

'CALLED TO COMMUNITY'
WEDNESDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2007 AT PENZANCE YMCA
7pm – 9pm

Representation from:

**St Mary's RC, Richmond, High Street, St John's, St Mary's Chapel Street,
Penzance YMCA**

**Apologies from – the Quakers, Salvation Army, Reverend J Cotton, Father
Keith Owen, Father Philip Dyson, Reverend Bob Senior.**

Remembrance Day notices from the Quakers were circulated.

The Conference started on time at 7pm with 29 participants from the above mentioned churches and Associations.

Reverend Howard Peskett kindly led the evenings activities, having agreed to assist at short notice, as Reverend Bob Senior needed to be away in Exeter attending an urgent hospital appointment.

The evening was split into two parts.

The evening started with a prayer for Bob and his wife Shirley followed by a prayer for a successful conference.

Those present, split up into five tables of five or six including a facilitator at each table and were invited to discuss the following questions:-

- **What communities are you part of?**
- **What is special about community and how do we or can we contribute to it or improve it?**
- **Where in our neighbourhood, town, is community most lacking? What is being done or can be done 'to be a blessing' there?**

Representatives shared in their groups the vast number of communities they are involved with within their church life and their social activities.

YOGA CLASS	RED HAT SOCIETY	OLD CORNWALL SOCIETY	MEN'S GROUP
RETIRED CLERGY GROUP		ST JOHN'S COMMUNITY	NEIGHBOURS
SHOPPING FOR ELDERLY		VOLUNTEER BUREAU	MUSIC GROUP
ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL		CIRQUE DU CIELE	BOSENCE FARM
FRIENDS OF MORRAB GARDENS		CREDIT UNION	EDUCATION
FRIENDS OF PENLEE HOUSE		ART COMMUNITY	
BREAKFAST PROJECT		WORKING ENVIRONMENT COMMUNITIES	

Scribe Emma listed why communities mean so much to us?

- **BELONGING**
- **PREVENTS ISOLATION**
- **FRIENDSHIP**
- **SUPPORT**
- **FULFILS A NEED IN US** **SHARING – VALUES**
- **ENLARGEMENT OF FAMILY**
- **TOUCHING PEOPLE WHERE PEOPLE MATTER**
- **COMMUNITY CAN GET LOST IN ORGANISATION - NEED FOCUS ON THE PEOPLE**

The Representatives also listed those people who miss out on community

**MIGRANT WORKERS
HOMELESS
HOUSEBOUND AND ELDERLY
PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS
YOUNG PEOPLE
CARERS – NO RESPITE
ELDERLY
LONELINESS – CAN BE EXCLUDED PARTICULARLY AS AN OUTSIDER
PEOPLE LIVING ON THEIR OWN
CHILDREN – WHO DON'T WANT TO JOIN THE GANG**

The second part of the conference commenced at 8pm with further questions about what CTIP do.

**SING A-LONG – MORRAB PARK
GOOD FRIDAY PROCESSION
BREAKFAST PROJECT
SPRING WALK-ABOUT – CHRISTIAN UNITY
LENT LUNCHESES
STOP THE TRAFFICK
HOMELESSNESS SUNDAY
ENABLING GROUP FOR MIGRANT WORKERS**

Are there other activities which could be done more effectively together rather than separate and the following ideas emerged:-

- **INFORMAL PRAYER GROUP**
- **COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE – PARTY AT ST JOHN'S HALL**
- **CHURCHES NETWORK – DIFFERENT STYLES AND SERVICES BRINGING THE CHURCH TO COMMUNITY. CHURCH ON DIFFERENT DAYS**
- **OUTDOOR EASTER SERVICE AIMED ESPECIALLY AT CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE**
- **CTIP BLOG**
- **GOLOWAN**
- **WORSHIP MORE TOGETHER – SHARE EACH OTHERS SERVICES**
- **ARRANGE A TOWN PARTY – LED BY ALL THE CHURCHES**
- **RAISE THE PROFILE OF CTIP**
- **CTIP REPRESENTATIVES - AS INDIVIDUALS WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE OUR CHURCHES TO PARTICIPATE TOGETHER**

It was agreed these ideas be part of the next CTIP agenda.

Sincere thanks were given to:-

- Howard Peskett for leading the two questions and answer sessions,
- to Grace, Christine and their friends for providing such a wonderful spread of food and warm drinks which were available throughout the evening and
- to Emma for allowing CTIP to make use of the YMCA facilities.

Those present expressed that the evening had been most enjoyable and that such opportunities for lay people to express themselves was very important. The Conference finished with all representatives joining hands and saying 'the Grace' together.