

Please send any comments or items for future issues to Mary Bradley 01326 312 768 [mary@corisande.plus.com](mailto:mary@corisande.plus.com)  
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## GOOD NEWS

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### PROSTATE CANCER

Millions of men are set to benefit from a new streamlined testing for prostate cancer.

### UK PAY GAP SHRINKS TO ITS LOWEST LEVEL

The gender pay gap is the smallest since records began, but still women earn only 91p in the £ compared to men. Big companies have been compelled to publish their pay gap statistics since 2017.

### SUPER ELECTION YEAR

2 Million people across 50 countries go to the polls this year, with environmental issues looming large in many voters' minds. Since Columbia and Brazil have had new leaders, votes translated into climate change as logging in both nations has plummeted with the new leaders.

### SUSTAINABLE SHOPPING

Despite the desperate Cost of Living Crisis, sustainable shopping has seen a surge in Britain, with fair trade goods still being sought after. This shows that British shoppers do not trade down their values when times are tough.

### FLEXIBLE WORKING HOURS

With new legislation, now every worker can ask for flexible working hours at the commencement of employment

This should enhance family life.

## FOR PRAYER & REFLECTION

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### AIRBNBS IN NEW YORK

New York City has legislated to cap the number of short term rentals. Primary home owners must be present at home while hosting. There are an estimated 39,000 short time rentals in the city.

New legislation should affect and prevent 90% of these, make housing markets more equitable and ensure a sustainable tourist economy.

In our own town of Falmouth, 7% of properties are Airbnbs. This is having an effect on guesthouses as Airbnbs are cheaper and convenient. Long term tenancies are scarce and landlords terminating these as they want Airbnbs as a more lucrative option. Affordable housing is non-existent in Falmouth and locals have no chance of buying a property as costs are so exorbitant.

### NHS AND HOSPICES

In this country hospices are having to close beds due to lack of resources. The NHS only provides 10% of running costs.

Our two hospices in Cornwall are close to the heart of the population because we all know friends and relatives who have received excellent and loving care there. We have a dedicated fundraising team in Falmouth.

Palliative care is an essential part of maintaining the dignity and worth of every person.

Surely we can aim to have this as one of our election issues

### CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

May we continue to pray for political dialogue and efforts to prevent further escalation of war and bring about peace in the Middle East.

We pray that much more aid will get into Gaza to alleviate the risk of famine and nourish the sick and hungry.

We also pray for the safety of aid workers who are putting their lives at risk in their humanitarian efforts to help others.

## ACTIONS FOR THIS WEEK

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Look for good news and share it with others.

Engage in bringing some joy and peace in the situations we are in.

Mary Bradley