

MINISTRY MATTERS FROM OUR DIOCESE



Welcome to Ministry Matters from the Diocese of Truro ministry team

Updating you on Ministry news within the diocese, together with information and links to learning opportunities

ANNA CHAPLAINCY

The UK population now comprises more people over the age of 60 than under the age of 18, for the first time ever; what is the church saying about old age, both positively and negatively? How can we as Christians serve older people through the provision of good spiritual care, whilst combatting ageism and exclusion, and honouring the contribution of older people in our churches and communities?

Anna Chaplains offer spiritual care in later life and are appointed by local churches, serving in different contexts right across the UK. Anna Chaplaincy is part of BRF Ministries, and is a flexible, ecumenical, community-based chaplaincy, a ministry of compassion and non-judgemental presence. The ministry is named after Anna the prophetess in Luke's gospel – a wonderful example of a 'hope-full' older person who, alongside Simeon, served God faithfully and with confidence.

Pioneer and founder Debbie Thrower was the first Anna Chaplain in Alton, Hampshire, and quickly realised that this was a model that could be replicated in a variety of contexts. Under the umbrella of BRF Ministries, the network has grown rapidly since 2014; as of November this year, 330 Anna Chaplains and those in equivalent roles are involved in this ministry, plus hundreds of Anna Friends/volunteers.

This ministry model is not intended to replace existing pastoral ministry



in the church but to complement it, offering a specialised resource, embedding best practice, effective support structures and training in this particular area of ministry.

Truro Diocese is in the process of taking out a Head Licence Agreement with BRF allowing us to take forward this ministry and use the trademarked Anna Chaplaincy name and logo.

Anna Chaplains are outward-facing – a gift from their church to the local community – and serve in places where older people might gather, offering a creative pastoral response to some of the challenges of ageing and social isolation experienced. Anna Chaplains are there to accompany older people of strong, little or no faith; the network is made up of women and men, lay and ordained, paid and voluntary individuals and teams. Anna Chaplains and Anna Friends are generous in sharing expertise and ideas, which complements

the high-quality resources and training offered by the national team.

There are already a number of Anna Chaplains in Cornwall and local Anna Chaplain John Tootell is available to speak at deanery synods: for more information, please email john_tootell@hotmail.com or 07962 004869

To find out more about becoming an Anna Chaplain contact [Sarah Welply](mailto:sarah.welply@brf.org.uk) or the national team annachaplaincy@brf.org.uk Debbie Ducille, Church Lead, Anna Chaplaincy for Older People

KEY SKILLS IN PASTORAL MINISTRY

A six session introductory course in pastoral ministry.

In person course - Looe
Thursdays 10.30am - 12.30pm
Starting Thursday 25 January 2024

Online course
Wednesday evenings at 7pm
Starting Wednesday 17 January 2024

For further information contact
Sarah Welply,
Lay Ministries Development Officer
via [email here](mailto:sarah.welply@brf.org.uk)

WELLBEING MATTERS

From the Clergy Wellbeing Group

Confidential Support Services

A reminder that all clergy and their families have free access to our **Employee Assistance Programme** run by Health Assured (username = Truro; password = Diocese).

The programme not only offers a counselling service but also has a huge range of health and wellbeing resources, and provides advice on financial, legal and other matters.

And don't forget that we also have our own **Diocesan Counselling Service** co-ordinated by **Jane Vaughan-Wilson**.

Talking about wellbeing with your PCCs

The clergy wellbeing group have produced a guide to help you have a discussion with your PCCs about wellbeing, both yours and theirs. We can also provide a facilitator if you would like support in running a session or including it on your PCC agenda.



ONLINE WELLBEING GATHERING FOR CLERGY SPOUSES AND PARTNERS

An online gathering for clergy spouses and partners is being arranged for Thursday, 11 January 2024 at 7.30pm – 9pm. The topic for the evening will be Wellbeing. This will be an opportunity to hear about the diocesan strategy and plan for clergy wellbeing, the wellbeing resources available to support clergy and their families, and time to share together effective ways of looking after our own wellbeing.

Clergy spouses and partners, who have already shared their contact details with the diocese, will receive an invitation by email during December, but if your spouse or partner has not already joined the Clergy Spouses and Partners email list and they would like to attend or join, please ask them to get in touch with

Lizzie Nelson or **Ruth Trinick**

For more details email:

Sally Piper, Head of Ministry or **Louise Court**, Director of HR or ring Louise on 01872 247217.

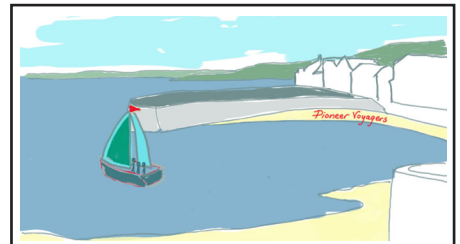
Mental Health Training

MIND Cornwall run a free 6-week course "Five Ways to Wellbeing" where anyone can learn about each of the **Five Ways**, and how to incorporate them into everyday life. It's a friendly, no pressure group. **More info here.**

The Sanctuary Course

A free small-group resource designed to reduce stigma, raise awareness, and engage communities in meaningful conversations about mental health and faith. Each session examines a key mental health topic, and the accompanying films feature insights from mental health professionals, church leaders, and theologians.

Find out more about The Sanctuary Course **here.**



PIONEER VOYAGERS

CMS South West Pioneer Hub run an online monthly storytelling space called 'Pioneer Voyagers.' All are welcome!

The next meeting is on Wednesday, December 13. Kate Neal, an author and illustrator based in Cornwall, is coming to tell her story of how God gave her a vision, one step at a time, to change the culture in children's hearts and education. Sitting at the far end of the pioneer spectrum this will be a fascinating voyage.

Kate is the author of 'Words and Your Heart', 'Wonderful You' and 'Powerful You'. She is also the founder and director of the Culture of the Heart, a mental and emotional well-being resource for primary schools.

If you would like to join the session please email **Melanie Pomeroy** for the Zoom link.



Appointment of Staff Tutor (0.4 FTE)

An exciting position has arisen with the South West Ministry Training Course for a dynamic individual who is passionate about contributing to the mission of the Church of England in the South West.

Part-time staff tutor on a 0.4 FTE (16 hours per week) basis.

Please contact the Principal, Revd Dr Lucy Larkin at principal@swmtc.org.uk for a job description and application form.

Application deadline: 12 noon on 27th November 2023

CROSS OF ST PIRAN AWARDS 2024

Details of the process for submitting a nomination for a Cross of St Piran award have now been sent out to Rural Deans, Licensed clergy, Readers and Deanery Lay Chairs. Nominations should be submitted to your Rural Deans and Lay Chairs (if you are currently without a Lay Chair then submit to your Rural Dean).

Criteria and details for nominations can be viewed on our **website here.** The reason for the nomination needs to be a maximum of 250 words. Once a deanery standing committee has made a decision and filled in the relevant form then these should be submitted by the Rural Dean or Lay Chair only to the **Bishop's office** by 10 January 2024.

CMD PROGRAMME: 2023 AND BEYOND

Canon Law

Tuesday, November 28
9.30am-11.30am, online

Led by Canon Paul Arthur

This session on canon law will provide a general overview of what canon law is and its status, followed by some discussion of the employment status of ministers of religion and how that affects our work. There will also be discussions on marriage preliminaries, legalities and registration.

[BOOK HERE](#)

Mental Health First Aid - one day course

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

9.30am-4.15pm, Epiphany House
Led by Healthy Cornwall

An awareness and skills course with a workplace focus which will teach you to:

- Recognise the main signs and symptoms of common mental health issues

- Provide initial support and signposting to professional help
- Be mindful of your own wellbeing
- Develop an understanding of how you can create and maintain a healthier workforce or community

[BOOK HERE](#)

Also coming soon in 2024...

- [TravellerSpace](#), supporting Gypsies and Travellers in Cornwall and the South West
- Revd Dr Robert Evans
- [Revd Bryony Taylor](#)
- Transformation Cornwall
- Royal School of Church Music
- Revd Howard Peskett
- Dr Steven Horne
- Understanding Christianity Resource for Schools

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE DIOCESAN NEWS

From the stewardship newsletter to the diocesan monthly newsletter 'Our News' and Worship Matters, the diocese has a number of mailings which provide useful and important information for clergy and others.

To see what mailings are available, sign up or manage your subscriptions, please visit the [website here](#).

The diocesan facebook group Diocese of Truro - Let's share best practice and support one another! is also a good place to share and to network with others.

You can [join the Facebook group here](#).

CONTACT US

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EXTERNAL OPPORTUNITIES

Truro Cathedral Advent Course

Wednesday evenings from

November 22,

St Luke's Room, OCS

[Email Elly Sheard for info](#)

Church Support Webinars

Resources for a successful children and youth ministry

November 27, 11am-12pm, online

[Book here](#)

The Vacation Term for Biblical Study

Westminster College,

Cambridge

July 21-August 2, 2024

[More info here](#)

Church Army

Discovery Evening

February 26, 2024, 7-9.30pm, online

[Book here](#)

Digital Labs Webinars

How to use Canva for your church

February 26, 2024, 7-9.30pm, online

[Book here](#)

CPAS

Living courageously in an era of complexity

January 24, 2024, 10-11am, online

[Book here](#)

[More external courses here](#)