

CTC Review

Autumn
18 2023

GOOD NEWS FROM CORNISH CHURCHES

#Farewell&Welcome #CreationFest # StBudockSummerPicnics
#PadstowSeaSunday #TallShipsFalmouth #VigilForPeace
LearningWithLego #SeasonOfCreation #GlowRedruth
#ChristianTheatreInCornwall # GaiaAtTruroCathedral #AntiSlaveryWeek
#ChallengePovertyWeek #CornishChristmasGivingCatalogue



**CHURCHES
TOGETHER
CORNWALL**

inspiring unity

sharing our gifts

Cornubia : Land of the Saints
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Farewell and Welcome

On 17 September we bid a sad farewell to Bishop Philip at a packed service in Truro Cathedral, as he concluded his ministry in the Diocese of Truro prior to taking up his new appointment as Bishop of Winchester. Bishop Philip has been an extremely supportive chair of Churches Together in Cornwall for the past three years, and we shall miss him very much. We send himm and Ruth our very best wishes for his new role, and look forward to hearing about revived fortunes for Churches Together in Hampshire! And one day, perhaps, welcoming him back to Cornwall for a well-deserved retirement...

The new Chair of Churches Together in Cornwall is the Revd Loraine Mellor, Chair of the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Methodist District, and we were delighted to welcome her, albeit virtually, to her new role at our Zoom meeting of the Churches Together in Cornwall Executive in October. Loraine is scheduled to occupy this role for only one year, as in 2024 the Cornwall and Devon Methodist Disticts are set to merge under the leadership of the Revd Dr Dan Haylett. The widening of the geographical areas of responsibility for our denominational leaders continues apace and has implications for the way the Churches Together movement is organised, as increasingly leaders may find themselves on two, three, four or more CT county groups, with the demands on their time becoming untenable. Churches Together in England is currently considering the best way forward.

Also new on the Churches Together in Cornwall Executive, we are delighted to welcome Charlotte Butler, the new Operations Director for Transformation Cornwall, and Amanda Evans, Church Engagement and Fundraising Officer – Devon and Cornwall for Christian Aid. We work very closely with both organisations and it is great to have continuing representation on Churches Together in Cornwall.

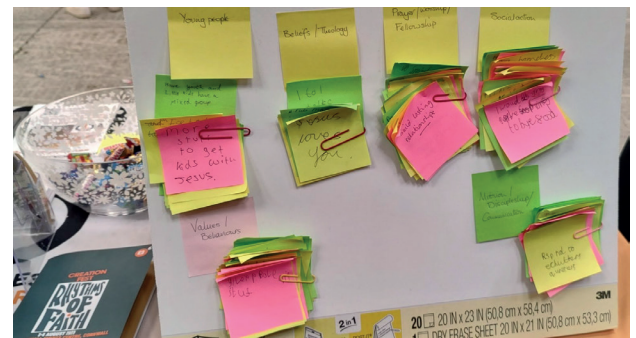
Finally in our ‘comings and goings’ this autumn we are delighted to note the appointment of Father Simon Robinson as the new Dean of Truro, following his period as Interim Dean. Although the Cathedral is not formally represented on CTC, it is the centre of many ecumenical activities in Cornwall and it is great to see the new leadership in place. Welcome everyone!

Creation Fest

3-6 August 2023

Churches Together in Cornwall once again hosted a stand in the exhibition at Creation Fest, this year gathering suggested answers to the question *What can you or your church do to build Christian unity?* on post-it notes for our flipchart. The stand was very busy with many interesting conversations and contacts made. We'll be analysing the responses and feeding them into our consultation for the *Becoming Better Together* Re-dedication event in Bodmin next January. We had over 200 written responses roughly categorised into

- Young people
- Beliefs/Theology
- Prayer/Worship/Fellowship
- Social Action
- Mission/Discipleship/Communication
- Values and Behaviours



The most responses were for Prayer/Worship/Fellowship, followed by Values and Behaviours, Mission/Discipleship/Communication and Social Action. Certainly something for us to ponder further.



It really was a very busy few days, many sweets were consumed (mostly by the children) and leaflets taken. Huge thanks to all our volunteers who helped staff the stand and all who stopped to chat!

Kathy Pope (CTC Co-ordinator) and Roger Mills (CTC Editor) on the stand

St Budock Summer Picnics

August 2023



St Budock Church, Falmouth organised free picnics for local families over the summer holidays. After eating their picnic lunches, the children enjoyed a



range of activities: parachute games, croquet, football, rounders, quoits, bubble blowing and exploring animal homes in the churchyard. Over 60 children participated along with their families, with phenomenal support from church members in a and preparing the food and running activities. Even the weather was on side!

photos: Lucy Thompson



Padstow Sea Sunday 13 August 23

Despite mizzle and rain the annual South Camel Churches Together Sea Sunday Service was well supported again this year, with the Camborne Town Band playing on the bandstand and the service conducted from the deck of the lifeboat in the inner harbour.

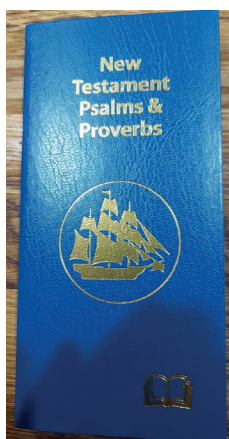
Churches Together in Cornwall's Co-ordinator, Kathy Pope, was delighted to be invited to join the local church leaders on the Lifeboat, from where the service is presented.

The Padstow Sea Cadets distributed Service sheets to the public and took donations in aid of Seafarers UK, collecting a fantastic £390 for the charity. Huge well done to them.

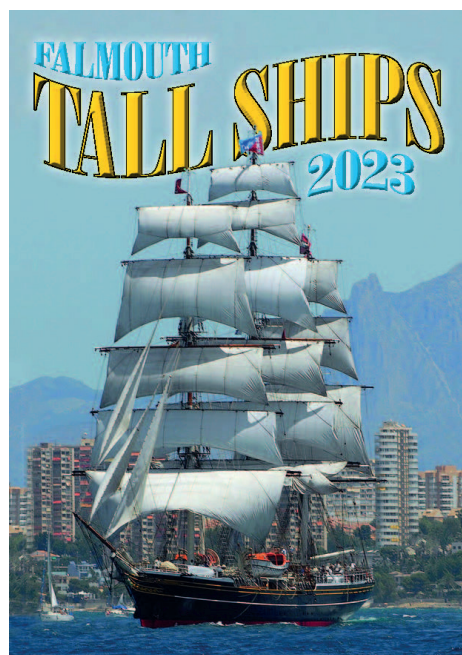
Tall Ships Falmouth

15-18 August 2023

In conjunction with Falmouth & Penryn Churches Together, OAC Ministries and GNE (Good News for Everyone, formerly The Gideons) co-ordinated an outreach to visitors and mariners in Falmouth.



Over the course of three days, 5,000 Tall Ships tracts were distributed to members of the public visiting the largest ships moored in Falmouth Docks, and 1,400 New Testaments distributed to the crews of all the ships participating in the race.



Sadly, the Parade of Sail scheduled for the last day of the event had to be cancelled due to Storm Betty – torrential rain and gale force winds made conditions too hazardous. Despite this disappointment, and despite some over-long queues on the first day there were many happy faces around the town and the opportunity to visit the historic ships attracted big crowds.

Local churches supported the outreach team with places to meet, prepare and pray before going down to the docks, and also provided food.



Vigil for Peace

7 & 21 September 2023

On September 7th people of all faiths and none gathered outside the Excel site in London where the bi-annual arms fair (DSEI) was taking place, to peacefully protest at the sale of weapons of mass death.

Falmouth Quakers met on this day on The Moor in Falmouth at 2pm to hold a silent protest and peace vigil about the sale of arms.



Marking the International Day of Peace on 21 September, a Quaker stall was set up outside Truro Cathedral complete with white dove, while in Falmouth a presentation was given on Conscientious Objection.



Learning with Lego 12 September

The Justice & Peace Action Group run by Falmouth & Penryn Churches Together marked the Season of Creation by engaging in some Lego Serious Play to consider how the work of different professions can interact to help reduce environmental impact and global warming. Attempting to model our concepts in Lego by 'letting our hands do the thinking' gave rise to a good deal of hilarity but also the realisation that, whatever our circumstances, we all have a part to play, small actions do count in building a more just and fair society, and that their effect is greatly magnified when we work together – ecumenically!



Season of Creation

16 September 2023

The annual service in celebration of Creation in Truro Cathedral focussed on Climate Justice. “Is it Justice – or Just Us?”



CREATION CARE SERVICE OF CELEBRATION

Address by The Rt Revd Hugh Nelson
Bishop of St Germans

JUSTICE OR JUST US?

Climate justice and what that means

PRESENTATIONS

Kernow Green Church Awards
& Eco Church Awards

Music from Cornwall Youth Choir

TRURO CATHEDRAL
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023
2PM

The Right Reverend Hugh Nelson, Bishop of St Germans gave the address and the service included very well received performances by the Cornwall Youth Choir and a presentation about the environment by children from St Uny Academy in Carbis Bay.

Awards were made to parishes that have earned the Diocese of Truro’s Kernow Green Church Awards and national Eco Church Awards. Participants in the event were encouraged to make their own commitments to contribute to the care of the natural world.

Glow Redruth

1 October 2023

129 young people joined Creation Fest’s October *Glow* event at the Engine House Church, Redruth, accompanied by 54 parents and youth workers representing 22 churches, supported by 30 volunteers from various ministries and churches.

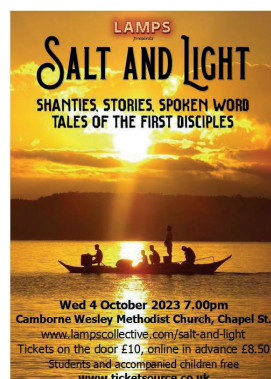
One of the standout phrases that was shared by a Falmouth University Christian Union student was that your brain cannot process anxiety and thanksgiving at the same time. We heard from one of the young people on how anxiety was a big problem for them, but this one simple, almost throw away comment, completely changed their outlook on how to deal with anxiety.

At this *Glow* we saw young people engage with the presence of God in ways that we haven’t seen before. This is a testament to all that God wants to do in the lives of our young people.

Christian Theatre in Cornwall

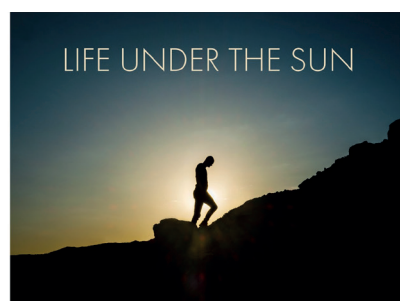
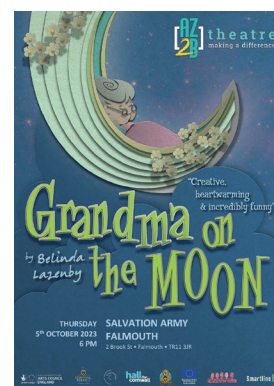
Four Christian theatre companies brought shows to Cornwall in Sep-Oct - a rare event which was very well received.

Artless Theatre Company in association with Release International brought *If Prison Walls could Speak* to Wave Church, Newquay, on 29 Sep, telling the true story of Petr Jasek, a Czech national and Christian aid worker who was imprisoned in Sudan for his work assisting the persecuted church.



On 4 Oct **LAMPS Collective** performed *Salt and Light: Tales of the First Disciples* at Camborne Wesley Methodist Church – a mix of shanties, stories and spoken word.

In Falmouth, locally-based **AZ2B Theatre Company** concluded a country-wide tour of *Grandma on the Moon* at the Salvation Army Church, a beautiful story showing how we can keep those we have loved alive within our hearts and minds even though they are no longer with us.



Finally on 7 Oct, **Strangers and Exiles** brought *Life under the Sun* to Truro Methodist Church: a theatre show that explores the biggest question of all: “What’s the point?” Features underpants, pompous man-servants, self-deprecating witticisms, an existential crisis and one giant hangover...word – the tales of the first disciples.

Gaia at Truro Cathedral

6 -28 October 2023



Truro Cathedral welcomed Luke Jerram's spectacular touring artwork, Gaia, attracting large crowds from 6-28 October 2023.

Measuring seven metres in diameter, Gaia features 120dpi detailed NASA imagery of the Earth's surface and was suspended above the cathedral Crossing, providing the opportunity to see the planet on this

scale, floating in three dimensions. A specially made surround-sound composition by BAFTA award winning Composer Dan Jones played alongside the sculpture.

Gaia By Night offered the chance to experience Gaia in the cathedral after hours. **Celestial Heights Tours** gave an opportunity to see Gaia from a truly unique perspective, accessing the cathedral roof space before arriving at the High-Level Gallery, to gaze down upon Gaia. The perfect viewing spot to appreciate the Northern Hemisphere!

Concerts: On 13 Oct, there was unique opportunity to hear Holst's 'The Planets' performed by John Challenger, assistant director of music at Salisbury Cathedral on Truro Cathedral's magnificent Father Willis organ whilst seated underneath the spectacular Gaia artwork.

On 21 Oct, a 'come and sing' performance included part one of Haydn's Creation alongside singers from the Three Spires singers, Truro Choral Society, The St Mary's Singers and full orchestra.

An impressive accompanying photographic exhibition from Cornwall Wildlife Trust emphasised our interdependence with and responsibility for Creation.



Anti-Slavery Week

14-21 October 2023



Anti-Slavery Week began with Bringing Freedom's A21 Walk for Freedom, parading in silence from Victoria Park to Lemon Quay in Truro, raising awareness of modern slavery and human trafficking. Carried out around the world, these annual walks have an important role in drawing attention to the fact that modern slavery happens every day, right here, even in Cornwall.

Also held during the Week were fantastic presentations and discussions held by The Clewer Initiative, listening to insights from Devon and Cornwall Police, and national charity Unseen.

Multiple resources are available to groups that would like to learn more, and Transformation Cornwall can offer training, including a presentation *Spotting the Signs* provided by global charity Hope for Justice that provides insight into the reality of modern slavery today, empowering us to raise awareness, share learnings, and buy consciously, so we can make Cornwall slave free.

- Download Unseen's App, to make reporting modern slavery and exploitation even easier. <https://www.unseenuk.org/about-modern-slavery/download-the-app/>
- Unseen Modern Slavery Exploitation Helpline Annual Assessment 2022 <https://www.unseenuk.org/modern-slavery-helpline-calls-at-record-high/>
- The Clewer Initiative resources can be found here <https://theclewerinitiative.org/resources>

To find out more, why not join the Modern Slavery in Cornwall Network - contact operations.director@transformation-cornwall.org.uk to add your name to the mailing list.

Challenge Poverty Week

16-22 October 2023

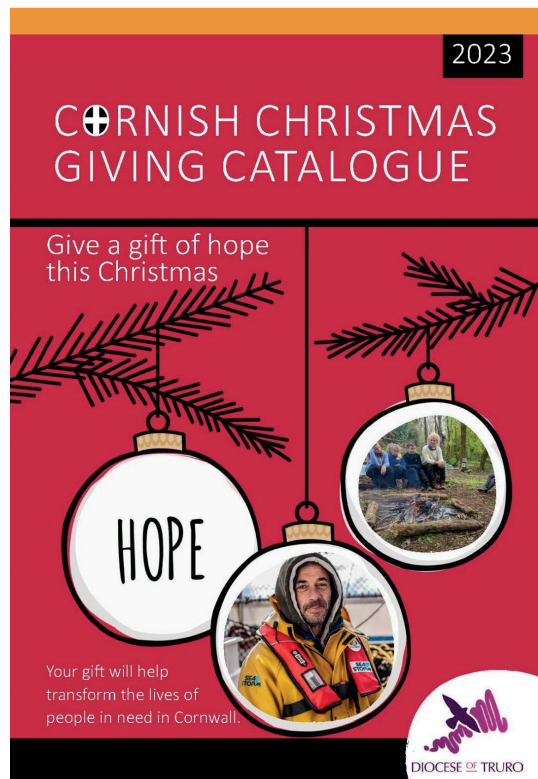
Challenge Poverty Week began with an event held at St Michael's Parish Church, Newquay. This year's focus is the Real Living Wage Foundation and what it would mean for Cornwall to be the first County recognised as a Living Wage Place. Speakers included Cornwall VSF, Cornwall Council, and Truro Foodbank, discussing what the Real Living Wage is, what it means to them as employers and employees, and the positive affect for the standard of living in Cornwall.

Figures from Citizens UK in November 2022, suggest that 13% of all workers in Cornwall are not paid the real living wage (about 25,000 workers). If 25% of those not paid the real living wage were uplifted to receiving the Real Living Wage then Citizens UK say this would mean a GVA uplift of £11.2 million pounds (based on one year Nov 22 to Nov 2023). There is therefore an individual and business economy benefit to this campaign.



<https://challengepoverty.co.uk>

#ChallengePoverty



Cornish Christmas Giving Catalogue

The 2023 Cornish Christmas Giving Catalogue includes 20 charitable organisations and all of Cornwall's food banks.

So this Christmas, give a gift of hope to someone in Cornwall by giving a gift of love to friends and family. Just view or download the catalogue at

<https://trurodiocese.org.uk/about-us/christmas-giving/> and choose the charity you wish to support and the amount.



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SEND US YOUR GOOD NEWS!

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CELEBRATE GOD'S WORK IN CORNWALL

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