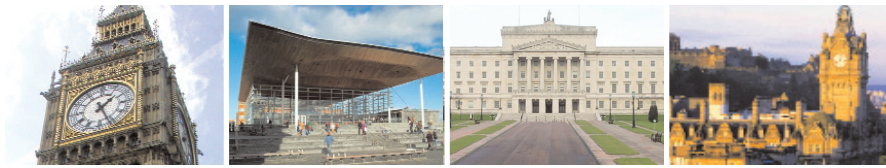
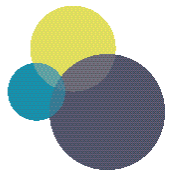




Christian  
Perspectives on  
Public Affairs

evangelical alliance  
uniting to change society



News and Christian Comment

## A night of the long knives or of the short straws?

The common cliché is that a week is a long time in politics. But the past month seems to have skipped a political aeon.

The party funding saga continues to hang over the political landscape and particularly over the Labour Party. This, coupled with the Deputy Prime Minister's damaging personal revelations, and the now former Home Secretary's politically fatal problems with the repatriation of foreign prisoners did not set a promising backdrop for Labour's local election campaign.

Indeed, the Conservatives turned in their best local election performance on the 4th May 2006 since they last won national power on the 9th April 1992. If the local election results had been held nationwide, or repeated in a General Election, the Conservative Party would have gained 40% of the vote, the Liberal Democrats 27% and Labour 26%. (Turnout was 36% – down 3% from 2004.)

The Conservatives gained 317 councillors (bringing them a total of 1,830 nationwide) while gaining 11 councils, giving them control of 68. However, they failed to make gains in large northern cities such as Liverpool and Manchester. But in London the Conservatives won 14 of London's 32 boroughs.

For Labour the fact that the disaster was predicted did not lessen its bite. The party lost 319 councillors (leaving them with 1,439 nationwide.) Labour lost control of 17 councils, leaving them with 30. They now only control 3 London boroughs. There were also gains for George Galloway's Respect Party and for the BNP. The BNP doubled its support in terms of the number of councillors it has in England, taking 27 seats. In Barking and Dagenham, where Margaret Hodge predicted disaster, it seized 11 of the 13 seats it contested, becoming the second party. The Christian People's Alliance won a total of three seats in Newham, to equal Respect's tally in this Labour bastion.

The Green Party gained 20 seats. Most of those were in Norwich, taking a total of 9 seats, an increase of 4, in the city where Charles Clarke is an MP.

The Liberal Democrats were virtually unchanged with 2 more councillors (a national total of 909). The Liberal Democrats lost two councils and gained three. Liberal Democrat leader, Sir Menzies Campbell, has said his party's showing in the local elections represents

"consolidation".

In reaction to Labour's poor showing former Health Secretary and left-winger, Frank Dobson, said a cabinet reshuffle would be like "rearranging the deckchairs on the Titanic...Quite frankly we need the party under new management."

Gordon Brown was quick to warn that the results were a "warning shot" for the Government and that Labour had to "renew" itself.

Perhaps as a reaction to the electoral fallout Tony Blair brought forward an unexpectedly wide and radical cabinet reshuffle to try and wrest back the initiative and defuse mounting criticism of ministerial incompetence. Charles Clarke was sacked as Home Secretary. Mr Clarke apparently refused alternative jobs and has returned to the back benches.

John Prescott remains as Deputy Prime Minister, (some have suggested to avoid a leadership election for his other post as Deputy Leader of the Labour Party). However, his departmental responsibilities in Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) will mainly be covered by the now former Education Secretary, Ruth Kelly. It seems that the Deputy Prime Minister has become an electoral liability who cannot be kept nor removed without political pain. Jack Straw follows Robin Cook's post-Foreign Office trajectory by becoming Leader of the House of Commons. Cabinet heavyweight, John Reid, has moved into the Home Office, while Margaret Beckett becomes Foreign Secretary.

Mr Blair's most dramatic reshuffle ever seems to have had the purpose of drawing his key loyal players around him as if to protect the King in the end game. It seems to raise more questions than it answers with regard to succession and when Gordon Brown will get his chance to be Prime Minister.

All observers agree it has been a bad few weeks for Mr Blair, and a public relations gift to his opponents. He asked voters not to judge him on "nine days of headlines, but on nine years of achievement". The BBC's Nick Robinson claimed that the electorate had done just that and rejected Labour's story of alleged policy success. Boris Johnston claimed that the reshuffle was more 'a night of the short straws' than 'a night of the long knives'. Radio Four thought it 'the night of the long cliché'. Mr Blair probably needs to avoid further clichés or straws and demonstrate real results if he is to remain as Labour's most successful Prime Minister.

# PQ from Westminster

## Assisted Dying Bill

The Assisted Dying Bill received its Second Reading in the House of Lords on Friday 12th May.

Care NOT Killing had collected over 100,000 signatures for a petition against the Assisted Dying Bill. It was presented to 10 Downing Street on the morning of the debate. Evangelical Alliance supporters accompanied several hundred others who protested outside Parliament as the Bill was being debated.

The Assisted Dying Bill debate lasted over 7 hours with 90 speakers as the complexities of the moral and philosophical pros and cons were laid bare. Those who opposed the Bill included a wide range of views from Christians to atheists. Opponents of the Bill highlighted the slippery slope which they believed would follow legalisation of assisted dying. Supporters of the Bill argued that it was carefully restrictive and compassionate, which allowed a proper choice for those with terminal illnesses to 'die with dignity'. The debate brought out clear divisions between those who believe in human beings having a right to choose how and when we die, and those who recognise the dangers of such a right becoming legal and who emphasise the benefits of better palliative care.

Unusually for a Second Reading, Peers were given the opportunity to vote on an amendment to postpone the Bill for six months. They voted by 148 to 100 for such an amendment proposed by Lord Carlisle. This effectively kills the Bill as the current parliamentary session will almost certainly end before the Bill can be re-debated.

Head of Public Affairs at the Evangelical Alliance, Don Horrocks, said "This represents a victory, not only for the dedication and commitment of those who have worked so hard during the 'Care Not Killing' campaign to win the argument, but also for the vast majority of doctors, nurses, disabled people and the general public who found the idea of introducing legalised killing into our society, abhorrent."

Although it would appear that the prospect of legalised killing has receded for now, and for this we are grateful, it will almost certainly return in the near future and concerned people must remain watchful. The Government has said that it would not block a further hearing of the Bill. The Voluntary Euthanasia Society promised the campaign to legalise assisted dying would continue.

The Care NOT Killing alliance needs continuing support. For further information please go to [www.carenotkilling.org](http://www.carenotkilling.org)

## Legislative and Regulatory Reform Bill

This week the complex and little understood Legislative and Regulatory Reform Bill cleared the House of Commons, though not without continuing controversy.

The Government have suggested the Bill would make it quicker and easier to tackle unnecessary, outdated or over-complicated regulation and help bring about a risk-based approach to regulation. To others, it has raised the spectre of a further attempt by the Executive branch of Government to diminish even more the scrutinising role of Parliament, giving a virtual carte blanche to the Government to amend or repeal legislation without proper Parliamentary checks and debate. As such, many have seen the Bill as a threat to democratic government and have been pressing for adequate constitutional safeguards.

Following much public and Parliamentary criticism, Cabinet Office Minister, Jim Murphy, finally announced that the Government would back down and introduce amendments to ensure that the Bill could only be used to reduce 'burdens' or unnecessary red tape, e.g., for businesses, who ironically have seen massive increases in bureaucratic regulations during the lifetime of the present Government. It fell to his post re-shuffle successor, Pat McFadden, to persuade the Commons that these changes were sufficient to assuage widespread concerns. Despite a warm reception from a number of quarters, many analysts remained sceptical, and this was borne out during two days of fierce debate culminating in a contested Third Reading of the Bill in which the Government used its majority to resist sustained pressure from Conservatives and Liberal Democrats to strengthen safeguards in the Bill even further.

Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Hilary Armstrong, summing up

for the Government, argued that a sensible balance had been reached between producing a Bill able to deliver better regulation, and ensuring that Parliament would play a full and constructive role in scrutinising proposals to procure a better regulation agenda.

Oliver Heald for the official Opposition emphasised that for a messy Bill that involved radical proposals over which the Government had not even consulted, the Commons procedural stages had represented a continual battle to obtain an outcome that really tackled deregulation. He

complained that constructive amendments tabled by the Opposition, prompted by Committees of the House, including the Regulatory Reform Committee, were all rejected. Whilst of the view that this was still a bad Bill he at least accepted that a degree of common sense had finally been brought to bear and recognised that there had been a Government climb-down which, to some extent, should be welcomed as this narrowed the Bill's scope considerably to issues of regulation. However, there were still enduring concerns relating to continuing problems of small business and the proper debate of Law Commission Bills and effective House of Commons vetoes. He concluded that the Bill had started off "with a benign intent, but it was nonsense, preposterous and deeply dangerous. It had been marginally improved over the past two days, but there are still deep concerns about the way in which it will operate, deep concerns about its scope and deep concerns about the Government's inability to provide a proper veto."

Accordingly, the Bill passed through a deeply divided and whipped House of Commons, still with serious outstanding reservations. It can expect further rigorous scrutiny and perhaps even a rough ride when it reaches the Lords. The story is not over yet!

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# PQ from Westminster

## The Equality Act

In 2003 the Department of Trade and Industry formally announced the creation of a new single Commission for Equality and Human Rights (CEHR). The Equality Act 2006 received Royal Assent on the 16th February 2006. Part 1 of the Act effectively establishes the Commission for Equality and Human Rights (CEHR) that will come into being in 2007 and creates the legislative framework for the new umbrella Commission. The new body will merge the work of the three existing equality commissions – the Commission for Racial Equality, the Equal Opportunities Commission, and the Disability Rights Commission. It will additionally take on responsibility for recent legislation aimed at outlawing workplace discrimination relating to religion or belief, and sexual orientation. Age discrimination will complete the rights agenda in due course. The timetable for establishment of the new body is expected to be autumn 2006 when it is planned that the new CEHR Board will be appointed.

Part 2 of the Bill deals with the outlawing of religious discrimination in both public and private sectors, notably in the areas of goods and services, premises and education, as well as the public sector (the issue of discrimination in employment has already been tackled in the Employment Equality (Religion or Belief) Regulations 2003).

Concern has been expressed by many regarding 'religious harassment', defined as 'anything violating a person's dignity or creating an intimidating, hostile, degrading, humiliating or offensive environment for another person'. The implications of this caused great disquiet amongst religious groups as well as the House of Lords who rejected the harassment clause altogether. The Government has now deferred the issue to a separate consultation process – the Discrimination Law Review – due to complete within the lifetime of the present Parliament. Accordingly, the question of religious harassment remains an important issue which, although it will re-emerge in due course and needs careful monitoring, has been left out of the Equality Act itself.

The Act prevents discrimination on grounds of religion e.g. in connection with the disposal and letting of premises. There is provision for exemptions. However, such exemptions do not apply to premises such as hotels, guest houses and bed and breakfast establishments – even though the owner and his family might live in the premises. Many churches, for example, rent out church halls to a variety of religious and community organisations. In the Act, the law applying to the use of such premises depends on whether the hire or

disposal of them makes them 'commercial' or not. Justification for exemptions to discriminate lawfully against certain users arises from the fact that a religion is, by definition, restricted to those who subscribe to its beliefs, and therefore churches and religious organisations rightly need to remain free to restrict membership and use of their facilities.

Nevertheless, it should be emphasised that religious organisations do not have an unrestricted right to discriminate. Lawful usage discrimination can be justified only where there is a demonstrable reason that is relevant to the organisation in question. There are potentially problematic issues here for religious groups. At the very least, religious groups may end up being more reluctant to allow their premises to be used by others. The question of consistent practice might well apply here if a discriminatory action were to be challenged legally. For example, where a church has consistently allowed a yoga group to use its church hall then feasibly it might find itself in difficulty if it refused to allow a satanist group also to use the premises.

In particular, community churches and those who lease premises from the local public authority are likely to experience difficulty in restricting use of their facilities.

Whilst it will be necessary for the fullest possible protection to seek specialist legal advice, it seems wise for churches, retreat centres, colleges and other religious groups to adopt or publish clear policy guidelines relating to the use of their premises by others and to stick rigidly to those policies in practice. It may well be that as a result of this legislation the availability of religious premises for use on a wider scale may become more restricted.

Other issues left outstanding by the Act involve the question of public status, where religious voluntary or charitable groups receive public funding for their social and community work. The Government has also deferred consideration of this for the forthcoming Discrimination Law Review. However, the outcome could have profound implications for faith groups and the future of religious voluntary work in the UK.

Part 3 of the Act empowers the Government to legislate by order against discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation in the areas of goods, services, premises and education, and covering both public and private sectors. The legislation will mirror Part 2 of the Act that deals with religious discrimination, but may in this

case retain the category of harassment. The Government's consultation process on these proposed regulations ends on June 5th and will be introduced via Parliament by October. Crucial exemptions and protections will be necessary for faith groups and engagement with the Government in this regard is a high current priority to avoid a situation resulting in the potential criminalisation of peoples' faith.

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# PQ from the Nations

## Scotland Towards 2007

Last year's G8 Summit at Gleneagles is still fresh in Scottish memories. The town of Auchterarder is settling down to its new-found fame, perhaps enjoying a gentle increase in visitor numbers as a result of last July's invasions.

What the impact of the Summit is proving to be is harder to see. Global warming is as big an issue as ever. James Lovelock, propounder of the Gaia hypothesis, now calls it "Global Heating" – a much more graphic and pressing description. Trade terms don't look immediately softer. Debt mountains continue to grow. Aid is not noticeably greater. Only time will tell how far the decisions taken at Gleneagles will be actioned. Our colleagues in TEAR Fund and other relief agencies will continue to press these issues and inform us.

The Alliance called for a three-fold strategy as Churches in Scotland responded. First, we encouraged churches across the nation to pray over these major issues and preach biblically about them. Second, we called for Christians to get behind local churches in their initiatives to welcome guests and visitors and to witness to all who came to the area. "Since I came to Scotland I've been treated like a terrorist – but you've made me welcome" said one activist (anarchist?). Third, we recognised the contribution of specialist prayer networks – people who study and pray for the global economic scene and suggest areas we should watch over.

Along the way we realised how very few Christians have taken it upon themselves to pray for the global gateways and economic institutions. We need to help one another pray for the World Bank and the United Nations and other trans-national authorities, whose power extends far beyond most governments.

Along the way we also realised this three-fold strategy could work in other areas. Take next year's Scottish Parliamentary elections. How would such a strategy look for these?

First, we call churches to pray for the process of electing our next Parliament. Many of them will already be preparing to teach and preach and present and debate the presenting issues from a biblical perspective. Education, health, policing, safety and security will all feature. The bigger issues are to do with how we give one another real choice in these areas. Into that jumble of issues we have to factor the contentious ones – disability, age, race and religion. Choice will need to be moderated by someone on some agreed basis: not all choices can be achieved or allowed. How are we to be Christian consumers? How does the Bible's vision of responsible citizenship and service fit with our current primary cultural value of choice? Here's where we move the conversation out of church meetings into the public domain.

Second, we encourage Christians to support and vote for all clear Christians who stand for election, whatever their party allegiances. Voters may have to swallow hard to do this, but it's well worth the effort given that no one party (even a Christian) is likely to fulfil our every hope and wish. Third, we consider how we respond to the Christian parties seeking our support. Evangelical Alliance has up to now preferred to encourage its members to support mainstream parties, but we recognise there are possibilities offered by the list system and the second vote in Scotland. Two Christian parties are vying for attention: The Scottish Christian People's Alliance and the Scottish Christian Party (formerly Operation Christian Vote). Our view is that there is not room for both, unless there can be clear agreements not to stand against one another – and not to stand against known Christians from other parties.

As 2007 approaches, now's the time to pray and plan to take these opportunities.

## Wales Extremism?

Wales was saddened on April 25th to hear that Independent Assembly Member and MP Peter Law had lost his battle against cancer at the age of 58. His victory in Blaenau Gwent, overturning a 19,000 Labour majority to win the 5th safest Labour seat in the UK, was THE story in Wales of last May's General Election.

He was expelled from the Labour Party after announcing that he would contest the seat, protesting against the all-women shortlist drawn up by Labour to replace outgoing MP Llew Smith. Law, a life-long Labour supporter, had served the constituency in the Welsh Assembly since 1999 and was perceived by many to be the ideal person to represent them at Westminster.

Despite personal differences with First Minister Rhodri Morgan, it was the intransigency of Labour's all-women shortlists policy in Wales for the 2005 elections that was to prove the greatest barrier to his ambitions.

Maggie Jones, a long-serving trade union official, was Labour's choice to contest this historic seat, held previously (as Ebbw Vale) by Aneurin Bevan, founder of the NHS and former Labour leader Michael Foot. Despite her credentials, she was perceived by locals as an outsider, imposed upon them by centralist New Labour. The resulting rejection of Labour by its own ranked alongside S.O. Davies winning

John Marek winning Wrexham in the 2003 Assembly Elections.

Tributes from across the political divide immediately began to pour in when Peter Law's death was announced, above all praising him as a man of integrity and principle.

The events of the days that followed, however, began to read like a five-act Greek tragedy. Within days Labour were being accused of gross insensitivity towards Law's family in calling for Assembly and Parliamentary by-elections at the earliest possible date and beginning to canvass local constituents only two days after his death.

Then, Trish Law, in a TV interview, revealed that her late husband had told her that a senior Labour politician – later "named" as Peter Hain – had offered him a peerage to NOT stand as an independent in last May's election. Others came forward to say that Law had told them the exact same thing – Deputy Presiding Officer John Marek AM, Plaid Cymru Parliamentary Leader Elfyn Llwyd MP and Rev. Geoff Waggett, a friend of Peter Law. Labour's vehement denial of the claim, saying it was a "straight lie", led many to accuse Labour of calling Peter Law a liar.

And the plot thickens....Trish Law will contest the Assembly by-election against Labour on June 29th, while Maggie Jones, the loser in last May's election, will soon become a Baroness, being granted a peerage for her work in the trade unions.

# PQ from the Nations & beyond

## Northern Ireland Assembly Recall

The atmosphere was very much one of 'back-to-school' after the long summer break – only the recall of the Northern Ireland Assembly on 15 May 2006 followed a break of nearly three and a half years.

There was also a hint of 'Big Brother' about the Stormont chamber on Monday. Proceedings were televised and there was no escaping the cameras in the Great Hall ready to capture every moment. Assembly members were given their first task – to elect a First Minister and Deputy First Minister by 24 November. Should they fail, the Assembly will be mothballed, MLAs will lose their salary and a form of joint authority from London and Dublin will be imposed on Northern Ireland.

As the Assembly members took their places, and newly selected Presiding Officer, Eileen Bell, called on each of them to sign their name, party and community designation on the Assembly roll, mathematics was the most important lesson of the day. With Paul Berry's resignation from the DUP earlier this year and David Ervine of the Progressive Unionist Party aligning himself with the Ulster Unionist Party Assembly Group, there was much number crunching amongst the media, officials in the public gallery and the other political parties. While the Speaker clarifies the legality of this move under Assembly rules, the implications, should it go ahead, are enormous in terms of the division of ministerial responsibility under the d'Hondt system and the DUP's refusal to sit in government with

those who support terrorism – the PUP is the political wing of the loyalist paramilitary UVF organisation.

Nationalists have for a number of years, often facing heavy criticism, been encouraging republicans in to the political arena. The main unionist parties, as they have jostled between themselves for political positioning have failed so far to follow suit. Perhaps this move marks a shift within the UUP itself although it is already facing dissension from within its own ranks. However, as MLAs in party groups signed in two by two, David Trimble cut a lonely figure signing the roll on his own. In an Assembly grouping of 25 someone had to be last, but perhaps this was another indication of how difficult it can be for unionists to forget, and even harder to embrace those forced out in the cold.

Perhaps the most poignant sight yesterday was the one minute silence observed unanimously by those within the chamber in memory of Michael McIlveen, the Ballymena teenager who died last week following a sectarian attack.

It is perhaps not insignificant that on 15 May 2005 (exactly a year to the day of the Assembly recall) thousands of Christians came together at Stormont to pray for Northern Ireland, its people and politicians. Let us continue to pray so that maybe one day our little land will not be known for sectarianism, violence and division but will be renowned for peace, sharing and integrity.

## Religious Liberty Prohibition and Protest in Sri Lanka

As a 19-member committee continues to review the Prohibition of Forcible Conversion to Parliament Bill, violence against churches has continued over the past month. Violent mobs have carried out at least 160 attacks on churches or Christian institutions since 2002, when Buddhist monks first launched their campaign to introduce anti-conversion legislation. All that remains now is for the legislative standing committee, appointed by the speaker of the Sri Lankan Parliament, to vet the draft law before it goes to the full house for a final vote.

The Buddhist Jathika Hela Urumaya (National Heritage Party) first introduced its draft Bill on Prohibition of Forcible Conversion to Parliament in July 2004 as an attempt to prevent conversions from Buddhism to Christianity. The bill called for prison sentences of up to five years and/or a stiff fine for anyone found guilty of converting others "by force or by allurement or by any fraudulent means." The sentence for breaking the law could increase by to up seven years if converts belong to the "Schedule 1" category, of those most at risk, including women, children, prison inmates, the mentally or physically challenged, refugees, military or police. It also requires anyone converting to inform local authorities within a given time and states that "no one shall convert or try to convert people from one religion to another by fraudulent means". In a statement released on the 12th May the Voice of the Martyrs stated that "According to a report from the National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka, it is unclear at this point which clauses have been adopted by parliament".

Christian groups such as the National Christian Evangelical Alliance of Sri Lanka (NCEASL) have expressed "deep concern and regret" at the latest developments, stating that the proposed bill would "enforce limitations on religious freedom, legitimize violence and harassment of minority religious groups and further de-fragment our already

divided society."

Presidential elections in November 2005 and a breakdown in peace negotiations with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam have until now slowed passage of this legislation. The fear is that while Parliament could stop the Bill even at this final stage, if the vote is not secret will enough people have the courage to vote against it?

While the committee reviews the Bill, against a backdrop of increased military activity between the government and northern separatists, attacks on churches have continued, with unruly mobs attacking two churches over the past fortnight. On May 6 a Buddhist monk led a mob to where members of the United Christian Fellowship in Poddala had begun to build a community hall. The monk threatened the pastor and a construction worker, and the mob said they would set fire to the building if construction continued, despite the pastor informing them that it was a community hall, not a church. Fear of another attack has led to construction being stopped.

Buddhist monks led a second mob to attack a Methodist church in Piliyandala, southeast of Colombo, on April 30. The church had previously been attacked on April 23, and protest rallies had taken place outside the church on April 9 and 16. When the police arrived they said they could do nothing until they received instructions from their superintendent. Church members were then able to make an official complaint, and the police then arrested 10 people in the crowd and remanded them on a bail fee, hoping this might act as a deterrent against further attacks. Church leaders have since contacted Buddhist leaders and hope to set up negotiation meetings with the senior monk in the village.

# Responses to the Budget

Last month we asked two MPs, representing Labour and the Liberal Democrats, to give their responses to the recent Budget. This month we feature a Conservative perspective. All three are Christians who seek to serve God in the context of the parliamentary process.



*Andrew Selous is Conservative MP for South West Bedfordshire, an Opposition Whip and Chairman of the Conservative Christian Fellowship.*

The free national bus travel for pensioners in England and the extra £440 million for schools announced in the Budget were certainly welcome.

Several omissions however struck most commentators as strange. On the day of the Budget itself 500 NHS staff lost their jobs and the NHS itself did not even get a mention.

The same story was apparent in education with FE colleges that had to lay off staff last year now being told of expansion plans. The

Chancellor promised to increase our science base and yet several University chemistry departments in places like Exeter and Sussex have just closed down. The public would like to see a less boom and bust approach to public services.

Many pensioners have also asked me why their higher council tax bills this year are not to be reduced by the £200 rebate that the Chancellor produced before the Election. Many pensioners have to raid their savings to stay in their own home and this is

something the Lyons review on council tax must address this December.

The Chancellor also announced that he would spend the unclaimed assets in banks and building societies on youth activities, certainly a worthy cause. We have pledged to use this money on the 85,000 people whose occupational pension schemes have collapsed. These people had to join their schemes and we feel Parliament has a duty to compensate them first.

## Your chance to get involved...

### Global Week of Prayer for North Korea: 19th-25th June

The Global Week of Prayer for North Korea is an inter-agency call by Christian Solidarity Worldwide to urgent prayer against the devastating darkness oppressing North Korea. The ruthless repression of the gospel, the excessively violent persecution of Christians and the enforced idolatry of the leadership make North Korea a key prayer priority for the worldwide church.



Please join Christian Solidarity Worldwide to raise an anthem of prayer to see the walls of darkness and idolatry fall and the love and light of the gospel flood the nation.

Please consider how you can mobilise prayer and awareness. Things you could do include: Booking a slot in church services on 25th June, requesting that prayer meetings and house groups focus on the issue during the week. You could join with local or regional prayer focus meetings or consider ordering resources to equip those leading your church meetings.

#### Protest

There will be a protest on Thursday 22 June from 3.45-5.00pm outside the Chinese Embassy at 49 - 51 Portland Place, London W14JL. The nearest underground is Great Portland Street.

#### Prayer

There will be a prayer meeting on Saturday 24 June from 11.00-2.30pm at St Michael's Church, 4 Chester Square, London SW1W 9HH, with a special performance by the Hanbeet Korean Church Choir. The nearest underground is Victoria.

For more information please see <http://www.prayfornorthkorea.org/>

### information

For information on these and any other political issues, please contact our information line on: 020 7207 2129 or [pub-aff@eauk.org](mailto:pub-aff@eauk.org)

