



***Jazz Festival Service at St Anne's, Shandon, Cork  
with the Priest-in-Charge, the Reverend Sarah Marry  
(right)***

## **Cork Jazz Festival - A Service with a Difference at St Anne's, Shandon**

The annual Jazz Festival in Cork draws thousands of visitors to the City, and creates an atmosphere of excitement and razamatazz. One



***Saint Anne's Church, Shandon, Cork full to capacity for the annual Jazz Festival Service.***

of the city churches - Saint Anne's Church, Shandon - has traditionally held its Harvest thanksgiving 'with a jazz difference' on the Sunday of what is known locally as 'the Jazz Weekend'. The Service has become so popular over the years that tickets (free of charge) have to be allocated in advance.

Parishioners, friends and hundreds of visitors joined in the Jazz Festival Service in St. Anne's

Church, Shandon this year on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> October. The special service of Harvest Thanksgiving including scripture, prayer, music and song in a church beautifully decorated with flowers, fruit and vegetables.

The New York Brass Band created a celebratory atmosphere and accompanied the St. John's Gospel Choir. Between them they had the congregation on their feet.

Deputy Lord Mayor of Cork, Councillor Mick Nugent, and Fiona Collins from the Cork Guinness Jazz Festival Committee, read the lessons. Jerry Buttimer T.D. gave an address, speaking of his own journey of faith and inviting everyone to work together to create the church and society of the future. In his reflections on the harvest theme he reminded those present of God's call to us to be responsible stewards of God's creation, and to love one another as God has loved us.

A collection was taken for the mission and ministry of St. Anne's as well as for the Cork Simon Community locally, and for the work of Christian Aid further afield.



## **Mental health training opportunities for local churches**

Members of the clergy and those who work in churches in Northern Ireland are being encouraged to take up training opportunities in faith and mental health and pastoral support.

The partnership group Flourish! is hosting training sessions in November and January to promote mental and emotional wellbeing.

Flourish! is a partnership between Lighthouse Ireland, the Churches' Community Work Alliance

(Northern Ireland) and clergy from across the Christian churches in Northern Ireland.

The initiative has the support of the leaders of the four largest churches in Ireland and has been developed in partnership with and supported by the Public Health Agency (PHA).

“The training module ‘Faith and Mental Health and Pastoral Support’ is open to clergy, church youth workers, church lay readers, lay pastoral workers and other church staff representatives,” said Madeline Heaney, Regional Lead for Mental Health Promotion with the PHA.

“People working in religious roles often see the impact of poor mental health first-hand, so are in an excellent position to be able to provide assistance and support. This training will help give them the skills to be able to do this more effectively, so we would encourage churches across Northern Ireland to get involved.”

Jo Murphy, Manager of Lighthouse Ireland, explained what the training will include.

“The aim of the faith-based module is to explore the relationship between theological

understandings of suicide and mental health and how this translates into pastoral action,” she said.

“Topics covered include examining the effect of suicide and mental health issues on bereaved families and friends, discussing the importance of compassion in working on mental health issues and being able to signpost to services for those who need support.”

Participants will also be given guidance on issues such as conducting a funeral service after a suicide and promoting emotional and mental wellbeing throughout the year during services.

Rev Mervyn Ewing from the Methodist Church in Ireland said: “This module will give clergy and those who work in churches a better understanding of how mental health issues and suicide can impact on their congregations. It will also give participants greater confidence and understanding of the sensitive and appropriate approach to providing pastoral support.”

The sessions will take place on November 27 and January 28 from 9.30am - 5pm and will be held at Clotworthy House in Antrim.

To register for the November event go to:  
[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/flourish-faith-mental-health-pastoral-support-module-nov-2015-tickets-18632398004?aff=es2](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/flourish-faith-mental-health-pastoral-support-module-nov-2015-tickets-18632398004?aff=es2)

To register for the January event go to:  
[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/flourish-faith-mental-health-pastoral-support-module-jan-2016-tickets-18632521373?aff=es2](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/flourish-faith-mental-health-pastoral-support-module-jan-2016-tickets-18632521373?aff=es2)

Interest can also be registered by contacting Lighthouse on (028) 9075 5070 or [reception@lighthouseireland.org](mailto:reception@lighthouseireland.org)

Places are limited to 25 per workshop. A waiting list will be compiled if required and more programmes will be organised.

For further information about Flourish see - [www.wewillflourish.com](http://www.wewillflourish.com)

## **RSCM Ireland on RTE television to celebrate St Cecilia's Day**

RSCM Ireland is pleased to announce that they will host the RTÉ One television Sunday morning worship programme which will air on Sunday 22 November at 11.10am on RTÉ One and again at

11.45am on RTÉ LW 252 radio and RTÉ Radio One extra.



The service will be led by the RSCM Ireland coordinator and Church of Ireland Lay Minister, Mark Bowyer and will be sung by choristers who have recently been involved in the Voice for Life awards scheme. The choir will be directed by Blánaid Murphy (St Mary's Pro-cathedral, Dublin) and will be accompanied by Tristan Russcher (St Bartholomew's Church, Dublin).



This act of worship will celebrate the Feast of St Cecilia, patron saint of musicians and church music. It will also see the performance of 'The Language of Birds', a piece specially commissioned for RSCM Ireland and written by Irish composer [Eoghan Desmond](#).

Speaking on behalf of RSCM Ireland, Mark Bowyer said “We are delighted to have been asked to host this service, which will highlight the work of the RSCM in Ireland and the importance of maintaining high standards in church music which are delivered each week by many talented and enthusiastic church musicians across the country.

“We hope that you will be able to join us by watching or listening to the gramme on RTÉ television and radio or via the RTÉ player.”

## **Presbyterian Herald: November issue out now**

For many people the image of a field of poppies brings to mind thoughts of wartime and the peace that followed, and this issue's front cover reminds us of this. Inside, memories of World



War II and the celebrations of VE Day are explored in an article by Sarah Harding and Suzanne Hamilton.

Kathryn Anderson continues the theme of those who serve their country as she talks to Rev. Mark

Donald about his role as an army reserve chaplain in the article 'A force to be reckoned with'.

In October the fourth Church in the Public Square conference was held in Assembly Buildings, entitled 'Economic Hope: a biblical roadmap for a just society'. Noreen Erskine reports on the conference, where the speakers examined the role Christians and the Church can play in wider community life.

Alfred Thompson explores the subject of a just society further in his article 'The scale of economies'.

"The rising levels of global inequality are truly shocking and in stark contrast to the biblical desire for equality".

"The consequences of inequality run very deep – so Christians and the Church have an important role to play in presenting to the world a vision of biblical equality", says Alfred.

It is traditional in the role of Moderator to visit some of the PCI Mission Personnel serving overseas, and this year was no exception. At the

end of July, Dr. McNie and his wife Anne, along with Uel Marrs, the Council for Global Mission Secretary, went to Malawi for three weeks to visit missionaries working there. Dr. McNie recollects his experience in an article for the Herald this month.

“The whole Malawi experience was humbling, challenging, rewarding and spiritually enriching. PCI’s commitment and desire to stand with our partners and support them in their endeavours to build the kingdom of God is without doubt,” said Dr. McNie.

Professor Stephen Williams concludes his series of articles on ‘Ashers and beyond’, as he looks at the future implications of the Ashers verdict for the church.

What does ‘family’ mean to you? Betsy Cameron explores how the term is not a one-size-fits-all, as she discovers that sometimes the simplest of questions can prove to be the most difficult to answer.

Did you know that of the one in ten New Zealanders who claim Irish ancestry, nearly half can trace their roots back to Ulster? In

‘Presbyterian radical in New Zealand’ read the story of Rutherford Waddell, an Irish Presbyterian minister who had a huge impact on society in New Zealand in the 1800s.

For those who like to plan ahead for Christmas, this month’s page of reviews may offer some ideas – from new books for children and R.T. Kendall’s latest book, to a new CD from Bethel music.

Finally, with photos from around the church, reflections from Peter Lynas, Deborah Doherty, Gareth McFadden and others, there’s much to read, challenge and enjoy in the Herald this month. To [download this edition](#) or to see how you can [subscribe](#), visit the [Presbyterian Herald](#) section of the website.

## **"Deep pain" anticipated as Canada prepares to debate same sex marriage**

The Bishops of the Anglican Church of Canada say that they recognise the “deep pain” that will be caused by next year’s General Synod vote

on allowing same-sex marriage in Church; and question whether the Synod's parliamentary-style procedures are "the most helpful way to discern the mind of the Church, or of the Spirit, in this matter."

In 2013, Canada's triennial General Synod approved a resolution asking its Council to prepare and present a motion that would to change the church's Canon 21 "to allow the marriage of same-sex couples in the same way as opposite-sex couples" with "a conscience clause so that no member of the clergy, bishop, congregation or diocese should be constrained to participate in or authorize such marriages against the dictates of their conscience."

That motion is due to be debated when the Synod next meets in Toronto from 7 to 13 July 2016. As a doctrinal matter, if approved, the motion would be sent to the provincial synods for information and would need to be approved again by the General Synod in 2019 before it would take effect.

The Primate of Canada, the Most Revd Fred Hiltz, [said in July](#) that if the motion falls in July,

“then for a time the conversation is done in some form or another.”

Now, in a [communiqué](#), the House of Bishops say that they have discussed the issue in each of their meetings since the 2013 Synod; and they will devote an entire meeting to discussions on the subject in February.

“Our conversations to this point have been marked by openness and charity,” the bishops say, “and this has enabled us to discuss frankly the range of hopes and fears that we are experiencing as we anticipate debate on this motion at our next General Synod, and the likely pastoral challenges we face if the motion, as it stands, passes or fails.

“We are mindful of the deep pain that either the passage or defeat of the motion will bring to our Church.

“We are concerned that parliamentary procedure may not be the most helpful way to discern the mind of the Church, or of the Spirit, in this matter, and we would ask those in charge of designing the process whereby the draft resolution comes to the floor of General Synod to consider ways in

which trust and understanding can be promoted and deepened.”

At their February meeting, the bishops will “pay particular attention to the theology of marriage, the nature of episcopacy, and the synod’s legislative process,” they say. “As we continue to wrestle with how to honour our roles as guardians of the Church’s faith and discipline and signs of unity both locally and universally, we hope to gain greater clarity and conviction about how most faithfully to provide leadership in our dioceses and the Anglican Church of Canada.”

They have called on “all members of our Church to uphold all members of General Synod in their prayers as we seek to give expression to the unity we have in Christ where there is real disagreement.

“We would also encourage every Anglican to study [the Commission report](#), using the study material supplied, and graciously speak to or consult with their bishops and synod delegates.”





## Find an Evensong service near you: Cambridge chorister sets up *Time Out*-style Evensong guide

A former choral scholar at Trinity College, Cambridge is launching a *Time Out*-style guide to choral evensong around the country, he told [the Independent](#).

Guy Hayward hopes the website will attract a new audience to hear the "world-class" music that is played daily in churches and cathedrals around the country.

[Choralevensong.org](http://Choralevensong.org) will be launched officially on 22 November and enables users to find sung evensong services local to them.

"Choral evensong is one of the richest cultural treasures of Britain. But most adults don't know about it," he told the Independent.

The website is the brainchild of members of the Hampstead Church Music Trust, based at St John-at-Hampstead church, and Dr Hayward, who has just completed a PhD on the power of singing to form community.

"It's a simple idea, but it allows people across the country to see that there are services near them," he said.

The website provides details on services at some 350 churches and cathedrals countrywide, many of which hold services daily.

"One of the extraordinary things about it is that there are paid choral singers, and there can be as few as five or 10 people, even in the big cathedrals," Hayward said.

The launch of the website coincides with the Feast of St Cecilia, the patron saint of musicians.

Hayward hopes that the website might "make people realise what a big tradition choral evensong is." The launch will involve the vicar of St. John-at-Hampstead blessing a laptop with the site running on a browser.

## Media digest

### **BBC Radio 4 (*listen again*)**

*The Turbulent Priest* - Mark D'Arcy examines the life and times of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, and asks what drives him and how far is he a political prelate?

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b06kblgr>

### **BBC/Times/Tel/Guard/Ind/Mirror/Mail/Even Stand/FT**

Extensive coverage of the defeat in the House of Lords of the Government's plans to cut tax credits. The Chancellor George Osborne has said he will act on concerns about the impact of tax credit cuts, promising "transitional help" for those affected after proposed legislation was twice voted down in the Upper Chamber. Many papers report that the defeat will result in the power of the Lords being "reined in" and quote the contributions from the Archbishop of York and Bishop of Portsmouth (see News from CofE above).

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-34644262>

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/politics/article4597187.ece>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/politics/11954740/Tax-credits-Government-faces-defeat-in-the-House-of-Lords-live.html>

<http://www.theguardian.com/money/2015/oct/26/tax-credit-cuts-halted-as-lords-vote-to-protect-low-income-earners>  
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/tax-credit-cuts-delayed-by-house-of-lords-hollis-amendment-osborne-a6709846.html>  
<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/george-osbornes-tax-credit-cuts-6710437>  
[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3290873/Lords-force-Osborne-U-turn-Peers-overrule-MPs-delay-tax-credit-cuts-Cameron-threatens-reprisals.html?ITO=1490&ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3290873/Lords-force-Osborne-U-turn-Peers-overrule-MPs-delay-tax-credit-cuts-Cameron-threatens-reprisals.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)  
<http://www.standard.co.uk/news/uk/tax-credit-cuts-lords-vote-to-put-44bn-plan-on-ice-until-independent-report-can-assess-impact-a3099646.html>  
[http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/cc09f85c-7c03-11e5-a1fe-567b37f80b64.html?FTCamp=engage/CAP/webapp/Channel\\_Moreover//B2B#axzz3peTRq3xq](http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/cc09f85c-7c03-11e5-a1fe-567b37f80b64.html?FTCamp=engage/CAP/webapp/Channel_Moreover//B2B#axzz3peTRq3xq)

### Church Times/Western Daily Press

Report the Bishop of Gloucester, Rachel Treweek has taken her seat in the House of Lords. Bishop Rachel was introduced as one of 26 Lords Spiritual by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London, the Rt Revd Richard Chartres yesterday. The *Western Daily Press* quotes Bishop Rachel saying that she would like to see a female bishop lead the world's Anglicans in the future.

<http://www.churchtimes.co.uk/articles/2015/23-october/news/uk/rachel-treweek-becomes-first-woman-bishop-to-enter-house-of-lords>  
<http://www.westerndailypress.co.uk/Bishop-Gloucester-like-woman-Archbishop/story-28055437-detail/story.html>

**BBC**

Human and animal bones are being analysed after being found underneath a walkway used by Hereford Cathedral's choir for more than 500 years. The bones were found with bits of clay pipe, pottery and oyster shells during restoration work at St Johns Walk. The Cathedral is quoted as saying the human bones were "most likely" to have been former members of the Vicars Choral who sang at the cathedral.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-hereford-worcester-34641594>

## **Letters**

Guard

Why the Bishop of Manchester can't take in homeless refugees

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/oct/26/why-the-bishop-of-manchester-cant-take-in-homeless-refugees>

## **Ind**

Two letters comment on the Bishop of Gloucester Rachel Treweek's comments on the use of the male pronoun to describe God.

<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/letters-at-last-blair-admits-fault-for-iraq-nearly-a6709686.html>

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