

“Nothing can be more contrary to religion and the clergy than reason and commonsense” said Voltaire, the 18th Century French philosopher.

Over three weeks this autumn we plan to show just how wrong he was! With an exciting programme of talks, dialogue and discussion, Mayfield Salisbury is hosting its third annual festival - Science, Reason and Religion. The event brings together eminent scientists, theologians and authors to explore the relationship between these three elements and to tackle head-on some of the challenging issues that can fundamentally affect people's views on life.

All events are free and open to the public. Everyone is welcome but please note that the events are ticketed. For tickets, go to www.mayfieldsalisbury.org or call Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church office on 0131 667 1522.



Programme

All talks and Open Space will take place in Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church. Disabled access is through the West Mayfield entrance. **Talks begin at 7pm for an hour, followed by Question and Answer sessions.** After each talk, there will be an opportunity to mingle and meet the speakers.

Wednesday 19 September

Keynote address: Science, Reason and Religion



Speaker: Professor Keith Ward

Keith Ward is a philosopher, theologian and author. He is a former Regius Professor of Divinity at Oxford University, a Fellow of the British Academy and an ordained priest of the Church of England.

Sunday 23 September

Reason as a measure of Faith and of Science



Speaker: Professor John Haldane

John Haldane is Professor of Philosophy and Director of the Centre for Ethics, Philosophy and Public Affairs at the University of St Andrews. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and Chairman of the Royal Institute of Philosophy. He is also an author, commentator and broadcaster and, by appointment of Pope Benedict XVI, is Consultor to the Pontifical Council for Culture.

Wednesday 26 September

Born for Religion



Speaker: Professor Douglas Blackwood

Douglas Blackwood is Emeritus Professor of Psychiatric Genetics and Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist at the University of Edinburgh with long standing interest in how genes contribute to mental illnesses.

He believes new genetic discoveries and insights widen the context for spirituality, its relation to religion and importance in psychiatry.

Sunday 30 September

Open Space

Come join us in an open session in a relaxed café atmosphere, with the opportunity to discuss and share views, issues, and perspectives about what it means to be human in the 21st century. We hope that this format will provide stimulating debate and the chance to engage with other people from a faith – and a non-faith – perspective.

Wednesday 3 October

The Journey of Faith :a scientist's perspective

Speaker: Professor Wilson Poon



Wilson Poon is Professor of Condensed Matter Physics at the University of Edinburgh. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Physics and of the Royal Society of Edinburgh and a member of the Doctrine Committee of the Scottish Episcopal Church. He is a regular book reviewer for the journal *Theology*.

Sunday 7 October

The Philosopher and the Theologian in Dialogue

Speakers : Dr Julian Baggini and Professor David Fergusson, chaired by Alan Little, BBC Correspondent



Julian Baggini is a philosopher and author. He has written for numerous newspapers and magazines and is editor-in-chief and co-founder of *The Philosopher's Magazine*. He has written several books on philosophy written for the general reader including *Atheism : A Very Short Introduction*.



David Fergusson is Professor of Divinity and Principal of New College, University of Edinburgh. His research interests include issues in Christian doctrine and theological ethics. He is a minister in the Church of Scotland.

For tickets, go to www.mayfieldsalisbury.org or call 0131 667 1522.

"By simple common sense, I do not believe in God."

Charlie Chaplin

"Gods are fragile things;
they may be killed by a
whiff of science or a dose
of common sense."

Chapman Cohen

"It is easy to understand
God as long as you don't
try to explain him."

Joseph Joubert

Are science and religion two parallel, and ultimately, ever-separate voyages of discovery or can they ever converge? Where does reason sit in the quest for a deeper understanding of life? Is organised religion simply an excuse to be narrow-minded and avoid the harsh realities and difficult choices of daily life?

These questions and others like them will be tackled and explored in a series of highly stimulating and interesting talks and conversations.

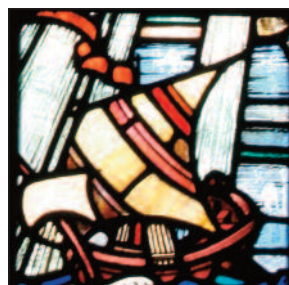
Join us in an exploration of what it means to be truly human.

www.mayfieldsalisbury.org



Facing the challenges of 21st century living

19 September to 7 October 2012



Mayfield Salisbury Church
18 West Mayfield
Edinburgh
EH9 1TQ

Scottish Charity Number 000785

Tickets are free and
available from 1 July at
www.mayfieldsalisbury.org or by
calling Mayfield Salisbury Parish
Church on 0131 667 1522.

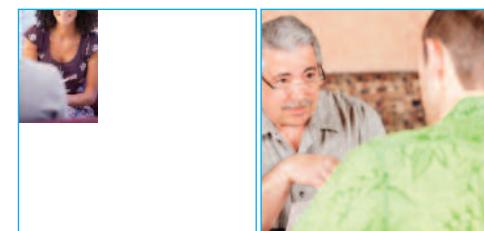
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