

Annual Report

2021-22

Falmouth + Penryn Churches Together

*working together
to share
the love of God*



**CHURCHES
TOGETHER
CORNWALL**



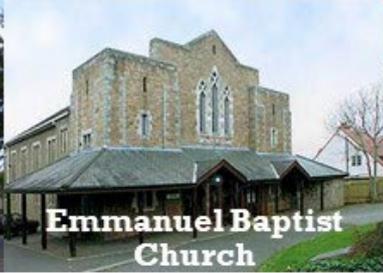
*inspiring unity
sharing our gifts*

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FPCT MEMBER CHURCHES



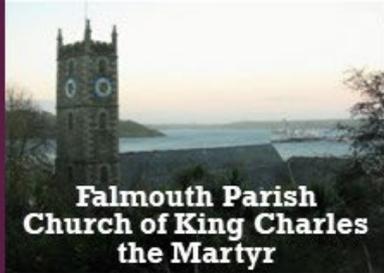
All Saints Parish Church Falmouth



Emmanuel Baptist Church



Falmouth Methodist Church



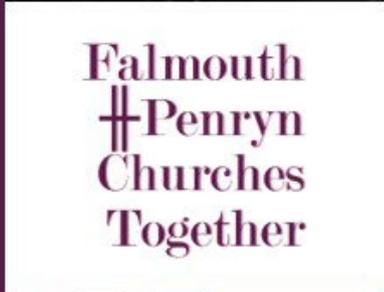
Falmouth Parish Church of King Charles the Martyr



Falmouth Quaker Meeting



Falmouth Salvation Army Church



Falmouth Penryn Churches Together



The Harbour Church (Elim Pentecostal)



CHURCHES TOGETHER CORNWALL
inspiring unity sharing our gifts



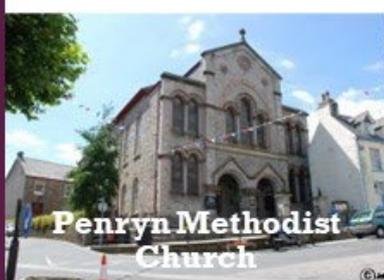
Highway Church



Life Church Falmouth



New Street Church



Penryn Methodist Church



St Budock Church



St Gluvias Church



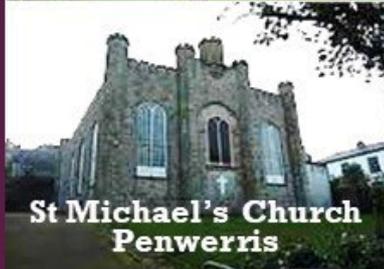
St Laudus Church Mabe



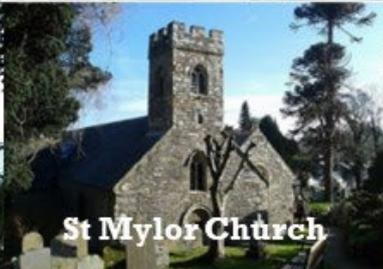
St Mary's RC Church



St Mawnan Church



St Michael's Church Penwerris



St Mylor Church



Stirring of the Water Ministries

ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22 : TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Administration</i>	4
1 †† FPCT Officers & Executive Members 2021-2022.....	4
2 †† Overview & Chair’s report – Euan McPhee	5
3 †† FPCT Accounts 2021-22 – David Arrondelle	6
<i>Prayer & Discipleship</i>	8
4 †† Nativity Trail 2021 – Deacon Jane Mills.....	8
5 †† Prayer for Christian Unity 2022 – Roger Mills.....	10
6 †† World Day of Prayer 2022– Sue Mills.....	10
7 †† Ecumenical Lent Course – Roger Mills	11
8 †† Good Friday Walk of Witness 2022 – Roger Mills.....	12
9 †† Thy Kingdom Come 2022/Platinum Jubilee – Roger Mills.....	13
10 †† Prayer Tent – Richard Edwards	14
11 †† The Filling Station.....	17
12 †† Justice and Peace Action Group – Mary Bradley.....	17
<i>Community Needs</i>	18
13 †† Foodbank – Roger Mills.....	18
14 †† Care Home Ministry – Peter Richards.....	19
15 †† Christians Against Poverty (CAP) – Glyn Lumley	20
16 †† Footsteps Community Coffee Shop – Jan Winslade	21
17 †† Fairtrade Falmouth – Pat FitzPatrick	23
18 †† Christian Aid Week – Roger Mills.....	25
<i>Young People</i>	26
19 †† Messy Church	26
20 †† University Chaplaincy – Becky Nesbitt.....	26
21 †† Falmouth Street Pastors	26
<i>Networks</i>	27
22 †† Transforming Mission – Canon Bill Stuart-White.....	27
23 †† Churches Together In Cornwall – Roger Mills.....	29

ADMINISTRATION

Falmouth & Penryn Churches Together (FPCT) is an association of 19 Christian congregations in Falmouth, Penryn and the surrounding areas; providing a forum in which we can explore, and through which we can put into effect, ways of serving God together – both in worship and in service to the community. FPCT is governed by its Forum, comprising representatives from each member church and project, and serviced by its Executive, whose members are elected by the Forum. All meetings are public and anyone is welcome to attend, but only church representatives may vote.

1 ✚ FPCT OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE MEMBERS 2021-2022

<i>Chair:</i>	<i>Euan McPhee Falmouth Methodist Church</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>David Arrondelle St Mawnan Church</i>
<i>Secretary:</i>	<i>Pat FitzPatrick St Mary's RC Church</i>
<i>Minutes Secretary:</i>	<i>vacant</i>
<i>Safeguarding Officer:</i>	<i>vacant</i>
<i>Public Relations Coordinator:</i>	<i>vacant</i>
<i>Executive Member (minister):</i>	<i>Revd Canon Bill Stuart-White All Saints/KCM</i>
<i>Executive Member (minister):</i>	<i>vacant</i>
<i>Executive Member (minister):</i>	<i>vacant</i>
<i>Executive Member (minister):</i>	<i>vacant</i>
<i>Executive Member (lay):</i>	<i>Lesley Chandler Falmouth Quaker Meeting</i>
<i>Executive Member (lay):</i>	<i>Jane Charman All Saints Church</i>
<i>Executive Member (lay):</i>	<i>Glyn Lumley Emmanuel Baptist Church</i>
<i>Executive Member (lay):</i>	<i>vacant</i>

As Charles Wesley wrote, “***His providence has brought us through another various year***” (*Singing the Faith* no. 127). And so it has been for Churches Together in Falmouth and Penryn, as the various member churches have continued to develop ways of working and witnessing in difficult circumstances. However, my prayer is that we shall be true to another of Wesley's dictums:

“Make us of one heart and mind, courteous, merciful and kind, lowly, meek in thought and word, altogether like our Lord.” (*Singing the Faith*, 686, Charles Wesley).

Since our last AGM, Covid restrictions have eased, and yet our concern for the vulnerable means that we are still operating in a careful way. In that process, we have all learned new ways of being church: online services, Zoom prayer meetings and paper copies of worship materials delivered to vulnerable folk for example.

Whilst the focus on the needs of their own church families is understandable, it has meant that people have had less time to devote to ecumenical activities. And yet, over the last year, a remarkable amount of collaborative work for God's Kingdom has taken place, as the following reports demonstrate. The restarting of Footsteps Café in the New Year, as well as the ongoing care homes ministry, debt counselling, job club, foodbank and many other activities are cause for great celebration and thanks to God.

Even if Covid had not been a factor, it is unlikely that we could have marshalled enough people to adequately operate the Live Nativity as we had done in previous years. Nevertheless, a Nativity Trail was still arranged and Christmas cards with (nearly) all the Christmas Church service details were handed out to many people. The Good Friday Walk of Witness was able to return to the streets of Falmouth once again after two years of a “virtual walk”. Well over 80 people joined the walk and shared prayers at each church on the route to King Charles Church, where a short service and hot cross buns were enjoyed. A young couple from the Midlands, who were in Falmouth on their honeymoon, carried the cross for the whole walk!

The most novel activity this year has been the Pop-Up Book Sale on behalf of Christian Aid Week. Hosted by King Charles Church, the event received

books from and was staffed by volunteers from churches across Falmouth. As well as raising over £900 for Christian Aid, the event also attracted many people into the church building who might otherwise not have come in – and who knows what influence that might have had?

Our most recent event was the Cream Tea for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee, which took place on the terrace of the Parish Church of King Charles the Martyr on Saturday 4 June. For over two hours, there was a non-stop service of tea and scones to appreciative members of the public. And £364 was raised for Children’s Hospice Southwest. Again, another wonderful mission opportunity, where Christian unity and hospitality was demonstrated.

As we move forward into a post-Covid world, we are still faced with churches that are overstretched and a shortage of people to help Churches Together to adequately serve the member churches and the wider community. One thing is certain – we can do so much more together than we can apart.

So please do support Churches Together – we need you and, I would like to think, you need us! Why do I say this? Well, perhaps the best way I can explain it is to quote the words of Fred Pratt Green, who wrote:

“What is our mission here? He makes his purpose clear: one world, one Lord! Spirit of truth descend; all our confusions end: give me your hand my friend – ‘Jesus is Lord!’” (Singing the Faith, 691, Fred Pratt Green).

Euan McPhee

3 † FPCT ACCOUNTS 2021-22 – DAVID ARRONDELLE

FPCT Main Account

Opening Balance		£3606-08
Subs from churches	£450-00	
Subs – personal	£60-00	
Income from Footsteps Cafe	£1061-14	
	<u>£1571-00</u>	<u>+ £1571-14</u>
		<u>£5177-22</u>
Less expenditure:-		
Insurance	£537-02	
Evangelism	£887-53	

PayPal	£594-84	
	<u>£2019-39</u>	
		- £2019-39
Closing Balance		<u>£3157-83</u>

FPCT Kidz Klub Account

Opening Balance		£2228-09
Subscriptions		£369-00
Closing Balance		<u>£2597-09</u>

B:Beautiful Account

Opening Balance		£910-54
Interest accrued		£0-08
Closing Balance		<u>£910-62</u>

Business Premium Account

Opening Balance		£15-76
Interest		NIL
Closing balance		<u>£15-76</u>

As the final year of my holding the position of Treasurer with FPCT draws to a close I look back with happy memories of friends made and jobs done.

This has been a strange year for church finance. With Covid, lockdown, social distancing etc. it has been a year where our congregations have felt it unwise to meet in close spaces, and so numbers attending church were quite drastically reduced. This of course had the effect of reducing church income considerably. Even with the Executive's decision to reduce the cost of subscriptions greatly, and to offer the splitting of subs into two instalments, several of our member churches were unable to afford to pay.

With fewer things happening in the community which would otherwise have attracted funding from FPCT, our financial situation is healthy. Our closing

balance for our main accounts is only £500 lower than last year, and we did support the Prayer Tent on the Moor, a Syrian refugee family, and paid towards the costs of the Leprosy Mission.

In closing I would like to say that I have enjoyed my six years as your Treasurer, and I wish you well for the future. The idea of 'Churches Together' is close to my heart and I hope and pray that all our churches will continue to explore ways of working even more closely together.

God bless you all

David Arrondelle

PRAYER & DISCIPLESHIP

Witnessing, worshipping and praying together form the core of our work in sharing the love of God with our community.

4 † NATIVITY TRAIL 2021 – DEACON JANE MILLS

The Falmouth Live Nativity became an annual initiative to take the Christmas story onto the streets of Falmouth following the success of one inspired and managed by Deacon Michelle Legumi in 2012. Her notes for 2013 began 'We will keep it simple but brilliant! Something to build upon each year.' However, due to its success, and the invaluable support of the town council (who have organised and funded the road closures and marquee) and volunteers (especially Jane Charman), the pattern and script have remained identical until we were forced to cancel the event due to the Pandemic.

Following a rallying cry for a new team in 2019 Deacon Jane Mills took on a leadership role, despite being out of the country for the 2 months prior to the event. This went well, though it had been moved by the council from the 2nd Sunday in December to the 1st Sunday in December, a date many felt was too early, and clashed with other regular activities of many of our member churches.

Following the need to cancel the live event in 2020 Deacon Jane worked with Sophie Chatten and Charlotte Butcher (New Street) to produce a Nativity Trail for people to follow along the usual route of the live event, with scenes from the nativity story displayed in the windows of shops and businesses, along with a QR code to scan for more information and details of Christmas services.

Falmouth Christmas Trail

There are 9 posters featuring a different part of the story of Christmas in windows in our town from Dec. 4th until Christmas, can you find them all?



(A map showing each location can be found on our website and face book page)

Falmouth + Penryn Churches Together
working together to share the love of God

In 2021 we were progressing Deacon Michelle's original plan to 'evolve' the event by including a stop in the garden of Langholme care home, but the ever-present lack of volunteers to help plan and run the event was making things difficult for the two Janes, who both had many other commitments. Due to this and ongoing covid concerns, FPCT made the decision not to have a 'live event' in 2021. Deacon Jane again designed and implemented a Nativity trail, this time with a leaflet including the now expanded route, (following comments on the difficulty of finding the posters in 2020 - info was produced but, due to a break in communication never circulated – sorry!). We owe thanks to the businesses that

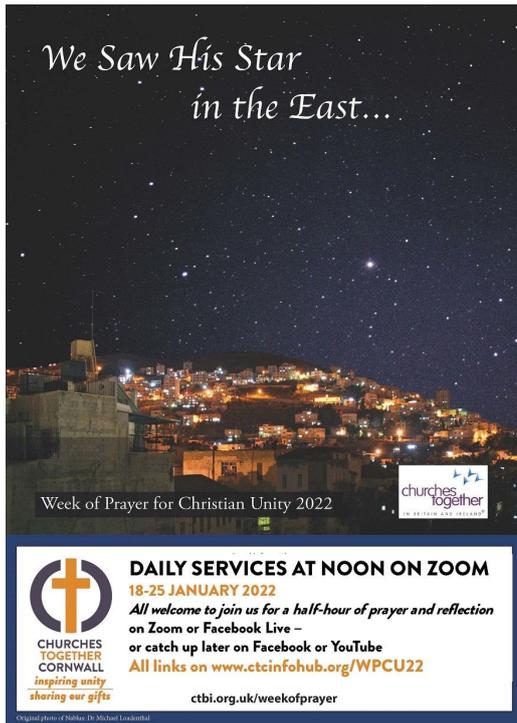
have taken part; in 2021 these were Amanzi, Bow, The Cornish Store, Crafty Corner, Falmouth Community Fridge, Fal River Visitor Information, The Huddle, Lanes and UnRap (who stood in at very short notice when Harbour View had to close).

When Falmouth Methodist Church sold its building in early this year a new home was required for all that had been stored there. The costumes are currently at Emmanuel, leaflets have been distributed to several churches for Messy Church use, but the FPCT thermal cups and the Live Nativity planning file are still in Deacon Jane's study, they need a new home before she leaves at the end of July, when the manse will be sold!

Note; The Live Nativity was originally managed by Deacon Michelle Legumi with a team of 11, each taking responsibility for a specific part (catering, stewards, animals etc). The 2019 event had a key team of 4, one of whom was out of the country for 2 months! We have never been short of volunteers on the day, but if such an event was to happen in the future it will need a commitment from more people to plan it. I hope and pray that FPCT can use this break and the removal of a key venue as an opportunity to do a new thing, or perhaps it can inspire commitment to a similar event, or encourage one in new places?

Deacon Jane Mills

5 † PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY 2022 – ROGER MILLS



As the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (18-25 Jan) coincided with another wave of Covid infections, no in-person services were held but Churches Together in Cornwall once again coordinated a series of online services of prayer and reflection on Zoom, Facebook Live and YouTube which attracted some 510 viewers over the week. The first of these was given by our Chair, Euan McPhee. This year's theme was *We saw his Star in the East* and the materials were prepared by the churches in the Middle East. In addition, on the Sunday Cornwall Churches Environment Group provided an

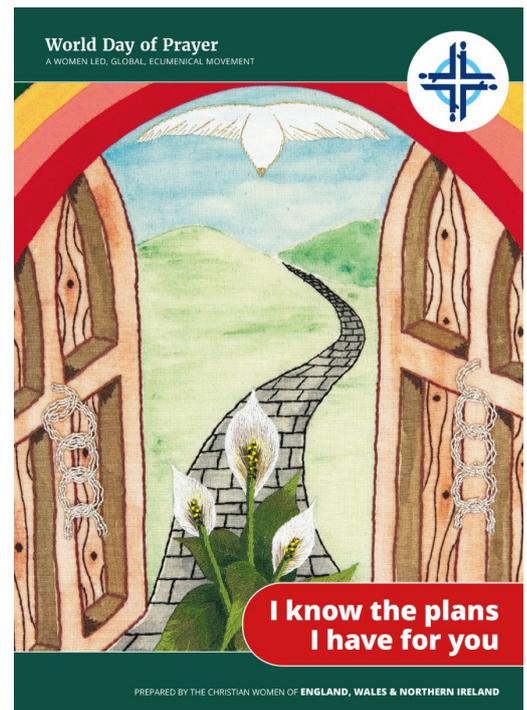
online service *One World, One Church: Praying for the Environment*, which also included a contribution from Euan McPhee on the Tregonigie Woodland; this attracted some 220 views.



6 † WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022 – SUE MILLS

2022 is a special year for World Day of Prayer in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, because the service was prepared here, using the Bible text "I know the plans I have for you" from Jeremiah 19:11, to reflect on some of the issues facing us today: "poverty, domestic abuse and disability, finding hope in difficult situations and encouragement in the help we can give to each other".

Our service in Falmouth Parish Church went well, although with a much smaller congregation (38) than before the pandemic. Our committee was considerably depleted and





it was hard to get enough people involved, probably because of uncertainty over Covid regulations until not long before the service and the reluctance of many to brave a live “in person” service in the centre of town. We were particularly pleased

not to have any particular dress code or procession this year and only the props on the front table, but every member of the congregation was handed an envelope specially prepared by Pat Fitzpatrick containing wildflower seeds to plant at home, with the Jeremiah text on the outside. Pictures from the PowerPoint CD Rom were shown on a screen at the front before and after the service, while parts of the music on the CD were being played. Committee members practised the specially written song at our rehearsal a few days before, accompanied by Richard Bailey, the Church’s organist, to whom we were very grateful for his involvement in the service. The offering sent to WDP for its charitable grants and expenses amounted to £267.70, of which £130.00 was gift aided.

We still hope one day (next year?) to hold an evening service aimed at and organized by younger people, e.g. students and working families, but have not been able to raise enough interest as yet.

Next year’s service is prepared by the Christian women of Taiwan on the theme “I have heard about your faith” and has been provisionally arranged to be held at the Salvation Army, subject to the agreement of the new leaders.

Sue Mills, WDP Falmouth & Penryn Branch Secretary

7 † ECUMENICAL LENT COURSE – ROGER MILLS

Following last year’s successful presentation of the online course *Women in the Shadows* on modern slavery issues, this year we offered the parallel course from the Clewer Initiative *Children in the Shadows*, covering the effects on children and young people, particularly the ‘county lines’ drug-running scourge which is sadly prevalent in our area as in many rural parts of the country. Although the subject matter is often grim, both courses offer practical examples of what we as individuals can do to alleviate the suffering that modern slavery causes, backed up with bible studies demonstrating why



A NEW COURSE FOR LENT 2022 #CHILDRENINTHESHADOWS

<https://theclewerinitiative.org/>. Anyone interested in this topic is welcome to join the Modern Slavery in Cornwall Network – see <https://www.ctcinfohub.org/launch-of-the-modern-slavery-in-cornwall-network/>.

8 † GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS 2022 – ROGER MILLS



The traditional Good Friday Walk of Witness was able to resume this year after a two-year gap, and over eighty people joined the walk from Emmanuel Baptist Church to the Falmouth Parish Church of King Charles the Martyr. Following the concluding service there, refreshments including hot cross buns were provided in the church hall. It was a great relief to be able to join together again in this act of witness to the fundamental core of our faith, common to all our traditions.



This year, the period of *Thy Kingdom Come* (Ascension Day-Pentecost, 26 May-5 Jun) coincided with the *Queen's Platinum Jubilee* (2-5 Jun) and the coastal path prayer event *South West Awake* (4 Jun). Consequently, the 'beacon events' at Gwennap Pit and Liskeard that were

held in pre-Covid years were not held this year, to allow local celebrations to take place on Pentecost Sunday. Instead, a daily series of 5-minute reflections on the theme 'Better Together' were broadcast on social media, specially recorded by church leaders including the Bishop of Truro and Bishop Mike Royal, the new General Secretary of Churches Together in England. These proved popular, reaching some 450 viewers.

For *South West Awake* on Sat 4 Jun, a number of local Christians offered prayers at designated points on the coast path 10.30-11am, and in the afternoon FPCT's free 'Big Jubilee Cream Tea' outside King Charles the Martyr Church proved very popular (thanks to energetic promotion in the street by Jane Charman!), raising £364 for Children's Hospice South West.



JOIN US FOR A RIGHT ROYAL CREAM TEA
 YOU'RE INVITED TO:
The Queen's Platinum Jubilee CREAM TEA
 on the forecourt of
King Charles the Martyr Church
 Falmouth TR11 3DX (in the church if wet)
Sat 4th June, 2-5pm
 ALL WELCOME
 no charge – donations accepted

Falmouth & Penryn Churches Together
 JUBILES the big lunch
 THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022



The Big Jubilee Cream Tea COMES TO FALMOUTH



YWAM team cheering the market up with their worship, and joining in the praying

Since April 2021 we have been available for prayer every month, either in Falmouth Market or on the portico of Falmouth Methodist Church.

During the pandemic the Market was disrupted, but relevant PPE was available for those who were helping, and the Prayer Tent continued whenever possible.

The Prayer Tent operates on one Saturday and one Thursday morning each month, weather permitting.

Contact enquiries@stirringofthewater.org.uk if you would like to join us...



Lindsay Hamon

Often evangelists visiting the town would join us for respite and prayer. Lindsay Hamon, Cornwall's famous cross-carrying evangelist, would use the prayer tent as a base whilst carrying the cross through the town.

The primary objective of the prayer tent is to provide prayer for anyone in need of it, rather than evangelism, but this can be a by-product of what we do for which we design and produce our own tracts.

Having evangelists directing people from the town to the prayer tent for prayer is beneficial, although evangelists are requested not to disturb the customers of the businesses selling their products in the market.

Comments from two members of the Prayer Tent team

Twice each month the Prayer Tent is put up in the centre of the busy shopping area called The Moor – once on a Saturday and once on a Thursday. Many passers-by experience a touch of God there, and others come to talk and ask about Jesus.



A selection of tracts that have been produced especially for the Prayer Tent

Recently one morning two or three of us were singing a song unaccompanied in the Spirit and you could hear the sound of it drifting down through the main street on the wind. People were transfixed for a few minutes and quite an effect was made upon them.

Thank you for all your prayers that this opportune ministry will be used to the full.

Roy Hendy

We make ourselves available at the Prayer Tent and depend on God The Holy Spirit to help us. We aim to serve the community by being out there in the 'Market Place' ready to do what Jesus told his disciples to do. Over the years we have prayed for many people of Falmouth and beyond, Christians and non Christians alike. We listen and pray and its always free. As we listen to people they open their hearts to us and share many things. We always keep the things they share confidential in order to honour and respect them. We have listened to many with all sorts of problems. Many with physical and mental health issues, others with financial problems and the fear that comes with

not having enough. Others with relationship issues such as broken marriages, long-term disputes, loneliness and bereavement.

People of all ages with fears and anxieties of life, students unsure of their future, others worried about their family, some in fear of losing their home or their job.

Many problems and difficulties people are facing are long term and some feel there is no way out of their situation. Sometimes we give advice and Godly counsel, but our main focus is to pray. We believe that what we cannot solve, God can.

We always hope to lead people to Jesus, and by handing out Bibles and tracts, and engaging with folk we offer guidance to help them seek Jesus.

We are totally reliant on God. We believe our Father God can intervene in every situation and

so we pray in the name of Jesus. There are many special moments when people are so grateful for the prayer that some give us hugs and smiles, and others a quiet thank you. Sometimes people come back to tell us that things have got better for them.

Each time at the Prayer Tent it is different, and each time it is a privilege. It is not always easy in the cold and wet wintry days, but we know we should be there.

Janet Geden, of Stirring of the Water Ministries



Janet and Roy at the Prayer Tent



11 † THE FILLING STATION

The Filling Station continued to be suspended due to Covid during 2021-22 but plans are now in place for its resumption from September 2022 under the leadership of Rev Ben Hudd – look out for announcements!

12 † JUSTICE AND PEACE ACTION GROUP – MARY BRADLEY



We have met regularly by Zoom and now in person during the year.

The membership of our group has expanded to about 12 people.

Our meetings and actions have focussed on many topics:

Modern day slavery, COP26 in Glasgow, prayers for those persecuted for their belief and a service on “Red Wednesday”, poverty, refugees and asylum seekers, fair trade, Nationality and Borders act, climate change, development aid, homelessness, Ukraine, Christian Community Action, peace, Need for Foster carers/Home from Home Initiative, Desmond Tutu’s legacy to us, environmental issues, and human rights.

Actions by members have included;

- Meeting with our local MP (with CAFOD)
- Writing to MPs
- Befriending a Syrian family and asylum seeker
- Cycling to COP, and for “Release International” – for persecuted Christians
- Prayer services: World Day of Prayer and Red Wednesday
- Working to promote Fair Trade and Trade Justice – Falmouth Fair Trade Champions.
- Weekly online newsletter to promote awareness of current concerns.

We meet monthly on the second Tuesday at 2.00pm in the church hall at St. Mary’s. At the beginning of each meeting, we share good news and look for the positive. The second hour is spent in reflection and prayer for those persecuted for their faith.

We enjoy each other’s gifts and talents and are a lively group, grateful for the opportunity to follow in our Lord’s footsteps, being alongside those who are marginalised, poor and neglected.

Mary Bradley

COMMUNITY NEEDS

Practical social action is a major plank of FPCT activities, carried out alongside other institutions and offering a Christian response to need wherever we encounter it. Our 2016 Community Needs Survey, available at www.falmouthchurchestogether.org.uk/fpct-community-needs-working-party-report-published, highlighted many areas of need, some of which we have been able to address and some which remain – we pray that opportunities will arise to permit us to tackle them too.

13 † **FOODBANK – ROGER MILLS**



Demands on the Foodbank have continued to grow throughout the pandemic and as the cost of living has risen dramatically. Donations were helped by special events at the supermarkets, with Tesco's Summer Food Collection from 15 Jul-28 Aug 2021, when customers' food

donations were generously topped up with a financial donation of 20% of the value of the items donated, and Asda's Food Drive 6-8 May 2022 during which a staggering 1,797.85 kg of food was given, providing 60 families with 3 days of food - a wonderful success.

We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to the staff and volunteers who run the Penryn & Falmouth Foodbank at Highway Church. As crisis after crisis drives ever-increasing numbers to make use of their services, and with no end to the needs in sight, do remember to continue to support them regularly with donations of food or cash, or to offer your time as needed on site. The weekly list of items needed is widely publicised, including on the FPCT website and Facebook page, and there is now also a useful phone app 'Bank the Food' which lists urgent needs, drop-off points etc, available for Apple and Android – see <https://www.bankthefood.org/> for details.

An advertisement for the 'Bank the Food' app. It features a green background with a hand holding a smartphone displaying the app's interface. The app screen shows a 'WELCOME' message, the 'Bank the Food' logo, and a section titled 'Your Foodbank Needs' with a large number '9' and 'Urgent items'. Below this is a 'Download' button. To the left of the phone, the text reads: 'DOWNLOAD THE BANKTHEFOOD APP NOW!', 'Chris Leppard @ferretandbird says: "For me it just makes more sense. Rather than throwing a few random items into my trolley, I can actually get what the Food Bank needs. It's a great idea - I hope more will use it."' and 'MAKE A DIFFERENCE'. A QR code is also present. At the bottom right, the website 'WWW.BANKTHEFOOD.ORG.UK' is listed.

The pandemic gave us new ways of sharing the love of Christ with care home residents and staff. These are some of the ways in which we have continued to keep in touch and provide support and spiritual input:

- Telephone calls and emails to managers and activities coordinators
- Video service on YouTube each month - Peter Richards - YouTube
- DVDs of the YouTube service (for residents confined to their rooms)
- Audio CD each month (for residents with sight loss)
- 'Monthly Link' – A4 sheet as an email attachment (topical piece with pictures and spiritual application for homes to copy for residents)
- Christmas cards on behalf of FPCT for every resident (170+)

During a time when residents have missed contact with family and friends and



staff have been under immense pressure, our prayer has been that each of these items and actions will have brought some hope and encouragement. There have been several appreciative comments – e.g. “Please thank the team once again. You have been a great support to me and all in the home”

In recent months we have been able to resume monthly in-person services in two homes and the Day Centre, subject to necessary precautions. This has been the first for two years and has brought great joy all round!

The care home ministry is led by Peter Richards, and a core group of about 12 people has continued to meet each month via Zoom to share news, pray for residents and staff and make tentative plans for the future. During the year we have lost members of the team, through death and moving away from Falmouth.

We have received £39 from FPCT this year to enable purchase of Christmas cards for residents. Apart from that the care home ministry has not received

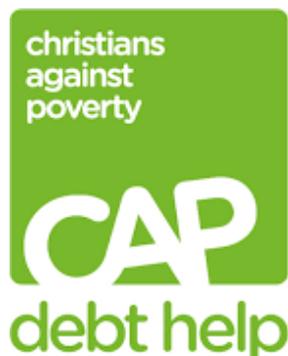
any other income. Team members give freely of their time and cover minor expenses out of their own pockets.

We look forward to the day when we can re-start regular monthly services in all the homes, subject to risk assessments and the procedures adopted by each home. This could potentially mean 10 services a month, which will stretch the resources of the team. With advancing age some members of the team may not be able to do so much, so we pray for more to join us who have a real love for older people and a longing to share with them the good news of Jesus. Until all homes have re-opened to visits it is likely we will continue to provide YouTube services and the Monthly Link, which have actually been reaching many more people than would normally attend a service.

Peter Richards

15 † CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY (CAP) – GLYN LUMLEY

Falmouth and Penryn Debt Centre and Job Club Report 2021 - 22



After a slow start, due to the Covid Pandemic, our CAP Debt Centre has welcomed 19 clients, 12 of which are ongoing. In March, we celebrated when our first client become debt free, with 5 others now well on the way to having the weight of debt lifted from them.

We offer local free debt counselling, mainly in the client's home. Over three appointments, we gather their financial information and return with a Budget and CAP plan with a suggested route out of debt.

With the support of Befrienders and our Blessings team, we can support our clients in many other ways along their journey. We give hampers at Christmas and Easter, offer a shoulder to cry on when needed, go out for a coffee or walk and invite them to join us at various church events. We can offer emergency shopping, fuel vouchers, mobile phone top-ups, etc. when needed.

We are also Advocates of Acts 435 through which we have been able to purchase various items and raised the Debt Relief Order fee of £90 for those clients who have selected that route out of debt. By referring clients to Hidden Help we have helped to provide beds, electric cooker, kettles, a toaster, and carpet tiles for a whole house.



As we emerged from lockdown, we have set up and advertised two Job Clubs, to support those seeking help with their search for employment. Although there has been contact with our referral agencies, local advertising, and much prayer, on each occasion we have had no bookings. At the suggestion of our Job Centre, we have recently opened a club in Helston, where we have welcomed and are working with 3 delegates.

The CAP Money Course is attracting interest now; this is unsurprising given the cost-of-living crisis. We are in conversation with 5 different groups about running the course for their members; one of these has led to a new course being booked and due to start in late June.



In March, we gave a presentation about our work to a well-attended meeting of Falmouth and Penryn Churches Together.

If anyone would be interested in joining our teams, supporting the work financially, or would like more information, please do get in touch with us:

Jacqui Bennett CAP Debt Centre Manager

Tel: 0737 66 55 711, email: jacquibennett@capuk.org

Glyn Lumley CAP Job Club Manager and Money Course Coach

Tel: 07544 858232, email: glynlumley@capjobclubs.org

16 † FOOTSTEPS COMMUNITY COFFEE SHOP – JAN WINSLADE

As the lockdown restrictions seemed to be easing in the spring of 2021, on May 13th we had a team meeting on Zoom. We began as usual with prayer, and then went on to think about the following question: - When Covid restrictions are lifted, do we want to open Footsteps again? The answer was a resounding “YES”.

Falmouth Methodist Church confirmed that we could open on Thursday 29th July so we were able to continue with our mission of being witnesses for

Falmouth and Penryn Churches Together with our love, fellowship, tea, coffee and cake!

However, as autumn approached, we were met with the sad news that the FMC building was for sale and that we would have to vacate the premises by the middle of December.

After our initial disappointment, we prayed that the Lord would help us to find another suitable venue - and He has!



Footsteps reopened at Emmanuel Baptist Church on Thursday March 3rd 2022 and we are very grateful to the members of EBC who, like the congregation of FMC previously, have made us so welcome.

The opening ceremony was performed jointly by the Mayors of Falmouth and Penryn with prayers and a blessing by the Revd. Andrew Mumford.

Our focus has changed over the years, and now we concentrate on being a welcoming safe space for all those who post lockdown are feeling in need of fellowship (as well as coffee and cake, lots of it!). We no longer charge, but instead rely on donations to keep our head above the water.

Falmouth Town Council have kindly donated our rent for the next three

months in recognition that Footstep Community café is proving to be a much-needed oasis of fellowship for the vulnerable folk of Penryn and Falmouth in these times of uncertainty and worry.

We look forward to the rest of 2022 with joyful, thankful hearts. *Jan Winslade*

The Fairtrade Foundation continues to highlight the growing challenges that climate change brings to farmers and workers in the communities where Fairtrade works. **COP26 didn't deliver the change needed to tackle the climate crisis.** Climate change is an immediate threat to farmers' livelihoods and to the products we love, products like chocolate, coffee and bananas. As a matter of justice and a matter of science, the matter of the climate crisis cannot be delayed any longer.

Fairtrade Fortnight - Campaigners were asked to highlight these growing challenges during Fairtrade Fortnight February/March 2022. Campaigners celebrated Fairtrade Fortnight in a variety of ways from Quiz Nights to Cake Bakes, Coffee Mornings and online events and much more.



Our team, with the help of our hard-working volunteers, organised a Coffee Morning which included a Cake Bake Sale (Fairtrade ingredients of course), and a quiz on chocolate. After a two-year break, it was a great pleasure to be hosting a public event again.

During our Coffee Morning event, we had planned to show a film about a Fairtrade Coffee farmer learning to live with climate change. Sadly due to technical problems we were unable to show the film. Instead, a member of our team shared some of the difficulties facing Fairtrade Farmers, who are experiencing the biggest threat to their livelihoods as they face the growing impact of the climate crisis.

We cannot expect, and it is not fair to expect, producers to absorb the costs of more sustainable methods of farming when they are not even able to earn a living wage because the price they receive for their produce is far too low. This needs to change and it needs to change quickly. Our global Fairtrade community is challenging governments of the countries most responsible for the climate crisis to, at a minimum, deliver on an unfulfilled promise to fund a \$100bn climate investment package for communities most affected by climate change.

What can we as supporters of Fairtrade do to help bring about this change? We can lobby our government to promote fairer trade deals and fulfil the

promise of a financial package to help communities most affected by climate change. We can raise awareness of the difficulties farmers are facing as they try to combat the impact of climate change, we can show our support for justice and fairness by adding Fairly traded products to our shopping. And we can encourage others to become Fairtrade Champions.

We were delighted to welcome Falmouth Town Mayor Steve Eva and his family to our Coffee Morning Event. Mayor Steve is a great supporter of Fairtrade and the work of our team, and he would like to see us organising more Fairtrade public events in the town.

Numbers attending our event this year were quite low compared to previous years prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. We will continue to plan public events and hope as confidence grows we will see many of our supporters returning.

During Fairtrade Fortnight, we were invited to speak to the Cooperative Party. The talk was on Fairtrade and climate change and was well received by the small group attending. The Cooperative Movement is in accordance with all Fairtrade aims.

Finance - Thanks to a £200 award from the Town Council and a donation of £98.40 from one of our Fairtrade Councillor's Community Chest, we have a healthy bank balance of £384.41 which will enable us to fund future Fairtrade events locally.

We are very grateful to Falmouth Town Council for all their support. Besides supporting us financially, we are ably supported by three Fairtrade Councillors who attend our planning meetings whenever they can. Their enthusiasm and ideas are greatly appreciated.

We are pleased to announce that a new member has joined our team. Julianne attended her first meeting on the 23rd May and will take responsibility for keeping the Fairtrade Facebook up to date. We are looking forward to sharing ideas and planning future projects together.

We would very much like to interest others in joining the team; the larger the team the more we can do to raise the profile of Fairtrade in our town. Please do contact me if you are interested or would like to know more. Email: patfitzpatrick70@btinternet.com

Shopping for Fairtrade goods. All local supermarkets sell a selection of Fairtrade goods and some stores sell a really good selection of products with

prices comparing very favourably with non-Fairtrade products. One well known store in Falmouth sells Fairtrade flowers, Fairtrade wine, tea, coffee, bananas, tomatoes, and good quality chocolate bars and boxes of chocolates – great for presents!

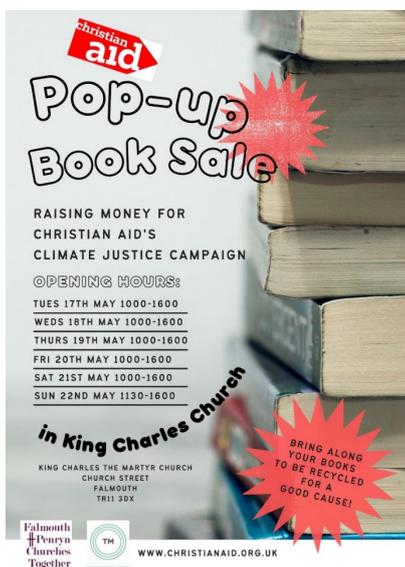
Falmouth Methodists hold a monthly Traidcraft stall on the 2nd Sunday of the month at their temporary home at New Street Hall, New Street, TR11 3HX. St Mary's RC hold a Traidcraft stall every third Sunday of the month (after the 10.30 Mass) in their Church Hall, Killigrew Street, TR11 3PR. If you are interested in becoming a Fairtrade Church or running a regular Fairtrade stall, a member of the Fairtrade team would be happy to meet up with you. Please contact Pat Fitzpatrick: see email above.



Ⓡ Finally, you might be interested to hear that Falmouth and Penryn University campus has a sustainable Cafe, selling local and South West sourced food including bread, milk fruit, cakes, and vegetables. The cafe also sells Fairtrade goods including, coffee, bananas, biscuits, chocolate and sugar. The cafe has been built using sustainable materials including Forest Stewardship Council certified timber and furniture fabric made from up-cycled discarded ocean plastic. The Fairtrade team enjoyed a very pleasant visit there recently.

Pat Fitzpatrick, Fairtrade Falmouth

18 † CHRISTIAN AID WEEK – ROGER MILLS



After several years with little activity locally for Christian Aid Week (15-21 May 2022), it was great to get together for a very successful book sale at King Charles the Martyr Church. Taking place over six days, the event was staffed by volunteers from different churches and attracted a steady stream of visitors, raising over £900 – many thanks to all concerned. Books were collected in local churches and a massive selection was on offer covering all subjects. We look forward to doing it all again next year!

YOUNG PEOPLE

Work with young people has always been a central focus of FPCT's remit. Here we summarise initiatives covering age groups from pre-school to university.

19 † MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church has remained suspended during the pandemic. We hope it will be possible to resume soon.

20 † UNIVERSITY CHAPLAINCY – BECKY NESBITT

Our team provide pastoral and spiritual care for the students of Falmouth University and the University of Exeter and the staff of both universities, our service provider partner FX Plus and our Students' Union. We work primarily at our campuses in Penryn and Falmouth, but also in Truro where Exeter University has medical students. We've been absolutely delighted this year to be able to fully re-open staff back into our spaces. the place come back to life chaplains have been able their warm welcome and who needs them. Our team time staff (Becky and brilliant volunteer and welcome students and It's been so lovely to see again and our volunteer to be back on site offering listening ears to anyone is now made up of 2 part Gemma) and 7 utterly chaplains (Jan, John, Fran, Zoe, Mary, Pete and Peter). This year we have been offering dog walks and cuddles (really we should count the 3 dogs as additional chaplains!) lots of tea and cake and gardening and in spite of a slow start to the year as everybody was understandably still cautious, we've all been pretty busy and thoroughly blessed by each and every encounter that has made up our year. New students start arriving on 8th September 2022 and another new academic year will dawn!



21 † FALMOUTH STREET PASTORS

Sadly for a variety of reasons the existing Street Pastors team has been wound up and there is currently no activity in Falmouth; we are looking at ways of restarting the service if possible.

NETWORKS



the Churches Together network

Falmouth & Penryn Churches Together does not operate in isolation, but forms part of the national network of Churches Together groups co-ordinated at county level by Churches Together in Cornwall (CTC) and nationally by Churches Together in England (CTE). Similar bodies in the other UK nations are co-ordinated by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI), themselves members of the Conference of European Churches (CEC) and the World Council of Churches (WCC), so we are truly part of a global movement. Locally, we also work with the Anglican initiative Transforming Mission. Read on for more details!

22 † TRANSFORMING MISSION – CANON BILL STUART-WHITE



Street Church spent much of its time online once more, not only for worship, but also developing and delivering much appreciated resources for local primary schools

through Schools Leader Jane Wheeler and her team of assistants. A series of Summer Sundays with assorted social, worship and fun activities (mostly out-of-doors) helped the established members of the congregation to welcome visitors and newcomers alike, to the extent that, when the Church doors finally opened again, the congregation had grown considerably both in numbers and in faith.

For a year that promised a fresh start after all the deprivations and disruption of Covid, 2021 turned out to have a few challenges of its own for us all. Like all congregations New

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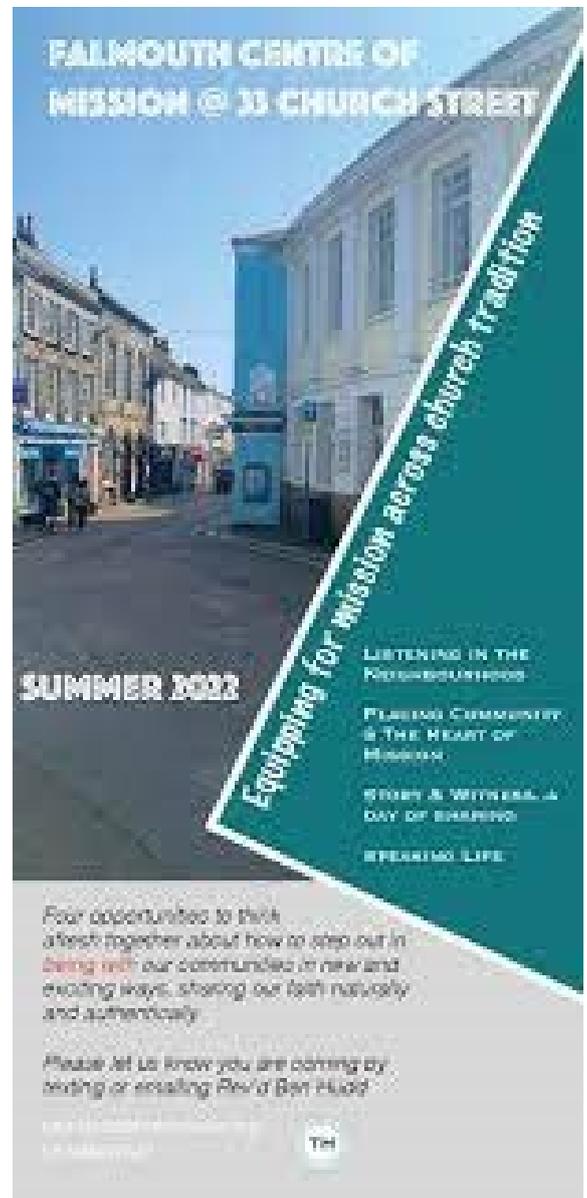
Little Sparks at All Saints took advantage of our large and airy (Covid-safe) venue to start up again while many similar groups were unable to and provided a greatly valued meeting space for many families, giving parents, carers and children the chances to socialise and have fun together that they had sorely missed through the various lockdowns. Summer Sparks broadened the age range to include 2-10 and provided loads of summer fun.



Huddle Café, which took the decision early in the pandemic to close as a commercial outlet, spent much of the year again with its doors locked, but was able to open for a number of special purposes, notably pop-up “Back to School” and Winter Coat shops hosted by Bianca Parry in conjunction

with Love Falmouth, providing a hospitality space during the G7 Summit, a student safe space during Welcome Week and various other one-off activities as well as hosting Alpha, the occasional gig and Huddle Worship whenever possible. We’re delighted that the space is now springing back to life as a “Centre for Mission” under the leadership of the Revd Ben Hudd.

Transforming Mission as a Project is drawing near to the end of its funding period and is looking to transition and integrate its various ministries into the life of the wider church – in partnership with both the other Anglican churches of the Deanery and our ecumenical friends. New Street Church meanwhile continues to meet at 4pm on Sundays and has a warm welcome for any who like to drop in.



23 † CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CORNWALL – ROGER MILLS

The county-wide body Churches Together in Cornwall (CTC) provides a link between local Churches Together groups and the national Churches Together in England. It aims to connect those with similar interests around the county who may not otherwise meet, and offer support where needed. During 2021, it has developed a new way of doing this through a series of 'liaison groups' which operate independently of CTC but have a representative able



to report back to CTC on any matters the group would like to bring to the attention of church leaders, and vice versa. Where appropriate, CTC can offer support with publicity, hosting meetings etc. and facilitate interworking between the groups, local Churches Together networks, and individual churches as occasion arises.

This initiative was launched in January 2021 and has been very successful, with five groups up and running and several more in the pipeline: they are:

Environment and Creation Care: Cornwall Churches Environment Group

Chaplaincy: Chaplaincy Support Network

Mental Health: Faith and Mental Health Network

Bereavement: Cornwall Bereavement Network

Modern Slavery: Modern Slavery in Cornwall Network

Persecution: in formation

Sports: in formation

Racial Justice: in formation

Pilgrimage: under consideration

Youth and Family Work: under consideration

For more details see ctcinfohub.org/liaison-groups. Suggestions for the development of further groups are welcome; please contact ctcinfohub@gmail.com.

CTC's **Social Action Mapping** project (SAM) aims to make church-led or supported projects more visible outside the church community. Launched immediately prior to lockdown, progress has inevitably been slower than planned, but this has enabled us to develop a robust infrastructure in conjunction with Age UK, using their *Cornwall Link* platform, and the number of projects listed is steadily growing. In the coming year, we hope to implement our original plan to contact all local Churches Together groups and explore with them the potential of this new resource to widen the impact of church-led social action,

Find out more at ctcinfohub.org/serving-our-communities/.

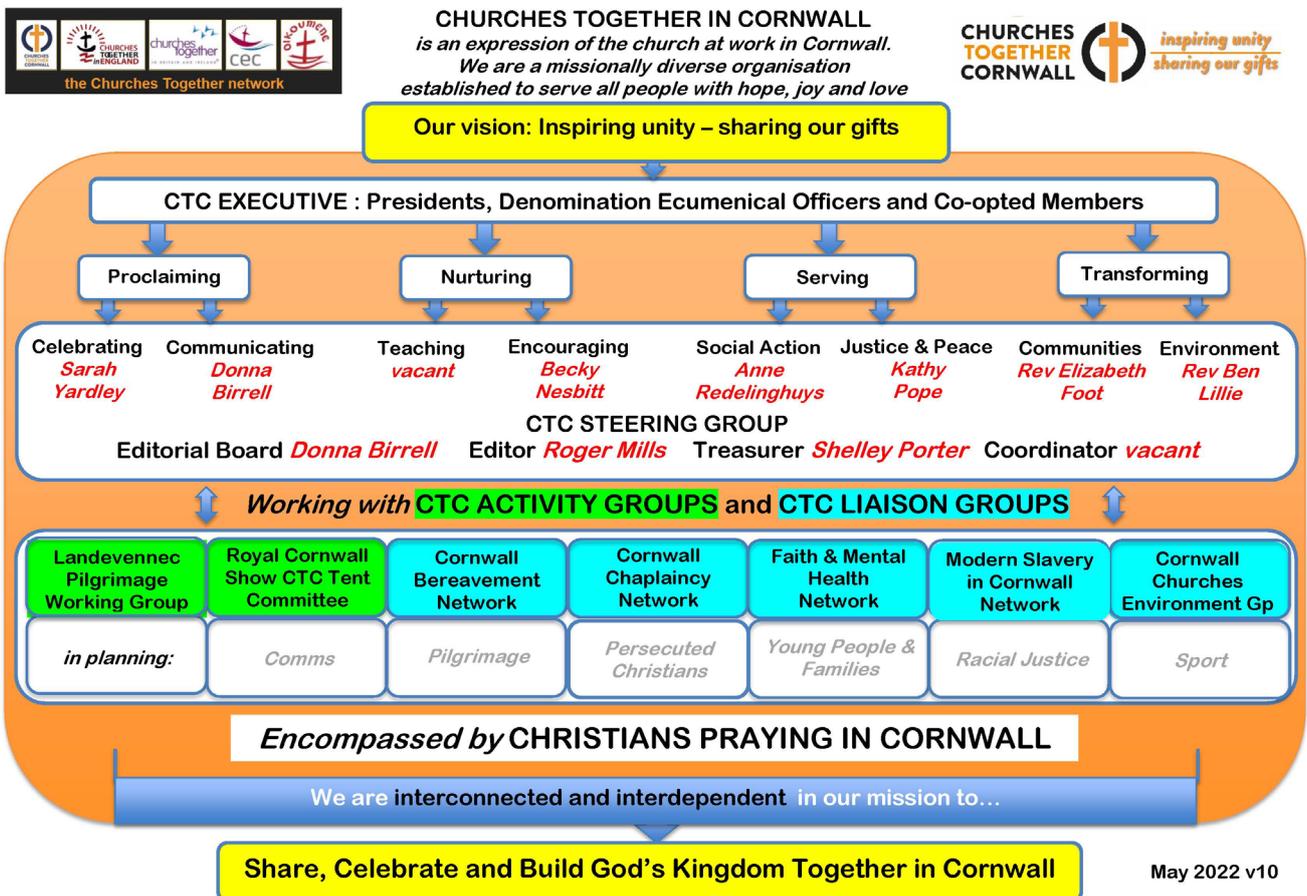


The **CTC infoHub** has been developed from the weekly email newsletters sent out by Falmouth and Penryn Churches Together and Churches Together in the Penzance Area, launching three years ago. It is now well established, and comprises a web site ctcinfohub.org, a weekly email newsletter in six local editions, available to anyone on subscription, and Facebook and Twitter pages. CTC is now able to support local groups with hosting websites, newsletters, social media etc. where this would be helpful, and the possibilities of supporting FPCT in this way are currently under consideration.

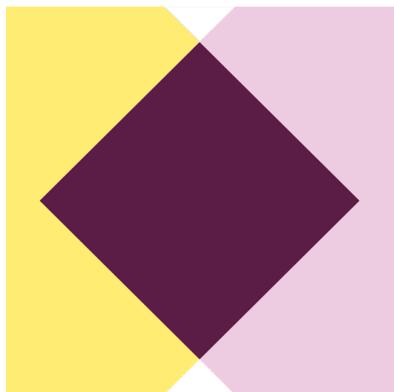
CTC People

Churches Together in Cornwall is currently chaired by the Bishop of Truro, the Rt. Revd. Philip Mounstephen, with broadcaster Donna Birrell as Vice-Chair. It is governed by a body of trustees comprising the leaders of the major church denominations, and managed by an Executive comprising the

trustees and their appointed Denominational Ecumenical Officers, together with a number of co-opted representatives of other organisations including Transformation Cornwall, the Cornwall Faith Forum, Creation Fest, Cornwall Spirituality Network, Truro Diocese’s Creation Care Network, the universities etc. Day-to-day running is managed by a Steering Group drawn from the Executive members, currently comprising eight members, each responsible for one of CTC’s eight missional themes, as illustrated in the chart below. This structure has been developed over the last three years to enable CTC to transition to a ‘team management’ system, relieving pressure on the CTC Missioner, the local name for the County Ecumenical Officer who liaises with Churches Together in England. Roger Mills was appointed to that position in 2019 to facilitate the transition; that procedure was completed in May 2022 and the post of CTC Missioner has now been replaced with two new positions of CTC Coordinator and CTC Editor. Roger Mills will continue in the latter role, overseeing communications work, and a new appointee will take on the Coordinator role from 1 September 2022, working with the Steering Group to deliver all services. A priority for the coming years is to develop closer links with local Churches Together groups, many of which are struggling to regroup after the effects of the pandemic.



Falmouth + Penryn Churches Together



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Edited by Roger Mills

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