

OUR NEWS

NOVEMBER 2021



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CELEBRATIONS AS READERS ADMITTED AT CATHEDRAL

Truro Cathedral welcomed back the Readers in October for their annual service in celebration of Reader Ministry.

Around 45 Readers supported by their families and friends filled the cathedral as the Bodmin and Trigg Minor Deanery Choir sang.

The Rt Revd Hugh Nelson, Bishop of St Germans, gave a heartfelt welcome in his role as Warden of the Readers. After the Old Testament reading from the Book of Jonah, and the Holy Gospel from Luke, Bishop Hugh gave a thoroughly inspiring and engaging sermon.

Bishop Philip also attended to celebrate the ministry of Readers, and to highlight the importance he gives to Reader Ministry, alongside all Lay Ministry, in the service of the Church and furtherance of God's Kingdom.

Jason Hoole-Jackson, Jane Le-Page, Gaynor Sutton, Patricia Owens, Robert Owens and Judith Stott were Admitted

this year and received their new blue scarf, a Bible and Prayer Book; and were then licensed to the parishes in which they will serve.

Sandy Massie, Brian Norris, Margaret Sylvester-Thorne and Sue Wilcox all were given Permission to Officiate.

Roy Bright, Kevin Dodds and Wendy Smith were all recognised for having given over 50 years of service each and there was even an opportunity to welcome those that were Admitted last year in a smaller, covid-secure service.

All Readers were then invited to Renew their Commitment to the role, before applause echoed around the building.

You can watch the service via YouTube [here](#).



BUDGET ON AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER'S SYNOD

The next diocesan synod will take place on November 27 and will have the theme of 'Rejoicing in a generous God'.

Taking place at St Petroc's Church in Bodmin, the meeting will start at 9.30am with worship led by the Bodmin Ministry Team.

Following Bishop Philip's Presidential Address, there will be a number of reports given to members starting with a report from the Diocesan Board of Education (DBE). This will be followed by reports and debate around Rejoicing in the generosity of God, a report on safeguarding in the diocese, a written report on the Bishop's Diocesan Council and another on General Synod.

Members will meet as the Truro Diocesan Board of Finance Ltd to review the diocesan budget for 2022 which is being put forward for approval.

The November meeting will be the first time members have been able to meet in person since November 2019 although the meeting will be hybrid allowing people to join online if that is their choice.

More information about November's synod can be found on the diocesan website [here](#).



EMBRACING AN INNOVATIVE & PIONEERING CULTURE THE TRELAWNEY WAY WITH SCARECROWS, TRACTORS & HORSES!

Scarecrows, tractors, horses and most probably guys at Guy Fawkes are Revd Richard Allen's current stock in trade when it comes to church services. When Revd Richard of the Trelawny Benefice says he thinks outside of the box, he isn't kidding!

It's hard not to get caught up in Richard's infectious energy and enthusiasm for his newly appointed role of Rector of the Benefice of Trelawny, Cornwall. Ordained over 30 years ago, Richard shows no signs of running out steam, or ideas. That's probably partly because he took a break from parishes to become a PE teacher and chaplain at Millfield School in Somerset. This not only indulged his passion for rugby and cricket but also evangelism. Richard has a huge heart for people who don't yet know how much they are loved by God.

"The sporting world is tough. Being a chaplain, especially one almost as excited about sport as the sportsmen and women in my care, gave me unique access. Many sports people miss out on opportunities to hear about how relevant Jesus is, simply because of timetables and fixtures on Sundays. Chaplaincy in a school like Millfield meant I was pretty much on duty seven days a week, for three terms of ten weeks, every year for 15 years. Ultimately exhausting, but full of opportunities to minister to my young

charges – and older staff members."

Long before his Millfield days, Richard became Christian in, then curate and rector of, Christ Church Exmouth. There possibly aren't too many others who can make similar claims. But on meeting Richard, even over Zoom, it somehow isn't surprising. Richard is a force of nature, determined to reach those who wouldn't ordinarily come to church and, although trying, isn't terribly good at being patient.

Perhaps that's a response to the current landscape in Cornish churches. It's no secret that many churches face uncertain futures. When Richard took up the reins of a benefice populated by small churches with even smaller congregations earlier this year, he knew he was at a crossroads. Settle into gentle retirement, in one of the most beautiful areas of Cornwall? Or respond to that spring he was feeling in his step and find out what revival could look like.

[READ RICHARD'S STORY HERE](#)

CORNISH CHRISTMAS GIVING CATALOGUE

With Christmas just around the corner and concerns over supplies and deliveries, why not give a gift of hope this Christmas by supporting local organisations.

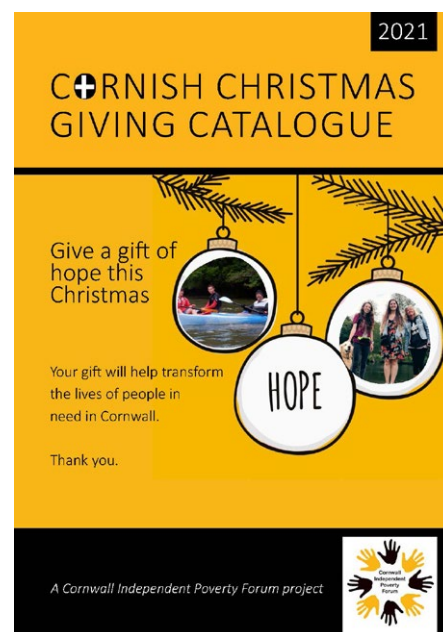
The Cornish Christmas Giving Catalogue features many worthy local groups and charities who are all working in Cornwall to provide assistance, support, activities, beds and more to people in our own community.

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, which would pay for meals for a month from a foodbank.

The Rt Revd Hugh Nelson, Bishop of St Germans, said: "This Christmas Giving Catalogue is a wonderful and typically Cornish way to join in that real Christmas story. At a time when poverty rates are rising and the gap between rich and poor is growing, I encourage you to make this catalogue a part of your Christmas this year."

For more information or to request a printed catalogue email cornish.christmasgiving@truro.anglican.org or call 01872 274351.

You can download a digital copy of the magazine by clicking on the image below.



MEET YOUR NEW GENERAL SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES

The election results for General Synod representatives from the Diocese of Truro have been announced.

The House of Clergy will see Revd Canon Anne Brown, Revd Andrew Yates and Revd Ian Gulland take their seats for the next quinquennium, the five year period General Synod sits for.

There were a total of 86 (67%) votes cast with Anne being elected during stage one of the process and Ian and Andrew being elected during the final stage three.

Ian, Anne and Andrew will join Vivian Hall, Nicolas Herian and Robert Perry who have all been selected to the House of Laity at General Synod.

The General Synod is the national assembly of the Church of England. It came into being in 1970, replacing

an earlier body known as the Church Assembly.

The General Synod considers and approves legislation affecting the whole of the Church of England, formulates new forms of worship, debates matters of national and international importance, and approves the annual budget for the work of the Church at national level.

There are 483 members of General Synod. Members are arranged into three Houses: The House of Bishops, House of Clergy and House of Laity.

YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT YOUR DIOCESAN GENERAL SYNOD REPRESENTATIVES HERE.



THE NICK CAHILL AWARD IS OPEN TO CHURCHES

Truro Diocese Advisory Committee and Cornwall Council are inviting entries for a new award established in memory of our friend and esteemed colleague Nick Cahill.

Nick was a hugely influential and highly respected member of the heritage community, a scholar and authority who was unfailingly generous in sharing his wealth of knowledge and expert opinion. His expertise left no corner of Cornwall or aspect of our heritage and historic environment forgotten. The award reflects his passion for churches and chapels.

The Nick Cahill Award will recognise excellence in design and craftsmanship in restoration or improvement projects involving ecclesiastical buildings. It will consider both exciting design interventions and more modest conservation, restoration or modernisation projects in ecclesiastical buildings and churchyards across all faiths and denominations.


The award is open to projects involving ecclesiastical buildings and their setting and associations (graveyards, cemetery buildings, Sunday schools) of all faiths and denominations.

The Judging panel will be overseen by the DAC with the first consideration in April 2022.

Completed entries must be submitted by March 31, 2022 to the DAC Secretary.

READ MORE HERE

BBC REMEMBRANCE SERVICE WITH BISHOP HUGH ON RADIO CORNWALL NOVEMBER 14, 8AM




STATISTICS FOR MISSION RETURNS 2021

The Statistics for Mission online portal is now open to submit your parishes 2021 returns.

The Statistics for Mission form is requested annually by the Research and Statistics department of the Archbishop's Council. The information gathered is used both nationally and locally; the information when collected over a period of years, can give a useful insight into the continuing life of a parish. The data from this form and the separate

Finance Returns are used to inform decision making at deanery and diocesan level; helping to assess emerging mission opportunities and On the Way, we therefore ask that a form is completed for every church to ensure that accurate data is received and used. The online portal can be accessed here and the deadline for submission is January 31, 2022. If you need any assistance or have any questions email Rebecca.stledger@truro.anglican.org

COP26 EVENTS HAPPENING LOCALLY

As you read this COP26 is now in full swing, the first week is about global political commitments and the second week is how to work them into meaningful action and lasting change. I urge you to continue to pray for our world leaders and those who influence them.

Prayer really does change the atmosphere - rather fitting for a climate conference!

Here are a number of links to enable you to engage with COP26. There's a Climate Weekend taking place at **Kenwyn and St Allen churches**, a free film screening at **TM Falmouth**, a

great resource from **Green Christian**, a COP26 service from **Churches Together Cornwall** and a brilliant **infographic** on how COP26 works and why it is so important.

"The earth is the Lords and everything in it" and right now the world's focus is on Glasgow, please pray.



DIOCESE JOINS COP26 'GREATER AMBITION' APPEAL

The Bishop of St Germans has added his voice to an appeal from world faith leaders ahead of COP26 urging delegates to 'choose life'.

Bishop Hugh, who leads on Creation Care in the Diocese of Truro, said: "The climate emergency is not just a physical problem but also a moral challenge.

"This powerful document reminds us that the choices and decisions we make are guided by principle, morality and faith. The planet's eco-system is at a tipping point, and we all need to make fundamental moral decisions about what matters most. Failing to make decisions

that prioritise the earth, biodiversity and the most vulnerable communities is a moral choice in itself - and one that will have terrible consequences.

"As followers of Jesus Christ and supporters of the World Faith leaders appeal, we call on all people and on our leaders preparing for COP26, to face up to the moral challenge before us, and to choose life."

The leaders are calling for common but differentiated climate action at all levels, from individual behavioural changes to high-level political decision-making processes.

WHAT'S ON NOVEMBER

- 2 Using Zoom for Interactive Events & Meetings**, 1pm - 2pm. **Book here.**
- 3 Faith & Mental Health Network**, 3pm - 4.30pm, **book online here.**
- 5 - 7 Climate Care Weekend**, Kewyn Church. **Find out more here.**
- 10 Getting the most out of online & Contactless Giving webinar**, 7pm - 8pm, **Find out more here.**
- 11 Video Presentation Skills webinar**, 10am - 11am, **Find out more here.**
- 16 Make the most of your A Church Near You page webinar**, 10am - 11am, **Find out more here.**

MEET THE FUNDERS

The last of the 2021 Meet the Funders Community Workshops will take place on November 15. The workshop has a specific focus on finding funding for building projects: whether for a new building or repairs to enhance your community work and welcome.

This workshop will be a hybrid event, at St Martins Church in Liskeard, or online via Zoom! **Sign up here.**



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WHAT HAPPENS WHEN GROWN-UPS ARE LET LOOSE TO GODLY PLAY

When 12 people from across Cornwall got together for three days to learn about Godly Play, they didn't necessarily expect to have their own spirituality enriched. But they left feeling renewed with a greater sense of wonder from their immersion in this story-telling approach for children.

"It enables everyone participating to go deep into the story and ask profound questions... theologically it can be really challenging," says Revd Becca Bell from Southeast Cornwall and one of the participants. On the face of it, it's hard to imagine how a Biblical or liturgical story told in a way that appeals to children, mostly using sand, blocks, wooden people and felt, could have such an effect.

Joining in for their last day however, I could see why. The Godly Play training sessions, run by trainers Katherine Lyddon and Brenton Prigge, shared the techniques and history behind the programme. Through practicing on each other, the cohort experienced its effectiveness as they encouraged each other to explore and make space for their own spirituality. I sat in on two of these presentations and was touched by how, just by focusing on the story and even the physical elements that were used, I was drawn in. I found myself re-visiting questions that I had thought I had long since dealt with.

Read the full story here.