



## South East Wales Unitarian News

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November 2015

### FOR YOUR DIARY

**Sunday, 6 December** – District Carol Service: 11am at Hen Dŷ Cwrdd, Trecynon, Aberdare.  
(See 'From the District President' below.)

**Saturday, 9 January** – Copy deadline for the next issue of the South East Wales Unitarian News.

**Sunday, 10 January** – 'Mari Lwyd' promises to visit Gellionnen. (See 'Gellionnen News' below.)

**Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> March** – Meeting at The Boars Head, Carmarthen at 10.30am.  
(See 'From the Secretary of the Unitarian Welsh Department' below.)

### VISIT TO SOUTH EAST WALES BY GA PRESIDENT

On Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> November, on a wonderfully sunny autumn afternoon, South East Wales Unitarians gathered for a service at High Street Unitarian Church, Swansea conducted by General Assembly President Rev John Clifford, with organist Stephen Wilson. Prior to the commencement of the service John, and wife Barbara were welcomed by District President Tony Foster.

Before moving to Scotland John was, for eighteen months or so, the interim minister of three SE Wales congregations – Aberdare, Cardiff and Cefncoed – so it was good to have John and Barbara with us once again, albeit for just a brief visit.

As a memento of his presidential visit to SE Wales John was presented with a traditional Welsh Love Spoon.

An excellent buffet provided after the service gave everyone the opportunity of a pleasant hour of convivial company.

We are indebted to Swansea congregation for hosting a most successful event.

[See also *Swansea News* below.]



Rev John Clifford

Photo: Joy Foster

### FROM THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

During the first six months of my presidency I have been able to join with congregations of four of our chapels, and was delighted to be asked to read at the services. A very warm welcome has been extended to Joy and myself, and we have thoroughly enjoyed the services.

I hope to visit Cardiff and Wick in the near future.

I know that a number of our chapels are seeking ministers, but I have to say that we are very fortunate in our district for the high quality services we receive each week, and we are very grateful to those who put their names forward on the pulpit plan.

I was also delighted to be invited, along with Joy and Dilys Evans, to the Harvest Service at Frenchay Chapel, Bristol on the 4<sup>th</sup> October. We took with us tins of food to add to the harvest table, which were to be given to the local food bank. It was an excellent service followed by a shared lunch.

Following on from the GA publication 'A Vision for Our Future', a meeting is being held in Sheffield on November 21<sup>st</sup>, to discuss the future of our denomination. I am pleased to say that the South East Wales District will be well represented at this meeting, with at least six members attending.

## **District Christmas Service**

The District Christmas Service will be held at Hen Dŷ Cwrdd, **Trecynon** at 11am on 6<sup>th</sup> December. The chapel is now owned by Addoldai Cymru (Welsh Religious Buildings Trust). The chapel is undergoing restoration at present. It now has a new roof and the ceiling and rose have been repaired. Further work will be carried out, with a kitchen extension and toilet, when funds are available. The first service in twenty years was held in the Summer. Addoldai Cymru are delighted that Aberdare Unitarians are making use of the chapel. As there are no facilities available, refreshments will be served at Highland Place schoolroom after the service. I hope that this event will be well supported, and it is an opportunity for those who have never been to Hen Dŷ Cwrdd, to view this historic chapel. For those who do not know the location of the chapel, I can supply details.

*Tony Foster*

## **FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE UNITARIAN WELSH DEPARTMENT**

I have to start this time with a massive “thank you” to all who completed and returned the questionnaire that was included with the last newsletter. Your responses will be invaluable in helping the Welsh Department to create a development plan which will move the movement forward. If you didn’t manage to complete it, then don’t worry – it’s not too late! You might remember in the last issue that I mentioned a conference to be held sometime in the autumn, but for all sorts of reasons, this has now been postponed until the spring. It will be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30 at The Boars Head, Carmarthen. The programme has not been set yet, but please do put it in your diaries.

There are a few more dates for your diaries as well –

On the 15<sup>th</sup> November at 2 o’clock the Inter-faith Council for Wales will be launching Inter-faith Week 2015 at Yr Hen Gapel, Llwynrhydowen, Pontsian. This is an historic occasion as this will be the first time that an event like this has been held outside of Cardiff and I’m very pleased and proud that they have chosen to come to a Unitarian chapel. The event will be called “Celebrating Differences through learning about each other” and there will be representatives from 3 different faiths giving a taste of the way they worship, followed by cawl at the vestry. This will be an excellent opportunity for us all to enjoy, to discuss and to get to know and understand each other. I realise that it’s quite a way to travel, and that it’s on a Sunday, but please do try and come and prove that when we Unitarians say that we “nurture faith, embrace life and celebrate differences” that we do actually mean it!

The other big event that we should try and attend is the “Vision into Action” day which will be held at Sheffield on Saturday November 21<sup>st</sup>. This is an event which has been organised by the EC to follow on from the Vision papers which were published at the Annual Meetings earlier this year. It’s an opportunity for our voices to be heard and will help to shape the future of Unitarianism in Britain. I know that some of you have already made arrangements to be present and I look forward to having your company there. Let’s make every effort to make sure that Wales is heard!

*Melda Grantham*

## **GA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE KEY MESSAGES 18 and 19 September 2015**

### **1. Nightingale Centre**

The Executive Committee (EC) met for these sessions at the Nightingale Centre, the Unitarian retreat and conference centre at Great Hucklow in rural Derbyshire. In their capacity as trustees of the Centre they initially met informally with the Centre Manager, Stella Burney, and members of the Centre’s Management Committee to hear about the progress made at the Centre as well as their exciting plans for the future.

During the EC formal meeting with members of the Management Committee there was an opportunity to explore how both sides could better work together to promote the Vision for the Future that was emerging. All recognised that the Nightingale Centre was an invaluable resource for the Unitarian Movement across the UK which needed to be cherished and supported. It was also recognised that there were opportunities arising for the Centre to become involved in supporting and developing new initiatives as part of the Vision process. The EC thanked the members of the Management Committee, Stella Burney and all the members of staff for their commitment and hard work at the Nightingale Centre which was highly valued by Unitarians throughout the country.

### **2. Vision Update – “Making Change Happen: From Vision to Action**

The Executive Committee focused primarily on planning for the forthcoming one-day workshop at Upper

Chapel, Sheffield on 21 November 2015 – “Making Change Happen: From Vision to Action”. The purpose of the event is to turn the Vision initiative launched at this year’s Annual Meetings into a programme of action that will inspire people to become involved in growing and developing Unitarianism in the years to come. Look out for information and invitations which will shortly be circulated. This promises to be the largest gathering of Unitarians outside of the GA Meetings for many years and we need to hear as many new voices and ideas as possible if we are to deliver an action plan that is fit for purpose. A limited number of bursaries will be available to cover the travel costs for those who would not otherwise be able to attend. Applications should be made directly to Derek McAuley.

### **3. General Assembly Budget 2015/16**

A budget for the new financial year which begins on 1 October 2015 was approved. Recognising that many congregations face increasing financial pressures, the Congregational Quota of £35 will remain unchanged from last year. All present recognised that maintaining a stable financial position will be a major challenge for the year ahead.

### **4. Millennium Fund – closed to new applications**

The Executive Committee agreed with immediate effect to close the Millennium Fund to new applications. This was to be able to financially support new growth initiatives for the future that will come out of the forthcoming Vision workshop. In order to do this the remaining funds will be allocated to a special fund to kick-start the Vision Plan and will not be spent on day-to-day activities.

### **5. 2020 Leadership Team**

The Executive Committee approved the appointment of Angela Maher to the 2020 Leadership Team.

### **6. Widows’ Fund**

On 18 February 2008 the General Assembly signed a Deed about the funding of the Ministerial Pension Fund (MPF) whereby it would become the Guarantor of Last Resort to the MPF in defined circumstances. Within the conditions of this Deed, the MPF has a duty of disclosure in the event of a material change of circumstances. The MPF has presented a request to the General Assembly to approve such a material change, namely the acceptance of the assets and liabilities of the Widows’ Fund into the funds of the MPF. In advocating this amalgamation, the MPF Trustees considered that they were proposing a course of action that would protect the long term solvency of the MPF and thus provide its members with greater pension security. The Executive Committee approved the request.

*Executive Committee*

## **THOUGHT FOR NOW**

(We are indebted to Anne Jones for bringing the following to our attention)

*Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.*

*Arthur Ashe (1943–93) US tennis player*

## **ABERDARE**

Our harvest Service this year was taken by the Rev Daniel Costley of Sevenoaks. We were joined by members from Cefn Coed and Cardiff, Arthur Saunders and our friends from Llanharry. Gifts for the food bank were brought, and these were duly delivered by Joy and Tony Foster to the distribution centre in Gurnos. It is now our intention to keep a box in the schoolroom for regular donations.

On 26<sup>th</sup> September, the open Day at Hen Dŷ Cwrdd, Trecynon, historian Huw Williams of Merthyr spoke about the Chartist Movement. Both the visit and lecture proved to be very popular. We now look forward to the District Christmas Service at this venue on 6<sup>th</sup> December.

On 1<sup>st</sup> October, Derek Williams introduced a concert by the Young Colstars, at Highland Place. Michael Jones accompanied them on the piano. We cannot praise these teenagers too highly. The quality of their singing of show-stoppers, and also that of the soloists, was excellent and very professional. They are not to be missed.

Our collection box in the schoolroom for refugees raised £100 and has now been sent off. Our own Gift Day will be on 22<sup>nd</sup> November and our Coffee and Craft morning on 28<sup>th</sup> November.

Congratulations to Jennifer Jones for her accomplished presentation of the news on BBC Wales. We know her as ‘Jen’, daughter-in-law of Anne and Eric Jones

It is with regret that we have to announce that our revered Hazel Jones died at Ysbyty Cwm Cynon on Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup> at the age of 84 years. Hazel will be missed by her family and many friends and will leave a very large gap in the life of Highland Place as she was outstanding in her counsel, her devotion, her faithfulness and her support at all times.

### **Women's League**

We have enjoyed a talk on Thomas Hardy, a quiz, a lunch at Aberdare Golf Club and have brought in items of special interest or meaning to us. One meeting had to be cancelled when our new, very welcome windows were installed.

On 14<sup>th</sup> October we met at Cefn Coed for our District Women's League Meeting. District President, Diana Bianchi, chaired the meeting and Joy Foster, National Women's League President, delivered the service and address. Cefn Coed members hosted the event. Our thanks to them for an excellent buffet, service with a smile, and for creating a very happy atmosphere.

On 21<sup>st</sup> October Joy Foster, Anne Jones and Dilys Evans attended the National Women's League Rally at Whalley Abbey in Lancashire. Joy officiated at meetings. Her well-conceived, excellently crafted service in the chapel was a credit to our District.

Dilys Evans

### **CARDIFF UNITARIANS / UNDOIDIAID CAERDYDD**

The rugby World Cup and Cardiff bus strikes caused some disruption to our services during late September and October when unfortunately we had to cancel a couple because of disrupted traffic flows, cancellations in public transport and the volume of people in the city. However, we were able to enjoy some memorable services despite this and several members were able to attend the joint Harvest service at Highland Place and also enjoyed a Family service organised by Sarah, Diana and Caroline, when the young people ably demonstrated their puppetry and reading skills. We also held a Unitarian Inter-Faith Peace Service when we were joined by a few of our Quaker Friends and Robin Atfield spoke about the Quaker position on Peace, including his own personal reflections. Readings, music and meditations about Peace rounded off the service and this was followed by a special fellowship tea.

Four of our members were happy to attend the service conducted by the Rev John Clifford, GA National President on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November at our Swansea Church.

Because of planned District events, there will be no Children's Club in November and December, but our Christmas Service on December 20<sup>th</sup> at 4pm will be a Family Service.

We offer our best wishes for a speedy recovery to good health to Marjorie Collins who has spent some time in hospital following a fall. Happily, she is now back at home and we look forward to her being able to join us on Sunday afternoons, very soon.

We extend good wishes to Pat Simpson and Olwen (Lyn Davies's sister) who have recently moved homes.

On 21<sup>st</sup> November several church members will attend the 'Making Change Happen' Vision Day in Sheffield and we have devoted some time in discussion about the six planned themes for the day.

Cardiff Unitarians have been partnered with the Universalist Church, Belfast in Maine, USA and we look forward to learning about/meeting our new friends.

#### United Nations Forthcoming Events at the Temple of Peace

*Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm* - 'Stop transatlantic Trade Deals' run by Global Justice Now. (A resolution was taken at the last Unitarian Annual Meetings that congregations would inform themselves about TTIP and this meeting would be a good opportunity to do this.

*Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 7-9pm* - 'Ban Schoolyard Recruitment'. Speakers will be Ben Griffin (Veterans for Peace) and David Petersen (Cymdeithas Y Cymod)

#### Quotes to think about

*'Every moment happens twice: inside and outside and they are two different histories'* (Zadie Smith)

*'Life is a mirror: if you frown at it, it frowns back; if you smile, it returns the greeting'* (William Makepeace Thackeray)

Lis Dyson-Jones

## CEFNCOED

### Women's League

On our last meeting in September we were pleased to have a visit from Lis Dyson-Jones. She came to give us a talk on the voluntary work she does at the Law Courts in Cardiff – it was very interesting. (Thank you Lis.)

The following week we all went to the 'Barn' at Pontsticill for a cream Tea. We were made so welcome. The ladies who own it are from our village.

Since then I've been unable to attend League as my husband has been in hospital so I missed the meeting held at Cefn on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October. I understand it went well.

We have now booked our Christmas Lunch at the Nant Ddu Lodge, Cwmtâf.

We are pleased to welcome a new member, Mrs Sylvia Evans to our League.

I know it may be a little early but, with Christmas fast approaching, we all send you our best wishes for a happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy new year.

Vera Tomsett

### Open Doors / Drysau Agored 2015

As part of the *Open Doors* event organised by Cadw, the Welsh Government's historic environment service, Hen Dŷ Cwrdd was open to the public on the afternoons of Saturday and Sunday, 12 and 13 September, and also on Sunday evening.

Hen Dŷ Cwrdd does not have sufficient drawing-power to produce a *stream* of visitors passing through its doors but, for each of the years that we have taken part in the event, we have always managed to attract sufficient visitors to make it worthwhile. This year was no exception: we had visits from some old friends and a number of first-time visitors from Caerphilly, Cardiff and Rhôs, Pontardawe, as well as from the Merthyr Tydfil area.



Mog Chambers, Ken Morgan, Tony Foster, Phil Griffiths

Photo: Rob Hudson

The service on Sunday evening celebrated the chapel's 268<sup>th</sup> anniversary, focusing on the contributions made by founder-member Siôn Llewelyn and his grandson Gwilym Harri. Readings were presented by District President Tony Foster, and by Morgan Chambers, Phil Griffiths, and Ken Morgan, who are all former holders of that office. (The four share a further 'claim to fame' – they each had the benefit of being 'moulded' at Vaynor & Penderyn School in the village of Cefncoed.)

### Sadness

We were saddened by the death, in September, of Elizabeth, wife of Prof David Brynmor Thomas, St Andrews, Scotland. We extend our sympathy to David and his family in their loss.

### Harvest Thanksgiving Services

We celebrated Harvest Thanksgiving on two occasions – on Sunday 27 September we joined Aberdare and Cardiff congregations at Highland Place, Aberdare for a service conducted by Rev Daniel Costley of Sevenoaks, and on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October we held our own Harvest Service at Hen Dŷ Cwrdd, conducted by members of the congregation. Members of the Women's league arranged a display of produce, and the gifts of tins and non-perishable foodstuff were delivered to the Salvation Army food bank at Merthyr Tydfil.

### Best wishes

Peter Powell (Brecon) is now a patient at Brecon Memorial Hospital. We send him our best wishes and hope he will be discharged soon.

Best wishes also to Paddy Tomsett, husband of Vera, who is now home after a stay at Prince Charles Hospital, Merthyr.

*Ken Morgan*

## **NOTTAGE**

Gwladys Howell had a fall, breaking her hip, so has been in hospital for a month. I'm very pleased to report that she is back in the residential home where she lives in Porthcawl and is doing well. We all send our love and best wishes for a continued recovery. We light candles "of concern" at the beginning of our services, and the first one is always for Gwladys. After over 70 years of regular attendance, she is always with us, in spirit if not in person. We also light a candle each week for Eileen Howarth of Swansea. Eileen started to attend services at Nottage because she couldn't drive in the dark to Swansea church. She soon became a much loved member of our congregation, but ill health has prevented her attendance this year, we miss her.

We are really lucky to have the regular playing of our organ by Isabelle Rosenberg now. Isabelle graduated with a Music Honours degree from the Birmingham Conservatoire in the summer, and is having a "gap year" in "sunny Porthcawl" so is helping us while she is here, which is very much appreciated.

Our premises had "a makeover" recently when David Williams spent the day weeding and tidying up the outside of our buildings. He did a wonderful job, again much appreciated, as is his attendance and membership of our small church family.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of October, a new chapter of our church life began with the commencement of the services of Reverend Lewis Rees at Nottage. Lewis will conduct 2 services a month for us and at the moment is spending 2 days in the week in Porthcawl. Lewis is meeting all of the Ministers of the other churches in Porthcawl at the moment to set up "a link" with them and their congregations, he is also visiting local schools to get himself known, and has set up the possibility of conducting a service at the school nearest the chapel. We are thrilled to have a "leader" once more.

Our Harvest service was well attended, conducted by Lewis Rees. Lewis encouraged us to think about what we need, instead of what we want, and to be more mindful of those around us who have nothing. Our Harvest gifts were dried goods for the Porthcawl Foodbank. Lewis delivered them to the Y Centre in Porthcawl, which is where the goods are distributed, and was well received by grateful staff. He is getting around!!

The following poem was written especially for one of our services by Rosie Owen, the granddaughter of a very proud Rose. Rose has been a lifelong Unitarian, and we are so pleased to have her with us at Nottage as a valued member of our church family.

*Family is a circle of love, the love is equal for everyone,*

*Family is not just people blood related.*

*Family pick you up when you are in a million pieces and help you stay strong.*

*But the most important thing about a family is that they are there for you whenever you need them.*

*Just remember we all belong somewhere and your family started your life, and gave you a place where you belong.*

by Rosie Owen, aged 13.

Our Harvest congregation was increased with the surprise visit of Melda Grantham. Melda met us first when she took up her, then, new post. It was lovely to have her join us again, and she stayed to our shared lunch, which meant we had the pleasure of her company for longer, and she got to meet a few more of us. Diolch yn fawr Melda.

*Avril Protheroe*

## **SWANSEA**

The highlight for the Swansea Church was hosting the annual President's visit. We were very pleased to see the Rev John Clifford and his wife again and delighted to hear him preach from our pulpit. Tony Foster the District President welcomed him to the SE Wales district and gave us a little of John's history. He has been minister of churches in Scotland, England and Wales but he is probably better known for his work at the General Assembly in London where he was employed as General Secretary for several years. He gave us a very thought provoking service encouraging us to consider the parable of the Samaritan. He encouraged us not to walk on the other side, not to ignore the cries of help. He stressed how important it was to **do** something, "whatever you do—do not 'do nothing.'" Action, no matter how small, is needed from us all. In our world today there are so many people needing help. He spoke of the migrant situation, the

war situation and closer to home the food banks and the plight of the migrants in our cities and towns. He stressed how important it is for us to use our prayers to ensure we do the right action.

It was a very pleasurable day. The teamwork of the congregation beforehand and throughout the day ensured that it all went without a hitch and more importantly we had some fun!

Our harvest service was taken by Julianne with our gifts going to the St Thomas Church Food Bank, organised by the Tussler Trust. We had a plentiful supply of tins and dried food which gave our church a proper harvest feel.

We have also benefitted from several visitors to our services over the last few weeks. Among them a gentleman from California who comes over to the UK several times a year to visit his relatives and his 92 year old mother. We hope he will visit our church again.

Our Church building and Grounds has been having a little TLC in the past few months. Lynn has been very busy getting trees cut down and our graveyard cleared of weeds and shrubs. He has also been in charge of the watering of our floral displays in the front of the church. We have had a new leaded window replaced in the schoolroom and the downstairs hall is being gradually de-cluttered and parts decorated. However there is still a lot of work that needs doing. And our congregation is really busy with all these cruises and holidays. It is a hard life being retired!!

*Hilda Dumpleton*

## TREBANOS

### CAPEL Y GRAIG

The summer saw much activity on the chapel's organ chamber where felt seals were renewed at the rear access doors which are provided to service the large organ pipes.

Lawrence, our organist, continues to service the organ and he is to be complemented for regular maintenance on the organ's blower which requires fairly frequent lubrication.

I know that the organ has always been played every Sunday for more than eighty years. It has been as reliable as "Big Ben" and is a credit to Lawrence for all his dedicated work. Is this a record?

When the organ was installed in 1923, the electric supply for the organ blower was DC, as was the case for most houses in Trebanos at this time. Our late organist, Isaac Hopkins, would always arrive about 10 minutes early for the evening service and start the motor driving the organ blower. This invariably dimmed all the domestic lighting in Trebanos and my grandfather would say to his family:

***"It is time we went as Isaac is already at the Chapel Organ."***

You may listen to the Graig Organ by using Google. Just type in "***youtube Graig Organ by Binns***" (click on – "A look at the organ", for a tour, and then on Rock of Ages, Blessed Assurance, and others.) Relax and enjoy the music from one of the best Pipe Organs in the Swansea Valley.

*Colin Morgan*

### GELLIONNEN

Back in the summer we were visited by Gareth Williams and his granddaughter who is creating a family tree. Gareth, who is one of our trustees, took us to see where, as a boy, he had carved his initials on one of the pews!

The folk service conducted by the Rev Alun Wyn Dafis was much welcomed, as ever, and it was such a pleasure to hear him accompany his saxophonist daughter Ffion. Our thanks go to the local folk music enthusiasts who performed once more. Not only do we enjoy, but they always tell us that this is a wonderful building to perform in.

Our harvest service should have been taken by Colin Morgan who is unwell. Julie Nedin stepped into the breach and our very good wishes go to Colin. As usual we followed the harvest thanksgiving with bowls of soup, and dry goods were later taken to support the Ponty Pantry, our local food bank.

Two pews have been removed from either side of the pulpit. This has allowed us to re-site the keyboard, and the other newly acquired space will be used for tea, coffee etc. It will also be easier to accommodate a wheelchair or buggy.

Julie and Martin have strimmed the long grass around the chapel in time for a forthcoming wedding and Sandra Beynon looks forward to bringing out the marriage register.

This year Harri Evans Mason has moved on to Neath College and brother Jack to Cwmtawe Comp. Their cousins Lydia and Rhys are in the same school in Bedford. Aneurin Jones and Siân Evans are in their

final year in Ysgol Ystalyfera and Siân's sister Gwennan is now also in Ystalyfera. Katy Clark is pursuing her A levels and sister Megan her GCSEs. We wish them all well in this coming school year.

To look forward to the New Year – the Mari Lwyd has told us that “she” will be visiting in January – probably on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

*Marian Littlepage*

## **WICK**

As part of our Harvest Thanksgiving, we collected a wonderful selection of goods for the Porthcawl Foodbank. It helped us to appreciate the world-wide nature of our Thanksgiving here in Wales, as we considered the parts played in the production of our increasing variety of food by so many people — and whether they receive a fair share of the goods they work so hard to provide. Our collection was received so gratefully that we have agreed to make a special Advent collection for them.

This year our joint Village Remembrance Service will be held in the Anglican Church of St James, and the vicar has asked Julianne to deliver the address. The ‘joint service’ is a wonderful example of co-operation between our two places of worship, long may it continue.

Our treasurer Mansel Lalis has had some bad news from his family in London. His brother-in-law is seriously ill and Mansel has had to go to London to help his sister. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

Our best wishes to all our friends in the District.

*Julianne Morgan*

## **MEN'S GROUP**

Well it was a change of plans for our September outing. It was felt that the summer months would be better for a visit to Caerphilly. So it was five of us who made our way over the Brecon Beacons on a beautiful Tuesday morning, with Rev Eric Jones at the wheel. Brecon Cathedral was our destination.

After some deft manoeuvring by Eric, we pulled up in the crowded cathedral car park. Eric went off to reserve a table for lunch, whilst the rest of us made our way into the cathedral. It is a beautiful and interesting building, but it was very cold. It was fascinating to see the stone masons' ‘trade marks’ on the cathedral columns. After half an hour of touring the cathedral it was off to the Priory Restaurant to claim our table and to partake of an excellent meal.

Alun Watts has been busy organising our next visit in November which will be at the Glamorgan Archives and we will be looking at documents relating to Unitarian chapels.

*Tony Foster*

## **GREAT HUCKLOW**

A recent group photograph in The Inquirer shows a very happy bunch of young people who were enjoying a weekend at our Nightingale Centre in Great Hucklow, Derbyshire. In the group are Rebekah Thomas (Swansea), Caroline Boyce (Cardiff) and Elizabeth Rosenberg (Nottage).

But Great Hucklow is not only for the young, beautiful and energetic! The centre runs all sorts of activities for all ages and it is also possible to just go and do your own thing. The centre is very comfortable and we have a chapel a stone's throw away. The surrounding countryside is very beautiful. It really is a special place.

*Marian Littlepage*

## **ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION**

Copy-deadline for the next issue of the South East Wales Unitarian News is **Saturday, 9 January, 2016**. Items for publication should be sent by to:- **kenneth.morgan25@tesco.net** or Ken Morgan, 25c Holford Street, Cefn Coed y Cymer, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 2RW. Tel: 01685 379016