



# CNI

**Irish Independent**

Sports quotes of the year  
The last word on the sporting world of 2015

PLUCKY HOOVERBALL & BERT GUSTIN'S SEBASTIAN FOR THE WINNERS WHO LINGER ON THE PAST

1 FLOODING CRISIS SPECIAL REPORT, PAGES 9-8

## Breaking point

Three more weeks of flooding and rain | Emergency crews battle with fatigue | Kenny finally set to visit flooded areas

**Irish Daily Mail**

Most five stone through gastric surgery | Beauty awards of 2015

female MAGAZINE

Met Eireann predicts three more weeks of flood risk - and STILL Enda has nothing to say

ROUND THE COUNTRY REPORTS AND PICTURES

## MORE TO COME

The killing fields | State Papers 1885 | Ideas for 2016

## THE IRISH TIMES

Forecasters predict three more weeks of rain and flooding | Court prevents deportation of Isis suspect | Laundry capsules get nasty taste to deter children

\*\*\*\*\* **BIG MAGGIE**

**Irish Examiner**

WHAT'S HOT FOR 2016 | The year in review | BIG BEN STRIKES FOR LIVERPOOL

STORM DAMAGE

## A FLOOD OF MISERY

Tánaiste staff salaries up to €23k more than pay cap

Town crisis sees community spirit kick in

Tánaiseach's office wanted to avoid Stardust compensation, records reveal

**LOFT** Cornmarket Street, Cork **SUPER SALE**

## Church Leaders' Joint New Year Statement for 2016

The Church of Ireland and Catholic Archbishops of Armagh; the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland; the President of the Methodist Church in Ireland and the President of the Irish Council of Churches wish to convey the following New Year's Message:

'This year, 2016, will bring with it the centenary of many significant events which have shaped the history and culture of this island and its people. In remembering our past we must also seek a true vision for our future. In recent years, much has been achieved in working towards a peaceful society throughout Ireland based on mutual agreement, understanding and respect. As the light of a New Year dawns, may our united prayer be that peace and justice will continue to grow and blossom throughout our land. May our memories and commemorations of the past, alongside our hopes and longings for the future, strengthen our resolve to live together in harmony, trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ in whom we find our hope, for he is "the same yesterday, today and forever".' (Hebrews 13:8)

Revd Brian Anderson, President of the Methodist Church in Ireland

Archbishop Richard Clarke, Church of Ireland Archbishop of Armagh

Archbishop Eamon Martin, Catholic Archbishop of  
Armagh  
Rt Revd Dr Ian McNie, Moderator of the Presbyterian  
Church in Ireland  
Revd Dr Donald Watts, President, Irish Council of  
Churches

## **Ian Paisley was rebuked by Douglas Hurd over attack on Bishop Daly**

DUP leader Ian Paisley was rebuked by Secretary of State Douglas Hurd at a face-to-face meeting in 1984 for a bitter tirade he had made against Bishop - later Cardinal - Cahal Daly.

Irish News - The clash occurred at a meeting between Dr Paisley, his deputy Peter Robinson and Mr Hurd at Stormont House on November 29.

Referring to British prime minister Margaret Thatcher's recent 'out, out, out' response to the report of the New Ireland Forum, the Secretary of State said he was "rather dismayed by the triumphalism of unionist reaction so far". He regretted the tone of Dr Paisley's attack on Bishop Cahal Daly as "the black Pope of the republican movement".



***Ian Paisley, pictured in 1988 outside Lisburn courthouse***

Mr Hurd felt that the "intemperate tone of Dr Paisley's attack sat oddly with his professed readiness to have constructive discussion with other party leaders".

Responding, the DUP leader said that Bishop Daly's recent statements were deeply offensive.

"For example, the Bishop had said that the British handling of the (Anglo-Irish) Summit had played into the hands of the IRA and that RCs had no rights or justice in Northern Ireland. The Bishop had also asserted that the British had no

more right to a presence in Northern Ireland than the government of the Republic."

This went to the very quick of the issue and Dr Paisley thought it right to reject robustly such views.

As to possible political talks, Dr Paisley said he had urged the SDLP leader, John Hume to start talking with other political leaders.

Mr Hume had said he must wait for the results of the recent Anglo-Irish Summit. After the summit, Dr Paisley said he had not made any triumphalist statements. He had had a long conversation with Mr Hume on November 23 and had told him that he was ready to discuss with Mr Hume outside the assembly how a way forward might be found. The SDLP leader had agreed to this but said he must first discuss matters with the Irish government.

For his part, Mr Robinson said that these were "difficult days for the SDLP". There were rumours that they might resign their assembly seats (which they had never taken) en bloc.

Responding, Mr Hurd warned that it was inconceivable that the Stormont assembly should

go on indefinitely if its activity was restricted to a scrutinising role only but Dr Paisley warned that they would take their politics to the streets if the assembly was not available.

## **Columba Declaration - time for a rethink, Primus Chillingworth**

The Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, Most Rev David Chillingworth comments on the recent Columba Declaration. (The first comment by Bishop Chillingworth is in yesterday's issue of CNI). He states -

I ended my earlier blog post by suggesting that there are aspects of the agreement envisaged by the Columba Declaration which will cause real difficulty in the relationship between the Scottish Episcopal Church and the Church of England.

Members of the Scottish Episcopal Church will have noted two provisions in particular.

The first is the commitment that the Church of Scotland and the Church of England will 'welcome one another's members to each other's worship as guests and receive one another's members into the congregational life of each

other's churches where that is their desire'. People will of course make their own choices. But the fact that such a statement is made at all suggests that the Church of England will respond warmly to the idea that its members will worship in Church of Scotland Churches when they visit Scotland. Yet the Church of England's Anglican Communion partner in Scotland is the Scottish Episcopal Church

The second – and far more serious – provision is that the partners will 'enable ordained ministers from one of our churches to exercise ministry in the other church, in accordance with the discipline of each church.' This is in the context of an earlier acknowledgement that the partners 'look forward to a time when growth in communion can be expressed in fuller unity that makes possible the interchangeability of ministers'

The question here is not whether the development of ecumenical relationships is desirable – for of course it is. The question is about whether that development can take place respectfully and in good order. The Scottish Episcopal Church now seems to be faced with the possibility that Church of England clergy will

minister in Scotland under the authorisation of the Church of Scotland and without reference to the Scottish Episcopal Church. Yet the Church of England and the Scottish Episcopal Church are partner members of the Anglican Communion. The Anglican Communion in Scotland is expressed in the life of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

The Church of Scotland and the Church of England seem to have decided that their commonality as National Churches justifies them in setting aside other ecumenical relationships and etiquette. What would really help this situation – mitigating the damage already done to long-established relationships and avoiding further damage – would be for the two churches to decide to delay publication of the full document to allow time for consultation.

I appeal to them to do so.

Finally, I want to move back to the questions of context and strategic leadership which we all face in Scotland. I have expressed the deep hurt of the Scottish Episcopal Church at this time. People in leadership roles sometimes have to do that. But the deepest and most important question is about what best serves the

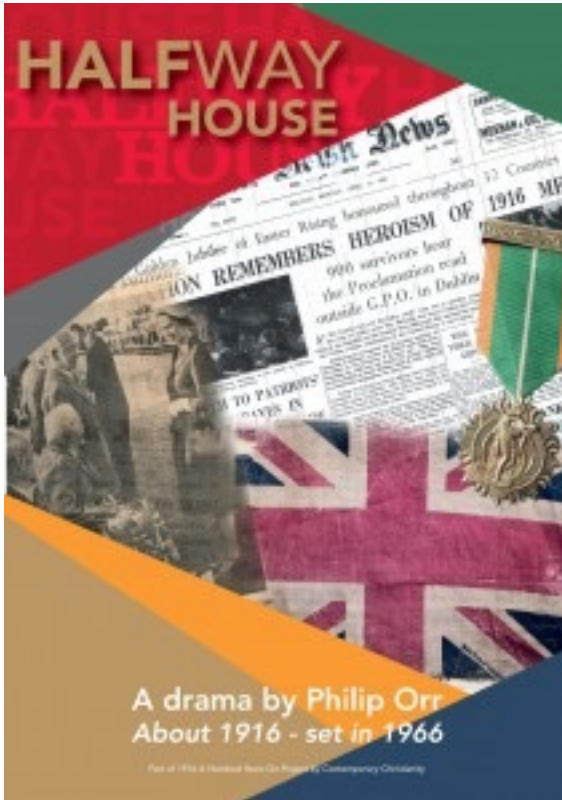


development of faith in Scotland at this important moment in our history. I believe that members of the Scottish Episcopal Church and other churches in Scotland want to see the Church of Scotland turning towards a deep engagement with its ecumenical and interfaith partners in Scotland. We believe that the true value of the Church of Scotland's role will be found in the way in which it can offer leadership – establishing faith as part of the discourse in the 'public square' in Scotland and exploring ways in which we can support one another in mission.

## **Contemporary Christianity takes drama approach to 1916 and today**

“ 1916 A Hundred Years On” is a play written by Philip Orr which deals with 1916 and is being presented at a series of venues - see below. 1916 Organisers 'Contemporary Christianity' state “it is yet another creative response to the current decade of political centenaries that have shaped our country for better or for worse.

“In collaboration with Philip Orr we have created two drama scripts exploring the events of 1916 and their legacy.”



Halfway House will be performed in 6 venues between 18 – 24 January (see below). A DVD will be made available in late January. The script will also be available for download for groups who wish to use it.

## **MONDAY 18 JANUARY - LARNE**

**Venue:** McNeill Theatre, Larne Leisure Centre,  
28 Tower Road, BT40 1AB

[churchnewsireland@gmail.com](mailto:churchnewsireland@gmail.com)

**Time:** 7.45pm (doors open 7.15pm)

Note: this is an invitation only event

Organised in partnership with Mid & East Antrim  
Borough Council Good Relations

For further information contact:

Jane Dunlop -

[jane.dunlop@midandeastantrim.gov.uk](mailto:jane.dunlop@midandeastantrim.gov.uk)

Catherine Black -

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Stephen Adams -

[info@contemporarychristianity.net](mailto:info@contemporarychristianity.net)

## **TUESDAY 19 JANUARY - NEWRY**

**Venue:** Sean Hollywood Arts Centre, Bank  
Parade, BT35 6HP

**Time:** 7.30pm (Doors open 7.00pm)

Admission free

Organised in partnership with Newry Mourne and  
Down District Council

For further information contact:

Colin Moffett (Equality Officer) -

[colin.moffett@newryandmourne.gov.uk](mailto:colin.moffett@newryandmourne.gov.uk) Phone -

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Suzanne Rice -

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028 3031 3065

### **WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY - LURGAN**

**Venue:** Jethro Centre, Flush Place, BT66 7DT

**Time:** 8.00pm (Doors open 7.45pm)

Admission free

Organised in partnership with Jethro Centre,  
Lurgan

For further information contact:

Liz Denver - [liz.denver@jethrocentre.org](mailto:liz.denver@jethrocentre.org)

Phone - 028 3832567

### **THURSDAY 21 JANUARY - BELFAST**

**Venue:** Fitzroy Presbyterian Church, University  
Street, BT7 1HL

**Time:** 7.30pm (doors open 7.00pm)

There will be a suggested minimum donation of  
£5.00 per person to support the production of the  
play. (Gifts can be made payable to  
Contemporary Christianity)

Organised in partnership with Fitzroy  
Presbyterian Church and the Fitzroy/Clonard  
Fellowship.

For further information contact:

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David Ross - [d.ross@p198.gp.n-i.nhs.uk](mailto:d.ross@p198.gp.n-i.nhs.uk)

**FRIDAY 22 JANUARY at 7.30pm -  
ENNISKILLEN**

**Venue:** Enniskillen Library, Halls Lane,  
Enniskillen, BT74 7DR

**Time:** 7.30pm (doors open at 7.00pm)

**Note:** This is a first floor venue with full disabled access.

There will be a suggested minimum donation of £5.00 per person to support the production of the play. (Gifts can be made payable to Contemporary Christianity)

Organised in partnership with Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Good Relations

For further information contact:

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Christine Rodgers -

[christine.rodgers@fermanaghandomagh.com](mailto:christine.rodgers@fermanaghandomagh.com)

Phone - 0300303177

## **SATURDAY 23rd JANUARY - OMAGH**

**Venue:** Omagh Library, 1 Spillars Place,  
Irishtown Road, BT78 1HL

**Time:** 7.30pm (doors open at 7.00pm)

There will be a suggested minimum donation of  
£5.00 per person to support the production of the  
play. (Gifts can be made payable to  
Contemporary Christianity)

Organised in partnership with Fermanagh &  
Omagh Council Good Relations

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Phone - 0300303177

<http://www.contemporarychristianity.net/website/>

## **Divine Healing Ministry services start again in Belfast**

Divine Healing Ministry services start again on Monday 4th January - St George's at 1 pm and St Anne's at 8 pm. Then St Finnian's on Tuesday January 5th at 8 pm.

## **Wales' six cathedrals explore vision of future growth**

For generations they have been the cornerstones of Christian worship and important landmarks for regional community. Now Wales' six cathedrals are coming together to explore their vision for future ministry.

At the request of the Deans, who lead the cathedrals of St Davids, Llandaff, Bangor, Brecon, Newport and St Asaph, a Review is being conducted to look at how the role of these crucial buildings has changed over the years and how they can best serve Wales today.

A group of three people, chosen for their expertise and experience, is visiting all the cathedrals over the next few months to see how they are used, resourced and governed. They will



### ***St David's Wales***

meet with cathedral staff and look at the role of cathedrals both as centres of church ministry and as historically significant national buildings. They will report back to the Bishops next year.

The distinctive role of Wales' cathedrals as “centres of excellence” and the need for that role to be fully recognised and deployed was highlighted in an independent review of the Church in Wales in 2012 which now informs its 2020 Vision strategy for growth.

It said, “We believe that cathedrals will have an increasingly important role in the church of the future. Experience from elsewhere shows that



although church attendance generally is declining, cathedral congregations continue to grow. This is because they can be centres of excellence for preaching, education and music. People today are prepared to travel to find such excellence. This means that cathedrals need to be fully part of the mission and ministry strategy of each Diocese.”

The cathedral Review is chaired by Dr Christopher Lewis, former Dean of Christ Church, Oxford. Joining him is Lord Griffiths of Fforestfach, vice-chair of Goldman Sachs International and Elizabeth Squires, former head of human resources at Cheshire County Council.

Dr Lewis said, “What better job to be given than to do a circuit around Wales reviewing the life and work of these wonderful cathedrals! Having visited them and consulted others in the Church in Wales and beyond, we will come up with suggestions for the important role which the cathedrals will definitely play.”

The Dean of St Davids, Jonathan Lean, said, “The Deans of the Church in Wales proposed this initiative and are looking forward to the visits from the Cathedral Review Team. Our hope is that the

outcome of the report will assist us to enhance further the particular ministry which cathedrals are able to offer within each Diocese and across the Province.”

## **C of E welcomes UK government's robust guidance on RE**

The Church of England has joined an alliance of faith groups to back the [Government's decision to issue robust guidance](#) that protects the freedom of schools to set their religious studies curriculum in line with statutory guidance and in accordance with the wishes of parents. The guidance issued by Education Secretary Nicky Morgan makes clear that schools can continue to prioritise the teaching of major faiths over non-religious world views such as humanism.

Revd Nigel Genders, Chief Education Officer for the Church of England said: "There has been confusion about the implications of the High Court judgment [with respect to the GCSE religious studies subject content] and we welcome [the publication of this guidance note](#) which clarifies the situation and provides

assurance that the judgement does not impact on the content of the new RS GCSE."

## **News links to reports on faith, politics and education**

### **Ian Paisley felt betrayed by DUP and Free Presbyterian Church says wife**

BBC News

In an interview for BBC Talkback to be broadcast on Thursday, Baroness Paisley spoke in-depth about his departure from the **church** and party.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-35161398>

### **Ian Paisley rebuked by Hurd over his attack on Bishop Cahal Daly**

Irish News

<http://www.irishnews.com/news/northernirelandnews/2015/12/31/news/paisley-rebuked-by-hurd-over-attack-on-bishop-daly-367146/>

### **Pluralism must replace church's grip on schools, says McAleese**

Irish Independent

Dr McAleese said: "There is still a huge demand for denominational education, not just in the Catholic Church but in the **Church of Ireland** tradition and ...

<http://www.independent.ie/irish-news/education/pluralism-must-replace-churchs-grip-on-schools-says-mcaleese-34325446.html>

## **Vatican voiced concerns over Irish legislation on condoms**

Irish Times

He said they discussed the Irish **church's** attitudes toward the law, including the views of two of the country's most conservative Catholic leaders, ...

<http://www.irishtimes.com/news/politics/vatican-voiced-concerns-over-irish-legislation-on-condoms-1.2480536>

## **Lurgan churchman honoured for community service**

Lurgan Mail

<http://www.lurganmail.co.uk/news/lurgan-news/george-served-heart-group-church-and-town-in-general-1-7139266>

## **A prominent Orangeman has stepped down from his role as director of services in the Grand Orange Lodge of Ireland**

News Letter

<http://www.newsletter.co.uk/orange-order-chief-dr-david-hume-steps-down-1-7138712>