

What is Debating?

A debate is a chance for people to speak passionately on either side of a specified topic – one speaker will prepare a case in support (the “proposer”) whilst another will take a stance against it (the “opposer”). A Chairman runs the meeting and makes sure everyone gets a fair chance to speak.

After the main speeches, members of the audience have the opportunity to make their own contributions.

When everyone who wants to has had their say, the main speakers will briefly sum up their case and then there is a vote to decide if the motion is carried or defeated.

There are as many opinions as peoples
Terence

What's really important is that Debaters always respect one another's views, even when they may disagree with them. No matter how much we take opposing sides during the debate everyone leaves the best of friends afterwards.

Don't worry if you're not used to speaking in public. It's fine to come along and just listen, but those who do speak find us a very approachable group to talk to.



Contact Us

If you would like to know more about us, why not just come along to the next debate? We are a very friendly group and always welcome newcomers. You certainly won't feel pressured into speaking, you can always just come and listen.

The latest programme is always available on our web site:

www.debsoc.com

If you would like to know more before you come along, you can email us at

info@debsoc.com

or phone and have a chat on

0871 711 3328

Brighton & Hove Debating Society

Do you have strong views on almost anything... ?

Do you enjoy sharing your views with your friends... ?

Do you like to hear what other people think... ?

**YOU
COULD BE A
DEBATER**

Who Are We?

The Brighton & Hove Debating Society is a friendly local group promoting all forms of debate and discussion. We are a diverse group who welcome members and visitors whatever their views, backgrounds or age: as Debaters we believe everyone is entitled to air their views as long as they in turn listen to and respect the views of others who may disagree with them.

What do we Do?

We have at least one main meeting every month. The programme covers a wide range of subjects: as well as topical issues and current affairs we also debate moral and religious issues, philosophical topics and a few light hearted ones as well! So there will be something to interest everyone.

See the "What is Debating" section for more about how a debate is organised.

We also hold smaller and less formal discussion evenings in members' homes and organise a number of social events.

The fun of talk is to find out what a person really thinks

Disraeli

It is not best that we should all think alike; it is difference of opinion which makes horse races

Mark Twain

Discussion Evenings

At least once a month, members of the Society host smaller scale "Discussion Evenings" where a number of topical issues are discussed in a less formal environment. These events are ideal for those who would like to gain some experience of speaking and expressing their views without the challenge of addressing a big meeting.

Words are the most powerful drug used by Mankind

Rudyard Kipling

Social Events

New members always comment on how welcoming and friendly they find the Society. Many have become firm friends and meet up socially outside the formal programme of events. The social events vary from year to year but normally include an Annual Dinner and Christmas Party.



Previous Debates

The Society was founded in 1950 so we have debated hundreds of subjects over the years. Here are just a few examples...

- Public figures should be judged only on their achievements
- The British set too much store by tradition
- Essential services should not rely on charity
- We believe in euthanasia
 - We prefer principle to permissiveness
 - Family life is doomed
 - Democracy is a failure
- God is a figment of mans' imagination
- We cannot afford Christmas
- Youth is wasted on the young
- Sport should be above politics
- The public have lost confidence in the Police
- University provides only a degree of uncertainty

Our web site shows our current programme and has a full list of all our past debates.