

# ANNUAL REPORT



# CHURCHES TOGETHER IN PENZANCE AREA

**It has been another busy and diverse year for Churches Together in Penzance Area. The circle of events started with our annual carol singing around Penzance and in a couple of pubs to share the light of the Gospel during the darkest time of the year.** This year around 35 people from different traditions join in singing about the birth of Jesus. Another well supported event was the Good Friday Walk of Witness which again was a good ecumenical event and Major Vincent lead our reflection supported by the Salvation Army band and I would like to thank Major Vincent and for the support of the Corps in general.

I have enjoyed sharing worship and table fellowship during Lent Lunches, with Christians from traditions other than my own during the year.

The Forum meeting have been well attended

and other denominations have joined. We have had interesting and stimulating talks from Mayor Cliffe, Revs Karen and Murray Golder from the Breathe Community, Christians Against Poverty and Redeeming our Community.

My overall impression from the year has been the overwhelming generosity of people in both time and financially which is so important to the running of CTiPA. Fund raising continues with Mousehole Choir raising money for the Breakfast Project which also received a gift from Penzance Town Council.

Councillor Olivier gave us a grant to help improve where we store food for the Food Bank. During the year in addition to anonymous gifts and the support from regular donors we have received a generous grant from Transformation Cornwall and I would like to acknowledge the help

given by Paul Green and Rev Andrews Yates.

The significant role of CTiPA within our community has been recognised in the events I have been asked to contribute to. I attended a meeting with other agencies involved in planning the Redeeming Our Community event; a Citizens Panel which is aimed at addressing some of the issues faced by Penzance and was asked to assist research undertaken by the Theos Think Tank on social inclusion.

I would also like to thank the hard work of the CTiPA Executive committee in all they do 'behind the scenes.' Without those prepared to act as Trustees our Projects could not run.

**Roger Rule**  
Chair



The annual Christmas Carol Singing finished in a local pub as usual.



Prayers before the Good Friday Walk of Witness



Fellowship over a Lent Lunch.



Thanks to all who made the Lent Lunches possible.

## Churches Together in The Penzance Area. Assemblies at Humphry Davy School 2018 – 2019

1. In the past eight academic years (2011-2019) during which I have been the Coordinator of Visitor Assemblies at Humphry Davy School, we have delivered 193 weeks of assemblies (= 772 actual assemblies).
2. The numbers at the school have increased this year.
3. In the past school year we have delivered 28 weeks of assemblies. The brunt of the speaking has been borne by five persons
4. It seems clear that the school appreciates our efforts. There have been occasional last-minute cancellations, but these have usually been on the school's side because of unforeseen changes or necessities.
5. The GSUSLIVE trailer to the school for the third time from 28th Jan to 1st Feb 2019 (earlier visits were in 2012 and 2016). The weather during the week was awful; but we had 518 student visits during the week (378 class visits and 140 personal visits).
6. I will be 80 in July 2022. I am therefore giving advance notice that I will retire from this post of Coordinator in the school year 2020-2021.

Many thanks for your support and prayers.

**Howard Peskett**

## CTiPA Street Pastors Project

Each Saturday night a team of four Street Pastors make their way around the town looking for anyone who might require assistance and engaging in conversation with those who may wish to talk and need someone to listen. We carry bottles of water for those in need, flip flops for those women who can no longer cope with their high heeled shoes and space blankets for those who may be cold.

A team of Prayer Pastors remain at the base to pray for the team out on the street and await calls letting them know what is happening so that they can add prayer to actions of the Street Pastors. The following are some examples ...

*'Met D at the Bus Station he had just arrived, he was hoping to start a job on Monday. We gave him a space blanket as he intended to sleep at the Bus Station.'*

*'Met C sitting in a shop doorway he was quite drunk but quite amiable, we chatted. Gave him a bottle of water, suggested he might be warmer if he wore his coat.'*

At the moment we are able to get a team out every Saturday night meeting at 10.00 pm. On the streets by 10.45 pm until about 3.00 am. We would welcome new recruits and funding contributions.

**Cecil Brown**  
Project Chair

## Report From CTiPA Food Bank For Annual Meeting 2019

The CTiPA Food Bank is now entering the 8th year of its existence and has seen a gradual increase in the number of clients attending with vouchers, particularly in recent months. A large percentage have been affected by changes in the benefit system which usually result in delays in payments of around 6 weeks. A considerable number of clients are young men under the age of 25 years whose entitlements to benefits are low. On average we are providing up to 50 people each week with a week's supply of food. Our finances remain good which enables us to purchase extra required items every week which has become more necessary recently.

Contributions of food and other items remain good although it remains difficult to stop the flow of those items of which we have a large stock, in spite of regularly advertising. Storage has become much easier since the garage of which we now have part use has been insulated by a company working for our landlords Livewest, resulting in drier conditions for storage. A volunteer now oversees storage in that area each week.

We are indebted to all volunteers in the various roles - collecting from stores, checking and storage, serving clients, holding the emergency phone and those in outlying areas who deliver to those clients without transport

**Chris Gendall**  
Project Chair

## The Breakfast Project

The Breakfast Project has worked very closely with St Petroc's during the winter in supporting the Night Shelter which was the first time we have had such a facility in Penzance. The Shelter opened from early November until the end of February to give a safe warm place for 9 people to sleep and was full most night during that period. The Breakfast Project provided a hot meal for those attending the shelter in addition to those who regularly attend. Therefore we have served more meals and have seen an increase in the number of people being supported since the Night Shelter closed. This year we will have served close to 5,000 breakfasts.

This could only take place because of the hard work and dedication of Ivor and the volunteers to whom I would like to express my thanks.

**Roger Rule**  
Project Chair

## Dates for your diary

**Executive Committee**  
11/2/20  
16/6/20  
8/9/20

**Forum**  
25/2/20  
30/6/20

**AGM with Forum**  
29/9/20