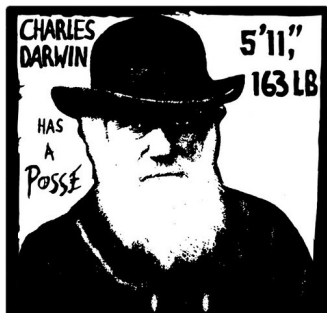


Queensland Humanist

Monthly Newsletter of the Humanist Society of Queensland

July 2010



UPCOMING EVENTS: We will be holding a follow-up meeting to discuss our Darwin Day plans. Join us for afternoon tea and discussion from 1pm until 3pm this Sunday, 25 July in the Community Room at Brisbane Square Library, George St, Brisbane.

We already have an enthusiastic team of volunteers who wish to see Darwin Day celebrated as a regular event in Australia, so come along and lend your support. Ideas put forward so far include holding lectures (possibly at the Queensland Museum), designing a website and running an essay competition for high school students.

Meet Up Maria Proctor (President)

DATE CLAIMER: 17 - 19 September 2010

SoFiA (Sea of Faith in Australia) National Conference - Exploring a secular basis for our ethics

Lloyd Geering 'Coming Back to Earth; From gods to God to Gaia.'

Lloyd Geering is Emeritus Professor of Religious Studies at Victoria University, Wellington, New Zealand. He holds degrees in divinity and mathematics. After a period as a minister in the Presbyterian Church he took up teaching theology in 1956. In 1967 he was charged with "doctrinal error and disturbing the peace and unity of the (Presbyterian) church". He was acquitted on both counts. During his trial he rejected the ideas that the resurrection implied the resuscitation of the body of Jesus and that God is a supernatural being who both created and continues to take an interest in the world. Lloyd is a member of the Jesus Seminar and of the Sea of Faith Network. He also participates in the Living the Questions programme. Now in his nineties he remains a prolific author. His latest book 'Coming back to earth', was published in 2009 by Polebridge Press who have published many of his earlier works.

Neville Symington 'Judaism, Christianity and Islam are Revealed Religions. What has been lost in contemporary discussion about religion is an understanding of Natural Religion.'

Neville Symington has a long-term interest in both psychoanalysis and religion and the connection between them. Neville is a writer and a practitioner who also travels widely to discuss his ideas. He has published three books which deal with religion and psychoanalysis: 'Emotion and Spirit' (1994), 'The Spirit of Sanity' (2001), and "The Blind Man Sees" (2004), all published by Karnac. Some of the themes in these books which seem relevant to our conference are: discerning the true god and the false: the joint goal of religion and psychoanalysis - the overcoming of narcissism: conscience and the superego: the challenge we all face in maintaining personal relationships in a world where these are no longer held stable by social mores: the need to meld what is best from all the great religions. His latest book is "Becoming a Person through Psychoanalysis" (2007).

Gail Tulloch 'Two Approaches to a Secular Ethic : Singer and Sartre.'

Gail Tulloch is a research fellow in the Centre for Public Culture and Ideas at Griffith University. Her research interests are in bioethics, particularly euthanasia and stem cell research, and also in feminism and John Stuart Mill. Her most recent book is 'Euthanasia, Choice and Death' published by Edinburgh University Press (2005).

More information and additional copies of registration form at: www.sof-in-australia.org

A SECULAR RAY OF HOPE: Thanks to HSQ member Hugh Wilson for sending in the following secular good news stories.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/commentisfree/belief/2010/jun/27/leicester-secularism-mayor>

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1288909/Whats-God-got-Lord-Mayor-bans-traditional-Christian-prayers-council-meetings.html#ixzz0rmdvi3es>

If you find any news stories which may be of interest to other HSQ members please send them to: info@hsq.org.au

KEEP IN TOUCH

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FACEBOOK: <http://www.facebook.com/home.php?#!/group.php?gid=52028529716&ref=ts>