

NEWLYN ART GALLERY & THE EXCHANGE

GALLERY TRAIL

FREE ROUTE MAP



From **Newlyn Art Gallery**, follow the red numbers in ascending order, on your walk to The Exchange

From **The Exchange**, follow the red numbers in descending order, on your walk to Newlyn Art Gallery

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NEWLYN ART GALLERY
New Road, Newlyn, Penzance TR18 5PZ

THE EXCHANGE
Princes Street, Penzance TR18 2NL

www.newlynartgallery.co.uk 01736 363715

OPEN Summer Mon - Sat, Winter Tue - Sat, 10am - 5pm

BUSES run from The Greenmarket to Newlyn Art Gallery every 15 - 30mins.

Facts and information supplied by Blue Badge Guide Bryony Rylett of Beterion Walks. **01736 351660**
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How to use this map:
Follow the route indicated and every time you see a number (1), you will find a brief description of the site overleaf. More comprehensive information can be found online at: www.newlynartgallery.co.uk

Gallery Trail

From Newlyn Art Gallery, follow the red numbers in ascending order, on your walk to The Exchange. From The Exchange, follow the red numbers in descending order, on your walk to Newlyn Art Gallery.

Newlyn Art Gallery was commissioned by Victorian Philanthropist John Passmore Edwards, and opened in 1895. The gallery was specified first as The Opie Memorial Gallery, as cut into the stone plaque across the front façade, in honour of the 'Cornish Wonder', portrait painter John Opie. From the beginning, however, it was officially called The Passmore Edwards

Art Gallery (PEAG) in Newlyn, and colloquially as Newlyn Art Gallery (NAG). It has been remodelled and extended a number of times, most recently in 2007 with the addition of the pavilion on the seaward side.

1 Created by West Cornwall-based artist Tom Leaper, **the Fishermen's Memorial** is in honour of Newlyn fishermen who lost their lives at sea. Local people commissioned the

statue and raised the money to pay for it and its location allows relatives and friends to pay their respects as many of those lost at sea have no grave on land. Statistics show that fishermen have a one in 20 chance of being killed at work and are 50 times more likely to die working compared to other jobs. The statue was unveiled by HRH Princess Anne in 2007.



2 Depending on the season a number of **seashore plants** can be seen along the seafront, including Sea Beet (*Beta vulgaris* ssp. *maritima*) which produces masses of large, triangle-shaped, leathery leaves in spring, and Buck's-horn plantain (*Plantago coronopus*). Its leaves were used as a medicine against the bite of a mad dog.

3 **'Above Sea Level'** means the location's height above average sea level measured at Newlyn during 1915-1921. If you stand by the Fishermen's Memorial and look across to Newlyn harbour you can see the point from which all heights above mean sea level are based.



4 Penzance is in the company of a small number of places immortalised in the titles of great works of culture. The operetta **Pirates of Penzance** by Gilbert and Sullivan was first performed in 1879. W S Gilbert, who wrote the libretto, thought he had Cornish ancestors. In the 17th and 18th centuries Cornwall was plagued



by pirates. Boats were captured, fishermen kidnapped and sold into slavery. In July 1625 sixty men, women and children, the congregation of a Penzance church, were kidnapped and enslaved. Penzance seafront was again overrun by pirates in June 2011 when 8,734 local people claimed a Guinness World Record for the largest gathering of people dressed as pirates, smashing the previous record held by Hastings. **The Cornish Pirates** is also the name of the successful local rugby team.

At the end of the Newlyn Green, by the basketball courts, cross the pebbles and take the steps up to the promenade. **To avoid steps**, do not cross the pebbles and continue along the pavement, joining the promenade via a short slope.

5 Penzance has the only **Promenade** in Cornwall. Before the prom, as it is known, was built, a succession of towans (Cornish for dunes) linked Newlyn to Penzance

Why pink? The prom was completed in 1843 and in 1870 was laid with tarmac and gravel which became soft and sticky in hot weather. 27 years later it was resurfaced; this time with concrete paving which led to more complaints about the glare caused by the sun shining on the slabs. Eventually, in 1896, the council laid new slabs, tinted pink to reduce glare. A relic of the re-laying ceremony is the slab, inlaid with brass arrows, indicating magnetic and true north. This is found opposite

the bottom of Alexandra Road. In 1962, 300 people were made homeless by the worst storm in living memory. The eight-month reconstruction of the prom included building a low wall, designed to protect property from tidal surges. The wall does not stop waves, sometimes as high as the three-storey Queen's Hotel, from crashing up and over onto the road.



6 **The Jubilee Bathing Pool** is a Grade II listed building you can swim in! Named to commemorate the Jubilee of King George V, the pool is one of the finest surviving examples of an Art Deco seaside lido. It was badly damaged in the storms of February 2014 and has undergone major refurbishment. It opens to swimmers and sunbathers from May to September.



Enter the churchyard through the south entrance, with the granite archway. Go up the steps and exit through the gates to join Chapel Street. **To avoid steps in the church yard**, continue using the pavement below church wall, turning up into Chapel Street.

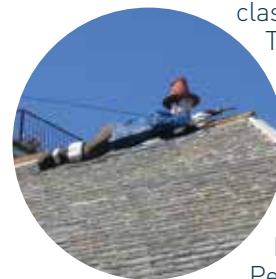
7 **St Mary's Church** stands on and near the site of ancient chapels. The stone pinnacle of the spire of the previous chapel can be seen beside the remains of an ancient cross rescued from a much earlier chapel. The present Church opened in 1835 and its

style is Commissioner's Gothic. In 1985 an arson attack damaged the interior and the new East window includes images of a lugger and the RMS Scillonian.

8 Unusually many houses in Chapel Street are **brick-faced**. This was probably due to the street's proximity to the harbour where ships arriving would exchange their brick ballast for cargos such as copper ore, pilchards and china clay. Look for unusual laying patterns and colours.



9 **'The Admiral Benbow'**. Sound familiar? There is an inn of the same name in Robert Louis Stevenson's classic 1883 novel 'Treasure Island'. The author and his parents visited Cornwall in August 1877 and his letters from the visit indicate they stayed in Penzance. Look up on the roof and you will see a life-size replica of Octavious Lanyon, one of the notorious Benbow gang, who used the Penzance Inn as its headquarters.



10 **The Union Hotel** was formerly the Ship and Castle Inn. It was renamed to mark the union of England and Ireland in 1801. News of Nelson's victory and death at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805 was announced here 38 hours before the news reached London.

11 **The Egyptian House** in Chapel Street was built by mineralogist John Lavin in 1835 to house his collection of rocks and minerals. The architect is thought to have been John Foulston of Plymouth. The Landmark Trust acquired the unique building in 1988 and it now houses two shops and holiday apartments.



12 East of The Exchange, **Number 4, New Street**, was the home of the Newlyn and Penzance Art Students' Society from 1888, run by Norman Garstin who painted one of the most iconic images of Penzance: 'The Rain It Raineth Every Day'. Now it is the most popular painting at Pentlee House Gallery & Museum. Alfred Wallis, the painter, lived for a while at **Number 2**, and married Susan Ward at St. Mary's Church. They moved to St Ives and Wallis took up painting after her death in 1922.

The Exchange was built on the site of a former market that opened in 1845. The market was bought by the Post Office and demolished to make way for a telephone exchange that opened in 1964. Now the former telephone exchange is The Exchange, which celebrates its first decade in 2017.