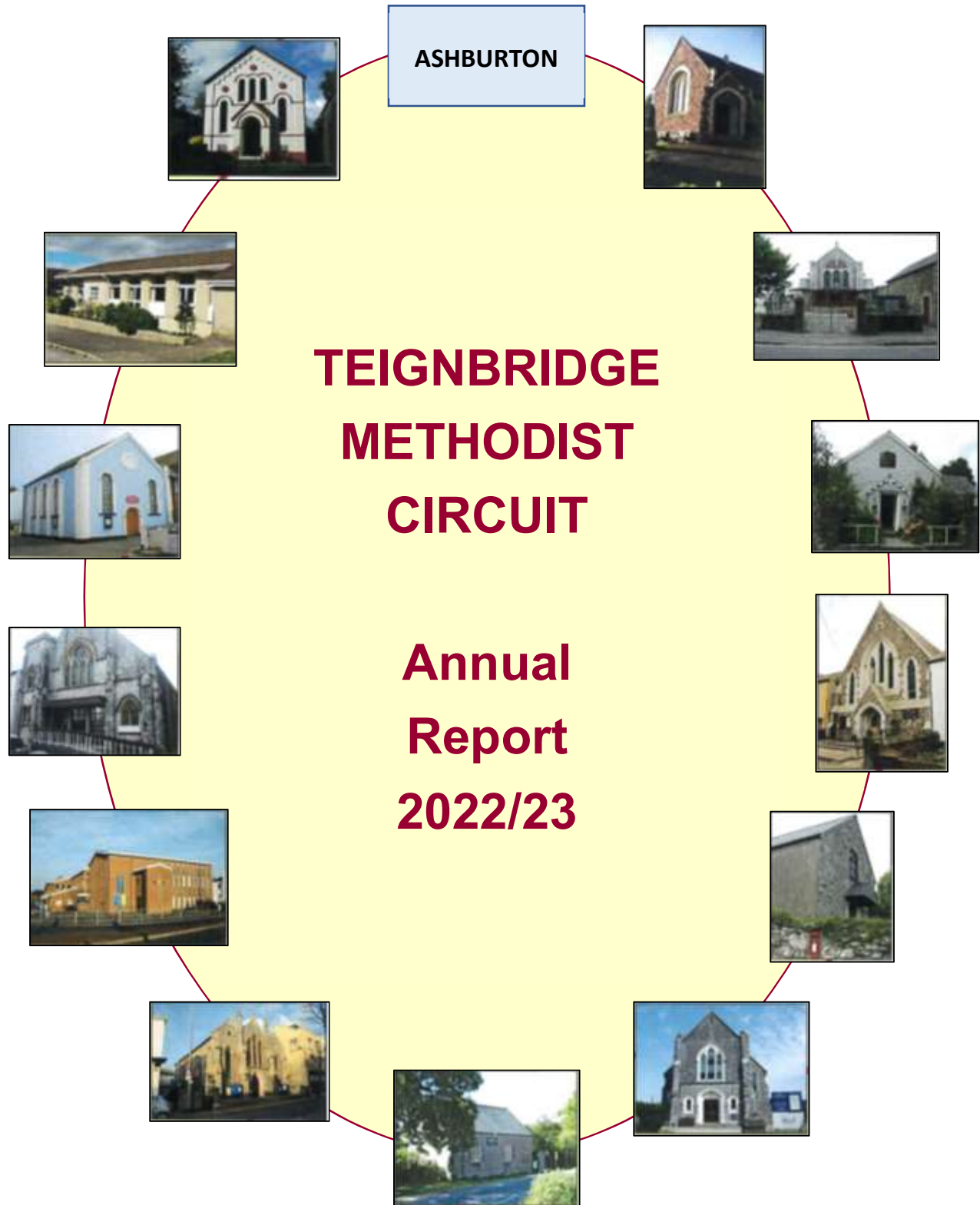




Plymouth & Exeter District
of the Methodist Church



Teignbridge Methodist Circuit – 2022/23



The Teignbridge Methodist Circuit comprises twelve Church Council, of which Ashburton and Buckfast/leigh cover include more than one location, arranged in four sections as follows:

- **Moorland:** Ashburton, Bovey Tracey and Ipplepen Methodist Churches
- **Newton Abbot:** The Avenue Church (Methodist with United Reformed) and Shaldon Road Methodist Church.
- **Coastal:** Bishopsteignton, Dawlish, Shaldon and Teignmouth Methodist Churches.
- **Buckfastleigh:** Buckfast/leigh, South Brent and Totnes Methodist Churches

Circuit Leadership Team:

Paid ministers (ordained and lay), with pastoral responsibility/charge

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| • Rev. Kevin Hooke | • Rev. Verity Phillips |
| • Rev. Gill Daniel | • Ms. Sharon Hurlow |

Circuit Stewards

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| • Mr. John Harrison | • Ms Carol Hughes |
| • Mr. Andrew Parsons | • Rev Paul Weir |

Circuit Pastoral Worker: Mrs Sharon Canning

Circuit Administrator: Ms Kay Fice

Supernumerary Ministers: In total there are six supernumerary (retired) ministers in the Teignbridge Methodist Circuit, four of whom regularly preach in the circuit's churches.

Trustees —2022/23

Maria	Alsop
Peter Leigh	Alsop
Denys	Bament
Marianne	Barrett Rogers
Michael	Barrett Rogers
Sheila Margaret Appointed 21/03/2023	Bendall
Malcolm John	Benton
Anne	Berridge
Jennifer	Bonner
Christian	Canning
Sharon	Canning
Vincent	Canning
Gill	Daniel
Rosemarie	Dungey
Jill	Elliott
Kay	Fice
Jean	Francis
Robert George	Francis
Monica	Gfeller-Harwood
Selwyn	Green
Gillian	Hardy
Stephen John	Harris
John Appointed 20/06/2023	Harrison
Wendy	Hartley
Jane	Holmes
Kevin Peter	Hooke
Carol	Hughes
Sharon Ann	Hurlow

Alan	Johnston
Duncan	Knight
Stephen Paul	Major
Agnes	McFeat
Alexander Wright	McFeat
Carol Ann	Morgan
Andrew Russell	Parsons
Verity	Phillips
Nicola	Quaintance
Rosemary Appointed 01/09/2022	Quin
Alison Frances Appointed 21/03/2023	Rowe
Margaret Dawn	Renshaw
Jean	Sabine
Andrew David	Sinden
Edward	Stephenson
Patricia	Stephenson
Michael	Strickland
Patsy	Tidball
Margaret	Vosper
Serena	Walcot
John	Walton
Paul	Weir
Anne-Marie	Whiting
Frederick William	Woodland

Objectives and Activities

We understand that we are not engaging in our mission, but rather participating in God's mission to all people, in partnership with others and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

We also understand that mission is all that we are sent to do by Christ. It includes not only evangelism but also service to our communities, pursuit of social justice and concern for the environment. We are to be signs of and sharers in the Kingdom of God and its values.

We understand that we live with the tensions of being both an inherited church and a 'discipleship movement shaped for mission' and that we need to work creatively with the opportunities and challenges this brings.

As a Circuit we believe that it is therefore our responsibility:

- To manage our resources strategically and prayerfully, to maximise their effectiveness;
- To support the churches in fulfilling their own mission strategies and objectives.

To do so we will:

- Conduct periodic Circuit Reviews to determine the greatest opportunities for growth and outreach
- Maintain appropriate levels of ordained and lay staffing, seeking grant funding as necessary, and deploying them in line with the identified opportunities for growth
- Maintain a balanced Circuit Budget
- Develop appropriate strategic ecumenical partnerships at Circuit level
- Foster Circuit identity and cohesion through Circuit Services and the sharing of information
- Work in partnership with neighbouring Circuits to use resources and expertise efficiently and effectively
- Encourage and support differing expressions of worship alongside traditional forms
- Group churches in ways which encourage the most effective partnerships between them for mission
- Encourage churches to work closely with their own ecumenical partners
- Provide Circuit opportunities for growth in discipleship and missional understanding
- Develop and maintain relationships with other services and organisations serving the wellbeing of our communities

Achievements and Performance —2022/23

During the year 2022-23 Teignbridge Methodist Circuit continued to provide ministerial leadership to its churches, as well as supporting those which were struggling to pay their Circuit assessment in full. In addition it gave two significant grants: one to become a partner in the ROC project at Dawlish and one to enable adaptations to the premises at the Avenue. A smaller grant was made to support Ivybridge YFC.

During the course of the year Scoriton Chapel was sold, and in line with Circuit policy, the monies from it were allocated to the continuing mission of its Church Council and will be used to provide much needed disabled access to Buckfast Chapel. It is hoped that Buckfastleigh Church will be sold in the coming year, with the windfall also to be committed to local mission.

The Circuit Leadership Team looked at the accounts of the individual churches over the winter of 2022-23, which confirmed that although the Circuit was maintaining a balanced budget, this was putting an increasing pressure on local Church finances. The Circuit meeting, however, decided not to cut staffing immediately, but to request that each church also review its own mission statement for submission during the course of the year, so that the Circuit's own strategy for mission, and the use of its resources, could be made more effective.

There was news of a significant staff change later in the year, with Rev Verity Phillips being withdrawn from the Circuit by Conference, to take effect from August 2023. This prompted an urgent reassessment of the shaping of ministry by the Circuit Leadership Team, supported by a Circuit prayer day held at Buckfast. One of the outcomes was that the Circuit sought to employ a part-time Local Lay Pastor from September 2023, to work in Ipplepen and Totnes. The Circuit Leadership Team then looked to bring further proposals about ministerial staffing to the Circuit Meeting in Autumn 2023.

During the year, the Circuit maintained the weekly Sunday Zoom service, which has become embedded as part of the Circuit's life and witness, enabling a number of people to attend worship at times when they cannot get to a church building. It also maintained its Circuit plan, allocating Local Arrangement services as equitably as possible across the churches (recognising that some already take responsibility for parts of their worshipping life), and encouraging the skills of local church members in organising and taking part in Local Arrangements. The Circuit is also encouraged by the positive and developing ecumenical connections in many places, but particularly at Ashburton, (where the Methodist and Anglican Churches continue to support both a family mission development worker and an admin/IT post) and at Bishopsteignton and Ipplepen (where there is shared worship with the Anglicans at least monthly) .

The Circuit has also managed its properties, both those used for Manses and one that is rented out. It continues to use the revenue from the latter to support its ongoing activities. The Circuit continued to take seriously its responsibilities in safeguarding and GDPR matters and to support its Churches to do the same. The Circuit continues to review its Safeguarding policy annually in line with the changing requirements and guidance of the Methodist

Church, engages in an annual Safeguarding audit, and supports its local Churches in several ways:

- providing templates for their own policies,
- overseeing DBS and training records,
- offering templates for role descriptions,
- the availability of the Circuit Safeguarding Officer for advice.

In line with Methodist requirements, all those leading worship on the Circuit plan (worship leaders and preachers) have undertaken advanced safeguarding training (either through the Methodist Church or at an equivalent level in the case of some of our regular visitors from our partner denominations).

Public Benefit

Throughout the year 2022/23 the Trustees of the Teignbridge Methodist Circuit have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and have acted accordingly. They are committed to continue to do so in the future.

Plans for the Future

The Circuit will need to embed its new team of Circuit Stewards and Staff. It will seek to support those churches as they develop projects for which capital reserve money has been earmarked —such as the building works at the Avenue and at Buckfast Chapel. A new Presbyter will join the Circuit next year focusing on the life of the Church in our Coastal Section. It will continue with its missional planning for the future and will review with the Churches the assessment levels in the light of changing memberships and circumstances. It will continue to encourage Churches to engage with their local communities and keep an overview of the needs of the area.

Reserves Policy

Our Reserves Policy is to hold at least six month's expenditure in hand:

- We hold a reserve for the maintenance of our team of presbyteral ministers of £80,000 to pay for the stipends of two such presbyters, including on-costs.
- We hold a reserve for our property maintenance programme of £ 50,000 to maintain each of the four manses and a fifth residential property owned by the Circuit.
- We hold a reserve of 50% of our other costs, which in the year to 31st August 2023 amounted to £ 45,920

As at 31st August the funds available in the General Fund were £259,657 against a reserve policy requirement of £ 175,920



Kevin P. Hooke, Superintendent Minister
15th March 2024

Teignbridge Methodist Circuit Charity Number 1134246

Address: The Avenue Church, The Avenue, Newton Abbot, Devon. TQ12 2BY

Teignbridge Methodist Circuit

Circuit No 24/28

Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Note	General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trust (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022-23 £	Total 2021-22 £
Income						
Donations and legacies	4	1,664			1,664	1,840
Income from monetary investments		8,690	6,549	706	15,945	2,557
Income from investment properties	5	10,170			10,170	9,880
Assessments on Churches		230,659			230,659	231,072
Refund on purchase of 4 Jacks Close		290			290	0
Grants received		0			0	0
Other charitable income	6	4,014			4,014	4,840
Sale of Scoriton Church			70,580		70,580	0
Miscellaneous Income		0			0	0
Total income		255,487	77,128	706	333,322	250,189
Expenditure						
Grants and donations	7	42,740	0		42,740	63,850
Salaries and associated costs	8	175,297			175,297	159,408
Property expenses	9	23,891			23,891	45,736
Connexional funds & model trust levy		3,950	6,399		10,349	23,258
District Assessment & Levy		44,426			44,426	45,089
TMCP Levy			10,116		10,116	0
Office expenses	10	4,896	507		5,403	5,840
Other outgoings	11	6,857			6,857	5,180
Independent Examiner's Fee		600			600	600
Total charitable expenditure		302,657	17,022	0	319,679	348,961
Gains/(losses) on monetary investments						0
Gains/(losses) on investment properties		25,000			25,000	25,000
Net income/(expenditure)		(22,170)	60,106	706	38,643	(73,772)
Transfers between funds		0	0		0	0
Other gains/(losses)						
Net movement in funds		(22,170)	60,106	706	38,643	(73,772)
Total funds brought forward		1,610,522	177,978	22,194	1,810,694	1,884,466
Total funds carried forward		1,588,352	238,084	22,900	1,849,337	1,810,694

Teignbridge Methodist Circuit Charity Number 1134246

Address: The Avenue Church, The Avenue, Newton Abbot, Devon. TQ12 2BY

Teignbridge Methodist Circuit

Circuit No 24/28

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

Notes		General Fund (Unrestricted) £	Circuit Model Trusts (Unrestricted) £	Restricted Funds £	Totals 2022/23 £	Totals 2021/22 £
Fixed Assets						
Circuit Manses & Equipment	12	1,008,296			1,008,296	1,008,296
Investment properties	13	325,000			325,000	300,000
Investments					0	
Total fixed assets		1,333,296	0	0	1,333,296	1,308,296
Current Assets						
Debtors		10,078			10,078	12,109
Loans by the Circuit		16,077			16,077	16,077
Investments with TMCP			238,084		238,084	177,978
Central Finance Board Deposits		245,025		22,900	267,926	322,765
Cash at Bank and in hand		17,898			17,898	4,673
Total current assets		289,078	238,084	22,900	550,063	533,602
Current liabilities						
Creditors (due in under 1 year)		34,021			34,021	31,204
Grants payable within 2021/22					0	
Total current liabilities		34,021	0	0	34,021	31,204
Net current assets/liabilities		255,057	238,084	22,900	516,041	502,398
Total assets less current liabilities						
		1,588,353	238,084	22,900	1,849,337	1,810,694
Long term liabilities						
(due after more than one year)						
Grants payable after 2021/22					0	
Loans to the Circuit					0	
					0	
Net assets		1,588,353	238,084	22,900	1,849,337	1,810,694
Funds of the Circuit						
General Fund (Unrestricted)		1,422,214			1,422,214	1,610,522
Circuit Model Trust Fund (Unrestricted)			71,945		71,945	177,978
Designated Funds (Unrestricted)		166,139	166,139		332,278	0
Total Unrestricted Funds		1,588,353	238,084	0	1,826,437	1,788,500
Restricted Funds	14			22,900	22,900	22,194
Endowment Funds					0	0
Total Funds		1,588,353	238,084	22,900	1,849,337	1,810,694

Signed
Circuit Treasurer



John Harrison

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Teignbridge Methodist Circuit
Charity number 1134246

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Teignbridge Methodist Circuit for the year ended 31st August 2023, as set out on pages 9—13.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT)

As the charity trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) Accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) The accounts do not accord with those records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

C.W. Lillington

Clare Lillington FMAAT
Raddon Station Hill
Chudleigh
Newton Abbot
TQ13 OEE

Dated: 30th May 2024

Teignbridge Methodist Circuit

Circuit No 24/28

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2023

1 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the Charities Act 2011 in accordance with the 2015 version of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS102—the Charities SORP (FRS102) (2019).

2 Funds

The funds held constitute: General Funds held for any purpose of the Circuit which are Unrestricted; the Circuit Model Trust Fund, which has wide purposes defined in Standing Orders and is categorised as Unrestricted and Restricted Funds which are held for a narrower purpose. There are no Endowment Funds.

3 Accounting policies

Basis

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historical cost except that investments are shown at fair value at the end of the year, on the accruals basis, to show a true and fair view of the Circuit's financial position and activities. The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

Incoming Resources

Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the Circuit becomes entitled to the resources, and the trustees are reasonably certain they will receive the resources; and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Resources Expended

This is recognised when a liability is incurred, or a constructive obligation arises, that results in the payment being unavoidable. Liabilities are recognised as soon as an outflow of economic benefit is considered more likely than not under the legal or constructive obligation committing the Circuit to pay out resources

Grants

Grants made by the Circuit from its own funds are recognised in full at the time of agreement or when the Circuit accepts that there is a legal or operational obligation to make payment.

VAT

Since the Circuit is not VAT registered, all input VAT is charged with the expenses to which it refers.

8	Paid employees	2023	2022
	Staff costs incurred during the year were:		
	Gross salaries and benefits in kind - Ministers	113,745	109,498
	- Others	49,951	45,237
	Travelling Expenses	11,601	6,427
		175,297	161,162

	2023	2022
Average number of full time equivalent employees	5	6

9 Property Expenses

	2023	2022
Water rates	1,785	1,527
Council Tax	8,838	8,639
Manses	7,887	27,623
Insurance	3,920	3,555
Building surveys	0	2,125
Church repairs	0	0
Let properties	1,460	963
	23,891	44,432

10 Office Expenses

	2023	2022
Telephone	2,936	2,864
Printing	584	584
Publications	896	867
Wages charges	480	0
TMCP Charges	507	1044
	5,403	5,359

11 Other outgoings

	2023	2022
Supernumerary fees	2,575	1825
Non Employee travel expenses	1,237	
Training	695	330
Ilslington graveyard	450	540
Miscellaneous	1,474	1,680
Corbyn fund	0	0
Apprentice levy	637	616
Scoriton Church Sale Expenditure	0	316
	7,068	5,307

12 Tangible Fixed Assets Cost

Manses	31/08/2022	Add/Disp	31/08/2023
35 Valley Close	130,000		130,000
135 Churchfields Drive	325,000		325,000
12 Moorlands Close	75,000		75,000
4 Jacks Close	478,296		478,296
	1,008,296		1,008,296

13 Investment Property

	Fair Value 31/8/2021	Fair Value 31/8/2022	Revaluation	Fair Value 31/8/2023
Investments Dawlish	275,000	300,000		325,000
	275,000	300,000	0	325,000

14 Restricted Funds

The only restricted fund is the Corbyn Fund.

	As at 31/08/2022	Interest allocated	Funds expended	As at 31/08/2023
Corbyn Fund	26,121	706	0	26,827

15 Payments to Trustees

All of the paid employees are also trustees. There are 3 Presbyters, 1 lay minister, 1 lay pastoral assistant (part time), and 1 administrator (part time) whose cost is shared with a Circuit Church. Some supernumerary Ministers are also trustees who receive fees for taking services. No trustee is paid for services rendered in the capacity of a trustee. Expenses payments are made to trustees to re-imburse expenditure incurred on behalf of the circuit.

	2023 £	2023 Number of Trustees	2022 £	2022 Number of Trustees
Supernumerary fees	1,250	3	1825	1
Travel	14,234	10	6,427	9
Other	772	5	1,680	9
	<u>16,256</u>		<u>9,932</u>	

16 Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

At 31st August 2023 there are no capital commitments. (Nil)

No contingent liabilities were identified at 31st August 2023. (Nil)

17 Fees for Examination of Accounts

	2023	2022
Fees for accountancy or examination.	600	600