



GB Press Coverage

**30th and 31st December
2013**

31 December 2013

Mirror

Business heroes and villains of 2013: Who deserves credit and who owes a debt?

List of heroes includes Justin Welby - Archbishop of Canterbury - "Not technically a City figure, but Justin Welby has used his new job to strike the fear of god into business chiefs"

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/money/city-news/business-heroes-villains-2013-who-2974299>

Tel

Report that one of Britain's most respected theologians insists that Monty Python's Life of Brian, is in fact a "remarkable tribute to the life of Jesus". During an interview on BBC Radio 4's Today the Rev Prof Richard Burridge, Dean of King's College London, and a member of the Church of England's General Synod, said that those who called for the satire to be banned after its release in 1979 were "embarrassingly" ill-informed and missed a major opportunity to promote the Christian message.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/religion/10543149/Monty-Pythons-Life-of-Brian-extraordinary-tribute-to-Jesus-says-theologian-decorated-by-Pope-Francis.html>

BBC

Range of local reports on New Years Honours for people who have served their local community including the parish church.

Harriet Foges from Guildford is appointed MBE for her work

with children and families. She has also worked as a voluntary child protection officer for her church.

Mike Kewley from the Isle of Man was awarded the BEM for 40 years' service to local government and the community, including the Parish of Rushen's parochial church council.

Betty Baines, 67, from Diss, has been appointed MBE for her services to campanology. Currently master of the Ladies Guild of Change Ringers' eastern district, she has taught hundreds of people to ring church bells since the 1980s.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-surrey-25551172>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-isle-of-man-25549433>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-norfolk-25549357>

Sun/Guard

Reports that UKIP leader Nigel Farage appears to have backtracked insisting Britain should help just the Christians fleeing Syria after being criticised by his party for demanding the UK take in refugees from the civil war.

<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/2013/dec/30/nigel-farage-asylum-syrian-refugees-christians>

Mail

Report that police forces have announced they will take a softer approach to mothers who are caught stealing food to feed their hungry families. Article includes that Church Action on Poverty have claimed as many as 500,000 people used aid from food banks this year, describing the situation on their website as 'a national disgrace'.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2531059/Police-going-easy-mothers-steal-food-simply-live.html#ixzz2p2KUsnz1>

Ind

Report that the Pope apparently gave his blessing to the Bishop of Malta's anti-gay adoption Christmas sermon

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/pope-francis-shocked-by-gay-adoption-says-bishop-of-malta-9030505.html>

BBC

Report that for five years St Barnabas Church in Erdington in Birmingham stood derelict, a blackened, charred shell of a Victorian building, gutted by fire but following a £5m restoration and transformation in 2012 the church is now celebrating a year since it reopened its doors. Local people say its become more important to the community than ever before.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-birmingham-25454057#>

Letters

Welby, God and the language of belief
"Will Welby ever make the case for God" (Opinion Dec 27) misses the point. From various including Rt Rev Professor N. T. Wright (former Bishop of Durham)

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/opinion/letters/article3961317.ece>

Blogs

Archbishop Cranmer

Cranmer discusses recent media coverage of a temporary wall erected at St James's, Piccadilly, the 'Apartheid Wall', part of the Bethlehem unwrapped series

<http://archbishop-cranmer.blogspot.co.uk/2013/12/thank-god-for-lucy-winkett-and-st.html>

(Guardian - original article at: <http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/belief/2013/dec/27/church-protest-realities-modern-bethlehem>); and an open letter from Daily Mail columnist Melanie Philips (<https://www.embooks.com/blog/single/a-church-of-hate>)

30 December 2013

Times

Report that the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, has accepted an invitation from Antony Jenkins, the chief

executive of Barclays, to join him on the year's final edition of the Today programme, (Tuesday), which the bank boss is guest-editing, courtesy of the BBC.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/arts/tv-radio/article3960602.ece>

Mirror

Report that a rare silver medieval chalice has been sold for £1.3million by a church so it can carry out roof repairs. The Lacock Cup - dating from the 1400s - was bought by the British Museum and the Wiltshire Museum.

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/church-sells-rare-silver-chalice-2971323#ixzz2owKMnFQe>

Times

Follow up on reports in the Sunday papers that a priest discovered on Antiques Roadshow that his £400 painting was worth £400,000. The priest has told the Times he is now appealing to big corporations to help him to buy new church bells so that he does not have to sell the portrait and risk it going abroad.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/arts/visualarts/article3960835.ece>

Times

Report that Russian Orthodox believers are up in arms because a company producing toilet paper has brought out a festive batch of rolls embossed with the image of an onion-domed church.

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/news/world/europe/article3960288.ece>

Letters

Guard (scroll down)

Rev Christopher Griffiths adds his voice to the letters (Saturday- below) in response Andrew Brown's comment article (Dec 26)

<http://www.theguardian.com/theguardian/2013/dec/29/bikes-crosswords-union-bosses-sales>

Sunday

Sun Tel

Report that Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby will appear on New Year's Eve's BBC Radio 4 Today programme - which will be guest-edited by Barclays boss Antony Jenkins

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/businesslatestnews/10540915/Archbishop-agrees-to-Barclays-broadcast-call.html>

S Mirror

Report that former Archbishop of Canterbury Dr Rowan Williams has criticised Work and Pensions Secretary Iain Duncan Smith for being in denial over food banks

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/dr-rowan-williams-iain-duncan-2967850>

Sun Times

Report that the move by the government to register chancel liability rights has already resulted in 247 Anglican churches registering 12,276 homes or plots of land as carrying liability to pay, according to figures released to the paper under freedom of information law. Article focuses on two cases in St Albans, and Southwell and Nottingham dioceses

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/Society/article1357451.ece

Obsv

William Keegan comments on 'Heartless policies are merely adding to the plight of the needy. It is imperative that Labour does not follow the coalition's example'

<http://www.theguardian.com/business/2013/dec/29/big-society-cutting-welfare-coalition-big-lie>

BBC/Sun/Mirror/S Times/Mail on Sun

A painting bought for £400 by a priest and featured on the BBC's Antiques Roadshow has been revealed to be a Sir Anthony Van Dyck portrait worth about £400,000. Father Jamie MacLeod, who runs a retreat house in north

Derbyshire, said he was now planning to sell the piece by the 17th Century Flemish artist to buy new church bells.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-25535536>

<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/5347238/TV-girl-Fiona-Bruces-artful-eye-helps-priest-pocket-400000.html>

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/antiques-roadshow-painting-van-dyck-2968784>

http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/news/uk_news/Arts/article1357523.ece

[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2530469/Fiona-Bruces-400-000-hunch-Antiques-Roadshow-star-spots-400-painting-really-Van-Dyck-worth-thousand-times-much.html?](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2530469/Fiona-Bruces-400-000-hunch-Antiques-Roadshow-star-spots-400-painting-really-Van-Dyck-worth-thousand-times-much.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)

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Letters

Obsv

Range of letters on article last week by Dr Malcolm Brown (Church of England's director of mission and public affairs) who argued that moral awareness, coupled with an end to monopolies, is crucial for our future economic wellbeing.

<http://www.theguardian.com/theobserver/2013/dec/29/the-big-issue-morality-and-capitalism>

(Original article <http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2013/dec/21/morality-capitalism-missing-link-marketplace>)

Saturday

Guard

Report that East Anglian rood screens are decaying as churches struggle for funds. Article notes that work on the conservation plan has received £40,000 but that is a fraction of what is needed for the main project. Also includes quote from Janet Gough, director of cathedrals and church buildings for the Church of England.

<http://www.theguardian.com/culture/2013/dec/27/east-anglian-rood-screens-decay>

BBC

Report that a Hull church is ringing the changes with a set

of bells that can be played remotely using a wireless keyboard.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-humber-25401114>

Guard

Giles Fraser's Loose Canon column on St James's Piccadilly which is blocked off by a 26ft separation wall to draw attention to Israel's anti-Palestinian policies

<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/belief/2013/dec/27/church-protest-realities-modern-bethlehem>

Letters

Times

'The Church of England and the case for God' (from various including Canon Dr Gavin Ashenden) in response to Philip Collins comment article (Friday) 'Will Welby ever make the case for God?'

<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/opinion/letters/article3959286.ece>

Original article <http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/opinion/columnists/article3958762.ece>

Guard

"Top-heavy Church of England must cede authority to a local level" from various in response to Andrew Brown's comment piece (Thursday) that the Archbishop of Canterbury must acknowledge that disestablishment has already happened, and look to a future that deals with reality

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/dec/27/top-heavy-church-england-authority-local>

Original article <http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/andrewbrown/2013/dec/26/church-of-england-unglamorous-local-future>