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## Theology and Action Research Network News – February 2025

**Dear Friends,**

From a TARN perspective 2025 feels like a year with a lot of potential. As a steering group we have been excited to come together and explore how the network could grow and develop. This email will give an indication of some of the things we're hoping to be able to do together.

We're having a conference with a particular focus on theology and action research which you are all invited to. We are also beginning to map and share more widely the variety of projects going all around the world, which engage in theology and action research. Do read on to find out more and how you can get involved.

In terms of the projects that we have been involved with as a team there is also a lot going on in 2025. We're really looking forward to Jane Day and Helen Cameron presenting some reflection on their research Project Violet this month at the TARN Seminar. Their project looking at the experience of ordained Baptist women is fascinating on a variety of levels. Please do join us for the Seminar on Zoom. Details of how to register are below. Clare and I are also beginning to move into the dissemination stage of our theological action research project looking at 'edgy' learning and 'edgy' faith. We recently gathered in Birmingham with the 7 different 'edgy' sites, who have collaborated in the project, to hear from each other and reflect together. It was a fascinating and encouraging time, seeing how faith changes, grows, develops and is passed on in these places which often feel on the edges of church or society.

We are looking forward to sharing more about the learning coming from that project over the coming months.

We hope this network will continue to develop as a place of becoming aware of one another's work, learning from one another, and sharing the practical wisdom we are all developing around theology and action research with others.

Enjoy the email, and hope to see you at a TARN event really soon,

James on behalf of the TARN-team

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## TARN Seminar

We are looking forward to our next TARN Seminar on Thursday, 20 February 2025 from 11.30am to 13.00pm (GMT).

This seminar will focus on [Project Violet](#). Helen Cameron and Jane Day present on their research into the experience of women Baptist ministers.

Please follow the link to register:

[TARN Seminar 2025](#).

If you wish to get an insight into our way of working, we would like to draw your attention to our panel discussion at our last annual [TARN Seminar](#) held in February 2024.

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## Training

We warmly encourage you to take note of our upcoming training days:

Wednesday and Thursday, 4-5 June 2025, 9:00am-12:00pm (GMT) on both days.

Thursday, 20 November 2025, 14:15pm-20:30pm (GMT).

[For more information do follow this link.](#)

Registration for our June training will open soon!

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**This is what other people say about our TAR trainings:**

*"Three key insights: "Be prayerfully attentive to the data. The formal voice can include other disciplines. TAR is about discernment through conversation."*

*"The exercises in groups and general session were informative. I really loved the polyphonic and dialogical nature of the methodology. Stimulating and inspiring."*

*"I have definitely learned about the power of conversational method through this training especially group conversations we had."*

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## **TARN One-Day Colloquium – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025, Durham.**

We are planning a one day event, specifically to explore and discuss developments in theological action research. The day – which will be, of course, conversationally focussed – is to be held adjacent to the [Ecclesiology and Ethnography Conference](#) at the same venue. Booking details coming soon - we will send these around to everyone in the coming weeks.

Hope to see you there!

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## **Opportunity to share your TAR project with the network**

At the beginning of this year, we would like to draw your attention to the opportunity of submitting information about your theological action research project, so that it can be shared with others doing such work on our website, as well as through our social media platform, and in our newsletter.

If you are currently involved in working in a theological action research project, in any capacity, or have recently completed a theological action research project, we invite you to tell us about your research via this [Google Form](#) until 1 March 2025.

If you have any questions, do write us an [email](#).



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