

**Churches Together  
in Truro**

**Annual Report**

**February 2022**

It's been a while since Churches Together in Truro (CTT) had an Annual General Meeting, but as we hold our AGM today it seems fitting to reflect, not just on the past twelve months, but on the entire COVID-19 period that we've been navigating since the first national lockdown in March 2020.

Looking back, my overriding sense is one gratitude: gratitude to God for how he's kept us, led us, and continued to work even when we've had to put so many of our own plans on hold. It's good to be reminded that we have a God who never slumbers, and whose plans cannot be thwarted, not even by a global pandemic.

In Churches Together in Truro, we've always believed in the importance of gathering Christians from across the area to pray together for our city. We're thankful that modern technology made it possible for us to continue to connect with one another when we couldn't get together in person. Matt Noble (City Life Church) co-ordinated regular online connection points, and we were able to facilitate an evening prayer gathering for all our churches on Zoom. A prayer working party consisting of members from five different churches in Truro (a wonderful sign of our unity in Christ!) was formed to co-ordinate a month of prayer in September of this year. For me, one of the highlights of my time in CTT was the prayer evening hosted by All Saints Highertown to launch that month.

The work of Christians Against Poverty (CAP) continues to go from strength to strength. The Churches Together Executive Committee welcomed Natalie Gavan from St Kea Church who told us of her plans to appoint an additional (part-time) debt coach who is also an evangelist to participate in this growing work. CTT agreed to give £3,000 over two years to help fund this person's salary, and we're delighted that that appointment has now been made.

CTT has been a supporter of Street Pastors and is grateful to John Creber (Truro Methodist) for running this initiative so superbly. The governance side of the work has needed some attention, but after much discussion and prayer, we're pleased that two new trustees have been appointed. This came at the same time as three new people also joined the team that goes out onto the streets.

We're aware that some people in our community found the past couple of years especially challenging, perhaps none more so than members of the farming community. We've been grateful for regular updates from Chris Batt (canon at the Cathedral) about his work with the Agricultural Chaplaincy. Some of the stories he's shared have been heart-rending, and we've been pleased to be able to stand with and pray for him in this vital work. We're pleased, too, that Chris Parsons (Kenwyn and St Allen) has been appointed Chaplain to the Army Reserves.

As we've experienced significant shifts in our churches, Churches Together in Truro provides us with a means by which we can share with one another what's happening, and benefit from the giving and receiving of prayerful and practical support. We've been excited to hear of developments with both the Lifehouse Project and the Transforming Mission initiative at All Saints Highertown and plans for Truro Methodist to develop their facility to be better able to serve the wider community. But perhaps the most striking demonstration of our unity as a group of churches has been the opening of the Moresk Community Centre. This facility, managed by Cat Rose (St Kea) and overseen by a group made up of people from several of our churches, is a fantastic resource for the kingdom. Speaking personally, we've certainly found it a great help to us in Grace Church as we've used the venue for our Alpha outreach, as well as prayer and new members' evenings. Our thanks go to Alan Stanhope from St Kea who has worked especially hard with Churches Together over a number of years to get this initiative off the ground.

The AGM is a chance to look back, but also forward, as we remind ourselves of why we're here. Churches Together in Truro doesn't exist for its own sake but for the sake of God's kingdom. We want the king of that kingdom, Jesus, to be made known right across Truro and the surrounding area. That's why we're committed to our four aims of outreach, prayer, service and building community with one another. We can do so much more together than we can apart. Together, we commit ourselves to God and look to him for his continued care, provision and guidance.

Andrew Sampson (Grace Church),

CTT Chair, 15 February 2022

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