

OUR NEWS

APRIL 2019

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BISHOP PHILIP 'OVERWHELMED' BY ROADSHOW DEANERY VISITS

Bishop Philip picked up a ukulele and joined the St Euny Ukes for a couple of tunes as the second roadshow of the year got underway.

He was given a customary warm welcome at St Euny, in Redruth, and saw the Open Cafe in full session, and met with lots of the volunteers, staff, parishioners and visitors.

Earlier in the day Bishop Philip had visited St Francis' School in Falmouth, and then went on to the Seafarers' Mission.

The roadshows are a chance for Bishop

Philip to visit and hear from people in all of the 12 deaneries with the diocese.

Bishop Philip said: "I had hoped that the roadshows this year would be an opportunity for me to watch, listen and to learn more about my Cornish brothers and sisters, and everything that they are doing in our communities in Christ's name – but I've been blown away by the reality.

"I have been overwhelmed by what I have seen so far, and we are not yet half way through the roadshows programme.

"There is so much going on out there, so many examples of people treating each other with great love and kindness.

"I suppose I could have anticipated this, but to see it all happening and to meet those involved really is a privilege."

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PARISH SAFEGUARDING HANDBOOK LAUNCHED

Each parish should by now have received a copy of the new Parish Safeguarding Handbook. The handbook and lots of supporting documentation can also be found online [here](#).

To ensure we are all working in line with the most up-to-date guidelines and policies, this handbook replaces the previous diocesan safeguarding guidelines (Responsible Caring) with immediate effect.

Members of the diocesan safeguarding team are currently working with a group of parish safeguarding co-ordinators to develop supporting information for PCCs based on local best practice, and it is hoped that this will be launched at the May Truro Diocesan Synod.

There is also now a new safeguarding training website, with a basic safeguarding training module that is available to anybody. For full details on the safeguarding training that is available through the diocese, please click [here](#) to get through to our safeguarding training page.

If you have any questions, please call the diocesan safeguarding team on 01872 274351.



PRESENTATION IS THE KEY, SAY ST HYDROC FUNDRAISING TEAM

Winston Churchill, in a speech to his old school, said '... Never give in, never, never, never, never - in nothing, great or small, large or petty - never give in except to convictions of honour and good sense.'

These are words that resonate for the team at St Hydroc who persistently knocked at the doors of funders until they got what they needed to fund the repairs to their beloved church.

Despite being rejected twice by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Roof Repair Fund, the team didn't give in. They dusted themselves down, re-evaluated their approaches, read and re-read the funding applications, and tried again.

"When it comes to funding, the key is in the presentation," says David Shepherd, church warden. He doesn't mean by making it look pretty, but by presenting it in the way the funder has asked for

– the correct format, with the required information in a way that demonstrates how the application meets the funders requirements.

St Hydroc finally secured £200k from the Heritage Lottery Fund, match-funding this with help from other grant funding organisations and their own fundraising activities over six years.

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The afternoon's Cross of St Piran recipients with Bishop Philip and Bishop Chris

SHINING A LIGHT ON THOSE WORKING IN OUR PARISHES

St Piran's Church in Perranzabuloe was once again filled to the brim for the annual Cross of St Piran Awards in March. Sixteen people were recognised during the two services for their work in churches and communities across the diocese.

Bishop Philip thanked each of the 16 nominees telling them they had been a blessing and how their many examples of loving self-sacrificial service had encouraged others.

Bishop Philip spoke of how Jesus is the light of the world. He added: "Light shines within each and every one of the Cross of St Piran recipients, because of their love in action. It also lights a way for others to see Jesus."

Each year deaneries are asked to nominate individuals for a Cross of St Piran award. This year there was an increased emphasis on those working in the areas of environment, young people, growth and mission as well as long service.

To read more about this year's recipients, visit www.trurodiocese.org.uk



The evening's Cross of St Piran recipients with Bishop Philip and Bishop Chris

CLERGY FACEBOOK GROUP

There is now a Facebook group for licensed members of the clergy within the Diocese of Truro.

One of the group's main purposes is to disseminate information that might be of interest to the clergy, but which doesn't come under the 'essential information' category needed for a more official mailing.

But it is also a group in which clergy can talk to one another, or ask for information, help and support.

The group has been set up by the central comms tea, and head of communications Kelly Rowe and communications advisor Richard Best are the group admins. They will also use the group to float interview requests that come in from the media from time to time. Clergy might also like to use the group to pass information to the comms team.

It is a 'closed group', which means that people can search for the group, but have to request to join. Only those who have joined can see who the members are or view any of the posts/content.

If you would like to join, simply search 'licensed clergy Diocese of Truro' within Facebook, and make a request to join.

WELCOME AUDIT AVAILABLE

Is your church ready for spring and summer? Is it welcoming for visitors, walkers, tourists and families?

If you need some support in this, parish support advisor Jane Wheeler is on hand to help you.

Jane also creates family friendly trails and indoor treasure hunts. If you think your church would benefit from Jane's help, please get in touch.

Let's encourage as many visitors as possible to come inside our beautiful churches this year.

E jane.wheeler@truro.anglican.org

FOLLOW +PHILIP
on Twitter @pmounstephen
Bishop Philip's blog
trurodiocese.org.uk/bishops-blog/

MOTHER'S DAY: THE MIRACLE OF PRAYER REUNITES MOTHER & SON

People often talk about the power of prayer, from the mundane, like finding a parking spot, to the magnificent. Patrick Gilbert's story definitely falls on the side of magnificent. It reads like a film-script and what lies at its heart is two people, oceans apart, who prayed for a miracle.

Patrick was adopted when just a week old. His father was African, his mother Indian and he was brought up in a white family, mostly in St Austell.

Inevitably, Patrick had questions about the circumstances of his adoption. He knew his mother's name, that she came from Pondicherry, India, and very little else.

Brought up in a Christian family, it had been a good few years since he had connected with his faith. "But I did the only thing I could. I fell to my knees and prayed." He sent God a challenge, "If you're real, send me a miracle!"

"In the days that followed, random people popped-up and offered me things – the possibility of a position as a musician on a cruise!" Patrick applied, was accepted and offered a place on the next cruise. It was going to India.

"I couldn't believe it!" says Patrick. "I was not only on my way to the country of my birth mother but, when I checked the itinerary, I saw that we were stopping over in Pondicherry!" Patrick told his story to his crew-mates and was asked to share it with the passengers. The whole ship began buzzing with his story until it was announced an imminent cyclone meant they wouldn't be able to stop at Pondicherry.



It was devastating – to have come so close to have to sail on by. But Patrick was called to see the cruise director who had heard his story and wanted to help; he arranged for a day trip from Madras to Pondicherry. Patrick takes up the story. "It was a city of over a million people, I had only a few hours and little hope of finding out anything meaningful about my mother. I hopped on a rickshaw with a friend and start touring. We went past a school and I remembered that someone once said a school was a good place to search as they keep records. So, we went in.

"I asked if they knew of anyone with my mother's name and the receptionist said that, in fact, she was a teacher there. She showed me a photograph and I saw my own face. It was surreal. I knew for sure that I was in the middle of a miracle with no idea how it was going to play out.

"I found the classroom, but there was a lesson going on. I waited. The children came out and I walked in. And there was my mother."

+READ MORE

PROMOTING YOUR CHURCH VIA SOCIAL MEDIA TRAINING

People who are keen to learn more about the opportunities of using social media to promote their church can sign up for a day-long course this summer.

A member of the national digital team, from Church House, Westminster, will come to Truro to deliver the course on Thursday, July 4th. The course will run from 10am to 4pm.

The day is really practical, suitable for

a range of abilities, and a great place for anyone who wants to improve their knowledge of how their church can effectively use social media.

If you would like to book a place on the course, please email richard.best@truro.anglican.org, stating which parish you represent.

The day is limited to 30 places and they will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY CHANGES & UPDATES

LICENSED CLERGY

Revd Deb Grigg* was licensed as Team Vicar for Mission, Redruth with Lanner & Treleigh. **Revd Stephanie Gardner*** was licensed as Associate Minister, All Saints Church, Falmouth.

CHURCH HOUSE

Jane Wheeler has joined the Church House team on a 12-month, part-time contract as Parish Support Officer to cover maternity leave. **Lydia Remick** has been appointed as Local Worship Leader Training Co-ordinator on a fixed term contract.

* Contact details can be found in the online directory
<http://www.trurodiocese.org.uk/directory-live/>

FREE ADVICE FOR PCCS

Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) are reminded that Historic England offers a free pre-application advice service.

Historic England is the government's advisors on all issues relating to heritage. One of its functions relates to Ecclesiastical Exemption - it is a statutory consultee for all faculty applications that affect the character of grade II* and grade I listed churches or any archaeological remains.

It offers a free pre-application advice service for PCCs to make use of. This involves one visit to look at the church and discuss proposals, and a follow up letter. This can help to steer plans towards change that respects the historic qualities of the church, and hopefully avoid the need to raise concerns later on when faculty applications are submitted. Advice is best sought at an early stage, where outline sketch ideas or 'first draft' drawings have been put together.

To arrange a visit email southwestcasework@historicengland.org.uk

PRAYER DIARY OUT NOW

The latest prayer diary is now out. This edition covers April - June. You can download it from the diocesan website at www.trurodiocese.org.uk/faith-life/prayer/ or find it on page 4 under Useful Links.

ENVIRONMENT

CHURCHES WORKING TOWARDS GREEN AWARDS SUCCESS

Churches around the diocese have been keen to share their stories of how they are working environmentally.

Last autumn, a variety of gardening implements and trees for planting near churches were made available through a link between the diocese and a local garden centre. St Mawgan in Meneage parish took advantage and are delighted with the results.

Two beautiful fruit trees - a Cox's Orange Pippin and a Conference pear - have now been planted and the church has also added some mixed native hedging offering a welcome home to a wealth of wildlife. The church also acquired a bug house under the same scheme and the local school are being encouraged to make something similar for themselves.

The team at St Cubert Church have gained their bronze Green Church Kemow Award and are now working towards silver.

The church had celebrated the environment at a special service on the first Sunday of September, reflected on environmental issues throughout the Creation Season and hosted Revd Dr Lucy Larkin to speak at its April Cluster Service, which raised awareness among the congregations.

FETED GREEN CHURCH FEELING FLUSH WITH NEW ECO-LOO

The winner of the Green Building award in the 2017 Church Times Green Church Awards has just commissioned its latest eco-venture - an environmentally friendly loo.

The toilet at St Wenn Church has its very own compact water treatment plant, which means the liquid coming from the system is clean enough for discharge into an open water course.

The Bishop of Truro, the Rt Revd Philip Mounstephen, visited the church to



St Mawgan in Meneage's team with some of their gardening gifts

Bird boxes have been installed along the guttering of the church and an uncut, 'wild' corner of the churchyard has been developed. The church set up a collection point for used spectacles, ink cartridges and mobile phones, and tries to be as paperless as possible using double-sided printing if necessary. All its lights, including floodlighting, are now LED.

Those involved say they are pleased to be contributing towards a greener outlook.

TEN PLEDGES

Some of you may have seen Luci Isaacson on BBC Spotlight in March suggesting that we take time during Lent to consider the Ten Pledges for the environment. Do look at the [link](#) on the diocesan website to find out more.

see all the work that has happened to date and to preach at the service which celebrated the completion of the washroom and toilet.

It is hoped that the next phase of the church's development will be a system to collect rainwater to use for flushing the toilet.

If you would like more information on eco-toilets go to www.trurodiocese.org.uk/resources/social-action/environment/advice-guidelines-environment/

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

APRIL

1 Does God Heal Today? with Mike Tate, Filling Station, Penmorvah Manor Hotel, Budock Water, 7.30pm.

4 Diocesan Roadshow, St Petroc's Church, Bodmin, 6.30pm. Trigg Minor & Bodmin/Pydar deaneries.

9 Diocesan Roadshow, St Erme Community Centre, Trispen, 6.30pm, Powder/ St Austell deaneries.

11 Diocesan Roadshow, Launceston Town Hall, 6.30pm, Stratton/ Trigg Major deaneries.

18 Chrism Eucharist, Truro Cathedral, 10.30am

27 The Making of Poetry using W H Auden, R S Thomas & Geoffrey Hill with Dr Rowan Williams, St Endellion Church, 10am - 3pm.

MAY

2 Meet the Funders www.trurodiocese.org.uk/event/meet-the-funders-2019-follow-up-workshops/

6 The Persecuted Church with the Rt Revd Philip Mounstephen, Bishop of Truro, Filling Station, Penmorvah Manor Hotel, Budock Water, 7.30pm.

11 Choral Concert with Bristol's Exultate Singers, St Mabyn Church, £10, 01208 841534.

11 Diocesan synod, Cornwall Council chamber, Truro, 9.30am.

12 Vocations Sunday.

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

Prayer Diary

Read it here: www.trurodiocese.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Prayer-Diary-April-to-June.pdf

SAVE THE DATE

The first diocesan synod of 2019 will take place on Saturday, May 11. As usual, it will be held in the Council Chamber at County Hall, Truro. Starting at 9.30am with worship lead by the Way2 Community interns, the agenda will include presentations by:

Revd Dom Whitting, chair of the equality & diversity committee on Welcoming All God's People;

Canon Dr Jonathan Rowe, Director for Ministry on the Theology of Safeguarding;

The diocesan safeguarding team on support for parishes with safeguarding resources and the roll out of the Safeguarding Handbook.

The full agenda is available on the diocesan [website](#).

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