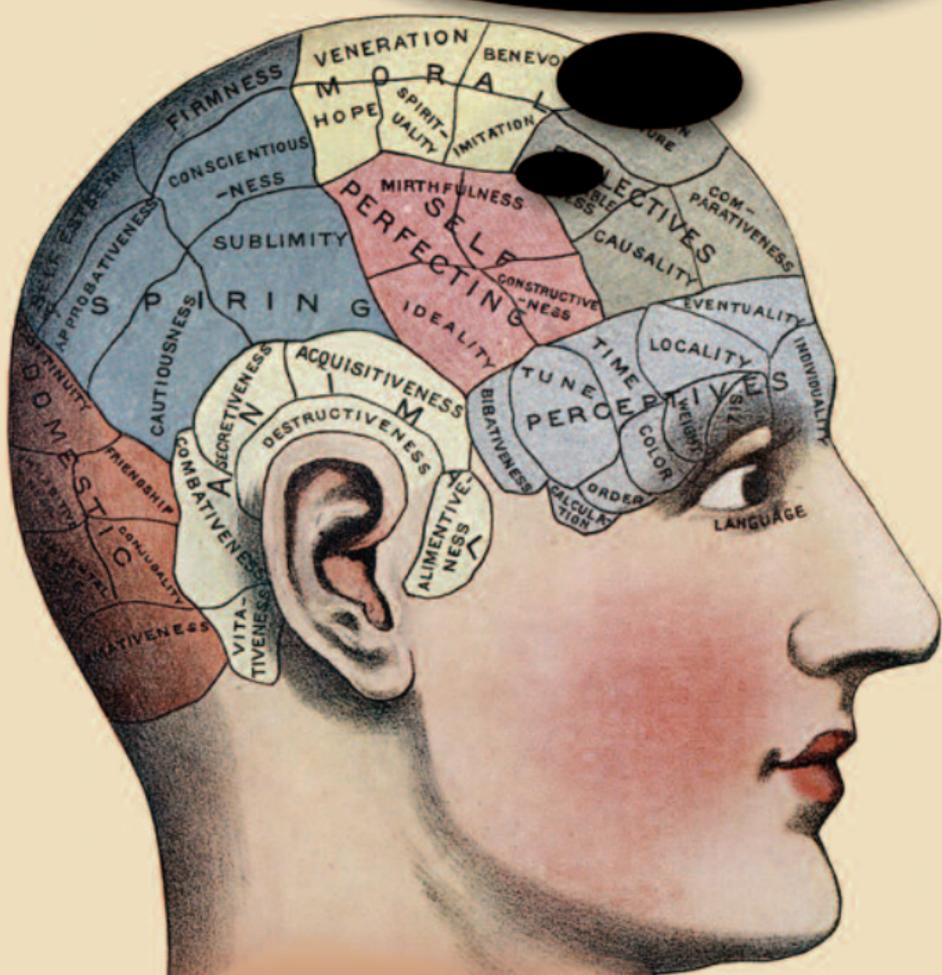


caféculture 2007-8

food for thought
www.cafeculturenortheast.org.uk



fortnightly,
first and third
mondays

**caféculture: Events start at 7pm sharp, at:
World Headquarters, Curtis Mayfield House,
Carliol Square, Newcastle**

Near to Monument Metro, and a short walk from Haymarket bus station. Some on-street parking, wheelchair access, bar. Adjacent taxi rank.

Map available at www.cafeculturenortheast.org.uk

Monday 3 September 07 café**politique**

A Divided Region? Education, health and wealth

Should we be moving beyond looking at the north south divide, to focusing on inequalities within the North East? **Fred Robinson**, Professorial Fellow in Social Policy, Durham University, will discuss the new wealth divide within the region: the Hexham – Hartlepool effect and its impact on class, culture and aspirations.

Monday 17 September 07 café**scientifique**

Do Animals Feel Pleasure?

Jonathan Balcombe, animal behaviourist and author of *Pleasurable Kingdom: Animals and the Nature of Feeling Good*, will argue that animals have deeper emotions than conventional science accepts. For Balcombe, behaviours are not just about adaptation, they're about feeling good.

Monday 1 October 07 café**culturel**

Forget Carter: A new dawn for culture in the North East?

Forget Carter considers the changing image of the North East in the media and drama. Where is the culture of the region heading? Do we aspire to being the same as everywhere else? Is the only way to be different to cling on to our industrial past? What is the future identity of the North East? **Chris Phipps** will discuss his ITV documentary *Forget Carter?* He is author of the definitive study of northern pop musicians *North Stars*, and has won awards for his portrayal of northern pop icons. He is a TV producer and an award-winning film maker.

Monday 15 October 07 café**scientifique**

Our Future Human Body?

As part of the Cyborg Future exhibition at the Discovery Museum, we take a look at the shrinking divide between us and the technology we use, from prosthetic body parts to smart textiles and wearable body extensions. **Tobie Kerridge** and **Ian Thompson** (Biojewellery) and **Peter and Carla Allen** (KnoWear) will be discussing whether this is the future we want with **Sabine Seymour**.

Monday 5 November 07 café**philosophique**

The Art of Life

Life has been always a work of art – but has the meaning of ‘art’ changed? And how? A rare opportunity to hear **Zygmunt Bauman**, the Emeritus Professor of Sociology, University of Leeds, who is author of influential works including *Postmodern Ethics*, *Modernity and the Holocaust*, and has been awarded the Adorno Prize and the Amalfi Prize among other honours.

Monday 19 November 07 café**scientifique**

For Whom the Roads Toll

What challenges face us in delivering a robust and sustainable road transport system fit for purpose in the 21st century? **Phil Blyth**, Professor of Intelligent Transport Systems at Newcastle University, argues that we will need to change the way we travel if we are to manage and optimise our use of roads and alternative forms of public transport. He will explore the options for paying for road use as the technology involved will lay the foundation for future intelligent infrastructure for transport.

Monday 3 December 07 café**politique**

Border Dispute: Where now for Anglo Scottish relations?

A Scottish National Party minority government in Scotland and Gordon Brown as PM heralds potentially volatile relations between England and Scotland. **Joyce McMillan**, political columnist at *the Scotsman*, discusses policy differences in Scotland such as free tuition fees, elderly care and lower class sizes – could they cause a public outcry? Should there be English only votes for MPs as championed by the Conservatives?

Monday 7 January 08 café**philosophique**

Theory Slam

If you're looking for a festive alternative with intellectual zing, come and pitch ideas at the first Tyneside Theory Slam. All-comers are offered three minutes each to sell us their theories – serious, silly, conspiracy – and the audience vote selects the winner. Email us at info@cafeculturenortheast.org.uk in advance if you have a pet theory you want to share.

Monday 21 January 08 café**scientifique**

King Coal Rides Again: Restoration of the monarchy?

In this era of low-carbon ambitions, could it remotely make sense to talk of a renaissance of energy production from coal? Geologist and environmental

engineer **Paul Younger**, HSBC Professor of Energy & Environment at Newcastle University, argues that it's time we disinterred Old King Coal and restored him to his throne: but this time under a new constitution that will limit his powers to lord it over his subjects.

Monday 4 February 08 café**philosophique**

The Politics of Faith: Religious and secular

The idea of utopia and belief in moral and political progress are secular versions of religious myth which have dominated political thinking for 200 years. Both are now in decline, while religion has returned as a pivotal factor in war and politics. Can the world avoid another century of faith-based violence? **John Gray** is professor of politics at LSE and his latest book is *Black Mass: Apocalyptic Religion and the Death of Utopia*.

Monday 18 February 08 café**philosophique**

Climate Change: Fact or fiction?

The science of climate change has become heavily politicised, with 'beliefs' intertwined with scientific fact. **Hilary Fowler**, NERC Research Fellow in the Water Resource Systems Research Laboratory at Newcastle University, will explore the myths surrounding climate change science, explain what impacts we may expect in the future and how interventions may help to reduce these.

Monday 3 March 08 café**politique**

Lost Cause? Consequences of the war on terror

In the wake of London bombings and the Glasgow airport attack, **Paul Rogers**, Global Security expert and Professor of Peace Studies, Bradford University, explores how volatile international security is. Focusing on the war on terror and the related conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, he'll analyse the implications of US and UK foreign policy and consider the impact of the US elections in 2008.

Monday 17 March 08 café**scientifique**

Where can we go with Stem Cells?

Will scientists soon be able to reprogramme embryonic stem cells to create tissues for transplantation? Is cloning a way to avoid problems of immune rejection, or would it be better to use the technique to understand how to reprogramme adult cells to make them like embryonic stem cells? Cutting edge insights from **Lyle Armstrong**, a member of the world-beating team at Newcastle's Centre for Stem Cell Biology and Developmental Genetics.

Monday 7 April 08

café**politique**

Unhappy Children

The Children's Commissioner, **Al Aynsley Green**, will explore Unicef's analysis that Britain is the worst place to grow up in the developed world. Why are British children more likely to get drunk or have sex than any other country? Is our view of young people leading to their exclusion, as just over 40% found their peers "kind and helpful", and how can the Government's commitments on child poverty be achieved?

Monday 21 April 08

café**politique**

E-democracy: A tool to encourage participation in politics?

Stephen Coleman, from Leeds University, suggests the internet could provide an antidote to banal mainstream political reporting, characterised by staged interviews and professional commentaries. Could digital technologies harness new political communication engaging many more voices and leading to stronger political debate between as well as before general elections?

Monday 19 May 08

bookgroupsummit

Poppy Shakespeare

For the fourth annual event, we are delighted to welcome **Clare Allen**, author of this moving and funny account of life with mental illness, which was shortlisted for the Mind Book of the Year Award in 2007. Clare is a survivor of the mental health system and a strong advocate for the rights of mentally ill people. *Please read the book in advance.*

Monday 2 June 08

café**philosophique**

Women in Islam

Why are young Muslim women in the West adopting hijab? Why are four out of five Western converts to Islam women? Unlike the Bible, the Koran promotes equality between sexes, and the Prophet's wives Aisha and Khadija are seen as positive role models for women. This panel discussion will look beyond the western media obsession with arranged marriage and the burqa to explore the social, cultural and theological dimensions of gender in Islam. Speakers TBC.

Monday 16 June 08 café**scientifique**

Should We Try to Save All Premature Babies?

Should you try to give intensive care to the earliest babies when their chances of survival are so slim? At what point might an older baby's life become so intolerable that you should consider letting them die? Should doctors ever actively end a baby's life? **David Archard** is Professor of Philosophy and Public Policy at Lancaster University and served on the recent Nuffield Council on Bioethics working party on premature babies. He will be joined by a neonatologist. The event will be chaired by Professor Erica Haines, also on the Nuffield working party.

Monday 7 July 08 café**philosophique**

Vegetarianism: Sentimental or ethical?

Several writers have advocated vegetarianism as an integral part of animal ethics, often believing that humans have stronger obligations towards animals than towards other living organisms. This belief is associated with compassion and empathy towards animals. Are these feelings just sentimental, or ethical? **Jan Deckers** is lecturer in healthcare ethics at Newcastle University Medical School.

café**culture**

Events organised by Culture North East, ippr north, Newcastle Philosophy Society and PEALS. The events have been funded by a grant from the Northern Rock Foundation and are supported by World Headquarters.

Enquiries or mailing list requests to:

info@cafeculturenortheast.org.uk

Other café philosophique events can be found at:

www.newcastlephilosophysociety.org.uk/

