

OUR NEWS

NOVEMBER 2024



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POSITIVE & HOPEFUL SIGNS

The work we are doing together towards a fruitful and sustainable future for the Church in Cornwall is showing positive and hopeful signs.

Churches are working together on their shared deanery plans, and we know people are engaging. There has been an increase in the numbers coming forward to take on parish roles and an increase in the numbers signing up to training courses for lay roles – Thank you!

The Church House team has been working closely with parishes on a clergy recruitment campaign which has highlighted the real benefits of living and serving in Cornwall. We are delighted that this has been successful and have welcomed 17 priests into posts in the diocese over the last 12 months. Pre-covid a busy year would have seen just six or seven clergy roles advertised.

We are particularly seeing people being attracted to the Pioneer roles and Oversight roles in the diocese and we will continue to work hard to show clergy across the UK that the diocese is a positive place to be.

If we are to attract clergy and retain them, they need to feel supported. Parish ministry can be demanding for clergy, and we are committed to working with everyone who loves the church to ensure parish clergy feel properly supported by those they serve.

While clergy numbers are increasing, we are also seeing very positive signs from our vocations work within Cornwall. This year the diocese has sent ten people for ordination training, a very significant increase on previous years.

As well as good news on the numbers of priests, this month we have celebrated Lay Ministries with the licensing of the first Pioneer Licensed Lay Minister and the commissioning and recommissioning of Readers (see page 3). That follows services earlier in the month which saw the commissioning of Education leaders and Pioneers.

RECOGNISING JIM'S 18 YEARS OF SERVICE

It is with thanks and gratitude that we will say goodbye to Jim Cock who will step down from his role as DAC member in November following 18 years' service.

Jim joined the Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) in 2006 and has served under three DAC Chairs, four DAC secretaries and seven Archdeacons. Following a successful career as an architect, Jim lent his

skills to the DAC, concentrating on the Archdeaconry of Bodmin and shared his knowledge freely and generously.

Jim said: "It has been a great privilege to have sat on the DAC for so long. I shall look back over my years on the DAC with affection, fondness and friendship and wish you all well in the years to come."

[READ MORE HERE](#)

THANKSGIVING FOR RETIRED CLERGY

An afternoon of celebration and thanksgiving for the ministry of retired clergy was held at Truro Cathedral this month.

Retired Clergy were invited to attend the event which took place in the Cathedral Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, by Bishop Hugh Nelson and Dean of Retired Clergy John Eatock. Honorary Assistant Bishop, the Rt Revd Graham James was also in attendance. It is hoped this might be the first of many events in the diocese specifically for retired priests.

Bishop Hugh said: "It was very good to join so many of our wonderful retired priests at the first event of this kind. Their continued faithful service to God and His church in Cornwall is an essential part of our ministry and mission, and I was pleased to be able to thank them personally for all they do."

If you are a retired clergy person or considering retirement, you may be interested in joining 'The Prepared to Retire Well & Beyond' group which is aimed at helping retired clergy to flourish. The group meet every eight weeks. The next date is November 13, at Epiphany House in Truro. Contact [Mel Pomeroy](#) for more information.



CHRISTMAS GIVING: GIVE THE GIFT OF HOPE THIS CHRISTMAS

With Christmas just around the corner, give a gift of hope this Christmas by supporting local organisations.

The Cornish Christmas Giving Catalogue features many worthy local groups and charities who are all working in Cornwall to provide assistance, support, activities, beds and more to people in our own community.

This year you can choose from 20 Cornish charities to donate to and in return you will receive a gift certificate (printed or digital) to pass on to your family member or friend. Gifts start from just £1 up to £100+.

Projects this year include St Petros, Hidden Help, iSight Cornwall, Young People Cornwall, the Cornish foodbanks, the Wave Project, Backpack Beds, Samaritans of Cornwall at Truro, Kernow Positive Support, Home Start Kernow, Go Beyond, Food Troops, Cornwall Refugee Trust, Citizens Advice Cornwall and Baby Basics Cornwall.

Last year over £12,000 was raised for the charities and we are hoping you can help us to beat that total this year.

Scan the code to find out more, [download the catalogue](#) or [donate online](#).



ST PAUL'S CHURCH, TRURO

Proposals for the demolition of St Paul's Church in Truro have now been published.

St Paul's Church closed to worshippers in 2008 because it faced two very challenging structural problems; subsidence and crumbling stonework, meaning there was a risk to those using the building.

It has now become clear there is not a solution to the stonework problem. The polyphant stone is de-laminating and the only remedy would be to replace it all; in effect demolish what is there and build a new tower and east end of the church from scratch with brand new stone. Even a last-minute buyer with very deep pockets would be faced with the reality of the crumbling stonework and the need to protect passers-by.

The Church Commissioners will review any comments or correspondence arising from the notice period before a final decision is made.

The public meeting will take place at the Old Cathedral School, Cathedral Close, Truro on November 7 from 3.30pm to 7pm. Representatives from the Church Commissioners will be in attendance to hear views and answer questions.

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)

KEEPING SAFEGUARDING AT THE HEART OF ALL WE DO

The Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel's quarterly meeting was held in person at the Old Cathedral School this week.

The panel, which is led by Independent Chair Justine Hosking, is made up of representatives from external statutory agencies and has representation from the parishes as well as senior diocesan leaders and safeguarding staff.

The purpose of the panel is to scrutinise the work of the safeguarding team and hold them and the diocesan board to account.





CELEBRATING OUR LICENSED LAY MINISTERS

A celebration of Licensed Lay Ministries took place at Truro Cathedral in October.

Those present celebrated the life, witness, and service of our Readers and Pioneers and expressed gratitude to God for their ministry among us.

The service saw The Rt Revd Hugh Nelson, Bishop of St Germans, admit and license five new Readers (also known as Licensed Lay Ministers LLMs): Gillian and Julian Barritt who will serve in Maker with Rame, Millbrook, St John and Torpoint; Janet Fisher who will serve in the Camelside Benefice; Norman Mallard who will serve in the Benefice of Trelawney, and Anthony White who will serve in Probus.

Two others, Jeff Moon who will serve in Maker with Rame, Millbrook, St John and Torpoint, and Janis Windslade, who will serve in the Falmouth Benefice, were re-licensed. There was also a warm welcome given to Caroline Bailey who has

moved into the diocese and will serve in the Bodmin Team Benefice.

The service also noted the remarkable contribution of a number of Readers who have served for many years.

Geoff Cox, Kathryn Hill, Ann Kerridge and Denise Pascoe were all recognised for their 20 years of service. Don McQuillen-Wright, Philip Tremain and Diana Piper were highlighted for giving 25 years. Graham Downes was congratulated for achieving 30 years and amazingly, Chris Tylor was thanked for giving 60 years of service!

There was also a first for the diocese with Bishop Hugh licensing Lindsey Morgan-Lundie as a Pioneer Licensed Lay Minister (PLLM). See Lindsey's story here.

[READ MORE HERE](#)

FIRST LICENSED PIONEER LAY MINISTER

At the celebration of Lay Ministries, those present witnessed the first Diocese of Truro Pioneer Lay Minister being licensed.

The event marked the culmination of a journey which had been years in the making for Lindsey Morgan-Lundie as well as being the first step on her journey as a Licensed Pioneer.

Lindsey became a Christian at 28 through an Alpha course. Pioneering may well have been Lindsey's calling from the beginning. She says: "I was always looking outwards from the church walls into the community encouraging opportunities for people to experience God's love that may lead to conversations about faith later."

It wasn't until 2019 when Bishop Philip suggested Lindsey enrol onto the pioneer course run by The Church Mission Society (CMS) that she discovered the word 'pioneering'.

The CMS Certificate in Pioneer Mission was hosted in Bath and Wells Diocese by Revd Tina Hodgett and it proved transformational for Lindsey.

Lindsey was so inspired; she went on to enrol in the MA in Pioneer Theology at CMS in Oxford. And it was during this time that she discovered the Licensed Pioneer route available in the Church of England and CMS.

Lindsey's pioneering path has led to a new Local Lay Commission Pioneer route being developed in this diocese. People can now undertake a one-year CMS Certificate in Pioneer Contextual Mission.

[READ MORE HERE](#)



READ THE LATEST CREATION CARE NEWSLETTER HERE



CREATION CARE WORKSHOPS HELP CHURCHES & SCHOOLS

The Creation Care Workshops for Schools project began when Clare Green, the diocese's Schools' Creation Care Officer, was asked at a Creation Care Gathering how churches could best engage with their local schools in the area of creation care. Many churches have wonderful, exciting and sometimes wild green spaces where wildlife abounds and some of the Creation Care Champions were keen to share their spaces with schools that often sit close to their churches.

One of the first questions Clare was asked was whether she only worked with C of E Schools, and although these are at the heart of her work, Clare knew that most of them have natural and strong links with their local churches. It felt like the right thing to try and build bridges between non-faith schools and local Christian communities.

Clare said: "I wanted to devise a programme that would be simple for churches to administer and run, while providing a strong resource for schools that would cover and build on the Cornwall RE Syllabus which all Cornish schools are expected to follow. It would aim to welcome children and staff into our sacred spaces and give them a good understanding of how churches care for God's creation as well as cover statutory learning objectives.

"From a church point of view, the

scheme needed to be clear enough to run with a minimum number of volunteers, a low budget and adaptable for a variety of settings."

Clare's scheme was piloted during June and July 2024 at Illogan Church, Chacewater Church, All Saints Hightown and by Trinity Church, Truro, who took the workshops into their local schools. Over 12 workshops took place with over seven schools engaged (all non church schools). Roughly 350 children participated, a number of whom visited their local church for the first time.

CONTACT CLARE



PARISH TRAINING

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

14 Parish Finance Drop-in online

GYPSIES, TRAVELLERS & JESUS: AN INTRODUCTION

Thursday, November 14, 10am – 11:30am, online

Gypsies and Travellers are not 'the other', they are you and me - often hidden, frequently maligned, always marginalised, seldom understood.

Join Rev'd Dr Steven Horne for an introduction to 'Traveller Theology', learn more about one of our nation's most vulnerable groups, explore a culture rooted in hundreds of years of Christian heritage, and find out best practices for inclusion of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller people in your church.

BOOKING LINK

CREATION CARE NETWORK USEFUL LINKS

The next Creation Care Network gathering is on Thursday, November 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

