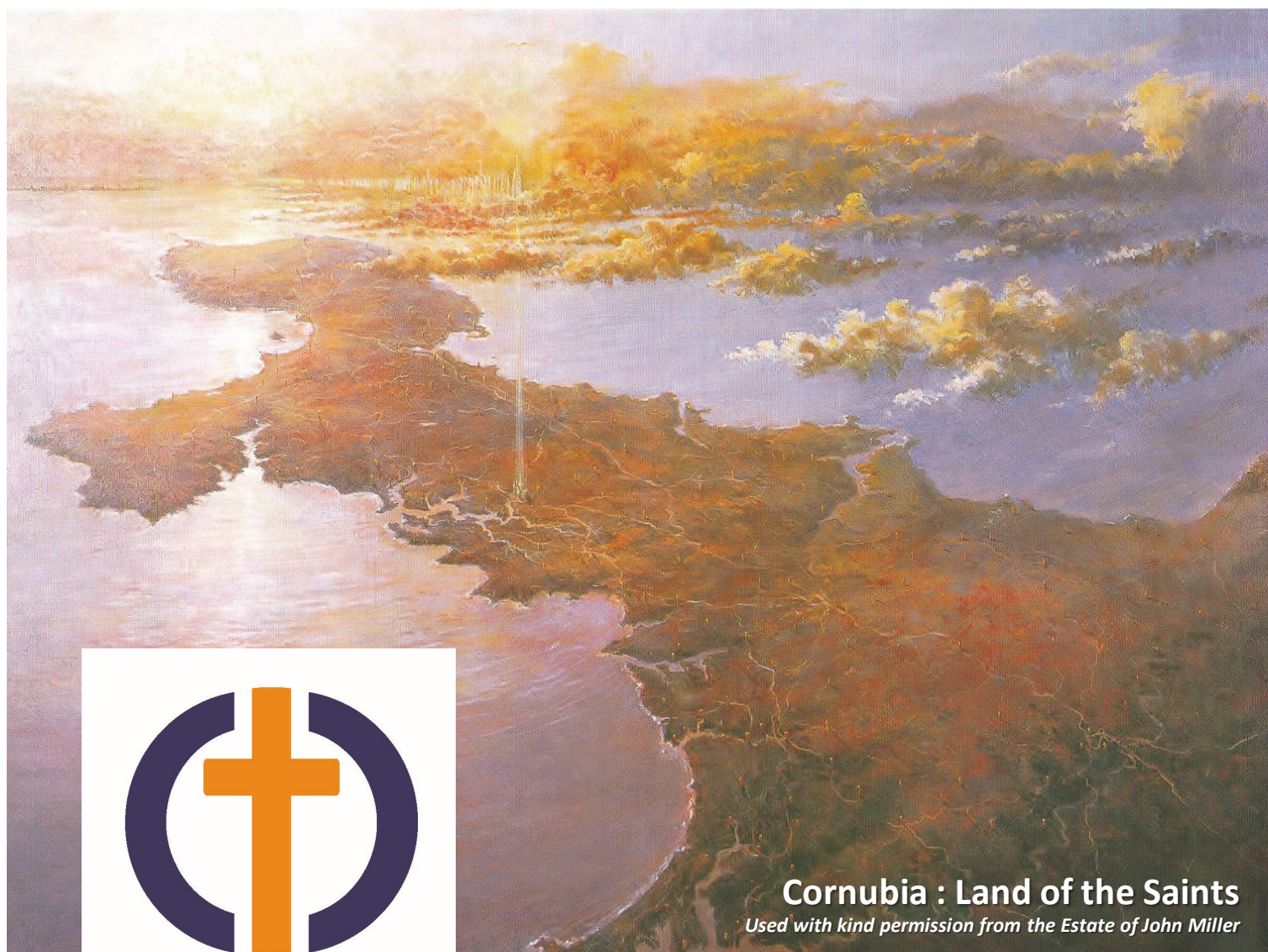


# CTC Review

Feb/Mar  
2020

**GOOD NEWS FROM CORNISH CHURCHES**

#WhoWhatWhy #JoiningTheDots #RowingTogether  
#CathedralCrawl #EnvironLENTalism  
#SupportingPersecutedChristians #SouthWestAwake!



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



**CHURCHES  
TOGETHER  
CORNWALL**

*inspiring unity*  
*sharing our gifts*

# Who - What - Why



**WELCOME** to the third issue of CTC Review, our new magazine sharing good news from and around the churches in Cornwall. Our vision for 2020 is to become more effective in 'joining the dots' between Christian activities across the county - read more about it in our new 'who, what, why' leaflet, downloadable from the CTC infoHub via the link above - if you would like printed copies of this or any of our leaflets for distribution, please e-mail [ctcmissioner@gmail.com](mailto:ctcmissioner@gmail.com) with the quantity required and we will get them to you.



# Joining the Dots

*Our new project **SAM: Social Action Mapping for Cornish Churches** was launched at the Falmouth/Exeter Universities Volunteering Fair at Penryn Campus on 19 February, and further promoted at Transformation Cornwall's Meet the Funders event in Bodmin on 12 March.*

*The project is now in its pilot phase as we gather and analyse information from an initial batch of projects to guide the design of a long-term methodology allowing us to compile data in a format that can be exported readily to a variety of external applications without needing to return to the original source.*

## SOCIAL ACTION MAPPING

FOR CORNISH CHURCHES

a project led by  
Churches Together in Cornwall

[www.ctcinfohub.org](http://www.ctcinfohub.org)



download leaflet from  
<http://bit.ly/3cygj1C>

### ***We need helpers!***

**If you would like to assist with this project please contact us on [ctcmisioner@gmail.com](mailto:ctcmisioner@gmail.com) - whether you can give half a day a week or half an hour a month it will still make a difference and help us to build up a useful database more quickly. There are many jobs to be done and full instruction will be given. We'd love to hear from you!**

# Rowing Together in unity at Truro Cathedral



*photo: Revd Steve Wild*

*Left to right:*

Revd Canon Simon Griffiths, Precentor, Truro Cathedral; Alan Inger, Elder, Newquay United Reformed Church; Revd Matt Noble, Pastor, Truro Baptist Church; Roger Mills, Missioner, Churches Together in Cornwall; Revd Steven Wild, Chair, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Methodist District; Lt Andrew Hammond, Denominational Ecumenical Officer, Salvation Army; Kathy Pope, Trustee, Cornwall Faith Forum, Roman Catholic; Revd Canon Malcolm Bowers, Anglican; Lesley Chandler, Denominational Ecumenical Officer, Quakers

Churches Together in Cornwall's united service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Sun 19 January was held in Truro Cathedral, using the service prepared by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland from materials devised by the churches in Malta. Based around St Paul's shipwreck on Malta as related in the last two chapters of the Acts of the Apostles, it developed the theme of the 'unusual kindness' that Paul and his companions encountered on the island. During the prayers, eight oars were presented from members of different churches, bearing the words Trust, Perseverance, Harmony, Courage, Unusual Kindness, Transformation and Generosity with the

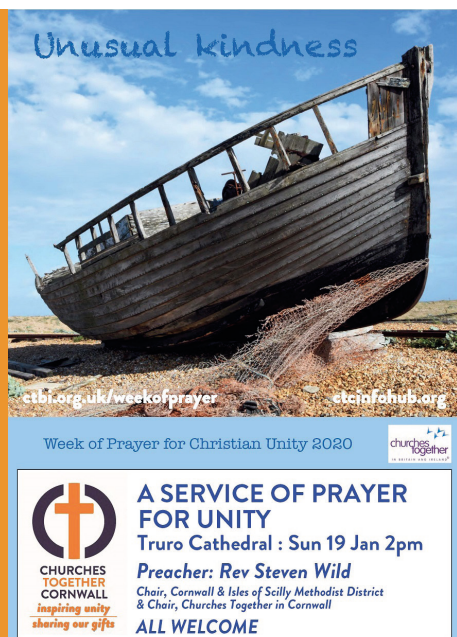


# Proclaiming

outline of a heart on the final oar, representing the qualities we need as we row together on our journey. The service concluded with the song 'Love is the Boat for the Journey', composed by Ian Callanan in 2009 - words in the panel on the right.

The picture on the left was taken after the service and widely re-tweeted across the country; it also featured on p.4 of the *Methodist Recorder* dated January 31.

*After a quick row down the River Fal (well, drive down the A39!) the oars (actually plastic canoe paddles) saw further use an hour later in Falmouth & Penryn Churches Together's presentation of the same service! So next time you find yourself up the creek without a paddle, just call Churches Together...*



*You are the way to heaven's yielding fold.*

*You are the truth bringing freedom.  
You are the life burning deep within our hearts,  
for you are the boat for the journey.*

*You are the stream where flows the path of life,  
guiding the way for disciples.  
Though storms may arise you calm the fear inside,  
for you are the boat for the journey.*

*You are our God, the living, saving Word,  
You are the banquet of justice.  
You know our pain, you lift us from our shame,  
for you are the boat for the journey.*

*We'll sing this song of never ending joy,  
filled with the truth of your gospel.  
With faith, hope, and love,  
we claim your living Word,  
for you are the boat for the journey.  
Love is the boat for the journey.*

Copyright © 2009 GIA Publications, Inc.  
Words: Ian Callanan  
Music: Loch Lomond

listen on YouTube: <http://bit.ly/2Tefm5u>

# A Cornish Quaker's Cathedral Crawl

*Lesley Chandler  
begins an odyssey around  
English cathedrals*

'A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral.' (Antoine de Saint-Exupery)

I have my father to thank for a love of old buildings - notably castles. By the age of 10, he and I had visited and marvelled at those great feats of Norman engineering and construction - the castles of North Wales and beyond. I recall that sense of awe and admiration mixed with feelings of intimidation and smallness they stirred in me. My imagination held romantic visions of lords and ladies feasting, of exquisite banquets hosted by princes and barons. By the time I was in my teens, I had added the blood, sweat and tears of the Welsh nation (my ancestors) oppressed by and locked forever into conflict with those Norman conquerors...

Other enormous statements of power, wealth and permanence - non-extant abbeys, priories and monasteries were also visited. Cathedrals were excluded presumably because of my father's disaffection with religion and my mother's adherence to Primitive Methodism.

So, needing desperately to reconnect physically with family and friends up and down the country and to disconnect from home for a few days, the plan to visit as many never-personally-visited cathedrals as possible in 10 days took shape in just 48 hours and I set off to Wells, my first pit stop.

Entry late afternoon weekday was not via the over-the-top richly decorated west entrance, basking in dull sunshine, but by the side entrance. I had time to experience some of the uniqueness of Wells before Evensong at 5.15. Cameraphone in hand, I was transported back to that childhood and childlike sense of awe. The sheer majesty of those scissor arches built to withstand future earth tremors stunned me. Their design brought to mind Saddam Hussein's Al-Shaheed Monument and Victory Arch in Baghdad often





# Pilgrimage



photos: Lesley Chandler

seen on TV during the disastrous invasion of Iraq almost 20 years earlier. Another 'must experience' is the Wells Clock (circa 1390) with jousting knights every 15 minutes!

To me, cathedrals and churches are no more the House of God than mine or my neighbours'. I do, however, feel that they have become sacred over time with the continuous presence of people and prayer. So many stonemasons, labourers, sawyers, sculptors and artists have devoted their lives to creating work which inspires that sense of awe (some would call it God) which surrounds us when we look with wide-open eyes.

I am filled with that sense of awe and mystery when I sing with and listen to others singing in plainsong or harmony. So queuing for the 5.15 in the quire was a gift from the MD, the vicars choral and boy choristers of Wells

who sang the music of C V Stanford and Herbert Howells with such divine perfection. Evensong/prayers can be wordy but the experience can also be contemplative and nourishing. The practice dates back to prayers in the Jewish Temple and all are welcome...

Cambridgeshire next.

***Lesley Chandler is Churches Together in Cornwall's DEO (Denominational Ecumenical Officer) for the Quakers (Society of Friends).***

# Environment

## EnvironLENTalism

*Anna Barrett challenges us to lead the fight against climate change*

**A new challenge for you this Lent: invest in a brighter future.**

Churches are a powerful force and have a vital role to play in the UK's transition to a net-zero carbon economy. One of the easiest and most powerful ways that churches can lead the way is to divest completely from fossil fuels. If we think about it, because of the damage it does to our common home, reducing fossil fuel consumption is an essential element to Christian discipleship, going hand in hand with the safeguarding of creation. Christian investors have played an important part in the fight against apartheid, the rise of Fairtrade certification, and now, more than ever, we have to rise as one on the issue of the climate crisis.

Almost all churches have an ethical investment policy, but fossil fuel investments are not often viewed as unethical. Fortunately for us all, the task of divesting your church or organisation from fossil fuels is nowhere near as daunting as it sounds, thanks to the work of a charity called Operation Noah, and their campaign: Bright Now. Working within the church, Bright Now inspires action on climate change, encouraging churches to think about how they invest their money, giving advice on how to go about divesting from fossil fuels and showing ways that they can reinvest in other, ethical and renewable investments. All you have to do is look up their website online at [brightnow.org.uk](http://brightnow.org.uk) and find and download their how-to guide on divesting your church from fossil fuels, and follow their steps! In making a divestment

commitment, your church would commit to freezing any new investment in the top 200 publicly traded fossil fuel companies and to divest any investments in fossil fuel companies within five years. Currently, the global divestment movement is comprised of more than 1,100 institutions with more than £8 trillion of assets under management. Just think about what that number could be if all of the churches in the UK committed to divesting from fossil fuels! In late March 2020, there is going to be a global joint investment announcement for faith organisations, could your church be part of it?

My challenge to you this Lent (or, if you don't observe Lent, six-ish weeks of your year) is to begin the process of encouraging your church or institution to divest from fossil fuels if they haven't already. Write a letter to your bishop, to the people in charge of investments, talk to your minister or treasurer. Be persistent until change happens, because otherwise it won't. We must lead the fight against climate change and divesting from fossil fuels is a formidable way to do it.



*Anna is a member of the Justice and Peace Group in the parish of St Augustine of Hippo in St Austell. She is currently studying a Plant Science degree at the Eden Project and has been passionate about the environment for many years. She firmly believes that we must all work together in the face of the climate crisis; collective action is incredibly powerful and together we can make a difference!*



# Justice/Peace

## Supporting Persecuted Christians



*The Falmouth Filling Station welcomed Dr Patrick Sookdheo, founder and International Director of the Barnabas Fund, on 6 January at Falmouth Methodist Church to speak on Hated without a Reason: why Christians are persecuted today. The Revd Gordon Smyth reports:*

Introduced by Dr Russell Blacker as a leading authority and prolific author on the reasons for Christian persecution, Dr Sookdheo is an expert of the theology of Islam, having himself been converted from that religion. He outlined the reasons why Christians are persecuted today, referring to the recent report by the Bishop of Truro where Bishop Philip concludes that Christians are the most persecuted religion in the world. Dr Sookdheo then went on to refer to religious nationalism where minority religions in a country are discriminated against and marginalised because of the country's dominant religion. He gave examples of Hinduism in India; Confucianism in China and Islam in several countries in the Middle East. It is a fact that Christians have always been victims of persecution. Stephen was the first martyr to lose his life due to religious persecution (Acts 7); James was beheaded due to political persecution (Acts 12); the apostle Paul was tortured and imprisoned (2 Corinthians 11:23ff). According to historical records the Romans put thousands of Christians to death – just because of their faith. However, it seems as though when we look both at history and in the world today, Christians are strengthened and empowered when they are persecuted. As our own country seems to be sliding into the quasi-religion of secular humanism, let's watch and pray that Christians here will be motivated to evangelise, to grow as Christians and that together we might proclaim the Name of Jesus.

### SUPPORTING PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS

#### WHAT CAN I DO?

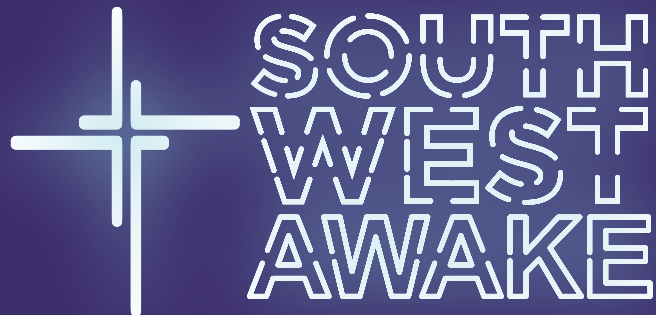
PRAY  
LEARN  
WITNESS

practical suggestions inside



**What can I do? See this leaflet for some ideas - download at <http://bit.ly/385yFDq>**

A chain of **prayer and praise**  
around the South West!



Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2020,  
**2pm-2.30pm**

Join Christians of all traditions on one  
of the 630 miles of the coast path to pray  
Thy Kingdom Come

Sign up at [www.southwestawake.com](http://www.southwestawake.com)



Rediscover  
church

CREATION  
FEST



ndhop  
north devon house of prayer

SWYM  
south west youth ministries



THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
IN DEVON



# South West Awake!



THY



KINGDOM



COME

**Coming Up** during Thy Kingdom Come, 21-31 May 2020

**Sat 30 May:** Form a Chain of Prayer around the coast path  
Sign up as an individual, family or church group at  
[www.southwestawake.com](http://www.southwestawake.com)

**Various dates:** Join prayer walks around the county

**Pentecost Sunday 31 May:** Beacon Events at Gwennap Pit  
and St Martin's Church Liskeard

Save the dates and check [ctcinfohub.org](http://ctcinfohub.org) for details



**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*

*© Churches Together in Cornwall 2020 - edited by Roger Mills*