

Church News Ireland



“Each of Daphne’s shawls is a labour of love, created for a person in need—someone who is ill, grieving, or going through a difficult time.”

**DAPHNE,
MOTHERS’ UNION
MEMBER OF 50 YEARS!**

Mothers’UNION

Image of the day – 100 shawls of prayer

Image of the day

100 shawls of prayer

Mothers' Union member crafts her 100th prayer shawl

At 90 years old, Daphne Mabbett has reached an incredible milestone—crafting her 100th prayer shawl.

Each shawl she knits is a gift filled with prayers for those going through tough times.

Daphne's journey with the Mothers' Union began over 50 years ago, and she's still as dedicated as ever.

Despite caring for her husband, who has dementia, Daphne continues to pour love and faith into every stitch, showing us all the power of small, meaningful acts of kindness.

“Daphne's story demonstrates that wherever we are in the world, as Mothers' Union, we can make a difference”.

News

1 John O'Groats



In September 2024, Christ Church (Strabane) Treasurer **Philip Smith** is undertaking a mammoth **vintage motorcycle challenge** covering the **length of Britain** as he travels from **John O'Groats** to **Land's End**.

ONE MAN AND HIS BIKE

Approx.
1,600 miles
in total

Philip will spend over 10 days in the saddle of his trusted **1951 500cc Vincent Comet** to help raise funds towards a new floor and heating system for Christ Church, Strabane.

If you'd like to **support Philip**, donations can be made using the PayPal link or in person to Philip or any member of the Vestry.



2 Land's End

YOUR SUPPORT IS MUCH APPRECIATED



Strabane vintage biker on John O'Groats to Land's End fund raiser for church improvements

This September Philip Smith is getting on his bike to raise funds towards the new floor and heating system the Christ Church building in Strabane now needs.

From Strabane to John O'Groats to Land's End and back to Strabane, Philip will be spending several days in the saddle of his vintage bike. Philip is covering all associated costs

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with the challenge himself with any donations received going towards Parish Funds.

If you're in a position to support Philip and would like to do so, please use the PayPal link below or see Philip or any Vestry member.


<https://www.paypal.com/pools/c/97f8j5gHy0>

Encouraging Heritage Week response to Inver and Mount Charles

On Saturday 17th August Christchurch, Mountcharles opened its doors to welcome everyone to view a display of items from yesteryear as part of Heritage Week.


The parish reports - Our 160 year old church had farm tools and machinery, crockery, light fittings, cookery items etc on display as well as old and

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Presbytery of Derry & Donegal

ST. JOHNSTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1724 - 2024



300th ANNIVERSARY SERVICE

Sunday 8th September 2024
at 7:30pm

Moderator of the General Assembly: Rt. Rev. Dr. Richard Murray

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rare Bibles, old photos and extracts from the first rector Rev. Ben Darcus' notebook.

Two tours of the Hall House and estate grounds with over 85 people on each tour were also organised. The tours included a short talk by Mrs. Helen Meehan on the history of the Cunningham Family and the Hall House. In the afternoon our new Heritage Seat was unveiled by former estate worker Mr. James Madigan and Mrs. Margaret Robinson who was born on the estate. This beautiful seat has been expertly carved by Mr. Paul Kenny from a fallen tree on the estate grounds.

Refreshments were served throughout the day to those who visited from far and wide and our sincere thanks to everyone who supported our event with a special word of thanks to the Kennedy Family of Hall House for allowing us access to the house and grounds.

We are family - Anglican Communion World Director of Unity tells World Methodist Conference

Dr Christopher Wells, the Director of Unity Faith and Order at the Anglican Communion Office, attended the 22nd World Methodist Conference in Gothenburg, Sweden, from 14-16 Aug 2024.

The focus of the conference was "On The Move" and themes included migration and pilgrimage and "guiding lights".



Dr Wells (left) greeted the conference on behalf of Bishop Anthony Poggo, the Anglican Communion's Secretary General, saying:

"I bring you warm greetings from the Anglican Communion, which is a family of 42 distinct, autonomous and interdependent churches around the world, some of which are themselves multi-national; and of course, wherever Anglicans are, Methodists friends and colleagues,



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Methodist siblings, thrive as well. We know one another and are close partners. We are family; it has felt like a homecoming to be with you all. Thank you for having us here."

Dr Wells also took part in a panel discussion about Ecumenical Pilgrimage, Justice and Reconciliation.

Garda action in Carlow highlights CPR and defibrillator

In the early hours last week, Gardaí were on patrol in Carlow town when they were flagged down about a young woman who was out socialising with friends and had suddenly become unconscious - she urgently needed help.

It was clear right away to Garda Tommy O'Loughlin and Student Garda Matthew Forrest that the woman was unresponsive and not breathing.

While Student Garda Forrest immediately began CPR on the woman, Garda O'Loughlin went to grab a nearby defibrillator.

Taking it in turns, Garda O'Loughlin and Student Garda Forrest continued CPR for eight minutes, and liaised with emergency services over the phone.

Just as the ambulance arrived, the woman began to breathe again but with great difficulty. Luckily, ambulance personnel

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stabilised her condition and brought her to hospital for treatment.

It was a big relief for all of us working in the station in Carlow, to hear from the young woman and her mother that she has been released from hospital and is resting up following a serious medical episode.

In training, we're taught to stay calm and composed in emergency but for two members very much settling into their roles in policing, they've shown enormous skill and ability to think quick and as an efficient team.

Cathedral Calls





Waterford Cathedral Choir visit Bunclody

Bunclody Choir Director, Dr Jeffrey Cox certainly used his initiative to have members of St Mary's choir (Page above) join forces with Waterford's Christ Church Cathedral Choir for a



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Choral Eucharist on 18th Augus.

The was followed by a social mixer. Special thanks were conveyed to Dean Bruce Hayes, Simon Harden, and the cathedral choir and community for extending such a warm welcome.'



Architecture Tour of St Patrick's Dublin

There was a great turn out on Saturday for the Architecture Tour of the Cathedral led by tour guide Daire as part of a jam packed Heritage Week programme.

If you haven't booked one of these free events it's not too late, to see what's on visit

<https://www.stpatrickscathedral.ie/events/>

Clergy and ministry

**St George's
to
remember
former
chorister,
Ian Keatley**

**A Requiem
mass for Ian
will be held on
Friday 23rd
August at
12pm.**



“The parishioners and choirs of St George’s were deeply saddened to hear of the sudden death of former chorister, Ian Keatley. Ian became a chorister under the direction of Jonathan Gregory and, under Nigel McClintock, developed a passion for the organ.

“His musical career was auspicious, and we unite in our grief with the parishioners and choristers of Southwark Cathedral, with Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin and with all the former members of the Charles Wood Festival Girls’ Choir.

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“We extend our deepest sympathies to the Keatley family; to his mother, Vivien, his father, James, and his brothers Simon and Niall. RIP

Information on funeral arrangements will follow in the coming days.”

Webinars, music, resources, broadcasts, and books

**Annual Organ
Scholarship
Awards
Service of
Choral
Evensong**



**The Down &
Dromore and
Connor Organ
Scholarship**

**Scheme will hold its annual awards service on Sunday
15 September 2024 at St Anne's Cathedral.**

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The guest preacher will be The Very Revd Roderick Smyth, formerly Dean of Killaloe.

The service, organised by The Board of Management of the Organ Scholarship Scheme will begin at 3.30pm with music from 3.00 pm by final year scholars.

Refreshments will follow. You are warmly invited to attend.

Parenting Focus -

Moving on from primary school is a big change in your child's life

Secondary school often means a change in routine, new people and navigating different classes & timetables.

Although many young people will take this change in their stride as a part of growing up, like any significant life change, it is normal to feel anxious or overwhelmed. Here are some tips on supporting your child during the transition. Don't forget we are here to offer advice and support: call free on 0808 8010 722.

Education Authority
Controlled Schools' Support Council
CCMS
Department of Education NI
CYPSP
Family Support NI

Supporting your child's transition to secondary school



Talk About the changes to expect

Discuss the changes in routine including timetables, new classes and subjects. Prepare your child for these adjustments, emphasising that it's a normal part of growing up and learning.



Help them develop their organisational Skills

Help your child develop organisational skills, such as managing a timetable, keeping track of homework, and packing their own school bag. Try giving them more responsibilities around home in the run up to starting school.



Be patient and understanding

Understand that the transition to secondary school might be challenging for your child, and they may experience a range of emotions. Be patient and offer understanding during this adjustment period.



Empower Independence



Gradually encourage your child to take on more responsibilities, such as organising their school materials and managing their timetable. Secondary school may also be the first time that they have to make their own way to school, help them prepare for this by exploring the journey to and from school by bus, train, bicycle or walking.



Be their emotional support

The greatest support you can provide to your child is to encourage them to explore their thoughts and express their feelings openly, both positive and negative. Engaging in conversations with your child enables them to discuss their emotions as they prepare for their new school.



0808 8010 722



parentingfocus.org



Treasure Ireland project highlights stained-glass at St. Malachy's College

One of the best aspects of the Treasure Ireland project is bringing people together to explore hidden gems—places of worship that are rich in art and architecture.

The organisers write - On Friday 16 August, we had the privilege of hosting a stained-glass session at St. Malachy's College where attendees were immersed in the legacy of Irish stained glass. A big thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to the success of this session. Your participation helps keep the tradition of stained glass alive and celebrated. Collaborating with the Archive Project

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and GreatPlace North Belfast was an invaluable part of this special afternoon in Belfast”

Dr David Caron began the event with an insightful introduction to the legacy of Irish stained glass. His expertise set the stage for a deep dive into this beautiful art form.

We were honoured to have Ruth Sheehy as our key speaker, who illuminated the artistry of Richard King (1907-1974), a renowned Irish artist and former pupil of Harry Clarke. Ruth's research, focusing on religious art and stained glass in Ireland during the twentieth century, particularly King's work, offered invaluable insights into his contributions both in Ireland and abroad.





A heartfelt thank you to St. Malachy's College for opening their doors and sharing their remarkable history with us. Founded in 1833, this Catholic Grammar School for boys houses a stunning collection of stained glass, including pieces created at the Harry Clarke Studios in Dublin by Richard King and a notable window by William Dowling. The college's rich historical connections made it the perfect venue for this event. St. Malachy's College will be participating in European Heritage Open Day, 14 September 2024. This is a unique opportunity to explore the rich history and stunning stained-glass artwork within the college,

Looking Ahead: European Heritage Open Day 2024, 14 September

If you love stained glass join the Treasure Ireland project from the National Churches Trust for a special session



where we'll explore the intricate connections between art, heritage, and history, with a focus on the stunning stained glass in the churches of the North Coast. Mark your calendars for this unique opportunity to delve into these artistic treasures!

Book here: : <https://forms.office.com/e/P2vg7AYHf9>

This FREE event is made possible with The National Lottery Heritage Fund, with thanks to National Lottery players. Treasure Ireland is also supported by the Department for Communities' Historic Environment Division.

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Historic church will be Ulster Orchestra's new permanent home

A landmark church, former school and memorial hall in Belfast will be restored and become the Ulster Orchestra's new permanent home.

The Ulster Orchestra has a nearly 60-year history as Northern Ireland's only professional symphony orchestra.

Townsend Street Church is Grade B1 listed. Built in 1833, it's known for its organ which is dedicated to congregation members who lost their lives in France during the First World War and is one of few official war memorials in Belfast. The former Presbyterian church sits at an interface gate in an area with a strong industrial heritage.

Removing barriers to music

Initial development funding will help Ulster Orchestra plan for the buildings' conservation and connect them with the local community through opportunities to experience orchestral music.

The project's ultimate goal is to bring the buildings' history to life and enable them to once again play a vibrant role within the local community. Extensive restoration will reinstate deteriorated architectural features and create:

- a rehearsal and event space
- a music learning and community engagement hub
- a dedicated recording studio

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additional rehearsal rooms
spaces to rent

Auveen Sands, Ulster Orchestra Chief Executive, said: “We want to create a flexible space that removes barriers to music for all, acknowledging both the heritage of Townsend Street but also that of the Ulster Orchestra as one of the UK’s premier orchestras for almost 60 years.

“Our key vision is to be a vital force in the cultural, social and educational life of Northern Ireland.”

Speaking to the soul

Short reading and a prayer - daily on this site

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