Address:	Chestnuts, Langston Close, Churchill, Oxon. OX7 6QT
Telephone:	(01608-) 659174
e-mail:	*peter.king@philosophy.oxford.ac.uk*
W-WW page:	<URL:http://users.ox.ac.uk/~worc0337>
Date of Birth:	27 iii 56
Place of Birth:	Boston, Lincolnshire
Nationality:	English
Marital status:	Single
Academic qualifications:	B.A. (1st hons) Humanities (Middx)
	B.Phil. (Oxon.)
	D.Phil. (Oxon.)

Formal Teaching Posts

2003--	College Lecturer: Pembroke College, Oxford
1998–2003	Part-time Lecturer: University of Reading
1992–2003	Visiting Lecturer: the University of North London
2000–2001	College Lecturer: Christ Church and Somerville College, Oxford
1998–1999	College Lecturer: Brasenose College, Oxford
1994–1996	College Lecturer: St Hilda's College, Oxford
1993–1994	College Lecturer: St Anne's College, Oxford
1991	College Lecturer: New College, Oxford
1989–1991	Course Tutor (Certificate & Diploma in Philosophy): University of London Extra-Mural Department
1989–1990	College Lecturer and Organising Tutor in Philosophy: St Edmund Hall, Oxford

(I have also taught on a casual basis for most of the Oxford Colleges, and for King's College and Birkbeck College, London.)

Teaching experience

Philosophers

Aristotle (*Ethics:* in translation)
Descartes
Hume*
Leibniz (incl. Leibniz–Clarke correspondence)
Locke
Malebranche
Mill
Plato (*Euthyphro*, *Meno*, *Theætetus*, & *Republic*: in translation)
Spinoza

(Undergraduate tutorials & seminars, plus:
    *lectures
    †graduate teaching.)

Topics

African Philosophy*
Epistemology
Ethics   (incl. practical ethics)*
Formal logic   (for 1st years)
Metaphysics*
Philosophy of logic*
Philosophy of mind
Philosophy of parapsychology
Philosophy of religion*†
Philosophy of science*
    (Philosophy of physics; Science & the human viewpoint [incl. social science]; Philosophy of science & technology; Philosophy of biology)
Political Philosophy*
Realism, anti-realism, & idealism*

Relevant Positions

Associate Editor of *Sorites* (appointed December 1996).
Member of the *Humanist Philosophers' Group* (from 2002).

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH

Publications: Books & Papers

One Hundred Philosophers (Barrons, 2004)
'Lycan on Lewis and Meinong' (*Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society*, XCIII, 2; 1993)
'Other times' (*Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, 73; 1995)
'The problem of evil' (*Philosophical Writings*, 9; 1998)
'Hereafter, in a later world than this' (*Sorites*, 10; 1999)
'Parapsychology without the 'para' (or the psychology)' (*Think*, 3; 2003)
'One man's meat is another man's person' (in *Mind and Its Place in Nature*, edd Alexander Batthyany, Dimitri Constant, & Avshalom Elitzur; Ontos Verlag, forthcoming)

Publications: Short Articles

'Against tolerance' (*Philosophy Now*, 11; 1995)
'R.M. Hare' and 'Mediæval philosophy' (*Encarta Encyclopædia 1998*)
'Evil', 'Gods', and 'Time' (*Encyclopædia of Anthropology*; Sage Publications, 2005 forthcoming)

Work in progress or with editors

Is Nothing Sacred? An Introduction to the Philosophy of Religion — A set of dialogues (one of which – 'The Problem of Evil' – has been published separately, see above). Routledge have expressed interest in a book proposal, and I'm now working on further dialogues.

'Deepest consequence' — Two of the most common criticisms levelled against Mill's Utilitarianism are that he fails to take into account the agent's intentions and knowledge, and that the consequences of one's actions are impractically complex and far-reaching. My analysis of the notion of a morally significant consequence attempts to offer an answer to both these criticisms.

'Heaven's first law' — I look at the notion, central to most design arguments for the existence of god, that it is surprising that the world be ordered. I distinguish between and discuss two strands of criticism of this notion. [I read a version of this paper to the Joseph Butler Society, University of Oxford, in Trinity Term 1995.]

'The truth of the imagination' — I discuss and defend Descartes' rule that whatever can be clearly and distinctly perceived is certain. In doing so, I discuss the connection between conceivability and possibility, and develop a notion of *conceiving* that is strong enough to rule out the conception of the logically impossible while still serving Descartes' purpose.

'And they that dwell therein: worlds, properties, and god' — An examination of Alvin Plantinga's use of world-indexed properties in his version of the ontological argument and in his discussion of the problem of evil. I'm led to the conclusion that world-indexed properties, and the versions of modal logic which allow axioms such as: '$\Diamond\Box p \rightarrow \Box p$', should be avoided.

'No plaything' — An examination of the moral status of child pornography, its producers, and its consumers, using a combination of Utilitarian moral theory and Objectivist meta-ethics. I argue that the commonly (and legally) accepted moral hierarchy of types of such material is in some respects mistaken; material that at first seems less corrupting is in fact more – and more widely – dangerous.

'The probability of order' — I argue that the claim underpinning most modern versions of the design argument for the existence of god – that the fact that the universe is ordered is surprising – is false, and that order is not only to be expected but is a necessary feature of the world.

'Hume, miracles, and the paranormal' — I examine the way in which Hume's argument against belief in miracles has been used against belief in the paranormal, argue that such a use is flawed, and then show that this flaw also applies to Hume's own use.

Publications: Reviews

African Philosophy: The Essential Readings, ed. Serequeberhan (*Philosophical Books*)
Classical Indian Philosophy, J.N. Mohanty (*Philosophy in Review/Comptes Rendus Philosophiques*)
Faith in Theory and Practice, edd Elizabeth S. Radcliffe and Carol J. White (*Philosophical Books*)

Metaphysics, Peter van Inwagen (*International Journal of Philosophical Studies*)
The Problem of Pornography, Susan M. Easton (*Philosophy Today*)
Readings in African Philosophy, ed. Safro Kwame (*Canadian Philosophical Review*)
Scepticism: Inter-Disciplinary Approaches (*Philosophical Books*)
The Uses of Philosophy, Mary Warnock (*Mind*)
What Spacetime Explains, Graham Nerlich (*Canadian Philosophical Review*)

Other details

D.Phil thesis title: *The Ontology of Possible Worlds.*

B.Phil. papers taken: The Rationalists; Philosophical Logic; The Philosophy of Science; thesis title: *The Ontology of Possible Worlds*.

Secretary of the Ockham Society	1989–1990
Member of the London University Panel For Extra-Mural Studies	1988–1991
Member of the Oxford University Graduate Joint Consultative Committee for Philosophy	1988–1990
Captain of Brasenose College Bridge Team	1985–1989
President of Brasenose Hulme Common Room	1984–1985
Secretary of Brasenose Hulme Common Room	1986–1987
Secretary of the Brasenose College Philosophy Society	1984–1985
Member of the Executive Committee of the Oxford University Graduate Representative Council	1983–1984
Received Edna Fuller Memorial Prize	1983
Middlesex Polytechnic Student Representative	1982–1983
Founder-President of the Middlesex Polytechnic Philosophy Society	1981–1983

Other interests

I maintain my own World-Wide Web site, primarily concerned with Philosophy on the Internet, though offering a wide variety of other material, serious and recreational. I also maintain the Web Site for the Philosophy Department at the University of Reading.

With Andrea Christofidou I translate into English Modern Greek poetry, especially that of K.P. Kavafis and K.G. Karyotakis.

I occasionally publish poetry and translations in journals and anthologies.

I have performed with *Akouste!* — a small group of musicians, performing music from many times and cultures, as well as my own compositions. We have also done work in (mostly primary) schools. I've also played and performed with the Oxford Gamelan.