

# Blasphemy law is now history

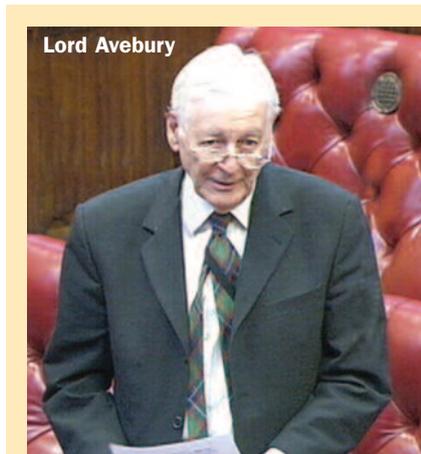
**T**he blasphemy laws, against which the NSS has campaigned for all of its 140 years, were finally consigned to history on 8 May 2008 when the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act containing the abolition clause was given Royal Assent.

As reported in the previous *Bulletin*, our Honorary Associate Dr Evan Harris MP started the ball rolling by tabling an abolition amendment in the House of Commons. He withdrew it after the Government promised to table their own amendment – which would assure its success.

We were warned by a couple of honorary associates not to take anything for granted and that the Government might try to find a way of not following through on its promise.

One of our most stalwart supporters in the House of Lords, Lord Avebury (formerly Eric Lubbock MP) was not taking any chances either. As there was no sign of the promised amendment in the House of Lords from the Government, he put down his own abolition amendment, making sure they would do as they had promised.

The Government produced its proposed Amendment after a



**Lord Avebury has called for abolition of the blasphemy law several times in his long parliamentary career, most recently in 2005 when he was nearly successful.**

promised “short and sharp” consultation with the Church of England (which grudgingly had to accept that they must let this ancient privilege go).

The [debate in the Lords](#) was successful, with the amendment being passed by 148 votes to 87 – but whether it would have been without the Government whip is another matter. There was much

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## Communities Minister meets NSS

**N**SS Vice President Anna Behan and Executive Director Keith Porteous Wood met with Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Department of Communities and Local Government Parmjit Dhanda to exchange views on community issues. The NSS team felt the meeting was cordial and productive.

Anna and Keith emphasised the disenfranchisement felt by many non-religious people as a result of the Government’s over-emphasis on religious groups. “We think the Government should be blind to people’s religion, but the Government sees religious groups as important to social cohesion and community action,” said Keith.

Mr Dhanda was keen to develop a “less shrill”, more positive dialogue between religious and non-religious sectors.

Anna and Keith made clear that the NSS strongly supports freedom of religion and belief, and freedom for the religious to

express themselves. We do, however, object to religious leaders being given privileged access, as is the case in Parliament, and a privileged platform, as with the BBC



**Pamjit Dhanda**

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## ◀ “Communities Minister” continued

and many other media outlets.

We catalogued the frequent attempts by religious organisations and pressure groups to discriminate against non-religious people, sometimes employing brazenly dishonest and scaremongering tactics to do so. We also emphasised our concerns about the inequalities created by religious schools and our conviction that minority religious schools are counter-cohesive.

The meeting provided an opportunity to bring to the Minister’s attention the key points of a [submission](#) Keith had recently made to the Department’s consultation: *Face-to-Face and Side-by-Side: A framework for inter faith dialogue and social action*. Some of the recommendations were:

- Commissioning an independent study of the impact on cohesion of minority faith schools
- Trying to reach young people through role models they can really look up to – athletes and sportspeople, for instance, rather than through religious organisations.
- Engaging with the less religiously-committed people in minority communities
- Appointing mentors – volunteers taking a one-to-one interest in an individual, for example encouraging women out of ghettos and giving them opportunities to participate in British life.
- Trying harder to reach exceptionally disadvantaged or unrepresented people in minority communities such as children, girls in danger of female genital mutilation or forced marriage, and women without freedom of movement.
- Allocating more resources and ingenuity to uncovering so-called honour killings, forced marriages and female genital mutilation, and bringing the full force of the law to bear on offenders.
- Recording the religion or belief of each perpetrator of religiously aggravated crime as well as that of the victim.

Keith and Anna came away feeling that there had been an honest exchange of views and that the Minister had been impressed with what he had heard.

## ◀ “Blasphemy Law” continued

wailing and gnashing of teeth among religious peers and bishops who saw this as the first step in the disestablishment of the Church of England.

The Minister, Baroness Andrews, [speaking for the Government](#), laid great emphasis on a placatory letter that had been written to the churches. In this letter, the Government, pledged to take “the greatest care” in the way it presented the amendment to the House of Lords. The Government had even formally undertaken to repeat the highly questionable point “*and in particular [the Government’s] belief that abolition of these laws should not in any sense be interpreted as being further indication of a drift towards a secularisation of society*”. (Lords Hansard 5 Mar 2008 Col 1121) This is a revealing glimpse into the nature of Church/State separation in the UK in 2008, or rather of their intertwinement – almost as if each believed the relationship to be a symbiotic one.

Two bishops, realising the law was untenable and would have to go, supported the amendment. Three, wanting to retain the law

whether it was justifiable or not, voted against it. The two most senior (including the Archbishop of York, though it was clear from his speech that he bitterly regretted the abolition) abstained. They knew defeat was inevitable; by abstaining they were not on the losing side, nor had they ruffled the Government’s feathers. The most bitter – and we must say – disingenuous speech was predictably from the prominent Catholic spokesperson and supporter of the Christian Institute, Lady O’Cathain. She made a personal attack on Evan Harris, disgracefully quoting him out of context. She said: “The letter from the most reverend Primates stated that abolition is not a sign of secularisation. Dr Evan Harris said in response: ‘It should be seen as a secularising move, and with pride...’. (Col 1129)” It was left to a Liberal Democrat peer to complete the sentence, changing the sense, with “...by both religious and secular people – because it removes a layer of religious privilege in, and religious censorship of, society which is no longer seen as appropriate”. (Col 1143).

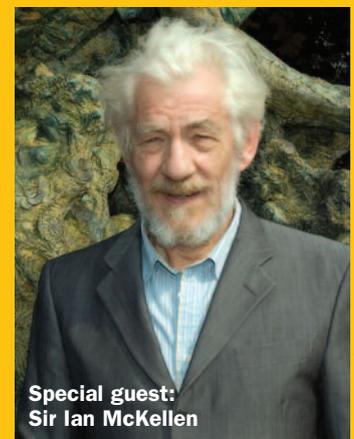
The [Bill had to return to the Commons](#) where the abolition was ratified by 378 votes to 57.

# We’re throwing a swell party to celebrate the end of blasphemy!

**The end of the blasphemy law in Britain is an important development for the NSS and so we organised a party to celebrate. Within a few days all the tickets were sold.**

**Sir Ian McKellen has promised to read the poem *The Love that Dares to Speak its Name* – the subject of the last blasphemy prosecution when it was published in *Gay News* in 1976. There’ll be a full report and pictures on the website.**

**For the event we have compiled a special film about the end of blasphemy. A review copy will soon be available on DVD, free to members only – please see *Newsline* for more details or send a padded stamped addressed envelope to NSS (film), 25 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4RL and we’ll send it when available.**



Special guest:  
Sir Ian McKellen

Photo by Keith Stern

# Church and State: NSS report published by UCL Constitution Unit

The Constitution Unit of University College London has published a small book about their high level seminar on Church and State. It was attended by leading figures from academia, constitutional affairs, the established church, and other religions as well as Lord Hurd and a representative of the Prime Minister. The book contains a summary of various contributions to the prestigious event including a précis of the [Paper presented by the NSS](#).

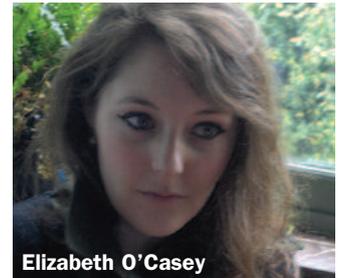
The 82 page publication, No. 143, is called *CHURCH AND STATE: Some Reflections on Church Establishment in England*, Edited by Dr. R.M. Morris, published in March 2008 ISBN 978-1-903903-13-1. It costs £15 and is available [online](#) or by telephone on 020 7679 4977.

We would like to place on record our thanks to senior volunteer Tim Boyce for his painstaking work with Keith Porteous Wood in producing this important document of record which drew praise at the event from academics and even from our detractors.

## International Parliamentarians warned about problems at the UN Human Rights Council

We have alerted the international organisation of parliamentarians, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IP-U), about the major erosion of support for freedom of expression in the UN Human Rights Council. These concerns were also highlighted on the front of the previous NSS *Bulletin*. The forty page submission (plus appendices) was circulated to delegates of the latest IP-U conference, relevant UK parliamentarians and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office as well as the UK embassy to the UN in Geneva.

This major report was compiled by Keith Porteous Wood with a great deal of assistance from Council member Elizabeth O'Casey and senior lawyer volunteer Ronan McCrea, to whom we express our thanks. It is available to members, on request from the office.



Elizabeth O'Casey

## We sound warning notes in both Brussels and Athens

The NSS is affiliated to the European Humanist Federation (EHF) which held an impressive one-day colloquium in Brussels in April to mark sixty years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The meeting was mainly made up of humanists and secularists from Belgium but there were also representatives from all over Europe.

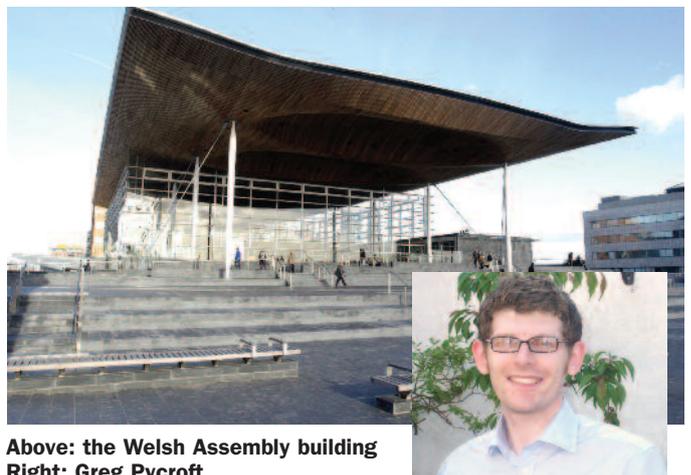
The guest of honour was José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission (the Parliament's powerful civil service). Also present was his adviser on religion, Jorge Cesar das Neves.

The Executive Director [warned the audience](#) against complacency over the protection of Human Rights outside Europe.

A [more detailed speech](#) by him on problems in the United Nations Human Rights Council to EHF's General Assembly in Athens, was kindly read for him *in absentia* by Ms Vera Pegna.

## NSS breaks new ground in Wales

In April, our representative Greg Pycroft spoke at an enquiry into presumed consent for organ donation at the Welsh Assembly – the first time any non-religious group has ever spoken there. Drawing on [written evidence](#) compiled by Senior Administrator Tessa Kendall, Greg recommended the 'hard' option of donation, in which relatives cannot over-ride the wishes of the donor, whether for religious or other reasons. Other organisations had recommended the 'soft' option, which does allow family objections, yet a recent survey of younger Welsh people conducted by the Assembly found their main concern around donation was that family members might block their wishes. Our stance was therefore regarded as most pertinent and received detailed attention. Honorary Associate Lorraine Barrett AM was on the committee.



Above: the Welsh Assembly building  
Right: Greg Pycroft

# NSS suggests shake up on Admissions Codes to Education Secretary

The Secretary of State for Education commissioned an investigation into a sample of three local education authorities to establish the level of compliance with the Schools Admissions Code. The results revealed shocking levels of non-compliance. In Barnet, for example, while only three breaches were found in community schools, over a hundred were found in religious schools. In all three sample authorities the worst culprits were religious schools, particularly those which are their own admissions authorities. It is quite clear that many religious schools have no compunction in breaking rules to put their own interests before those of the local community.

The NSS wrote to Education Secretary Ed Balls and suggested the imposition of fines for serious breaches and the abolition of the regulations permitting any school to control its own admissions.

The Minister promised measures to ensure greater compliance. We will wait to see whether our suggestions are taken up, but we will not be holding our breath. Despite, or perhaps because of, the damning results of the sample, Mr Balls was savagely attacked by the right-wing and Jewish press and the Churches. They accused him of trying to undermine "faith schools".

Given such bullying, also suffered by his predecessor Alan Johnson, it

was not surprising that Mr Balls included in his reply a passage lauding "faith schools". He clearly has no appetite for a fight with the religious schools lobby.

It is therefore difficult to see any prospect of radical improvement without measures such as those we suggested. It is community schools that are the victims of admissions codes, even when they are being followed to the letter. The only way to create a level playing field for community schools would be to completely remove religious discrimination in admissions to all maintained schools. That, sadly, looks like a remote possibility at present.

## Mixed progress with teaching unions

The NASUWT teachers' union was pleased to feature the NSS's trenchant contribution, called "**Religious Schools**", as a centre spread in its booklet *Keeping the Faith?* published in March 2008.

On the other hand, we were disappointed that the National Union of Teachers' Annual Conference for 2008 failed to consider a proposed motion opposing religious schools. They apparently ran out of time before discussing it.

The Union executive's Annual Report, which was adopted by conference, did however make several direct references to the NSS's input. There were also calls for "Impartial, fair and balanced teaching about all major worldviews, including non-religious ones" and that "Inclusive school assemblies must replace 'collective worship', with separate optional prayers and worship for those that require them."

There was real disappointment, however, when the report continued: "... the call for the establishment of an increased number of faith schools, and with it the negative impact of educating children from different cultures and religions, could be avoided. Schools could... consider the provision of space for religious instruction (sic) in addition to religious education for the children of parents who wish it."

We are still left wondering how this latter stance from the Executive managed to be approved, given it seemed to us to be the complete opposite of the wishes of the overwhelming number of the members we heard, and of the *ad hoc* working party to which we gave evidence. Perhaps the answer is that these proposals were contained in a few short paragraphs on page 147 of a 250 page report.

## NSS Council at large

**Anna Behan** has been spearheading our demanding work on equalities.

**Carla Revere** has been providing key legal input on a number of important projects. She also attended a Symposium on Law and Religion, part of the 2008 Temple Festival.

**Elizabeth O'Casey** represented the Society at the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) and European Democrats' (EPP-ED) hearing on Cultural Diversity, Religions and Dialogue at the European Parliament. As noted elsewhere, she helped to write the paper detailing problems at the UN Human Rights Council.

**Peter Vlachos** attended an Abortion Rights EGM.

Treasurer **Jim Nugent** is doing a magnificent job in overseeing the development of our accounting systems to cope with the ever-increasing demands placed upon it from the growth in membership. He is also relieving the Executive Director of preparations of the accounts for audit and liaison with the auditors, freeing him up for more campaigning activities.

# Council of Europe White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue *Living Together as Equals in Dignity*

**2008 has been designated the year of Intercultural Dialogue by both the Council of Europe and the European Union. Clearly everyone wants to see constructive dialogue, but the Society wanted to make sure the dialogue:**

- included all sections of society, including the non-religious, on equal terms
- did not evade difficult issues, and
- respected Human Rights in deeds as well as words.

A major project for the Society over the last year has been to influence the content of this White Paper, and make sure these criteria are met.

## What have we done?

We answered a [questionnaire](#) from the Council but concluded that it had failed to ask many important questions. Therefore we prepared a [major report](#) setting out well-referenced

information on the major issues.

Singled out for detailed examination were: The decline in Christian adherence; Democracy and the nature of representation; and Human Rights.

Our 40 recommendations covered areas such as: core values; representation by religious organisations; equality of women; homosexuality; cruelty; voluntary euthanasia; ritual slaughter; science; free speech; media; education; language; and neutrality of public services.

The President and Executive Director attended a Council of Europe conference last year. Each put forward a strong case for the need for a secular approach and pointed out that religious leaders' claims to

support Human Rights were too-often just lip service. The Director has been to Strasbourg and been in regular and close touch with the Council of Europe secretariat and parliamentarians over the last year or so, providing information and making sure our contributions are well focussed. The feedback has been encouraging, suggesting our Paper was both influential and helpful.

The White paper was published in May and many of the [points we made](#) in our representations have been included. We would have preferred a greater emphasis on secularism, but copious references are made to non-believers and the religiously-unconcerned who should all be included in consultations and considered on an equal basis, including on questions of morality. The report suggested that religious perspectives should not override

***“Religious perspectives should not override Human Rights, including on questions of freedom of expression”***

Human Rights, including on questions of freedom of expression, and that the non-religious world-view is part of our heritage.

Overall, we believe the substantial work on this project, which was also submitted on behalf of our affiliate the International Humanist and Ethical Union, has been fruitful. It has also enhanced our status with both the Council of Europe and the European Union.

Once more, we have to express our gratitude to senior volunteer Tim Boyce for many weeks of work in compiling these documents jointly with the Executive Director.

Let students make their own mind up about religion, says human rights committee

The Joint Committee on Human Rights has reiterated its concern to Parliament about older students effectively being forced to participate in **Collective Worship and Religious Education in schools (unless their parents agree to withdraw them)**. We had asked for pupils of sufficient maturity – probably of age 14 or 15 – to be able to withdraw at their own behest, for both **Collective Worship and Religious Education. At the end of last year, Keith again raised the matter with**



Evan Harris MP

Evan Harris MP, who is on the Human Rights Select Committee, asking for the Committee to press the matter once more. It has done so and we are most grateful.

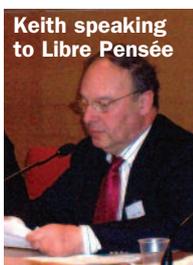
As a direct result of an initiative taken by the NSS in 2006, sixth form pupils (but not younger ones) were allowed to withdraw themselves from **Collective Worship, but not RE (our very Section 55 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006)**.

We made this progress last time despite an initial refusal by the Government to comply with the Select Committee's recommendations. We are hopeful that the Government, which has again shown some reluctance to budge, will once more concede ground.

## We co-chair meeting at French Senate

Our French counterpart organisation, *Libre Pensée*, held a series of meetings to mark their 160th Anniversary this year. Keith was honoured to co-chair the opening session, which was held in the French Senate (their equivalent of the House of Lords) in Paris. The audience included a number of distinguished politicians and academics as well as the leaders of the secularist movement from around the world.

He also gave a [speech](#), in French, about his experiences at the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, making similar points to those in the Spring *Bulletin*. President Terry Sanderson and Keith were formally welcomed as representatives of the Society at the reception.



Keith speaking to Libre Pensée

## NSS helps set Commission's Strategic Priorities

Keith Porteous Wood represented the NSS at the Equality and Human Rights Commission's high powered session for their key stakeholders at Coombe Abbey to assist the Commission in drawing up their Strategic Priorities and first Business Plan. Keith played a prominent role in the day-long process and made a large number of constructive suggestions.

Keith said: "Trevor Phillips went out of his way to be welcoming. He seemed genuinely interested in our input and making sure that the secular perspective was taken seriously, and that the non-religious were not left out."

Keith emphasised how religious leaders were very often not representative of their own followers and that it should not be assumed that everyone in minority communities was "of the faith". For some – especially women,

young people and those from sexual minorities – religion could be a source of oppression. He urged the Commission to find ways to seek such people out, to canvas their views and, where possible, to help them. He also emphasised that the religiously unconcerned and non-religious are so often ignored, yet could often be adversely affected by the determination of religious leaders to impose their dogma on everyone.

The informal meeting also provided a valuable opportunity to get to know some of the Commissioners and senior staff that he had not previously met. Some were clearly secular-minded, but others rather less so. Dr Anna Behan heads up our equality work and she worked with Keith on preparations for the meeting.

## Lawyers' Secular Society

A new group for lawyers who are concerned to provide a secular counterbalance to the growing influence of religion in law is forming. **The Lawyers' Secular Society** is seeking more lawyer volunteers to help with discrimination cases. The LSS would like to hear from lawyers willing to join its panel of speakers or to attend briefings on issues that need a secularist response. Carla Revere, a barrister who is helping set up the group commented: "There is an increasing tide of lectures advocating Britain adopts aspects of religious law, in a similar way to that articulated by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The LSS hopes to provide a robust challenge to the encroachment of religious demands in law."

If you would like to become involved in these hugely important matters please contact the LSS in the first instance through the NSS office on 020 7404 3126 and ask for Stephen Evans who will be able to put you in touch with Carla Revere or email [admin@secularism.org.uk](mailto:admin@secularism.org.uk).



Carla Revere

## Equal Opportunities Employment Forum

The EOEF, announced in the previous *Bulletin*, is working for equal employment rights, regardless of religion or belief. It is now cutting its teeth on its first major project – responding to a Government consultation on employment.



## NOTES FOR YOUR DIARY

■ The **AGM** will be in London on the **afternoon of Saturday 29 November**, followed by the usual buffet and social event for members to meet and talk.

■ The next **Secularist of the Year** presentation will be a **lunch on Saturday 7 February, 2009** (around Darwin Day) and will be held in Central London in a large

venue, so more of you will be able to enjoy what has become the secular event of the season. We'll let you know when tickets are on sale.

## MEDIA HITS

**Getting our message out to the wider world is one of the NSS's most important functions, and this has been a very fruitful time.**

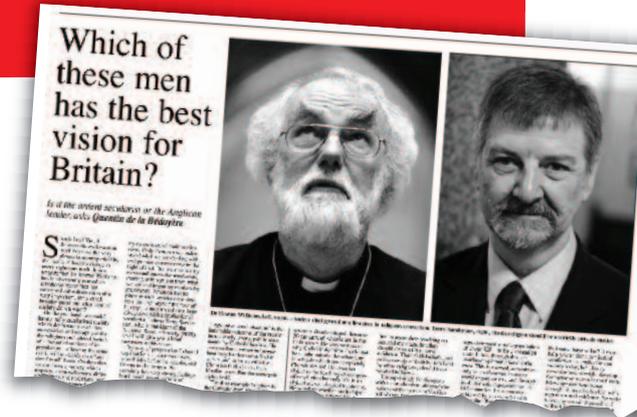
NSS President Terry Sanderson, who is also the editor of our own weekly and highly popular *Newsline*, provides sparky comments for news reporters which are often repeated around the world. He is frequently interviewed on the broadcast media, taking part, for example, in debates on Radio Five Live (such as the Simon Mayo show), BBC Asian Network and numerous local radio stations. Denis Cobell's views about Easter becoming a fixed date and a secular bank holiday were covered in *The Guardian* and on BBC R5 live. Peter Vlachos was on Bangla TV debating freedom of expression.

Keith Porteous Wood was up early one Sunday morning to appear on BBC1's *The Big Question* along with Richard Dawkins. Keith has also been on *Newsnight* as well as numerous radio stations.

During the big controversy over the Archbishop's comments about sharia law, Alistair McBay, our Scottish representative, was first with a comment which was widely reported the day after Rowan Williams made his ill-judged remarks. Council members Jennifer Jaynes and Norman Bacrac also commented widely on this, with Jennifer appearing on CNN and Norman giving several interviews, including with Sky Television and Radio Wales. Council member Carla Revere was on Radio Five Live.

Alistair McBay has had a whole clutch of his trenchant and well-researched letters published in the Scottish press, as well as in *The Independent* and *The Guardian*. Terry Sanderson has also become a familiar contributor to *The Guardian*'s 'Comment is Free' blog and two of his articles have reached the number one position in popularity. What was (almost universally) less popular was our stance for equality in the Scouts. The reactions showed that bigotry against the non-religious is alive and kicking.

Since the last *Bulletin* we have been mentioned well over a hundred times in the printed media, covering practically all the national papers in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland, with a particularly strong showing in *The Guardian* and *Observer*. Our stories have been picked up by international news



**NSS President Terry Sanderson featured in *The Catholic Herald*'s 'head-to-head' with Rowan Williams**

agencies and have turned up in every continent. In some stories we initiate, the NSS isn't even mentioned, but we are pleased nonetheless to have provoked debate about important issues. We have also had wide coverage in the regional and national papers and specialist press such as *The Financial Times*, *Times Educational Supplement* and magazines – and even the religious press.

## Please help our fight for Freedom of the Media

**We invite you to write to your MP and ask him or her to sign Early Day Motion no. 1586. It calls on the Home Secretary to launch an investigation into the activities of the West Midlands Police in relation to the January 2007 Channel 4 programme *Undercover Mosque*. Extraordinarily, the Police referred the programme to OFCOM. All their complaints were completely rejected. The matter is one of immense public importance, going to the very heart of the Justice system. It was the subject of a stirring recent article in *The Observer* by Nick Cohen: *At last, an apology from foolish policemen*.**

## Blair's Faith Foundation panned

Tony Blair announced the establishment of his Faith Foundation in April in (the Roman Catholic) Westminster Cathedral. While he was doing so, NSS Executive Director Keith Porteous Wood was a few feet away being filmed by BBC *Newsnight*. He said that if Mr Blair really wanted to help meet the Millennium development goals, he really should have worked out by now that religion is the problem not the answer. Had he not

seen the attitude of traditional Islam to the empowerment of women? Or of the Vatican obstructing the use of condoms, derailing the fight against Aids? Why was a 'faith foundation' necessary? Could Mr Blair not simply throw open the doors to everyone of goodwill?

Honorary Associate Professor A C Grayling was back in the studio making our case with his customary lucidity. Keith followed this up with



an interview on the BBC World Service and President Terry Sanderson was quoted on the BBC online news.

## DONATIONS

We are grateful to two regular donors who have recently given £2,500 and £500. We would also like to extend our gratitude to the members who are providing tremendous support to the Society by donating and subscribing in increasing numbers by monthly or annual bank standing orders. If you subscribe annually

by standing order please make sure that your payment is adjusted for the increase approved at the 2007 AGM and if you do not contribute by standing order please consider doing so as this method of funding gives us stability and enables us to plan effectively for the future.

## Great book discount offer for members only

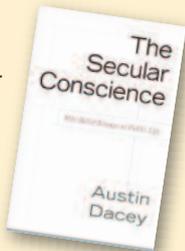
The following titles are available to members only at a 20% discount. They are only available at this price if ordered by post and paid for by cheque or PO. Send to NSS Book Offer, 25 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4RL. More information about the books at [www.secularism.org.uk](http://www.secularism.org.uk) or those without access to the Internet can telephone the office.

### The Secular Conscience

by Austin Dacey

In this incisive new book, philosopher Austin Dacey calls for a bold rethinking of the nature of conscience and its role in public life. He urges liberals to lift their self-imposed gag order and defend a renewed secularism based on the objective moral value of conscience.

Discounted price: £11.99

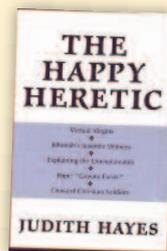


### The Happy Heretic

by Judith Hayes

Judith Hayes has the unique ability to raise serious points while making us laugh as she throws buckets of cold water on the irrational beliefs and maddening inconsistencies that often characterise popular religion.

Discounted price £10.40



### The Stillborn God: Religion, Politics, and the Modern West

by Mark Lilla

This searching history of western thinking about the relationship between religion and politics was inspired not by 9/11, but by Nazi Germany, where, says University of Chicago professor Lilla, politics and religion were horrifyingly intertwined.

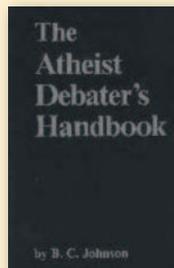
Discounted price £13.50

### The Atheist Debaters Handbook

by B C Johnson

Does God exist? Is there Divine intervention in our daily lives? Mr. Johnson contends that theism has not proved its case. This lively book was written to provide the skeptic with an arsenal of arguments against the theist – whether in a formal debate or in ordinary conversation.

Discounted price £7.99

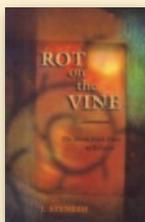


### Rot on the Vine – the many dark faces of religion

by J. Stenesh

This unique collection discusses how Biblical passages are used in modern-day America to exhort hatred of homosexuals and homosexuality, examines religion's role in fuelling the genocidal horrors of Nazism and much more.

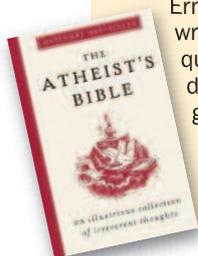
Discounted price £7.99



### The Atheist's Bible – an illustrious collection of irreverent thoughts

“All thinking men are atheists,” Ernest Hemingway famously wrote. True? Here are quips, quotes and questions from a distinguished assortment of geniuses and jokers, giving readers a chance to decide for themselves.

Discounted price £7.20



## Volunteers

The NSS always appreciates the hard work done by all volunteers and we would especially like to thank:

BRAD DAVIS of WhiteLight who designs the *Bulletin* and Annual Report with great skill

SEAN CLARK and ANTHONY DICKENS at cuttlefish.com for hosting and servicing our website and distributing *Newsline*

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