



Irish news 13th February

A World of Song in Armagh

St Patrick's Church of Ireland Cathedral, Armagh will be the venue for a very special musical event on Saturday 1 March at 8.00 p.m. Under the title, 'A World of Song', Voices Together will present a programme of music from three continents, blending sacred and secular. The concert is sponsored by Armagh Cathedrals Partnership, which links the City's two cathedrals.



Voices Together is an inclusive community choir drawing together members of different ages and backgrounds in Northern Ireland. Its diverse membership finds expression in a love of music from different times and cultures: world folk songs, spirituals, classical music and compositions by group members. Existing in its current form since 2011, Voices Together has nearly 60 members. It is directed by Dave Stewart who has a passion for maximising people's enthusiasm and skill for singing. Voices Together is a project-based choir, meeting to prepare for specific events which over the last two years have included concerts for world development charities, liturgical events, a concert tour of Limerick, several BBC broadcasts and a peace-building event with Tommy Sands and Willie Drennan. Voices Together recently featured on BBC Radio Ulster's 'Sing Out!' programme with John Anderson and on the William Caufield Christmas show.

The programme will include music from Africa, Ireland, Scotland, USA and Russia, under the headings, Life, Lullaby, Love, and Longing. Admission is

free. There will be a retiring collection to be divided between Christian Aid and Trocaire. Following the concert, refreshments will be served in the Deanery.

Fr Peter McAnenly, Administrator of the Catholic Cathedral, said, “I’m very much looking forward to this special evening when people from our different Churches will come together for what promises to be a very memorable occasion. I’ve no doubt that it will be a real feast of music being presented in such a special setting in St Patrick’s Cathedral.”

Dean Gregory Dunstan, of the Church of Ireland Cathedral, said, “It will be a delight to hear ‘Voices Together’ in our glorious acoustic. They are preparing a programme well beyond the usual range of Cathedral music. We look forward to meeting them afterwards, and to hearing more of their story.”

See the choir’s Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/VoicesTogether>



Lay training at Edgehill and CITC

For the first time, training for the laity will utilise both the Church of Ireland Theological Institute in Dublin and Edgehill Theological College, Belfast.

For Church of Ireland & Methodist Church in Ireland members - Designed to encourage theological reflection, fellowship and discussion on “everyday” discipleship matters, the “Faith in Everyday Living series”, will run on

separate dates in both Belfast and Dublin. The series will look at the following themes...

- Praying Well, an exploration on how to deepen one's experience of prayer and "styles" of prayer. Facilitated by Louise Wilson (Training & Development Officer, ETC) and David Brown, (Lay Training Co-ordinator, CITI).
- Parenting Well, a one day workshop exploring how to best "parent" teenagers. In partnership with Love for Life, Northern Ireland's leading Christian Young People's support agency.
- Working Well, an evening workshop for those interested in exploring how Christian faith impacts within the work place, Guest Speaker, Mr David Blevins, Sky News Ireland Correspondent

Parenting Well -

(£15.00pp)

May 10th 2014. 10am to 3.30pm.

Praying Well -

(£12.50pp)

October 18th 2014. 10am to 3.30pm.

At

Edgehill Theological College

(Belfast)

Praying Well.

(€15.00pp)

March 22nd 2014. 10am to 3.30pm.

Parenting Well.

(€20.00pp)

November 22nd 2014. 10am to 3.30pm.

At

Church of Ireland Theological

Institute,

(Dublin)

Edgehill Theological College

(Belfast)

March 22nd 2014. 10am to 3.30pm.

November 22nd 2014. 10am to 3.30pm.

Church of Ireland Theological

See - <http://www.ciyd.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/010005-David-Brown-Press-Release-3-2.pdf>

PCI Nepal mission partner wins Renewable Energy award

Earlier this week, PCI's Peter Lockwood, on behalf of United Mission to Nepal (UMN), accepted a special Certificate of Appreciation awarded to UMN, in recognition of their contribution towards the development of the Renewable Energy Sector in Nepal.



UMN has been involved for many years in biogas development, hydropower and micro-hydro power projects and solar technology, particularly in rural communities.

This involvement traces its origins in biogas development to the work of the late **John Finlay** in Butwal during the 1970s / 1980s.

John, who served with Interserve, was a member of High Street, Hollywood Presbyterian Church.

<http://www.umn.org.np/>

Honour for bishop

Right Reverend Dr Paul Colton, Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross, has been conferred with an honorary title by Cardiff University. Dr Colton has been appointed an Honorary Research Fellow at Cardiff Law School at Cardiff University.



Having commenced studies in law in University College Cork as an undergraduate in the late 1970s, Dr Colton has maintained his interest in law throughout his ministry and completed a Master in Laws degree in Cardiff in 2006. Last year, 2013, he successively defended his thesis and was awarded a PhD in law, also in Cardiff. His areas of research and academic interest include: sources of law, the laws of religious institutions (especially the Church of Ireland), religion law, the relationship between State law and religious law, law governing religion and religious bodies in Europe, religion and human rights, education law, and law within the Anglican Communion.

Methodist teenagers prayer walk recalled



A group of teenagers from the Methodist Church spent last weekend (7-9 February) at Overflow, the annual young leaders' training event, hosted by Newtownabbey Mission.

In his March Methodist Newsletter column, Lay Leader Ken Twyble remembers the joy of the ministry of the many young adults at the Conference of 2013. 'They prayer-walked the Conference before it began and effectively shared in administering prayer at the hugely attended evening sessions,' he recalls. 'They showed great leadership and enthusiasm and were a constant testimony to the Lord's goodness.' Mr Twyble concludes by reminding more senior church members of the need to 'welcome, appreciate, nurture, encourage and celebrate' the 'courage, vitality and energy' of the young. 'They are not just the Church of tomorrow,' he says. 'But very much part of the Church of today.'

Healing Life's Hurts

Dealing with 'Life's Hurts' is a major problem for countless numbers of people in Northern Ireland.

With this concern in mind, Divine Healing Ministries have invited the former minister of Fisherwick Presbyterian Church, Revd Derek McKelvey, who has much experience in this field, to speak at the Monday evening healing service in St. Anne's Cathedral on 3 March at 8.00 p.m. His theme will be 'Healing Life's Hurts'.

Brother David Jardine will lead the service. Personal prayer and anointing with oil



for healing will be available.

For further information please contact Brother David Jardine, Tel: 028 9031 1532

Claire Benton-Evans' Beastly Bible Stories

Gory, Gory Hallelujah! So you think the Bible is boring? Think again!

You may know lots of friendly Bible tales about animals, angels and the baby Jesus - but that's only half of the story. This book is full of the blood, guts and miraculous mayhem that the other children's Bible stories are afraid to mention.

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