

Church News Ireland

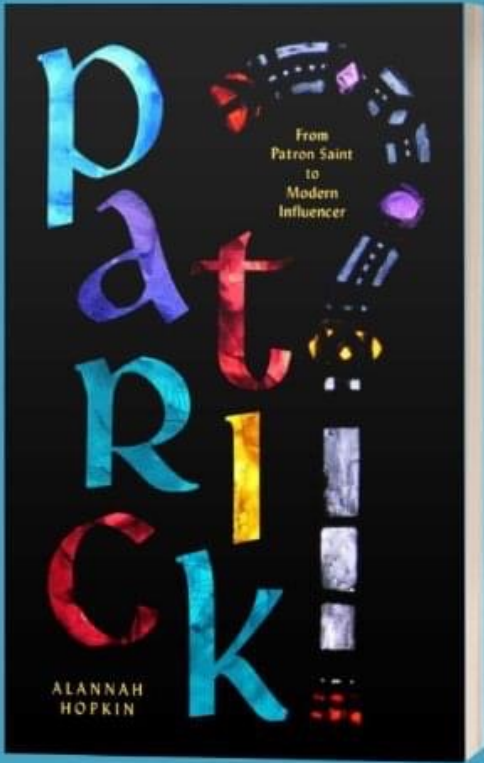


Image of the day – a new song for St Patrick


Image of the day

A new song for St Patrick

A great launch of the new Saint Patrick Exhibition at the centre in Downpatrick with Dana, who wrote a new song for Saint Patrick and performed it - 'Light a Fire' to mark the occasion.



The book cover for 'Patrick' by Alannah Hopkin features the title in large, colorful, stylized letters (p, a, t, r, i, c, k) on a black background. To the right of the title is a circular graphic with various symbols. Below the title, it says 'From Patron Saint to Modern Influencer' and 'ALANNAH HOPKIN' at the bottom.


NEW ISLAND

New Island Books and The Saint Patrick Centre
cordially invite you to the launch of

Patrick

by Alannah Hopkin

WEDNESDAY | 15TH MARCH | 6PM
ST PATRICK CENTRE, 53A MARKET SQ, DOWNPATRICK

Guest Speaker:
Dr. Tim Campbell
DIRECTOR OF THE SAINT PATRICK CENTRE

People and places

Rev Chris Hudson meets Judge Rinder



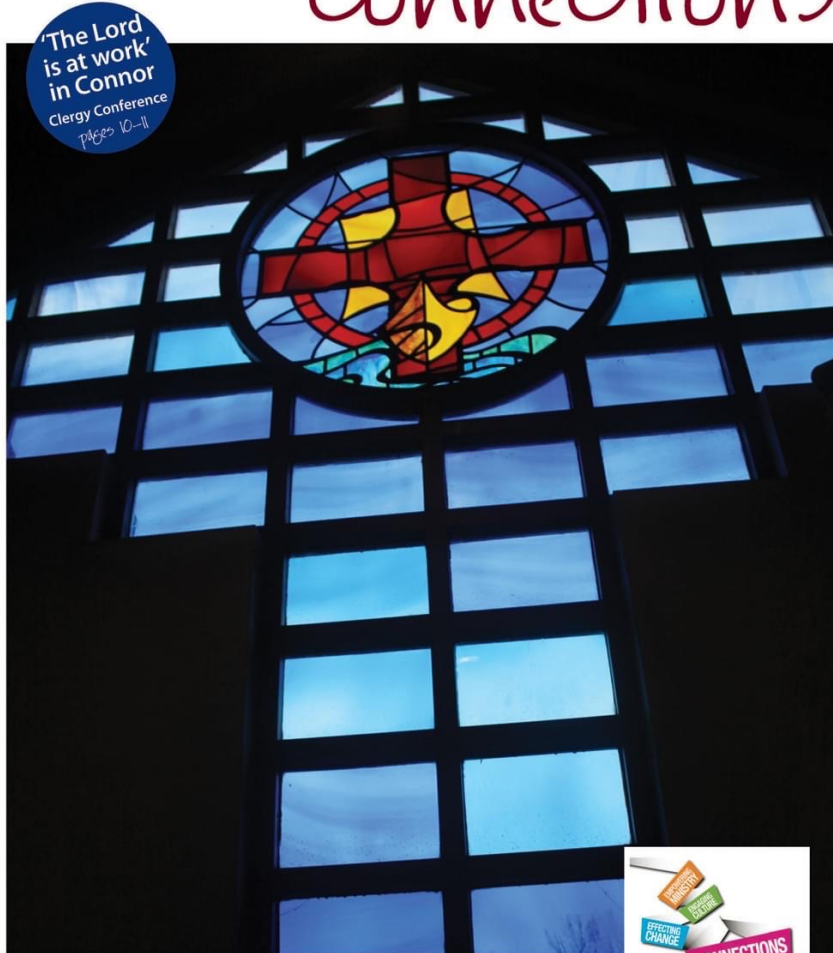
During his time as NSPCI Moderator, Rev Chris named Magen David Adom, the Jewish Red Cross, as his charity.

He was delighted to attend an event in Belfast Synagogue this week to present a cheque for £3000 to the important work of this charity.

CONNOR

connections

Delve into Connor Connections



The magazine for the Diocese of Connor Spring 2023

Connor Diocese invites you wherever you may be in the world, to delve into the pages of their diocesan magazine Connor Connections in E-paper format.

Topics include -

Mission to Seafarers - Youth update - World Day of Prayer
Institutions & appointments - Clergy Conference 2022
Tractors on the run! - Refugee outreach - Black Santa Sit-out - Cathedral in stitches! - Fundraiser of Hope House
Rev Trevor Kelly - a tribute

Just click on:

<https://connor.anglican.org/connor-connections/> and enjoy the read.

Hear Bach in Belfast every 2nd Sunday each month

If you nip up the road to St Thomas' Parish Church on Belfast's Lisburn Road you can hear The Belfast Bach Consort perform as part of the Evening Service - every 2nd Sunday of the month.

Charity concert for Children's Villages Ukraine



THE CLUB OF SINGING DIPLOMATS AND CO

ST PAUL'S CHURCH
GLENAGEARY

Music from UKRAINE

7:00 pm
Saturday
25th March

Charity Concert for **SOS** Children's Villages Ukraine

Famous and favourite tunes of beautiful Ukrainian music and music of its minorities – Polish, Gypsy (Roma), Crimean Tatar, Jewish, Moldavian and others.

UKRAINIAN, INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL ARTISTS

 **Door Collection**

 СОС ДИТЯЧІ
МІСТЕЧКА

St Paul's church, 31 Silchester Rd,
Glenageary, Dún Laoghaire,
Co. Dublin, A96 T9C7



Flower Festival beside the seaside in Buncrana

Oh, we do like to be beside the seaside.

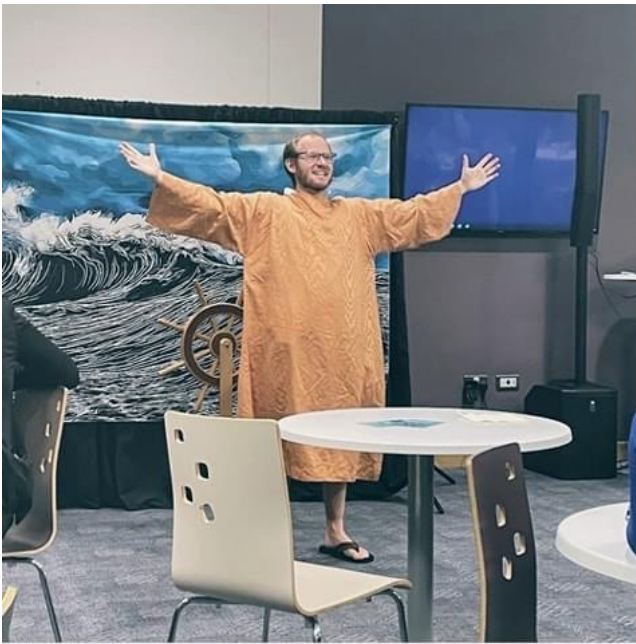
And it's even better when it's late spring and there's a flower festival on.

Christ Church Buncrana is holding the 'Spark to a

Flame' festival on Friday 26th, Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th May.

They'll have international flower arrangers in attendance - doing demonstrations.

Rev Canon Judi McGaffin says there will be a "sustainable" element to the festival as well. Teas will be available and groups are welcome.



Patrick's Story at Dundonald Presbyterian and Hong Kong

Play it by Ear says - It feels like we've done a fair bit of travelling the last few days, from Bangor to Dublin and Belfast to Fermanagh.

But that's nothing compared to the group we performed 'Patrick's Story' to last night at Dundonald Presbyterian.

March 15, 2023

Our audience was made up of people who had just recently arrived from Hong Kong and have been taking part in a course helping them learn a bit about life here in NI.

It was very special to be part of their final session, and get to tell our story of an outsider whose bravery and integrity contributed so much to the life of our island.



Even a bishop need inspiration

Thanks to Bishop Paul Colton for the photo above of the Cathedral in his front garden... The close to dawn start was the realisation that his sermon for the Civic service in St Fin Barre's on St Patrick's Day was not going to write itself. He and the Holy Spirit will not disappoint.

New rector encouraged to keep the rumour of God resounding around the shoreline of Dublin Bay



“Keeping the rumour of God resounding around the shoreline of Dublin Bay” is one of the ingredients of the work of ministry and the new Rector of Dalkey is hardwired for that work, according to the Bishop of Tuam, Limerick and Killaloe.

The Revd Ruth Elmes (Photo above) was instituted Rector in St Patrick’s Church, Dalkey, by the Archbishop of Dublin, the Most Revd Dr Michael Jackson, last Friday evening (March 10).

St Patrick's Church was full on a freezing cold night. Parishioners were joined by members of Ruth's family including her daughter Jessica and her sister, and many friends and parishioners of her former parish, the Tinahely and Carnew Union as well as clerical colleagues. In the congregation too were a number of public representatives and representatives of the nearby Church of the Assumption.

It was a poignant occasion for Ruth who wore her father's stole. He was the former Archdeacon of Killaloe and Clonfert, the Revd Donald Keegan. She also wore her mother Janet's cross.

Introducing the service, Archbishop Jackson noted that the institution was a joyous occasion for the parish and the community as Ruth returned to Dublin and became Rector of the parish. "I hope that parish and Rector enjoy one another's company and enjoy their adventure together," he said.

Getting on with the work

In his sermon Bishop Michael Burrows said that, since taking up his new role as Bishop in the west of Ireland he had been considering commissioning headed stationary and had been thinking about a strapline which would capture his mission statement.

He had decided that the strapline should simply be 'Getting on with the work'. "In an age of distractions and interruptions and schemes and goals and targets which distract the Church as much as any other setting, sometimes we just



The Bishop of Tuam, Limerick and Killaloe

need to be reminded to get on with it,” he suggested. “Ruth is, in my experience, utterly hard wired to get on with it with the occasional big idea now and then to add colour to the atmosphere.”

He said that parishioners of Tinahely and Carnew Union, and Stillorgan (where Ruth served as Curate) would sing of her approach, of “her kindness, diligence and easy conversation in the farms and the community activities and the school classrooms that knew her well as she got on with it”. He said they would speak of her dignified, well prepared, intelligent and attractive approach to the rhythm of leading

worship. Much of this, he noted, was “because she is her father’s daughter”.

He described Ruth as someone who is superbly organised. Before she came to Dalkey she was an Archdeacon in Cashel, Ferns and Ossory and before that she was “professionally shaped’ in the Adelaide. He said through her professional and personal life,

Ruth had demonstrated what her faith was worth.

Recalling that when his own father died, retired Archbishop Harry McAdoo wrote to him stating: “We were friends together in the work for many years”. Bishop Burrows said he loved the description of ministry simply as ‘the work’. “It’s the work and you get on with it. And I hesitate to define it but it includes the offering of worship with dignity and authenticity. It includes connecting worship to life. It includes enabling people to be the Amen to their own prayers. It includes making the common holy. It includes breaking the bread and sharing the cup in a way that gives shape to and makes sense of everything else one does.

It is about being there when it matters. It is about keeping the rumour of God resounding around the shoreline of Dublin Bay. These are ingredients of the work. But yet it passes description and should not be narrowed or funnelled in a manner that diminishes the pregnant possibilities of that simple pair of words ‘the work’,” he explained.

Bishop Burrows said he knew every Rector of Dalkey in his lifetime and observed that each of them turned their own individual spotlight on an important aspect of the infinite



possibilities of the work. “All these were memorable people who in their day got on with the work and it is proving a fine heritage into whose labours Ruth tonight dares joyfully to enter,” he said adding to Ruth: “Dalkey is blessed to get you. Serve the city of God and seek it here. Continue your invaluable contribution to so many aspects of the life of the wider church with your usual incisive and fruitful style but here in this parish in short ... get on with the work!”

Speaking after the service, Ken Pier welcomed Ruth on behalf of the parish. He thanked all who had continued the work of the church over the past year, particularly the Rural Dean, the Revd John Tanner. He said that the parochial nominators had been very enthusiastic about Ruth’s drive, energy, innovation, fun and inclusivity and he highlighted the many initiatives she had been involved in in her previous parish. He said he had no doubt Ruth would implement change and pledged the parish’s support.

Fr Liam Clancy welcomed Ruth to the community on behalf of the Church of the Assumption and said he looked forward to continuing the tradition of cooperation between the two parishes of Dalkey before blessing her in her new role.

Former parishioner, Linda Dunne, was among those who travelled from the Tinahely and Carnew Union. She said Ruth's strapline could be 'Give it a go' and described her readiness to try everything. She praised her sermons and said Ruth was a caring and kind person who would support her parishioners.

Archbishop Jackson welcomed Ruth to the dioceses and suggested her experience in her former diocese would stand her in good stead as she embarked on her new incumbency.

He said it was time to consolidate and move forward and Ruth had much to give to encourage the parish.

The final speaker of the evening was the new Rector who thanked everyone who had made the evening happen and who had prepared for her arrival.

She paid tribute to her previous parishioners and acknowledged the hard work that goes into rural dwelling and farming.

She thanked her family, children Jessica and Jonathan and siblings and her friends who had supported her and said she felt very close to her father on the evening. She thanked all her friends who had supported her during the ups and downs of life.

News reports

Mediation NI unveils plans for growth under new leadership.

The organisation will take forward an ambitious three-year plan under the leadership of new Managing Director Enda Young.

The organisation has led on peacebuilding and conflict resolution in the region for more than 30 years, delivering services that support organisations experiencing conflict, change and both internal and external disputes.

Under the leadership of Enda Young, Mediation NI will expand its workforce and team of associates over the next five years, as well as develop more services aimed at resolving conflict and disputes in the workplace.

The organisation will also invest in its online training offering, enabling it to provide mediation training to audiences beyond Northern Ireland.

At its strategy launch in its newly named headquarters, Mediation House today, Managing Director, Enda Young said:

“The power of talking and mediating between two parties, is always the best way to resolve conflict. That message is no more keenly felt than here in Northern Ireland where this week we have witnessed the power of negotiation in action

as a deal on the Protocol was struck. That is mediation, negotiation and conflict resolution in action.

“Before being appointed Managing Director, I worked with Mediation NI for many years and have witnessed first-hand the difference it has made through its contribution to peace building and conflict resolution in our society.

“For the organisation to grow, it must evolve and I’m proud of our team and Board for endorsing this ambitious new plan for growth.”

Mediation NI Chair, Dr Catherine Turner said:

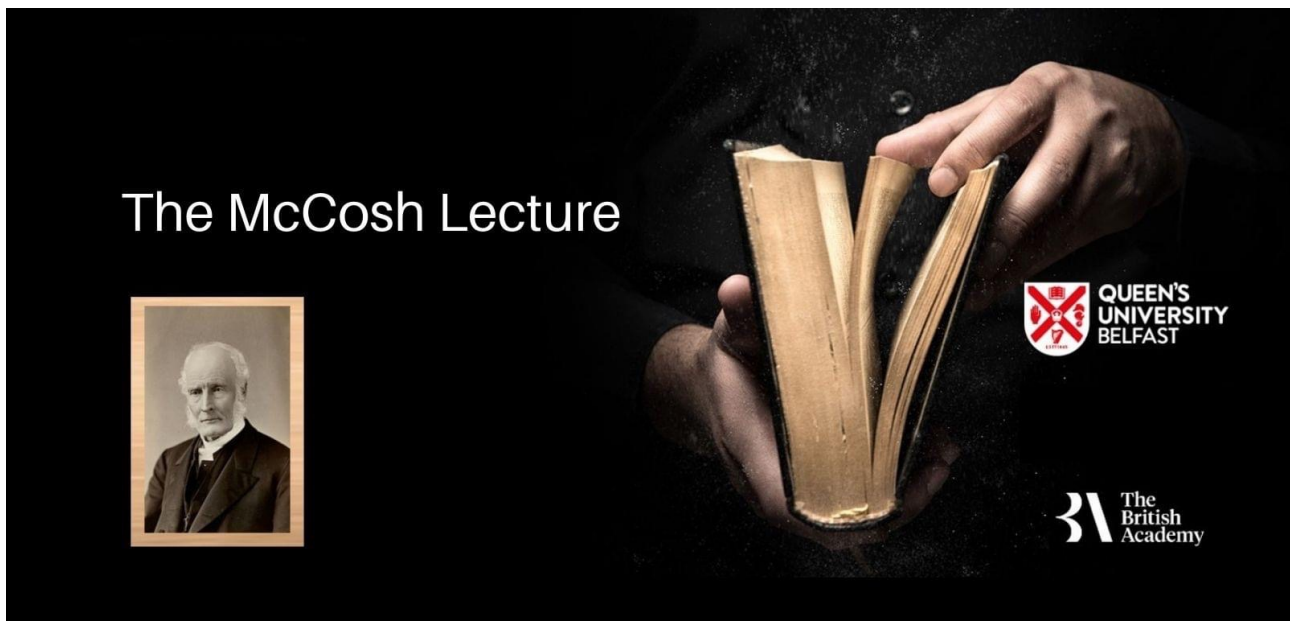
“Our renewed vision is to work towards a society that handles conflict better and Enda’s appointment, combined with our new strategy, is key to achieving this.”

“It has brought a renewed sense of purpose and direction for our organisation and the plans he has for the future of Mediation NI will strengthen its position and reputation as a leader in mediation services and training.”

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

James McCosh and the Idea of a University

Advance notice of the McCosh lecture for 2023. It is entitled, ‘James McCosh and the Idea of a University’.



It will be delivered by Professor David Livingstone FBA of Queen's University Belfast on the 17 May 2023 at 2pm in The Canada Room / Council Chamber.

<https://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/happ/Events/religious-studies-research-forum/TheMcCoshLecture/>

March edition of the Presbyterian Herald

Read 'West Belfast witness' by Rev David Moore, minister in special work for west Belfast, a new role in PCI, in this free-to-read article that features in the March edition of the Presbyterian Herald.

https://issuu.com/presbyterianireland/docs/presbyterian_herald_march_2023/s/19523841

Summer Madness Early Bird Prices

Just another reminder about the early bird prices! We want you to save some money and have the best summer of your life!

A promotional poster for Summer Madness 2023 Spring Early Birds. The background is a dark, atmospheric photo of a festival at night with colorful lights and a crowd. At the top left is a logo of a stylized figure in a hexagon. The text is centered and reads: 'SUMMER MADNESS 2023 SPRING EARLY BIRDS', 'EARLY BIRD TICKETS ON SALE NOW UNTIL 3RD APRIL 2023', 'FULL FESTIVAL £87.50', 'SHORT WEEKEND £75.00', 'FAMILY TICKETS £245.00 - FULL FESTIVAL £195.00 - SHORT WEEKEND ONLY', 'DON'T MISS OUT!' with a megaphone icon, and 'MADNESS 2023 30 JUNE - 4 JULY 2023 PORTGLENONE' at the bottom.

 **SUMMER MADNESS 2023**
SPRING EARLY BIRDS

EARLY BIRD TICKETS
ON SALE NOW
UNTIL 3RD APRIL 2023

FULL FESTIVAL £87.50
SHORT WEEKEND £75.00

FAMILY TICKETS
£245.00 - FULL FESTIVAL
£195.00 - SHORT WEEKEND ONLY

 **DON'T MISS OUT!**

MADNESS 2023
30 JUNE - 4 JULY 2023
PORTGLENONE

Head over to <https://www.summermadness.co.uk/> and get your tickets!

Methodist World Mission Partnership (WMP) service

A video of the World Mission Partnership (WMP) service at Coleraine Methodist Church with Rev Sam Livingstone is now available on the Circuit's YouTube channel at <https://youtu.be/UmRroTgzwCw>

March 15, 2023

Circuit Event this week...

Thu. 16th Mar. at 7.30pm – Creative Company – Portstewart Church Hall

Poem for today

Next, Please by Philip Larkin

Always too eager for the future, we
Pick up bad habits of expectancy.
Something is always approaching; every day
Till then we say,

Watching from a bluff the tiny, clear
Sparkling armada of promises draw near.
How slow they are! And how much time they waste,
Refusing to make haste!

Yet still they leave us holding wretched stalks
Of disappointment, for, though nothing balks
Each big approach, leaning with brasswork prinked,
Each rope distinct,

Flagged, and the figurehead wit golden tits
Arching our way, it never anchors; it's
No sooner present than it turns to past.
Right to the last

We think each one will heave to and unload
All good into our lives, all we are owed

March 15, 2023

For waiting so devoutly and so long.
But we are wrong:

Only one ship is seeking us, a black—
Sailed unfamiliar, towing at her back
A huge and birdless silence. In her wake
No waters breed or break.

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

The publication of Church News Ireland is overseen by Very Rev Dr Houston McKelvey OBE, QVRM, TD. He may be contacted at houstonmckelvey@mac.com

