Protecting the Vulnerable in our Communities Show You Care

Truro Cathedra

Sunday 29th - Monday 30th May 2011

May 29th 8pm to May 30th 7am Join the night sleep out

May 30th 10am to 1pm Exhibition of organisations

May 30th 1pm Act of worship in the Cathedral

Churches Homeless Network





For more information contact Andrew Yates, e-mail <u>andrew.yates@truro.anglican.org</u> or contact Diocesan House, Truro 01872 274351

Churches Homeless Network Events at Truro Cathedral May 29th – 30th Protect the vulnerable people in our communities

Sleeping outside Truro Cathedral May 29th & 30th

- Join us anytime after 8pm on May 29th
- Please leave by 7.30am on May 30th
- Stay all night or come for an hour or so
- Bring sleeping bag / blankets / warm clothes
- Hot drinks will be available until midnight and from 6am
- Please DO NOT bring alcohol
- Marshalls and First Aiders will be in attendance

Exhibition at High Cross May 30th 10.00 am - 1.00 pm

We want to show-case to the passing public the excellent work that is done across Cornwall by a wide cross-section of organisations working with the most vulnerable people within our communities. If you would like the opportunity to bring along a display about the work you do with or for vulnerable people you would be most welcome. There are a small number of free tables –available on a first come-first served basis! Please register your interest in taking part with Rosey Sanders at rosey.sanders@truro.anglican.org If it rains we will be allowed to put our display in the entrance to the Cathedral.

Act of Worship, Truro Cathedral May 30th 1.00 pm

A SHORT Act of Worship will be held in the Cathedral at 1pm with special prayers for the Vulnerable and Homeless and a thanksgiving for the work that is done to support them.

In more detail.... The Churches Homeless Network Group will be focusing attention on the issue of the Vulnerable and Homelessness in Cornwall over the weekend of the Spring Bank Holiday, on Sunday and Monday, 29 / 30th. May. Activities will be centered on High Cross and Truro Cathedral.

There will be a Sleepout in front of the Cathedral on the night of Sunday / Monday, between 8.00 p.m. and 7.00 a.m.; a range of activities between 10.00 a.m. and 1pm on Monday to inform people about homelessness in Cornwall and services for vulnerable and homeless people, many of which are facing significant cuts this year; and an Ecumenical Service in the Cathedral at 1pm to pray for everyone involved.

All of this comes at a time when the figures for Rough Sleepers collected across the country have focused particular attention on Cornwall, which has been identified as the area with the worst rough sleeping problem outside London.

Homelessness affects the whole community, not just vulnerable people, their landlords and the services that help them: it is obvious, but not always acknowledged, that the cost of homelessness in terms of pressure on the Police, Health, Adult Social Care and other public services, is enormous. The cost to people and businesses in terms of rising crime and anti-social behaviour, is also very significant.

It has been put in financial terms by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government: Eric Pickles stated last December and has repeated on many occasions since, that "£1 spent on Supporting People [services that help people to maintain tenancies] will probably save them £5 or £6 further down the line"

So, if you are interested in protecting the vulnerable in our communities, please support the Churches Homeless Network's activities on the Spring Bank Holiday weekend; and in the meantime, please contact your local Councillor and ask him or her to put pressure on the Council to restore some of the services that it has cut this year, when it considers its budget for next year. Thank you.

Further Information: Andrew Yates, Social Responsibility Officer, andrew.yates@truro.anglican.org or Rosey Sanders, Administrative Assistant, rosey.sanders@truro.anglican.org