



Revd Chris McQuillen-Wright

I was ordained in this diocese in 1995 and 1996 and served in team ministries in Hayle and Bodmin before joining a collaborative ministry across Newquay. I have chaired the Dreadnought Centre, been vice-chair of St Petroc's Society and the executive Director of the Freshfield Service, producer of the God slot on Pirate FM, a board member of CRUSE in Cornwall; each giving me a broader perspective of life. I have also spent time on the Diocesan Synod (2012-15) and am serving my second term now. I realised in the intervening years that with the best will in the world, communication from the Episcopal College to the pews and vice-versa is an almost impossible task and that rather than lamenting the problem I could be part of the solution.

Before 1995 I worked for the National Children's Home and the project was very successful in getting one-off donations from multi-national companies; eg: a vacuum cleaner from Hoover. When I attended the national conferences I soon realised that we had innocently jeopardised a major grant funding application in the 100s of thousands from NCH to Hoover. In the same way, I recognise in the parish system that there are fantastic parishes doing excellent work and yet, if they were aware of the initiatives and support occurring at local, diocesan and national level, they would be able to be inspired further by the benefits of seeing a broader arena and together stand more chance of Discovering the Kingdom and Growing the Church, to coin a phrase!

This does not mean that structures and policies at every level should not be challenged. They should be. Challenging and questioning has been part of our faith from Moses, through to Jeremiah, and then to Peter and Paul challenging each other. Challenging predisposes, in my opinion, a vulnerability that is necessary for mission.

If you want someone in General Synod who is intensely aware of his own vulnerability and the needs of being a normal parish priest in a socially and economically varied diocese with a proven track record of challenging from a position of discernment then please put your cross against my name.

Being a member of General Synod on your behalf would be a privilege and an honour.