

Dr Jolyon Mitchell MA MA CertTh PhD

### **Media work**

Since joining Edinburgh University Dr Mitchell has continued to contribute regularly to different media. He tends now to be interviewed as an academic contributor or invited to participate in programmes as an expert guest, in topics related to media and religion, media ethics, media violence or other areas of his research.

Recent programmes include *Beyond Belief* (Radio 4), *Reporting Religion* (BBC World Service) and *A World in Your Ear* for BBC Radio 4. He is also called upon as a consultant for different BBC and other channels on religious and media matters. For instance, he was interviewed extensively in Melbourne, Australia, about religion and media for ABC; and in Tehran, Iran, (mostly for the state broadcasting service IRIB, both on television and radio) particularly about media, religion and violence.

While teaching at New College he has continued to produce a number of radio programmes, including a Radio 4 documentary entitled **Garrison Keillor's Radio Preachers** (see below), with an accompanying article for the BBC's magazine *Ariel*. This documentary made *Pick of the Week* both on Radio 4 and in *The Times*, as well as "pick of the day" in *The Independent*, *The Times* and *The Telegraph*.

#### Select Radio Productions

- ***Omnibus*** c. 30 minute documentary based on Dr Mitchell's original research in Ghana on West African Video Film (BBC World Service, 2002).
- ***Garrison Keillor's Radio Preachers*** c. 45 minute documentary based on Dr Mitchell's original research on Radio Preachers in the USA (London: BBC Radio 4, 1994 and BBC World Service, 1995).

Dr Mitchell also presented and wrote ***Images of Faith*** (a 30 minute special on the Edinburgh Festival, for Radio 4), and was a contributor and consultant for ***New College Celebrates*** (a 45 minute special for Radio 4 "Morning Service" slot on the 150th anniversary of New College).

His interviews around Europe on attitudes towards Islam were used in John Bowker's ***Voices of Islam*** (Oxford: One World, 1995) and the BBC World Service series ***What do Muslims Believe?*** More recently, he researched, created and presented a documentary on ***West African Video Film*** (2002) for BBC World Service's *Omnibus*, and then turned it into a book chapter for a book on [\*Belief in Media\*](#) (2005, see the additional publications list).

As a producer and journalist Dr Mitchell produced for BBC World Service a wide range of programmes, (including live outside broadcasts) and extended documentaries such as:

- ***Outlook Special*** c. 25 min. documentary on choir & chapel of King's College Chapel (London: BBC World Service).
- ***Meridian*** c. 30 minute documentary on 'The Great Dance' about the creation and world première of a ballet based on C.S. Lewis's *Perelandra* (London: BBC World Service).

As a **journalist** he produced reports for many different programmes, including: *Education Matters, Kaleidoscope, Sunday, Woman's Hour, You and Yours, Euromix, Focus on Faith, Megamix, Meridian, Outlook, 24 Hours, In the News, On Your Marks*, and *Take 5*. Countries worked in included: Australia, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, Germany, Hungary, New Zealand, USA, Turkey, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

He covered a wide range of topics including features on Teaching in the Inner City, Russian Orthodox Liturgies, the World Council of Churches 7th General Assembly in Canberra, Australian TV "soaps", Turkish religious controversies, Aboriginal art and Melbourne Tapestries.

He also ran the entire Berlin 'Reunification Marathon'(1990), and the London Marathon (1992), with a tape-recorder, while reporting on the event.