

Church News Ireland



**Image of the day – St John's Point
a highlight of Down's Heritage Days**

Image of the day

St John's Point - a highlight of Down's Heritage Days

Some highlights for European Heritage Open Days (EHOD) 2023

Castlewellan Arboretum

Visitors can explore the historic garden that dates from the 1750's, developed by the Annesley family. The walled garden has evolved over time from a kitchen garden and orchard to an arboretum. No booking required and free of charge.

Castlewellan Forest Park, Castle Avenue, Castlewellan
BT31 9BU

Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 September 14:00-16:00

St John's Point Lightkeepers' Houses

Self-guided tour of the lightkeepers houses, observing the conservation work that has been carried out on the buildings. Visitors can also enjoy the stunning views from St. Johns point out to sea. Tickets free of charge, booking essential.

St John's Point Lightkeepers' Houses
Sunday 10 September 10:00-16:00

Downpatrick and County Down Railway Society Ltd



Portico - the restored Greek Revival temple, built as Portaferry Presbyterian Church in 1841. See next page

Visitors will gain access to the carriage and locomotive museum with behind the scenes tours of their restoration workshops and other areas of the railway. Visitors can also enjoy brake van rides and steam train rides subject to availability.

No Booking required and free of charge.

Railway Station, Market Street, Downpatrick BT30 6LZ

Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 September 13:00-16:00

Newry and Mourne Museum

Visitors will receive a guided tour of the building as well as enjoy a tasting menu of 16 century style foods. Tickets free of charge, booking essential.

Bagenal's Castle, 36 Castle Street, Newry BT34 2BY

Saturday 9 September 10:00-16:30

August 30 2023

Portico

Visitors can explore the restored Greek Revival temple, built as Portaferry Presbyterian Church in 1841. It is now an arts and heritage centre with displays on the history of Upper Ards. No booking required and free of charge.

Meeting House Street, Steel Dickson Avenue, Portaferry
BT22 1LE

Sunday 10 September 12:00-16:00

EHOD 2023 will be opening its doors across Northern Ireland on 9 & 10 September.

For booking information and to find a full list of events visit:

EHOD Digital Brochure: <https://bit.ly/4794JX3>

EHOD Web App: <https://bit.ly/EHOD2023>

Discover N.I: <https://bit.ly/3DGW28Q>

People and places

Tea towel collection at Brownlow

The exhibition 'McCaw Allan - a tea towel collection' opened on Friday 25th August at The Courtyard, Brownlow House.

The exhibition showcases a range of tea towel designs of McCaw Allan (now part of the Samuel Lamont & Sons Ltd.); the last surviving name of over 30 linen businesses that formerly operated in the town.

The designs, eye-popping colours and finishing of the tea towels are an enduring tribute to the creativity and skill of McCaw Allan workforce, while also offering an insight into

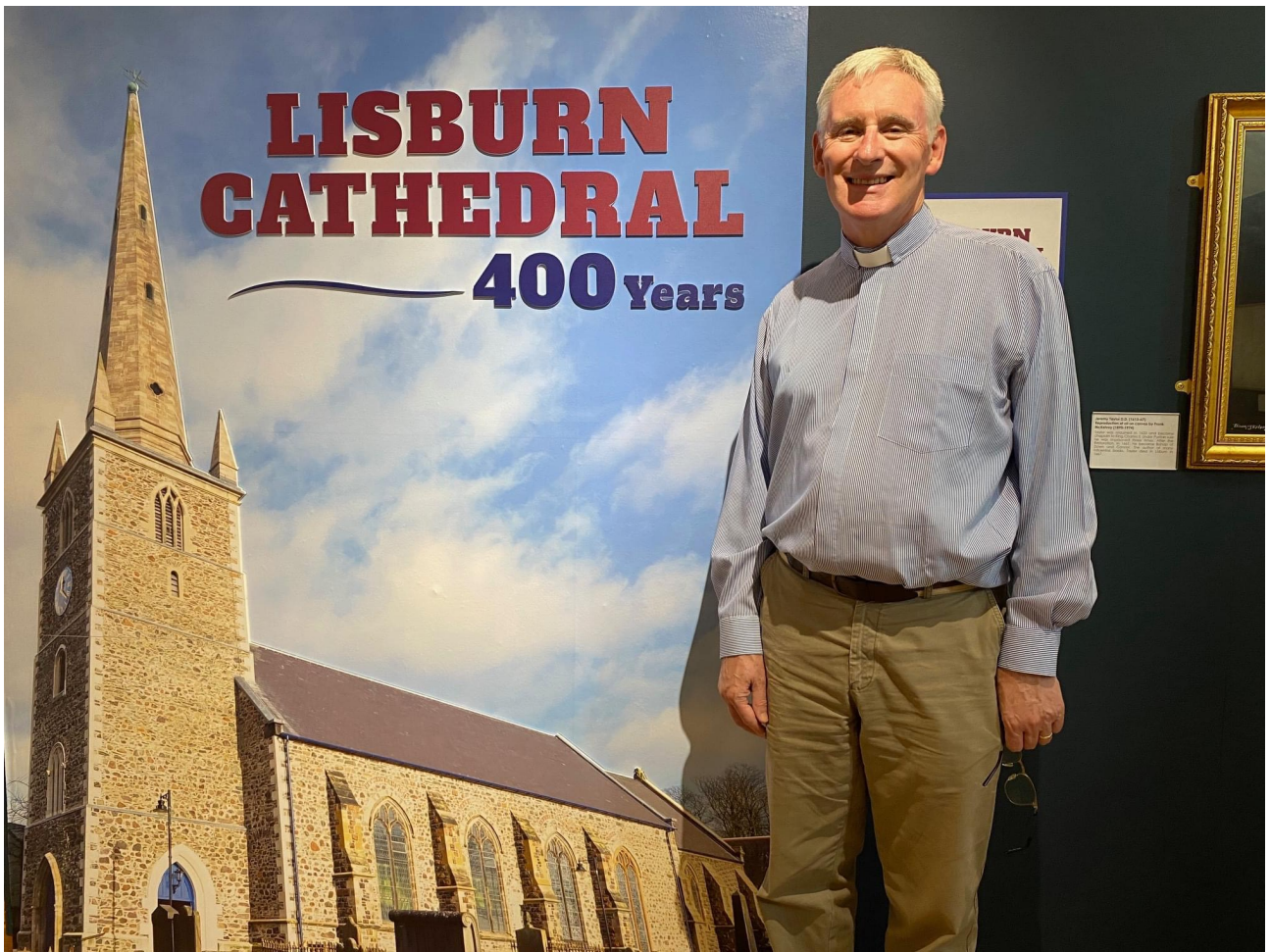


changing social norms, tastes and manufacturing processes over the past 50+ years.

An accompanying publication telling the history of McCaw Allan has been researched and written by Fiona McKelvie McBurney and Black who will also be giving a talk at the exhibition on Tuesday 29th August at 7.30pm.

The exhibition runs until Saturday 2nd September and opens from 11am to 5pm.

This event is being held as part of the 2023 Linen Biennale NI which is also exhibiting two works in Belfast Cathedral. 400 years of Lisburn Cathedral Exhibition



400 years of Lisburn Cathedral Exhibition



An exhibition of "400 years of Lisburn Cathedral" is open at The Irish Linen Centre & Lisburn Museum. Just walk in and enjoy browsing the exhibits that tell the history of the Cathedral.



Hear the bells of Newcastle

On Tuesday afternoon 5th September St John's Parish Church, Newcastle, has a team of 17 bell ringers from England coming to St. John's to ring the church bells from 2-3pm. Tea and coffee served. Everyone welcome.

Going Deeper day at Helen's Bay

There is still time to register for the "Going Deeper Day" taking place next Saturday 2nd September at St. John's, Helen's Bay.

“We are expectant as Anne Donaldson will help us speak prophetically into being aligned in the Lord for such a time”.



Going Deeper

Saturday 2nd September
9.30am - 2.30pm
St. John's
10 Fort Road, Helen's Bay

With Anne Donaldson -
Created to Soar Ministries

***** To register interest, send an email to**
office@divinehealingministries.org


The poster features a blue ocean background with a circular portrait of Anne Donaldson, a woman with short grey hair wearing glasses and a yellow floral top. In the top right corner is the DHM logo, which consists of a gold cross with a flame above it, and the text 'DHM Divine Healing MINISTRIES' below it.

Tea/ coffee provided and just bring a packed lunch as we worship and lean into the Lord in the beautiful surroundings of Helen's Bay. To register, simply send an email to: office@divinehealingministries.org

Certificate in Christian Studies in Cork – an introduction to the Christian Faith

Once again, the Diocese of Cork, Cloyne and Ross will be offering the Certificate in Christian Studies - an introduction to the Christian Faith. This is a two-year part-time course for those who wish to explore the Christian faith in greater




St Patrick's Pontifical
University, Maynooth
in association with
The United Dioceses of
Cork, Cloyne and Ross

Certificate in Christian Studies

An Introduction to Christian
Faith for Adult Learners



For more information please email:
furthereducation@corkchurchofireland.com

The Diocesan Office, St. Nicholas House, 14 Cove Street, Cork, T12 RP40, Ireland.

depth and to understand its relevance in our lives and within in the communities of which we are a part. The course covers scripture, theology, church history, ethics, liturgy and ministry.

It is open to anyone who wishes to grow in their understanding of the Christian faith, as well as fulfilling the

requirements for those who wish to offer ministry as a Lay Reader in the Diocese. The modules are led by clergy in the Diocese and the classes are interactive, with plenty of scope to learn through interaction and dialogue. Each module consists of six interactive lectures, with an assignment at the end, to help reflect on the learning that has taken place. The course will consist of both online and in-person learning at Northridge House Education Centre in Cork. The classes will take place in the evening with the starting date for the first module on 28th September 2023.

August 30 2023

The Certificate in Christian Studies is a Level 7 Certificate Course and is accredited by St Patrick's Pontifical University, Maynooth.

For more information please email the Diocesan Further Education and Training Officer, the Rev. Terry Mitchell.

Ordination in St Peter's Cathedral, Belfast



This week Fr Dawid Aksenczuk was ordained priest for the Diocese of Down and Connor by Bishop Donal McKeown in Saint Peter's Cathedral Parish Belfast. Fr

Dawid is a graduate of QUB Music. We wish him many blessed years in the service of God and his people.

Teddy Bear Bible Exhibition

A number of well-known Bible stories illustrated using teddy bears, to encourage everyone, especially young people and families, to learn more about the Bible and the powerful and liberating messages that it contains.

First Rathfriland Presbyterian Church Hall

Thursday 31st August - Saturday 2nd September

7pm to 9pm

Sunday 3rd September

3pm to 5pm



ST DOROTHEA'S GILNAHIRK

Come & join
us!

SUMMER FETE

Saturday 2nd September

Gates open @ 2pm
Admission £2
(Children 50p)



News reports

Mothers' Union establishes GBV Champions across the Province of Southern Africa



Diocese of Lesotho Mothers' Union GBV Champions, Mamajelo (right) and Maeva (left)

Mothers' Union in the Province of Southern Africa has established 10 Provincial GBV Champions as a result of the "remarkable performance of five dioceses across the province," stated Diocese of Lesotho Mothers' Union President Maseitshiro Khooe.

The province selected five GBV pilot dioceses - George, Highveld, Lesotho, Mbashe and Mpumalanga, from which two GBV Coordinators were drawn. This was part of an 18-month GBV project supported by Mary Sumner House (Mothers' Union headquarters) from February 2022 to June 2023.

Maseitshiro continued: "Although there was no competition amongst the selected dioceses, their respective performance was somewhat compared to others'. As such, the two coordinators' performance had been satisfactory from commencement to completion, with additional successes in their home parishes and the entire Diocese as well. For instance, GBV support groups were established, Mothers' Union Diocesan GBV Prevention and Response Programme was launched and through their support, a Diocesan GBV Desk was re-established."

She hopes that the project will cascade throughout the entire province, funds permitting. "Like other dioceses in the province, the Diocese of Lesotho faces the same financial challenge to continue with the project," she said. "Despite the prevailing financial challenge, the two coordinators, Mamojelo and Maeva have pledged to continue with activities beyond the GBV project. The Council of Mothers' Union found it befitting to appreciate their significant endurance and awareness they created, even beyond Mothers' Union," she continued.

Mamojelo and Maeva (pictured) have conducted GBV awareness training across the Diocese of Lesotho over the last year. They have listened to harrowing stories and supported survivors to get the help they need. This includes

reporting to the police. As a former police officer, Mamojelo knows the law and not only works closely with the police but encourages women to report.

The Diocese of Lesotho recently held the Mothers' Union Council meeting where the first female Bishop, Vincentia Kgabe, joined fellow keynote speaker, Mandy Marshall, Director of Gender Justice at the Anglican Communion and GBV Coordinators in encouraging Mothers' Union leaders to be courageous and firm in preventing and responding to gender-based violence.

In the media

The proud terrorist Father Patrick Ryan is the latest reminder of how awful the Provisional IRA was

Mary Ann Carroll was trained to loathe the Brits, Ruth Dudley Edwards writes in The News Letter.

In 1920, in what became known as the Irish war of independence, as a 12-year-old in County Tipperary she was sent out at night to watch out for the Black and Tans and run home to give the alarm. Later, as Mrs Ryan, she was determined to pass on to her six children her stories and her hatred. Her second son, Patrick, was particularly susceptible.

“The family lore was what my mother did as a youngster,” he told his biographer, Jennifer O’Leary, “and I was captivated

by her stories; it was like I was back there with her, watching and listening out for the enemy.”

The Pride of Northern Ireland Since 1737

News Letter

newsletter.co.uk Visit us online for breaking news

Tuesday, August 29, 2023 £1.60

LAST SATURDAY
Inside: Special 16-page souvenir pullout

Dunlop chalks up another Manx record
SEE SPORT

Fair is still a big draw
The Old Lanes Fair may be more than 200 years young but it still is a big attraction in the north east.
Thousands descended on Ballycastle yesterday to throng streets lined with hundreds of stalls.
Mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens, councillor Steve Callaghan, said: "This event holds a special place in the hearts of many."
The fair finishes today.
* See page 3



Townsmen talk ahead from the hustle and bustle of the Old Lanes fair yesterday. Pic: Facebook

Father Ryan shows how awful IRA is
RUTH DUDLEY EDWARDS: PAGE 15



Protocol protestors summonsed to court

Order to bandsmen over parade two years ago

By Philip Bradford
philb@newsletter.co.uk

Market Hill bandsmen have been sent court summonses in the wake of PSNI investigations into anti-NI Protocol parades in the town more than two years ago.
Several members received letters over the weekend directing them to attend court in relation to a parade in the town on April 21 2021.
According to one source close to the developments, some members have been charged with being in breach of the Protocol Act and also of being in breach of Covid restrictions.
"We are rather perplexed about the timing of these letters as we had not heard anything about these matters for so long. Why now?" a source close to the bandsmen told the News Letter.
It is understood that quite a number of both notified and unnotified parades took place in the town in April 2021 in protest against the Northern Ireland Protocol.
In April and September 2022 the News Letter reported anger in the town after the PSNI sent up to nine officers at a time to hand-deliver letters to 14 bandsmen around the town.
The letters stated that anti-protocol parades had breached policing and Covid laws and asked recipients to volunteer for an interview "to offer an account as to your actions on that date".
* Three to page 5

Drugs bail after death

An anti-protocol bandhal yesterday after he was accused of selling prescription-only drugs to a man who was later found dead.
Mark David Hayes, 31, from Maple Drive in Coleraine, was charged with possessing gabapentin with intent to supply and with supplying the class C drug on August 25.
A PSNI officer told Ballymena Magistrates' Court there was a "sudden death" at the Lighthouse Hotel in Ballymena Friday where a man was found early passed away in his room, a box of gabapentin lying beside him.
The post-mortem results came back as "inconclusive" and police are awaiting a full toxicology report, said the officer.
A witness claimed they knew Hayes had the stolen drugs with him the day before his death.
* See page 2

DOMESTIC SYSTEMS NOW 0% VAT! **SOLARFIX** **COMMERCIAL GRANTS NOW AVAILABLE!**

0800 246 5198 CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION www.solarfix.co.uk

She was as single-minded as would be Patrick, aka Father Paddy, and, later, in republican circles, "the Padre" — and much later again given nick-names by British tabloids that included "Terror Priest" and "Devil's Disciple". "All she wanted," he recalled, "was for us to listen, and we did. All you had to do was mention the subject and she was off, it was in her bones."

From an early age Patrick displayed other characteristics that would be extremely useful in facilitating mass murder: as an eight-year-old poacher of fish, pheasants and rabbits,

he showed himself more ruthless than his siblings, who called him Paddy the Skinner.

Later, in East Africa, he would show an aptitude and enjoyment for big game hunting. But he feels remorse for killing three elephants: “It was elephant country before any man or woman”.

For Ryan, colonialism was always the bugbear: when it comes to the victims of his work for the IRA, he expresses no remorse. “The only regret I have was that I wasn’t more effective; that the bombs made with the components I supplied, didn’t kill more. That is my one regret.”

As a missionary he showed little interest in the priestly party of his job, stopped following orders as early as 1973 and was finally chucked out by the Pallotine Fathers in 1990. I believe that Father Ryan’s publicly proclaimed admissions suggest that he a a psychopath. Like many psychopaths he wanted total control, which is one of the reasons why he took against colleagues like Joe Cahill (“reckless”), Brian Keenan (“he should not have been let loose on society”) and Martin McGuinness (“not to be trusted”). He seemed much happier with Gaddafi, a post-colonial Arab nationalist, who would give him vast sums to cause mayhem in Europe. Ryan proved to be highly competent engineer, who in Africa enjoyed drilling for water, building medical clinics and schools and flying a two-seater aeroplane on mercy missions.

He would later admit that he vastly strengthened the IRA’s capacity for murder by re-engineering small mechanical timers for use in home-made bombs: they became reliable

detonators that worked on long-delay timers and facilitated such atrocities as those in Warrenpoint, Hyde Park, Brighton and Canary Wharf.

Ryan admits that he did many more bad things, including doing arms deals with Libya, but he has largely escaped the consequences. Despite Margaret Thatcher's best efforts ("Ryan is a really bad egg", she told Taoiseach Charles Haughey in 1988), Belgium and Ireland ran scared of extraditing him.

As befits a proud terrorist, he's not much of a people person: he shows his arrogance and contempt in the wisdom he shares these days. "The trick is to be patient because, you see, every person wants something badly, and if you can wait and slowly find out what that something is and then provide it, you're a winner, in any walk of life." Jennifer O'Leary, a distinguished, brave and relentless prize-winning investigative journalist for BBC Northern Ireland's Spotlight, demonstrates the truth of this. Several years ago she was advised by a source: "If you want a story about the IRA that's never been told by the main player himself, there's a Ryan you need to speak to, but I doubt he'll talk." It took her two years to persuade this appalling nonogenarian to cooperate in telling his terrible story of proudly ruining people's lives.

It's most illuminating, though. We need to be reminded how awful the Provos were and how dangerous are all those who teach children to hate.

August 30 2023

- The Padre: The True Story of the Irish Priest who armed the IRA with Gaddafi's Money, is published by Merrion Press

Courtesy The News Letter 29/08/2023

New inquest ordered into 1991 killing of Co Tyrone man Ian Sproule

Belfast Telegraph - A fresh inquest has been ordered into the killing of a man in Co Tyrone in 1991.

Ian Sproule, 23, was shot dead at his home on the outskirts of Castlederg, with the Provisional IRA suspected as being involved.

Attorney General Dame Brenda King has now ordered a new inquest into his death.

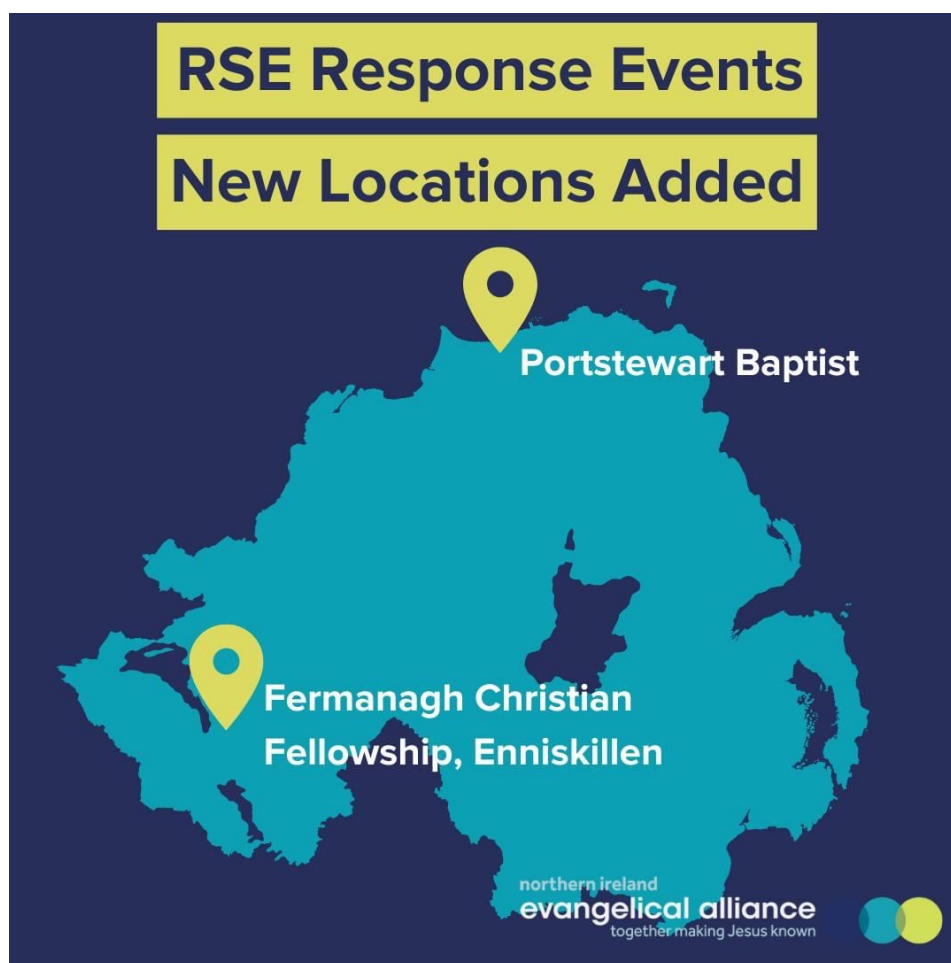
It is aimed to establish a meaningful account of the circumstances of the death and address rumour and suspicion surrounding the murder.

The South East Fermanagh Foundation (SEFF) – who support Mr Sproule's family – have welcomed the decision.

They have described Mr Sproule as an innocent Protestant civilian who was targeted by the Provisional IRA close to the border of the Republic of Ireland.

<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/republic-of-ireland/new-inquest-ordered-into-1991-killing-of-co-tyrone-man-ian-sroule/a178089295.htm>

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books



Evangelical Alliance NI has received lots of messages from parents, teachers and church leaders about the changes to RSE in Northern Ireland and about EANI's upcoming RSE Response Events. EANI has announced two additional events in Portstewart and Enniskillen. Details below:

ENNISKILLEN

Fermanagh Christian Fellowship
Tuesday 17th October at 8PM

Registration will open soon, keep an eye out on our social media!

PORTSTEWART

Portstewart Baptist Church

Sunday 22nd October at 6.30PM

No registration required.

For more information about changes to RSE in Northern Ireland and to register for our RSE Response Events in Belfast and Dungannon, check out the link below:

<https://www.eauk.org/about-us/nations/northern-ireland/whats-happening-with-rse-ni>

Level up your toddler group...



A fun and effective way to build fruitful relationships with parents and carers in your community

August 30 2023

[Parenting For Faith](#)

If you're looking to see lives changed for Jesus through the ministry of your church toddler group, go check out this book.

<https://www.parentingforfaith.brf.org.uk/>

<https://twitter.com/godconnected>

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

Church News Ireland

The publication of Church News Ireland is overseen by Very Rev Dr Houston McKelvey OBE, QVRM, TD. He may be contacted at houstonmckelvey@mac.com