

OUR NEWS

MARCH 2022



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CROSS OF ST PIRAN AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

The Diocese of Truro's annual Cross of St Piran Awards will be making a return to St Piran's Church in Perranzabuloe this year for the first time since 2020.

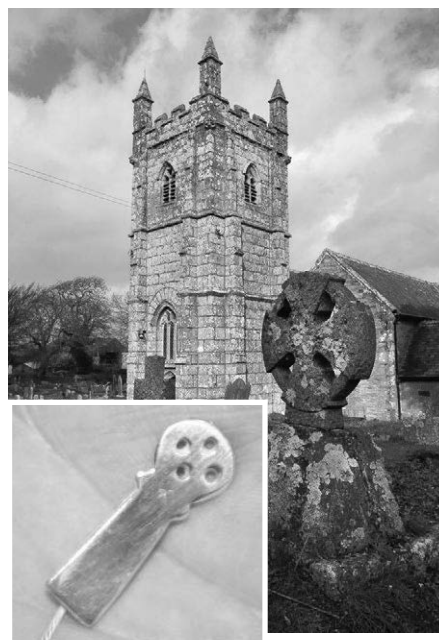
The 2022 awards will see 18 people recognised for their service and dedication to their churches and communities.

As in the pre-Covid years, there will be two services on March 6 lead by the Bishop of Truro, the Rt Revd Philip Mounstephen and the Bishop of St Germans, the Rt Revd Hugh Nelson.

Each year deaneries are asked to nominate individuals who have gone above and beyond in their service. This year there was an increased emphasis on those working within the areas of the five priorities in the Saints' Way as well as those working to support others during the pandemic.

The 2022 nominees are:

Pat Sedgeman, Carnmarth North
Julie Munro, Carnmarth South
Sian Gaston, Carnmarth South
Robert Hulks, Penwith
Marilyn Bowden, Penwith
Ed Oates, Penwith
Alex Farrell*, Penwith
Kay Robinson, Powder
Ron Holland, Pydar
Marion Holland, Pydar
Cathy Woodman, St Austell
June Fahey, St Austell



John Keast*, St Austell
Hannah Clifford, Stratton
Carol Baker, Trigg Major
Sarah Vinson, Trigg Major
Helen Eustace, Trigg Minor & Bodmin
Geoffrey Cox, West Wivelshire

Attendance at the awards is by invitation only with each recipient allowed to bring a number of guests.

**Bishop's Award*

CATHEDRAL REVIEW

The Church of England has changed significantly in recently years in its safeguarding procedures, and there has been a highly public process of review of safeguarding practice within each diocese and cathedral.

With issues over governance firmly on cathedrals' agendas, the Bishop of Truro and Dean of Truro have agreed to hold a robust and extensive review of governance and safeguarding processes and practices within Truro Cathedral to ensure that the cathedral is both clear and efficient in its governance processes, as well as following clear and transparent procedures with regard to safeguarding.

The review will be undertaken by an external team of reviewers headed up by the Rt Revd Joanne Grenfell, the Bishop of Stepney. The reviewers will be visiting the cathedral over the next few weeks, and it is hoped that its initial report will be available in early April.

READ THE REVIEWS
INTRODUCTION LETTER

CALLING ALL BELL RINGERS

In June there will be an extended Bank Holiday to mark HM Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee. Bell ringing in churches across the UK and Commonwealth will be marking this celebration with a co-ordinated call to ring to coincide with the Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's taking place on Friday, June 3. The Central Council of Church Bell Ringers is supporting this initiative.

Tower teams may already be aware that they have been asked to ring between 19:52 to 20:22 on Sunday, June 5 to close the extended weekends celebrations.

BISHOP'S LETTER - LENT

Lent is a gift. In a busy, often self-obsessed and superficial world, it invites us to slow down and to look deeper into the deeper things of life, and in particular to see how we might be called to change; to repent of actions and attitudes that do not honour God and which keep us from him.

BISHOP HUGH

Sometimes those things are deeply personal, just for us and God to deal with together, but often they are questions we need to grapple with together. Sin, after all, isn't just about those moments when we forget to say thank you or have one cake too many, it's also the ways in which we all participate in patterns and ways of life that damage the earth, lead to injustice and draw the world away from the kingdom of faith, hope and love that Jesus came to bring. Sin is both personal and corporate, both present in little individual every-day acts, and in the deeper ways that society behaves towards those on the edge.

And there's plenty for us to consider together at the moment:

How do we deal with a past which included Christian involvement in, and support for, slavery and deep seated racism? (And if you haven't heard or read the speech by Lord Boating to General Synod recently, it is well worth reading).

How do we look hopefully into the future, as the consequences of our destructive relationship with creation, and the climate emergency we have caused, becomes clearer?

How do we live well in the present, as levels of poverty rise and the housing crisis grows?

How do we do all of this as we emerge from the pandemic and face



complex and demanding decisions as the church in Cornwall?

These are some of the issues of past, future and present that we are called to grapple with in Lent. And we do so, not because we want to focus on our difficulties and challenges, but because it is in grappling with the complicated, messy stuff, and doing so with one another, that we can become aware of the ways in which we are falling short of the glory of God. And it's in that hard won awareness that we can choose again the way of life and justice which Jesus came to call us into.

Lent offers us the gift of 40 days; 40 days to consider again how we are called to live, individually, as churches and as a whole society. May you know the gift and blessing of those 40 days this year.

The Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent book, Embracing Justice by Rev Dr Isabelle Hamley, picks up these themes.

PARISH TRAINING AVAILABLE

The 2022 Parish Training Programme is now available.

Courses cover everything from Completing Your Parish Returns, Finance drop-ins, Communications Drop-ins,

Data Protection for Safeguarding Officers, Minute Taking, Insurance for Churches, Setting up an International Link in Your Parish and much more.

FIND OUT MORE HERE



THY KINGDOM COME

Plans are underway Thy Kingdom Come (TKC) which this year takes place from May 26 to June 5, 2022.

At its online launch event on February 28 new resources will be unveiled for churches, families and individuals, as well as ways worshipping communities can participate over the 11 days.

For adults, the main resources this year is the Prayer Journal and Novena - both written by Archbishop Justin Welby, with the Novena based on 1 Peter, the foundation scripture for the Lambeth Conference. 150,000 free copies will be given away as part of this year.

TKC will also be teaming up with 24-7 Prayer providing daily audio reflections for their Lectio 365 app.

For children and families, there will be a brand-new series of Cheeky Pandas animations based on the Fruit of the Spirit (including a platinum Jubilee related episode) packed with fun, music, and biblical truths. Each episode will have an accompanying activity pack and assembly plan, which can be used at church, at home, or school.

For youth, there will be a brand-new video series produced by a leading Christian Youth Ministry.

Speaking of this year's plans, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, said: "Thy Kingdom Come happens every year because we constantly rely on a fresh empowering of the Holy Spirit. The urgency, vitality and necessity of Christians across the world joining together praying, 'Come, Holy Spirit' is essential. This is not primarily for our own renewal - but that we may live the calling of Christ to be His witnesses. I commend the resources the TKC team have produced for this year and pray they would enable our prayers, which we pray in the certainty that the Father always gives the Spirit to those who ask."

To sign up to the webinar click [here](#).

EVERYONE SHOULD TRY CHURCH RESTORATION AT SOME POINT

Those words were recently said to me by someone who contacted us to make a donation a few years ago and is now immersed in St Sampson's Unlocked, the half a million-pound restoration project at St Sampson's Church, South Hill. The more I thought about his words the more I realised what a profound statement this was, *writes Judith Ayers.*

A church restoration makes you realise the importance of things, temporal and spiritual. It makes you think about the faith of others and your own faith. It draws you into something deeper than bricks and mortar. It provides a timeless stabilising effect on the fast pace of modern life. It makes you see the scope and size of a project which sounds so simple on the outside but is complicated and involves layers of expertise. It is a slow process. It demands working and praying with others. Part of the joy of being a Christian is having hope for the future and serving others.

I have been surprised by the passion of the many skilled crafts people who care deeply about their skill, be it windows, bells or monuments. I have made some very good friends as we work together, laugh together and sometimes cry together.

Church restoration often starts with the faith community wanting to 'fix' their building. For us this has had an amazing knock-on effect. We needed to think what we could do with the building and community consultation came up with over 100 ideas. To do any of these we needed to make the building warm, dry and draught free, with works to the roof, ceiling, windows, floor and heating - and we needed to put in a toilet and kitchen. From the start we realised it was not a building project but a mission project. An opportunity to open the church for all to use and for people to experience the awesome sacred place which is St Sampson's Church.

If you have an interest in history, churches have so much to discover. The research on our windows and the families they mention took me all over the world via face book and e mail. Our

remote rural church now has contacts in Australia, Canada and the USA. The expertise of our stone mason and glazier have been more than illuminating!

Starting with St Sampson in the fifth century, we are connected to Trelawney, William Wilberforce, Sir Francis Drake and the Armada, the Knights of the Garter, Daphne Du Maurier and several of the old noble families of Cornwall! All have left their mark here.

When our bells were taken down for restoration it was an opportunity for volunteers from the community to help and for local bell enthusiasts to become involved. We were astonished and delighted by the number of people who came to help or just to watch and we were all surprised by the strength of feeling that our 1698 bells evoked in us. These bells had rung out at so many important events down the years but have not been fully heard for over 50 years. After being largely unknown or ignored for so long, the community now feels very strongly about restoring them.

Like many churches, we have bats. Our bats started as a problem but have become a blessing. They too have brought us inspiring and knowledgeable enthusiasts and drawn new people to become involved. Conserving habitat and learning about our roof residents is another reason to be involved in church restoration.

At St Sampson's we are slowly fulfilling our vision. It is a long journey. Along the way we have doubled our church attendance and our electoral roll but more importantly the residents of our community know that we exist for them.

READ MORE HERE



THE STORIES OF GATHER

Before Transforming Mission (TM) rolled into Cornwall there was some trepidation that everything would change. But TM isn't big-booted, it hasn't bullied or trampled. Instead, it has wings and has flown powered by the warm winds of the Holy Spirit. One of the places it has touched down is All Saints Highertown, ASH, in Truro.

ASH is known for its determination to put community at the heart of the church. That's very visible in its social justice and action work with people who are struggling, especially post pandemic. Less well known is the TM teams desire to create a community that isn't bound by previous expectations of what church is. The new Gather service at 4pm each Sunday is one step on their journey to making that happen.

"Sometimes it feels like we're just playing catch-up to God," says Social Justice Missioner Joff Phipps. He has a plan and is rolling it out and we're just riding that wave!"

Stories are central to Gather. Stories and simple church. "Everyone loves a story," says Joff. "They help us discover who we are, what we want from life - my other favourite story is Robin Hood!" ASH might not be robbing from the rich to give to the poor, but it certainly has a strong sense of fair play.

For Joff and Worship Leader Robin Mitchell the greatest story of all is the Bible and responding to that is what's shaping the new Gather service. The Bible is huge, complex and often deeply confusing. But at its heart is a simple and loving story of Jesus love and how he showed his love. Through hospitality, sharing food, being available, answering questions.

READ MORE HERE

CREATION CARE NETWORK GATHERING

The monthly Creation Care Network live ZOOM gathering will take place on the first Thursday of the month between 10am and 12 noon.

The next one will be on **Thursday, March 3, 2022**, you can register [here](#).

These gatherings include a mix of training, news, updates, and time to share our own experiences of Creation Care, as well as practical support with Kernow Green Church Award and Eco Church.

In the week after these Zoom gatherings, we circulate an email update with links to relevant events and resources to equip each of us in our local context.



USEFUL LINKS

- + [CREATION CARE WEB PAGE](#)
- + [REGISTER FOR THE KERNOW GREEN CHURCH AWARD](#)
- + [BECOME A CREATION CARE CHAMPION](#)
- + [SIGN UP TO RECEIVE CREATION CARE UPDATES](#)

WHAT'S ON MARCH

- 2 Data Protection for Safeguarding Officers**, 6pm - 7pm. [Book here.](#)
- 8 Talking Pioneering**, 7.30pm - 8.30pm, [book online here.](#)
- 10 Loss & Bereavement Awareness Training**, 10.15am - 12.45pm. [Book here](#)
- 15 Minute taking with John Truscott**, 6.30pm - 8.30pm, [Book here.](#)
- 22 Completing your Parish Return Drop-in session for parishes**, 10am - 11am, [Book here.](#)
- 23 Insurance for Churches with Kay Short**, 6.30pm - 7.30pm, [Book here.](#)
- 23 Cranmer Day Commemoration**, Truro Cathedral, 3.30pm - 6.30pm.
- 26 Mothers' Union Lady Day Service**, Truro Cathedral, 11am - 12pm.

DIOCESAN PRAYER DIARY

The Diocese of Truro **Prayer Diary** helps us hold in our prayers the world wide Anglican Communion, bishops and their dioceses, parishes in our own diocese, those who minister both clergy and lay, and all who contribute to the life and witness of our churches.



PrayerMate

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Big Green Fair

Saturday 19 March 10:00-16:00

Networking for churches, charities, businesses and civic organisations with an interest in tackling climate change and the degradation of the natural environment.

Entry for visitors will be free and all are welcome.

Come and tell others what you are doing.
Come and find out what others are doing.

Speakers' Corner

Key note session with film by Cornwall Climate Care and Q & A,
led by Rt Revd Hugh Nelson, Bishop of St Germans

To book a table or a 'speaker's corner' slot, visit the Truro Cathedral website

www.trurocathedral.org.uk

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