

*In Conversation with Rev. Jim Hull*



***Twenty-Five Years On-  
Understanding the  
Significance of the  
Belfast Agreement***

*See Belfast, devout and  
profane and hard,  
Built on reclaimed mud,  
hammers playing in the  
shipyard,  
Time punched with  
holes like a steel sheet,  
time*



*Hardening the faces, veneering with a grey and  
speckled rime- **Louis MacNeice***

*Who was it who suggested that the opposite of war  
Is not so much peace as civilization? He knew  
Our assassinated Catholic greengrocer who died  
At Christmas in the arms of our Methodist minister,  
And our ice-cream man whose continuing requiem  
Is the twenty-one flavours children have by heart.  
Our cobbler mends shoes for everyone; our butcher  
Blends into his best sausages leeks, garlic, honey;  
Our cornershop sells everything from bread to  
kindling.*

*Who can bring peace to people who are not civilized?*

*All of these people, alive or dead, are civilized. - **Michael Longley***

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