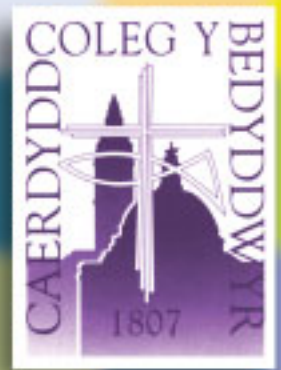


South Wales Baptist college

Spring News 2007



1807–2007: The First Two Hundred Years! Celebration!

It is the year of the "big birthday" for the College and we want you to celebrate it with us. We are not just looking back, but buoyantly looking forward to continuing service to the churches for a long time yet.

To celebrate the year with us, you are all invited to join with the College community to celebrate past, present and future on **23rd June 2007 at Ararat Baptist Church, Cardiff**. The main event is an evening celebration which will run **6.00-8.00pm**. Our guest speaker for this great occasion is the **Revd Steve Chalke MBE** (Founder of Oasis Trust, Parentalk and Faithworks, and Senior Minister of Christ Church and Upton Baptist Church, the church.co.uk centre).



Inspiration!

The tutors at SWBC are all experts in their fields, and also in demand as communicators. Normally their excitement at the frontiers of knowledge spills over mainly to students at the College and University. However, at the Celebration Day they will be aiming to inspire, provoke, and challenge a wider audience in topics vital to healthy church life. You are invited to join in one of their simultaneous seminars for a time of challenge in thinking and discipleship. Hence, at 2.00-3.15pm on the 23rd June in Ararat Church, Cardiff the four tutors will be leading sessions in their specialist areas (see back page).

Reflection!

By its very nature, an anniversary of this kind involves a look back over our shoulders to those who have gone before. To this end, there will be a session led by former Principal **Revd D. Hugh Matthews** on the history of the College (also at 2.00-3.15pm on the 23rd June in Ararat Church, Cardiff). All are welcome to this lecture which will be delivered in Welsh with English translation facilities.

Two hundred years is a long time, whichever way you look at it. Yet this is how long the College has been serving the churches, both in Wales and throughout the world. It is impossible to calculate the contribution to the work of God that has been made by the women and men who have passed through the doors of the College over the past two centuries. So it is with thankfulness to God that we're celebrating this Bi-centenary – hopefully with you!

Participation!

in community

The College Forum involves not just the staff and students, but all who are interested in the ongoing life of the College. This is an open invitation to all those who would consider themselves to be friends of the College to join in the 'College Forum' from 3.30-4.30pm. This will be a chance to get involved in the discussions about the ongoing direction of the College.

in a celebration meal

A regular part of the College week is the buffet meal that students and staff share together. On this special day we shall do the same, but this time you also are invited. So join us in a buffet tea from 4.30-6.00pm immediately prior to the evening event. If you intend to be at the meal, for catering purposes please let the College Resource Manager know on admin@swbc.org.uk 029 2025 6066.



Former Students:
Please drop us a line to make sure
we've got your up-to-date contact details.

Trem yn ôl (4)

1807 - 2007 : Y Rhod yn Troi

Eleni mae'r Coleg yn dathlu dau canmlwyddiant ei fodolaeth. Agorwyd drysau'r athrofa yn Ionawr 1807 pan dderbyniodd y Parchg Micah Thomas y myfyriwr cyntaf i'w gartref yn y Fenni. Mudodd yr athrofa newydd i Bont-y-pŵl yn 1836, gan symud eto yn 1893 er mwyn bod yn agos i goleg newydd Prifysgol Cymru a sefydlwyd yng Nghaerdydd.

Bu'r newidiadau a ddigwyddodd i'r Coleg yn ystod y ddwy ganrif ddiwethaf yn aneirif, ond dichon mai'r ffaith mwyaf diddorol i sylwi arni yw'r ffordd y mae hanes y Coleg yn adlewyrchu'r newidiadau a ddigwyddodd o fewn i'r enwad yng Nghymru rhwng 1807 a 2007. Y mae'r rhod wedi troi llawer mewn dwy ganrif!

Daeth y Coleg i fod, yn y lle cyntaf, am fod eglwysi Cymraeg eu hiaith yn codi gormod o bregethwyr a bod eisiau eu dysgu i fynd allan i bregethu yn Saesneg. Ond cyn hir yr oedd llawer o'r eglwysi Cymraeg yn dechrau ofni pwyslais diwinyddol Micah Thomas ac am sicrhau mai diwinyddion Calfinaidd fyddai cynnyrch y Coleg - a symudodd yr athrofa gan apwyntio Dr Thomas Thomas yn bennaeth. Erbyn dyddiau William Edwards yn 1880, yr oedd y diddordeb mewn ysgolheictod Beiblaidd - dyma ddyddiau yr ysfa am gyfieithiad diwygiedig o'r Beibl Saesneg, a chyfrannodd Dr Edwards ei gyfieithiad Cymraeg ei hun rhwng 1894 a 1915. Wedi'r Rhyfel Byd Cyntaf, yr oedd pwyslais yr eglwysi wedi symud i gyfeiriad pregethu, ac yn 1928 apwyntiwyd Dr Tom Phillips, un o'r pregethwyr mwyaf dylanwadol ymhlith y Bedyddwyr, i fod yn Brifathro - er fod y Brifysgol yn amheus o'i gymwysterau academiaidd. Ystyriai ef yr alwad i Gaerdydd fel galwad i godi to newydd o bregethwyr i wasanaethu'r eglwysi Cymraeg a Saesneg.

Erbyn diwedd yr Ail Ryfel Byd, roedd pethau'n newid eto, ac (yn raddol i ddechrau) roedd y merched yn dod yn fwyaf o fewn i'r eglwysi. Yn 1962 croesawodd Dr Ithel Jones y ferch gyntaf i'r Coleg fel ymgeisydd am y weinidogaeth - a thros y blynyddoedd y mae'r nifer wedi cynyddu. Gofid Dr Dafydd Davies pan oedd ef yng nghadair y Prifathro oedd bod nifer yr ymgeiswyr ymhlith y Cymry Cymraeg yn brin gan adlewyrchu'r sefyllfa yn yr eglwysi Cymraeg. Golygai hyn, hefyd, fod pwyslais diwinyddol y Coleg yn dechrau newid eto wrth i'r eglwysi ceidwadol Saesneg fwydo'r Coleg.

Erbyn heddiw, am y tro cyntaf yn ei hanes mae'n debyg, mae'r Coleg yn amddifad o Gymro Cymraeg ymhlith y myfyrwyr ac yn gweddio am ddydd adfywiad yr eglwysi Cymraeg eu hiaith, er mwyn gweld y rhod yn troi eto.

And still developing for the future...

The vision for a Christian centre on a single College site continues to turn into reality, further supporting the life and mission of churches. The newly developed car park is an important part of this reality. It will more effectively resource the organizations that we are hosting and help them with their activities. Already we are finding the new spaces are filling up and we expect this take-up to continue.



BUW Scholarships Announcement

The Baptist Union of Wales has launched a financial strategy for the support of scholarships. The awards will benefit various categories of men and women heading for Christian ministry. The schemes aim to help those who are,

- moving into training from school,
- making a career switch into ministry,
- considering part-time study,
- needing training in Welsh language for ministry.

Applicants need to bear in mind, that,

- those ordained are expected to serve in the BUW for at least 3 years,
- theology courses taken must include a pastoral training element,
- a benefiting applicant must be a member of a BUW affiliated church and be commended by church, association and ministry board, as well as going through a college selection stage,
- affiliated colleges at Bangor and Cardiff should be preferred choices for training.

For full and further information contact BUW Headquarters, Tŷ Ilston, 94 Mansel Street, Swansea SA1 5TZ. Tel: 01792 655468 or Peter@bedyddwycymru.co.uk

A summer in the West Country -

A student placement story

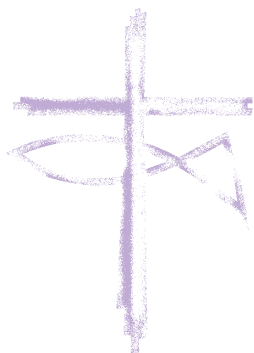
Students are a busy breed. Quite a few take on vacation challenges at home and abroad in the form of short-term placements. This is designed to give them wider experience and to support ongoing mission, care and worship of churches through the summer months.

Helen Reynolds found that spending a month at Counterslip Baptist Church, south of Bristol, during her summer vacation gave her an opportunity to immerse herself fully in the life of a busy church and to shadow the ministers as they carried out their pastoral work. In such a large church, she says, "there were plenty of meetings for me to attend: teams with responsibility for youth work, worship, pastoral care, the holiday club and 'Live Wires' (a children's church based in a nearby school)."

Helen was able to observe funerals, home groups, elders', deacons' and church meetings, spend a morning at an inter-church run drop-in centre on a local council estate and take part in leading worship and preaching. She especially appreciated the relationships built up in this way.

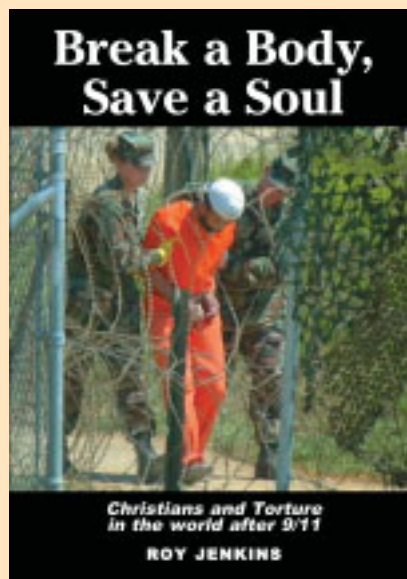


"Living near the church throughout my placement," she comments, "enabled me to get to know many of the church members and think about how the church interacts with its community. I was privileged to be able to share in some very personal journeys, including the last few weeks of a church member's life, visiting her at home and subsequently in a hospice. Having stayed in touch with the friends I made during that time, led to me returning to the church in the summer of 2006 to lead a youth discipleship course."



What was the most helpful aspect of the placement then? Helen is clear on that. "The opportunity it afforded me to consider my own practice and thinking in the light of what I was observing in a new context. I was encouraged from the outset to ask questions of the leaders and members, to challenge what I was seeing and to discuss it openly with the church. As a college-based student, to be able to do this in such a focused way was particularly helpful. I have continued to reflect on my experiences at Counterslip as I have returned to my placement in Barry and to academic study. These three parts of my training have informed each other in ways that I had not imagined and have made a large contribution to the way in which I view ministry and my own calling."

2006 Edwin Stephen Griffiths Lectures



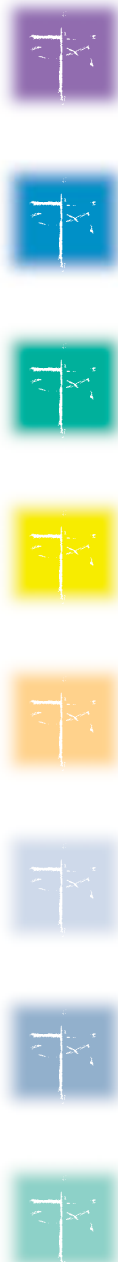
'Christians are not always the good guys, those on the receiving end of torture. Christian believers practise torture, order torture, collude in torture, condone torture, justify torture, remain wilfully blind to the use of torture...'

The book is a passionate appeal for Christians to face up to their own involvement in the worldwide evil of torture, to recognise it as a spiritual issue, and to take action which can make a difference.

Roy Jenkins, Chairman of the SWBC Management Committee, is a Baptist minister and broadcaster and has been involved in Christians Against Torture since it began in 1981. *Break a Body, Save a Soul* is based on the 2006 Edwin Stephen Griffiths Lectures at the South Wales Baptist College, Cardiff.

The volume includes an address on torture and international law delivered at the Christians Against Torture national conference for Wales in 2006 by Professor **Malcolm Evans**, Dean of Social Sciences and Law at the University of Bristol.

Christians Against Torture/Cristnogion yn Erbyn Poenydio available at £3.50 plus 50p postage from Christians Against Torture, 60 Ty Wern Road, Rhiwbina, Cardiff CF14 4SF.



Edwin Stephen Griffiths Lectures

Wednesday 21st
March 2007

1.30pm and
3.30pm

With **Lina Andronoviene**,
Course Leader in Applied
Theology, International Baptist
Theological Seminary, Prague

1.30pm - Faces of Singleness

3.30pm - Towards Creative
Suffering

Student looking for accommodation?

- Close to city centre and Cardiff University campus,
- single rooms,
- kitchen facilities,
- lounge with pool and satellite TV,
- free access to broadband.

If you are a student at Cardiff and this offer looks good to you, contact Martyn on 029 20 256 066 between 8.30am and 4pm (weekdays) for more information.

Bi-centenary Celebration Day Saturday 23rd June 2007

Programme of events

12.00-2.00pm - Alumni Lunch.

Please contact the college if you are a former student or resident and would like to attend

2.00-3.15pm - Seminars

Roy Kearsley: *Health-check for church - debates in a new day*

Hugh Matthews: *The History of the South Wales Baptist College (Welsh with English translation)*

Karen Smith: *Story-telling and faith*

John Weaver: *God is Green: Care for Creation*

Simon Woodman: *Revelation Unlocked For Today - Unmasking the whore and the beast*

3.30-4.30pm - 'College Forum'.

4.30-6.00pm Buffet Tea

(Please book through College Resource Manager on 029 2025 6066 or email: admin@swbc.org.uk)

6.00-8pm Celebration and thanksgiving

With guest speaker

Rev'd Steve Chalke MBE

College Prayer Guide

The College *Prayer Guide* continues to be mailed to those asking for a copy or who are registered as 'Friends of the College' If you would like to keep in regular contact with people and events of college and support us with your prayers, fill in the return slip below and we will send you the *Prayer Guide* quarterly. Or, if you prefer, email or write to the College Office.



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Name

Address

Return to: **South Wales Baptist College**, 54 Richmond Road, Cardiff CF24 3UR. Tel: 029 2025 6066 Fax: 029 2041 1566.

Please note that the college email address is admin@swbc.org.uk and the website is www.swbc.org.uk