

CTC Review

20 Spring
2024

GOOD NEWS FROM CORNISH CHURCHES

#WillYouCommit? #RefusingToBeEnemies

#WeekOfPrayerForChristianUnity

#NewDeanOfTruroCathedralInstalled #BecomingBetterTogether

#Revive:me:ukLaunceston #ThirtyYearsOfWomenPriests

#WorldDayOfPrayer #30YearsOfFairtrade #RNLI200thAnniversary

#GoodFridayWitness #CornwallModernSlaveryNetwork #BigWorldFair

#AgingInTheSouthWest #CommunityConversation #MeetTheFunders



**CHURCHES
BECOMING BETTER TOGETHER
CORNWALL**
*inspiring unity
sharing our gifts*

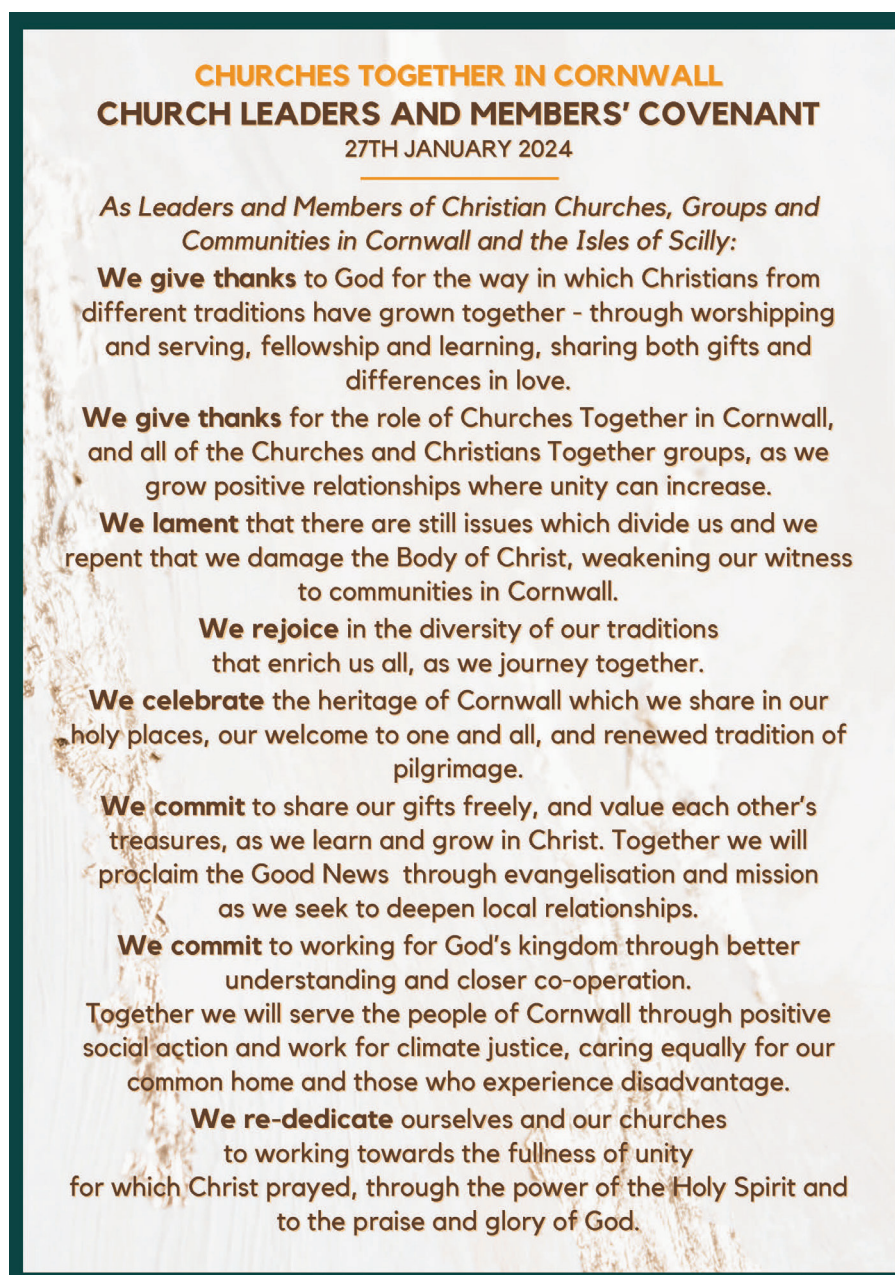
Cornubia : Land of the Saints
Used with kind permission from the Estate of John Miller

Will you commit?

CHURCH LEADERS AND MEMBERS COVENANT 2024

This new Covenant was presented and signed at the *Becoming Better Together* event at St Petroc's Church in January. All Christians in Cornwall are now invited to add their names to this commitment to work together for unity.

For details of how to do so, please visit www.ctcinfohub.org/churches-together-in-cornwall-covenant-2024/.



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CORNWALL
CHURCH LEADERS AND MEMBERS' COVENANT
27TH JANUARY 2024

As Leaders and Members of Christian Churches, Groups and Communities in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly:

We give thanks to God for the way in which Christians from different traditions have grown together - through worshipping and serving, fellowship and learning, sharing both gifts and differences in love.

We give thanks for the role of Churches Together in Cornwall, and all of the Churches and Christians Together groups, as we grow positive relationships where unity can increase.

We lament that there are still issues which divide us and we repent that we damage the Body of Christ, weakening our witness to communities in Cornwall.

We rejoice in the diversity of our traditions that enrich us all, as we journey together.

We celebrate the heritage of Cornwall which we share in our holy places, our welcome to one and all, and renewed tradition of pilgrimage.

We commit to share our gifts freely, and value each other's treasures, as we learn and grow in Christ. Together we will proclaim the Good News through evangelisation and mission as we seek to deepen local relationships.

We commit to working for God's kingdom through better understanding and closer co-operation. Together we will serve the people of Cornwall through positive social action and work for climate justice, caring equally for our common home and those who experience disadvantage.

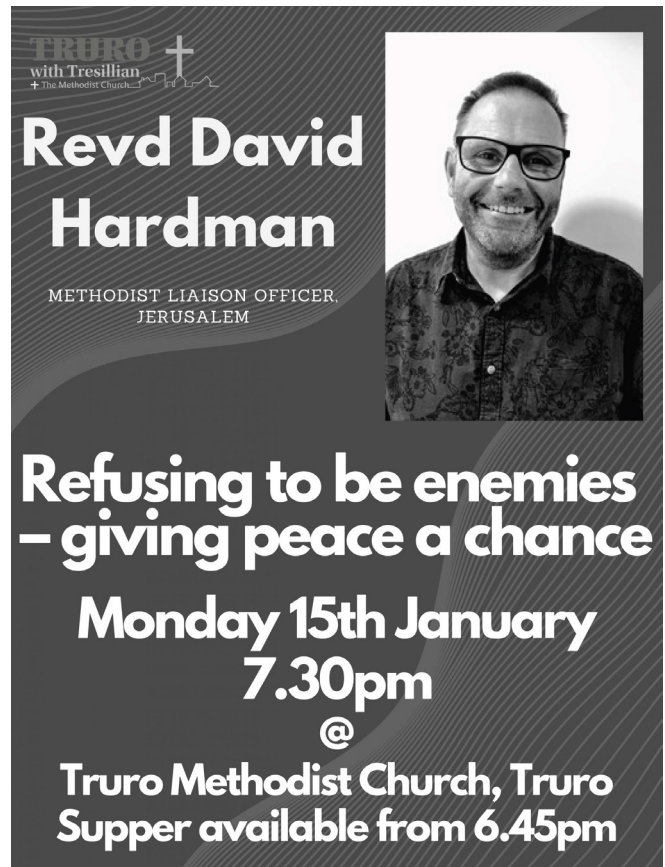
We re-dedicate ourselves and our churches to working towards the fullness of unity for which Christ prayed, through the power of the Holy Spirit and to the praise and glory of God.

Refusing to be enemies

15 January 2024


A powerful, informative and troubling evening at Truro Methodist Church, led by Revd David Hardman (Methodist Liaison Officer, Jerusalem). Currently based in England due to the situation in Jerusalem, David gave an outline of the historical background which has given rise to the current content, spoke on the plight of the Christian community in Israel and Palestine, and his hopes and prayers for the future.

For prayers and statements from the Methodist church visit www.methodist.org.uk/faith/prayer/israel-palestine/



TRURO with Tresillian
+ The Methodist Church

Revd David Hardman
METHODIST LIAISON OFFICER,
JERUSALEM



**Refusing to be enemies
– giving peace a chance**

**Monday 15th January
7.30pm**
@
Truro Methodist Church, Truro
Supper available from 6.45pm



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

18-25 January 2024

The theme for 2024 was ‘You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself’ (Lk 10:27), based on the parable of the Good Samaritan, and the materials were devised by the churches in Burkina Faso.

Churches Together in Cornwall again provided online reflections for each day. These are available to watch at www.ctcinfohub.org/WPCU24.

For the first time since the pandemic, daily in-person services were also organised at Truro Methodist Church, and across the county a number of daily and Sunday services were organised to mark the week. In Falmouth, the week included a Fellowship Meal to which all local ministers were invited. A particularly varied and extensive programme of events was held on the Isles of Scilly.

Next year’s materials have been prepared by the monastic community of Bose in northern Italy, on John 11:17-27. The theme “Do you believe this?” (v. 26), takes its cue from the dialogue between Jesus and Martha when Jesus visited the home of Martha and Mary in Bethany following the death of their brother Lazarus. 2025 marks the 1,700th anniversary of the first Christian Ecumenical Council, held in Nicaea, near Constantinople in 325 AD. This commemoration provides a unique opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the common faith of Christians, as expressed in the creed formulated during this council.



The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025 offers an invitation to draw on this shared heritage and to enter more deeply into the faith that unites all Christians.

New Dean of Truro Cathedral Installed

21 January 2024

The Chapter of Truro Cathedral is delighted to announce that Canon Simon Robinson was installed as the sixth Dean of Truro by the Bishop of St Germans, The Right Rev'd Hugh Nelson on 21 January. The installation was included in a Choral Evensong service in Truro Cathedral. The Reverend Prebendary Stephen Stuckes, Rector of the Cuckmere Churches in the Diocese of Chichester preached at this service.

The service was sung by Truro Cathedral Choir, and the music included by request of Canon Simon, 'Magnificat' and 'Nunc Dimitiis' composed by previous cathedral resident composer Dobrinka Tabakova.

The service can be viewed at www.youtube.com/watch?v=cgf7nZINy_E&t=10s.



Becoming Better Together

27 January 2024

St Petroc's Church in Bodmin was the setting for a diverse gathering of Christians on Saturday 27 January. We met so that we might strengthen our mutual understanding, grow unity from the grassroots, and treasure our differences as gifts to each other. More than 80 people gathered in this ancient church which is dedicated to one of our major Celtic saints.

The emphasis was on connecting, learning, listening and envisioning our path for the next ten years (at least). Our keynote speaker, CTE's Rev Dr Benjamin Aldous, inspired us to be curious, to expand our networks and friendships across racial, socioeconomic, class and ecclesiastical divides, discovering the joy of diversity and the value of storytelling as we witness and share the Good News.



Ben reminded us of the World Council of Churches' 1982 affirmation on mission and evangelism: '...there is no Christian solidarity that does not involve sharing the knowledge of the kingdom which is God's promise to the poor of the earth'. Such

solidarity in shared social action was much in evidence – through the organisations that had brought displays and information, and the inspirational examples of Christians at work in every community. We heard about support for people who are homeless, foodbanks, Warm Spaces and a Night Church, listening services of all kinds, together with hopes for more regular shared prayer and worship, initiatives to challenge injustice together, and support for young people into leadership roles.



Bishop of St Germans, Hugh Nelson at St Petroc's Norman font

In our final act of worship, we presented and declared our Covenant together. This consists of eight statements that recognise and give thanks for the unity we already share and the rich heritage of Cornwall. We confessed that which still divides us and promised to re-dedicate ourselves to share our gifts, serving the people and land of Cornwall, growing in the love of Christ.

We give thanks to God for the way in which Christians from different traditions have grown together – through worshipping and serving, fellowship and learning, sharing both gifts and differences in love.

We give thanks for the role of Churches Together in Cornwall, and all of the Churches and Christians Together groups, as we grow positive relationships where unity can increase.

We lament that there are still issues which divide us and we repent that we damage the Body of Christ, weakening our witness to communities in Cornwall.

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We commit to working for God's kingdom through better understanding and closer co-operation. Together we will serve the people of Cornwall through positive social action and work for climate justice, caring equally for our common home and those who experience disadvantage.

We re-dedicate ourselves and our churches to working towards the fullness

of unity for which Christ prayed, through the power of the Holy Spirit and to the praise and glory of God.

A core principle of this approach is that everyone is invited to sign, equally and inclusively. This is more than an event, rather an ongoing process. We intend to revisit the Covenant each year during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

Now our challenge is to step out in our shared faith and common joy, build new relationships, serve our neighbour and care for our common home; in doing all this we will surely become better together.



Matt Noble (Baptist Denominational Ecumenical Officer (DEO)), Rev Loraine Mellor (Chair CTC), Geoff Watson (Quaker DEO), Rev Simon Atkinson (Associate Priest, St Petroc's Church), Bishop Hugh Nelson (Bishop of St Germans), Major Susan Tidball (Salvation Army DEO), Fr Paul Keys (RC Parish Priest, Bodmin)

Kathy Pope, CTC Co-ordinator

photo credits: PR4Photos, Diocese of Truro



Revive:me:uk, Launceston

28 January 2024

A special event took place at Launceston Central Methodist Church: a regional event in conjunction with Methodist Evangelicals Together as part of their Revive:Me Tour in when the guest speaker will be Rev.Dr.David Hull, the MET Chair.

David explored how we can Prepare for, Pursue and Pray for Revival together! 285 years ago, the greatest revival these nations have known began. It birthed the Methodist movement. It has shaped our national life to this day. Both church and nation now stand in need of revival again.

More information can be found on the Revive:Me Tour page of the MET web-site at methodistevangelicals.org.uk/Groups/408484/MET_Local.aspx



The poster features a background of a sunset over a cloudy sky. At the top center is the Revive:ME UK logo, which includes a stylized flame icon. Below the logo, the text reads: "NEW SEASON: NEW FOCUS", "MET LOCAL", "Join us at a venue near you as we Prepare for, Pursue and Pray for Revival together! ... Inspirational Worship and Preaching ... Prayer for Revival and Personal Renewal ...", "SPEAKER | REV DR DAVID A. HULL", "285 years ago, the greatest revival these nations have known began. It birthed our Methodist movement. It has shaped our national life to this day. Both church and nation now stand in need of revival again.", "To explore possibilities for bringing the tour to your church or circuit, contact Marian on admin@methodistevangelicals.org.uk / 01983 642024", and the MET logo (Methodist Evangelicals Together) at the bottom.

Text

30 Years of Women Priests

8 February 2024

30 years ago in March 1994, the first women were ordained as priests, some having been ordained as Deacons before this and many ministering as Deaconesses before that. Over the past 30 years, many women have followed in the footsteps of those who were first ordained. They have led and inspired men and women in their faith and brought vision and wisdom into the church and the varied and diverse communities that they have served in and led. To mark this important moment, to celebrate the ministry of women past and present to pray for their continued ministries and to look towards a creative future of inclusive ministry, there was a service of celebration and thanksgiving in Truro Cathedral.

Truro Cathedral Choir girl choristers sang this service with music from women composers. The service was led by Canon Sue Wallace and Canon Jane Vaughan-Wilson, and was preceded by a tea in the North Transept.

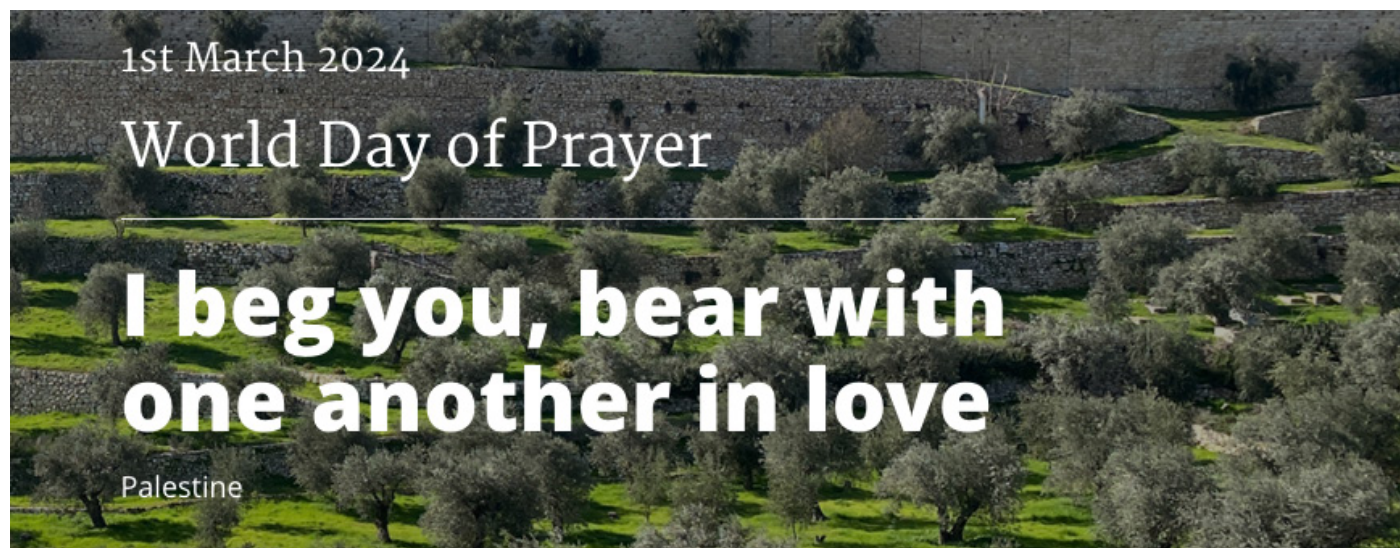
Watch the service at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Axh8YP1q4c&t=2s>

Photo Credit: PR4Photos



World Day of Prayer

1 March 2024



The Christian Women of Palestine called us to connect with the land from where Jesus came; where he was born, ministered and died – and from where our faith began and is rooted. Despite living in an area of the world where there is ongoing conflict and the future is uncertain, the women of Palestine shared with love a reminder that they are there, and they want to give hope to everyone. The theme of the service 2024 ‘bear with one another in love’ seemed very appropriate for these women who will not give up witnessing the love of Jesus Christ.

World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation led by women which enables us to hear the thoughts of those women from all parts of the world: their hopes, concerns, and prayers. The preparation for the day is vast. An international committee is based in New York and there are national committees in each participating country. Regional conferences meet to consider the service and then local groups make their plans. Finally, at a church near you on the first Friday of March people gather to celebrate the service prepared by the women of a different country each year. The Day of Prayer is celebrated in over 146 countries. It begins in Samoa and prayer in native languages travels throughout the world – through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing in American Samoa some 38 hours later. This year, some two dozen services took place across Cornwall. For further information and resources, together with details of forthcoming services in your area, see the WDP website: wwdp.org.uk.

30 years of Fairtrade

2 March 2024

The impact of choice

30 years ago three Fairtrade certified products; Chocolate, Tea and Coffee hit the supermarket shelves. Since then, Fairtrade has not only pioneered a unique, more equitable way of doing trade and shown how it makes a tangible difference, it has become the world's most recognised and trusted ethical label. Today there are over 6,000 Fairtrade products to choose from. Now it is much easier to find a good choice of Fairtrade goods in local supermarkets and stores. People are choosing to buy Fairtrade, choosing to buy products bearing the Fairtrade logo and the choices they make are saving lives. Fairtrade is one simple way of fighting the unfairness that keeps millions of farmers in poverty.

Several towns in Cornwall, including Camborne, Truro, Falmouth and Callington, have achieved 'Fairtrade Town' status and churches throughout the county regularly promote Fairtrade products, including at the Royal Cornwall Show.

Various celebratory events around Cornwall include a 30th Birthday party event at Central Methodist Church, Helston, TR13 8EL on Saturday 2 March, including a Fairtrade stall and a coffee morning with competitions, including a Cake Competition – the challenge being to come up with a decorated cake on a Fairtrade theme using Fairtrade ingredients,

and a Cornish Cream Tea in Falmouth.

Fairtrade Fortnight this year is in September, Mon 9th-Sat 22nd.

Celebrating 30 years of Fairtrade Cornish Cream Tea

St Mary's Church Hall
2.30pm Saturday 6th April 2024



Minimum donation for Cream Tea £3.50

Choice of Fairtrade Tea or Filter Coffee

HOME MADE CAKE SALE

FAIRTRADE STALL - RAFFLE - QUIZ

EVERYONE WELCOME



RNLI 200th Anniversary

4 March 2024

For 200 years, the RNLI has been saving lives at sea. From wooden lifeboats with oars and sails to today's motor-powered all-weather lifeboats, crews across the country have been making our waters a safer place. On Monday, 4th March 2024 His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent attended a service of Thanksgiving to mark 200 years of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) at Westminster Abbey.

The Duke, the charity's President, was joined in the Abbey by an 1,800-strong



congregation including representatives from RNLI lifesaving communities around the UK and Ireland. The service took place at the same time the RNLI founding papers were created 200 years ago.

Since being founded in 1824 the charity's lifeboat crews and lifeguards have saved over 146,000 lives. In Monday's service the charity commemorated its history, reflected on the lifesaving service it provides today, and looked ahead to inspire future generations of lifesavers and supporters.

To celebrate the anniversary, three RNLI lifeboats were brought to the Abbey. They included the historic William Riley, an oar-powered boat built in 1909, which remained in active service until 1931; a modern Shannon class boat, the RNLI's most agile and manoeuvrable all-weather lifeboat; and a D class lifeboat – first introduced into the RNLI fleet in 1963, the design of the inflatable D class lifeboat has continued to evolve.

Celebrations of the anniversary will continue in Cornwall throughout the summer.

Good Friday Witness

29 March 2024

Churches Together groups across Cornwall once again marked Good Friday with ecumenical Walks of Witness.



photos: Devoran Church / Pauline Kent / Launceston Area Churches Together / Roger Mills

Cornwall Modern Slavery Network

5 April 2025

Transformation Cornwall relaunched the Cornwall Modern Slavery Network, in partnership with Churches Together Cornwall and Cornwall Refugee Resource Network, as a place to share, receive training and spread awareness of modern slavery across the County. The meeting included a presentation by Hilary Agg, Policy and Partnerships Manager at Unseen, Modern Slavery and Human trafficking.

The presentation can be downloaded from transformation-cornwall.org.uk/resources/modern-slavery-and-human-trafficking-presentation-by-unseen.

More information about the network of organisations with whom we are working to tackle modern slavery in Cornwall is available at transformation-cornwall.org.uk/initiatives/a-modern-slavery-initiative.

To find out more about Unseen and their work visit: www.unseenuk.org



Forced labour Sexual exploitation Organ Harvesting
Criminal exploitation Domestic servitude

Types of modern slavery

**TRANSFORMATION
CORNWALL⁺**

**Cornwall
Modern
Slavery
Network**

Big World Fair

20 April 2024



Organised by the Diocese of Truro's International Links Committee, this event saw over 30 exhibitors sharing space with the Roseland Academy Samba Band, Cornwall Youth Choir,

and visitors. Bishop Hugh Nelson welcomed people to the day before four speakers from Christian Aid, Edukid, Five Talents and Tearfund took to the stage. The Big World Fair was a day of celebrating the global church family, sharing how different organisations are working across the world and how churches and individuals can get involved, support and learn from our brothers and sisters in different parts of the world.



Aging in the Southwest

20 April 2024

Ageing Well – A Caritas/SVP Event, Launceston
discussed ageing in the South West and how we are called to respond.

Pope Francis has made “old age” a pastoral priority of his pontificate. Alongside migration and climate change, he has said that it is one of the most urgent issues facing the human family at this time. The Pope has repeatedly called out “the cruel abandonment of older persons” during the pandemic and has established a World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly. This event celebrated the wonderful contribution older people make to society – including through volunteering – as well as encouraging parishes to think about how we can support each other if people need greater care and support as they age. We want to promote and defend the rights of older persons and create a culture that cherishes life at all stages – especially when it is at its most vulnerable.

This is partnership event with SVP, with guest speakers coming to join us, supported us all to think through the implications of an ageing society and to gather good practice already in place and new ideas which can be shared across the diocese.

“LOVE ENABLES US TO CREATE ONE GREAT FAMILY WHERE ALL OF US CAN FEEL AT HOME” POPE FRANCIS

Did you know - the highest poverty rates among people aged 16 and over are among working-age adults aged 60 and over, 25% of whom are in poverty. (Centre for Ageing Better).



Community Conversation

6 April 2024

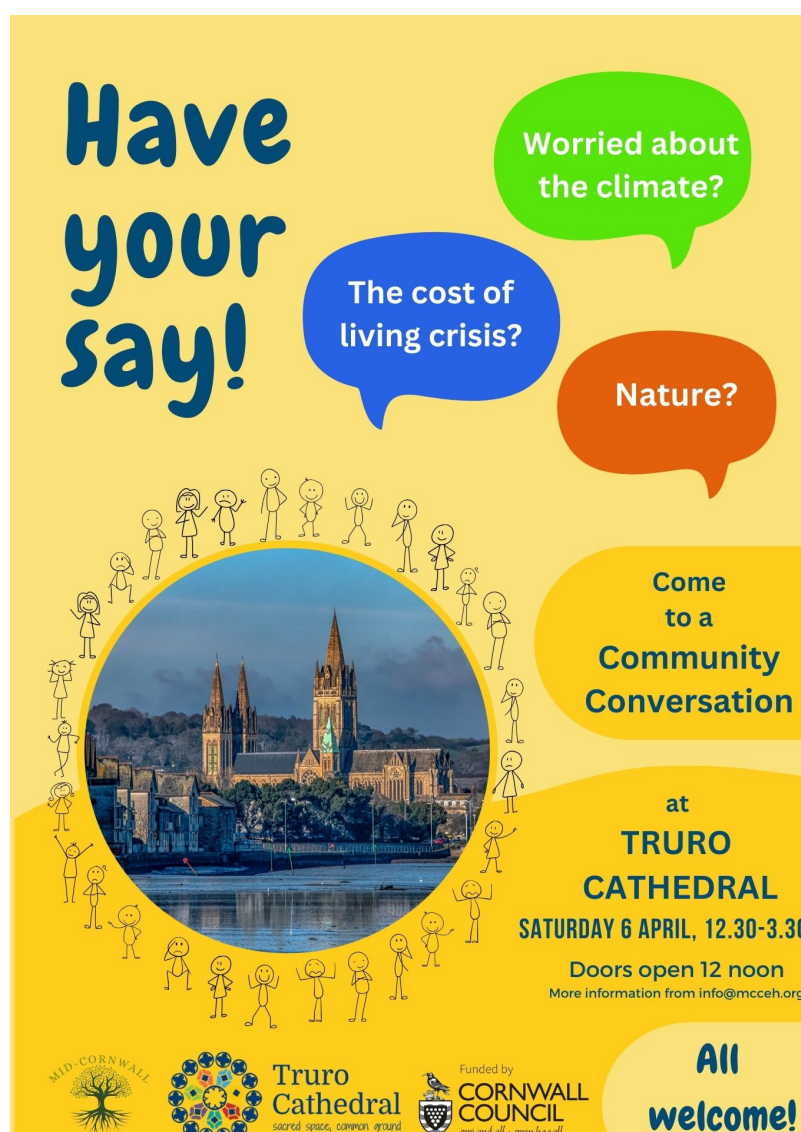
The open conversation at Truro Cathedral was organised by the Mid-Cornwall Climate and Eco Hub in conjunction with Myghal Ryual, Truro Cathedral and Cornwall Council's Carbon Neutral Team, as an opportunity to come together and talk about the climate, nature and cost of living crises as a community.

Cornwall is facing challenges from changes in the climate, reduction in biodiversity and the cost of living crises. The Council has a goal of reducing the county's emissions, but the problems we face in terms of farming, fishing, heating our homes, flooding and losing nature need us to come together as communities.

This Community Conversation brought together community members to share their concerns, explore effective strategies, and learn how they can collaborate to address these pressing issues, ultimately contributing to a sustainable future for Cornwall.

Organisers emphasised the importance of community involvement in tackling environmental and economic challenges. The conversation is expected to facilitate a collaborative environment where participants can gain insights into actionable steps they can take within their community.

The outcome of the day will be sent to Cornwall Council, local MPs and faith leaders.



The poster features a yellow background with a central circular image of Truro Cathedral. Surrounding the circle are stick figures holding hands. Three speech bubbles contain the text: 'Worried about the climate?' (green), 'The cost of living crisis?' (blue), and 'Nature?' (orange). A yellow box on the right says 'Come to a Community Conversation at TRURO CATHEDRAL SATURDAY 6 APRIL, 12.30-3.30'. Below this, it says 'Doors open 12 noon' and 'More information from info@mceh.org'. At the bottom, logos for Mid-Cornwall, Truro Cathedral, and Cornwall Council are shown, along with the text 'All welcome!'.

Meet the Funders

24 April 2024



Meet the **Funders**
Transformation Cornwall and Diocese of Truro

“Very useful and informative event, provided a wealth of information and increased my confidence to apply.”



Over a hundred individuals gathered for the Meet the Funders Spring event at St Martin’s Church in Liskeard on Thursday, April 27th. Hosted by Transformation Cornwall and the Diocese of Truro, the event facilitated connections between over 80 organisations from the voluntary, faith-based, and social action sectors with 14 local and national funding bodies.

Key speakers from The National Lottery Community Fund, National Churches Trust, Resonance, The Joseph Rank Trust, Feast, The

Thank you to our funders:



Benefact Trust, The Co-op Foundation, Cornwall Community Foundation, The Duchy Health Charity and The National Lottery Heritage Fund shared valuable insights and funding opportunities. Representatives from Cornwall Women’s Fund, CIOS Shared Prosperity Fund and Asda Foundation were also present to engage with delegates.

Feedback from attendees was overwhelmingly positive, with respondents expressing motivation and inspiration to pursue their projects. The survey conducted at the end of the day revealed a significant increase in knowledge about funding opportunities, with 97% of respondents indicating their intention to apply for funding following the event.

Transformation Cornwall partnered with CHAOS Digital to record presentations from the speakers, which will be available on transformation-cornwall.org.uk/ in early May.



**CHURCHES
TOGETHER
CORNWALL**

inspiring unity

sharing our gifts

SEND US YOUR GOOD NEWS!

ctcinfohub@gmail.com

CELEBRATE GOD'S WORK IN CORNWALL

follow us on Facebook: @ChurchesTogetherinCornwall

and Twitter: @CtcMissioner

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