

OUR NEWS

OCTOBER 2024



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41 NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED TO DIOCESAN SYNOD

The first meeting of the new Triennium of Diocesan Synod took place on September 14.

Following elections early this year there were 41 new members attending. With that in mind, the agenda was mainly focused on what diocesan synod is, what it does and how it works.

There was time set aside in the agenda for the two houses – the House of Clergy and the House of Laity – to meet separately and to get to know one another as well as carry out house relevant business including the election of secretaries and vice chairs.

After sharing a pasty lunch together, the members came back together under the banner of Members of the Truro Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd (TDBF) to elect a new chair of the TDBF following the departure of Mike

Sturgess. Justin Day was elected with unanimous support to replace Mike.

Other business included a report on Change and Renewal and the amendment of Canon 43.

Earlier in 2024 elections were held for seats on diocesan synod and for the first time in many years, there was a good field of candidates. The House of Laity which has 46 available places now has 23 new members. The House of Clergy has welcomed 18 new members. There will likely be elections in 2025 to fill the 23 still vacant seats from across the two houses.

If you are interested in diocesan synod and what being a diocesan synod member entails, [click here](#).

VACANCY IN SEE NEWS PRAYING FOR OUR DIOCESE

SENS WARBATH – SAINTS TOGETHER

This is an invitation for you to [join us](#) in meeting to pray together for our diocese and for the appointment process for our new Bishop.

We meet each week from 8.30am – 9am on Wednesday mornings.

Sens Warbarth will be led by a small team of Curates, using a mix of liturgy, Bible reading and reflection, and praying together in small breakout groups.

Everyone is invited to join this time together and join in praying for the future ministry of our diocese.

CHORAL EVENSONG FOR BISHOP'S INTERVIEWS

On Monday, October 14, the eve of the first interview day for the new Bishop of Truro, we will gather in person in Truro Cathedral for Choral Evensong at 5.30pm. The focus of our prayers will be the following two days (October 15 and 16) as the CNC seeks to appoint the next Bishop of Truro. Do join us.

RECOGNISING MIKE'S GENEROUS SERVICE

After nine years as Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance, Michael Sturgess formally stepped down at Diocesan Synod in September.

Bishop Hugh said: "Mike has been an extraordinary servant of the church in Cornwall. His generous, faith-filled and skilled leadership as Chair of the TDBF have been a gift to us all over many years, and I am deeply grateful to him for everything he has done."

At the synod, Mike was asked to

step to the front where Bishop Hugh spoke of Mike's service over the last nine years before Mike was presented with cards and gifts which included solar panels for a church in Uganda in honour of Mike's interest in Creation Care.

Mike has reflected on his experiences in the 'hot seat' in a piece written for the diocesan website. You can read the full article [here](#).



NEW CHAIR OF TRURO DIOCESAN BOARD OF FINANCE ELECTED

Justin Day has been announced as the next Chair of the Truro Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd. Justin has extensive experience in law, trusteeship, and chairmanship.

Justin received overwhelming backing from diocesan synod members who voted unanimously for his appointment. He attended the diocesan synod in Bodmin on Saturday to meet synod members as his predecessor, Mike Sturgess stepped down after nine years in the role.

Justin, who hails from Looe but now lives near Truro and worships at New Street Church in Falmouth, felt called to put his experiences to good use in the role of Chair of the TDBF. He said: "The diocesan ten-year strategic plan presents some exciting opportunities and challenges for the Church in Cornwall to grow in faithfulness, curiosity and mutuality while maintaining the strong traditions built up over many generations.

"At New Street Church we are a missional church reaching out to children and young people as well as to the disadvantaged in society and I am looking forward to serving the whole of the diocese and make a positive contribution to the life of the Church in Cornwall."

Bishop Hugh Nelson, Acting Bishop of



Truro, said: "I am delighted to welcome Justin as the new Chair of the Truro Diocese Board of Finance. He brings with him long experience of finance and governance in organisations committed to supporting the people and communities of Cornwall. He has a deep faith and a gentle wisdom, and I am very much looking forward to working with him."

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)



NINE AWARDED PIONEER MISSION CERTIFICATES

The first cohort to complete the CMS Certificate in Pioneer Mission have been presented with certificates.

Over the last year, nine people whose calling is to work beyond the church walls, have been part of a learning community travelling from Looe to Truro and even to Somerset. This has been a joint training experience with Salisbury and Bath and Wells dioceses. The next cohort, which starts in January 2025, will also involve Exeter Diocese.

The award service took place at Epiphany House in Truro this month and saw Bishop Hugh Nelson give an inspirational speech inspired by his grandfather. In it, he encouraged the pioneers, who will go on to be commissioned as Local Lay Pioneers at a service on October 6, to be rooted in Christ as they venture out.

The Pioneer Mission course itself helps people look at and understand contextual mission through the lenses of church, the environment, spirituality and entrepreneurship.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

EDUCATION LEADERS COMMISSIONED

This Saturday (September 21) saw education staff and governors commissioned as part of a service to give thanks and celebrate the work of those in our schools.

The service, which was led by Bishop Hugh Nelson, featured readings and hymns before headteachers, teachers, staff, governors, and CEOs stood to be commissioned, watched by their family and friends.

Everyone commissioned received a little gift bag containing a candle, cross-

shaped lapel pin and prayer cards.

Lee Moscato, Diocesan Director of Education, said: "This special service is a time when we recognise and celebrate the work of all those in and around our schools. It's a time to come together, with God, in our cathedral to give thanks for all that those in our schools give in order that every pupil in every school might live life in all its fullness."

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)



CHURCHES PROVIDED £17K VIA ACTS 435 IN 2023

Over £17,000 was given to people in need via **Acts 435** and Anglican churches in Cornwall last year.

Six churches from across the diocese posted requests and 131 of those requests were met to the tune of £17,220.

One of the churches was St Martin's in Liskeard. Mike Sturgess from St Martin's said: "ACTS 435 is a real blessing. We've helped people replace white goods, we've helped people get their car back on the road so they can get to work, and we've helped a mother and children get set up in a new home after fleeing an abusive relationship. We've even helped replace children's Christmas presents that were taken by bailiffs from under the Christmas tree whilst the children were in the room. Most requests take two to three weeks to be met, although the record was an amazing two hours for the children's Christmas presents!

"More and more we are combining ACTS 435 with our crisis fund (a grant from Cornwall Community Foundation) to provide a little more help. Clients are referred through social services, schools or the church's own network. Most are flabbergasted that complete strangers are prepared to help them. It's an amazing example of the gospel in action."

Revd Jules Williams from the Boscoppa, Blazey and Luxulyan benefice, said: "Acts 435 has been a valuable string to our bow. There are often one-off items that people need and purchasing them would push the family (often further) into debt.

"To give one example a parent from the local school was heavily in debt

IS YOUR CHURCH A GENEROUS CHURCH?

When we talk about generosity we often think about money but generosity is about so much more. Generosity is about how we respond to our generous God who pours his gifts out to us daily. Generosity

DIOCESE OF TRURO

With + For
THOSE IN NEED

after suffering from depression and losing control of her finances. We put her in contact with CAP who were able to get her back on track. However, when it came the end of the summer holidays there were various items that her daughter needed to go to a new school. We were able to source second hand (good quality) uniform but couldn't do that with shoes. Acts 435 enabled us to buy some Clarks shoes vouchers which meant the daughter had her feet measured and was able to choose her own. In the process of giving her the vouchers a conversation was had about Acts 435 and the gospel. This lady later attended an alpha on the back of that conversation and came to faith. Since then, she and two of her daughters have been baptised."

Jean Cooke from All Saints Highertown said: "We get referrals from everywhere, Hidden Help, Women and Men's Refuges, Social services, Child Protection, Health visitors, schools, doctor's surgeries, mental health services, We Are With You (Previously Addaction), all the housing organisations, and so on. Last year we raised £12,000 for around 100 people."

should be part of our discipleship. The diocese's generous giving team writes a regular **blog** giving ideas and encouragement about how your church can develop a culture of generosity.



WE HAVE MOVED!

The Church House team has moved. You can now find us at:

**THE OLD CATHEDRAL SCHOOL,
CATHEDRAL CLOSE, TRURO,
TR1 2FQ**

We are located on the first floor of The Old Cathedral School behind Truro Cathedral.

If you require disabled parking, please contact info@truro.anglican.org so we can reserve you a space. There is a lift in the building.

For more information regarding directions to the office, transport options and parking options, click [here](#).

ORGANISING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES GUIDANCE

The Church of England places the highest priority on the safeguarding of children and adults. We have produced a number of policy and practice guidance **documents** to ensure all those who minister in the Church of England can do so as safely as possible. The **Safer Environments and Activities document** provides practical advice for parishes, and all those working on behalf of the Church engaging with children, young people and adults who maybe considered vulnerable, with advice on how to conduct day-to-day ministries safely. Along with advice on risk management planning and a more detailed look at who holds positions of responsibility within the Church there is also specific advice for different situations, along with best practice for those leading activities for children and young people.

READ THE LATEST CREATION CARE NEWSLETTER HERE



CREATION CARE CHAMPIONS HEAR ABOUT NEW WORK WITH SCHOOLS

The season of Creation is upon us, or maybe you know it as 'Creationtide'? This year's theme for Creationtide is to "hope and act with creation", this as a reflection on the symbol of the 1st fruits of hope that the Paul speaks of in his letter to the Romans, chapter 8, verses 19-25. How will each of us hope and act with creation in this coming year?

This month we were joined by Clare Green. Clare is the Schools' Creation Care Officer for the Diocese of Truro. Clare is an experienced senior teacher and is bringing all her knowledge and skill to bear within the church schools of the diocese.

Clare has developed a great range of resources for sharing creation care in schools and in establishing the Eco Schools programme. This is a great missional opportunity for the local church and community to engage with local schools. As is our practice we ensured there was time for everyone

to be heard and to share from their grounded experience in parish.

After the network's summer break in August, it was so good to see faces and hear stories of what each of you has been up to as collaborators for creation working together with creator God.

BECOME A CREATION CARE CHAMPION HERE

Don't forget its the Annual Creation Care Service of Celebration at St Andrew's Church in Redruth this Saturday (September 28) at 2pm. Come along & join us!

PODCAST: CONTESTED HERITAGE UNDER DISCUSSION

The latest in the CMD Bitesize podcast series features Rebecca Evans, Ministry Development and Inclusion Officer, talking about contested heritage in Anglican churches with Laura Moffatt, Director of Art and Christianity, and Dr Alice Kinghorn, who is researching the Church of England's involvement in

the transatlantic slavery trade through the work of missionaries.

In the coming weeks, this podcast will be continued with Rebecca talking to guests sharing their lived experiences of this topic. Stay tuned.

If you have a suggestion for a podcast show, please email Rebecca.

WHAT'S ON

OCTOBER

12 Celebration of Licensed Lay Ministers Truro Cathedral, 11.30am - 1.30pm.

14 Prayers for a new bishop, Truro Cathedral, 5.30pm - 6pm. All welcome.

[MORE EVENTS HERE](#)

PARISH TRAINING

The 2024 Parish Training Programme is now available. The **FREE** sessions coming up in October are:

- 5 PCC Secretary training**
- 8 Parish Finance Drop-in online**



CREATION CARE NETWORK USEFUL LINKS

The next Creation Care Network gathering is on Thursday, October 10 (7pm). 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](#)

