

Rejoicing in Our Theological Students and Wishing Them Well



Jon Brewer has just started his third year of studies at the South Wales Baptist College.



Mervyn Rigg, who is in his second year at the South Wales Baptist College and hopes to be a Hospital Chaplain.



Sian Elin Thomas is trained jointly by the Coleg Gwyn and SWBC and has just commenced a placement at y Graig, Newcastle Emlyn.



Neil Warburton, who is continuing his studies at the South Wales Baptist College.



Richard John Miles began studying Baptist History and Principles this year at SWBC.



Rebekah Smethurst has begun studying at St Padarn's Institute this year on an MTh Course in Children, Youth and Family Specialism.



Tomos Roberts Young is undertaking a Masters course at the University of St Andrews.

CALFARIA SKEWEN WELCOMES A NEW MINISTER



Reverend Huw Anderson and his wife, Alex

Perhaps it was because my maternal grandparents were missionaries in Bolivia for many decades that long-term missionary service has always been high on my personal agenda. Positively, it has spurred me on to take risks for the sake of the Kingdom. Negatively, it has made me impatient with much of routine church life. Most of my Christian life has been lived within the Baptist family and my first official role was as the Social Responsibility Secretary of the old West Wales English Baptist Association back in 1992/3.

Despite a lucrative career in the City of London I felt that I needed to live and work in a country where Evangelical Christianity had few roots. I had become well acquainted with Italy during a student project there in 1990 and felt the beginnings of a call to serve there. It was not until 1997 that I decided to move to Milan, initially to find work in the financial sector and support local churches in my spare time. However, despite my somewhat naïve and foolhardy enthusiasm, the Lord made it clear to me that He was overruling my plans. His call was to the ordained ministry and a long period of training and preparation back in the UK.

Finally, my wife Alex and I departed for Sicily in 2007 with BMS World Mission. We helped in various Baptist

churches in southern Italy, keeping a Gospel witness alive in very difficult circumstances.

We returned to Swansea in 2010 for family reasons and Alex officially started training for the ministry. She is now a chaplain based in Morriston hospital. After working in ministry and mission development in Anglican circles in South-West Wales, I am now minister of Calfaria BUW chapel in Skewen. The challenges are also immense here, especially in these Covid times. However, there is something very positive about the congregation at Calfaria and time will tell what the Lord can bring about here. All we know is that He has been faithful in the past and will be again in the future.

Reverend Huw Anderson

**‘O sing to the
LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD
all the earth’.
(Psalm 96:1)**

Harvest Prayers by the Union’s President

*“ Our God makes the harvest grow
Let us praise his name.”*

At this year’s Harvest time let us give thanks for:

- the blessings of the seasons and for the richness and beauty of the world around us;
- the land, fruit and vegetables, and for the farmers who worked diligently to produce the crops;
- farmers in the world’s poor countries for their efforts under difficult circumstances and with basic facilities, who manage to sow and harvest all kinds of foods to satisfy us in this country;
- voluntary organisations that help the millions suffering from famine and drought, and for the individuals in our country who regularly volunteer to help the world’s neediest people including the millions of refugees;
- medical and care teams for their efforts to prevent the spread of Covid-19 and similar horrific diseases;
- relatives and friends and people who volunteer and give time to offer comfort to the elderly, the infirm, the disadvantaged and the lonely;
- people who secure refuge for the homeless and those who are experiencing a hard time, to give them the opportunity to have a better quality of life in the future;
- scientists and all those striving to improve the environment to ensure better facilities and future for all the inhabitants of the world.

“God continues to provide so as to meet the needs of humankind, a source of comfort and help from day to day”

**David Peregrine, President
Welsh Language Wing BUW**

YOUNG PEOPLE EMBARK ON INTERNSHIPS

This is Mia Anderson from Capel Gomer ...



My name is Mia Anderson, I'm 18 and live in Swansea.

I have been a Christian for a year and

a half. I grew up going to chapel but I never really believed in God. But two years ago I started questioning if there was a God. I started praying even though I didn't think I was talking to anyone. Then one day I noticed that I was talking to God and that he was listening to me. A couple of days later I was invited to a Gomer Chapel lunch. I went, and as it was Easter time they talked about how Jesus died for us. For the next week and a half that's all I could think of. So one night I looked into what Jesus did for us and why, and I knew in my heart that it was the truth and I became a Christian at that moment.

During the last year and a half, God has brought me closer to him as I have grown in faith as he has been at work in my life. I've been going to the chapel and the Bible study on a weekly basis. I have also been

sharing God's word by helping out in the Christian Union at school by holding discussions and children's courses.

This year I am doing an Internship with Gomer Chapel and the Baptist Union of Wales. The Internship includes studying the Bible and other books, helping out with studies and learning how to share God's word.

During the Internship, I will be mentored by a number of Gomer Chapel members and also people from the local Christian community.

I am very excited to have this opportunity of strengthening my relationship with God and to get to understand His word better during the year.

Mia Anderson

... and Gruff Jenkins, Tabernacl, Llwynhendy

I come from a family full of Mathematicians including myself as I went to University to study Mathematics. I enjoy Maths but I was not sure what the next step would be after graduating. Going into the Ministry of the Word was at the back of my mind in the middle of my fourth year.

So, I decided to do a year with the Baptist Union of Wales, as part of the Wales Action Team. During the year I had opportunities to preach and work with different Churches. After that I decided to work for a year and continue to preach. I worked as a Learning Assistant for the Mathematics Department at Bryntawe Comprehensive School and had opportunities to preach in many Churches in Wales throughout the year.

And now after consideration and prayer, going into Ministry was at the forefront of my mind

I want a year that includes practical involvement with a local Church in Wales and a step towards ministry,



and this internship scheme offers that.

The scheme will give me time to study, discuss and read theological books, Church history, Biblical commentaries and books looking at the practicalities of the ministry. The scheme will provide a good basis for

going on to study Theology and then into ministry. The internship plan will also include practical elements for Ministry such as how to share/learn the Word of God in different situations.

Gruff Jenkins

The Baptist Union of Wales Internship

If you are interested in
pursuing an internship
then please contact the
Reverend Simeon Baker

for further details:

simeon@ubc.cymru

A MISSION ENABLER FOR ANGLESEY



Deb Stammers and her family

I am Deb Stammers, and I am looking forward to starting with Anglesey Association as a Mission Enabler in November. I will be fulfilling this role on a part-time basis, alongside my work as Minister

at New Park Street English Baptist Chapel, Holyhead. I have just finished the MTh course at South Wales Baptist College in Cardiff, and over the summer I have moved to Anglesey from Bethesda in Gwynedd, with my family.

I grew up in England, but I met Jon, my husband, when I was doing a year with Wycliffe Bible Translators. We both went to Senegal in Africa with Wycliffe, but Jon was a boy from Bangor, so that's how I landed in North Wales after we came home and got married. I have learnt Welsh, and I have a background working as a social worker with Gwynedd and Anglesey Councils.

I would be very grateful for your prayers as I embark on this new initiative. Pray for:

Our children, Bethan (11) and Ioan (8), as they settle in new schools. Wisdom and vision in order to discern God's leadership as I work alongside the churches that are part of Anglesey Association.

Deb Stammers

WELCOME BACK TO CEFNCRIBWR

In the midst of the difficulties and challenges of this period, it is a great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to the members and friends of Nebo, Cefncribwr.

The church has decided to renew its links by re-joining the West Glamorgan Association and the BUW.

The Baptist cause at Cefncribwr, a small village in the county borough of Bridgend, not far from the town of Bridgend, dates back to 1844 and continues to be a active witness to Lord Jesus in the community.

Today the church, which is located at the centre of the village, is a close and active congregation full of faith and enthusiasm. There is a preaching Service every Sunday afternoon along with a successful mid-week Bible study and prayer meeting.

One of the church's Deacons, Mr David Woods, said that the church is grateful for the support of the Association and the Union during this period and is looking forward to



being part of the Baptist family once again.

We extend a warm welcome to our friends at Nebo and pray for God's blessing on the work of the church in the community of Cefncribwr.

TIMOTHY RICHARD APPEAL:

Providing Educational Opportunities for the Children of Refugees in Lebanon

It had been our intention to close the Appeal at this year's Annual Meetings but due to COVID-19 it has been agreed to extend the Appeal to June 2021. We very much hope that we will reach the target of £40,000 and demonstrate a special generosity for Lebanon which is facing enormous challenges.