

RESEARCH FESTIVAL 2026 - PRESENTER BIO

Tony Cain
Independent Researcher

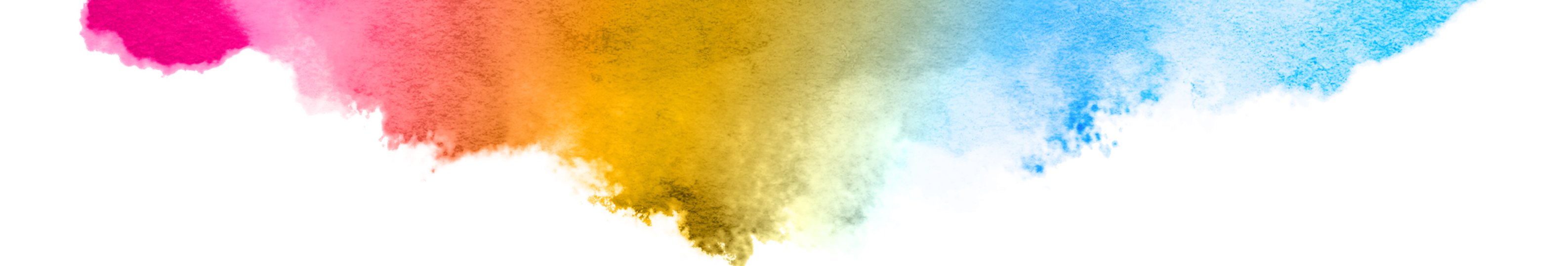
Presenting: Nietzsche Goes Motorcycle
Racing at the Isle of Man TT:
risk management & individual freedom



I am Tony Cain, an independent researcher and former PhD student with the University of Gloucestershire. I was born and bred in the Isle of Man. I hold a BA Hons, 1st class degree in History, Heritage & Manx Studies awarded by the University of Chester in 2011. I was awarded the Isle of Man Bank Prize for Outstanding Achievement in Higher Education 2011. I also hold an MA degree in Manx Studies awarded by the University of Liverpool in 2013. Between 2023 and 2026 I completed 18 months (12 months full-time and 6 months part-time) of PhD research in the philosophy of sport at the University of Gloucestershire.

During this time, I obtained a PG Certificate in Research Methodologies. My thesis focused upon a philosophical study of the Isle of Man Tourist Trophy (IOMTT) motorcycle road races. In relation to this research, in March 2024 and 2026, at universities in Aberdeen and Gloucester respectively, I gave two academic papers at the British Philosophy of Sport Annual Conference. I am presently carrying out independent research into philosophical aspects of the IOMTT and hoping to eventually author my own book on this subject.

Together with my former PhD supervisors I am also co-writing an article for an academic journal. From 2015 to the present time, I have been employed as an occasional sessional lecturer at UCM offering courses



predominantly in Manx archaeology and history (building on my BA and MA studies) but also featuring Manx folklore, geology and landscape of the Isle of Man and a history of blues guitar music.

Also, for the first time later this year, I am offering a course focusing upon meaning, value and identity at the IOMTT. My academic work has featured recently in UCM media publicity campaigns.

Aside from my endeavours at UCM, for several years I have lectured in archaeology to the IOM branch of the University of 3rd Age (U3A). Again, since 2015, I have given a range of presentations to diverse groups and organisations within the Island's public, private and voluntary sector.