



# The Idler Garden



Secret Garden Party 24-27 July 2008



COME TO the Idler Garden and join us for some revolutionary philosophical debate. This year, the Idler magazine has created its very own grove: a debating space with adjoining medieval garden.

During the course of our programme of dialogues, our favourite poets, philosophers and writers will ponder the big philosophical issue: how to live. Appearing over the weekend will be Idler editor Tom Hodgkinson, Crass co-founder, poet, essayist and artist Penny Rimbaud, New Economics Foundation director Andrew Simms, NEF associate and medievalist David Boyle, QI writer John Mitchinson, authors Dan Kieran (*I Fought The Law*) and Jay Griffiths (*Pip Pip and Wild*), brand-burner Neil Boorman, plus poet and playwright Clare Pollard, radical historian John Nicholson, and actor, musician and publisher David Bramwell. Plus lunchtime poetry in Kirsty Knight-Bruce's medieval herbarium and music in the evenings from Louis Eliot and John Moore. And a book-stall all weekend, selling books and pamphlets from our writers.



The Idler Garden is situated on the north side of the lake, near the Bale Pyramid.

[www.idler.co.uk](http://www.idler.co.uk)



Thursday

4 pm **THE MERRY REVOLUTION**  
TOM HODGKINSON and DAN KIERAN discuss pleasure,  
idleness, the Middle Ages and the end of capitalism.

6 pm **UKULELE SINGSONG**  
Join the idlers for some protest singing with uke accompaniment.

Friday

2 pm **HANNAH ARENDT**  
CLARE POLLARD and JOHN NICHOLSON discuss  
Arendt's work on propaganda, brain-washing and the banality of evil,  
and how we can resist social conditioning.

4 pm **THE TROUBADOURS**  
Who were these medieval poet-balladeers and what can we learn from  
their poetry and music today. DAVID BOYLE, author of *Blonde's*  
Song, and TOM HODGKINSON discuss.

6 pm **ALAN WATTS**  
DAVID BRAMWELL and TOM HODGKINSON discuss  
this oft-forgotten 20th century philosopher and wise man

Saturday

1 pm **POETRY IN THE GARDEN**  
with CLARE POLLARD

2 pm **TAMED WORLD**  
DAN KIERAN, author of *I Fought The Law*, and JAY GRIFFITHS,  
author of *Wild*, on how we can resist enclosure and release the wild spirit.

Continues over ...

**Saturday continued**

**4pm ALDOUS HUXLEY**

PENNY RIMBAUD and TOM HODGKINSON discuss Huxley's radical thought, from *Brave New World* and *The Doors of Perception* to his utopian novel, *Island*.

**6pm WILLIAM MORRIS**

JOHN MITCHINSON and CLARE POLLARD discover the revolutionary thinker, poet and activist behind the wallpaper designer and relate his ideas to contemporary problems.

**8pm BURNING DESIRE**

NEIL BOORMAN, author of *Bonfire of the Brands*, describes why he decided to burn his clothes and smash up his BlackBerry. With DAN KIERAN.

**Sunday**

**1pm POETRY IN THE GARDEN**

with PENNY RIMBAUD

**2pm WHY TESCO IS EVIL**

ANDREW SIMMS, director of the New Economics Foundation and author of *Tescopoly*, argues that Tesco is immoral and discusses ways to slay the monster. With TOM HODGKINSON.

**4pm D. H. LAWRENCE**

JOHN MITCHINSON and PENNY RIMBAUD on Lawrence's work, life and relevance today.

**6pm HOW TO SMASH THE SYSTEM**

All our speakers debate the alternatives to wage slavery and the death of the spirit.

**8pm MUSIC AND MERRIMENT**

End of festival party