



**NEWS from CTIP - ADVENT SUNDAY 3<sup>rd</sup>. DECEMBER 2017**  
**At Southfield Methodist Church Paignton at 4pm.**

**THE HAVEN**

Short notes from PAULA at the Haven for the Advent Service.

Christmas is almost upon us. We begin as ever our celebrations with CAROLS on our steps around 4pm. on WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup>. DEC., and all are welcome to join us. We give away candles with the labels THE LIGHT OF CHRIST. Afterwards there are light seasonal refreshments.

On CHRISTMAS DAY there is a CHRISTMAS DINNER for homeless and vulnerable people at ST ANDREWS on Sands Road from midday.

**ToWNS – Torbay Winter Night Shelter**

Dear Churches,

It is that time of year again when we need to start to organise the Torbay Night Shelter Project, across the bay. Some of you may already have been involved in the past and we would like to thank you for your previous support of the project.

For those who don't know, Torbay Night Shelter is a inter church project which has been running very successfully in Torquay and Paignton for the past 3 years and has recently gained accreditation through the Housing Justice Project. It runs during January, February and into March for 10 weeks in total

The project offers an evening meal, a bed for the night and breakfast for up to twelve homeless guests. We also offer our guests a listening ear for them to chat through their current situation and try to signpost them for further support.

In 2018 seven churches in Torquay will offer their hospitality one night a week during January through to the beginning of February. Paignton will do the same for the remainder of February into the middle of March. This will be equal a total of 10 weeks across the bay. There is currently a shortage of volunteers for our Paignton venues, so we are looking for volunteers for our 2018 season. If we cannot get all shifts covered, the venue wont be able to open on the night.

We require volunteers every night to cover night time 10.00pm – 7.00am (this will include being awake for a few hours during the night) and breakfast 7.00am – 8.50am volunteers can opt to do one shift or the whole of the time. People do not necessarily need to be available every week, but this would be preferable. We also require duvet covers and pillow cases for single beds and we need volunteers to launder the linen each day after the guests have departed so it's clean for the following week.

Anyone who is interested or requires more information can contact Mark Gridley on 07712892735.

I think you'll agree this is a great opportunity, in our local community, to show Gods love in action.

We hope you will be able to support this project in some way and thank you for your time.

**MARK GRIDLEY ( Paignton Project Manager )**

## **BRIEF HISTORY OF SOUTHFIELD METHODIST CHURCH PAIGNTON**

Southfield Chapel is the oldest nonconformist place of worship in Paignton. Although it has been a place of Methodist worship since 1884, it began as an independent chapel in the Congregational tradition.

In 1816, a small group of Congregationalists began to meet in the kitchen of Lashbrook, a property in Kirkham Street, which included the building now called Myrtle Cottage, under the leadership of the Rev. T W Wineatt, minister of a flourishing Congregational Church in Totnes.

Nonconformism was strongly opposed by the Church of England, and to begin with the group met in secret. However, it was not long before some members were not only speaking out publicly about their membership of the congregation, but also providing for land and funds for the building of a chapel.

Richard Hunt, yeoman, provided a plot of land surrounded by Kirkham Street and Long Cross Lane, and foundation stones were laid on 24<sup>th</sup>. February 1818: ownership of the property was eventually transferred by Richard Hunt to the trustees of the chapel on 14<sup>th</sup>. March 1823.

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup>. November 1818, less than nine months after the building began, the completed Chapel was dedicated for 'the worship of Almighty God and the preaching of the gospel'; on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>. November men and women gathered for a solemn dedicatory service conducted by Revd Wineatt, and were constituted an Independent or Congregational Chapel.

The Chapel congregation grew fast, despite the tiny size of the building. On 31<sup>st</sup>. December 1831, land adjacent to the Chapel was purchased from Richard Hunt by the Trustees for a School House and Burial Ground.

A Burial Plan dated 1837 records provision for twenty-four graves in the forecourt of the Chapel, and a strip of land at the rear of the Chapel and Schoolroom reserved for burial, as well as a small number of interments under the actual chapel and schoolroom. Two of the headstones from the forecourt now rest against the front wall of the Chapel, between the present porch and boundary.

The original Chapel, School House and Burial Ground were conveyed to Miss G C Hunt on 31<sup>st</sup>. December 1883, and she in turn conveyed it on 18<sup>th</sup>. January 1884 to The Bible Christian trustees for the sum of £350.

The Bible Christians were one of the smaller groups which eventually coalesced into the modern Methodist Church.

In 1907, the Bible Christian Connexion joined with the Methodist New Connexion and the United Methodist Free Churches to form the United Methodist Church. 1932 saw a larger union of the United Methodists with the Primitive and Wesleyan Methodists to form the Methodist Church as we know it today.

Today the Chapel still has many signs of its history: the typical Georgian architecture, the inscription of *Bible Christian Chapel* in Victorian lettering on the frontage, and an interior which reflects both its Congregational and Methodist heritage.

This Brief History is only part of the history of Southfield Methodist Church and they are having a History Leaflet printed for next years 200 Celebrations!

They are also having a 'Blue Plaque on the 17<sup>th</sup>. March 2018 with the Mayor and Coffee in the morning and Burraton Male Voice Choir in the evening.

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>. March morning Service will be taken either by the President or Vice President of Conference . More events will be taking place during the year. Details will be in the finalised leaflet!

### **ADVANCE NOTICES**

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>. December at 2pm. CAROL SINGING in Victoria Street Paignton.  
Do come and join us to bring the message of Christmas to Paignton!**

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup>. January 2018 at St George's Church Goodrington  
CTIP AGM at 4pm. followed by a cream tea and then  
Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at 6.30pm.  
Everyone Welcome!**

If anyone has any comments on this News Sheet or items for inclusion in the next **NEWS from CTIP** you can email them to [c.m.marder@btinternet.com](mailto:c.m.marder@btinternet.com) or write to Carol Marder 18, Knapp Park Road Paignton. TQ4 7LA.