# Bodmin Way Annual Report for 2021

**Overview**

Our response to the Covid pandemic touched the lives of hundreds of people in Bodmin and the surrounding villages. The main priorities were to bring people back together after the difficult periods of lockdown and to provide food and supplies to those facing hardship. We successfully drew both young and old into new social gatherings and witnessed encouraging signs of improved wellbeing. Our staff and volunteers have given of their time, energy and personal resources in the process. It has been humbling to see this level of commitment in solidarity to neighbours and friends.

Sadly, cost of living pressures on people have increased since then, and we are anxious about the prospect of an even deeper crisis. We are thus building further on our capacity to be a support to the most vulnerable in our community. We have restructured our operation to provide relief in the medium to long-term amidst very uncertain times.

As a service organisation for the mission of its founder churches, Bodmin Way provides structure and resources to fulfil their vocation for compassionate service to the community. It also provides a channel for the development and promotion of the historic church buildings. A successful grant programme has yielded some valuable improvements for events and conservation.

As a social enterprise we are committed to pursuing the common good and to enshrining effective business discipline. We are now increasingly effective with our churches and partner organisations in bringing hope and opportunity to many.

*Revd Paul Holley, Chair*

**Key achievements**

* Sustained growth in the supply of food and household goods to those in financial difficulty
* Hundreds of fun bags and family activities distributed amidst lockdowns and school holidays
* Multiple school initiatives to support families and staff
* The weekly Time Together Café for older members of the community
* Heritage initiatives in each of the five churches, allowing for better signage and information
* A summer tourist brochure for Bodmin, with 10,000 copies distributed to Tourist Information Centres
* Grants and support for buildings improvements for Lanivet and St. Petroc’s
	+ Sound, wifi and video improvements to St. Petroc’s
	+ Church Hall roof repairs in Lanivet
	+ Kitchen and water supply funding for Lanivet
	+ Tower roof and North Wall repair grants and support
	+ Solar panels and battery storage at parish centre
	+ New tables and chairs in the parish centre
* Renewal of the events programme and hiring of the parish centre
* Newsletter launch, web improvements, social media and partnership with Bodmin Life
* Kickstart work placements for 3 young people
* Active Cornwall funding for walking tours
* An exploratory study with Exeter University to assess opportunities to develop a social network amongst the elderly and vulnerable
* Initiating a youth club
* Reorganisation of the accounting systems for Bodmin Way and St. Petroc’s
* The establishing of a staff complement of 9
* Funding for events, including the Christmas Tree Festival
* Establishing a customer relationship management system for the team
* Agreement with Kernow Credit Union for affordable wedding packages
* Funding for running costs at St. Petroc’s Church

**INTRODUCING BODMIN WAY**

**What is Bodmin Way?**

Bodmin Way is the social enterprise for the Bodmin Team Ministry. It is a company limited by guarantee whose **purpose is for the benefit of the community it serves**.

**What is the purpose of Bodmin Way?**

The company was established by the Bodmin Team Ministry to help develop and promote the interests of its constituent churches in the Parishes of St. Petroc’s Bodmin, St. Hydroc’s Lanhydrock, St. Meubred Cardynham and Lanivet.Its prime purposes are to strengthen the mission and sustainability of these churches. It has license to do this in a variety of ways in consultation with the Parochial Church Councils.

**Who owns it? To whom is it accountable?**

Ownership of the company rests with its members, which are the Parochial Church Councils (PCCs) of the Bodmin Team Ministry. Directors are elected by the PCCs to operate the company. To date, the main line of accountability has been to the monthly meeting of the team church wardens. Regular reports have been offered to that meeting and consultation about the growth and development of the company has resided within that group.

**Core activities into 2022**

The directors have restructured the array of activities into the following categories:

Bodmin Way Community

* + Community support
	+ Time Together
	+ Community Larder
	+ Community Courses
	+ Home-based support
	+ Youth Club

Bodmin Way Events

* + Concerts and events
	+ Bookings of St. Petroc’s Church and parish centre
	+ Hospitality and merchandising
	+ Life Celebrations

Heritage and visitor initiatives

* + Improving the visitor experience to the churches
	+ Programme of events for the Bodmin Way pilgrimage route

Operations for the enterprise and the team

* + HR, operations, finance and administration
	+ Communications
	+ Safeguarding
	+ Fundraising

**DIRECTORS AND STAFF**

**Directors**

The directors meet monthly to scrutinise operation of the company, oversee financial flows and plan initiatives. Current directors include:

* Chair, Revd Paul Holley, Team Rector of the Bodmin Team Ministry
* Company Secretary, Sara Bryon, Administrator for the Bodmin Team Ministry
* Trevor Brittain, Officer for Fund-Raising, Human Resources and Systems Development (resigned April 2022)
* Ann Kerridge, Church Warden and Reader in the Bodmin Team Ministry
* Dave Birch, director with a brief for communications
* Alistair Bennett, Operations Lead

Assisting the directors and St. Petroc’s Church is Jen Ayres, our voluntary accountant.

**Staff**

Permanent staff include:

* Pioneer Minister – Revd Elaine Munday
* Venue Manager – Roland Oakley
* Administrator – Sara Bryon
* Projects lead – Abbie Cavalera
* Projects development and communications - Barbara Brittain
* Focal Ministers – Sara and Dave Bryon
* Project support – Robert Christie

Temporary staff include:

* Kimberley Andress - cleaner

**Impact and resources**

The following sources of revenue provide for Bodmin Way activity:

* Contributions from the PCCs
* Activity revenue
* Grants and donations

Amidst the pandemic, Bodmin Way secured grants for much of its work. With the original intention of deriving the majority of income from activity, it was recognised that crisis relief work took precedence.

**Communications**

With an expanding website ([www.bodminway.org](http://www.bodminway.org)) and a continuous flow of news through social media, Bodmin Way is able to keep a wide section of the community well informed. This is supplemented by email updates and the sharing of news amidst our various activities.

The publishing and distribution of 5000 copies of the Bodmin Way Newsletter established relationships with local advertisers and gained a reputation for presenting local news. This led to a partnership with the publishers of Launceston Life to launch a new publication with 7500 copies distributed by Royal Mail. There remains a low-key but steady flow of news stories covered by local newspapers and radio.

**Financial accounts**

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