

OUR NEWS

APRIL 2016

CROSS OF ST PIRAN AWARDED TO 25 PEOPLE FOR THEIR WORK

St Piran's Church, Perranzabuloe filled to capacity as services to church and community honoured



The annual Cross of St Piran Awards took place in March and featured 25 people from across the diocese receiving the accolade for services to their church and wider community.

St Piran's Church in Perranzabuloe was filled to capacity during two services as friends and family supported recipients, all of whom were nominated by their peers.

Bishop Tim told those present: "This is a really wonderful event where we get to thank God for so many extraordinary people. They often protest that they could only do what they can do because of the people around them. However much they

protest, they have, and continue to inspire, others to see Jesus at work in our world. We should not be afraid to stand up for what we believe. It's quite right we should say thank you to them for what they do and go on doing."

Those present heard what wide and varied work each of the recipients undertake from running community helplines and setting up community trusts to fundraising, running children's clubs and bringing modern IT to churches.

MORE INFORMATION

Go to www.trurodiocese.org.uk for more photos and for stories on 12 of this year's recipients.

NEW READER CHAPLAIN

After 14 years of providing support for Readers across the diocese, Chris Kingshott has retired.

Chris was the first Reader Chaplain in the diocese but decided to hand over the baton to Jim Seth at the end of 2015.

Chris said: "I felt that while there was a lot that could be done as Reader Chaplain it was my time to step back from it. I'm sure Jim will have ideas of his own which will be of great benefit to the Readers. I shall remain as a Reader and I am always here to help Jim in any way he needs in the future."

READ MORE

<http://tinyurl.com/zqgjhm>

FREE IT EQUIPMENT

There is some pre-loved IT equipment available to parishes from Church House in Truro.

There are various screens, keyboards and printers available to collect. All are in good working order and free to any churches in need of equipment.

The screens are 17" flat screen and there are various laser jet printers (cartridges can be purchased at a very reasonable price through parish buying).

CONTACT

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BISHOP'S LETTER

“ Is he here or is he not here?
Do you ever wonder whether it is you or them?
Normally I assume it is me. But I guess sometimes it
might be them? ”



BISHOP TIM

We live in a binary world where it is either me to blame or it is them to blame. Things are either good or they are bad. A world in which if someone does not agree with me then they are clearly wrong and so are written off. In which I dismiss the other person if they are in some way different to me. This world, then, is not capable it seems of coping with more than two choices. It is either you or it is them.

Life is never that simple and nor should it be. The heart of Easter for me is that there is real cause for hope, and it lies not in a simple binary world but in God's world which is complicated and messy and confusing and hopeful and, in my understanding, real!

In a world which is binary, in which I fear most people seem to want to live, Easter provides a real puzzle. At the heart of the message of Easter is an empty tomb. You may remember that having died on the cross, Jesus' body is placed in a tomb. On the third day they came to the tomb and it was

empty. The stone that was blocking the entrance had been rolled away.

Now normally an empty tomb means an absence, something is missing. The body should have been there. The tomb was empty and people were very confused. Emptiness or absence is usually portrayed as a negative. It is also portrayed as the opposite of something that is positive, of a presence. Yet life is never that simple.

The world is not binary. Life is not simple or straightforward. It is never either you or them.

Happy Easter! By this I mean stick with the reality of life, don't allow yourself to imagine that life is binary, or simple, or that it is either you or them. Try and see things from a different perspective. Imagine life as someone else might be living it. Be open to new possibilities and new opportunities.

Happy Easter! Don't just dismiss things if they don't fit into your world view. Allow yourself to be open to new and, yes, even apparently impossible possibilities.

I believe that Jesus is alive. He has risen from the dead. His absence has become a presence for all time and everywhere. Now that cannot possibly be, can it?

FOLLOW +TIM
on Twitter @BishopTruro
or from time to time Bishop Tim
writes a blog at
www.trurodiocese.org.uk/press-office/bishop-tims-blog/

YOUR CHANCE TO HELP WITH LOCAL ACTS 435

All Saints Church Highertown, Truro have posted their first appeals on Acts 435, 'a revolutionary website which allows people to give money directly to others: 100% of the donation you make goes straight to the people you would like it to go to.

People who are in need can apply through their local church or community groups such as Christians Against Poverty or Foodbanks. An advocate then has to verify the application and it is posted anonymously on to the Acts 435 website where donations can be made towards the need. Giftaiding the donation helps towards the running costs of charity.

MORE INFORMATION

<http://acts435.org.uk/>

TOURISM IDEAS SOUGHT

All our churches receive visitors. When open daily they may receive more visitors in the week than attend church on a Sunday. Who are our visitors, and why do they matter to the mission of the church?

National research suggests around 80% of adults will visit a church or chapel for some reason each year. Of these 20% will be seeking a quiet place, and a further 19% said they were simply walking past and felt the need to go in.

The research showed younger visitors were particularly open to creative ways of engaging with the building. So many of our visitors are from age-groups often under-represented in our churches; and many are open to engaging with the spirituality of the building through opportunities to be still, to reflect, to pray, to listen. Put this all together and we have a significant opportunity for the mission of the church.

We want to hear from churches that welcome tourists to help us compile an 'ideas bank' of good practice.

Soon we will be launching a 'from tourist to pilgrim' toolkit packed with simple ideas and resources for you to use.

CONTACT

Liz.wallace@truro.anglican.org

MISSION CASE STUDY

OPEN THE BOOK WELCOMES 100TH TEAM IN CORNWALL



The 100th Open the Book Team in Cornwall is now up and running in Egloskerry Primary School and St Catherine's C of E School, Launceston.

In October Open the Book celebrated ten years in Cornwall. The 100 teams currently visit 138 schools with another five schools (three teams) in the process of setting up.

The 100th team have started going into St Catherine's weekly and Egloskerry on a bi-weekly basis.

Individual members of the team, who didn't know each other well before, began exploring the idea of creating a team some time ago and were brought together by the common aim of providing an Open the Book team.

One member Jayne had previous experience of Open the Book from the school's perspective, having previously been head-teacher at Marhamchurch C of E School. She said: "I knew that this was what I was being prompted to do when I retired."

During the Open the Book training process it was emphasised that working ecumenically was always beneficial. With that in mind, the group includes people from the local Methodist Church, Assemblies of God Church and Church of England.

With the backing of prayer and funding for props from local churches, Launceston's team were able to start up fairly quickly following

training. Sarah said: "I feel as though I am serving God, it is a wonderful opportunity."

Chris added: "It's about making it really fun for the children who may have previously thought that 'church' was boring."

Jayne pointed out that you might be surprised about what you can do. "Some people have stepped into roles that they said that they didn't want to do and they have done brilliantly... when God asks you to do something, he gives you the skills."

So far they have experienced an incredibly positive response to the assemblies. The schools have been really welcoming and the children really enjoy it. A child from St Catherine's School saw one of the team members, Jayne, outside of school and asked "Are you the Open the Book lady? It's brilliant. I love it."

For anyone thinking of starting up or joining an Open the Book team, Launceston's advice is "Get involved."

MORE INFORMATION

shelley.porter@truro.anglican.org

SHARE YOUR STORY
WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR MISSION STORIES. GET IN TOUCH:
 comms@truro.anglican.org

PARISH BUYING HELPS SAVE £3 MILLION

Three years into running the Church of England's Energy Basket, Parish Buying has saved churches, parishes and schools over £3 million. The deadline for signing up for next year's Energy Basket is May 1.

What is Parish Buying?

Parish Buying is a professionally managed procurement service set up and run by the Church of England to assist parishes in their buying.

MORE INFORMATION

T 0800 368 0887

E energy@parishbuying.org.uk

FAITH PROGRAMME VOTES

This year's Sandford St Martin Trust Awards take place at Lambeth Palace on June 8. The awards are the most prestigious broadcast awards for radio, TV and online content that explore religious, spiritual or ethical themes.

The shortlist has just been announced and you can now vote for your favourite programme until May 8. There is even a chance to win £1000 if you vote for the winner. The shortlist is as follows:

1. The Ark (BBC1) - March 2015
2. Songs of Praise from the Jungle, Calais (BBC1) - August 2015
3. Call the Midwife (BBC1) - February 2015
4. A Song For Jenny (BBC1) - July 2015
5. David Suchet in the Footsteps of St Peter (BBC1) - April 2015
6. Children of the Gaza War (BBC2)

MORE INFORMATION

<http://tinyurl.com/jex7dae>

NEWSLETTER LAUNCHES

"Not Forgotten" is a new bi-monthly newsletter intended primarily for older people of sound mind who are either home alone, or living in residential care. It will be non-political and non-sectarian and initially free. Subscriber contributions welcome. It will be available by Email or Post. Details from pearose@mypostoffice.co.uk or 4, Crescent Rise Truro TR1 3ER.

FROM THE CANON THEOLOGIAN



This is my last contribution before I retire as Canon Theologian. It all began in spring 2005 when Bishop Bill asked me if I would consider taking it on.

‘What does it involve?’, I asked.

STEPHEN DAWES CANON THEOLOGIAN

His answer was that it was about helping people to think their faith through. He added that I could work out how to do it as I went along. I liked that.

I have spent well over half of my ministry in theological education of various kinds and in various places. It has been a mixed experience. It is hugely rewarding to see people grow and blossom when they are given the chance to think and learn. But it is very worrying to see how little some people know even after years in church. Or even how often Christians are not allowed to think too much! It is very obvious, I think, that the Church doesn't do adult Christian education very well at all.

I'm not saying that my 11 years as Canon Theologian has improved the Cornish situation much, but I have seen lots of encouraging things happen. Eight years ago a couple of people said they had nowhere to go to talk about things they didn't understand or found difficult, so we started a monthly group in the Cathedral. There are now 50 people on its mailing list. The group has in effect become a 'Fresh Expression of Church' where folks can talk and think things through.

Seven years ago some of us thought some introductory courses about Christianity might help, and that

led to the Windows-into courses. We decided to try them out at the Cathedral. So we've just finished Windows into the Psalms with a 100 people coming to it! We've run 26 courses there so far, 626 hours of Powerpoint, with 1,237 bums on seats belonging to 294 different people. They like it. They engage. They discuss. Even argue. It's great to see people learning, thinking things through, and enjoying it.

Then I have written things like this, preached regularly at the Cathedral, answered lots of emails, met lots of folks for coffee and conversation, done Study Days and spoken at a whole variety of groups. All because people have wanted to ask, think and learn.

So I'm very grateful

* to Bishop Bill for inviting me to become Canon Theologian, and to Bishop Tim for not asking me to resign;

* to the Diocese for giving me opportunities to do all kinds of things;

* to numerous colleagues now and over the years who have had the same vision for a better-informed Church;

* to the Dean and Chapter and staff of the Cathedral who have encouraged and supported me amazingly;

* and finally, and most of all, to all those who have shared the journey of thinking things through with me and with each other over the past eleven years.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH

25 Helman Tor Pilgrimage, Lanlivery Church, 2-4pm

26 The Great Lewannick Daffodil Knit, Lewannick Church, until April 3.

26 Easter Garden Competition, St Saviour Church, Polruan, 9am-4pm

26 - April 3, Recital for cello & Piano, St Endellion Easter Music Festival

APRIL

1 Steve Knightley All At Sea, All Saints Church Tuckingmill, 7.30pm

9 Callington Community Gospel Choir, Ladock Church, 7pm, £5 incl coffee & cake 07816317180, treworyan@btinternet.com

9 Open Day, Stithians Community House for Interns, 2.30pm - 6pm, <http://stithianscommunityhouse.co.uk/open-days/>

9 Lady day Service, Truro Cathedral, 11am

16 One Sacred World reflective day, St Endellion Church, 10am - 3pm, £10. to book email rev.judith@btinternet.com

16, 17 Wedding Show, Royal Cornwall Showground, Wadebridge

16 Quiet Day with Franciscan theme, St Endellion Church, 10am

16 Taize service, 7pm, Epiphany House, Truro.

17 Memory Friendly Worship 3rd anniversary, John Betjeman Centre, Wadebridge, 10.30am

19 VCSE Summit & workshops, Royal Cornwall Showground, Wadebridge

22 Fashion & Funds show in aid of St Peter's Church Mevagissey, Mevagissey Social Club, 7pm, £5 (incl glass wine), 07968 764116

22 - 22 By Royal Appointment, St Lalluw's Church, Menheniot, private collection of gowns, drawings & Memorabilia. 10am

22-24 Individually Guided Retreat, <http://tinyurl.com/jsbclnr>

28 Gwinear's Giving Shop Grand Opening, Gwinear Churchtown, 2pm

28 Windows Into..., Hayle Methodist Church, 7pm, £5, 01736 756669

28 Church Administrator Training Day, Abbey Hall, St Andrew's Church, Plymouth, john@john-truscott.co.uk

GET IN TOUCH

If you have a news story or a diary date to share, please get in touch: 01872 360037 comms@truro.anglican.org before the 17th of each month.

OTHER LINKS

SRO Briefing <http://tinyurl.com/hn5b5oo>

DotCandy <http://tinyurl.com/zx93urm>

The Word's Out <http://tinyurl.com/hnusmto>

InReview <http://tinyurl.com/jkmdleun>

InFocus <http://tinyurl.com/zmrncrcr>

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