SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
MAY 2020

CONTACT OUR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY TEAM

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SOCIAL ACTION MAPPING

Our new project Social Action Mapping for Cornish Churches is continuing and many new initiatives are being formed while many existing ones are on hold.

Help us to keep up-to-date by submitting details **here** of any projects you are involved with, or email us on ctcsam2020@gmail.com

To see all the projects, click **here**.

CORNWALL LINK RESOURCES

Information and advice on health, communication, digital skills, benefits and safeguarding and community to help you through Covid-19, collated by Age UK Cornwall, CRCC, Digital Inclusion (Cornwall Council) and the Inclusion Cornwall teams is available here: https://cornwall-link.madeopen.co.uk
For resources go to https://cornwall-link.madeopen.co.uk/resources

WHO MESSAGING SERVICE

The World Health Organisation has launched a dedicated messaging services in Arabic, English, French and Spanish with partners WhatsApp and Facebook to keep people safe from coronavirus. This easy-to-use messaging service has the potential to reach 2 billion people and enables WHO to get information directly into the hands of the people that need it. Find out more **here**.

To share or include any hints or tips in this newsletter email digitalinclusion@cornwall.gov.uk

SPOTLIGHT ON .....
CORNISH FOODBANKS

A huge thank you to everyone volunteering in and donating to our foodbanks. Thank you for all that you are doing to keep people alive during this crisis.

Foodbanks across Cornwall need supplies of all tinned, dried or long-life food items - with a typical food parcel including: breakfast cereal, longlife milk, soup, pasta, rice, pasta sauce, tinned beans, tinned meat, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, tinned puddings, tea or coffee, sugar, biscuits and snacks.

Many of the foodbanks also collect: baby food, baby milk, disposable nappies, washing up liquid, washing powder, soap, dry dog food, canned dog food and canned cat food.

Transformation Cornwall has pulled together an update with details of 17 of the Cornish Foodbanks to help:

1. customers needing Foodbank parcel/support
2. potential (both corporate and individual) donators of food/money
3. strengthen, (and lessen), the work of the many dedicated and wonderful people behind the foodbanks

PLEASE NOTE: The mission of Foodbanks is to give out food parcels to people in need. Customers can access foodbanks with a food voucher. Many of the foodbanks now operate an e-voucher system but please check how your local Foodbank is operating.

There are many wonderful community food projects that people without foodbank vouchers can access and in many cases this may be more appropriate.

CLICK HERE TO FIND OUT MORE

UNIVERSAL CREDIT CLAIMS UPDATE FROM DWP

People making new claims for Universal Credit will no longer need to call the Department for Work & Pensions as part of the process.

Instead, a bolstered frontline team will proactively call claimants if they need to check any of the information provided as part of the claim, as well as messaging them on their online journal to confirm details.

The move is designed to take some of the worry and frustration out of submitting a claim, while speeding it up by putting an end to long call wait times. Please make sure any service users are aware that the calls could come from a 0800 or withheld number.

Here is the link to the new DWP benefit rates for 2020-2021

Understanding Universal Credit site holds useful information about the wide range of support available. Click **here**.

SPOTLIGHT ON .....
CITIZEN'S ADVICE BUREAU

The Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB) are not currently doing face-to-face meetings but are manning phone lines, webchat and its text line.

Anyone needing help from CAB are advised to text ADVICE to 78866 and an operator will call them back. CAB are taking calls on 03444 111 444 but the phone lines are busy, so texting is the best way to get through.

The CAB website has a huge amount of information, updated as things change.

Churches Together in Cornwall

CHURCH REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMUNITY HUBS

As part of the Cornwall Response to the Coronavirus Emergency, 19 Community Hubs have been formed to support the many grassroots community groups that are operating across the county.

Each hub has a Churches Together representative on it. Please link up with your local contact if you have an example of good practise to share or have a need for additional support.

West Penwith: Andrew Yates
E srotruro@btinternet.com
Hayle & St Ives: Nick Widdows
E nickwiddows@hotmail.com
Helston & South Kerrier: David Miller
E millerourrectory@googlemail.com
Camborne, Pool, Illogan, Redruth: Deb Griggs
E deb@redruthchurch.org.uk
Falmouth & Penryn: Amanda Evans
E rev.amanda.evans@outlook.com
St Agnes & Perranporth: Anne Brown
E atlanticcoastcluster@btinternet.com
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E jeremyjputnam@gmail.com
Newquay & St Colomb: Beth Mitchell
E mitchesden@aol.com
China Clay: Paul Arthur
E kpaularthur@googlemail.com
St Austell: Heather Batho
E heather@batho.co.uk
Wadebridge & Padstow: Steve Payne
E SPayne55@live.co.uk
Bodmin: Paul Holley
E paul.holley@bodminway.org
St Blazey, Fowey & Lostwithiel: Paul Beynon
E p-beynon@sky.com
Camelford: Angela Cooper
E AngelaJeanCooper@hotmail.com
Liskeard: Phil Aindow
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Bude: Debbie Marsh
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Launceston: Christine Knight
E pandcknight@gmail.com
Caradon: David Moss
E revd.davidmoss@icloud.com
Cornwall Gateway: Lynn Parker
E parker30@hotmail.com

FREE IT TELEPHONE SUPPORT SERVICE

Cornwall Rural Community Charity (CRCC) is offering free telephone support to help you use your laptop, tablet or smartphone and access online services whilst you are self-isolating at home.

The help available includes:

- Use the basic controls of your device;
- Stay safe online;
- Surf the web for information and to keep informed;
- Keep in touch with friends and family using email, messaging services or video;
- Shop online;
- Manage your money online;
- Stay mentally and physically active using digital resources.

From Monday to Friday 10am to 12 noon and 1pm to 4pm, and until further notice, a team will be available to answer calls and help with IT related questions, problems or issues.

The numbers to call are 01872 243557 or 01872 243534.

LATEST SPARK ISSUE

The latest edition of Spark is now available. The focus of this issue is on the ways we can stay connected despite lockdown and isolation.

It's full of inspiring stories of how communities continue to look after one another. It also has tips and ideas to help you stay well, and to use the time for reading, thinking, prayer and reflection.

Read it **here**.

KNOWHOW NOW FREE

NCVO has a page providing **information and guidance** about coronavirus and what it means for voluntary organisations and volunteers.

Their **Knowhow website** online content is now free for all to use which includes information about governance and online training for staff who are working from home.

ENVIRONMENTAL WORK STILL TO DO IN LOCKDOWN

Now is a perfect time when we can focus on what we can do outside, perhaps plan children's church activities online, or highlight opportunities on the church notice board.

By Luci Isaacson,
Diocesan environmental officer

Why not advertise what is going on around your churchyard if you are nearby and can see it on your daily exercise? Or suggest taking **action for insects in your home and garden**? Perhaps you might like to highlight via your noticeboard the **£10m to boost tree planting in second auction of Woodland Carbon Guarantee**? You might be considering putting together Outdoor Worship. Some resources can be found **here**.

The new tool for entering energy returns and calculating carbon footprint and benchmarking grades for churches will open soon and will remain open through the summer.

The annual diocesan environment service, which was due to take place on September 13 has been cancelled, however that gives you more time to go for **GOLD**! Awards will be presented at the next service on October 3, 2021 at 3pm in St Martin's Church, Liskeard.

This also provides time to look through the categories as we start to work towards Carbon Zero 2030.

Greening Worship events will proceed in May, if you would like to book please get in touch with **Lydia Remick**.

Environment Champion Events will take place in the comfort of your home in May or June. You can book here by selecting either **May** or **June**.

Finally, if you would like to receive the eco newsletter, **please join here**.

TOGETHER APART: A RURAL CHURCH RESPONSE

Over the last few weeks we have been sharing many of your stories via our social media channels, primarily **Twitter** and **Facebook**. If you don't already follow us, now would be a great time to do that!

Our resource hub, ***'Together Apart: A rural response to coronavirus'***, continues to grow to include even more resources rural Christians can use in their homes and communities as well as signposts to a host of advice and expertise around the practical issues that we are facing.

If you have produced something that has worked well locally, we'd love to share it with others; please email your contribution to louise.davis@arthurrankcentre.org.uk.

GREENING WORSHIP WORKSHOPS IN MAY

Members of the clergy, local worship leaders and readers are being invited to join one of two 'Greening Worship' workshops during the month of May.

The events will be held via Zoom, and encourage questions and the sharing of ideas via the 'chat' function.

"More and more churches are wanting to include the many aspects of environmental issues within their worship," said diocesan environment officer Luci Isaacson.

"Caring for creation has become one of the central themes in the life of our churches – you only need to look at the 2020 Live Lent digital campaign and the recent vote of General Synod to work towards a Net Zero CO2 emissions target by 2030," she said.

The Environment Core Group is offering these two workshops for worship leaders, lay readers and clergy to resource them to lead 'green' services in their own churches and potentially also in other churches in their areas.

The workshops will be held on Saturday, May 16, at 11am and Wednesday, May 20, at 7pm. Both sessions will be recorded, and links will be published on the environment page on the diocesan website.

The workshops will cover the theology underpinning our care for creation, and offer lots of examples of readings and prayers and suggestions for different kinds of worship. They will explore how this theme can be incorporated into worship at many different times of the lectionary year.

Luci will be on hand to share illustrations and activities she often uses herself.

GET INVOLVED

If you are interested in attending one of the sessions, please email Rosey Sanders on rosey.sanders@truro.anglican.org. Rosey will send you the Zoom link and some additional materials in advance for use during the sessions.

If you don't use Zoom, please feel free to call Luci for a chat on 01872 241239.

FUNDING

WESTERN POWER FUND

Western Power Distribution (WPD) has launched a fund for local authorities, parish or town councils, registered charities or community groups. This £500k fund intends to support communities affected by the coronavirus outbreak within WPD's operating region, by helping local organisations to deliver vital support and services directly people in vulnerable situations.

Find out more **here.**

TESCO COVID GRANT

Tesco Bags of Help is responding to the current Coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis by setting up a new short-term fund to support local communities.

Due to the need to respond quickly to the emergency, there is a streamlined application process and payment process to make it easier to get funds distributed quickly. If your application is successful the fund will provide a single payment award of £500 to organisations who are supporting vulnerable groups.

The programme is set up to support organisational need in this time of crisis rather than fund specific projects.

Find out more **here**.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS CHARITY LAUNCHES VRF EMERGENCY FUND

St Martin-in-the-Fields Charity has announced the launch of the Vicars Relief Fund (VRF) - Emergency Fund.

This fund offers vital support to people experiencing homelessness by:

- £150 for people experiencing homelessness to access essential items and basic needs. This grant can be requested to help access food and hygiene packages, as well as utility costs and other essential items.
- £400 for overcoming barriers to support. Individuals can use this grant to access the resources necessary to stay in touch with their frontline workers during the self-isolation period.
- £1000 to help people to access accommodation, so they can safely self-isolate during this outbreak.

Apply to the fund here.

CRISIS: IN THIS TOGETHER EMERGENCY GRANTS FUND

Crisis, the national charity for homeless people, has established the **"In This Together" emergency grants programme** in response to the emergency created by the coronavirus/COVID-19 crisis.

The emergency grants are intended to support local groups who are financially affected by additional demands on their resources and who have expanded their provision to meet the current needs of those experiencing homelessness across the UK (funding can be to meet additional demand or reduction in staffing or other resources caused by impact of coronavirus).

The following grants are available:

1. Small Grants - awards up to £5,000 for short-term responses to the coronavirus emergency (projects within three months), following a limited/fast-tracked application process (payments made in advance)
2. Large grants - awards up to £50,000 to fund long-term needs and potential expansion or change in service delivery, following a full application process Funding is only available for organisations seeking to respond to needs identified due to the COVID-19 pandemic and not for broader work or other discreet projects.

There are separate application forms for request of up to £5,000 and up to £50,000. Further information, together with an application form, is available on the Crisis website.

Applications may be made at any time. Crisis will review all applications at the end of each week and make a decision on which requests to fund for that week.

VETERANS' FOUNDATION GRANTS FOR ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTING ARMED FORCES

The **Veterans' Foundation** provides funding for charities and other forms of not-for-profit organisation that are supporting serving and former members of the British Armed Forces, and sometimes their dependants, who are in need Grants can be used for projects covering a range of aspects of social care for the Armed Forces community, including running costs, in the areas of (please note this is not an exclusive list):

- Homelessness.
- Poverty.
- Disability.
- Reducing dependency on drugs and alcohol.
- Mental health.
- Marriage guidance.
- Care during old age, and
- Confidence building and social integration.

The remaining application deadlines for 2020 are Sunday, May 31, for the foundation's June meeting, and Wednesday, September 30 for the foundation's September meeting.

Further information, guidance notes and an application form is available on the **foundation's website**. Email: grants@veteransfoundation.org.uk