

OUR NEWS

MARCH 2025



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140 ATTEND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONFERENCE

Over 140 people attended Truro Cathedral to take part in the annual safeguarding conference which this year focused on domestic violence and the myths surrounding it.

The one-day event, which included stands by local domestic abuse support agencies, was supported by a ten-day exhibition featuring survivors art.

Dr Maryyum Mehmood, Research and Policy Advisor (Spiritual Abuse Lead) to the Domestic Abuse Commissioner of England and Wales, was keynote speaker. Talking to the safeguarding team after the conference, Maryyum said: "Thank you for arranging such a fantastic conference. It was a pleasure and privilege to attend and contribute to such an important discussion. I have marked the annual conference as a case of best practice that others across communities could learn from."

The Rt Revd Hugh Nelson, Acting Bishop of Truro, gave a powerful and moving address about domestic violence. You can read his speech [here](#).

Following a lunch, those present were able to hear from two survivors – Red and Serran – about their experiences.

The afternoon saw a panel of experts take part in a Q&A session.

Lora Prynn, Assistant Diocesan



Safeguarding Officer and one of the conference organisers, said: "The day was fantastic, and the team are so grateful to everyone who attended not only for their physical attendance and support but for allowing themselves to be challenged.

"Domestic abuse support and advocacy is something I am incredibly passionate about, and it was heart-warming to have professionals, victims, survivors and thrivers in one place offering insight and reflection on how we need to continue to do better to support families impacted by domestic abuse.

"There have been local connections made as a result of this conference that I am confident will continue to grow and through that can only strengthen our safeguarding knowledge and responses in this area."



GROWING LINKS BETWEEN CHURCH, SCHOOL & HOME

An initiative to boost connections between church, school, and home is starting to take off in our diocese with the creation of the first Growing Faith Learning Hub in West Wivelshire, and the idea is in action in Trigg Minor & Bodmin.

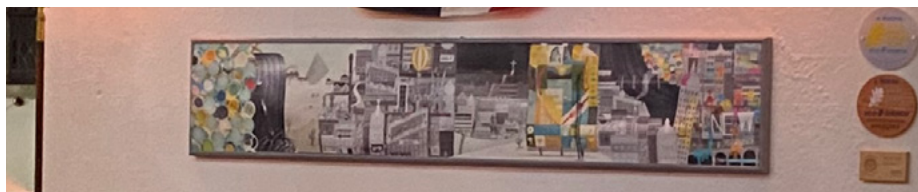
The aim of the Learning Hubs initiative is to put children, young people and families at the heart of all ministry and mission by creating resources that supplement the RE curriculum and Understanding Christianity resource that is in 7,000 schools nationally.

In West Wivelshire, Revd Ben Morgan-Lundie, Rector of Looe Valley Benefice, is working with Dave Hannah, head teacher at Duloe School to set the Learning Hub up. The pair had applied to become a hub and were one of 12 out of 32 applications accepted.

Ben said: "We are delighted that we have been selected as one of the new hubs and recognise that we, the Diocese of Truro and our diocesan church schools, will be helping to create something of national importance. We are committed to growing and strengthening the links and understanding between school, home, and church. This project gives us more focus to build on the existing relationships."

Dave said: "What is particularly exciting about this venture, is that it is child driven. We are listening to what the children want and basing our approach on their thoughts and comments."

And this way of thinking and working is already having an impact as St Mary's Church Bradoc (Trigg Minor & Bodmin Deanery) discovered. Rob Pearce, Churchwarden at Bradoc, explains: "When we started our creation



care journey ten years ago, one of our questions was how we as a church related to our school children and how they relate to Christianity, adults and creation. Part of our learning process was the thought that grownups and children may have very different values and that at church there is little discussion as to what Christianity is. Yet talk to a child and they have a deep understanding about creation and Christian distinctiveness given them by school and we needed a bridge between them."

Five years ago, the parish adopted the 'Understanding Christianity' approach of the national curriculum for schools, used in every maintained and church school as a means for all of us of all ages, to better understand Christianity and get a common baseline.

Rob said: "As a PCC we gave the 'Understanding Christianity Big Frieze' (a 4.8m long eight panel graphic dealing with books of the Old and New Testament) to our school to display in their hall and put a 2.4m one up on the north nave of the church. Our children from our local schools now know that our belief in Christianity and Creation is the same at school or at church. They view the church and school as one Safe place with daily collective worship and pioneer ministry."

This approach proved to be working when on Christmas eve morning a visiting family with two primary aged children came to the church. The two young children went up to the frieze and told their parents all about creation. Rob added: "It was our Christmas miracle."

HAS YOUR PARISH JOINED THE PARISH GIVING SCHEME?

This year we are celebrating the tenth year of the Parish Giving Scheme (PGS) in Cornwall!

In 2024, over £1.1 million was processed through PGS from regular givers across the Diocese of Truro. With the addition of Gift Aid collected on their behalf, parishes received £1,347,302! One-off gifts further enhanced this total by £25,500.

In 10 years, over £8.8 million has been received in parishes by way of regular gifts. The PGS Average Weekly Gift (AWG) is between 10% to a whopping 43% higher than other forms of regular giving, the PGS AWG across the diocese being £14.53. 44% of givers have opted in to Inflationary Increase, which prevents static giving in the church.

+ VISIT THE PGS WEBSITE

PARISH TRAINING OFFERS

During March there are a number of **FREE** parish training offers available.

AT A GLANCE

March 10: Safeguarding Leadership training
 March 12: How to run your APCM from start to finish
 March 13: Creation Care Network Gathering
 March 15: PCC Treasurer training
 March 17: Safeguarding Leadership training
 March 18: Ministry in times of turbulence, confusion, change & loss
 March 22: PCC Treasurer training
 March 22: Safeguarding Leadership Training
 March 26: Energy Footprint Tool Parish Support
 March 27: PCC Treasurer Cashbook training
 March 29: Safeguarding Leadership Training

If you are interested in any or all of the above, you can find out more and book by visiting the diocesan website [here](#).



DATE FOR BISHOP DAVID'S WELCOME SERVICE

It has been announced that the welcome service for the Rt Revd David Williams, the bishop elect of Truro, will take place on Saturday, May 17 at Truro Cathedral.

CROSS OF ST PIRAN AWARDS

This year's annual Cross of St Piran awards will take place on Saturday, March 8 at St Piran's Church, Perranzabuloe.

During two services, 20 people will receive the Cross of St Piran from Bishop Hugh Nelson in recognition of their work in their churches and communities. This year for the first time, schools have been invited to take part.

The Bishop's Award will this year be presented to Sheila Waring for her work with the Mothers' Union (MU). Sheila, who is also a Local Worship Leader in Stratton Deanery, has been Diocesan President of the MU for the last seven years. Read her citation below.

The Deanery Awards will this year go to 14 people in 11 deaneries (see citations below):

- Judith Ayers from East Wivelshire,
- Annette Buchanan from Kerrier Deanery,
- Ruth Berreta and Philip Gilbert from Cammarth North Deanery,
- Jacqui Bennett from Cammarth South Deanery,
- Robert Corney from Stratton Deanery,
- Tony Cruddas from Powder Deanery,
- Viv Farmer from Pydar Deanery,
- Ian Gordon from West Wivelshire Deanery,



- Ellen McConnell from Trigg Minor and Bodmin Deanery,
- Stephen Rivers and Edwina Sleeman from St Austell Deanery and
- Rob Tremain from Trigg Major Deanery.

There are also six awards to people in church schools (see citations below):

- Fiona Harvey, Antony School,
- Abigail Jessop, The Bishops' Church of England Learning Academy,
- Hayley Pitman,
- Sarah Wilkins, Headteacher of St Meriadow School,
- Jon-Joe Wilson, St Dominic Church of England Primary School,
- Brenda Wright, St Issey School.

[READ THE FULL CITATIONS HERE](#)

40 PARISH OFFICERS WELCOMED TO CHURCH HOUSE

Over 40 parish officers from across the diocese were welcomed to Church House for an interactive workshop delivering training and information relating to church buildings maintenance, creation care updates and steps towards net zero.

The event was held by the buildings, environment and land team with the aim of supporting parishes to look after their buildings while also working towards Net Zero 2030, and other environmental initiatives such as Eco Church.

The event was opened by Revd Ben Lillie, the Diocesan Environment Officer, who led the event in prayers for creation care. Ben Wood, the Cut Carbon Support Officer, presented about an exciting grant fund, Give to Go Green (for more information, visit [here](#)). Rosey Sanders, Operations Assistant, explained the importance and benefits of the energy footprint tool and Sue Thorold, DAC



Secretary, helped dispel the myths of the DAC and encouraged churchwardens to contact her when starting to think about doing any repairs or improvements in their churches.

The workshop ended with a lively panel discussion followed by lunch. The team are planning to hold more events in the future.

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)

50 JOIN YOUTH WORK NETWORKING EVENT

Over 50 people gathered in Truro to connect, share stories and help shape the diocese's work in the important area of children and young people.

The inaugural networking event for those working and volunteering under the umbrella term of 'children, young people, families and schools' was held at Truro Methodist Church.

The aim of the network is to bring together people working in various capacities with children, young people, families and schools to develop the children and young people's work in the diocese, an area which forms significant parts of many deanery plans.

Speaking after the event, Lee Moscato, Director of Education, said: "It was a real opportunity to come together modelling the work of our schools – connecting in, out and up. We had time to consider our roles and what we bring and want, we connected with others and through our work, and on the day, connect up, with God."

[READ MORE HERE](#)



NEW PODCASTS! TRANS THEOLOGY & INCLUSIVITY

The latest two CMD bitesize podcasts from the diocese focus on Trans theology and inclusivity.

These programmes may be upsetting to some. In the latest CMD Bitesize podcast, Rebecca Evans talks about trans theology, gender identity, LGBTQi+ and sexuality with Susannah Cornwall. This is followed by a podcast on the subject on inclusivity.

You can listen to these and all our podcasts [here](#).

READ THE
LATEST
CREATION CARE
NEWSLETTER
HERE



CREATION CARE NETWORK USEFUL LINKS

The next Creation Care Network gathering is on Thursday, March 13, 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

EDIJ SUPPORT FOR PARISHES

The diocese's Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Justice (EDIJ) board have met to continue their planning work to support us all in this important area.

The group was formed in response to a Bishop's Study Day on Racial Justice where it was noted that Cornish people often feel discriminated against and that developed into a realisation that this needed more attention.

The work is still in its infancy, but it is hoped that eventually, this will help parishes and others to be more attentive to the needs of everyone in our communities.

This is an area in which parishes are already showing an interest. Rebecca Evans, Ministry Development and Inclusion Officer, said: "A number of parishes have asked for an equity and diversity policy. This work is about being intentional and integral to what we do – we recognise how busy parishes are and don't want this to become another thing to do – it is more about how we do things."

Rebecca added: "Christianity has always been about working on the margins, this is what Jesus did and what we are continued to be called to do today.

Focusing on equity, diversity, inclusion and justice, helps us to be intentional about that whether that is to do with race, gender, rurality, disability, sexuality."

It was agreed at the meeting that the work of the board will be pinned to four key themes of 'valuing difference', 'promoting equity', 'confronting discrimination' and 'managing inclusion'.

Within each of the four areas, there would be planning with short, medium, and long-term work and aims.

Lee Moscato, Director of Education and Chair of the EDIJ board, said: "All of this work is in its relatively early stages, and we are excited about the impact that can be had. We discussed how we ensure that this is more than just a group of people meeting but that we make clear, courageous and intentional steps into this space recognising and celebrating that God created a universe of staggering diversity."

We look forward to sharing more of the board's work with you and would love to hear from anyone who feels they can speak into this important part of our mission and ministry here in our diocese. Email Rebecca.evans@truro.anglican.org

Encouraging links
between churches &
their local schools

SCHOOL CREATION CARE WORKSHOPS

Are you passionate about Creation Care?
Would you like to forge links with your local school?
Would you like to work with children in your church?

The Creation Care Resources are a set of resources designed for churches that wish to engage with their local schools. Many churches and churchyards provide an amazing resource for young people to experience the wonder of nature and learn about the world around them.

Download the free pack from our website [Creation Care Workshops](https://www.creationcare.org.uk/resources/education/creation-care-for-schools/creation-care-workshops/)

All you need to organise and run Creation Care Workshops for Schools in your church

MORE INFO OR HELP - CALL 01872 301398 EMAIL CLARE.GREEN@TRURO.ANGLICAN.ORG



ENTRIES SOUGHT FOR NICK CAHILL AWARD

Entries are now being sought for the 2025 Nick Cahill Award.

This annual award commemorates our friend and esteemed colleague Nick Cahill. A hugely influential and highly respected member of the heritage community, Nick was a scholar and authority who was unfailingly generous in sharing his wealth of knowledge and expert opinion, leaving no corner of Cornwall or aspect of our regional heritage and historic environment forgotten.

The award scheme, established with the full support of Nick's family reflects Nick's passion for Cornish churches and chapels.

The award is open to projects carried out on Cornish ecclesiastical buildings or within their settings and associations (graveyards, cemetery buildings, Sunday schools). It will recognise



excellence in design and craftsmanship in restoration, conservation and/or improvement projects. Entries are welcome from all faiths and denominations.

Completed entries must be submitted by April 14 2025.

MORE INFORMATION HERE