

 **REFORM  
SECTION 5****FEEL FREE TO INSULT ME!****New campaign to protect free speech**

**T**he NSS has joined together with human rights campaigners and unlikely bedfellows the Christian Institute to launch a major new campaign to reform the 1986 Public Order Act which applies to England and Wales.

Section 5 of the Act outlaws “insulting words or behaviour”, but what exactly constitutes “insulting” is unclear and has resulted in many controversial police arrests. In 2008, a sixteen-year-old boy was

arrested for peacefully holding a placard that read “Scientology is a dangerous cult”. We believe the law as it stands is having a chilling effect on free speech.

At a successful campaign launch in the Houses of Parliament on 16 May we argued that while the law rightly protects us against discrimination, incitement, abuse and violence, it should not be used to protect us from having our feelings hurt. Speakers at the

launch included NSS Executive Director Keith Porteous Wood, RS5 Campaign Director Simon Calvert of the Christian institute, Peter Tatchell, Edward Leigh MP and former shadow Home Secretary The Rt Hon David Davis MP. Earlier this year, we responded to a Government consultation on this issue. The Home Office is currently considering its response.

You can visit the campaign website at [www.ReformSection5.org.uk](http://www.ReformSection5.org.uk)

**TAKE ACTION!**

Using the arguments set out on the campaign website, write to the Home Secretary explaining why you think that the police should not be protecting us from feeling insulted.

Rt Hon Theresa May MP, Home Secretary, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF or email her at [public.enquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:public.enquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk) with the subject heading “Reform Section 5”.

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# Council Prayers ruling starts national debate

Our legal challenge on council prayers became an international cause célèbre following our High Court victory earlier this year. The case has been referred to by the Prime Minister, senior members of the Cabinet, the Speaker of the House of Commons and even appears to have prompted a reaction from the Queen.

The Archbishop of Canterbury repeated, approvingly, his predecessor George Carey's theatrical assessment of our Council Prayer challenge: "There are deep forces at work in Western society, hollowing out the values of Christianity and driving them to the margins."

This collective paranoia by the religious establishment followed a debate over several weeks that evolved into a questioning of the place of religion in society. This was fuelled by the publication of an authoritative independent survey by the Richard Dawkins Foundation showing the weakness of many British people's commitment to the religion to which they claim to belong.

But the Government soon moved into retaliation mode. Conservative Party Chair Baroness Warsi made the seemingly obligatory swipe at "aggressive secularism", while singing the praises of the Vatican (the only absolute monarchy remaining in Europe and the very antithesis of secularism). She was leading a UK Government delegation there, so this remark will also have helped

ingratiate herself with her host.

The Rt Hon Eric Pickles, Secretary of State for Local Government, and well known for his religious views, seemed determined to do everything in his power to undermine our success. He wrote to every council in the country and made a statement in Parliament about the outcome of the Judicial Review.

He even abandoned the convention of separation of the executive and the judiciary crucial to a functioning democracy – going as far as criticising the court's decision as "illiberal" and as "judicial activism". In like mode, he implied that the newly enacted Localism Act had "overturned" the court's decision. Legal opinion is divided on whether or not the Act gives local authorities a new power to say prayers, but the Act was not designed to do this, indeed it does not even mention prayers; the authority to determine whether it now makes prayers lawful rests solely with the courts. Ministers pursuing a political, and possibly also religious, agenda are the very last ones who should be making public pronouncements about legal interpretation, doubly so where in doing so they are persuading councils to ignore an order of the High Court, such as the one arising from our Judicial Review.

Although Bideford councillors had defiantly voted to appeal as soon as the judgment was handed down, they changed their minds at their next

meeting. With the time limit for appeals now past, the original court order resulting from our victory remains in force and cannot be rescinded.

While some councils have been led on by Mr Pickles' pronouncements and risk contempt of court proceedings, Bideford are now saying prayers before council meetings and an increasing number of councils have abandoned the practice altogether.

**Following our successful Judicial Review hearing, the Queen, in a speech at the Church's HQ at Lambeth Palace, said:**

**"... we should remind ourselves of the significant position of the Church of England in our nation's life. The concept of our established Church is occasionally misunderstood and, I believe, commonly under-appreciated. Its role is not to defend Anglicanism to the exclusion of other religions."**

**Clearly, the Queen hasn't read her Coronation oath recently. Or maybe it was Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams who hadn't, as it is most likely he who drafted the speech.**

The Oath reads [in part]:

*Will you to the utmost of your power maintain in the United Kingdom the Protestant Reformed Religion established by law? Will you maintain and preserve inviolably the settlement of the Church of England, and the doctrine, worship, discipline, and government thereof, as by law established in England? And will you preserve unto the Bishops and Clergy of England, and to the Churches there committed to their charge, all such rights and privileges, as by law do or shall appertain to them or any of them?*



# Scouting for all? Our challenge to the Scouts

## Lords Reform

House of Lords reform has been included in the Queen's Speech. The Joint Committee on Lords Reform (to which the NSS made a [submission](#)) published its report in April. It recommended that representatives from "all major faiths" be appointed to a reformed second chamber. Their report also recommended that the Bench of Bishops should remain, but reduced from 26 to 12. However, in the drastically slimmed down chamber envisaged, the proportion of seats they occupy would slightly increase.

Our condemnation of both the continuation of any bishops and wider religious representation was picked up in the media and in detail on the Press Association wires.

The Government is considering the Report's recommendations and plans to publish a Bill later this year. However, senior Conservatives have suggested that Lords reform is a low priority and deep divisions in the Coalition mean the Bill is likely to experience a very rocky route through Parliament. We are not convinced that any progress will be made.

We will however continue to argue forcefully that any serious proposals to reform the Lords must address the unjustified privilege of all religious representation.

**In March, when Chief Scout Bear Grylls asserted in the media that scouting is for everyone regardless of their religion, ethnicity or belief, we publicly challenged his claim.**

**Although youngsters can attend Scouts informally, no one can join them without making a Promise that includes an oath to god. In a letter to the Scouts, we called on the organisation to open itself up to non-believers and make the religious oath optional.**

**Despite not being a religious organisation, the Scout Association benefits from an exemption from equality legislation (enacted after lobbying from them) so it can continue to accept only members who "make a statement which asserts or implies membership or acceptance of a religion or belief".**

**The Scouts also exclude non-believers from leadership positions.**

**Their Equal Opportunities Policy states that "the avowed absence of religious belief is a bar to appointment to a leadership position". Convicted paedophiles are the only other group deemed unsuitable.**

**Our challenge to the Scouts was reported by the BBC. However, the intransigency of the Scout leadership was made clear when English Chief Commissioner Wayne Bulpitt responded to the NSS making it clear that the organisation has no intention of changing its policy. When the Scottish Chief Commissioner later made a public commitment to take a "hard look at the oath to make it more inclusive", we were quick to encourage him. But maybe his collar was felt, for – when challenged – he too referred us to Wayne Bulpitt's reply.**

## Campaigning in Scotland

### Challenge to council prayers in Scotland

Our challenge to council prayers in Bideford related only to England and Wales, so we have also written to members of Edinburgh City Council, one of the few Scottish councils that regularly holds prayers at the start of meetings. We urged it to stop them until it has conducted an official review and determined that it is legal under Scottish law to continue with prayers. The *Edinburgh Evening News*

ran a full page article on this, featuring Council member Norman Bonney.

We suggested collective silent reflection by all councillors at the start of meetings (on the model of the Northern Ireland Legislative Assembly) or the complete cessation of the practice of prayers at council meetings. Dumfries and Galloway have abandoned prayers following the advice of council officials.

### Education

In May we wrote to all Scottish mainland local

authority chief executives questioning whether the mandatory non-elected religious representatives on education committees conflict with the obligation on public authorities under the Equality Act of 2010 not to discriminate on grounds of religion or belief.

### Getting the message out there

NSS members in Scotland have been very proactive lately in ensuring the secular point of view is heard in the local and

national media by succeeding in getting letters published in major news outlets. We applaud their efforts to raise the profile of secularism in Scotland.

### Meeting with Members in Scotland

Keith Porteous Wood met with our members in Scotland in March to discuss expanding our work there, particularly in education. The meeting was kindly hosted by Patrick Harvey MSP.

# Religion and education clash as churches seek to increase their influence in schools

In April we accused the Catholic Education Service (CES) of breaching the authority and privilege that it enjoys in state schools by using them as a battleground for the Church's campaign against equal marriage. The CES contacted its 385 secondary schools in England and Wales and asked them to make pupils aware of a letter by the Archbishops of Westminster and Southwark that was read in parishes in March opposing the so-called redefinition of marriage. Pupils were also encouraged to sign a Coalition for Marriage petition against equal marriage.

We wrote to the Secretary of State for Education, Michael Gove, and Leighton Andrews, the Welsh Assembly Government minister for education and skills, requesting that they take immediate action. Our letters were widely covered in the media.

We pointed out to the Ministers that the actions appeared to be a blatant breach of the 1996 Education Act. Section 406 of the Act forbids the promotion of partisan political views

in the teaching of any subject at the school. Section 407 requires schools to take whatever reasonably practical steps are necessary to ensure that where political issues are brought to the attention of pupils, they are offered a balanced presentation of opposing views.

The Welsh Government has since written to Catholic schools in Wales to warn them that they may be breaking the law by encouraging pupils to oppose equal marriage for LGBT people.

Responding on behalf of the Government, Nick Gibb MP, the Minister of State for Schools, wrote to us stating that his Department is taking the issue seriously and officials will report back to the Secretary of State for Schools (in England) before he sends a full response to our complaint.

## Church of England expansion

March saw the publication of the Church of England's [Chadwick report](#) which calls for a new "concordat" between the Church and the

Government that will "reinforce and enhance" the Church's influence throughout the education system.

The report, which was welcomed by Education Secretary Michael Gove, revealed ambitious plans to establish 200 more state funded church schools over the next five years and intensify the religious input into lessons. It also made clear the Church's desire to use schools to evangelise. The report reiterates the Church's intention to ensure "every child and young person has a life-enhancing encounter with the Christian faith and the person of Jesus Christ". They say this key premise applies equally to children of the faith, of other faiths and of no faith.

Our response to the report was widely picked up by the national media. We pointed out that, given the rapidly diminishing number of churchgoers, the Government is completely misguided in looking to the Church to provide education on such a significant scale in modern Britain.

## BBC rejects NSS *Thought for the Day* bias complaint

**In the week following our High Court victory the BBC broadcast a *Thought for the Day* contribution from Lord Singh in which he delivered unashamedly biased commentary on the council prayers ruling with no attempt to provide the necessary impartiality required by the broadcaster when discussing controversial issues.**

**Unsurprisingly, our complaint about what appeared to us to be a blatant breach of the BBC's editorial guidelines was rejected by the BBC. The Head of Radio in the Religion & Ethics Department responded saying that she was satisfied that the broadcast was "balanced and fair".**

**We have now appealed against the decision. Watch this space.**

## NSS announce new Secularist Student Award

We have launched a new Student Secularist Award in order to encourage student societies to take up the cause of secularism and promote it at their universities. It will be awarded in association with the National Federation of Atheist, Humanist and Secular Student Societies (AHS) and will first be presented at their National Convention 2013.

The prize will be awarded to student societies that advocate secularism in interesting or unusual ways. The total prize fund is worth £250 and representatives from winning societies will be invited to attend Secularist of the Year 2013. The AHS webpage has details on how to enter at <http://bit.ly/ahsaward>.

# Church school takeover challenged

The NSS has given support to local campaigners in Dagenham trying to save their community school from closure and amalgamation with a nearby Church of England School.

The NSS challenged Barking & Dagenham Council over its failure to consult properly about their proposals after they sent out a letter to parents and staff at the community school seeking their views – failing to mention that the new school would be a Voluntary Aided (VA) church school.

The omission was significant, as VA schools can set their own admissions criteria and discriminate against pupils on religious grounds if oversubscribed. VA schools are also permitted to discriminate against teachers who do not share the faith of the school when considering appointments and promotions.

We alerted the local journalists to the plans who have since picked up the story.

# NSS supports Freedom of Expression Rally

Braving bitterly cold weather, NSS staff and directors took part in One Law for All's Free Speech rally outside Parliament in February. Keith Porteous Wood was one of the speakers and warned about the conflation of race and religion used to silence critics by equating any criticism of Islam with so-called Islamophobia and branding them as racist. He also spoke of our concern about the commitment of the police and CPS to tackle these issues – given they have gone to great lengths to attempt to prosecute television journalists who were exposing hate speech.



Left to right: Keith Porteous Wood, Terry Sanderson, Dr Michael Irwin, Peter Tatchell, Dr Ronan McCrea, Professor Richard Dawkins

# Secularist of the Year

Human Rights campaigner Peter Tatchell has won Secularist of the Year 2012. He was presented with the £5,000 Irwin Prize by the author and freedom of expression campaigner Nick Cohen.

Terry Sanderson said: "We are very pleased to be able to reward Peter's lifelong commitment to human rights and to honour his support for a just and inclusive secular society. He has been active in many progressive campaigns over the past forty or more years."

This year we also awarded the first Simon Biber Memorial Prize (of £1,000) for special achievement to Clive Bone, the councillor at the centre of our council prayer victory in the High Court.

Special thanks went to Dr Ronan McCrea, an international expert on discrimination law at UCL's Faculty of Law, for his extensive work on our

intervention at the European Court of Human Rights. Oxford student Neil Dewar was also thanked for his contribution to a debate at the Oxford Union – and Peter Fisher for providing crucial evidence during the High Court hearing over prayers in council meetings.

As well as our members and supporters, the audience included Professor Richard Dawkins, Lord Taverne, Joan Smith, Professor Peter Atkins, Lord Avebury, Baroness Turner and Maryam Namazie. Neil Edwards entertained all of our guests with close-up table magic.

Nominations for next year's award are now open.

We especially thank Dr Michael Irwin, the prize sponsor for many years, and also Stephanie Biber for sponsoring the prize in honour of her father.



Nick Cohen



Lord Avebury and Baroness Turner



Neil Edwards (centre) entertains



Clive Bone



Secularist of the Year Peter Tatchell

# NSS co-hosts UN panel discussion at UN Human Rights Council in Geneva

In March, the NSS co-hosted a discussion on *Religion, Law, Democracy and Human Rights* and Keith Porteous Wood was one of four panellists and speakers. His subject was *Religion, Law and Politics in Europe*.

He opened by drawing attention to a UN rapporteur's recent warning that state religions pose a potential threat to the freedom of religion of those who do not belong to the dominant sect. Keith counselled against applying more lenient standards on intolerance and human rights observance to minority communities than the majority community. Similarly, he cautioned that a more lenient application of the law to minorities fuels extremist resentment in the majority community. Democratically determined, human rights compliant law must never be allowed to be subservient to rivals such as religious "law" – be it, for example, sharia or Roman Catholic canon law.



Keith Porteous Wood with Raheel Raza

Referring both to blasphemy and so-called "Islamophobia", Keith set out as a fundamental principle that no-one has the right not to be offended; both religious ideas and religious leaders should be open to criticism like anything or anyone else.

He concluded by warning about the increasing undermining of democracy by religion. Religious influence in parliamentary and international institutions is alarmingly disproportionate. The Vatican shamelessly pressurises

politicians and public officials to toe the Church's hard line on sensitive social and sexual matters. This undermining of democracy is all the greater because the very issues on which the Church applies the most pressure both to individuals and institutionally are the very ones on which the vast majority of Catholics are almost diametrically opposed to their leadership.

Also well received and provoking a lively debate was a particularly brave and [enlightened speech](#) given by Raheel Raza, a Pakistani-born Muslim women's rights activist from Toronto. Leo Igwe spoke passionately on "witchcraft" and homophobia in Africa.

■ *We are grateful to Roy Brown, head of the International Humanist and Ethical Union (IHEU) delegation to the UN in Geneva for organising the event and for his invitation to Keith to speak. We are affiliated to IHEU.*

## Creating the conditions for int

In February, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) launched a [strategy document](#) setting out the Government's approach for a more integrated society. At a conference in April organised by the Institute of Community Cohesion to discuss the strategy we publicly questioned senior Ministers about contradictions in the Government's cohesion strategy caused by them so enthusiastically 'doing god'.

Curiously, the Government's attempt to overturn our Judicial Review ruling on council prayers is included in the integration strategy paper. During his keynote speech, Local Government minister Eric Pickles described our High Court action as

"unreasonable", "un-British" and "bigoted" and claimed that his attempts to overturn the court order would promote cohesion.

The NSS Executive Director challenged Mr. Pickles directly. Keith Porteous Wood pointed out that one of our main objections to prayers is that they are *counter-cohesive*. Following the ruling, our

***"As a Government, we do do God... Our multifaith nation, which has brought many benefits, is not strengthened by the secularisation of civil life."***

**Eric Pickles**



office received many calls from Sikh, Muslim and non-religious councillors thanking us for taking steps to remove a barrier to making local democracy equally welcoming to all sections of society. Since supporting our action, at least one Muslim councillor has been de-selected.

Even in mono-cultural Bideford, prayers were the subject of bitter disputes lasting several years. And in multicultural Portsmouth, Muslim prayers at a Council meeting caused a Christian councillor to leave, saying that they were not addressing the god to which he prayed. The common thread to the events in Bideford, Portsmouth and elsewhere is clearly that prayers are an obstacle to cohesion.

At the same conference, Campaigns Manager Stephen Evans

# Disinformation campaign over UK employment cases at European Court

The *Daily Telegraph* and *Daily Mail* gave huge prominence to four human rights cases in which the [NSS is intervening](#) at the European Court of Human Rights (see Autumn 2011 Bulletin). The cases of Eweida, Chaplin, Ladele and McFarlane relate to employees wearing crosses or refusing to provide services to homosexuals. We contend that all four cases were correctly dismissed by the UK courts, but these applicants to the European Court allege that the dismissals result in the UK failing to uphold their rights to freedom of religion.

We believe the latest campaign of misinformation is giving a grossly misleading impression, apparently trying to put pressure on the European Court to adjudicate in the opposite direction to that which we advocate.

Despite the hundreds of thousands of people wearing crosses every day at work, the newspapers claimed “Christians have no right to wear cross at work, says Government”. This “news” failed to point out that the Government’s position – simply supporting the UK courts’ decisions in these cases

made in the light of the relevant facts – had been known for many months.

This newspaper propaganda campaign assumed epic proportions when it was picked up by a Russian news agency naively repeating the myth that Christians are persecuted in Britain with Government approval. This went viral in the Russian media as a result of which the NSS was inundated by Russian reporters for press, radio and TV interviews, with the Executive Director even being interviewed by the UK Bureau Chief of the Russian State TV.

Not content with even this, the *Telegraph* came back a few weeks later for some more selective recycling. They sensationalised former Archbishop of Canterbury Lord Carey’s intervention to the European Court over these cases under the headline: “Britain’s Christians are being vilified, warns Lord Carey”. Nor was this news; the closing date for interventions had been more than six months earlier.

The article continues in similarly hysterical vein, e.g. “the outward expression of traditional conservative Christian values has

effectively been ‘banned’ in Britain” and “[Dr Carey’s] comments represent one of the strongest attacks on the impartiality of Britain’s judiciary from a religious leader.”

When Dr Carey earlier intervened in one of these four cases in the UK courts, the judge, Lord Justice Laws, found his intervention muddled, incoherent and based on fundamental misunderstandings of the law. He particularly singled out a proposal that Dr Carey nevertheless defiantly repeated in his submission to Europe: “I have called for specialist Courts (similar to family or commercial courts) to adjudicate on religious disputes as there appears to be a lack of understanding and sensitivity to these issues”.

Despite the massive amount of money being expended by our opponents and the acres of newsprint misinformation, we remain confident that the European Court will decide in the way we argued it should. The hearing is scheduled for 4 September but judgment may well be reserved. Read our full submission to the ECtHR here: <http://bit.ly/nsseweida> (pdf).

## Integration?

put it to Andrew Stunell, the Minister responsible for cohesion, that one of the Government’s flagship education policies – free schools – lauded in the cohesion strategy, actually impedes integration by being able to religiously discriminate in up to 50% of their pupil intake.

Michael Gove’s express recognition that there is nothing to prevent such schools from having all pupils from the same faith background gives the green light for potentially mono-ethnic, mono-religious and mono-cultural schools. Yet, these are the very schools that the integration strategy praises for being ‘inclusive’. Mr Stunell acknowledged the argument, but failed to counter it in any convincing way.

## TALKING SECULARISM

A round up of NSS staff and Council activities (not mentioned elsewhere)

Council member **Anne Marie Waters** gave talks covering sharia law, human rights and free speech at Queen Mary, University of London, the National Atheist Secularist and Humanist Student Society Conference and Wimbledon High School. She also spoke on our behalf at the Abortion Rights AGM.



**Keith Porteous Wood**, **Lord Warner of Brockley** and student **Neil Dewar** spoke at an Oxford Union debate for a motion *This House Believes That the Dividing Line between Religion and Politics Should Shine Brightly* – and won comfortably. Keith was also one of four panellists in a debate on *Does institutionalised religion inevitably lead to intolerance and hatred?* during Oxford Reason Week.

Council member **Robert Stovold** spoke to Brighton & Hove Humanists about his successful challenge to misleading advertising claims made by Christian Scientists through the Advertising Standards Authority. He also spoke at the Gulf Cultural Club.



Council member **Adrian Tippetts** spoke about faith schools at a meeting to mark the International Day against Homophobia and Transphobia (IDAHO) on fighting homo/transphobia in and through education.

Former Campaigns Officer **Tessa Kendall** spoke to UCL Atheist, Secular and Humanist Students about religion and women’s bodies.

## New Honorary Associates

### Michael Frayn

The author of *Noises Off* (now in the West End), *Copenhagen*, *Democracy* and the film *Clockwise* is also a successful novelist and one of the finest translators of Chekhov. His columns for the *Guardian* and the *Observer* are collected in *The Day of the Dog*, *The Book of Fub* and *On the Outskirts*; some were adapted and performed for BBC Radio 4.

Michael was greatly enthused by our council prayer victory.



### Lord Warner of Brockley

Baron Warner is a Labour member of the House of Lords and was Senior Policy Adviser to Home Secretary Jack Straw as well as a Minister of State at the Department of Health and a Privy Councillor.

Lord Warner was appointed by the Coalition Government as Chair of the Social Care Funding Commission, with a remit to study future funding arrangements for the elderly. In 2010, he was elected chair of the All Party Parliamentary Humanist Group.



## Donations

Our work is wholly funded by our member's subscriptions, standing orders and donations. Standing orders help us plan and expand our campaigning work more effectively so if you'd like to set one up or increase your current one, please email the office at [admin@secularism.org.uk](mailto:admin@secularism.org.uk).

We would particularly like to thank the many people who gave £100–£200, two who gave £500, eight who gave £1,000 and one who gave £2,000 – as well as all the donations from new members and renewing members. You can donate via the Donate button on our homepage or by cheque.

We have also gratefully received a legacy of £29,000. If you would like to remember the NSS in your will, the office will be happy to advise you.

## Thank You

Thank you to the volunteers who work alongside us in our campaigns, in the office and at events.

Particular thanks go to:

BRAD DAVIS of WhiteLight for designing the *Bulletin*, annual report and promotional material

CLAUDINE BAXTER for her work in the office

CHARLIE KLENDJIAN for assisting with the Lawyers' Secular Society

TREVOR ASTON for photographing Secularist of the Year

SHAUN JOYNSON for his help with events and campaigning

BARRY THORPE for research work

If you would like to volunteer to assist with general admin or campaigning, wherever you are based, please contact the office.

## Secular Conference 2012 – with Richard Dawkins

Saturday 22 September, Central London

Tickets £35 for all day event including lunch and refreshments.

Book now to avoid disappointment – online at [www.secularism.org.uk/secularism2012.html](http://www.secularism.org.uk/secularism2012.html) or send a cheque payable to "NSS" to the office.

## Secular Medical Forum

The mainstream media now regularly seeks the opinion of secular doctors via the SMF; Colin Brewer and Shane McKee have spoken on Channel 4's *4thought.tv* about depression and faith, and designer babies. Ed Presswood was on Radio 4's *Today* programme discussing superstition in the NHS; Antony Lempert joined BBC 1's *The Big Questions* to debate "Is religion good for children?" SMF members Sara Melly, Antony Lempert and Ed Presswood have given talks to local groups about the harmful intrusion of religion and superstition into mainstream medicine.

The SMF also responded to a GMC consultation relating to assisted suicide, recommending a more sensible and compassionate interpretation of the law and are preparing a joint submission with the NSS on draft guidance for doctors on "Personal Beliefs and Medical Practice".

[www.secularmedicalforum.org.uk](http://www.secularmedicalforum.org.uk)

## NSS online

Look out for a refreshed new look to our weekly email newsletter *Newsline* sometime this summer.

The new look format will be a shorter, more browsable email offering readers the opportunity to prioritize articles of most interest to them. A full length version will still be available with just one click of a link.

Don't forget you can keep up to date with all of our news and campaigns via the website and by following us on Twitter @natsecoc or by 'liking' our Facebook page. Links to all of our social media are available on the website homepage [www.secularism.org.uk](http://www.secularism.org.uk)

## Lawyers Secular Society

There will be a LSS social event with a guest speaker this summer near the Inns of Court. If you would like to be involved with the LSS, please contact [admin@secularism.org.uk](mailto:admin@secularism.org.uk)



national secular society **Bulletin**

Issue 51 Summer 2012

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