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# CNI

## **Picture presented to Belfast Cathedral from schools' cross-community effort**



**Mr Andrew Duggan, a teacher at Cranmore Integrated Primary School, along with pupils Ronan and Holly, present their painting of St Anne's Cathedral to Dean John Mann.**

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Cranmore Integrated Primary School, Belfast, this week presented a beautiful painting of St Anne's Cathedral to the Dean of Belfast, the Very Rev John Mann.

Pupils Holly and Ronan, along with teacher Mr Andrew Duggan, presented Dean Mann with the painting which was inspired by a visit Cranmore Primary made to the Cathedral in January, along with their friends from St John the Baptist and Taughmonagh primary schools.

This was part of a cross community project supported by the Integrated Education Fund Trust Programme, and as part of the programme the Primary Six pupils also visited seven other places of worship including the Belfast Islamic Centre and the Jewish Synagogue.

The children all got together for discussions after their visits, and created a painting of each of the places they had been to.

Presenting the picture to Dean John Mann on June 26, Mr Duggan said the pictures had all been displayed in school, but were so good the schools and children wanted to share them with the places who had hosted their visits.

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The Integrated Education Fund covered the cost of framing the eight pictures, and the St Anne's painting is now hanging in the main Cathedral office where anyone calling at reception can see it.

Mr Duggan said the children had enjoyed their visit to St Anne's. "The things that most captured their imaginations about St Anne's were that fact that the Cathedral is sinking, the unusual spire and Lord Carson's grave," he said.

## **Faith Group supports march for same sex marriage**

Faith in Marriage Equality (FiME) calls on people of faith in Northern Ireland to support the public rally for civil marriage equality. The march takes place in Belfast today and at which Faith in Marriage Equality will be present with our banner.

Spokesperson Dr Richard O'Leary said: "Catholic and Protestant Church leaders only recently apologised for opposing in the twentieth century Catholic-Protestant mixed marriage. Church leaders could learn from their past mistake and drop their current opposition to same sex civil marriage".

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Dr Richard O'Leary added, "While it is proper that faith leaders govern their members' access to religious marriage, they should not seek to prevent access to civil marriage. Our politicians in Northern Ireland are being asked to legislate for civil, not religious marriage. We hope that the Democratic Unionist Party and our Catholic and Protestant Church leaders will recognise that more and more ordinary people of faith support civil marriage equality and would like their leaders to make a generous response"

Faith in Marriage Equality (FiME) is supported by a range of faith organisations including the Catholic group 'We are Church Ireland' and the Anglican Church of Ireland group 'Changing Attitude Ireland'.

## **Abortion and the week that was, Evangelical Alliance comment**

In its weekly posting yesterday (Friday), the Evangelical Alliance in Northern Ireland commented:

On Tuesday the British Medical Association (BMA), the largest union for doctors voted to support a campaign to remove abortion from the

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criminal law in the UK. And then yesterday, within the space of 8 hours, two decisions, one judicial and one political changed the conversation around abortion in Northern Ireland.

On a welcome note, the Court of Appeal in Northern Ireland ruled that here is no human right to abortion and that member states, like Northern Ireland are accorded a 'wide margin of appreciation' when it comes to determining their laws. It was found that our laws here are legitimate, proportionate and strike an appropriate balance between women, unborn children and society at large. The ruled that it is for the Northern Ireland assembly to legislate on this matter.

But hot on the heels of this result was the decision of a pressured British Government, to pay for abortions for women who travel from Northern Ireland to England and Wales.

Now it is ultimately a matter for Government ministers in England and Wales to decide which services they will fund for citizens from outside their jurisdictions. But it is ironic that on a day when the Court in Northern Ireland rules that abortion legislation is a matter for the Northern Ireland Assembly, the Westminster parliament

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makes an overtly political move which potentially undermines and destabilises the devolved nature of this sensitive issue.

It would also be naive to think that this marks the end of moves to change the law on abortion in Northern Ireland. It is clear from recent yesterday's political move, that many people including politicians in GB have blindly bought into pro-abortion rhetoric. It's time to rehumanise the conversation.

Ironically this funding will be channelled through the Department for Women and Equalities in England and Wales. When 'equality' and 'progress' for women is measured and presumed to be achieved through the increased ability to end the life of their children, something is wrong.

This is a small and sad vision, one which we call out and challenge. We see things differently and aim to reframe the debate.

In the face of any change, for better or worse, Both Lives Matter will continue to advocate for both lives. Progress happens when we stop linking women's rights to the destruction of unborn human life. Compassion, freedom and equality are not found in increased abortion but

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in laws and better services which support women, their families and unborn children.

Both Lives Matter are telling a better story. It's a story that is difficult at times and which challenges the idol of autonomy of our culture, but one that is creative, redemptive and ultimately more human.

## **Major breakthrough with C of I parish records now online**

As efforts continue to make the records of the Church of Ireland more discoverable, the RCB Library has completed the latest phase of its work on the hand-lists of parish records in its custody. Thanks to painstaking revision work undertaken by the Library staff and with the support of the RCB IT Department, all hand-lists for the 1,110 parish record collections held in the Library (each with its own unique identity number and corresponding details) are now available online.

Whilst hardcopy finding aids or hand-lists itemising the contents of specific collections have been available at the Library for some time (where they are consulted by researchers

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visiting in person on a daily basis), for those outside Dublin or overseas it was not so easy to gain a detailed insight into each collection's rich and varied content.

This time last year, the collaborative project between the RCB Library and the Irish Genealogical Research Society (IGRS) produced the colour-coded List of Church of Ireland Parish Registers, accounting for which parish registers survive, and where they are held – whether by the Library, the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland (PRONI) or in local custody with the additional benefit of live links to online copies and transcripts. The re-launch of this resource was covered here: [www.ireland.anglican.org/news/6537/online-launch-of-the-list](http://www.ireland.anglican.org/news/6537/online-launch-of-the-list), and has been widely acclaimed by the research community. Now the parish hand-list for collections in the Library's custody provides added value to the resource, enabling researchers to both view and download the Library collection master lists as PDFs.

Reflecting the perspective of the worldwide research community on this latest phase of the Library's work, the Chairman of the IGRS,



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Steven Smyrl, commented: “It was a pleasure for the IGRS to celebrate its 80th anniversary last year by collaborating with the RCB Library to produce the colour-coded parish register list. Now with the addition of hyperlinks to the detailed hand-lists for each parish collection, Church of Ireland parish records have never been more accessible. Well done to all RCB staff involved.”

Speaking from the RCB Library, Dr Susan Hood, Librarian and Archivist, said that “between them the Library staff – Jennifer Murphy, Robert Gallagher and Bryan Whelan – had completed a mammoth task of cross-checking all 1,110 lists, adding information about printed sources and converting them from an in-house database format to accessible PDFs.” She commended their efforts and strong team effort and also thanked Charlotte Howard, who had systematically created the links and uploaded each one, for her invaluable IT support from Church House.

The Library also continues to encourage local clergy to transfer non-current records from their local provenance to the Library’s

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permanent and secure centralised custody. To complement the re-launch of the List of Church of Ireland Parish Registers, this month's online presentation includes links to the hand-lists of recently deposited registers and other parish materials, highlighting some of the more unusual items that have recently come into Library custody and the aspects of local and family history that they bring to light.

The new exhibit and link to the list is available here: [www.ireland.anglican.org/library/archive](http://www.ireland.anglican.org/library/archive)

For further information on the Library please contact:

Dr Susan Hood, Librarian & Archivist. E-mail: [susan.hood@rcbdub.org](mailto:susan.hood@rcbdub.org)

## **Enniskillen concert to remember war poet Frank Ledwidge**

The Inniskillings Museum is organising a free concert in St Macartin's Cathedral and St Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Enniskillen, on Thursday, 20th July 2017 at 7.30pm to celebrate the life and work of Great War poet, Corporal Frank Ledwidge.

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Corporal Ledwidge was serving with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers at Passchendaele in July 1917 when he was killed by a stray shell.

At the concert, readers including Enniskillen-born actor Adrian Dunbar will read his poetry and music inspired by his work will be performed by Matthew Murphy and Lauren Coulter.

## **Service recalls Hollywood parishioner's VC**

At noon on Monday 26 June 2017, Hollywood parish, Co Down, welcomed members of the Dunville family who had travelled from Canada and England to attend a centenary service commemorating the valour of their relative, Second Lieutenant John Spencer Dunville VC.

It was on 26 June 1917 that Second Lieutenant John Dunville of the 1st (Royal) Dragoons died from his wounds after leading a party of soldiers to cut the barbed wire near the German lines near Epehy, France. Although wounded, he remained between the enemy's fire and the engineers cutting the wire so that the mission was successfully completed. He was posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross which

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his father received from King George V at Buckingham Palace in August 1917.

The rector, Canon Gareth Harron, welcomed Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant, those associated with Second Lieutenant Dunville's regiment and the many representatives from the civic and political

world, community groups, residents and friends of Holywood.

Paul Young of the Blues and Royals Association gave a moving tribute to John S Dunville VC and Christopher Dunville and the Mayor of Ards and North Down Borough Council, Councillor Robert

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Adair read the lessons. The Mayor and Paul Young also unveiled a memorial stone.

Beginning his address, the Revd Alex Bennett, CF, Deputy Assistant Chaplain General of 38 (Irish) Brigade, said: “We are here today to commemorate the life and sacrifice of one particular person, but in doing so, we remember

the sacrifice of the many: of a whole generation who lost their lives on the battlefields of the First World War, and the many who were wounded in body, mind or spirit.

“As an Englishman in Northern Ireland I have come to respect with great humility the story of

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the First World War for the whole of our country, but in particular for the people of Northern Ireland – and for the sacrifice of its sons in the First World War.”



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Revd Bennett continued: “Over time the grief subsides, and today with the lens of one hundred years we are well to remember the

words of the Lord Jesus: ‘Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.’

“For in the heat of battle, a brave man fights not for the flag or the sovereign, but for the brother on his left and his right.

“Today we remember that death is but a little thing compared to the man who was Second Lieutenant John Spencer Dunville VC, a soldier of the First World War, a hero, a son and a brave man.”

As part of the act of commemoration wreaths were laid on behalf of the Parish, Ards and North Down Borough Council, the Royal British Legion and the Blues and Royals Association.

Following the service, the Council hosted a buffet lunch in the parish centre where guests were able to speak to members of the Dunville family and exchange memories of Redburn. Also on view were interpretative panels on John Dunville VC and his family as well as replicas of his VC and other memorabilia.

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the STARFIRE SINGERS from LOS ALTOS, CALIFORNIA invite you to

# BORDERLESS

AN ORIGINAL MUSICAL

Monday  
**31 July at 7:30 pm**

ST PATRICK'S CHURCH OF IRELAND CATHEDRAL  
Armagh

Admission is FREE  
A free-will offering will be taken for Southern  
Area Hospice Services.

For pictures of our travels, updates from the road, and live-streamed performances, follow us at:

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**Borderless - an original musical -Monday  
July 31 at St Patrick's C of I Cathedral,  
Armagh. Admission free.**  
[www.starfiresingers.com](http://www.starfiresingers.com)

## **GB Methodists call for Brexit compassion**

The Methodist Church has called upon its members to contact their MPs and MEPs to ask the UK and EU Government to finalise, as a matter of urgency, the future rights of EU citizens and UK citizens living elsewhere in the EU.



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The Methodist Conference, meeting in Birmingham this week, has expressed its concern for the many EU citizens who are anxious about what the Brexit negotiations will mean for them and their loved ones.

The Conference was also concerned about the way in which the EU referendum and its aftermath have exposed significant divisions within the UK, and between the UK and the rest of Europe.

The Conference did not express a view on the outcome of the current negotiations, but expressed its desire for the closest possible links that are practical and feasible between the UK and its European neighbours.

The Conference prayed that as the debates about the future of the UK and EU continue, they will take place in a spirit of mutual respect with the aim of seeking the best possible outcome for all.

The call was made to the Conference by Dr Stephen Leah who said: "We are not calling for a halt to debating these complex issues but we are calling for the debate to take place in a spirit of respect. There are currently many people who do not know what the next few years will bring

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and fear the serious upheaval this could impose on their lives."

- Read a reflection about the EU Referendum from the Joint Public Issues Team here: [http://  
www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/after-the-referendum-a-recommitment-to-the-common-good/](http://www.jointpublicissues.org.uk/after-the-referendum-a-recommitment-to-the-common-good/)

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