was founded in order to:

- promote an awareness and knowledge of Humanism in our area.
- be a Humanist presence in matters of social concern.
- provide an opportunity for like-minded people to meet each other and exchange ideas.

Activities

Monthly Meetings

Meetings on Tyneside take place on the third Thursday of each month at the Literary and Philosophical Society, 23 Westgate Road, Newcastle, just a few minutes walk from the Central Station Metro.

Tea/coffee is available from 6.45 p.m. Talks and discussions on ethical and social issues with visiting speakers commence at 7.15p.m. Visitors are very welcome.

The Teesside Group has its own programme of activities.

Newsletter

A quarterly newsletter is sent to members including articles, the programme of events and matters of current interest.

Discussion groups

Two groups of up to 10 members each meet, respectively, on the second Wednesday and third Saturday in each month to discuss any matters of common interest to Humanists.

Visitors are very welcome.

Education

Speakers can be provided for schools, societies, etc. There is also a wide range of material available from the British Humanist Association and from this Resource Centre. Alternatively, please contact the North East Humanist Secretary (contact details given above).

Fund-raising

A fund-raising group researches charitable causes compatible with Humanist beliefs and organises events to raise money for such purposes.

Conferences

One-day regional conferences on subjects of interest to Humanists are held from time to time.

Social events

There are opportunities for members to meet each other at a variety of social gatherings.

Ceremonies

For people seeking a meaningful alternative to conventional religious ceremonies, North East Humanists can advise on and provide officiants for weddings, affirmations, namings and funerals.

Contact Information

NORTH EAST HUMANISTS

Secretary, John Hodge,
43 Fern Avenue,
Jesmond,
Newcastle Upon Tyne
NE2 2QU

Tel:(0191) 281 2808

Email: Northeast@Humanists.net

Website: <http://Northeast.Humanists.net>

North East Humanists are affiliated to the British Humanist Association, Tel. 020 7079 3580,
www.humanism.org.uk Registered Charity No. 285987.
