

OUR NEWS

AUGUST/ SEPTEMBER 2026



DIOCESE
OF TRURO

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CHURCHES BENEFIT FROM £60K OF CARBON CUTTING GRANTS

More than 30 churches across the diocese have been awarded hundreds of pounds towards cutting carbon thanks to the Quick Wins fund.

In the first round of funding, churches have benefited from £60,000 grants to help make improvements and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

This averages to nearly £1,600 per successful church application for initiatives such as LED lighting, blankets, carpets and heated cushions.

Now the second round of funding has been announced for Eco Church registered churches – preferably those with bronze awards. PCCs will have also had to have completed their most recent Energy Footprint Tool (EFT).

David Watson, Churchwarden at St Hydroc, said: "After two years without any heating, and a very useful advisory visit from Ben Wood, we took the decision to remove our ancient, leaky, inefficient cast iron radiators. At the same time as we registered to become a Bronze Eco Church, we also applied for a Quick Wins grant, which meant that we received over £2,000 towards the purchase of five Herschel Rio heaters."

He added the heaters have been 'a

flexible, cost-effective, low impact means of warming members of the congregation.'

Andy McCartney, Churchwarden at St Probus and St Grace, said their grant helped to buy two mobile infra-red heaters for the church. They also got floor coverings to help people feel warm.

Andy said: "At St Probus and St Grace, we have found the cut carbon, Quick Wins grant to be really useful. We have used the grant scheme on two separate occasions, and both times found Ben really helpful and supportive and the process straight forward."

Ben Wood, the diocese's Cut Carbon Support Officer, said: "The first round of Quick Wins is now over. Some of the carbon cutting measures that took place in the first round included heated seat cushions for St Mawgan in Pydar, double glazed windows at Tregadillet and carpets in Probus.

"The small but meaningful contribution of items like these add up. It shows the power of small steps which can really lower church's carbon emissions, decrease bills and increase comfort. It is also a vital part of making church buildings more useable for mission and ministry.

"Although round one is now over, fear not; round two has begun. I look forward to receiving your applications for the new round."

Find out more about how to apply for the second round of Quick Wins funding [here](#) or email Ben Wood, Cut Carbon Support Officer, [here](#).



SAVE THE DATE - SERVICE TO WELCOME NEW ARCHDEACON

The new Archdeacon of Bodmin Designate will be formally welcomed, installed and licensed on Sunday, October 4.

Plans are not yet complete with more details set to be released regarding the service nearer the time.

In the meantime, the Revd Dr Helen Williams will be licensed as Assistant Curate at Truro Cathedral on Sunday, August 9 during Evensong at 4pm.

Please do come along and welcome Helen on August 9.

CREATIONTIDE

Creationtide starts in September and the **Church of England** produces resources each year for this. This year's resources will be available shortly. The theme this year is Living Water.

Do also come along to our annual Creation Care service, October 3 at 3:30pm at St Illogan, to mark the end of Creationtide.

DIOCESE OF TRURO



BISHOP JAMES WRITES FOR THE QUARTERLY PRAYER DIARY

The Diocese of Truro has been offering people a prayer diary for more than 20 years and this quarter it is introduced by The Bishop of St Germans.

The prayer diary is produced four times a year to include parishes, clergy, schools and other services in the community.

People are invited to download it from the Diocese of Truro's [website](#).

It is used by many people including The Rt Revd David Williams, Bishop of Truro, the cathedral during morning communion services at 9am, and everywhere from the Isles of Scilly to Bude and beyond.

In the July-Sept 2026 prayer diary, Rt Revd James Treasure, writes in the introduction: "It is a joy to write this introduction to our prayer diary and to be part of a diocese that has prayer at its heart ..."

When Bishop David arrived in the diocese in May last year, he too wrote an introduction for one of the prayer diaries.

He wrote: "Ever since I knew I was to be Bishop of Truro, I have used this prayer diary and in my prayers and my imagination I have travelled through Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly ..."

"... I invite you to join me in using this prayer diary and be ready to share with each other the testimony of what God is doing"

Find the most recent prayer diary [here](#).

ANNUAL LICENSED LAY MINISTERS SERVICE

The Annual Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers) service will take place this year on Saturday, October 3.

Starting at 11.30am, the event will be held in Truro Cathedral with the Bishop of Truro, the Rt Revd David Williams presiding, and the new Bishop of St Germans, the Rt Revd James Treasure preaching. Bishop James has taken over as the Warden of Readers.

During the service, new Readers will be licensed and authorised. Do come along and support them.



COURSE BOOSTS CONFIDENCE IN PROVIDING YOUTH WORK

Clergy are taking young people's faith and church involvement seriously by attending a five-week course running in the diocese for the first time.

Launchpad is a project created by charity Youthscape to help give people the confidence to start youth work in their churches.

The Diocese of Truro is working with South West Youth Mission (SWYM) to bring this course to the east of Cornwall for the first time.

There are 10 clergy members from places including Fowey, Wadebridge, Roseland and Truro are taking part in sessions which run over two months. They will be learning about a variety of different topics including teenage brain development, adolescent faith formation and pastoral care for young people.

A celebration is planned for the end of the course in September where it is

GROWING YOUNGER

hoped more people will be inspired to sign up for the sessions next year.

Sarah Haig, Cornwall Area Coordinator and Growing Younger Advocate at SWYM, said: "It has been such a privilege to meet and work alongside clergy who have a desire to see youthwork start in their contexts, but haven't had the space and skills to start something.

"We've had some amazing conversations during our training sessions together, and it's been great to celebrate steps already being taken to see young people's profile being raised in churches across the diocese."

NEW STAFF OFFER MORE SUPPORT TO PARISHES

During July, the Church House team has welcomed two new members of staff.

Sharon Phyll has joined as the Finance Manager, replacing Anne Bone, and **Lauren Gill** has joined the Buildings, Environment and Land Team as Church Buildings Support Officer alongside Miranda Blrd. Lauren's role has been part funded by the national church.

Both bring a wealth of experience to their roles.

Kate Cortez will now hold the role of Acting Diocesan Secretary until June 2027.

Contact information for the Church House team is available on the diocesan website [here](#).



BISHOP JAMES VISITS PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS

Bishop James was invited into lessons and offered tips on animation when visiting a primary school in the diocese.

Lee Moscato, Diocese of Truro's Director of Education, and The Rt Revd James Treasure, Bishop of St Germans, visited Wendron Church of England School as they see it as an important part of their roles.

They met headteacher Tash Williams, spoke with teachers and visited classrooms where they were shown examples of pupils' work.

Bishop James said: "It was such a pleasure to visit Wendron School. The pupils were wonderfully engaged in their learning, the teachers were a true inspiration, and the headteacher demonstrated a deep commitment to seeing every pupil and staff member flourish - a joy to see.

"It is great to see our Church of England school thriving - a reminder of how much education is at the heart of our diocese, nurturing lives and growing younger."



Lee Moscato added: "For us, it's more than simply a visit to a school, it's an opportunity to spend time with young people and adults in order that we discover more about what it means to learn, love, laugh and live in the schools across the diocese."

This visit supports the Diocese of Truro's priority for Education, Flourishing Schools and Growing Younger.

Wendron School is part of Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust.

REVD CANON PAUL ARTHUR TELLS HIS STORY

Seeing people working together to help grow the church is something Revd Canon Paul Arthur is keen to build on.

As Strategic Rural Dean (SRD) for the St Austell deanery, Paul is encouraged by what he is seeing across churches.

He says: "I do think the clergy in the deanery are working really well together. There is a good spirit of cooperation - a real keenness to work together."

Born in Cornwall and raised Methodist, Paul came to the Church of England later in life after beginning to attend worship at St Mary's Church in Penzance.

He remembers: "It was an Anglo-Catholic church with lots of ceremonial incense and bells and a real focus on the Eucharist, and I suddenly thought 'I love this.'"

Now as an SRD he works to support those involved with deanery plans as

well as addressing any issues which may come up within the deanery.

He says: "I enjoy doing the SRD role and it gives me an opportunity to get to know the clergy better.

"I am really pleased how well the churches in the deanery are working together. I think the deanery plan has helped to bring that about."

Paul adds how he's begun to notice more people starting to attend church in his deanery - and return each week.

"I am fortunate the churches here are very welcoming and offer a friendly environment," he says. "People feel attracted to what they find. That is a real encouragement."

[READ THE FULL STORY HERE](#)

[SHARING FAITH](#)



LIGHTS MAKE CHURCH A BRIGHT EXAMPLE

An historic church in the diocese has become brighter, more atmospheric and better for the environment thanks to carbon-cutting lighting.

Ben Wood, Diocese of Truro's Cut Carbon Officer for Churches, is heralding St James the Great, St Kew, for its new LED lighting after seeing them for himself.

Installing the LEDs has been part of a large and lengthy project which needed scaffolding.

Matthew Pope, churchwarden At St Kew, said: "It was a major project.

"The LEDs work brilliantly well. Having these lights really matters. The older members of the congregation are able to read the service sheets better now. The lighting also illuminates the ceiling and really allowed us to appreciate it for the first time.

"It also means that we can now use the church space for other events, such as flower and art shows; that were not possible in the gloom before."

Mr Pope said the church's electricity consumption 'is now negligible'.

He added: "It has definitely had an impact - it has transformed the atmosphere of the church. It is fantastic and well worth doing."

As well as rewiring the church for the LEDs, sockets were also installed and wiring put in for pew heating to help keep congregations warm in the cooler months.

St Kew's upgrades to LED lighting is a great example of working with the Diocese of Truro's priority to promote Creation Care.

[FREE PARISH TRAINING
CLICK HERE](#)



STAND FOR GENERAL SYNOD

General Synod is looking to elect new clergy and lay members this year - and you're invited to stand.

General Synod is the national assembly of the Church of England. It shapes and approves laws which affect the whole of the Church of England. It agrees new forms of worship, debates matters of national and international importance, and approves the annual budget for the Church at national level.

In Autumn 2026, new General Synod members will be elected to serve for five years. Almost anyone who attends church regularly could be eligible to stand as a lay member.

We're looking for candidates who represent a whole range of people and churches in the Church of England. We particularly welcome candidates whose background may currently be underrepresented.

There's a supportive induction programme to help new members.

Why stand?

- Chance to represent the concerns of your community and diocese at a national level.
- Have a say in national legislation affecting the Church of England.

- Raise issues and contribute to debates.
- Can be rewarding.
- Meet other Anglicans from across the globe.

Stand for General Synod.

1. Check you're eligible using the **eligibility checker** on the Church of England website.
2. Get two nominations. Invitations to nominate will be sent to the electorate (Deanery Synod Lay reps and clergy) via email. The nomination form will be available on our website from 14 August 2026.

If you're standing as a lay member, you'll need two people who are members of a Deanery Synod to nominate you. If you're clergy, you'll need two other clergy to nominate you. Your diocese will have a nominations form to fill out and will need to be signed by those nominating you. Nominations open on 14 August and close on 7 September.

3. Write an election statement to be submitted with your nomination.
4. Book the hustings into your diary. You'll be asked to prepare a short statement and asked a few questions by the electorate.

- 15 September 2026 (6.30pm on Zoom)
- Hustings for clergy candidates

- 16 September 2026 (6.30pm on Zoom)
- Hustings for lay candidates

What then?:

5. Voting: The lay Deanery Synod members in your diocese vote for lay candidates, and the clergy in your diocese vote for clergy candidates. The voting period is 21 September to 13 October.

6. Results: If elected, you would come to General Synod for the first time at its meeting in London this November.

For more information contact:
kate.cortez@trurodiocese.org.uk

Encouraging links
between churches &
their local schools

SCHOOL CREATION CARE WORKSHOPS

Are you passionate about Creation Care?
Would you like to forge links with your local school?
Would you like to work with children in your church?

The Creation Care Resources are a set of resources designed for churches that wish to engage with their local schools. Many churches and churchyards provide an amazing resource for young people to experience the wonder of nature and learn about the world around them.

Download the free pack from our website **Creation Care Workshops**
trurodiocese.org.uk/resources/education/creation-care-for-schools/creation-care-workshops/

All you need to organise and run **Creation Care Workshops for Schools in your church**

MORE INFO OR HELP - CALL 01872 301388 EMAIL CLARE.GREEN@TRURO.ANGLICAN.ORG



CHILDREN CELEBRATED FOR ECO EFFORTS

Young people from across the diocese have been celebrated for all their eco efforts this academic year.

Certificates were handed out to the pupils who took part in eco committees as Creation Care Champions.

Children who had taken part in activities to Speak Up about the environment to MPs and others in power were also given a Speak Up Saviours certificate.

During a special online assembly, The Rt Revd James Treasure, Bishop of St Germans, thanked the children for all they had done.

He said: "You should all be so proud of yourselves.

"Being Creation Care Champions is so important and you have all done an amazing job."

CREATION CARE NETWORK USEFUL LINKS

The next Creation Care Network gathering is on September 10 at 10am.

All are via the Zoom **link**.

- + CREATION CARE WEB PAGE
- + REGISTER FOR THE KERNOW GREEN CHURCH AWARD

- + BECOME A CREATION CARE CHAMPION
- + SIGN UP TO RECEIVE CREATION CARE UPDATES
- + CREATION CARE FACEBOOK GROUP

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PODCASTS

NEW PODCAST

The latest podcast is out. Rebecca Evans, AMD Lead, talks to Revd Dr Paul Nash, former Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care Lead at Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital, about his work supporting dying children and their families.