



Harrogate & District
Law Society

ANNUAL COMBINED MEETING WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH 2015

The President of Harrogate and District Law Society, Adam Hartrick, and Committee invite you and your personal guest(s) to the annual meeting between Harrogate and District Law Society, Harrogate Medical Society and local clergy.

Speaker - Mr Stephen Evans LLB, Solicitor, Healthcare Law Specialist

Venue - Roof Tops Suite, The Yorkshire Hotel, Prospect Place, Harrogate, HG1 1LA

Time

Cost

6 for 6.30pm, Wednesday 25 March

£15 per person incl buffet

Assisted Dying. Euthanasia. Suicide. Assisted Suicide. Dying with Dignity.

The Assisted Dying Bill proposes that the law should allow competent adults who are terminally ill to request, and lawfully be provided with, assistance to end their lives. Doctors are potentially being asked to provide lethal doses of medication to those that request it if this Bill becomes law. Whilst unlikely to be passed into law before the General Election, Lord Falconer, who has introduced the current Bill, has already vowed to bring it back next term. The issue will not go away.

The Bill brings together the law, medical ethics, social, moral and religious convictions in a way most laws do not. Debates on the legislation last month produced some very powerful speeches in the Lords, both in support of the Bill, and against it. What is the definition of terminal illness? What are the safeguards against abuse? Who will scrutinize the use of the law? Is it a slippery slope to euthanasia? Is it a long overdue and essential change to the law to assist those with terminal irreversible and painful conditions? Is this a Bill for the strong at the expense of the weak, as suggested by Baroness Campbell of Surbiton, who herself has severe spinal muscular atrophy? But what about those cases where sufferers like Tony Nicklinson have sought to persuade the Courts to allow them to end their lives to avoid "needless suffering"?

Stephen Evans has been a Solicitor for over 25 years and for nearly 20 years, he has specialised exclusively in healthcare law including mental health and medical ethics, advising health and social care professionals. Stephen will give a presentation on the Assisted Dying Bill and address the legal, moral and ethical issues that it presents and how the proposed law seeks to tackle the issues – of special interest to lawyers, those in the medical profession and the Church.

Stephen's presentation will commence at 6.30pm. After his presentation a buffet will be served and is included in the ticket price.

Please return the attached booking slip with cheques payable to "Harrogate and District Law Society" directly to Adam Hartrick at Hempsons, The Exchange, Station Parade, Harrogate, HG1 1DY, telephone: 01423 724014 by Friday 13 March 2015.

**ANNUAL COMBINED MEETING
HOSTED BY THE HARROGATE AND DISTRICT LAW SOCIETY
WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH 2015**

**FAO Adam Hartrick
Hempsons Solicitors
The Exchange
Station Parade
Harrogate
HG1 1DY**

I would like to book____places for the Annual Combined Meeting to be held at 6pm (presentation commencing 6.30pm) on 25 March 2015 and enclose a cheque for £____ (£15 per person).

Please indicate the names of those attending:

Please note no tickets will be sent out. Please provide email address/postal address/contact telephone number so we can confirm receipt of your booking:-
