

# OUR NEWS

## MARCH 2016

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### INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKERS AT BAPTISM MATTERS WORKSHOP

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Bishop Chris joined others from across the diocese to take part in a Baptism Matters workshop in February

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Led by the Revd Canon Dr Sandra Millar, Head of Projects and Development for Archbishop's Council of the Church of England, the event which was held at the Royal Cornwall Showground in Wadebridge, boasted a capacity audience of clergy and lay people all keen to hear more about baptism.

The 'Baptism Matters' project is part of the national Church of England's initiative to make occasional office ministry more effective. Resources and teaching are based around the results of extensive research conducted with families who recently had their children baptised.

During the workshop, those present learned more about the research findings as well as discovering new resources to help support ministry of baptism. There were new baptismal liturgy options discussed and new resources for baptism preparation.

During the morning those present also heard that May 1 is Godparents Sunday, a



chance to celebrate all Godparents.

Those attending took to Twitter to share what they were learning and praise the 'inspirational speaker'.

Sarah Welply tweeted: The good news: baptism leads to church growth. Families know, want and expect to keep in touch with the church #baptismmatters

Helen Davies tweeted: Church of England Christenings lots of good stuff here #baptismmatters

#### MORE INFORMATION

<https://churchofenglandchristenings.org/>

### 2016 CROSS OF ST PIRAN RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

The annual Cross of St Piran Awards will take place on March 13 and this year 25 people have been chosen to receive the accolade.

The awards will be presented by Bishop Tim at two services at St Piran Church, Perranzabuloe, with recipients selected through nominations by deaneries.

This year's recipients represent a broad spectrum of people from across the diocese all recognised for their contribution to their churches and wider community life.

A full list of recipients will be available on the diocesan website following the services.

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### NEW HEAD OF WORSHIP

The Revd Canon Simon Griffiths has been installed as the new Head of Worship at Truro Cathedral.

The Dean of Truro, The Very Revd Roger Bush, said: "We welcome Simon, knowing he brings talents and experiences that will add greatly to the work of the cathedral, both within Truro and the county."

Simon said: "I am incredibly privileged and excited to become part of the cathedral team and worshipping community. I look forward to meeting everyone and to sharing our journey of faith."

# BISHOP'S LETTER

“ You take the high road....I have just returned from General Synod in London where we discussed a variety of matters. Two and a half days of business went by very quickly. ”



## BISHOP TIM

It was good to hear from the Archbishop of Canterbury in his presidential address about what happened at the Primates Meeting in January. Much concern had been expressed about whether this would be the end of the Anglican Communion as we know it yet after much prayer and difficult conversation they have agreed to walk together.

Synod also debated various proposals around the Renewal and Reform agenda for the future of the Church of England. Clearly we are facing major issues and pressures upon us. These proposals are a variety of measures that are planned to try and address the decline in church attendance and influence. We agreed to a change in the funding offered by the Church Commissioners and after a rather complicated and tetchy debate we agreed to a new mechanism for funding candidates in training of ordination.

We also had a good debated on welfare sanctions and passed overwhelmingly a motion to encourage the Government to review the system now in place.

**In the middle of much else we debated, and again passed by a large majority, a motion to encourage all of us to donate blood if we can and carry organ donation cards.**

It is good to see ideas coming through from parishes and deaneries via dioceses to be discussed at General Synod. The process works.

We also had a presentation from the Moderator of the Church of Scotland before we debated a motion to accept a report that gives encouragement to the Church of England and the Church of Scotland to go on working together and see if we can work even more closely together. This caused some difficulty as the Scottish Episcopal Church (SEC), or parts of it, did not feel they had been really consulted as part of this process. In the end we passed an amended motion which encourages us to keep the SEC in the loop going forward.

As I came away from an action packed few days I was encouraged by the notion of walking together and whether it is the high road or the low road. Surely as Christians we should always endeavour to keep walking together even when the pressures for all sorts of reasons are to walk on our own?

**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/](http://www.trurodiocese.org.uk/press-office/bishop-tims-blog/)

## BISHOP CHRIS STEPPING OUT AGAINST POVERTY

Modern day Cornish pilgrims are invited to join the Rt Revd Chris Goldsmith in a coast to coast walk along St Michael's Way this Christian Aid Week (May 15-21).

The Bishop of St Germans and a band of sponsored walkers will trace the footsteps of ancient pilgrims along the 12.5 mile long route from Lelant to Marazion on Friday May 20 raising funds for the world's most disadvantaged families.

Bishop Chris said: "I would be delighted to see many supporters on May 20 – please do join me in taking a stand for life before death."

### SIGN UP

<http://tinyurl.com/jdwpu19>

## CHURCH SUPPORT HUB

A website designed to support the occasional offices is now available to all involved in these important ministries. The **Church Support Hub** was developed to offer research, free downloads, shared ideas and articles, plus commonly-asked questions about any aspect of ministry around the baptism of children, weddings and funerals.

### READ MORE

[www.churchsupporthub.org](http://www.churchsupporthub.org) **Monthly newsletter:**  
<http://tinyurl.com/hu5rbde>

## DEMENTIA AWARENESS

The Churches Together in Cornwall Dementia Action group is offering Dementia Awareness Sessions not only to individual churches but also to local Churches Together and area denominational support meetings. Based on the session devised by the Alzheimer's Society and providing the opportunity to become a Dementia Friend, each is interactive and can be tailored to the particular circumstances and need.

### BOOK A SESSION

Email [christine@mjcmtodd.plus.com](mailto:christine@mjcmtodd.plus.com)  
Call 01208 816043

## MISSION CASE STUDY

# YOUTH WORK NEEDS EFFORT BUT BRINGS BLESSINGS

Nina, a St Keverne born and bred mother of three, started running a local youth group in 2004. The St Keverne Young People's (SKYP) club has about 40 young people on the register aged between 11 and 16 and runs on the third, fourth and fifth Fridays of the month.

Nina became involved in working with young people when her children were entering an age where there was nothing to keep them in their local church through their teenage years.

"St Keverne church is a very prayerful body of Christ and open to the Holy Spirit," explained Nina. However due to her concern over lack of activities for teenagers in St Keverne at the time, the family decided to try another church that offered more for young people for a month. Within weeks Nina says it was clear the family should stay at St Keverne and felt God say 'there isn't anything here so you need to do something about it'.

When it came to starting up something within the village Nina, along with Margaret another member of the congregation who was keen to work with young people, set up a youth club on a Friday night in the church hall. Nina said: "This was going to be a youth club put on by the church for the young people in the parish with no strings attached."

On the opening night back in 2004 they had about 40 young people come through the door and the numbers on the register have been maintained in the following 12 years.

Working with young people was not something Nina expected. "I am not a youth worker and had no training, but I have got a massive, massive heart for young people, and I find it very easy to be around young people especially talking to them about Jesus and sharing the Bible with them."



Working closely with other youth workers from nearby towns, in 2008 it was decided to start an event for young people to hear the Christian message called 'Fusion'. The event still runs monthly mainly for local young Christians although recently more non-Christian young people have come from surrounding areas. Other youth courses are also now run.

In 2013 the youth work was boosted when the PCC agreed to have a SWYM trainee and Mike arrived. Nina added: "Having Mike here is of huge importance."

As the result of doing youth work Nina says she has learnt a lot. "It is an absolute privilege to share Jesus and the truth and God's love with young people. It is a responsibility but there are blessings. My faith and knowledge of God has grown massively and learning how to teach - I love that side of it. Doing the Freedom in Christ course with them has taught me things about who I was in Christ that nobody had taught me.

"A lot is gained through youth work but a lot is given. For those who have the heart this takes a lot of time, preparation, commitment and prayer."

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

## CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR NETWORK TRAINING DAY

The UK Church Administrator Network is organising a training day for church administrators in Plymouth in April.

Taking place at St Andrew's Church, Plymouth on Thursday, April 28, the theme for the day is 'Developing Our Role'. There will be opportunity to develop your skills, improve effectiveness as church workers and network with others.

The cost of the day is £37 for members (£47 non-members) with a £5 discount for group bookings.

### TO BOOK

<http://tinyurl.com/pwsvmeo>  
[www.john-truscott.co.uk](http://www.john-truscott.co.uk)  
 Email: [john@john-truscott.co.uk](mailto:john@john-truscott.co.uk)

## REPAIR GRANTS OPEN

The National Churches Trust's 2016 community and repair grants programmes are now open. It can help with funding for a church repair project or installing a lavatory or kitchen, or improve community facilities in your place of worship.

This year, there is also a chance to obtain additional funding to set up a social action project, in partnership with the Cinnamon Network, to meet the needs of local people.

### MORE INFORMATION

<http://tinyurl.com/q52v8zc>

## ARSON PREVENTION

Ecclesiastical Insurance have launched an arson prevention campaign aimed at churches and the communities they serve.

A new prevention video has been produced for churches to sit alongside their Arson Prevention Checklist.

### MORE INFORMATION

**Arson Prevention Checklist**

<http://tinyurl.com/glxwxxg>

**View the video** <http://tinyurl.com/hyqt5kj>



# FROM THE CANON THEOLOGIAN

I wrote last time about my 'Faith Story', and several people have asked me to fill it out a bit more by saying more about what I believe.

**If you want it in a little creed, trying to avoid too much religious jargon, it is this:**

## STEPHEN DAWES CANON THEOLOGIAN

I believe in God, the intelligence and energy which sustains the universe, who wants only the best for each of us and all of us, who yearns for our fullest flourishing for now and for ever, whose passion is for justice, compassion and peace, whose name and nature is love, a love which will not let us go, who seeks us out with generosity and embraces us with kindness. And I believe in Jesus Christ, who is the best clue there is to God, and whose life and teaching are the clearest guide there is to the meaning of life, the universe and everything.

Or if you want it in six points, in an exercise I did a few years back with some ordinands, it is this: I believe:

In life and light and love, despite the power of their opposites which we see all around us

In God as the hidden source and the sustaining power of life and light and love in all their many and varied forms

In the story of Jesus of Nazareth, where we see life and light and love lived out in a human life, death and resurrection

In God's call to all humanity to live for life and light and love in the power of his spirit



In God's eternal generosity towards our human failings

In the ultimate victory of life and light and love over death and darkness and hate

Or if you want it in two Bible passages, they are **Psalm 103** and **Romans 8.35, 37-39**.

**SPEAKOUT2016**  
SHARE YOUR FAITH STORY:  
[speakout2016@truro.anglican.org](mailto:speakout2016@truro.anglican.org)  
#speakout2016

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### FEBRUARY

**28 Pilgrim walk with Bishop Chris**, Maker Church, 12noon-3pm

**29 Fairtrade Fortnight begins**, Sit down for breakfast, stand up for Farmers

### MARCH

**3 illustrated talk on Paris Climate cycle**, FREE, 7.30pm, Truro Cathedral

**3 Coffee morning & Fair Trade stall**, St Saviour Church, Polruan, 10.45am-11.45am

**4 Women's Day of Prayer**  
<http://tinyurl.com/jlecoed>

**4 Reflections in the Mirror**, St Endellion Church, 7.30pm-9.30pm, £10

**6 Singing St Mark's Gospel**, Truro Cathedral, 6pm

**9 CMED Working with schools, church & community**, Church House, Threemilestone, 9am-1pm, book: [www.trurodiocese.org.uk](http://www.trurodiocese.org.uk)

**11 Cornwall: A Million stories of Sanctuary**, All Saints Church, Hightown, 10-3pm

**12 CMED Working with schools, church & community**, Church House, Threemilestone, 9am-1pm, book: [www.trurodiocese.org.uk](http://www.trurodiocese.org.uk)

**14 The Filling Station**, Penmorvah Manor Hotel, Budock, 7.30pm

**16 Godspell**, St Petroc's Church, Padstow, 7.30pm

**19 Cornwall Aviation Heritage centre & Newquay Airport Open day**, proceeds to St Mawgan-in-Pydar Church, 10am-4pm, £5

**19 Quiet Day**, St Endellion Church, 10am-3pm

**24 Maunday Thursday service**, Truro Cathedral, 10am

**24 24 hours of prayer**, Tregony Church, from 4pm

**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

## FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Starts February 29 'Sit down for breakfast, stand up for farmers'  
Call Sue on 01872 273222

## 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](mailto:comms@truro.anglican.org) before the 17th of each month.

## OTHER LINKS

**SRO Briefing** <http://tinyurl.com/ztsfvfd>

**In Review** <http://tinyurl.com/jogh7t5>

**InFocus** <http://tinyurl.com/hbqelfd>

**Ordination blog** <http://tinyurl.com/hhafnap>

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