

Please send any comments or items for future issues to Mary Bradley 01326 312 768 mary@corisande.plus.com

➤➤ **FOOD BANK UPDATE 2023 with Jo Crook from Highway Church on Tues 14 Feb 1.45-2.45pm in St Mary's Church Hall, Killigrew St, Falmouth TR11 3PR - All welcome**

GOOD NEWS

WORLD'S YOUNGEST NATION ECUMENICAL PILGRIMAGE

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, The Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Iain Greenshields, and Pope Francis are visiting South Sudan from February 3rd to 5th. The first ecumenical pilgrimage of this kind is crucial for the country, according to a church spokesman. Church unity has been apparent in the preparations. "It is a spiritual moment to reinforce our will, desire and determination for peace, even among our families and our people," but as Juba prepares to receive the Christian leaders, inter-ethnic violence remains a concern, killing people and 9,000 had been displaced by December.

AGREEMENT ON DEVELOPING RENEWABLES

The UK has signed a new agreement with the EU and North Sea neighbours on developing renewable energy. Ministers hailed the move as "essential" for the delivery of UK's net-zero goals and "bolstering" energy security.

MORE THAN SHOPPING BAGS AND STRAWS

European Forests used to provide wood for paper are growing by 1,500 football pitches a day, 95% of wood fibre for paper coming from Europe. 74% of paper is recycled and 84% of paper packaging recycled into new products, one of the highest rates for any materials in Europe.

HIDDEN HELP IS GETTING HELP

National Grid is supporting Hidden Help in Bissoe (near Falmouth) from its Community Matters fund. Hidden Help collects donations of serviceable goods which it reuses, repairs, upcycles and distributes to those who are in urgent need - a good example of sustainability.

FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION

CAAT TAKES THE GOVERNMENT TO COURT AGAIN ON JANUARY 31ST

The Campaign for Action on the Arms Trade is taking the Government back to court again. This means that the Government will face a judicial review on its decision to

allow arms sales to Saudi Arabia, despite overwhelming evidence that serious violations of international humanitarian law are taking place. Over half the bombardments are carried out by planes obtained from the UK.

LEVELLING UP BENEFITS CORNWALL???

The Government has announced that £50 million will be awarded to Cornwall in its levelling up programme to help the poorest regions of the UK. This is to be used to provide a direct railway link between Falmouth and Newquay. This will be of greatest benefit to whom?? - probably tourists. This money could have been used for the regeneration of one of our towns eg Helston which needs development and an uplift for its residents.

TRAIDCRAFT PLC GOES INTO ADMINISTRATION - A SAD DAY FOR THE FAIR TRADE IN THE UK

Due to Covid, increasing energy and transport costs and December sales impoverished by the uncertainties of the Royal Mail Strikes, Traidcraft is no longer a viable concern. This announcement comes just as we are making plans for Fair Trade Fortnight events. Here in Cornwall we get most of our Fair Trade products from the Traidcraft Hub run by Sue Pettit in Truro.

Fair Trade volunteers in Cornwall are meeting to discuss the impact this news will have in the promotion of Fair Trade and Trade Justice in our county.

PRAY FOR

- **the 200 children who have gone missing from hotels** for asylum seekers. Pray that they may be found and have the safeguarding protection and care they are entitled to receive.
- **The Ecumenical Peace Pilgrimage To South Sudan**, that it may truly foster peace among the peoples of this country.

In March it is hoped to focus on "ShelterBox", started some years ago as a small Cornish project in Helston, providing tents for people in times of major disasters and now a huge worldwide NGO.

We also hope to be able to promote locally the idea of "giving a Tent for Lent" - watch this space.