

Media Review - February 25 updated at 11.00 am

Andrew Trimble: Rugby, religion and me BBC News NI

Ireland rugby international Andrew Trimble on how his spirituality enhances his love of the game

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-39070127

Wife of NI man slain after pair's torture ordeal in South Africa

Belfast Telegraph http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/ northern-ireland/wife-of-ni-man-slain-after-pairstorture-ordeal-in-south-africa-35481508.html

The obscure group that funded DUP's £425k Brexit ad campaign

Belfast Telegraph
http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/the-obscure-group-that-

funded-dups-425k-brexit-adcampaign-35477951.html

MPs to receive £76,000 as pay rises for second time in two years'

Daily Telegraph https://digitaledition.telegraph.co.uk/editions/ edition 937dr 2017-02-25/data/287220/ index.html

Netherlands holds inquiry on whether it could ditch euro

Daily Telegraph https://digitaledition.telegraph.co.uk/editions/ edition 937dr 2017-02-25/data/287252/ index.html

Guard/Christian Today

Reports that the Dean of Oxford, Prof Martyn Percy, has called on the newly appointed Bishop of Sheffield to stand aside ahead of his consecration, saying his views on women's ordination will "cause significant pastoral and public damage to the church". Prof Percy made the comments in an article for Modern Church. https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/feb/24/new-bishop-sheffield-opponent-female-priests-urged-decline

Yorks Post/Christian Today

Report that the Church has defended the appointment of Philip North as Bishop of Sheffield, with comment from the Archbishop of York (see above) and the Bishops of Dorking, Jo Bailey Wells and Repton, Jan McFarlane, along with a CofE spokesman. Archbishop Sentamu said: "Bishop Philip has assured women clergy in the diocese that he is in favour of women's leadership and would actively promote it. I know he will do so. Women clergy in the Diocese of Sheffield will not only be accepted, but will be encouraged, inspired, and furthered in their ministry by their new Diocesan Bishop." http://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/news/opinion/ john-sentamu-your-have-my-word-femaleclergy-will-not-be-undermined-by-new-bishopof-sheffield-1-8408925

Christian Today

Report that the Dean of St Albans, Jeffrey John, has narrowly missed out on becoming Bishop of Llandaff (Church in Wales) just failing to reach the two-thirds majority required from the nominating body. Article notes that after three days of discussions the electoral body failed to agree on any candidate and the final decision will now be down to senior bishops.

BBC/Mail

Report that dozens of Coptic Christian families in Egypt have fled North Sinai province after a number of killings in recent weeks by suspected Islamist militants. Article says that many have now taken refuge in the Evangelical Church in the Suez Canal city of Ismailiya. http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-

east-39085285

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/reuters/article-4257752/Egypts-Christians-flee-Sinai-amid-Islamic-State-killing-spree.html?
ITO=1490&ns mchannel=rss&ns campaign=1490

Times/Tel

Report that plans to remove pews from the nave of Bath Abbey, a grade 1 listed building, to create a "more flexible space" have met opposition from conservationists and parishioners.

http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/abbey-clearsancient-pews-for-dinners-and-dancingkjfhjnnz9

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/02/24/anger-plan-remove-bath-abbeys-victorian-pews/

Mail

Report that the Bishop of Willesden, Pete Broadbent, who is currently acting Bishop of London, will not take up the role of the Dean of the Chapels Royal, which will stay with the retired Bishop of London, Richard Chartres. A diocesan spokesperson said "The Queen has graciously indicated that Bishop Richard should remain as Dean until the new permanent Bishop of London is appointed and takes up the role." http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4257876/Queen-avoids-having-republican-bishop.html?

Mail/Times

Reports on appointment of Anjem Choudary as new head of BBC religious programming. http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/muslim-in-charge-of-bbc-religious-shows-dtxprrhnl http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-4258176/Muslim-BBC-boss-backer-reality-rewarded.html

Comment

Times

The *Times* invites two Anglicans to debate whether the Church of England should allow gay people to marry in church. Prof Diarmaid

McCulloch argues yes and Revd Alasdair Paine (vicar of St Andrew the Great, Cambridge) argues No.

http://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/where-next-for-church-on-gay-marriage-v82rjp7vm

Opponent of female priests urged to decline bishop of Sheffield post

The Guardian

A senior **Church of England** theologian has called on the newly appointed bishop of Sheffield to stand aside ahead of his consecration, saying his ... www.theguardian.com/world/2017/feb/24/new-bishop-sheffield-opponent-female-priests-urged-decline

John Sentamu: Your have my word – female clergy will not be undermined by new Bishop of ...

Yorkshire Post

However, there remain those who question the integrity both of the agreement reached by the **Church of England,** and of Philip North himself. And that ...

http://www.yorkshirepost.co.uk/news/opinion/john-sentamu-your-have-my-word-female-

clergy-will-not-be-undermined-by-new-bishopof-sheffield-1-8408925

C of E Press releases this week 24 February

Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich to chair Ministry Council

Following his election to Archbishops' Council, The Rt Revd Martin Seeley, has been appointed the next Chair of the Ministry Council of the Church of England.

23 February

Investors with \$4trn under management renew call on Exxon to address climate risk
As above

21 February

Hidden gems from London chapels uncovered A new project exploring the capital's Anglican chapels through the eyes of a unique chronicler of church buildings.