

SPARE CHAIR THIS CHRISTMAS? VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT TO SHARE THEIR DAY

“No-one should be alone at Christmas!” How often do we hear those words and yet too many people will find themselves without regular company over the festive period. This year, a group of Cornish organisations has come together to try and change things.

The Diocese of Truro has teamed up with Age UK (Cornwall & Isles of Scilly), British Red Cross and Volunteer Cornwall to tackle loneliness and isolation this Christmas. The four organisations have agreed to share information and resources to ensure that no-one finds themselves alone over the festive period.

Andy Brelsford, from Volunteer Cornwall, said: “We know there are lots of people, particularly older residents, who for various reasons find themselves facing Christmas alone. We want to change that by matching people with organisations and activities taking place in the community. This could be as simple as pointing them towards a Christmas party put on by the community or it could be kind-hearted volunteers

who agree to invite an elderly neighbour round to share in their own celebrations.”

If your community is hosting a Christmas event or if you and your family are prepared to share your Christmas with someone to save them from being alone, please contact mid@volunteercornwall.org.uk in the first instance and let's make sure that no-one has to be alone this Christmas.

St Michael and All Angels Church in Falmouth will be providing a Christmas lunch on December 25 from 1pm for those who are alone or in need of a warm welcome.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT TREVOR ON: 01326 313374.



GIVE A GIFT LOCALLY THIS CHRISTMAS

With Christmas just over a three weeks away, towns are packed with shoppers all looking for that perfect gift. Why not give a gift locally this Christmas and do something good for the community at the same time?

The Cornish Christmas Giving catalogue features many worthy local groups and charities who are all working in Cornwall to provide assistance, support, activities, beds and more to people in our own community.

This year you can choose from 20 Cornish charities to donate to and in return you will receive a gift certificate to pass on to your family member or friend. Gifts start from just £2 up to £70 for a 'backpack bed'.

Among the organisations in this year's catalogue are Backpack Beds, Cornwall Befriending Service, Cornwall Dyslexia Association, Cornwall Night Stop, Cosgarne Hall, Coastal Zone, Camborne / Pool / Redruth Foodbank, Hidden Help, Nature Workshop, Play Zone, Roaming Penzance, the Samaritans, Sea Sanctuary, St Petroc's Society, Truro Community Football and Wired Cornwall.

THE CATALOGUE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE TRURO DIOCESE WEBSITE: www.trurodiocese.org.uk

FEATURED PROJECT

Cornwall Befriending Service offers free debt and financial advice and support combined with counselling. This holistic service is proving particularly effective for those where personal crises have been brought on, or exacerbated, by debt.



CBS works within local community centres with additional support via telephone or email and is on hand to those in need who are unable to organise appointments or travel arrangements.

At the moment they offer services in Penryn, Truro and two centres in Camborne but are looking to expand to Penzance and/or St Austell.

Its services are designed to enhance self-esteem by counselling, which, with the debt advice and support, enables people to take responsibility for financial decisions.

£15 will pay for CBS to attend a community centre for four weekly sessions.

£20 helps towards telephone costs, dealing with client's creditors and other support agencies.



THERE ARE SIX ROLES AVAILABLE WHICH REQUIRE DIFFERENT SKILLS AND PERSONALITIES:

- 1. GENERAL SUPPORT** (shifts between 9am-9pm)
- 2. BACK ROOM BUDDY** (9am-9.30pm)
- 3. EVENING WELCOME ASSISTANT** (7pm-11pm)
- 4. OVERNIGHT SUPPORT ASSISTANT** (8pm-7.30am)
- 5. DONATIONS SORTING SUPPORT** (shifts between 9am-7pm)
- 6. CAKE BAKER** (home-based preparation for drop off in Truro)

So, if you are aged over 18 and think this is something you could do, get in touch.

This annual work of St Petroc's is vital work and, without volunteers, it could not happen. Volunteers are needed through the cold weather period from now until February, including throughout the Christmas period.

The role of the cold weather provision project is to work with individuals who are homeless during the coldest months of winter while assisting them to identify their support and housing needs, advocating for them and helping them to access services.

The aim of the provision is to provide a safe place to stay during periods of cold or severe weather and to provide a support service which is able to identify and support the individual's needs with a view to moving away from street homelessness.

St Petroc's Society provides training and support for volunteers to ensure they have the skills required to provide the service.

FIND OUT MORE

Information is available online at www.stpetrocs.org.uk/volunteer or contact Lois Wild, Volunteer Coordinator to request an application form or for an initial chat email at lois.wild@stpetrocs.org.uk, call 01872 260948 or send a letter to Lois Wild, Lander House, 5, Upper Lemon Villas, Truro, TR1 2PD.

ST PETROC'S REQUIRES VOLUNTEERS

St Petroc's Society is looking for volunteers to help with cold weather provision which is offered via its winter night shelter in Truro.

WHAT'S ON DECEMBER

- 1 Land's End Benefice**
Extended Christmas Breakfast Club, 8.30am
- 2 All Saints Church, Falmouth**
FX Orchestra Concert, 7pm
- 3 St Peter's church, Mevagissey**
Christmas Market in Jubilee Hall, 10.30am-1.30pm; 5.30pm Blessing of the crib and carol singing in St George's Square, Mevagissey.
- 4 All Saints, Tuckingmill**
Cornish Carol Service, 6.00pm
- 5 St Wenna, Morval, Looe**
Christmas Tree Festival 5th-11th Dec, 10am-4pm
- 6 Wadebridge Parish**
A Christmas Wreath Festival 6th-11th Dec with a closing service on the 11th at 4 pm
- 7 St Petroc's Church, Bodmin**
Christmas Tree Festival 7th-20th Dec. Open daily 10am-4.30pm
- 8 St Bartholomew's, Lostwithiel**
Family Service to start the town's Dickensian evening, 5.30pm
- 9 Truro Cathedral**
Truro's Big Christmas Sing, 7.30pm
- 10 St Wenn Church**
Christmas Fayre 10.30am-3.30pm
- 11 Fowey Parish Church**
Toddler Carols, 11am
- 12 All Saints Church, Hightown**
Truro Toddle Christingle Service (Parent and Toddler Group), 9am-10.30am
- 13 Holy Trinity, St Austell**
Rotary Tree of Light Service, 6.30pm
- 14 St Peter's, Port Isaac**
Cornish Carol Evening, 7pm
- 14 All Saints, Millbrook**
Christmas Tree Festival 14th-17th Dec, 2pm-6pm
- 15 Maker Church Womens Institute**
Christmas Concert, 7pm
- 16 Madron Parish Church**
Christingle, 2pm
- 16 St Julitta's, Lanteglos-by-Camelford**
Camelford Town Band's Annual Christmas Concert 7pm
- 17 Gulval Parish Church**
Christingle, 4pm
- 17 Talland Parish Church**
Carols by Candlelight, 4pm
- 18 Penair school, Truro**
Carol Service, 9.30am
- 18 All Hallows, Kea**
Carol Service, 11am
- 19 St Johns Church in St John**
Nine Lessons and Carols, 7pm
- 19 Phillack Church**
Christmas Table Top Sale, 10-2pm

- 20 St Marnarch's, Lanreath**
Live Nativity, 6pm
- 20 St Columb Major**
Festive Fun Day, 10.30am to 4.30pm
- 21 St Thomas, Heamoor**
Feast Carol Service, 7pm
- 21 Elliot House Hotel, Liskeard**
Christmas TIME - musical Nativity, 7pm
- 22 St Endellion**
Mother's Union Carol Service, 7.30pm
- 22 St Michael's Church, Ponsanooth**
Christmas Carol Service, 6.30pm
- 23 Maker Church**
Christmas Nativity with Carols, 7pm
- 23 St Ervan Church**
Crib Service, 3pm

CHRISTMAS EVE + 145 MORE

- 24 Maryfield**
Crib Service, 10.30am
- 24 Gwinear Parish Church**
Midnight Holy Communion, 11.15pm
- 24 Fowey Parish Church**
Carols by Candlelight, 9pm
- 24 St Peter's Church, Mevagissey**
Midnight Mass, 11pm
- 24 Gwithian Church**
Communion Service, 9.30pm

- 24 St Andrews Church, Tywardreath**
Christingle Service, 4.30pm
- 24 St Andrew's Church, Redruth**
Candlelit Midnight Mass, 11.30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY + 41 MORE

- 25 St Nicholas, Looe**
Holy Communion, 10.30am
- 25 St John's Pensilva**
Christmas Day Service, 10.30am
- 25 St Martins Church, Lewannick**
Christmas Café Church, 11am
- 25 St Marnarch's, Lanreath**
Christmas Day Family Communion, 9:30am
- 25 St Teath Church**
Christmas Worship, 10.30am
- 25 St Clement Church, Truro**
Christmas Morning Eucharist, 10:00am
- 26 St Stephens by Saltash**
St Stephen Patronal, 10am
- 27 St Mary the Virgin, Bradoc**
Benefice Advent Service, 10.30am
- 29 Church of St Philleigh**
Carol Service, 6pm
- 31 St Martins Church, Lewannick**
New Year's Eve reflections, 6pm

SEE THE FULL LIST OF 500+ EVENTS TAKING PLACE THIS CHRISTMAS AT:
www.trurodiocese.org.uk/christmas-services-events-2016

