**KINGSTON PHILOSOPHY CAFÉ UPDATE**

**April 2013**

**COMING TO THE Café THIS MONTH**

**Tuesday 2 April at Bridges Cafe**

Social contract theory and its shortcomings

**Guy Woodall** leads the discussion: "The Social Contract is really the only game in town in modern political theory, yet it is clearly false. We’ll look at some of the basic principles of Enlightenment thinking and show how it is these rather than any observation of reality that give rise to the theory of the Social Contract, and why they are mistaken."

**Wednesday 17 April at the Ram Jam Club**

'Is it possible to be a metaphysician?' asks **Professor Simon Blackburn**

**LATEST DISCUSSIONS REVIEWED**

**Tuesday 5 March at Bridges**

Freedom to offend is a highly topical subject and so it proved at Bridges. All manner of views came out but most the most prevalent was the freedom of the press and a lack of regulation. Most of the hacking though deplorable is not threatening - the risk of closing down investigates is far greater (politician expenses for example).

**Wednesday 20 March**

Natalia Doran gave us a talk from a consumer's point of view about psychology in Plato's day. He had a tripartite model of the soul ( or psyche if you prefer), Appetitive, spirited, rational. These must be kept in balance and she  illustrated it with an example of a cream cake. She argued that reason is the dominant strand, one argument was that passion(appetite) sometimes drove reason. Her talk was as good as a top professional and she is only an amateur.

**Participate**

**Continue the discussion on the** [**Discussion Page**](http://e-voice.org.uk/kingstonphilosophycafe/discussion/)

**Volunteer to lead a session**

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| Tue | 02/04/13 | 18:00 | 19:30 | ["Social contract theory and its shortcomings".](http://e-voice.org.uk/kingstonphilosophycafe/calendar/item/9770455) |
| Wed | 17/04/13 | 19:00 | 20:30 | ['Is it possible to be a metaphysician?' asks Professor Simon Blackburn](http://e-voice.org.uk/kingstonphilosophycafe/calendar/item/9703222) |
| Tue | 07/05/13 | 18:00 | 19:30 | [Jules Evans, Policy Director for the Centre for the History of the Emotions at Queen Mary College, London](http://e-voice.org.uk/kingstonphilosophycafe/calendar/item/9770580) |
| Wed | 15/05/13 | 19:00 | 20:30 | ["Stuff and Nonsense: Berkeley and Immaterialism"](http://e-voice.org.uk/kingstonphilosophycafe/calendar/item/9703260) |
| Tue | 04/06/13 | 18:00 | 19:30 | [Stoicism](http://e-voice.org.uk/kingstonphilosophycafe/calendar/item/9825407) |
| Wed | 19/06/13 | 19:00 | 21:00 | ["Art, truth and knowledge: inside and outside the frame"](http://e-voice.org.uk/kingstonphilosophycafe/calendar/item/8765443) |
| Tue | 02/07/13 | 18:00 | 19:30 | [Discussion at Bridges, topic t b c](http://e-voice.org.uk/kingstonphilosophycafe/calendar/item/10053026) |
| Wed | 17/07/13 | 19:00 | 20:30 | [On Quantum Physics](http://e-voice.org.uk/kingstonphilosophycafe/calendar/item/9703276) |

**VENUES**: [click here](http://e-voice.org.uk/kingstonphilosophycafe/how-to-find-us/) for how to find us. Tuesday meetings are at Bridges Café, Wednesdays at the Ram Jam Club. All meetings are open to all and free, though donations towards our occasional expenses are welcome.

ALSO OF INTEREST

⬛ **The London School of Philosophy** [(Link)](http://londonschoolofphilosophy.org) I **can vouch for the excellence of this institution**.

Has Courses starting in April on the following subjects: [Derrida](http://londonschoolofphilosophy.org/?page_id=2#Derrida), [Hume](http://londonschoolofphilosophy.org/?page_id=2#Hume), [Reading Group: Nozick’s Anarchy, State and Utopia](http://londonschoolofphilosophy.org/?page_id=2#Reading%20Group:%20Nozick%E2%80%99s%20Anarchy,%20State%20and%20Utopia), [Walter Benjamin: Early Writings 3](http://londonschoolofphilosophy.org/?page_id=2#Walter%20Benjamin:%20Early%20Writings%203), [How to Think About the Mind](http://londonschoolofphilosophy.org/?page_id=2#How%20to%20Think%20About%20the%20Mind), [Existentialism 2](http://londonschoolofphilosophy.org/?page_id=2#Existentialism%202), [Hellenistic Philosophy](http://londonschoolofphilosophy.org/?page_id=2#Hellenistic%20Philosophy), [Poverty, Wealth and Identity](http://londonschoolofphilosophy.org/?page_id=2#Poverty,%20Wealth%20and%20Identity), [Logic 2](http://londonschoolofphilosophy.org/?page_id=2#Logic%202), [Philosophers of Otherness](http://londonschoolofphilosophy.org/?page_id=2#Philosophers%20of%20Otherness), [Practical Ethics](http://londonschoolofphilosophy.org/?page_id=2#Practical%20Ethics)

The fees for all courses are £100 or £75 concessions unless otherwise stated.  For more information see [enrolment.](http://londonschoolofphilosophy.org/?page_id=20) I

⬛ The current Royal Institute of Philosophy London Lecture Series is on Philosophical Traditions, with talks on Buddhism, the continental and analytic divide, Daoism, African Philosophy, Jewish thinking, Feminism, Islamic philosophy, and more - see the list and dates of talks at <http://www.royalinstitutephilosophy.org/page/36>.

⬛ 3rd – 22nd June, The Meddlers Theatre Company presents "Socrates and His Clouds" by William Lyons, at the Jermyn Street Theatre, London SW1. Online booking should start - See poster [here](http://e-voice.org.uk/kingstonphilosophycafe/assets/documents/socrates-play).

In Kingston and nearby

⬛ [Kingston Skeptics in the Pub](http://kingston.skepticsinthepub.org/) meets on the first Thursday of every month at the Ram Jam Club. And members who live or work near Ealing might like to check out [Ealing Skeptics in the Pub](http://ealing.skepticsinthepub.org/) too.   
⬛ Cafe Scientifique in meets last Tuesday of the month Woody's, Ram Passage, Kingston-upon-Thames, KT1 1HH.