

## The Week Ahead

*Hi everyone,*

*This week's mailing is all about history, truth, prayer...and a spot of exercise (but not for me).*

*And it would be remiss of me to forget to mention that this Tuesday (21 April) is the **Queen's birthday** - many happy returns, Ma'am.*

*Toby will be staffing the out-of-hours support line*

*this week ( 07974 208360).*

*Wishing you all a wonderful week,*

*Anna*

### **An Island Parish**

**Tonight, 8pm, BBC2  
(Saturday, 8pm in Wales)**

The New Year gets underway and every corner

## Who Do You Think You Are?

Once again **Methodist Heritage's** team of volunteer archivists and web editors will be at the UK's biggest family history show. The show starts today and lasts until 18 April at the NEC in Birmingham. Do visit the stand to find out about the latest Methodist family history resources.

## My Bible Christian Ancestors

But if you can't make it to the show, you can still check out the newest edition to our family of **Methodist community archives**. These websites allow public contributions of family stories and photographs, and collect together the heritage of the Church's Wesleyan, Primitive Methodist and recent history. My Bible Christian Ancestors seeks to celebrate the Bible Christians' 200th anniversary by sharing stories and information about its former chapels and ministers, providing research sources and making family connections, from across the British Isles and bringing together the scattered ancestry of this denomination from across the world.

## The truth will set you free

Every Monday in the run-up to the **General Election**, the Joint Public Issues Team are publishing reflections on each the four themes of their election pack. This week's theme is truth and you can check out Baptist minister Phil Jump's reflections here. All of JPIT's election resources can be found here.

of the rocky Falklands coastline is bursting with new life as penguins, seals and albatrosses hatch their young.

### **BBC Election Debate 2015**

**Tonight, 8pm, BBC1**

David Dimbleby hosts a debate featuring leaders of five opposition parties in the General Election campaign, ahead of the poll on May 7.

### **Unreported World**

**Friday, 7:30pm,**

**Channel 4**

Reporter Nelufar Hedayat travels to Karachi, Pakistan, to meet the health workers risking their lives to vaccinate children against the polio virus.

### **Sex and the Church**

**Friday, 7:30pm, BBC2**

Diarmaid MacCulloch examines how the Christian Church took control of marriage in the 11th century and turned a civil institution into a sacred rite, as well as forbidding its own clergy from taking spouses - ending a thousand years of clerical marriages.

## **If we claim to love our neighbour**

This is the title of a **special hymn** for the General Election, written by the Revd Andrew Pratt. You can find the words and tune [online here](#), alongside a commentary written by the URC's Andrew Bradstock.

## **Still praying**

Last Tuesday marked **one year on** from the abduction by Boko Haram of two hundred and nineteen girls from Chibok in Nigeria. A year may have passed, but we're still praying for those girls. [Please join us.](#)

## **Register now**

You can still register for a postal vote for the General Election, but **time is running out**. [Click here](#) to register before 5pm on Tuesday 21 April.

## **Minister goes on the run**

On Sunday 26 April the **Revd Andy Moffoot** will take part in the London Marathon as the official runner for [MHA](#). MHA was recently named as the UK's most trusted charity by the Third Sector's Charity Brand Index and does amazing work with the elderly. To sponsor Andy please visit his [fundraising page](#).

## **Beyond Election Day**

### Prayer for the Day

**Sat, Mon - Fri, 5:43am,  
BBC Radio 4**

A spiritual comment and prayer to begin the day with the Revd Dr Martyn Atkins.

### Good Morning Sunday

**Sunday, 7am,**

**BBC Radio 2**

Clare Balding hosts the topical faith show and speaks to actor and comedian, Hugh Dennis. To mark the 100th anniversary of the Gallipoli landings, Hugh talks about his two grandfathers who both fought in the First World War.

### Any Questions?

**Friday, 8pm,**

**BBC Radio 4**

Jonathan Dimbleby chairs the topical discussion from Gordon Primary School in Eltham, South-East London, where an audience canvasses the opinions of Labour's Sadiq Khan, UKIP's Mark Reckless, the Secretary of State for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs, Liz Truss, and Humza Yousaf the Minister for Europe and International Development in the Scottish Government.

See [The Radio Times](#) for further listings.

How do we get politics and business working for the common good? What role should personal judgement and mutual responsibility play in our commercial and social decision-making? One week before the election, St Paul's Institute, in partnership with Theos and Together for the Common Good, will bring together key speakers to help **form a fresh moral vision** in a public discussion at St Paul's Cathedral. The event will take place on 29 April and is free to attend, but registration is essential.

## Reflections

In the coming week the [Prayer Handbook](#) will be encouraging us to pray with Christians in the Indian Subcontinent, India, Asia, East Asia, Britain and Ireland. The theme for next week's [A Word in Time](#) Bible studies is **Apostolic Witness**, written by the Revd Ros Watson.

## Video Thursday: Broken dreamers

This week's video is both beautiful and upsetting. It brilliantly explains **how human trafficking works** through the stories of three people caught up in this nightmare.

**The Week Ahead** is a regular mailing that aims to give people a heads up on upcoming events and opportunities, as well as highlighting new information and resources. We don't always remember everything, so please do [email us](#) if you have any feedback or ideas for items to include.

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