



Stranmillis proposes universities move teacher training to its Belfast site

Management and staff at Stranmillis College have proposed that Queen's and Ulster universities move their teacher training departments to the Stranmillis site.

BBC News - The proposal is in a letter from Professor Sir Desmond Rea, the chair of Stranmillis' governing body, to the vice-chancellors of both universities.

The letter also says that St Mary's should also be invited to move to Stranmillis in south Belfast.

The letter was written on 19 February.

That was a week after Employment and Learning Minister Stephen Farry was overruled by the executive in his attempt to remove more than £2m from the budgets of St Mary's and Stranmillis colleges.

St Mary's University College and Stranmillis University College are the two main teacher training providers in Northern Ireland.

The majority of their students are trained to teach in primary schools.

Queen's University and Ulster University also provide teacher training, mainly for those seeking to teach in the post-primary sector.

In the letter, Prof Rea invites both universities "to move their interests in teacher education onto the Stranmillis site".

With regard to St Mary's, he goes on to write that: "We would also propose that QUB [Queen's University Belfast], UU [Ulster University] and SUC [Stranmillis University College] extend the same invitation to St Mary's.

"Should the invitation be declined, we would then propose that the three institutions move forward" to implement a Northern Ireland Institute of Education at Stranmillis.

The letter goes on to suggest that Queen's might help facilitate the move of St Mary's by transferring "an academic area or areas to the St Mary's site freeing St Mary's to transfer education to the SUC site."

A single Northern Ireland Institute of Education was one of the models for the future of teacher training proposed by an international review panel report in July 2014.

No-one from Stranmillis was available for comment, but in a statement the principal of St Mary's, Prof Peter Finn, said that teacher training in Northern Ireland "should have an autonomous and viable Catholic higher education institution, St Mary's University College, located at 191 Falls Road, which is academically integrated with Queen's University".

More at -

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-31841172>

Hit video of student singing Les Miserables song for brother with locked-in syndrome

The powerful clip shows Mark McMullan doing an amazing rendition of "Bring Him Home" for Declan in Crossgar, Co Down

Belfast Live - The video shows Ulster University student Mark McMullan singing a song to his brother Declan.

Mark sings an amazing rendition of "Bring Him Home" from the hit musical Les Miserables.

The song is sung at The Villager Restaurant in Crossgar, [Co Down](#), where the pair are from.

Declan suffered a Cardiac Arrest at his home on March 16, 2012, as a result of an underlying heart condition known as Wolff Parkinson White Syndrome.

Declan spent 65 weeks in hospital before returning home to be cared for by his family.

As a result of the brain damage he sustained, Declan suffers from locked-in Syndrome.

He is unable to eat, speak, move or see and is confined to a wheelchair. He communicates with his eyes, his family call out the letters of the alphabet and he blinks at the letters to form a word.

Declan has full understanding and his hearing has not been affected. In spite of all this Declan has an amazing sense of humour and has shown immense courage and strength throughout.

Declan has a long journey ahead, but he will travel that road with the love and support of his family, friends and the wider community.

His family take one day at a time in the hope that he will continue to improve. They are eternally grateful to everyone who has helped him along the way.

Video at -

<http://www.belfastlive.co.uk/news/belfast-news/video-student-sings-les-miserables-8803798>

Priest won't say sorry for sermon on same-sex marriage vote

A catholic priest has insisted he won't apologise over comments he made in a sermon on gay



marriage which sparked a walk-out by parishioners.

Irish Independent - Fr John Britto, a Carmelite priest from southern India and now based in the diocese of Raphoe, Co Donegal, criticised Gaelic footballer Éamon McGee for supporting the Yes campaign in the same-sex marriage referendum due to be held in May.

Some members of his congregation at St Mary's Star of the Sea church in Annagry walked out of Saturday night's Mass over his sermon.

Yesterday Raidio Na Gaeltachta reported that Fr Britto had refused to apologise for his opposition to gay marriage during a sermon at 10am Mass.

The station, however, reported that Fr Britto had apologised to Éamon McGee and the Donegal footballer subsequently pulled out of a planned interview on the 'Rónán Beo' show.

However last night the priest said he hadn't issued any apologies for opposing McGee and his views.

Parish priest Fr Michael Herrity, who was at the back of the chapel during last Saturday's sermon, defended Fr Britto.

"He was preaching the Word of God and it was a very good sermon," Fr Herrity told the Irish Independent last night.

"Fr Britto did say a few lines about Éamon McGee and that's what is grabbing the headlines but all he was doing was preaching the position of the Church on gay marriage.

"Fr Britto said he was very disappointed in Éamon McGee and his stance. He didn't say he did not have a right to express his support for the Yes campaign, but that he (Fr Britto) believed it was not right."

Fr Herrity said Fr Britto had a right to express the view of the Church.

"Éamon McGee is from the next parish and I suppose that's why some people may have been upset, but for me it was a good sermon, a very good sermon," said Fr Herrity.

The sermon came during an anniversary Mass for a local woman who died a year ago.

Some members of the family were among those who walked out in protest at Fr Britto's sermon.

When asked about his sermon earlier this week, Fr Britto said: "I speak to the people in church and I only the speak the truth and the Word of God. I don't speak to the media."

www.independent.ie/irish-news/priest-wont-say-sorry-for-sermon-on-samesex-marriage-vote-31060204.html

Catholic bishops criticise sports omission from alcohol bill

“Sponsorship of sporting events targets young people and promotes a culture which suggests that healthy living is synonymous with alcohol consumption.”

Catholic Ireland - The Irish Bishops have expressed their disappointment that the proposed *Public Health (Alcohol) Bill 2015* does not include plans to phase-out advertising and marketing of sporting events by the drinks industry.

Following their spring general meeting in Maynooth this week, the Bishops' Drugs Initiative (IBDI) warned that the promotion of alcohol is about profit.

The bishops have highlighted that feedback from the IBDI schools' programmes clearly points to the high level of influence exerted on young people by the drinks industry through its advertising, marketing and sponsorship campaigns.

"Sponsorship of sporting events targets young people and promotes a culture which suggests that healthy living is synonymous with alcohol consumption," they warned on Wednesday.

Stating that the results can be "devastating", the bishops warned that sponsorship of sporting events encourages underage and binge drinking, leading to alcohol dependence later in life.

"In the same way that the law now prevents advertising, marketing and sponsorship by

tobacco companies, similarly the Bishops' Conference endorses the call on Government by the IBDI to ban sports sponsorship by the drinks industry," the bishops stated.

They said the Government should assist through its relevant agencies in securing sponsors for sports organisations.

Separately, the bishops welcomed the signing into law by President Higgins of plain packaging for tobacco products bill.

Over one million people smoke cigarettes on the island of Ireland.

The bishops noted the pressure exerted by corporate lobbying or legal threats on this issue.

Describing the new law as "an important public health initiative", they said it should act as a deterrent, especially for teenagers, to prevent people from starting the highly addictive and damaging habit of smoking.

The Irish Bishops' Drugs Initiative is a cross community support working in over 250 parishes involving over 1,000 volunteers, to assist parishes and communities to address the challenges of alcohol/drugs misuse.

The IBDI operates in the north and south of Ireland.



IRISH CATHOLIC
BISHOPS' CONFERENCE
COMHDHÁIL EASPAG CAITLICEACH ÉIREANN

Final statement of Irish Bishops Spring meeting

The Irish Catholic Bishops Conference discussed a range of issues at their Spring meeting in Maynooth this week, including: Marriage, '24 hours for the Lord', the October Synod in Rome, Lent and preparation for Holy Week and Easter, Trocaire's campaign for Lent 2015 on climate change, Saint Patrick, National Board for Safeguarding Children, Supporting persecuted Christians in the Holy Land, Supporting blood and organ donation and Alcohol sponsorship of sports, and plain cigarette packaging.

Statements were issued on -
'Marriage is important - reflect before you change it'
'24 hours for the Lord' on Friday 13 and Saturday 14 March

Synod of Bishops in Rome in October
Lent and preparation for Holy Week and Easter
Trócaire Lent climate change campaign
The Solemnity of Saint Patrick
National Board for Safeguarding Children
Supporting persecuted Christians in the Holy
Land
Supporting blood and organ donation
Alcohol sponsorship of sports, and plain
cigarette packaging

For a summary of the statements issued see -
[http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news.php?
viewStory=26946](http://www.indcatholicnews.com/news.php?viewStory=26946)

Pro-Life march: 'Media bias on abortion has reached a point we cannot ignore'

A large scale rally was held outside the gates of the Dáil by groups associated with the Pro-Life Campaign in Ireland.

Journal.ie - Organisers say it was held to challenge a pro-abortion bias within the media.

The Pro-Life Campaign maintains that, in the space of a single fortnight, Irish newspapers ran

33 articles characterised by the group as being 'pro-choice'

Only one article in that period was 'pro-life' they contend.

"The decision to hold this evening's event was not taken lightly. But media bias on abortion has reached a point where we simply cannot afford to ignore what is going on any longer," campaigner Cora Sherlock told the crowd.

"There has been a tendency on the part of everyone inside and outside of politics to tip-toe around the issue rather than talk about it out in the open.

"That's not a healthy way to approach such a serious matter in a democracy. The public are being continually deprived of the opportunity to hear the case against abortion.

The fortnight examined was in December of last year but "could have been any fortnight that the abortion issue is in the news," Sherlock said.

www.thejournal.ie/pro-life-media-bias-1986774-Mar2015?utm_source=twitter_self

Brian Mayne Collection Catalogued

Following the death of Canon Brian Mayne in 2010 his important library of books, pamphlets and periodicals relating largely to liturgy, was presented to the RCB Library by his family.

The arrangements to transfer the collection from Downpatrick to Dublin were generously undertaken by the Revd Brian Cadden, a friend and colleague of Canon Mayne, and the books arrived in the RCB Library in 2014.

It had been agreed that the collection would be maintained as a discrete reference collection and so the materials were shelved together in the Library's stack room where they can be readily consulted by readers, and a book plate was inserted in each item. The work of cataloguing the some 1,820 individual items was undertaken by Jennifer Murphy and details of all the books, pamphlets and periodicals are now available on the RCB Library's on-line catalogue which can be accessed through the Church of Ireland website.

Canon Mayne was one of the Church of Ireland's leading liturgists. A longstanding members of the Liturgical Advisory Committee, of which he was Honorary Secretary from 1989 to 1999, he was also editor of the Book of Common Prayer 2014.

Ex-church minister and adviser to DUP MP denies voyeurism

A former church minister and DUP MP adviser on Wednesday denied a charge of voyeurism.

Appearing at Craigavon Magistrates Court, 50-year-old David McConaghie pleaded not guilty to committing voyeurism on dates between August 22nd and September 13th, 2012, in that he allegedly “for the purpose of sexual gratification, recorded another person doing a private act knowing that the other person did not consent to being recorded”.

Last month, a prosecuting lawyer told the court the PPS intended to prosecute Mr McConaghie in the Crown Court but departed from that stance on Wednesday, informing District Judge [Mervyn Bates](#) the offence would now be dealt with on a summons basis. The charge arose after DUP MP [David Simpson](#) reported to police that he found a camera in the toilets of his constituency office in [Portadown](#). More at -

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/crime-and-law/ex-church-minister-and-adviser-to-dup-mp-denies-voyeurism-1.2135342>

New church guidelines for non-Catholic students

The Catholic Church has published guidelines aimed at governing the inclusion of non-Catholic children in its schools.

RTÉ News - The document suggests four options schools may pursue for children whose parents do not want them to participate in religious instruction.

They include providing other activities for children to do in the classroom during religious instruction time and supervised project work elsewhere.

The document says parents may absent children during religious instruction, or schools may reorganise religious education timetables to facilitate such children.

The document has been drawn up in response to the report of the Forum on Patronage and Pluralism published three years ago.

The forum was established to address the lack of diversity of provision in the Irish primary school system.

An organisation representing atheists has said the guidelines do not respect the human rights of atheist or secular families.

Atheist Ireland says the document shows no understanding or appreciation of the human rights issues that it and others, including the UN

and the Council of Europe, have been raising for years.

In Ireland 89% of primary schools are run by the Catholic Church.

This paper, called Catholic Primary Schools in a Changing Ireland, acknowledges some parents have little or no choice but to send their child to a Catholic school.

It says while the church recognises the right of parents to opt out of religious instruction for their children, the manner in which schools do this is subject to available resources.

The document says schools should not exceed the 2.5 hours allowed weekly for religious education.

It says schools should make clear to parents upon enrolment what being a Catholic school means.

They should include information on the school's religious education programme as well as procedures in dealing with parents who do not want their children to participate in religious education.

However, the document does not advise schools as to what procedures should be put in place, apart from outlining options they "may" wish to implement.

The Forum on Patronage and Pluralism made a number of recommendations when it reported three years ago.

It said school enrolment policies should not discriminate against children based on their religion or lack of religion.

Currently many Catholic schools give priority to children who are baptised Catholics.

The forum report also called for a protocol to be drawn up by the Department of Education outlining the responsibility of schools to protect the constitutional right of parents and children not to participate in religious education.

It said school boards of management should develop policies for the practical application of the protocol.

www.rte.ie/news/2015/0312/686510-church-school-guidelines

Catholic Primary Schools in a Changing Ireland - Bishops' statement on policy resource

Catholic Primary Schools in a Changing Ireland: Sharing Good Practice on the Inclusion of all Pupils is a resource for Catholic schools in developing policies and in sharing best practice. Part 1 deals with foundational issues while Part 2 gives concrete examples of good practices.

It is published in response to the report *Forum on Patronage and Pluralism in the Primary Sector: Progress to date and Future Directions* which was issued by the Department of Education and Skills in 2014.

Welcoming the publication Father Michael Drumm, Chairperson of the Catholic Schools Partnership (CSP) said: "Catholic schools have adapted to demographic change with significant net migration into Ireland and many of them have led the way in integrating migrants into local communities. They have been leaders in areas such as social inclusion, special needs and traveller education." Father Drumm added that the Chief Inspector's Report 2010-12 made clear that almost all parents and pupils described their

schools as cultivating an inclusive, child-centred ethos.

Father Drumm continued, “The CSP has consulted widely in the preparation for today’s document. Given the notable record of Catholic schools in the area of social inclusion, *Catholic Primary Schools in a Changing Ireland: Sharing Good Practice on the Inclusion of all Pupils* aims to help schools in developing good practice with regard to religious issues. As the Department of Education and Skills has noted, there is no ‘one-size-that-fits-all’ in this regard. Rather schools need to develop policies and practices which address the context of each particular school. Father Drumm noted that the document draws on the new curriculum in Religious Education which will be introduced from September 2015.

“There is a notable emphasis on other religions and worldviews in this new Religious Education programme”, he said.

The document gives many suggestions on how to celebrate the diversity of faiths within the school community. It describes a holistic approach to Religious Education which is open to all children. It also offers ideas on inter-cultural dialogue in a Catholic school. Copies of the document have been sent to all Catholic schools.

Young priests represent a quarter of all new C of E clergy

Latest statistics released by the Church of England show that the number of young people (under 30s) now make up a quarter of all people accepted for training for the Church of England ministry. Figures show for 2014 show that 116 young people under 30 were accepted for training.

This is the highest number of young people accepted for ordination training in the past 25 years.

A young ordinand, who six years ago was a soldier serving in Iraq, describes her journey to ordination in a [Church of England blog](#): "I'd hit rock bottom and feeling I had nowhere else to turn decided to shout out to God whilst on a helicopter in the way to the Iranian border,".

Last weekend more than 50 prospective young ordinands gathered at an event - *Step Forward* - held by the Archbishop of York at his home in Bishopthorpe. The group of young people from across England heard from current trainees and staff members from Cranmer Hall, Durham, and audio reflections from some of those young

people are available on the Church of England's [latest podcast](#).

Liz Boughton, Young Vocations Advisor, Ministry Division of the Archbishops' Council said:

"We are so pleased to see more young people being recommended for ordination than in the last ten years. The gifts and insights that young people bring to ministry are more important than ever in the life of the Church of England and I look forward to seeing the impact that a generation of young priests will bring."

The Bishop of Sheffield, Steven Croft, chair of the Ministry Council, said:

"It is really encouraging that young people are continuing to come forward, playing their part in the Church of the future. More and more young people are hearing God's call to bring their energy and gifts to serve in the mission of the church. As a Church we need this movement to deepen and grow still further"

Our tribe is women': Statement from the women of South Sudan

The women of the Episcopal Church of Sudan & South Sudan have issued the following statement -



In a video Mama Harriet, President of the Mothers' Union in South Sudan, speaks out and calls for peace. - Link at end of this report

The conflict in South Sudan broke out on 15th December 2013 when a political disagreement arose in the ruling Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) party pitting the President, H.E. Salva Kiir and his former Vice President Dr. Riek Machar. This came just 2 years after independence. The conflict turned violent, taking on tribal dimensions between the Dinka and Nuer ethnic groups.

Starting in Juba, the capital city, the fighting spread out to Jonglei, Upper Nile and Lake States and some parts of Warrap.

Since the war broke out a little over a year ago, an estimated 20,000 people have died while over 1.5 million people are internally displaced (UN OCHA Situation Report 26 February 2015).

Those who have fled the country into the neighbouring Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda are at least 500,000 (UNHCR portal 4 March 2015).

In a bid to bring a resolution to the conflict, a peace process was initiated by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) in 2014. To date, the talks have not yielded much fruit as the parties are yet to agree on contentious issues.

The conflict has precipitated an unprecedented humanitarian crisis that has brought together various efforts in response, particularly from the non-government sector (NGOs and Faith Based Organisations). The Episcopal Church of South Sudan and Sudan (ECSS&S) through its development wing, Sudanese Development & Relief Agency (SUDRA) has set up an elaborate response mechanism with the support of its partners led by the Anglican Alliance. They have managed to distribute various food items and

provide health care to IDPs in Awerial, Milijo in Nimule and Lologo. They also provided humanitarian aid to the Dioceses of Twic East, Renk, Bentiu, Malakal and Wau. The Church has also assisted women by providing sanitary wear.

ECSS&S has also embarked on the rehabilitation phase of the humanitarian assistance that will entail psychosocial support, projects for income generation (tailoring, farming and a restaurant). However, the assistance given through the church hardly meets the immense needs that are evident among those affected by the ongoing conflict. A lot more needs to be done to complement these activities as many people are still suffering in the various IDP camps without basics like food.

As in most conflicts anywhere in the world, the women and children are most affected. This is an especially vulnerable group due to the loss of livelihoods and the interrupted schooling. A lot of the women are widowed and the children orphaned.

The women of South Sudan have witnessed untold atrocities and undergone abuses that have grossly undermined their dignity and rights as human beings. These women have no access to basic facilities like homes to live in, health

facilities or schools for their children. They have no way of providing food for families as relief supplies are limited or not even available in many areas especially where the church has been responding. The situation is further complicated by the inaccessibility of some areas due to the conflict.

Owing to the far reaching effects of this conflict on women and children, as the women of South Sudan, we demand for:

- Respect for the ceasefire and an immediate cessation of hostilities
- A comprehensive peace agreement
- Facilitation of humanitarian assistance to reach all in need in all locations
- IGAD to remain neutral in the peace process
- The Government of South Sudan to allocate resources to humanitarian support for its internally displaced citizens

As the women of South Sudan, we abhor tribalism and the division it causes. We therefore call upon all the women of South Sudan from all walks of life to forge a common agenda for peace.

Our Tribe Is Women.

We extend this call for solidarity and support to our sisters in Africa and the world especially on this International Women's Day 2015.

To the women of faith all around the world, we seek your prayer support.

May God bless South Sudan!

May God touch the hearts of her leaders and bring peace to her people!

In the video below Mama Harriet, President of the Mothers' Union in South Sudan, speaks out and calls for peace.

<http://www.anglicanalliance.org/news/20063/our-tribe-is-women-a-statement-and-video-from-the-women-of-south-sudan>

Media digest

Irish Times

SF stance on sex abuse scandal would have split any other party

[www.irishtimes.com/news/politics/sf-stance-on-sex-abuse-scandal-would-have-split-any-other-party-1.2135824?](http://www.irishtimes.com/news/politics/sf-stance-on-sex-abuse-scandal-would-have-split-any-other-party-1.2135824?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter)
[utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter](http://www.irishtimes.com/news/politics/sf-stance-on-sex-abuse-scandal-would-have-split-any-other-party-1.2135824?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter)

Cameron urged to help set up inquiry into IRA rape claims

www.irishtimes.com/news/crime-and-law/cameron-urged-to-help-set-up-inquiry-into-ira-rape-claims-1.2135752?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter

Independent

The Belfast Pimpnel has no fear of being caught in the 'Spotlight' -

www.independent.ie/opinion/columnists/lise-hand/the-belfast-pimpnel-has-no-fear-of-being-caught-in-the-spotlight-31060186.html

Belfast Telegraph

Liam Clarke - Child sex abuse victims must not be collateral damage

www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/debateni/blogs/liam-clarke/child-sex-abuse-victims-must-not-be-collateral-damage-31059342.html

News Letter

Alliance MLAs will have free vote on any abortion proposals: Ford

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/alliance-mlas-will-have-free-vote-on-any-abortion-proposals-ford-1-6627705>

Tel/Times

Reports on comments by the Archbishop of Canterbury to faith leaders yesterday when he said young people are turning to Jihad because mainstream religion is not "exciting" enough. They state Justin Welby was talking a reception

at Lambeth Palace for leaders from the major religious communities in the UK and said Britain's religious communities must do more to provide an alternative to extremism which gives young people a "purpose in life". He also said the greatest danger is "driving people to the edges, by marginalising those who disagree with us and calling them extremists."

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/faith/article4379467.ece>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/11463635/Youths-turning-to-Jihad-because-mainstream-religion-not-exciting-enough-Welby.html>

Mail

Report on comments by Queen's chaplain, the Reverend Canon Gavin Ashenden, a former chaplain of Sussex University, who responded to the Archbishop's comments on extremism.

Speaking on LBC he said Islam has over 100 verses inviting people to violence in the Koran.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2990820/Islam-violent-faith-says-Queen-s-chaplain-Canon-expresses-concerns-100-passages-Koran-invite-people-violence.html#ixzz3U9A54qJf>

Ind

Report on Jean Vanier being named as the 2015 winner of the Templeton Prize, a €1.7m (£1.2m) award for promoting spiritual awareness. It says the Catholic philosopher and activist for the mentally disabled, has spent his life's work

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based on the conviction that the "strong need the weak". He said he would give the money to his association, L'Arche, which has 147 communities around the world in which the mentally disabled live with the mentally able. (See Archbishop's welcome)

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/people/jean-vanier-philosopher-who-dislikes-the-religion-of-success-wins-12m-templeton-prize-for-promoting-spiritual-awareness-10101621.html>

Mail

Item on Tangley House in Hampshire, destroyed by a fire which killed Romsey Conservative MP Michael Colvin and his wife, Nichola, in 2000. It mentions speculation about supernatural sightings at the property denied by the current owner Harry Marriott. It states when Marriot moved in the then Bishop of Basingstoke, now Bishop of Dover, Trevor Willmott, aided by another priest, Rev Ray Whettingsteel, 'blessed' the new house.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2616393/SEBASTIAN-SHAKESPEARE-25million-house-destroyed-devastating-fire-sale-ghosts-not-included.html#ixzz3U9G4zUNs>

Mail

Article that Christians are frightened to reveal their religious beliefs to colleagues at work, according to a major study by the Equality and

Human Rights Commission. It states Christians think their faith is being pushed out of its role as a cornerstone of life in Britain, they are often mocked or treated like bigots at work. It also states many feel persecuted by anti-discrimination and equality laws.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2990678/Christians-scared-admit-believes-fear-mocked-treated-like-bigots-say-equality-chiefs.html#ixzz3U9B9f3vb>

BBC

An appeal to raise funds for a multi-million pound revamp of a Hull church in time for the city becoming UK City of Culture 2017 has reached £2m in four months, according to a report. Plans to transform Holy Trinity Church into a £4.5m events venue were revealed in November. Vicar Rev Canon Dr Neal Barnes said he was "overwhelmed by the generosity" and support for the project.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-humber-31834171>

Mail

Further report on Northumberland Church of England Academy (NCEA) in Ashington, Northumberland now accepting pupils from birth after launching a 'cradle to university' scheme to help youngsters get ahead. It is only the second

school in the country to offer childcare for newborn babies.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2989739/Would-let-child-taught-school-BIRTH-Academy-launches-cradle-university-education-help-youngsters-ahead.html#ixzz3U9Hzq46X>

Mirror

Report looking at evidence for Jesus having a brother states US biblical scholar Ben Witherington has supported the claims after the discovery of a 2,000-year-old bone box with the Aramaic inscription: "James, son of Joseph, brother of Jesus," seemingly backing up Biblical references to James the brother of Jesus.

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/world-news/jesus-brother---biblical-scholar-5314525>

Star

Article on being a mum states multi-tasking mothers work the equivalent of four years looking after their children. It looks at the origins of modern Mother's Day and says the American festival merged with the older religious festival of Mothering Sunday when people would return to their mother church for a service held on the fourth Sunday of Lent known as Laetare Sunday.

<http://www.dailystar.co.uk/news/latest-news/430190/mother-day-hardest-job-world-clintons-parenting-work>

Blogs

Archbishop Cranmer: Welby - equality as a government aim is doomed to totalitarianism

<http://archbishopcranmer.com/welby-equality-as-a-government-aim-is-doomed-to-totalitarianism/>

Bishop of Doncaster: The minimum wage

<http://www.sheffield.anglican.org/blog/bishop-of-doncaster/the-minimum-wage>