



OUR NEWS

CHRISTMAS 2016



THANK YOU!

2016 has been a year of highs and lows. Thank you all for your continued faith, support and hard work.

This year as we prepare to celebrate Christmas, I am reminded of how we need one another to flourish. Clearly there are lots of pressures at present in the world with many feeling they should manage on their own but to stay in isolation will not enable us to flourish.

We are immensely grateful for the hard work which is done across our diocese by those who voluntarily give their time to look after our churches and make us a presence in the community.

I know parishes will be as busy as ever in 2017 and the challenges will be as great, but together we can flourish. I am sure

that as it is for me, life throughout the year in the diocese is a constant reminder of the joy and frustration of relationships but also, the beauty and wonder and I want to wish you all a peaceful Christmas and offer hopeful prayers for our new year together.

BISHOP TIM

WATCH BISHOP TIM'S FULL CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

<http://tinyurl.com/zywyuto>

GIVE A GIFT LOCALLY THIS CHRISTMAS

With Christmas just a month away, towns are packed with shoppers all looking for that perfect gift. Why not give a gift locally this Christmas and do something good for the community at the same time?

The Cornish Christmas Giving catalogue features many worthy local groups and charities who are all working in Cornwall to provide assistance, support, activities, beds and more to people in our own community. This year you can choose from 20 Cornish charities to donate to and in return you will receive a gift certificate to pass on to your family member or friend. Gifts start from just £2 up to £70 for a backpack bed.

Pick up your catalogue

Hard copies can be ordered from Church House on 01872 274351 or download a copy at <http://tinyurl.com/zkeuhgk>.

PENLEE CLUSTER ADVENT CALENDAR

Watch via facebook or www.penleecluster.org.uk

CHRISTMAS DINNER IN A BOX

Epiphany House was a collection point again this year for Cornwall Christmas Box. The scheme collects donations of Christmas dinner boxes which are distributed to local families in need. Each box contains enough food for Christmas dinner for a family of 4 - 6, with all the extra little goodies, treats like mince pies and biscuits, and of course Christmas pudding.

READ MORE <http://tinyurl.com/hkftvh6>

ARCHDEACON'S LETTER

“ So whatever 2017 may bring, amid all the blessings and the challenges, let's resolve to do what we can to make our planet a better place for us all. ”



ARCHDEACON BILL STUART-WHITE

If there's one thing 2016 has taught us, it is to expect the unexpected. The events of the past year may have left us wondering what on earth 2017 may bring, in our own lives as well as on the national and international stage.

Much of it we will have little control over and it will seem that all we can do is respond and react. I guess that's why some of us like to make resolutions at the start of the year – to try to take control over at least some elements of our life, whether it's counting our calories, taking up tap-dancing or blowing the dust off our bibles.

Climate Change may seem like one of those huge realities that we can do nothing about, but I'm persuaded that actually even my little efforts can make a difference. Early last year I, alongside Bishop Tim and other Carbon Ambassadors, publicly undertook the "Top 10 Pledges" challenge (www.trurocathedral.org.uk/hot-topics/top-ten.php) to cut our use of carbon and thus to play our part in slowing the impact of global warming.

I was shocked to discover under Pledge 6 that, if everyone on earth lived as I do, we'd need about three "earths" to sustain us all.... If you want to check your "carbon footprint" it's easy to do. Just go to <http://footprint.wwf.org.uk>.

As with many of the resolutions I make, some have stuck and some have slipped, but in 2017 I'm going to try again and this time you can join me!

We've invited Luci Isaacson, the mastermind behind the Top 10 Pledges, to help us to make a difference as a Diocese and with her help we've produced a 2-year strategy for 2017-18. The strategy begins by inviting all of us to undertake the Top 10 Pledges, and month-by-month in 2017 you'll be hearing about a new pledge and invited to commit yourself to it. Perhaps following this through could be one of your New Year Resolutions. Look out for details on the website and elsewhere, and if you belong to a local church, and perhaps sit on the PCC, you could help to persuade them to go for gold (or silver or bronze) via the Green Church Kernow Award Scheme (www.trurodiocese.org.uk/resource-collection/green-church-kernow). Together we really can make a difference.

So, whatever 2017 may bring, amid all the blessings and the challenges let's resolve to do what we can to make our planet a better place for us all.

And finally, remember at the start of a new year, in the words of the old saying:

"I may not know what the future holds, but I know who holds the future". Whatever happens, and whatever resolutions we make, or keep, God is still in control."

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY CHANGES & UPDATES

Licensed Clergy

The **Revd Stephen Drakeley** has retired and is no longer Priest-in-Charge of All Saints Falmouth.

The **Revd Catherine Sigrist** has been licensed as Priest in Charge of Saltash, and Priest in Charge of Landrake w St Erney and Botus Fleming.*

The **Revd Michael Goodland** has a new email address*

The **Revd Tim Hawkins** was instituted and inducted on 6 December as Vicar of Gulval and Madron (he was formerly Priest in Charge).

The **Revd Stephen Tudgey** has a new email address*

The **Revd Sharon Clifton** has a new email address*

Clergy with PTO

The **Revd Harry Jackson** has sadly died.

The **Revd Canon Dave Elkington** has been given PTO category B.*

The **Revd Penny Prince** has been given PTO category A.*

The **Revd Barbara Feather** has a new email address*

The **Revd John Eatock** has a new email address*

Benefice changes

The **Boscastle & Tintagel Group of churches** - The parishes of Otterham, St Juliot and Lesnewth have been united to form a new parish to be known as "The Parish of Otterham, St Juliot & Lesnewth".

Church House

Rebecca St Ledger Renfree has started maternity leave & **Karen D'Arcy** has joined as a full-time Office administrator

* Contact details can be found in the online directory <http://www.trurodiocese.org.uk/directory-live/>

CHRISTMAS FUNDING BOOST FOR CUBERT CHURCH

Cubert Church, on the Historic England 'Heritage at Risk' Register, is set to benefit from a £596,000 rescue funding package from the National Churches Trust, the UK's church repair and support charity.

The church has been awarded a £40,000 National Churches Trust Cornerstone Grant to help fund a project to carry out urgent roof, tower and structural repairs.

St Cubert's is a village church, open to all. The repair work will keep the church dry and prevent further damp and make the building safe for use and sustainable for the future.

READ MORE <http://tinyurl.com/h5eqw9x>

MISSION CASE STUDY

PARISHES BENEFIT FROM SWYM INTERNSHIP TRAINEES

Two parishes in the Diocese of Truro are currently benefiting from the energy and enthusiasm two interns from South West Youth Ministries (SWYM) are bringing to their communities.

St Illogan parish has welcomed Meg Terry, a SWYM intern from North Devon. Meg is currently a year into her studies and since joining St Illogan has immersed herself into parish life.

Living locally with a family in Illogan, Meg works closely with Revd Steve Robinson across three churches St Illogan, St Mary's and Trevenson. Meg's arrival has dramatically increased the number of activities the churches can provide. A typical week for Meg can include baby stay and play sessions, after school clubs, teenage youth groups, bible study groups, Messy Church and Sunday School and she has her own study and supervisory sessions to complete. Meg is joined by Emma Schools who is in her second year of her SWYM degree and also works with families and children in the parish.

Prior to Meg arriving, there were no youth groups and no suitable space to hold one, so Meg's first job was to transform a mezzanine area into a safe and encouraging environment for young people, using a limited budget. The area is now a welcoming space which includes sofas, bean bags, a table tennis table and games.

Meg decided to sign up for the Internship as it seemed like the perfect fit for her Christian year out after finishing school and she has only praise for the support she has received. "SWYM is a great opportunity if you want to not only develop your relationship with God but also to work with young people and to experience youth work first hand."

The parish also feels blessed. Revd Steve Robinson said:

"Meg brings a wonderful energy and innovation to church life. As a parish we have benefitted massively from having a SWYM trainee with us and I have been recommending the programme to everyone I meet including those in our own deanery. It fits in with



'Confidence in the Gospel' and I see youth work as an important growth area for the Church of England."

In St Keverne Parish, SWYM intern Mike Britton is in his final year of study for his theology and youth ministry qualification and his third year volunteering with the parish team.

Mike grew up in a Methodist household with his mother as a worship leader. It was while he was studying architecture at Plymouth University that he attended Spring Harvest and met two people who encouraged him to join their church, where in turn, he met a local SWYM worker who introduced him to the course.

Mike has an equally busy week consisting of school visits, a Christian Union lunch club, mentoring in a local school, maths tutoring, a table tennis club, an alpha group, a youth group, Sunday morning service and discipleship as well as the usual SWYM cluster meeting, mentor session and study days.

Mike said:

"I do enjoy my study but my priority is youth work and I think the degree will make me better at it."

"If you have an interest in youth work and children's work and you would like to see the gospel impact on people's lives then SWYM is a great idea for you."

READ MORE <http://tinyurl.com/howas6z>

Is God Calling You?

For more information on internships or working with young people, go to <http://tinyurl.com/h4f76nv> or contact Sarah Welpy on sarah.welpy@truro.anglican.org

NEW CHURCH MAINTENANCE GRANT PROGRAMME

National Churches Trust has launched a new maintenance grant programme for historic buildings in partnership with the Pilgrim Trust.

Grants of £1,000-£2,500 are available to undertake small but vital maintenance tasks and of particular interest are those repairs that, if not dealt, with will trigger larger problems.

READ MORE <http://tinyurl.com/zr9ksfz>

STARS SHINE AT BISHOP BRONESCOMBE NATIVITY

The Christmas spirit was flowing through Bishop Bronescombe School as they perform four different nativity plays.

The Church of England school in St Austell, which is part of the St Piran's Cross Multi-Academy Trust, includes all the school children in the nativity from reception class up to upper key stage 2.

Religious Education Co-ordinator and teacher of the reception class, Rebecca Jane, explains the importance of the annual nativity to the school:

"We talk to the children about the meaning behind the words and lyrics in the play so they gain a real understanding of the experience. We talk about how Mary would have felt as she travelled to Bethlehem and we feel this really immerses the children in the bible story."

READ MORE <http://tinyurl.com/jmp2m58>

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL LIGHTS UP ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

St Michael's Church, Newquay is celebrating the festive season with a Christmas Tree Festival for the first time this year.

A joint project between the Mayor of Newquay, the town council and St Michael the Archangel Church in Newquay, the Christmas tree festival sees local organisations, businesses and charities pay for a tree which they then decorate as they wish, and is on display in the church for all visitors to admire.

READ MORE <http://tinyurl.com/hxdmvyj>

HOW WILL FUNDING HELP YOUR CHURCH GROW?

“ I am in favour of the change made by the funding being used as a catalyst for growth. If the toilet is installed or the heating upgraded, what does that now enable us to do in order to grow the church? ”



BY REBECCA EVANS
PARISH SUPPORT ADVISOR

“His master replied, ‘well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness.” – Matthew 25:23 New International Version.

Few will have missed this oft recited verse; not least in terms of fundraising. Some churches will have re-enacted the parable of the talents, eagerly handing out £10 notes to members of the congregation hoping that they will be ‘good and faithful servants’. But it is not all about money is it? It’s about growth.

Since the commencement of the Meet the Funders programme we have seen increasing numbers of churches and faith groups applying for funding and one of the first questions I’d ask a group is “where do you see yourselves in five years’ time?” Or in other words, what impact will the funding have? It’s all very well saying the church will be warm or it will have a toilet but will that actually grow the church?

I’m quite sure that there are not hundreds of people desperate to attend church or explore Christianity that are just keeping away because the building is cold!

It’s not that I am in favour of cold buildings, far from it! But I am in favour of the change made by the funding being used as a catalyst for growth. If the toilet is installed or the heating upgraded, what does that now enable us to do in order to grow the church? Otherwise, we may be able to raise the money and consider ourselves good and faithful servants but if we haven’t borne fruit as a result have we actually understood the parable?

Moreover, once we have received the funding it can be easy to forget about the difference that has been made or the impact that we are now able to have but this shouldn’t be the case. We should take the time to celebrate our achievements and recognise them.

The Marsh Christian Trust have just opened their annual awards, one category of which is: “The Marsh Awards for Innovative Projects”. It is a competition to find the Christian congregation running the most innovative community activities in a church building, made possible through the installation of new facilities such as meeting spaces, kitchens, toilets or improved access.

If you’d like to nominate a church or chapel for an award go to <http://tinyurl.com/jss8csc>

If you’d like to explore the issue of sustainability in church projects, why not join our Meet the Funders programme? For more information please contact Rosey.Sanders@truro.anglican.org

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JANUARY 2017

6 Feast of the Epiphany, Epiphany House, 6pm

<http://www.trurodiocese.org.uk/event/feast-of-the-epiphany-2/>

11 ‘O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness’ Quiet Day, Epiphany House, 10am-4pm email info@epiphanyhouse.co.uk

19 Torrents of Grace, 7.30pm, St Blaise Church. An evening of encouragement for those in leadership, with an emphasis on the grace of God. There will be worship, teaching by Revd Canon David White and the opportunity for prayer ministry.

26 Re:fill Re:source Re:fresh, 7.30pm to 9.30pm, St Kea Church, Truro,

Further events can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/h62ghv2>

FEBRUARY 2017

3 Prayer Workshop, 10 - 4, Epiphany House, Truro. Taste & See that the Lord is good Where are you in your prayer journey? Scared? Comfortable? Bored? Apathetic? Challenged? Led by Revd Derek Collins, Christine Liddley and Janette Mullett.

Cost £18 to include a light lunch and all drinks. To book contact info@epiphanyhouse.co.uk,

18-20th Daffodil Festival, 10.30 - 4.30pm in St Mawgan in Meneage Church. A celebration of the flower and the local industry. <http://tinyurl.com/jyavpvz>

24 Epiphany House, 10 - 4pm, Epiphany House, Truro. Preparation for Lent - Letting go and looking forward

A Quiet Day workshop led by Mandy Callf. Cost £18 to include a light lunch and all drinks. To book contact

info@epiphanyhouse.co.uk,

GET IN TOUCH

If you have a news story or a diary date to share, please get in touch: 01872 360037 comms@truro.anglican.org before the 17th of each month.

OTHER LINKS

IN FOCUS <http://tinyurl.com/jzn4c2p>

IN REVIEW <http://tinyurl.com/j372ck8>

DOT CANDY <http://tinyurl.com/z2ah5jw>

GO CHATTER <http://tinyurl.com/jbgfdbz>

LATEST NEWS FROM SARUM COLLEGE

Read the latest newsletter from Sarum College <http://tinyurl.com/zsqliue>

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