

MARCH 2012



**CTE Presidents
statement re
Olympic and
Paralympic
Games**

2012 is a year of celebrations in England. The Olympic Torch Relay, the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty The Queen, the XXX Olympiad and the Paralympics will provide opportunities over the four-month period of May to September for people to gather and celebrate together in ways that will both enhance and deepen community life.

As the Presidents of Churches Together in England, on behalf of all its members, we rejoice that so many of England's churches are committed to being at the heart of these celebrations and are already preparing practical ways to build and support communities in their localities. In the build up to the Olympics and Paralympics, the work we are doing through our own denominational staff, and through the work of *More Than Gold (UK)* is unprecedented.

More Christian communities from different traditions than ever before are coming together to plan practical ways of serving the project of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, which can bring many and diverse benefits.

The end of the Week of Prayer for unity amongst Christians (18-25 January) marked six months until the 2012 Games officially begin. At this significant moment we reaffirm our commitment made ten years ago in the presence of Her Majesty The Queen, to work towards the visible unity of all Christians in the one faith, expressed in common discipleship, worship, witness and service.

Signed by The Presidents of Churches Together in England

In the picture from Left to right:

The Revd Michael Heaney, Moderator, the Free Churches Group
<http://www.morethangold.org.uk/>

The Most Revd and Rt Hon Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury

The Rt Revd Jana Jeruma-Grindberga, Bishop, Lutheran Church in Great Britain.

The Most Revd Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster

Chairman- Bishop Tim Thornton
Vice Chairman - Revd Steve Wild
CTC Missioner - David H Smith
Treasurer - Mike Cullen
Charity No 1053899

www.churchestogetherincornwall.org.uk

ROYAL CORNWALL SHOW 7,8,9 JUNE 2012

The displays in the Churches Together tent this year will be focussed on the Churches' Olympian efforts to connect with the 21st century and reach their respective communities with the Gospel and the love of Christ. (Messy church, Street Pastors, Street Angels, Holiday at Home schemes, community meals, Kids Clubs, Bears and Prayers - all that sort of thing and a whole lot more). **Please** could churches email pictures and very brief write-ups to shelley.porter@truroanglican.org.uk. These will be assembled and mounted in large 'Olympic Rings' for display in the tent.

THE DAY THE TORCH COMES TO CORNWALL

The main thrust of activity on May 19th for smaller local congregations will be the great Cream Tea Challenge.

(This can of course be a part of bigger events too). A special challenge has been given to Cornwall that on that day we should serve more cream teas than have ever been served before in one day and that this accomplishment should be recorded in the Guinness Book of records. These cream teas should be used for outreach not 'fund raising'. Give a Gospel or other Christian material with each tea. Show people God's love and concern and care. Excellent Olympic booklets are available from *More than Gold* and these will be ordered in bulk and distributed from Diocesan House if there is demand. Rodda's have kindly offered to provide cream for the churches at a very reduced price.



Sunday 20th May - it is planned to hold an ecumenically backed day of prayer across the Duchy, with special services and prayer for a revival of faith in Cornwall. Symbolic Olympic candles will be distributed to all participating churches to be lit during Sunday worship while prayer is offered for a revival of the Christian faith in this county. Some congregations may devote themselves to a week of 24/7 prayer, leading up to the ecumenical celebration at Gwennap Pit on the following Sunday when the preacher will be Revd. Leo Osborne, the President of the Methodist Church.

These events will only be an effective witness to the flame of the Gospel if churches and Churches Together Groups 'get on board' and working together visibly across Cornwall. We need every church group to register so that we can order the Olympic Booklets, the candles and the special rate cream in appropriate bulk and arrange for distribution. We need to co-ordinate our efforts, working together in our communities. To register your church to receive resources, or for more detailed information please contact doreen.sd@btinternet.com or Methodist District Office districtoffice@btconnect.com. If you are a church leader and too busy to take on anything else, find someone else in the church to take responsibility for this. We want to see the light of Christ shine out across this county again!

Press release from the Bishop of St Germans Group

The Bishop of Truro, the Rt Rev'd Tim Thornton, has asked Lady Mary Holborow to Chair a group to advise him in a decision to seek a Suffragan Bishop, following the retirement of the Rt Rev'd Roy Screech, Bishop of St Germans.

This group met for the first time in December 2011 and are minded, after careful thought and consideration, to advise Bishop Tim that they believe that a Suffragan Bishop is needed in the Diocese.

Such an appointment will have in mind that the Diocesan Bishop provides a focus for unity and leadership and has an episcopal role in the sacraments, installations and confirmations, together with being seen in the Parishes.

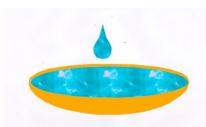
It is also recognised that a wider community and national role is necessary and for these reasons we believe our Diocesan Bishop requires episcopal support but the Suffragan Bishop should also have a distinct role or portfolio of their own.

The group invites and encourages any person who has a view of how a Suffragan Bishop in the Diocese may be asked to minister among us, to make this known to help their deliberations.

Any representation can be forwarded to the group under Lady Mary, through the Chaplain to the Bishop of Truro at Lis Escop.

The group intend to have a final report ready in the Spring of 2012 and would ask for views by the end of February 2012.'

Thousands of beacons will be lit around the world on the 4th June 2012 to commemorate Her Majesty The Queen's 60 year reign over the UK and as head of the Commonwealth. You will be able to find out more about the events happening near you, and also how to register your own event for free. Click http://www.diamondjubileebeacons.co.uk/Diamond_Jubilee_Beacons/HOME.html



Join together with other churches across Cornwall and raise the profile of your church

Kingdom Vision (www.kingdomvision.co.uk) is a website for Christians across Cornwall and beyond. We publish information about forthcoming events, initiatives like Street Pastors and other Christian organisations, prophecies, testimonies, articles sharing the wonder of God and lots more.

We are currently developing an online directory of churches in Cornwall. We're gathering profiles of churches across the county, from all the Christian denominations, so that people can see key information at a glance about churches local to them and form an impression of what each church is like. We all meet with Jesus in different ways and from different backgrounds and traditions. We hope that the directory will be a powerful resource for those looking to meet with him and that it will help to bring churches together in unity - because it is easier to love something when you know more about it.

From the pilot phase of the project we already have a number of entries from churches across the county from Penzance to Bude – you can see the entries so far at <http://www.kingdomvision.co.uk/churches-in-cornwall>. Church profiles in the directory are searchable by location and listed alphabetically by name.

Please consider completing an entry in the directory for your church. Visit <http://www.kingdomvision.co.uk/churches-in-cornwall> to complete your church profile online or to download a copy of the church profile form. Alternatively, email events@kingdomvision.co.uk and we can send you a copy of the form to return by post. If you are responsible for more than one church, you can choose whether to complete one form for all of your churches or a separate form for each church if they are all quite different in character. We really hope that you will take this opportunity to join with churches from all denominations in providing a new resource for Christians across Cornwall.

Blessings in Christ - Tracey Dockree, Editor Lizzie Pridmore, Events & Church Directory Editor



TWO REQUESTS FROM OUR 'CORNWALL SHOW' CHURCHES TOGETHER TENT COMMITTEE

1. The displays in the tent this year will be focused on the Churches' Olympian efforts to connect with the twenty first century and reach their respective communities with the Gospel and the love of Christ. (Messy church, Street Pastors, Street Angels, Holiday at Home schemes, community meals, Kids Clubs, Bears and Prayers - all that sort of thing and a whole lot more).

Please could churches email pictures and very brief write-ups to shelley.porter@truroanglican.org.uk. These will be assembled and mounted in large 'Olympic Rings' for display in the tent.

2. Our faithful and long standing Catering Manager, may have to stand down at the end of this year's show. Is there 'anyone out there' who would be willing to come and 'understudy' this year with a view to possibly taking responsibility for the refreshments next year? We serve tea, coffee, soft drinks and biscuits - nothing too challenging - but the tent can be quite busy at times and it is three days of hard work - but a great opportunity to show God's love in Action and 'gossip the Gospel' too.

We pray that we will glorify the Father
We pray for the grace and strength to finish the work.
We pray for divine protection of our unity
We pray for the grace to permeate society with lives of Christian integrity.
We pray for the grace to live, share and embody God's truth wherever he sends us.
We pray for the planting of churches which demonstrate the love of God.
We pray that we will share his love of lost men and women so much, that we will sacrifice ourselves to have them in his presence with us.

May the prayer of Jesus shape our prayer, and our lives in his service. Amen



HEALING ON THE STREETS IN TRURO (or HOTS) (part of Churches Together in Truro)

People who come are very friendly and receptive each week. Lots of leaflets are handed out along with lots of good conversations, some pastoral and some theological, but the main opportunity comes naturally to those who come forward because they wish to be prayed for.

Now established in cities and towns, cities like Truro, Bristol Bath and Plymouth, Christians trained in praying for those with medical or other problems can be seen weekly offering healing through prayer. Further info from the following website

www.cornwallhealingonthestreets.co.uk/



Oddments Theatre Company

Oddment is a full-time Christian Theatre Company, whose aim is to produce quality drama, which is both entertaining to watch and thought-provoking. Their wide repertoire of both original material and sketches from well-known Christian writers covers a number of issues that are suitable for both outreaches and believers.

Booking Oddments

Oddments welcome the opportunity to perform at your church, event or outreach mainly around the South of England. Thanks to 'Friends of Oddments' we are able to subsidise a large part of this work, enabling you to have an affordable mission and for us to continue our work serving the body of Christ.

Look up - Performance by Donations - on the website and view a clip of their work on:-

www.oddments-theatre.co.uk

I would be grateful to receive any information about what your Churches Together Group is up to regarding activities, programme and services. Do please send to:- David H Smith – CTC Missioner
Chyreene Warra, Rosehill, Marazion, TR17 0HB.
or send to: ses.dhs@hotmail.co.uk

Your joint activities, services and programmes can then be uploaded onto the Churches Together in Cornwall website :-

www.churchestogetherincornwall.org.uk

Falmouth and Penryn Churches Together

Attached is a little follow up report of just three of the outreach opportunities that we had over the Christmas period.

For the December churches together Prayer Tent we decided to give away mince pies with a serviette which gave the reason for mince pies at Christmas leading to the real meaning of Christmas hoping to get people to think again about Christ. I heard one person say to her friend. **“Don't take a mince pie because they will only want to pray with you”.**



Oh well, we try not just to pray with folks, but to tell and show them Jesus.

(The person took the mince pie).

We had a very good day on the town square using the **Get In The Picture** outreach idea on Saturday December 10th. Jane MacLennan from All Saints and Neil Smith from my team helped. We had about twenty different groups of people stand and have their picture taken dressed in Bethlehem clothing.



We then get their address and send them the photo with a booklet on the real meaning of Christmas. This is a lovely gentle way of witnessing at this time of year.



Over the Christmas period we managed to get together a Choir from the churches in the town forming a Fellowship Choir.



With the help of Drew Plummer (From EBC) as our music director we managed to have three practices and the choir sang one Sunday afternoon at a more mature people's service plus having two opportunities to sing on the town square and at the Falmouth Christmas Festival.

The worship using Christmas Carols was very good with many people stopping, clapping and no-doubt being touched by the Holy Spirit.

I want to thank all who prayed and volunteered to help and support, only heaven will show up the results.

Phil Misslebrook.