



Bodmin Way

Progress Report

January 2025

From the Chair of Directors

Bodmin Way has grown substantially since our last annual general meeting. This report outlines some of its new activities and presents some exciting aspirations for the future. We are blessed to have Revd Simon now taking the lead. His experienced leadership has strengthened the enterprise as its work has grown and the staff complement increased. Above all, we have moved to a deeper plane, with our capacity to support the most vulnerable now well beyond what we might have expected. Our volunteers and staff have seen lives changed for the better. Doing this is not without risk, but we are seeking to manage this. Bodmin Way directors are grateful for the solid support of PCCs and remain committed to the team's shared vision for God's grace and compassion to overflow to all.

Revd Paul Holley

Stories

Community Health and Wellbeing Workers

Community Health and Wellbeing Workers (CHWWs) are a new part of the healthcare system in Cornwall. The programme is inspired by the Brazilian Family Health Strategy which has developed an army of 275,000 CHWWs since 1994. Here in Cornwall, Bodmin Way is one of 10 community organisations that have been commissioned by Volunteer Cornwall and the NHS to deliver CHWWs to a targeted area. Our four CHWWs joined us last summer and work across Treningle View, The Kinsman Estate, St Mary's Crescent, St Mary's Close and Monument Way. Another four CHWWs work with KBSK across the Berryfields area. Following extensive training, our team of CHWWs are busy engaging in their neighbourhoods providing tailored resources and support.

Bodmin Way Values

During the autumn of 2024 the staff team and directors of Bodmin Way and the Church Wardens of the Bodmin Team engaged with a process to discern the values that drive our organisation. There was a remarkable alignment of values between our different groups of stakeholders and we have identified these values: community, compassion, enterprise, heritage and inclusion. We will be building further on this work to look more closely at our vision and mission as an organisation.

Our Staff Team

2024 saw a significant expansion of the Bodmin Way Team.

We welcomed:



Amy Clemow
Pioneer Ministry
Assistant,
Community Health and
Wellbeing Worker



Beth Wooley
Community Health and
Wellbeing Worker
Cook-up assistant



Caroline Bailey
Schools Worker



Debra Bristow
Community Health
and Wellbeing Worker



Gila Freudenthal
Communications and
Marketing



Sam Allen
Community Health
and Wellbeing Worker



Simon Atkinson
General Manager

Community Cuppa

In the early Autumn we were approached by Bodmin Town Council to take on the responsibility, with funding, for a community warm space on Thursdays. This had previously been running in one of the court rooms at Shire Hall. Elaine Munday has gathered a team of volunteers who now run this weekly event which is well supported and providing a weekly space with refreshments, warmth and craft activities.

Digital Hub and Champions

We have received funding and loan computing equipment to set up a small digital hub. Laptop computers are now available for visitors to use at various Bodmin Way events. Our champions will be offering basic training in using the computers and helping people to navigate the online world. Alongside this project we are also working on a creative project to digitise The Bodmin Way walking and cycling routes.

Community cook-up

Originally a project from our friends at IntoBodmin, Community cook-up has developed significantly over 2024. Each month a group comes together to cook a meal and learn about creating inexpensive, nutritious food. It is helping people to be less reliant on ready meals, to try different fresh ingredients and cuisines, and above all to enjoy a positive community experience.

Schools

Caroline Bailey has visited all primary schools within the Bodmin Team Ministry area and started to build key relationships with headteachers and administrative officers. Due to the very large numbers involved in the opening schools concert for the Christmas Tree Festival in 2023, the 2024 event was split over two evenings for safety and organisation. Both concerts were very well attended with 215 people at the first and 321 at the second.

New Bishop visits Bodmin Way

In December we were overjoyed to welcome Bishop David Williams and his wife, Helen, on the day it was announced that he is to be the new Bishop of Truro. Bishop David and Helen enjoyed meeting people at the Community cook-up before meeting with members of the Bodmin Way staff team. This was followed by a visit to the Christmas Tree Festival in St Petroc's Church where there was a reception for Deanery clergy and lay ministers.



Statistics

- **Community Larder:** An average of 75 baskets of food each week
- **Community Circle:** An average of 33 participants a week at Time Together
- **Community Space:** An average of 48 attendees a week, 48 breakfasts served each week, 168 take-away meals
- **Community Cook-up:** Steady growth from 9 participants in January to 30 in December
- **Community Choir:** 25 participants, 23 singing sessions, 9 performances
- **Life Celebrations:** 21 weddings, 2 renewal of vows, 41 baptisms, 47 funerals
- **Events:** revenue from hirings and events: £31,000
- **Total number of volunteers** across Bodmin Way and the Bodmin Team Ministry is 143

Progress

A **funding officer** has been appointed and will join us in February 2025. This new role will bring fundraising expertise to our team and will be working in an innovative partnership across the Bodmin Team Ministry, Bodmin Way and the Parish of St Breock and Egloshayle in Wadebridge.

Our **Parish Nurse** continues to champion the role of parish nursing. She inspired members of diocesan synod with an engaging presentation which has led to more parishes exploring this ministry.

Plans

Develop a **schools strategy** to increase the engagement with the schools and colleges in the Bodmin Team Ministry parishes.

Reinvigorate **The Bodmin Way** walking and cycling routes with events alongside the project to digitise the routes and capture them on a suitable platform.

Continue to refine and develop our **Events** offer, exploring a hospitality option for events.

Support the growing organisation of **Bodmin Way** with effective systems for communication, collaboration and organisation.