



250th Anniversary Special



A weekend of celebration

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A weekend of celebration

With 2025 marking 250 years of Methodism in the island, the Circuit chose the weekend of the 26th and 27th of April to celebrate this momentous milestone. The weekend was made even more special as it coincided with a visit from the President (Rev Helen Cameron) and Vice-President (Carolyn Godfrey) of this year's conference, to the island.

The weekend of events was of course centered around celebrating the Methodist anniversary, however, an additional theme was selected to honour both Helen and Carolyn's visit. For the 2024/25 Methodist Prayer book, the theme of Praise and Protest was selected, and so the circuit also decided to embrace this, specifically highlight the issues surrounding domestic abuse and violence in the island and how the Methodist community can aid in this matter. Four charities were selected who have experience with the issues with the intention that donations made across the weekend would be distributed between them, these charities are: JAAR, Freeda, Sanctuary Trust and Kairos Arts.

Over the next pages we will highlight the events that took place across the President and vice-presidents 4 day visit.



Friday 25th April - Evening meal at the Biarritz hotel



Staying in the beautiful Biarritz hotel, Rev Helen and Carolyn were joined by some of the Circuit staff and stewards for their first night in the island, with all enjoying a delicious meal and wonderful view as a start to the weekend ahead.



From Left to right: Rev Peter Goodhall, Helen Higginson, Helen Cooke, Maureen Parris, Rev Helen Cameron, Carolyn Godfrey, Rosemary Parker, Chris O'Hagan, Richard Quenault, Rev Karen Le Mouton, Rev Keith Sadow

Saturday 26th April - Visit to the Jersey Police Headquarter



In the first of the events to specifically look towards the theme of praise and protect, Helen and Carolyn were joined by Rev Dawn on a tour of Jersey Police Headquarters.

Robin Smith, the Chief of Police (as photographed to the left with Rev Helen and Carolyn) lead the tour, giving all three an opportunity to speak to individuals who deal with and see the effects of domestic abuse and violence in Jersey.

Saturday 26th April - Question Time

Continuing the theme of Praise and Protect, Rev Helen and Carolyn took part in a Question Time event at the Town Church Hall, between 12pm to 1pm.



Above: Matthew Price hosted

Hosted by Matthew Price, the President and Vice-President were joined by Mary Le Hegerat (Justice minister), Robin Smith (Chief of Police) and representatives from the four chosen charities of the weekend: Tracey Le Brocq & Brooke Le Breton (CEO and Engagement & Communications officer of JAAR), Kate Wright (CEO of Freeda), Tim Ringsdore (Chair of the Sanctuary Trust) and Cathy Sara (CEO of Karios Arts). All came together to answer questions and to discuss the issue of domestic abuse and violence in Jersey.



Left to right: Rev Helen Cameron, Carolyn Godfrey, Brooke Le Breton, Kate Wright, Tracey Le Brocq, Mary Le Hegerat, Cathy Sara, Tim Ringsdore, Robin Smith and Matthew Price.



Saturday 26th April - Question Time cont.

Over 50 people joined to listen to the panellists, in what was an interesting and thought provoking hour. As is often the case, however, we only scratched the surface of what is such a large and complex topic, but we hope that it gave all those that attended the ability to go out and continue the conversation of domestic violence and abuse with the rest of the Methodist community, raising awareness, providing support and working towards a safer future for all.





Above: Katie talking the residents through the activity

Messy Church is such an important part of the community and so a visit to a Messy vintage session was a necessary stop for Rev. Helen and Carolyn.

The session was well turned out with the residents at Maison La Corderie taking part in a special Messy vintage session, where tea and cake were a necessary accompaniment, as everyone completing their own craft of decorating a clay pot on paper.



Left: One of the completed pots

Right: Who could say no to such a delicious looking cake!



Saturday 26th April - Messy Vintage at Maison La Corderie



Above: Rev Helen, Rev Peter and Carolyn enjoying their cup of tea.

Saturday 26th April - Messy Vintage at Maison La Corderie



Left: Concentration was needed to get all the pieces of the pots finished.

Below: The wonderful messy church volunteers were on hand to help out where needed.



Left & below: Everyone took part in singing to finish off the session.



Above: The residents at Maison La Corderie are used to getting creative with their flower pot people on show in the gardens.

Right: Some of the wonderful Maison La Corderie staff.



Saturday 26th April - Interfaith Meal

In true Methodist spirit, an interfaith meal was hosted by Rev Dawn, with faith leaders from the island invited to spend the evening with Rev Helen, and Carolyn

As Rev Helen Cameron, was also the Free Church Moderator for Churches Together, from April 2022 to April 2025, it seemed especially fitting for faith leaders to come together for relaxed discussions surrounding the ecumenical situation in Jersey and gain insight and inspiration from Rev Helen's interfaith and ecumenical work in the UK.



Sitting around the table from left to right: Dr Sarfraz Jamali (leader of Jersey's Muslim community) and his wife, the Dean of Jersey: Mike Keirle (leader of the Church of England in Jersey) and his wife, Rev Helen, Martha Bernstein (leader of the Jewish community in Jersey) and her husband, Carolyn and Rev Dawn and her husband.

Sunday 27th April - First Methodists History Walk



A one-hour gentle walk through St Helier took place on Sunday the 27th, with the purpose of exploring the lives of the early Methodists in the island. Blue Badge Guide, Jean Treleven, lead the walk through and had the following thoughts after the walk:

"It was a real pleasure to share 250 years of Methodism in Jersey with our President and Vice-President and members of our churches. It is a story that not only gives context to Methodism today but also to our island heritage - the desire for change following the reformation, the recognition by a few cod fishermen of what John Wesley offered and the impact his teaching had on all aspects of life in Jersey."



Above: Rev Helen and Carolyn outside the United Club, where John Wesley preached in 1787



The story was told through significant locations such as the early harbour, the town church, Hill street, the Royal Square where Wesley preached, the Methodist run Joint Stock Bank, the prison holding Methodists who refused to drill on Sundays, Old Street and the early chapels."

Left: A group photo



Sunday 27th - Celebration Service & Afternoon Tea



All were welcomed to join in a circuit service of celebration on Sunday the 27th of April at St Helier Methodist Church.

Starting at 3pm, and lead by the President and Vice-President of the Conference, the congregation were welcomed to take their seats whilst the Circuit choir (organised specially and lead by Libby Farnon) filled the space with music and song.

The service included music and song from Rubie Le Masurier singing a solo of Dear Lord and Father of Mankind (which can be heard at: <https://fb.watch/zSHMmumW42/>), as well as the Circuit choir singing Look at the World by John Rutter (which can be heard at: <https://fb.watch/zSHJAN75EP/>).



*Above: Rubie singing Dear Lord
and Father of Mankind*



*Right: Carolyn, Rev Helen & Rev
Dawn all ready for the service*



Sunday 27th - Celebration Service & Afternoon Tea cont.



*Above left: Carolyn got the honours of cutting the cake.
Above Right: The cake was beautifully decorated and wonderfully tasty*

Rev Helen provided the sermon and a message on behalf of the charities from Cathy Sara (CEO of Kairos arts) was received, before a blessing from Rev Helen finished the service, with all being welcomed to join for tea and some beautifully decorated cake downstairs.

An opportunity to chat to some of the charities that were supported over the weekend also took place.



*Left & right:
Some of the
beautiful floral
displays on the
day*





Monday 28th - Messy Bears at Philadelphie

The last event of the weekend took place on the morning of the 28th, with another messy opportunity for both Rev Helen and Carolyn, but this time with the Messy Bears group at Philadelphie.

Rev Helen and Carolyn joined in some of the activities and got to experience first hand the joy of Messy Bears before heading off to the airport.



Thank You!

Thank you once again to everyone who helped out and took part in the events over the celebratory weekend.

We are pleased to confirm we raised a total of £1,169.09, which has been shared between the four charities involved across the weekend. If you would like to learn more about the charities that were supported during this weekend and the amazing work they do, please do check out their websites as detailed below:



www.freeda.org.je



www.jaar.je



www.sanctuarytrust.org.je



www.kairosarts.org