

# OUR NEWS

## SEPTEMBER 2023



[SIGN UP TO OUR MAILINGS HERE](#)



Photo credit: LLE Photography

## MEET THE NEW DEAN OF TRURO

Father Simon Robinson SMMS (Sodality of Mary, Mother of Priests) has been named as the next Dean of Truro.

Simon has been the interim Dean of Truro since October 2022.

Fr Simon was previously Vicar of Minehead and has a long history, prior to ordination, of senior leadership in the education sector. He has also been the Chair of the Diocesan Board of Education for the Diocese of Bath and Wells, and sits on Diocesan and General Synod and various trust boards, both church and community. In 2021 he completed the Strategic Leadership Development Programme, a five-year programme for clergy identified as potential future leaders on a strategic and senior level. He is a national selector for candidates for ordination and Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands for the Diocese in Europe.

The Rt Revd Hugh Nelson, Bishop of St Germans, said: "This is wonderful news for the cathedral, the diocese and for the whole of Cornwall. Fr Simon has done a wonderful job for the last 10 months

and I very much look forward to working closely with him into the future."

On his appointment, Fr Simon said: "I am over the moon that The King has approved my nomination as the next Dean of Truro, and really truly excited to be working and serving at this great cathedral here in Cornwall. I am committed to my belief that Truro Cathedral is here for everyone who lives and works and visits Cornwall. It does not belong to me, it belongs firstly to God and then to everyone, whoever they are and whatever their faith status is. I believe firmly in the Welcome of God to all people, something I see right at the heart of the Gospel. I will do everything I can to ensure that we continue to build on that Gospel welcome."

Simon will be installed in the autumn by Bishop Hugh. More details will be available in due course. All will be very welcome to attend the service.

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE AT HEART OF SEPTEMBER'S SYNOD

The next diocesan synod takes place on Saturday, September 23 at Bishop Bronescombe School in St Austell and on Zoom.

The theme of the second synod of 2023 is 'A Church that conspicuously celebrates children and young people at its heart'. This theme will be evident throughout the gathering as members hear from children and young people, listen to a presentation on the teaching of religious education in church schools and meet the new interim Diocesan Director of Education, Lee Moscato.

The synod will also mark the first Presidential Address for Bishop Hugh Nelson as he takes the helm of the diocese following Bishop Philip's departure for Winchester.

Synod members have until September 16 to submit questions under Standing Orders. If you have a question you would like raised, do make sure you speak to your representative in good time.

## GIVE THE GIFT OF HOPE THIS CHRISTMAS

The 2023 Cornish Christmas Giving Catalogue will soon be launched.

Consider giving the gift of hope this Christmas by supporting one of the 20 local charities and organisations featured.

The catalogue raised almost £12,000 for local charities working with children, young people, homeless and vulnerable individuals in 2022. The catalogue will be available online and in print. Watch this space for more details next month.



## SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING FOR BISHOP PHILIP & RUTH MOUNSTEPHEN

You are invited to attend a  
Choral Evensong service of thanksgiving & farewell  
for Bishop Philip & Ruth Mounstephen

**Sunday, September 17, 4pm  
at Truro Cathedral**

This will be followed by an informal time with refreshments and  
an opportunity to thank Bishop Philip and Ruth.

Clergy and Readers are invited to robe if they would like to.

**This is an open event - everyone is invited.**

Please do share this invitation with others.

There is no need to RSVP.

We look forward to seeing you on the day.



# FAREWELL SERVICE FOR BISHOP PHILIP & RUTH MOUNSTEPHEN

A Choral Evensong service of  
thanksgiving and farewell for Bishop  
Philip and Ruth Mounstephen will take  
place at Truro Cathedral on Sunday,  
September 17 and all are welcome to  
attend.

The service will begin at  
4pm and will be followed  
by an informal time with  
refreshments for people to  
speak to +Philip and Ruth.

The service is an open event  
which everyone is invited to  
attend. Clergy and Readers  
are invited to robe if they  
would like.

There is no need to RSVP.

Bishop Philip is leaving the  
diocese to take up the role of  
Bishop of Winchester. The  
announcement was made in  
early July.

The Bishop of St Germans,  
the Rt Revd Hugh Nelson, will  
take over leading the diocese  
through the Vacancy in See  
process before a new Bishop  
of Truro is appointed in spring  
2025.



## OVERSIGHT MINISTER

The Revd Jo Northey has been licensed  
in her new role as oversight minister for  
Cornwall's southeastern peninsula, an  
area encompassing Torpoint, Maryfield,  
St John, Millbrook, Cawsand, Maker,  
Rame, Antony, Shevioc, Hessenford,  
Tideford, Downderry and St Germans.  
Jo says Church needs to engage  
people in forms of worship and action  
that are attractive, impactful and  
intergenerational. "I'll have succeeded if  
I've been able to equip local people to do  
these things in their communities."







## MINISTERING TO DOWNDERRY

Born on the island of Hoy in the Orkneys the year the war ended, David Watters had flirted with the idea of ordination from a young age.

"I felt a call to some form of ministry when I was in my teens," he explains. "But I chose to follow the old adage: if you can do anything else don't get ordained."

Instead, we went to work for four years for the Church of Scotland as a lay parish assistant in Crieff, Glasgow, the North West Highlands and finally Edinburgh.

"But I always hankered after doing something much more hands-on," he says.

So, he relocated to London, where he took a job working with homeless and rootless people, at the Church of St Martin-in-the-Fields on the northeast corner of Trafalgar Square.

He moved on to work for housing agencies in London, and then for the UK Haemophilia Society.

It was while living in London that he met Tim. They met in church more than 40 years ago, and have been together ever since. They were married in 2014.

"We got married the first year that we could," says Tim.

They moved permanently to Cornwall in 2005. They now live with their dog Robbie in the village of Downderry, where Tim serves as a member of the Parochial Church Council and David performs his duties as the local lay reader.

On retiring at 60, David felt he was too old to start thinking about ordination and chose instead to take the three-year course to become a reader, which he completed in 2008.

That status now allows him to preach, to conduct funerals, to make pastoral visits and to administer home Communion.

He believes that anyone thinking of starting upon the journey of lay ministry should first carefully consider what that means.

"They should think about what their faith has to say in their local community," he says. "Long gone are the days when the Church could exist only for itself. These days, it's got to be a place of inclusion, welcome and enthusiasm for the Christian life – just as Jesus showed us."

After nearly two decades living in Cornwall, David was recently, as he puts it, "really chuffed" when a local family asked him to conduct their father's funeral and said they'd chosen to ask him because he was what they called a good Cornish guy.

"A good Cornish guy from the Orkneys," he smiles, his soft Scots accent still strong.

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)

## LAY MINISTRY IN PHILLEIGH

For the last eight years Kay Robinson has led worship at St Philleigh Church, where she also serves as churchwarden, safeguarding lead and representative to the Powder Deanery Synod. She's also due shortly to be commissioned as lay minister to the parish. With her husband Phil, and support from new Oversight Minister Douglas Wren, the couple run a number of services in the small community.

[READ MORE ABOUT KAY'S LAY MINISTRY WORK HERE](#)

## PARISH TRAINING

The 2023 Parish Training Programme is now available. The FREE sessions coming up in September are:

Sept 12 **Finance Drop-in session**

Sept 14 **Net Zero 2030: Our Net Zero 2030 Journey panel discussion & Q&A**

Sept 16 **PCC Treasurers training**

[FIND OUT MORE HERE](#)

## 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.



**Welcome to Pilgrim Explorers!**

Looking for something to do with the family?

**FREE** micro pilgrimages are now available.

All the guides and maps are available **FREE** here:  
[pilgrimexplorers.co.uk](http://pilgrimexplorers.co.uk)  
and on Instagram:

[instagram.com/pilgrim\\_explorers](https://www.instagram.com/pilgrim_explorers)

# GOT THE CREATION CARE BUG

The Church of St Andrew in Stratton is a quietly beautiful place.

In recent months and years, its parishioners have come to focus increasingly on the church's duties of care for the natural world in this era of climate emergency and biodiversity crisis.

"It needs to be brought to everyone's attention that the environment is in a dire state," churchwarden Val Hopper explains. "If the church can do its bit, that's as it should be."

The local vicar agrees. Rector to the Benefice of North Kernow, the Reverend Teresa Folland had first developed an interest in such matters while studying for her ordination.

"That's where my passion for the environment had begun to grow," she recalls.

In July, Teresa conducted a special service for people from across her benefice to celebrate creation care. The service was supported by eight new local worship leaders, with the sermon preached by Revd Ben Lillie, the diocesan environmental officer.

## READ MORE HERE



## READ THE LATEST CREATION CARE NEWSLETTER HERE

**School governors required for Church of England schools.**  
More information here.

## WHAT'S ON

### SEPTEMBER

**1-3 Flower Festival**, St Breward Church.

**16 Education Service of Commissioning**, Truro Cathedral, 11am - 12 noon.

**16 Creation Care Service of Celebration**, Truro Cathedral, 2pm - 3.30pm.

**30 Celebration of Reader Ministry**, Truro Cathedral, 11.30am - 1pm.

## MORE EVENTS HERE

## CREATION CARE NETWORK USEFUL LINKS

The next Creation Care Network gathering is on Thursday, September 14 (10am). All are via the Zoom [link](#).

- + CREATION CARE WEB PAGE
- + REGISTER FOR THE KERNOW GREEN CHURCH AWARD
- + BECOME A CREATION CARE CHAMPION
- + SIGN UP TO RECEIVE CREATION CARE UPDATES
- + CREATION CARE FACEBOOK GROUP



## CREATION CARE SERVICE OF CELEBRATION

Address by The Rt Revd Hugh Nelson  
Bishop of St Germans

## JUSTICE OR JUST US?

Climate justice and what that means

## PRESENTATIONS

Kernow Green Church Awards  
& Eco Church Awards

Music from Cornwall Youth Choir


**TRURO CATHEDRAL**  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023**  
**2PM**

## ALL WELCOME

Come and join us for a cup of tea and a chat

ENQUIRIES CALL 01872 274351 EMAIL [CREATIONCARE@TRURO.ANGLICAN.ORG](mailto:CREATIONCARE@TRURO.ANGLICAN.ORG)





*"Readers are Community Theologians who teach, preach and enable everyday faith"*

## CELEBRATION OF READER MINISTRY

### ADMISSION AND LICENSING OF NEW READERS

**11.30am**  
**Saturday, September 30**  
**Truro Cathedral**

**ALL WELCOME**

INTERESTED IN READER MINISTRY?  
[TRURODIOCESE.ORG.UK/RESOURCES/MINISTRY/LAY-MINISTRY-READERS/READERS/](http://TRURODIOCESE.ORG.UK/RESOURCES/MINISTRY/LAY-MINISTRY-READERS/READERS/)

