



# Darren Harper Philosophy Break January 2020

## A Crash Course in Philosophy

From Wednesday the 29th of January, until the morning of Sunday the 2nd of February 2020



The Green Park Hotel, Clunie Bridge Road, Pitlochry, Perthshire, PH16 5JY

**TELEPHONE:** 01796 473248 **FAX:** 01796 473520

**E MAIL:** [bookings@thegreenpark.co.uk](mailto:bookings@thegreenpark.co.uk)

**WEB:** [www.thegreenpark.co.uk](http://www.thegreenpark.co.uk)

# A Crash Course in Philosophy

From Wednesday the 29th of January, until the morning of Sunday the 2nd of February 2020

**Formerly philosophy was the preserve of PhDs and the intellectually precocious, until now. We will disinter its hermetic meaning and answer the question: what is Philosophy ? We will then indulge in lectures and discussion to reconcile with religion, perambulate through politics and amble through art.**

## Wednesday the 29th of January

So as to make the most of your day, please feel free to arrive at any time from mid-morning onwards. Complimentary tea, coffee, cakes, and biscuits will be available in our lounges every day from early each morning.

### **At 6.00pm.**

The first organised activity will be a sherry reception to be held in this year's Philosophy room - **room 9 on the first floor of the main building near the top of the main staircase.** This will give you the opportunity to meet your hosts from the Green Park and Darren Harper, as well as your fellow guests. Darren will go on to outline his plans for the following days.

### **From 6.30pm - 8.30pm.**

A four course dinner will be served in the dining-room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounges.



## Thursday the 30th of January

**8.00am - 9.45am.**

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining-room.

**10.00am - 12.00 noon.**

### ***Philosophy teaching session - Introduction: What is Philosophy ?***

Each day a buffet lunch will be served in the dining room. This lunch will be available between 12.00am and 1.30pm.

**Those not on the philosophy course are welcome to join you for lunch as well, and the cost of any lunches they take with you will just be added to their final account.**

**2.00pm - 4.00pm.**

### ***Philosophy teaching session - Knowledge***

**From 6.00pm.**

A pre-dinner Sherry reception in the main lounge.

**From 6.30pm - 8.30pm.**

A four course dinner will be served in the dining room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounge.

## Friday the 31st of January

**8.00am - 9.45am.**

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining-room.

**10.00am - 12.00 noon.**

### ***Philosophy teaching session - Religion***

A buffet lunch will be served in the dining room between 12.00am and 1.30pm.

**2.00pm - 4.00pm.**

### ***Philosophy teaching session - Ethics***

**From 6.00pm.**

A pre-dinner Sherry reception in the main lounge.

**From 6.30pm - 8.30pm.**

A four course dinner will be served in the dining room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounge.

## **Saturday the 1st of February**

**8.00am - 9.45am.**

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining-room.

**10.00am - 12.00 noon.**

### ***Philosophy teaching session - Politics***

A buffet lunch will be served in the dining room between 12.00am and 1.30pm.

**2.00pm - 4.00pm.**

### ***Philosophy teaching session - Art***

**6.00pm for 6.30pm.**

Darren will host an informal bucks-fizz reception in the main lounges. Everyone will have downed tools by now, and this is an excellent opportunity to unwind and enjoy the company of your compatriots.

A four course dinner will then be served in the dining room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounge.

## **Sunday the 2nd of February**

**8.00am - 9.45am.**

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining room.

**The McMenemie Family and everyone at the Green Park  
hope that you will have enjoyed your stay with us,  
and that you have a safe journey home.**

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The cost of the 2020 Four Night Philosophy Break  
is £448.00 per person.

This amount includes the entire package as described in this programme, and there is no supplementary charge for single accommodation.

**If you wish to travel to Pitlochry by coach or rail, we will arrange for transport between Pitlochry Station and the Green Park, for both your day of arrival and your day of departure. This transport will be complimentary.**

**Guests wanting to stay before or after the break would be charged at our early season rate of £99.00 per person per night, for dinner bed and breakfast.**

# Darren Harper - in his own words

## BA (Hons), PGCE

A child of the seventies, it wasn't until 2008 that I returned to academic study, having ventured around a little of the world whilst serving in the Royal Navy between 1998 and 2003, and then setting up and running my own business. Not really knowing who I was or what I wanted from life, I discovered adult education, which satisfied a growing and unquenchable thirst for knowledge and culture. My loves grew to be philosophy, literature and creative writing. My ambition having become to gain a degree in a subject which impassioned me, I enrolled to do an Access to Higher Education course at my local college. Achieving a distinction in English Literature, I subsequently applied to do a degree in English and Creative Writing at the University of Cumbria, and in 2012 graduated with first class honours. During my time at university, I also began writing theatre reviews; theatre becoming one of my major passions during my studies. Whilst there, I also won a prize for a short story I had written as well as having one of my own plays shortlisted with a theatre company.

In trying to find a way in which I could combine my own love of learning with meeting the responsibilities of life, I decided to become a teacher. Completing my PGCE at the University of Central Lancashire, I then returned to my local college as a teacher, where I was fortunate enough not only to teach GCSE English, but also A Levels in both English Literature and Creative Writing. My appetite still not fully satiated, and upon the retirement of my most inspiring teacher, Michael Travers, I began to offer my own adult education classes in Philosophy and Literature, both at Carlisle Adult Education and the wonderful residential college that is Higham Hall in Cockermouth. I now teach also at Dillington House in Somerset and Knuston House in Northamptonshire.

Fortune has favoured me once more, as has a beautiful and selfless wife, and I have recommenced my studies, this time at the University of Cumbria where I am doing my PhD. I have also established The Philosophical & Literary Society, both in Carlisle, Cumbria and Hexham, Northumberland.





# Darren Harper's Philosophy Break

From Wednesday the 29th of January, until the morning of Sunday the 2nd of February 2020

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_ TEL. NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF ROOM / ROOMS REQUIRED

TWIN \_\_\_\_\_ DOUBLE \_\_\_\_\_ SINGLE \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve the above accommodation in my name.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_.

The cost of the Four Night Philosophy Break is £448.00 per person.

This amount includes the entire package as described in this programme, and there is no supplementary charge for single accommodation.

**If you wish to travel to Pitlochry by coach or rail, we will arrange for complimentary transport between Pitlochry Station and the Green Park, for both your day of arrival and your day of departure.**

**Guests wanting to stay any extra nights before or after the art break would be charged at our low season rate of £99.00 per person per night, for dinner bed and breakfast.**

