SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
MAY 2021

CONTACT OUR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY TEAM

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SRO DIARY DATES

MAY

5 Faith in Mental Health Network meeting, 2pm, contact **Rosey Sanders**.
25 & 26 Meet the Funders Spring event**,** see more on page 2.

JUNE

3 Churches Homeless Network Meeting, 2pm, contact **Rosey Sanders**.
5 - 13 Churches Count on Nature
6 Cornwall Churches Environment Group service, Contact **Roger Mills** for Zoom link.
11 Co-creating Cornwall's Future 10am, **Eventbrite**.

COUNT ON NATURE

Churches Count on Nature runs as part of Caring for God's Acre's Love Your Burial Ground week from Saturday, June 5 – Sunday, June 13, 2021.

Churches are being asked to use the week as a springboard to start recording the wildlife within their churchyards.

So, if you fancy running a wildlife spotting event in Love Your Burial Ground Week then please fill out the form below or **download a copy here** and we will send you a link to a page where you can download various resources.

Read the frequently asked questions about Churches Count on Nature here.

Churchyards are often ideal paces for social distancing, even if you have to control the number of people coming in at any one time. We are all hoping that by June we will be able to meet up outdoors, although we recognise it may have to be in small numbers. For up-to-date government Covid-19 secure advice please visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus for activities in England

SPOTLIGHT ON .....

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

May 10 to May 16 is **Mental Health Awareness Week**.

Mental ill health can strike anyone at any time and can affect people from all walks of life.

Mental Health First Aid is a training course that teaches people how to identify, understand and help someone who may be experiencing a mental health issue.

It won't teach you to be a therapist, but it'll teach you how to listen, reassure and respond, even in a crisis – and even potentially stop a crisis from happening. Due to high demand the **Healthy Cornwall** team have added additional dates for several of their MHFA courses.

Renew Wellbeing helps churches open spaces of welcome and inclusion in partnership with mental health teams to improve mental and emotional wellbeing.

Renew spaces are simple cafe style spaces run by local churches where hobbies and activities are shared or co-produced. Each cafe space is attached to a quiet room or prayer space where inner habits of wellbeing are shared. Each church partners with a mental health professional from the local council to ensure good inclusive practices for safe spaces where it's OK not to be OK can be sustained.

Renew Wellbeing provides information, inspiration, training and ongoing support to local churches as well as developing a simple national strategy for many small safe spaces to be made available through churches and councils working together.

A PRAYER FROM CONNECTUS

God of Peace,
as we approach mental
awareness week,
I pray that we remain still and
know that You are God.
Despite what we may think or feel,
You are still our God and nothing can
change that.
Whether we are rich, poor,
happy, sad,
employed or unemployed
You are our God.
Your nature is not dependent upon
anyone or anything else and
for that Father I glorify You.
I pray that we put our trust in
knowing that You are the
Unshakable Rock.
Thank You Lord,
Amen.
Psalm 46:10

YOUR IDEAS NEEDED FOR COMMUNITY MANIFESTO

The Poverty Forum has launched the **Community Manifesto**. Under eight themes including Flourishing Communities, Ending Food Poverty and Public Services For All, it showcases examples of the excellent community work going on within Cornwall and some examples too of work beyond the Tamar.

People are encouraged to send in their proposals - to show their concern about the quality of life in Cornwall and the need to work towards making it a Fairer and More Just Place.

CIPF plans to send all the proposals submitted to our new council representatives as ideas from the community. All ideas need to be **sent in** before May 6.

SPOTLIGHT ON .....
MODERN SLAVERY TRAINING

In partnership with the Clewer Initiative, New Street Church (Falmouth) and Falmouth and Penryn Churches Together, Churches Together in Cornwall and Transformation Cornwall, we helped to shape and deliver a five week Modern Slavery in Cornwall training course. The ecumenical training was delivered throughout February/March to a dedicated team of over 20 people who are committed to sharing their learning across the county.

This core team are now working on a shared project plan to communicate their learning, explore opportunities and develop awareness of modern slavery in Cornwall. Churches Together in Cornwall's role is to help make that

happen and for a taste of just some of the things we are currently working on:

* Developing a mobile art exhibition on modern slavery with students from Falmouth and Penryn University;
* Developing some awareness sessions for foodbanks across the South West with Clewer, IFAN and Trussell Trust;
* Picking up ways to work with Cornish businesses to develop their own modern slavery policies.

Meet the **Funders**

Transformation Cornwall and Diocese of Truro

Spring Event 2021

Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th May
10:00am-1:00pm

Booking link now open!

Our 2021 Meet the Funders Spring Event will take place online via Zoom and delegates will receive a pre-posted toolbox of innovative and useful resources.

The event is open to people of all faiths and none.

The days will be hosted by the Bishop of St Germans, the Rt Revd Hugh Nelson, and Donna Birrell, Vice-Chair of Churches Together in Cornwall.

Confirmed funders include: Allchurches Trust Ltd; Cornwall Historic Churches Trust; Groundwork SW; The National Lottery Community Fund; The Joseph Rank Trust; Cornwall Community Foundation; and National Churches Trust.

Online via Zoom

https://bookwhen.com/meetthefunders

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For more information please email:
info@transformation-cornwall.org.uk

SCHOOL UNIFORM RECYCLING TOOLKIT

Transformation Cornwall have teamed up with friends at Volunteer Cornwall and the Cornwall Independent Poverty Forum to bring you a toolkit of top tips for developing or strengthening a school uniform recycling scheme.

Buying school uniforms is a financial challenge for many families in Cornwall.

School uniform recycling projects are a fantastic way to reduce the financial burden on families whilst promoting the recycling and reuse of clothing.

Download it now.

TELEPHONE SIGNPOSTING INFORMATION LIST

People like to talk with organisations who offer advice and support. Transformation Cornwall have created a handy telephone signposting list with numbers of services that work throughout Cornwall – information includes, debt advice, housing, dependency, mental health etc.

You can find the PDF by clicking **here**.

GRANT UPDATE

Transformation Cornwall regularly update this comprehensive list of grants for social action projects.

Click here

FUNDING

GRANTS TO TACKLE LOAN SHARK PROBLEMS

The **Stop Loan Sharks Community Fund** offers grants up to £5,000, with no matched funding requirement, to a range of charitable organisations in England for locally based initiatives which will raise local awareness around the issues of illegal money lending. Collaborative bids between multiple agencies are welcomed. Grants can be used for 'any worthwhile' community project that meet the following criteria:

* Contributes to raising awareness of the dangers of using loan sharks.
* Encourages reporting of loan sharks and signposts victims to the team.
* Prevents crime and disorder and makes a difference in local communities, and/or
* Promotes the work of the Illegal Money Lending Team (IMLT) in communities.

Successful applicants will be expected to engage in free "Stop Loan Sharks" training. The training will be delivered by a member of the England Illegal Money Lending Team for staff and/or volunteers.

Further information, guidance, frequently asked questions (FAQs) and an application form is available on the **Stop Loan Sharks website**.

The deadline for applications is Wednesday, June 30.

CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY GRANTS

The Catholic Children's Society Plymouth (covering Cornwall) has funds available for essential grants to families who are struggling as a result of Covid-19. The programme aims to relieve the urgent material needs of children, young people and families by providing grants for household essentials such as a child's bed, a cooker or a washing machine to low-income families who simply can't afford to buy these items themselves. The fund is open to families of all faiths and none. For more information **click here**.

SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN

Tesco's Community Grants programme supports children and families across the UK in locations where Tesco has a presence. The programme is accepting applications once more following a pause during COVID-19.

Eligible projects and organisations are voted on in-store by Tesco customers. Projects change every three months. There is no requirement for matched funding, although awards can be used as matched funding.

Examples of the type of projects that can be funded include (please note that this is not an exclusive list):

- Adventure Play Areas and Holiday Clubs.
- Children's Breakfast Clubs.
- Counselling and support services for children with mental health challenges.
- Equipment for Village or Community Halls.
- Food Banks, and
- Youth and/or family sports clubs.

Take the **Eligibility Quiz** on the Tesco Community Grants website. Eligible organisations can then complete the application form. Please note that applicants must name their local Tesco store as part of their application (there's also a **Postcode Checker** on the Tesco website).

Applications may be made at any time via the **Tesco Community Grants website**.

MORE INFORMATION

Tesco Community Grants Team, Groundwork, The Walker Building, 52 Oxford Street, Birmingham, B5 5NR.
T: 0121 236 8565
E: tescocommunitygrants@groundwork.org.uk

SMALL AWARDS PROVIDED TO HELP RELIEVE POVERTY

The **Kingsgrove Charitable Trust** is grant-making trust that rarely features in grant directories. Founded by the Smith family in 1979, the trust awards small grants averaging just under £500 to UK registered charities working to relieve poverty in the UK and overseas.

A significant number of awards are also made to individuals. Applications may be made at any time in writing, addressed to: R D Smith, Chair, The Kingsgrove Charitable Trust, New Farm Office, Elm Farm, Grove, Wantage, Oxon, OX12 7PD.

GOOD NEWS AS INCREASE IN SUPPORT OFFERED

There has been some good news recently as foundations seek to increase the support they give.

Cornwall VSF creates a weekly list of funding opportunities for the voluntary sector. You can **view the most recent one** on Cornwall VSF's website.

VSF MEMBERSHIP

Cornwall VSF has over r 350 members in the voluntary sector. The organisation is proud of its **new team**, which is an asset to strengthen the sector. Currently membership is free. **Find out more**.

FAMILY BASED SHORT BREAK CARE NEEDED

Cornwall Council is looking for more people to provide **Family Based Short Break** care for disabled children and young people, giving them the opportunity to have fun, learn and develop in a homely environment while giving their families a break from their caring role. Please tell people in your area about the scheme.

Family Based Short Break carers can choose how much time they can devote to caring. It could be a few hours a day, or even a weekend, to fit around their lifestyle. Carers will receive training and an allowance for any time they can offer, as well as support from the council's dedicated social workers.

To find out more about Family Based Short Break care, please call Helen Sinclair on 07583 260217, visit Cornwall Council's **fostering web pages** or ring the Council's recruitment team on 01872 323638.

All short break care is subject to rigorous COVID safety checks and precautions which the team can explain during the application process.

WORD ON THE STREETS BLOG

MIGRANT WORKER SEMINAR

The Clewer Initiative are running an online seminar on Tuesday 25th May at 11am via zoom for anyone working with migrant groups who would be interested to find out more about the issue and how the Farm Work Welfare App might be used to support these communities. More details and the link to sign up can be found on the Eventbrite page **here**.

SOCIAL ACTION MAPPING

The **SAM project, Social Action Mapping for Cornish Churches**, is now being made available on the **Cornwall Link** community platform run by **Age UK Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly**. Check out the latest additions **here.**

SPOTLIGHT ON .....

CO-CREATING CORNWALL'S FUTURE

Co-creating Cornwall's Future is an online summit taking place on June 11 which aims to inform, enthuse, and inspire the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector.

While the world looks at Cornwall for the G7 Summit, help co-create Cornwall's future. We aim for the result of empowering future generations to steward our beautiful natural resources, sustain a thriving economy and remain healthy and well into old age.

Who is it for?
Volunteers, staff and those proud of the VCSE community locally, nationally and internationally.

Why should I attend?
Come away from the event inspired, motivated and empowered with new insights, connections and strategies. Our gift to all attendees will be an e-brochure, filled with recordings, facts and stats and video captures of the day.

Goals and objectives
The event aims to showcase the talent, innovation and entrepreneurism of Cornwall's voluntary sector communities and citizens who are already doing exciting, responsive, and forward-thinking work in the county.

Inclusivity will be a continuous thread throughout the conference and the event will explore the inequalities identified in all three key themes. To link in with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals as a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all.

Find out more and book here.

You can also join in via #IamCornwall You take part in the Co-Creating event by recording a short landscape video (30 seconds or less) which starts with the sentence "#IamCornwall..." then simply say what Cornwall means to you. Send your video to comms@cornwallvsf.org or via WhatsApp 07990633615. VSF will add all of the videos to create a Cornwall-shaped film depicting the voices of Cornwall. These voices will help to help shape the content of the event, the subsequent pledge and to create a sense of community.

FREE SUPPORT FOR SMALL BUSINESS/ COMMUNITY IDEAS

The School of Social Entrepreneurs' Springboard programme now offers free bite-sized learning sessions to people living in Newquay, St Columb Major, Bodmin, Tintagel, Launceston and Bude.

The programme is 12 hours of free support to help individuals explore and develop ideas for small business or community projects, using a combination of small group sessions and 1:1 mentoring. It is tailored to each person's needs so they can move and grow at the pace they feel comfortable with.

Find out more by calling/texting 07725 834527, emailing springboard@sse.org.uk or **click here**.

ENDING UK POVERTY FOR GOOD: READ HOW HERE

The UK has long had a poverty problem, with a decade of public service cuts pushing families across the country further into hardship.

The Covid-19 crisis made life even harder for many after thousands were made **redundant**, lost income on the **furlough scheme** and faced higher living costs in lockdown.

Read **more** from the experts on how we can end UK poverty for good.