



## South East Wales Unitarian News

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June 2018

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### FOR YOUR DIARY

**Thursday 28 June – Highland Place Aberdare Annual Lecture** – 'Morality & Politics' at 7 pm, delivered by Professor Emeritus Robin Attfield MA, PhD, DLitt of Cardiff University.

**Sunday 1 July – Annual Rally** – to Dinefwr Park and Newton House, near Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire. Bus pick-up times: Cardiff Group at the Bus Depot (as last year) at 12 noon; Cefncoed at 12:30pm; Hirwaun Library (for Aberdare Group) at 12:45pm and Llangyfelach (for Gellionnen and Swansea) at 1:20pm, Arriving at Dinefwr approx 2pm. Tea at 4pm. Return at 5:30pm.

**Saturday 4 August** – Copy deadline for the next issue of the District News.

**Saturday 4 August to Saturday 11 August** – National Eisteddfod in Cardiff. The Unitarian stand will be located near the Norwegian Church. (See below – *From the Secretary of the Welsh Department.*)

### DISTRICT AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the South East Wales Unitarian Society was held at Highland Place Church, Aberdare at 11am on Saturday 28 April.

The meeting commenced with Opening Devotions led by the President, Diana Bianchi who then guided us through a review of the year's work as detailed in reports contained in the printed Annual Report. All current officers were re-elected—for a full list visit [www.ukunitarians.org.uk/sewus/committee.htm](http://www.ukunitarians.org.uk/sewus/committee.htm).

At the conclusion of business matters we broke for a light lunch and then reassembled in the church to set about the task of singing the 1<sup>st</sup> verse of 50 hymns within 90 minutes for a sponsored 'Hymnathon' in aid of the Pituitary Foundation. This involved juggling with one Welsh and two English hymnals—but we managed it! (See also below: *From the District President* and *Aberdare News.*)

Our thanks go to the Aberdare congregation for hosting a most successful event.

### FROM THE DISTRICT PRESIDENT

This is a very short article as I haven't much to report back on since the last SEWUS Newsletter. Perhaps if I had been able to attend the GA Annual Meetings I would have had more to talk about, but much to my disappointment I was unable to attend the Meetings this year due to having a chest infection which lingered on for some time. However, with great relief, I was well on the road to recovery by the time our District AGM at Highland Place took place. The '**Hymnathon**' which followed the business meeting turned out to be a successful and enjoyable event. The total sum raised for the Pituitary Foundation (a UK organisation which offers medical support and information for patients with pituitary disease) was £353. The fund is now closed and Eric will be sending a letter and a cheque to the Foundation on behalf of SEWUS. Thank you all for your kindness and support. Thank you to all of those who participated in the Hymnathon and a special thanks to our three accompanists Laurence Bowen, Trebanos (organ), Stephen Wilson, Swansea (piano), and Grace Jones, Aberdare (flute and organ) who kept us in tune and time from beginning to end.

In May I went on a weekend trip to Oxford with my sister and 25 members of the congregation of Brondeifi, Lampeter. We met up with their bus at Cardiff West Services. No sooner had we left the services and got on the motorway, when we were all handed song sheets by Melda Grantham, while Alun Wyn Davies struck up on his piano accordion. The next few miles of the journey were spent in singing traditional folk favourites such as "*Lawr ar Lan y Môr*", "*Bing Bong*", "*Oes Gafr Eto?*" etc, etc. We arrived at Peartree Travelodge, Oxford at early lunchtime and were welcomed off the bus by Peter and Heddwen Hewis. Heddwen was born and raised in Cwmann, Lampeter where her parents ran a grocery shop. The family were members at Brondeifi. Her husband Peter is a retired Unitarian minister.

The original plan for the trip was to visit the Bodleian Library to view some valuable Welsh Medieval Manuscripts on the Saturday afternoon, with dinner at Cosmo (a world food restaurant in Oxford town

centre) in the evening. Then, on Sunday, to visit Harris Manchester College, Oxford to view the stained glass windows in the church which were designed by Edward Burne-Jones and William Morris. Afterwards we would attend a service at the College Chapel led by David Darling. Unfortunately, for "reasons of security", we were unable to view the Medieval manuscripts, but everything else went ahead. We were asked to give a rendering of "Calon Lân" at the Service, which we did, and it went down very well. After the service we were given a fabulous lunch which had been prepared for us by Heddwen, Peter and members of the Congregation. As a token of our gratitude, Heddwen and Peter were presented with a framed photograph of a collage made by the children of Brondeifi Sunday School – depicting all the chapels in the "Black Spot".

It was a wonderful weekend and we all enjoyed ourselves. I now look forward to our own District Summer Rally to Castell Dinefwr which I am confident will be just as enjoyable. Let's will it to be a sunny day for when we go. See you then.

Lastly, on behalf of the District, I would like to express our deepest sympathy to members of the Congregation of Cardiff Unitarians / Undodiaid Caerdydd on the death of a well-loved and long standing member of the Congregation, Dr Marjorie Collins who died on 13 May.



**Marjorie Collins**  
**4 May 1926 – 13 May 2018**

A service celebrating Marjorie's life took place at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Wednesday 23 May. The service was conducted by Stephen Lingwood, Minister of Cardiff Unitarians.

*Diana Bianchi*

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

I hope that you're all enjoying this beautiful weather and making the most of every opportunity to get out and about. There are some Unitarians Wales events coming up which I'm sure you'll enjoy. The first event will take place at Sain Ffagan at Capel Penrhiw on the 10<sup>th</sup> June at 2 o'clock and will be a bilingual presentation scripted by Dylan Iorwerth which will look at the effect of the 1868 General Election on the people of Wales. We will recount the story of the dispute between the squire of Alltyrodyn and the people of Llwynrhydowen which led to the eviction of the congregation. I will have some free parking passes, so please let me know as soon as possible if you would like one, so that I can post one out to you. There will be another event at Penrhiw on the 9<sup>th</sup> September, when Rev Cen Llwyd will talk about the Unitarian connections of the world famous architect Frank Lloyd Wright.

The next big event will be the National Eisteddfod which will take place in Cardiff between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> August, though we will need to set up before this, and would be grateful for any help. The format of the Eisteddfod will be completely different this year, it will take place in Cardiff Bay and will not have a traditional "maes", which means that it will be free for everybody to attend and will not require tickets. Our stand will be located near the Norwegian church and will be half the size it normally is, which means that we will not be able to offer cups of tea or coffee. It will however need manning between 10.00 and 18.00 every day, and we are very short of volunteers. I'm very grateful to those of you who have already volunteered, but we need a lot more! As it is being held in South East Wales we will need to rely heavily on SEWUS members, so if you are able to spare a few hours, then please do get in touch as soon as

possible. You do not have to be able to speak Welsh as the rota is always arranged to ensure that there is one person present on the stand who is a Welsh speaker. Arranging the rota can be quite complicated, so please let me know as soon as you possibly can which days you will be available. It can be a lot of fun, so please do consider volunteering.

There are also a few places remaining for the Pride Cymru event, which will take place in Cardiff on Saturday, August 25<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to join us in the parade, please let me or Rory Castle Jones know. I hope that you will be able to join us in at least one event over the summer, and I look forward to seeing you all on the 1<sup>st</sup> July at the SEWUS Rally.

*Melda Grantham*

## **THOUGHT FOR NOW**

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

As far as we can discern, the sole purpose of human existence is to kindle a light in the darkness of mere being.

*Carl Jung*

## **ABERDARE**

### **Women's League**

As I write this article, I am looking out at a blue sky and people are passing in summery clothes. Long may this last! I find such sunny days lift people's spirits and smiles abound.

Celia Evans is in good spirits and her recovery is progressing. Diane Jones has not been at all well lately. Betty Evans is still encountering very painful mobility problems. We wish them a speedy recovery.

Congratulations to Joan Harlow, a Women's League stalwart, who is the new President of District Women's League. The District Women's League meeting went very smoothly on 21<sup>st</sup> March at Hen Dŷ Cwrdd Chapel in Cefn Coed. We received a very warm welcome and enjoyed wonderful hospitality provided by the Cefn Coed branch. I wish to thank everyone for my thank you card and the beautiful bunch of flowers received as the outgoing President of District Women's League.

Following a very enjoyable group luncheon at the New Inn in Rhigos on 28<sup>th</sup> March, we did not meet on 4<sup>th</sup> April and 11<sup>th</sup> April due to roadworks outside our Chapel.

Women's League restarted on 18<sup>th</sup> April, when we held our Branch AGM. Lis Dyson-Jones, again another Women's League's stalwart, was installed as President in my stead. Anne Jones remains as our invaluable Treasurer and I am now Secretary. We enjoyed a delicious buffet thanks to members' contributions. Gratitude was conveyed to Joy and Tony Foster for all the support, which they give regularly to Women's League. To mark my term of Branch Presidency coming to an end, I was thrilled to receive a lovely Welsh lovespoon.

On 25<sup>th</sup> April, members were transported to a picturesque railway trip in Canada via Barbara Hughes' DVD and journeyed along the majestic Grand Canyon via my DVD.

Anne Jones, our resident female quizmaster, organised a diverse range of quizzes for us, which were, both, informative and entertaining, on 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Following the quizzes, I read a number of riddles and some interesting facts, which were enjoyed by members.

We had a real treat on 9<sup>th</sup> May when Mrs Pat Evans delivered a talk on the life and times of Andrew Lloyd Webber, accompanied by some of his most inspirational songs.

On 16<sup>th</sup> May, we had a poignant, informative talk on the cruel and potentially terminal illness of sepsis. As you know, this has been adopted as the National Women's League Project. The speakers were Terence Canning from Cardiff, the Sepsis area co-ordinator, who lost his brother to this vile disease and Michelle Christopher, one of his volunteers, who lost her daughter to this disease. You may have read the articles she wrote about sepsis and the loss of her daughter in the press, recently.

It is almost certain that if more doctors were alerted to the early symptoms of Sepsis, lives could be saved. Consequently, the charity is working hard to alert people to the early symptoms of this destructive disease, which can be treated and defeated by antibiotics. Furthermore, it needs funds to lobby the government to initiate wholesale public awareness, especially to medical professionals, regarding this insidious, potentially lethal disease.

Our branch enjoyed thoroughly our session on 23<sup>rd</sup> May when Christine Chandler circulated among us the superb handmade products from her shop, the 'Bella Rosa' in Mountain Ash. Since Mrs Chandler's daughter runs a café next door to the shop, it seems ideal to visit the shop and enjoy afternoon tea! Mrs Eirian Roberts accompanied her and brought her spinning wheel. She explained the different types of wool, which she obtains from obliging sheep farmers and gave us a spinning demonstration. It was a delightful afternoon. Many thanks to Dilys Evans for arranging it for the Branch!

Members now look forward to a visit to The New Inn in Rhigos for a group lunch on 30<sup>th</sup> May.

Enjoy the sun while you can!

Best Wishes to all.

*Anne Watts*

It has been a busy time at Highland Place since the last District News. On 1<sup>st</sup> April we held a Music Service, which was led by our former organist Jacob Jones. Jacob played electric keyboard and viola, and accompanied Georgia Furlong, Head Girl at St John's School who sung some popular songs and Grace Jones played flute and organ. It was a thoroughly enjoyable service.

During April we were joined on two Sundays by Elizabeth Asmaa Valencia from Indianapolis, Indiana, where she attends a (small!) church with a congregation of 180. Elizabeth is a trainee Unitarian Universalist Minister in her second year at a seminary in Chicago. She has been following Highland Place on 'Facebook' for two years. She has been in contact with Joy Foster for some time, and when the opportunity arose for her to visit Wales she said 'she just had to come and see us'. She thoroughly enjoyed Morgan Chambers's service on 8<sup>th</sup> April. On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Joy and Tony Foster along with District President Diana Bianchi, took Elizabeth on a tour of St Fagan's museum, where she had the opportunity of practising being in the pulpit, in Penrhiw chapel. Diana graciously cut short her service at Highland Place in the evening, so that Elizabeth could deliver a short homily. She spoke of her spiritual journey from Catholicism (her religion of birth) to Islam and to Unitarianism. She said how grateful and honoured she was, *as a woman of colour*, to be able to stand in our church and be able to speak to our congregation. Elizabeth thoroughly enjoyed her short ten day stay in Wales and said that meeting our members had profoundly changed her life.



Elizabeth Valencia and Joy Foster

Photo: Tony Foster

On April 22<sup>nd</sup> Aberdare Unitarians held a joint service with the Aberdare Muslim Community. Rev Eric Jones started the service with a brief history of Highland Place church and gave a reading from the Koran in Welsh, Imam Nadeem from the Robertstown Islamic Centre gave us a taste of a Muslim service with readings from the Koran in Urdu. Imam Imran Ali who works with the Abrahamic Centre in Birmingham spoke of his connections with Powys Castle and the voluntary work that the Muslim community do in his area of Birmingham. We were also joined by the 1<sup>st</sup> St. Fagan's Cubs, who were able to ask questions after the service as part of their Inter Faith Badge requirements. We were delighted to be joined by friends from Hen Dŷ Cwrdd, Cefn Coed and the congregation of over 50 enjoyed the friendly occasion. Our thanks to Rev Eric Jones for all the hard work involved in organising this special service.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April was the District AGM and it was good to see friends from across the District joining together again. After the business it was lunch in the schoolroom provided by Lis Dyson-Jones and Anne Jones, our thanks go to them. The 'Hymnathon' in the afternoon was a 'quick page turning affair' and was very successful, with over £350 raised for the Pituitary foundation.

On May 20<sup>th</sup> we held our previously postponed AGM. It was a lively, good humoured meeting, chaired by Humphrey Evans, with church members having the opportunity to ask questions about the reports given by the various church support groups. Our thanks to all the church officers and to our congregation members who have worked so hard during the last twelve months.

And finally, an update on our Charity Coffee Morning for Mental Health Awareness, a sum of £205 was raised. Well Done everyone.

*Tony Foster*

## **CARDIFF UNITARIANS / UNDODIAID CAERDYDD**

Several members of the congregation attended the national Annual Meetings in Northamptonshire and contributed to a good Welsh contingent at the meetings (and in the bar!). Back in Cardiff our English language services have been led by myself and our Welsh language services are taken by visiting speakers every month. In April we were joined by Gwenllian Llwyd who talked about her winning Film entry at the Abergavenny Eisteddfod. The film was shot at Cribyn Unitarian Chapel. On June 10<sup>th</sup> our service will be at Penrhiw Chapel, St Fagans.

In May the Quaker Meeting House hosted "Asylum in Cardiff: Current Issues". This was an informative meeting but also very sad as we heard what it is like for people to be in limbo in the asylum system for sometimes years while trying to keep going. Our country is not a hospitable place to those seeking refuge.

Sadly in May we lost Marjorie Collins, aged 92, a member of West Grove Unitarian Church, on and off, her whole life. She was a thoughtful and intelligent Unitarian and contributed a lot locally and to the district.

Finally a quote from Hindu poet Mirabai: "I know a cure for sadness: Let your hands touch something that makes your eyes smile. I bet there are a hundred objects close by that can do that. Look at beauty's gift to us— her power so great she enlivens the earth, the sky, our soul."

*Stephen Lingwood*

## **CEFNCOED**

### **Women's League**

We were pleased to welcome friends from Aberdare and Cardiff to Hen Dŷ Cwrdd on Wednesday 21 March for the District League Meeting. Thanks were expressed to retiring President Anne Watts for her service and Joan Harlow was installed as new District League President. Congratulations to Joan and to Cefncoed league member Marlene Aubrey who was chosen as Vice-President.

Anne Watts was with us again two weeks later when she held everyone's attention with a talk, the subject of which was children's writer and illustrator Beatrix Potter. It was interesting to hear about the life of the creator of Fopsy, Mopsy, Cottontail and Peter Rabbit, and to learn that she was born into a wealthy Unitarian family.

### **Out and about**

The Hen Dŷ Cwrdd congregation has been represented at several gatherings across the District during the past two months – at Highland Place Church Aberdare on 22 April for the visit by the Aberdare Muslim Community and again, on 28 April, for the District AGM and Hymnathon; also at Barry on 23 May for the funeral of Dr Marjorie Collins.

### **Child Dedication**

There was a sizeable congregation at Hen Dŷ Cwrdd on the afternoon of Sunday, 13 May for the Naming Ceremony of Isaac David Spencer Hodges.

### **Best Wishes**

We send congratulations and best wishes to Bethan and Matthew Wray who were married at Bethel Baptist Chapel, Llwynon, Cwmtâf on 2 June. Bethan is the daughter of Philip and Margaret Griffiths.

*Ken Morgan*

## **NOTTAGE**

Mother's Day seems a long time ago now, but not the pleasure we always have from receiving flowers from Jonathan. Because he does not have a grandmother to give flowers, he brings enough to chapel to give to all the congregation, he is such a kind, thoughtful, young man, and we all love him.

We have always had a morning service on Good Friday. When Dr Beverly Littlepage was our Lay Pastor, he introduced the practice of coffee and hot cross buns after the service. Marian had a wonderful electric frying pan, and she would warm the buns for us! delicious!! Lewis went one stage further, and introduced a fish and chip lunch before the hot cross buns! Fifteen of us attended the service, conducted by Lewis, and then sat down to enjoy (shop bought) fish and chips, what a treat! Diolch Lewis.

The Ogden family have played a big part in our chapel for many years, so it was with great sadness that we heard of the passing of Derek's sister, the last of his generation. Our thoughts and prayers were with Helen and Alan and family, when they attended her funeral recently. God Bless.

Both Ken Gadd and Tom Williams have had need of our local hospital recently, and we send them both our best wishes.

We have been fortunate recently to have Stephen Wilson conduct our morning service. Not only does Stephen conduct the service, he plays our organ, which happens very rarely these days. Jean Thomas and I bask in the wonderful music filling the chapel, it reminds us so much of our youth there, when we had 3 organists. Thank you, Stephen for indulging us!!

A friend of Lewis's, Mr Hywel Roberts, conducted our service recently. He belongs to a long line of Non Conformist Ministers, and he has been wondering whether to join the family tradition. Lewis invited him to 'try us' to see how he felt about it later. We all enjoyed his service, and were most surprised to find it was the first service he had ever conducted. Diolch Hywel, you will be welcome at Nottage anytime.

We held a coffee morning in April in Aid of Street Children in India. We raised £95, so were pleased to be able to help in some small way.

A young lady, who used to attend regularly, and who Annette Marsh christened, is very poorly in hospital. She has a recurrence of a condition she developed as a young child. We send her and her family our love and prayers.

Last week we had a visit from Capel, the Chapels Heritage Society. About 30 of us met in the Schoolroom, where we were given a very interesting talk and illustration on the history of Nottage before they visited the chapel, and later went on to visit other chapels in the town. Porthcawl has a very interesting Museum, in the old police station in John Street, and it was Ceri Joseph, one of the Leaders there, who came to talk to us. Their exhibition at the moment is in celebration of 100 years of the Suffragists. I'm sure anybody interested in visiting will not be disappointed.

Best wishes to all from Nottage,

*Avril Protheroe*

## **SWANSEA**

Our building has taken much of our time during the past 2 months.

We are continuing with trying to sort out the damp problems by getting further advice. Our roof is so high that it makes any task involving the church much more difficult. We also have problems with pigeons. Lynn has counted over 30 on our roof at one time. He has even acquired Harry; a plastic hawk which when fitted will scare them off. (He hopes!) We are fortunate that the housing association next door has asked us if they could erect their scaffolding on the church's land. So we are hopeful that Harry will be up among the pigeons soon!

Also we are hoping to refurbish the foyer. There have been lots of discussions about painting and floor covering. We even have a volunteer to paint the area.

Our alarm system has been alerting the call centre 8 times in the last few weeks usually about 3 a.m. Lynn has had to unlock the church not knowing what he will find. However finally the engineer has fitted a new sensor so hopefully Lynn will have uninterrupted sleep every night from now on. Our grateful thanks to him for all his work with the building and the grounds.

We have resubmitted our application for the same sex marriage licence and hope that this time we will be lucky. The Constitution subcommittee have met and made a good start on a more modern version. Safeguarding policy will be the next to be written.

We have some really exciting news. There is a Swansea University Unitarian Group! They have held three meetings and the next is on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> June in the Taliesin Arts Centre on 'Doubt'. Rory and Siân from Gellionnen initiated this venture and are to be congratulated. We, at Swansea are so pleased. Many thanks to you both.

Swansea Congregation sends good wishes to all in the District.

*Hilda Dumpleton*

## TREBANOS

### GELLIONNEN.

There has been one recent note of sadness and we offer our condolences to Brenda Griffiths and her family on the death of her mother.

We are happy to have shared their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary celebrations with Julie Nedin and Martyn Edwards who put together their own special service and invited the Rev Martin Evans Jones – their padre when they were students – to give the address. Julie and Martyn have given to the chapel a lovely, elegant lectern to replace the old, rather shabby one.

Congratulations to Katy Clark and Siân Evans who have celebrated their twentieth birthdays. Our treasurer Robert Jones has also had a big birthday but he is not twenty.

For their Easter Saturday wedding James Kolasinski and David Wilson decorated the gallery with bunting and filled the vases with tulips. The chapel looked stunning. We were all invited to a barn dance that evening, several members attended and much enjoyed themselves. We wish James and David much happiness and were honoured to share in their special day.

And so we came to service the following morning to see a beautifully decorated chapel. The log stove was lit and there was simnel cake and chocolate eggs. All in all our Easter Weekend, not always an easy time for Unitarians, was a very good one indeed.

Rhys and Rory of course went to the GA and returned to tell us lots about it. It is always particularly good to hear the reactions of first timers.

The editor of our local free monthly magazine has decided to sometimes include notes on various places of interest in the area. He asked us and as a result produced a marvellous two page spread with photographs and historical as well as up to date notes – thank you Vince! He also turned up on a lovely Saturday morning for our Gellionnen Mountain Clearup. So did many others, ranging in age from 3 years to “very senior citizens.” The huge old freezer dumped behind the chapel several years ago was hauled out from its bramble patch – it took six people. On close inspection we found it had been taken from an ice-cream van. The freezer, tin cans, plastic, broken bottles, barbed wire and several car tyres were deposited in a huge pile at the end of our track and council workers quickly collected it before it could be spread about again. There are thoughts that we might do this again after bonfire night in November when many people will go up onto the mountain with their fireworks and picnics. It is obviously a safe place for such happenings but we are often left next day with a lot of debris.

Our small contribution towards re-instating the vandalised children's park in Clydach has now given some of us the pleasure of seeing a much better play area than before. It is being well used by the boys and girls of the area.

*Marian Littlepage*

## WICK

The bluebells are now in blossom at Wick, our grass has had its first haircut and our burst pipes have been repaired, so we are looking forward to Spring and Summer.

We were pleased to welcome Joy and Tony Foster when they paid us an unexpected visit. They both took part in our service – many thanks both and we hope to welcome you again.

We have really missed our organist and chairperson for two services, Helen has been visiting her family in Kuwait, and our congregation has had to put up with Julianne as organist. Helen has now returned with lots of news and ready to musically enhance our worship.

We are going to experiment with some new ideas for worship, our congregation is always ready to take part in the services and enjoy a discussion afterwards.

Julianne attended the General Baptist Assembly at Doctor Williams's Library in London for the first time since her accident, and brought back news and greetings.

Julianne is a Messenger of the Assembly an unusual historical title. There are three Messengers, Rev Peter Godfrey, Rev Ashley Hill and Julianne Morgan, (who has attended the Assembly since 1990.) Wick and Nottage are the only two General Baptist and Unitarian Chapels in Wales now, the history of all the chapels is most interesting.

If anyone is visiting Mid Glamorgan you will find a warm welcome on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays at 3.00pm in Wick.

Our greetings to all in our District.

*Julianne Morgan*

## MEN'S GROUP



Three examples of Nantgarw porcelain on display at the pottery  
Tony Foster

Photo:

In March we visited the Nantgarw Pottery Museum. After a cup of tea and a piece of bara brith in the tea room, we were given a tour of the pottery. We were shown the remains of the canal which passed alongside the pottery, the remains of the kilns, the pottery room with potting wheels and electric kilns that are now used for pottery classes. The guide also demonstrated how clay pipes were made. After the tour we were given a very informative talk on Nantgarw porcelain. The porcelain is famous for its whiteness and is very collectable and valuable. The museum has several pieces on display. Nantgarw Pottery is a hidden gem and the guides are passionate and very knowledgeable. It is well worth a visit and is only a few hundred yards off the A470 at the Caerphilly roundabout. Lunch was enjoyed at the nearby Caerphilly Garden Centre.

In April we visited the ancient church at Ystradfellte. It is a simple but beautiful church, with impressive windows behind the altar. Lunch was taken at the New Inn, directly opposite the church. We met some of the locals and found out a little about what goes on in Ystradfellte. Cardiff museum is our next visit. If any men in the District wish to join us on future visits, please get in touch.

*Tony Foster*

## ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

Copy-deadline for the next issue of the South East Wales Unitarian News: **Saturday, 4 August 2018.**  
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