

Discussion in Pubs (DiPs)
at *The Blue Mugge pub, Osborne Street, Leek.*
Programme

September - December 2015 (Up-dated at Mon 14th September, as below)

We've been running open discussions on big issues at *The Blue Mugge* for ten years. What began in September 2005 as an experiment is now well established and not just in Leek – we have sister *Discussion in Pubs* (DiPs) at The Lazy Trout in Meerbrook and at The Park Tavern, Macclesfield. Elsewhere over the last decade similar discussion circles/groups have grown, notably *Philosophy in Pubs* (PiPs) which began on Merseyside and are now national. *The Mugge* sessions from this September will run on **Monday evenings**, fortnightly, as below.

We share the aims of the BBC's Radio 4 programme *The Philosopher's Arms*:
"A place where moral dilemmas, philosophical ideas and the real world meet for a chat and a drink."
We quite frequently take a broadcast from Melvyn Bragg's *In our Time* (IoT) series as a stimulus, also using other media resources.
Themes may be contentious and controversial but our discussions are invariably tolerant, good humoured and inclusive. Everybody welcome - just turn up at any of the sessions. Free of charge! Notes to help inform and focus the discussions are usually sent out a few days in advance of each meeting.

The sessions begin at 7.45pm and run for about an hour and a half. If you are interested please contact derektatton@btinternet.com - phone 01538 528178 or just turn up.

Mon 14th Sept ***In the News*** (selecting two or three current issues for discussion)
Followed by a review, setting the programme at fortnightly intervals for coming months...):

Mon 28th Sept ***The future of the BBC*** – leading to submission to the BBC Charter Review Consultation...

Mon 12th Oct ***The Experience of Work*** – comparing today with 30 years ago, 50 years ago...

Mon 26th Oct ***Islam and Women*** –(notes based on the book ***Islam – an Introduction*** by Carol Hillenbrand (2015), IoT and earlier Mugge discussions)

Mon 9th Nov ***The Brain and Consciousness*** (IoT and earlier Mugge/Trout notes)

Mon 23rd Nov ***My favourite building in Leek*** - why architecture matters...

Mon 7th Dec ***Heidegger*** – learning from a philosopher you may know nothing about...

Mon 21st Dec ***Appreciating wine, poetry and art*** – a plain wo/man's guide to avoiding bunkum.
Followed by festive refreshment and conversation...

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Future topics?

Commemoration overload? Fracking; Loyalty: How women are different from men, maybe...;
The Cosmos – an up-date...(IoT);; Ageing: the best years of our lives?;
Selection of a topic to re-visit an earlier theme (three suggestions from our web archive):
How to talk about things we know nothing about... (openDemocracy)

Most of the above have been suggested by *Mugge* participants. Volunteers to do notes and lead sessions most welcome – please contact me as above.

For more information on aims, history and archive visit www.raymondwilliamsfoundation.org.uk and follow link to pub discussions...

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