

## South West Peninsula District E-News

### November 2025



#### District E-News

### November Issue

As we head into colder days, we bring you the November Edition of the E-News. Packed with the latest news, events and information from across the District, we hope you find this issue helpful.

### Dates for Your Diary- November

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup>- 10am District Executive, Lifton

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>- 10am Mission Area Leads Meeting, Tregadillet

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup>-  
10.30am-3.30pm  
Supervision Development Day, Carnon Downs

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>- 10am - 3pm  
District Staff Meeting, Lifton

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>  
10.30am-3.30pm  
Superintendents Consultation, Sherwell United Church, Plymouth



### The Love of Christ

#### A Message from Revd Dr Daniel Haylett

"...to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." (Ephesians 3: 19).

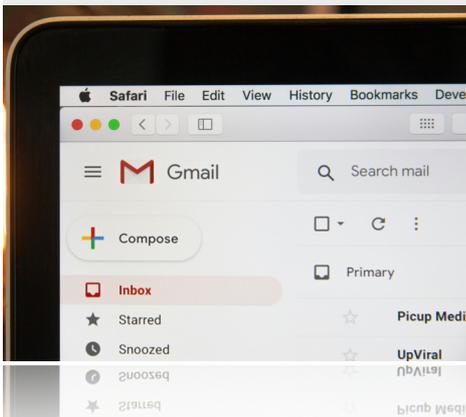
Dear friends,

Knowing that which surpasses knowledge seems like a fairly obvious contradiction in terms! Paul's prayer for the Church in Ephesus, which we are using as a focus in the District this year, confronts us with something of a paradox. It meets us in a time when our world lives with contradictions of all kinds, where the varied needs and aspirations of many are often set against each other. We live in this nation with a politics that is defined in terms of who is deemed to be deserving, rather than on a focus of the benefit of all, especially the most vulnerable. We live in a world

## Dates for Your Diary- November Cont'd

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>- 7.00pm  
District Safeguarding Group,  
Zoom

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup>- 10:30am-  
2:00pm Bring and Share  
Networking Lunch, The Hub,  
Carnon Downs



### Stay Connected With Us!

The Admin Team have been made aware that some of our emails are not reaching inboxes and may be redirected to Spam/Junk folders, especially when messages are sent to large distribution lists.

To ensure you continue receiving important updates, please take a moment to:

✓ Add  
**admin@swpmethodist.org.uk** to  
your email contacts

✓ Mark any misplaced emails  
from us as **"Not Spam"** or **"Safe  
Sender"**

✓ Check your Spam/Junk folder  
if you're expecting an email that  
hasn't arrived

Thank you for helping us keep our  
communication running smoothly  
across the district!

**The Admin Team**

where the interests of the powerful are not aligned with priorities of Jesus we read of in the gospels.

In Advent, a light shines on all of this. The stories, prayers, songs and hymns we live out of in this season take us from the darkness of division and despair into the light of the growing awareness and coming of the love of Christ that surpasses all we know about ourselves, our world, our situation. The poet UA Fanthorpe in her poem *BC/AD* describes the journey of the shepherds and magi as those who:

Walked haphazard by starlight straight

Into the kingdom of heaven.

We are called to make that same journey, with all the contradictions we live with, and with the impartial knowledge of the love of Christ we have.

Pauls' prayer that the fullness of God may fill us reflects the reality of what begins in a new way in incarnation. Jesus shows us what God's love looks like, and the difference it makes. We may feel we are walking haphazardly through the demands that come our way, but we trust that we are being led into the Kingdom, through the love of Christ.

### Every blessing

**Dan**

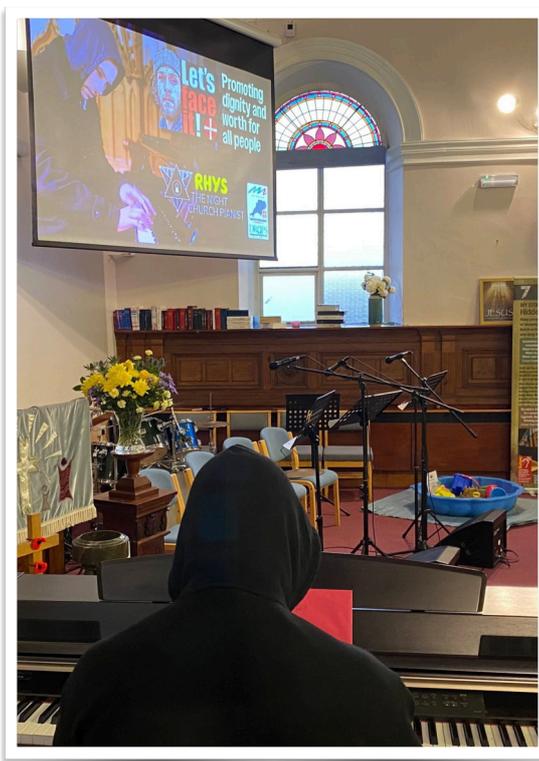




## Let's Face it!

### A Message from Helen Pearce

The Let's face it! Exhibition opened to a wonderful free concert given by Rhys Whyn Jones at Helston Central Methodist Church. With people travelling from across West Cornwall to see this thought-provoking installation, they were given a real sense of lived experience of homelessness by words and music.



What a truly wonderful evening of music with a message. Rhys has such a God given musical talent which he is using to help others too. "We are so pleased that this wonderful event was launched here at Central", Rev Danny Reed-Superintendent Minister LAMB circuit.



Whilst the subject was challenging, with so many positive stories and hearing the piano being played so well, the audience really enjoyed this evening of entertainment and information.

This is the first of 5 locations that Let's Face It! Arts installation will visit. Rhys Wynn Jones will be launching each Saturday at every new venue. Do come along and take a look and listen to all that is going on.

Dates and times can be found at [www.swpmethodist.org.uk](http://www.swpmethodist.org.uk)

**All events are free, no need to book and everyone is welcome.**



Homeless Installation Scene



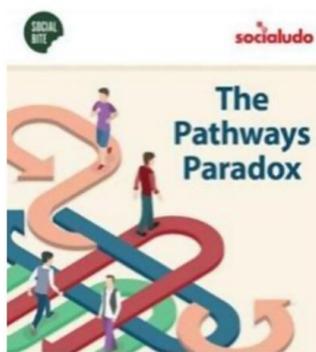
## Get it in your diary – not to be missed!

All age interactive Arts installation will be journeying across the district in 5 areas across the South West.

- 25-30 October Helston Methodist Church
- 1-6 November Truro Methodist Church (Serious game pm 6.11.15)
- 8-13 November The Mint Methodist Church, Exeter
- 22-27 November Torbay (Location TBC)
- 29 -4 December Sherwell United, Plymouth (Serious game 4.12.25)

At 7.30pm, each venue will have a **Saturday launch night**, featuring Rhys Wynn Jones AKA **The Night Pianist**. This concert will be an opportunity for you to hear his story and listen to some of his amazing new album. The exciting **immersive arts installation** will remain in the location for the rest of the week for you to visit and engage with. Elements will include:-

**Exhibition of photos, audio sound bites, monologues, music and poetry, space to take a moment to reflect, hopeful space – opportunity to learn about charities and organisations that support and help.**



Each venue will also host a **free interactive serious games evening (dates TBC)** called **The Pathways Paradox**; a great way to grapple with some of the difficulties of homelessness in a non-threatening but thought provoking way. Pathways Paradox has been co-developed with Social Bite and successfully used to support understanding, empathy, and practical action on homelessness. **An evening you won't forget!**

For more info or if you would like to be involved, contact **Helen Pearce:- 07450989571**



For more information visit the Lets face it! page on the District Website by clicking [here](#) .

**Helen Pearce**

**Social Justice Officer**

**DISTRICT VISIT**

# President & Vice-President

10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> January 2026

The president of Conference, Revd Richard Andrew and the Vice-President of Conference, Matt Forsyth will be visiting the District, with a focus on the Torbay circuit to coincide with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Central Church in Torquay.

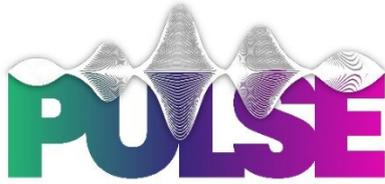
There will be a District Service on the afternoon of **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> January**

*More details will be available soon*



### The Power of Welcome

Watch the true story of Wesley Cottage



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*What's happening around  
the District*

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The Missional Heartbeat of the  
District

## *Camelford & Week St Mary Circuit*

### **Bethel Methodist Church**

Bethel Methodist Church is situated in a very rural area between Warbstow and Hallworthy, and offers a monthly outreach programme to the local community with family focussed activities such as craft sessions, Party and Quiz nights, Car Treasure Hunt, Barbecue and It's a Knockout, Christmas Wreath making and Sandcastle Competition. This has not only strengthened relationships between church and community but each session includes an aspect of faith (fun quiz questions about quirky bible facts, an Easter story Treasure Hunt, a focus on Lent at the Pancake Party). In time, it is hoped to expand this to more focussed faith activities, but at present "building relationships" is laying firm foundations on which to develop the work further.





**Tintagel Methodist Church** are delighted to be engaging in a number of outreach activities including a term-time Baby and Toddler Group, monthly Craft and Cake, Men’s Breakfast, Wellbeing groups for both men and women, XLR8 Youth Group and providing a space for the local Food Hub, run by volunteers in the community. This has enabled the church to build relationships more widely than previously

possible, to invite people to other church activities and services as appropriate.

The Baby and Toddler Group has just completed its second year and provides a warm, welcoming space for families with under-5s where children are able to play, sing, craft, hear stories and share in snack time. Festival times (Christmas, Easter etc) are particularly popular, and offer a great opportunity to gently share the gospel. Initially intended as an overtly Christian group, it soon became clear that it was more important to offer Christian hospitality, acceptance, encouragement and a listening ear. Having built strong relationships with the families we now find they are very open to bible stories and songs, with several asking for prayer too.

Cake and Craft, the Men’s Breakfast and both Wellbeing Groups have come to being in response to needs that had been expressed in the community, either directly or indirectly. Again they are places of welcome and acceptance, with opportunities to share faith in a very gentle and responsive way. All of the groups meeting at Tintagel Methodist Church are helping to build stronger relationships between church and community, as well as offering potential for the future.

Around 2 years ago **Camelford Methodist Church** restarted their Messy Church following a break during the pandemic. Over this time it has grown to see regular attendance by many families in the community who engage creatively with bible stories and themes, journeying in discipleship as appropriate for their own age and stage of development. More recently younger members of Messy Church have been involved in the worship celebration, writing and reading out prayers, picking songs and helping to lead at the front. Those who are of secondary school age are invited to become part of the team, contributing ideas for programmes and helping out with activities and worship.



## Open the Book

The Methodist Churches in the Camelford and Week St Mary Circuit are involved in a number of different Open the Book teams, going into schools in Camelford, Delabole, Otterham, St Maby, St Tudy, Tintagel and Warbstow. They are warmly welcomed by all schools and, as bible stories are brought to life, pupils engage enthusiastically with God's Word. At Easter a combined team presented The Easter Journey at Warbstow school, allowing pupils to experience the highs and lows of Holy week with an interactive presentation, finishing with the opportunity for everyone to reflect on the impact of Easter. "It's Your Move" booklets are also given out to Year 6 pupils at the end of the school year, offering them a very helpful guide to transition into secondary school.



## Delabole Methodist Church

As a village we come together for two Services a year. The Carnival Service is a collaboration between all Christians in the village and is aimed at everybody from the old to the young. This takes place in the Carnival Marquee. It was initiated when members of the congregation were members of the Carnival Committee in 2007 and has happened every year since.

### Deacon Ruth Richey

### Mission Area Lead- North



## Eco-Church Awards

### A Message from Revd Iris Bray



### Celebrating Eco-Church Awards: Ecumenical Creation Care Service

The commitment of all who count caring for God's creation as part of their daily Christian discipleship is celebrated. Methodist congregations are also invited to take measures towards the Connexional target of Net Zero by 2030, under the Action for Hope strategy. *A Rocha UK* supports the creation care work of local churches with helpful information and, for those who register to progress towards achieving an Eco-Church award, churches may be granted Bronze, Silver or Gold awards.

On 27<sup>th</sup> September 2025 all who had received an Eco-Church award during the last year were invited to attend a Creation Care Service at Bradoc Church, near Lostwithiel in East Cornwall. Bradoc Church is a Grade I listed building, and the congregation rejoice in having received the highest Gold award. This was the first time the service was ecumenical with Methodist recipients being present, and pupils from Braddock Church of England Primary School participated in the service.

Representatives from the churches received their awards directly from Rt. Revd. David Williams, the Bishop of Truro, who also gave the address. It was my privilege and pleasure to share in the presentation of the awards on behalf of the South West Peninsula Methodist District. Congratulations to all Methodist churches who have received awards, including those who attended in person from

Millpool Methodist Church, Bodmin, Padstow & Wadebridge Circuit (bronze),

Wadebridge Methodist Church, Bodmin, Padstow & Wadebridge Circuit (bronze),

Central Methodist Church, Helston, Lizard & Mount's Bay Circuit (silver)

Mount Charles Methodist Church, St Austell Circuit (silver).

If any of your churches receive a new or an upgraded award, please let me know, so I may share your joy to encourage others, and keep our records up-to-date.

We pray God's blessing on all our efforts to engage with environmental concerns.

**Iris Bray**

**[iris.bray@methodist.org.uk](mailto:iris.bray@methodist.org.uk)**

## Eco-Church Awards cont'd

### A Message from Revd Iris Bray



Alison Thompson

Wadebridge Methodist Church



Revd. Andrew Hill

Central Methodist Church, Helston



Dr. Elizabeth Burroughs

Mount Charles Methodist Church,

St Austell



Shirley Doran

Millpool Methodist Church

## The Gospel Table...and a van called Cleopas

### A Message from Revd Mark Dunn-Wilson

Based at Truro Methodist Church, the aim of The Gospel Table Project is to set tables of grace and invitation wherever and whenever they can be discovered. This initiative reaches beyond the confines of traditional church structures and places, to create spaces where individuals can gather, share stories, and experience grace. The focus is on dismantling barriers that separate people and replacing them with inclusive tables (sometimes actual tables, sometimes metaphorical tables) around which everyone is invited to gather.



In early September the Mid Cornwall Circuit were awarded a significant NPNP grant to purchase a Tea and Coffee Van which will be used as part of the project. 'He' (because vans are never 'its') is a 1966 VW Slip Screen and we have called him 'Cleopas' (because vans need names!) - who met Jesus on the road.

Why a 1966 VW split-screen van you may ask. We felt it was an ideal choice for a coffee van in Cornwall, particularly when connected to the Gospel Table project, because it combines cultural resonance, visual charm, and community values in a way that few other vehicles can. The split-screen VW is not simply a means of transport; it carries a story. Its vintage design evokes warmth, nostalgia, and craftsmanship - qualities that naturally align with the project's desire to create authentic human connection and

hospitality in public spaces.

In Cornwall, and especially around Truro, there is a strong appreciation for heritage, local identity, and creativity. Festivals and community events across the region

celebrate not only good food and drink but also the spirit of togetherness and conversation. A 1966 VW embodies that ethos. It's friendly, familiar, and disarming - a vehicle that invites curiosity and dialogue. When people see it parked up with the smell of freshly brewed coffee drifting out, they are drawn not only by the coffee but by the sense of welcome and belonging that the van conveys, which mirrors so well the very heart of the Gospel Table vision: sharing good news, good company, and good hospitality in everyday settings.



The impact of the van is already proven. Even when we were setting it up on the TMC Forecourt to see how everything worked, we had a constant run of people drawn to the van and engaging in conversation. From informal chat around the van and over coffee, it is a simple step to move conversation on to more significant, often faith-based topics. Having been road-tested at a Harvest 'On the Farm' Festival at Ruan High Lanes a few weeks ago, we are now making preparations for a full season of fetes, festivals, schools and estate car parks beginning in the spring. We have a dedicated team of baristas who are learning not only to hone their coffee-making skills but also developing resources to engage in significant conversations around faith, spirituality and the things that really matter. We are excited to discover already, how Jesus just comes along side and seems to join in!

The Gospel Table Project emphasizes community over congregation, prioritizing inclusivity, grace, and transformative relationships. It seeks to create flexible spaces where the sacred and secular intermingle, valuing listening over speaking: spaces of grace, hospitality, and encounter where every voice is honoured. And 'Cleopas' is a mobile expression of that mission.

"This is what God's kingdom is like: a bunch of outcasts and oddballs gathered at a table, not because they are rich or worthy or good, but because they are hungry, because they said yes. And there's always room for more."

— Rachel Held Evans, *Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church*

**Revd Mark Dunn-Wilson**  
**Superintendent- St Ives (Fore Street) Circuit**

## Praying for our District Partnership with the Diocese of Cuttack, Church of North India

### A Message from Anne Browse

I wrote recently about the Orissa Christian Theological College which we support through our partnership. It is hoped that we might be able to host a group of their students and staff on a visit to us here in the South West Peninsula next year.

If you would like to offer to be involved in this visit in any way, please contact me ([annebrowse@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:annebrowse@yahoo.co.uk) or 07463992133). The planning is still in its very early stages. As soon as we have dates and more details we will let you know, but for now even expressions of interest would be helpful (and encouraging) to the planning group.

Here are two photos from our visit to the college in February 2024

If you would like to contribute to the fund to enable such visits and the wider work of



Revd Dan Haylett with some of the students and staff at the college



Deacon Debbie Marsh with students in their college accommodation

the partnership please see the following information from our District website:

### Cuttack Fund

The Plymouth & Exeter Methodist District has established a 'Cuttack Fund' to support the development of our partnership. All contributions to this fund are gratefully received and should be made via your local churches - when donating please make it clear that your contribution is for the Cuttack Fund. For more information please email [admin@swpmethodist.org.uk](mailto:admin@swpmethodist.org.uk)

**Anne Browse**

## District Pilgrimage - Thoughts after 'Reconnaissance' Walk

### A Message from Rev Andy Chislett-McDonald

Six gallant souls followed the Camino Ingles route from Ferrol on the northern Galicia coast to the beautiful city of Santiago de Compostela as a 'recce' for next Spring. A total of 113k (about 70 miles - the route markers have kilometres!).



The terrain was both beautiful and pretty challenging - it was hilly! If you are praying about joining the group in May 2026, please do not be put off by this. One thing the recce has suggested strongly is that we make a different, and easier Pilgrimage instead - still 6 days of waking but none as long as the two 25k (15 miles) days on this route.

Let me suggest a whole raft of reasons why the walk is so worth making.

On a BBC pilgrimage programme one of those taking part said the following: 'Pilgrimage can elevate ourselves to a higher level of being ourselves.' I would largely concur; however, would want to add something clearly about our relationship with, and life in Christ Jesus. A key part of the Gospel concerns our

becoming more and more Christ-like. Somehow, Pilgrimage can help that's happening. Maybe being on the way with others on the way, and with the one who called himself the Way has much to do with this. So, the first and most important reason to make a pilgrimage is to do with Jesus in our lives. And, when else do we get the opportunity to spend hours at a time in prayer and reflection day after day?

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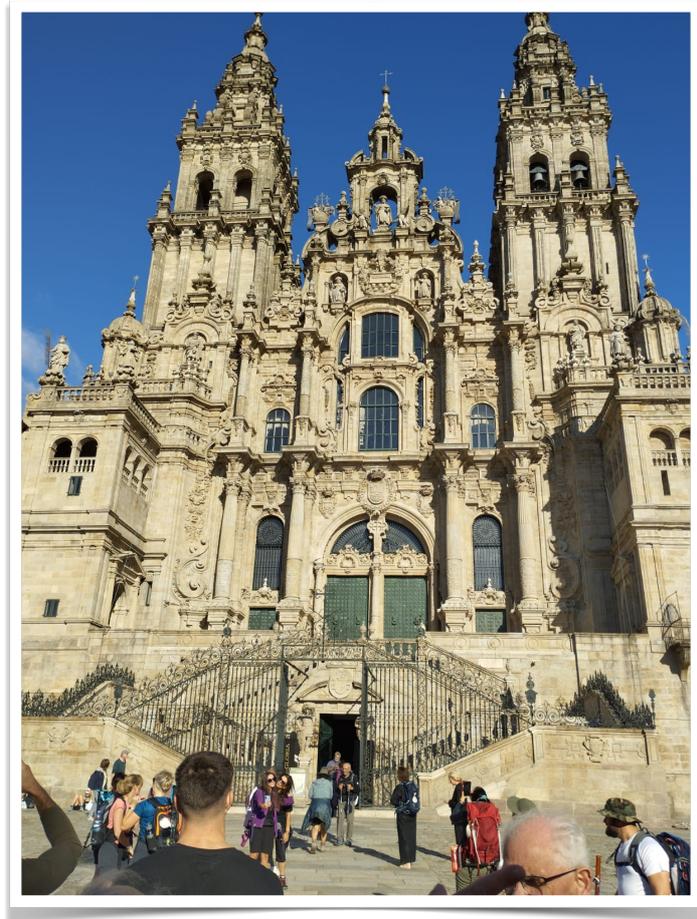
The terrain was both beautiful and pretty challenging - it was hilly! If you are praying about joining the group in May 2026, please do not be put off by this. One thing the recce has suggested strongly is that we make a different, and easier Pilgrimage instead - still 6 days of walking but none as long as the two 25k (15 miles) days on this route.

Let me suggest a whole raft of reasons why the walk is so worth making.

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Moreover, we all know that walking is good for us physically. Actually, there is a growing body of evidence that walking is spectacularly good for our mental health and wellbeing. A 6 days pilgrimage gives the opportunity for a long, daily walk. Should you join the group, you will be able to experience this yourself. I know this so well for myself.

Let me proffer some practical advice to help you both decide to walk and then how to prepare. Firstly, you will need to train. I would suggest starting yesterday! A couple of





## **The Avenue Church**

**Saturday 29th November at 3:00 pm**

For tickets please contact Sarah 07709424558

or Kay at the Church Office (*before 21st Nov*)

office@theavenuechurch.co.uk 01626 360400

Refreshments available Donations appreciated

**All Welcome**

Suggested age guidance 12 - 102 years.