

OCTOBER 2014



The Giving Shop moves

The Churches Together in Penzance Area Giving Shop has relocated into a larger unit which will offer many future opportunities. Over 1500 people have visited the shop within the last two months.

The craft workshops remain as does the tremendous take up of the Silver Surfer computer courses almost completely full up to Christmas.

The real "giving" continues within a community which is suffering from difficult national political decisions which impact on the lives of so many. The Breakfast Project coped with 85 meals last week, the Food Bank numbers do not decline and the support and kindness from the volunteers in the shop is so beneficial to those who are lonely and need to share concerns.

Churches Together groups throughout the county are making their presence felt in support of their communities - Christians working together in mission

Chairman - Bishop Tim Thornton
Vice Chairman - Reverend Steve Wild
CTC Missioner - David H Smith
Treasurer - Mike Cullen
Charity No 1053899
www.churchestogetherincornwall

One Year On



Plans are now all in place for the first follow up gathering one year on from the signing of "The Declaration of Intent."

This will take the form of a "follow up and reporting back" session plus workshops and Ecumenical Service all being held one year on from the November 2013 Ecumenical Declaration of Intent. We invite all those Christians throughout Cornwall to come, participate and attend and to hear from their church leaders the progress that has been made.

It is to be held at St John's Methodist Church, Bodmin Road, St Austell PL25 5AE on Sunday 16th November 2014 starting at 3pm although an exhibition of Churches Together work will be on display from 2.30pm.

At 6pm (after tea together) a closing act of ecumenical worship with the URC Moderator Rev Ruth Whitehead giving the "thought for the day." All are invited to join us from workshops onwards.

To come along please book your place on the link below:

<https://v1.bookwhen.com/8a7eg/201411161430/tyg>

or contact David Smith on 01736 719432 or 07979 856 456 or email ses.dhs@hotmail.co.uk

Women's World Day of Prayer

The next Women's World Day of Prayer is Friday 6th March 2015 and there will be scores of services throughout Cornwall (just a few of the 5,600+ in the UK) on that day, all using an order of service prepared by the Christian women of The Bahamas.

During the autumn, Preparation Days will be held throughout the country for all those who are planning to organise services on 6th March; members of the National Committee speak at these.

The nearest ones for people in Cornwall are: -

Saturday 4th October @ Helston Methodist Church 10 am - 3 pm Organiser: Margaret Flinders 01326 574373 e-mail - nblowena@hotmail.co.uk

Friday 14th November @ Sherwell United Church, North Hill, Plymouth 10 am - 12.30 pm Organiser: Sarah Day 01752 342519 e-mail - sarahspenceday@hotmail.co.uk

Further information about WWDP is available from the national office 01892 541411 e-mail - office@wwdp.org.uk or our website www.wwdp.org.uk

Blessings
Elizabeth Burroughs
(Methodist rep on the National Committee and Cornish Methodist)

Dear Churches Together

You may already be aware of the Billy Graham initiative to see a revival in the UK. The project is called "My Hope UK" and in November a DVD will be released. The idea is to empower Churches of all denominations to move within their communities to bring new members into their Church. The idea is NOT to create a new Church.

I attach a pdf of a simple publicity leaflet and a hyperlink to the Billy Graham Website which will give you more information.

<http://myhopewithbillygraham.org.uk>

I do trust that you will circulate this information to the Churches in your group as many denominations have already come on board with this project and I would ask you to take this opportunity to consider this outreach.

As the South West coordinator for the project please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have to enable us to get Churches in Cornwall signed up. I will be happy to meet with any Church groups at mutually convenient times to discuss further.

Blessings
Bruce
01884 860611

Bruce Govett
My Hope Co-ordinator
Billy Graham Evangelistic Association UK
TEL: 020 8559 0342 ext 219
www.myhopewithbillygraham.org.uk - Always Good News

As we are one in Christ, and can never be at war...

While 4 August was the centenary of the outbreak of WW1, it is less known that it was also a significant centenary in the history of peace.

On 4 August 1914, on the platform of Cologne station, Henry Hodgkin, a British Quaker and Friedrich Sigmund-Schulze, a German Lutheran pastor, made a solemn farewell handshake declaring "*We are one in Christ and can never be at war...*"

Hodgkin and Schulze had been participants in a Christian pacifist conference held at Konstanz, on the German-Swiss border as part of the commemorations of the 5th centenary of the Council of Constance.

By 3 August it was clear that anyone who wanted to get home without difficulty should leave immediately so the conference was terminated prematurely without establishing the 'Movement Towards a Christian International' it had been discussing.

Nevertheless, Hodgkin set up a 'Fellowship of Reconciliation' in the UK – now international and celebrating its centenary this year.

(Article from **The Friend** 1 August 2014)



For more information about those who opposed 'the war to end all wars' take a look at <http://whitefeatherdiaries.org/great-bliss> and follow the stories of Bert, John, Hilda, Howard and Laurence.

Worship and background material for the



Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2015

Jointly prepared and published by the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity and the Commission on Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2015 is rooted in the experience of the churches in Brazil.

Jesus said to her: "Give me to drink"

(John 4:7)

Page link: [Annual brochure \(pdf\) jointly prepared and published by the Pontifical Council for Christian Unity and the Commission on Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches.](#)

The biblical gesture of offering water to whomever arrives, as a way of welcoming and sharing, is something that is repeated in all regions of Brazil.

The proposed study and meditation on the story of Jesus meeting a Samaritan woman at the well is to help people and communities to realize the dialogical dimension of the project of Jesus, which we call the Kingdom of God.

Please note: This is the international version of the text.

The resources for Britain and Ireland will soon become available as free downloads from [Churches Together in Britain and Ireland.](#)

RCs and C of E still 'Better Together'

How heartening it has been to see the Archbishops of Canterbury and Westminster engaged in so many joint initiatives in recent days - and in practical activities to promote social justice and the common good. The partnership speaks to a constantly deepening friendship between the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church, the warmth of which was vividly symbolised by the Queen's recent visit to Pope Francis.

The two Archbishops gave a joint interview on Radio 4's Sunday programme at the weekend. It was 'not a stunt', the Archbishop of Canterbury said, but part of an increasing recognition that God has called the two Churches together to co-operate to work for the poor. It was, the Archbishop of Westminster said, a mutual conviction that it is only when faith is put into action on behalf of the poor that it achieves its true 'edge of credibility'.

The scope for co-operation is significant, the two men said, on everything from foodbanks and night shelters to the huge numbers of children whom the two Churches educate. On the Anglican side is a Parliamentary inquiry into why more people are relying on foodbanks, and the launch of a classroom 'War on Wonga' to warn children of the costly trap of payday lending. On the Roman Catholic side, this week an international conference was held in Rome, chaired by Cardinal Nichols, to take forward the interfaith drive to eradicate slavery and human trafficking: it was signed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Pope, and the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar University in Cairo.

Again, this was not a pious aspiration, but a combined intent to lobby 50 big multinational businesses to commit themselves to eradicating slavery from their supply chains. The meeting in Rome - of Churches, activists, victims, and police - had clear practical aims: to develop strong cross-border collaboration, to tighten laws across Europe, and to allow victims of trafficking to remain in countries such as the UK longer than the 45 days that they are currently permitted to stay after police have freed them from the thrall of their slavemasters.

The depth of the mutuality between the two largest denominations in Britain goes well beyond the two Archbishops. Churches Together partnerships all across the land testify to that. So did the twinkle between Queen and Pope, which symbolised friendship as well as common purpose. They did not meet at the Apostolic Palace, and so the Queen was able to eschew black. 'I wore this because it's Lent,' she said to Pope Francis, gesturing to her lilac outfit. 'And I wore white to match your gloves,' he replied.

The gathering of 16 leading Anglican and Roman Catholic theologians known as the Malines Conversations Group met for five days last week in Canterbury to continue informal dialogue between the two Churches. They were received at Lambeth Palace by Archbishops Welby and Nichols, who said that the group's work on memory, identity and difference constituted a 'laboratory', or effective 'pilgrimage', in the improvement of ecumenical relations.

Perhaps it is significant that Cardinal Nichols was formed as a priest in Liverpool under the mentorship of Archbishop Derek Worlock, the Roman Catholic episcopal partner to David Sheppard when he was Bishop of Liverpool. Archbishop Welby was Dean of Liverpool before he was consecrated to Durham and translated to Canterbury.

The Sheppard-Worlock motto was 'Better Together'. All these decades on, it is still an effective axiom in giving edge to the gospel across not just a city, but an entire nation.

[Paul Vallely's biography, Pope Francis: Untying the knots, is published by Bloomsbury]
Church Times 2014