

Greystones and the Great War



Queen honours fallen soldiers at Tower of London

The Queen visited the Tower of London to pay tribute to those who died during World War One. Accompanied by Prince Philip, she laid a wreath at the Blood Swept Lands and Seas of Red exhibit, which has been designed to commemorate the lives of thousands of people who died in the Great War.

A field of handmade ceramic poppies represents every British and Colonial death. The installation will be completed on Armistice Day, November 11, when the 888,246th poppy will be 'planted'.

The Tower of London was a key monument during the War; more than 1,600 soldiers swore an oath to the Crown on its grounds.

The Royals met artist Paul Cummins, who said the strong military links of the Tower of London made it an ideal location for his exhibit.

"The installation is transient, I found this poignant and reflective of human life, like those who lost their lives during the First World War," he said. "I wanted to find a fitting way to remember them."

The Queen reportedly described Cummins' work as "impressive".

C of I response to ebola

During the early days of the outbreak of Ebola, the C of I Bishops' Appeal released €5,000 to support the efforts of the Leprosy Mission and local partners in Liberia and Guinea to provide protective equipment for hospital staff responding to the virus. To date, an alarming percentage of the victims have been health workers. A protective suit costs €5.

Bishops' Appeal is now acting as a conduit for funds that will be directed to safeguarding frontline health workers in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone through the provision of protective equipment. Individuals, parishes and dioceses are invited to respond by sending donations to Bishops' Appeal, Church of Ireland House, Rathmines, Dublin 6.

Softly March Away – Greystones and the Great War

St Patrick's Church in Greystones is holding a World War 1 commemorative evening on Saturday November 8. Entitled Softly March Away – Greystones and the Great War centres around a war memorial tablet in the church which bears the names of 22 parishioners who were killed in the war.

Written and presented by Irish Times journalist, Peter Murtagh, the evening will highlight the men's stories – who they were, where they lived and how they died. Among them were an international rugby player, medics, a journalist, a cross country athlete, at least one career soldier, a forestry worker, a solicitor and a husband.

There will be musical accompaniment by mezzo soprano Dara McMahon, baritone Rory Musgrave and pianist Svetlana Rudenko who will perform songs of the era.

The remembrance evening in the church gets underway at 8.00 pm. Tickets cost €10 each and are on sale from the parish office of St Patrick's Church, Mooney's Shop on Trafalgar Road, Greystones and Greystones Antiques by the Dart Station. They will also be available on the door on the night if there are any remaining.

Proceeds from the evening will go to the parish funds and there will be a retiring collection for the Royal British Legion.

New shop to benefit community and church

Boring Wells, based in St Christopher's Church in Mersey Street, Belfast, has opened up a shop as part of their commitment to social enterprise. 'Well Made', on the Belmont



Road in East Belfast is a vintage clothing shop which also sells various arts and crafts handmade by members of the local community. Manager Julie Ryan, who belongs to the church, is very passionate about this initiative.

“This is a very exciting adventure in which we as a shop can help the church by raising funds for projects and also help the wider community. We’re providing a shop front for local crafters and also welcoming volunteers on-board, enabling them to experience the workplace and offering them training and employment skills.”

On the first floor of the shop are the offices of the virtual bookshop, ‘The Book Well’, run by Julie’s husband, Richard. Richard set up The Book Well as a means of helping resource the Church of Ireland following the closure of The Good Book Shop. His hope now on opening is that his customer base will broaden to other denominations in the area. He says:

“The Book Well is primarily an online resource, but I wanted an office space to allow customers to collect their orders and give them a chance to browse. There used to be a Brethren owned bookshop on the Belmont Road which closed a couple of years ago and I’ve been encouraged by conversations I’ve had with passers-by who belong to other churches in the area who are

excited that another Christian resource is opening on their doorstep.”

Both *Well Made* and *The Book Well* are the latest in a series of social enterprise schemes that Boring Wells is involved in. Earlier this year, ‘Box 42’ which provides audio visual services throughout Ireland for corporate clients or small churches and charitable groups, was the first small business that the church involved in their social enterprise programme

How does all of this connect to the church? Leader of Boring Wells, Revd Adrian McCartney, explains:

“A few years ago we re-shaped ourselves as a charity. This was a deliberate strategy, not denying our status as a church, but to enable us to journey in the world of community work alongside other agencies and charities. Our claim is that we do community development from a Christian perspective.

“The Social Enterprise Programme allows us to create income from small businesses that can be channelled back into the community projects. At present we run a food bank, a monthly event for teenagers with severe and profound learning difficulties, a variety of teenage programmes across the usual divisions, family events, food preparation, cooking, healthy eating, a residents’ group and hopefully more in the future.

“When you add all of this to some of the more normal church activities you end up with an exciting mix of faith lived out in the real world. In the ecclesiastical world this is called a Fresh Expression of Church.”

Well Made can be found at 73 Belmont Road, and is open Mon–Sat 10.00 am–5.00 pm You can order direct from The Book Well by clicking on www.thebookwell.co.uk To see how Box42 can help your church, click on <http://box42av.com/>

Faroe Islands' Brass Band in Belfast

Revd Campbell Dixon welcomed the Klaksvík Brass Band from the Faroe Islands to Belfast Cathedral, where they played a lunchtime concert on, 10th





October. The Faroe Islands soccer team were visiting the city to play Northern Ireland at Windsor Park. There were some spare seats in the chartered plane for the team and supporters so the band decided to come. The concert was absolutely lovely and the band were thrilled to have had the opportunity to play in such beautiful surroundings. Sky sports made a recording as one of the Faroe Islands team (Páll Klettskard) is the Band's principal trumpet soloist. He was otherwise engaged and thus the empty chair with his trumpet!

Licensing of Diocesan Readers

19th Oct at 7pm - Licensing of new Diocesan Readers at St. Eunan's Cathedral, Raphoe

Derry and Raphoe Diocesan Synod

Synod will be held on October 22. A service of Holy Communion will start the day at 2.15pm, and then the members of Synod will go to Clooney Methodist Hall for the business of Synod. The bishop will take the chair at 3.30pm. This is a triennium year where the diocesan synod votes for representatives for all committees and General Synod.