



**emmaus**  
South Wales  
working together to end homelessness

# Autumn Update 2016



**HRH The Duchess of Cornwall Visits the Emmaus South Wales  
Community in Nant Lais, Bridgend, 7 July 2016**

## Opening Wales' First Emmaus Community

Following the opening of the community home in Bridgend in January this year by Carwyn Jones AM, we were delighted to receive a summer visit from HRH The Duchess of Cornwall.

At Nant Lais she met Companions, Trustees, staff, volunteers and representatives from local organisations who have helped with establishing Wales' first Emmaus Community. During her visit she shared a cup of tea with Companions and staff in the dining area before taking a tour of the Companions' accommodation. The Duchess takes her role as Emmaus UK Royal Patron very seriously and has been following the progress of Emmaus South Wales very closely. Afterwards she said how pleased she was with her visit, which she described as an uplifting experience.

The picture shows HRH with a group of Companions, staff, volunteers and Trustees outside the front entrance to Nant Lais.

## Contact Us:

Email:

info@emmaussouthwales.org.uk

Web:

www.emmaus.org.uk/  
south\_wales

### Superstore (and furniture collection):

Tremains Road, **Bridgend**  
CF31 1TZ  
**01656 750829**

### Shops:

6, Caroline Street, **Bridgend**  
CF31 1DQ  
01656 659988

140, Commercial Street, **Maesteg**  
CF34 9DW  
01656 737737

22, Queen Street, **Neath**  
SA11 1DL  
01639 646486

36-38, New Road, **Porthcawl**  
CF36 5DN  
01656 771555

6a, High Street, **Cowbridge**  
CF71 7AD  
01446 774916

3/6, Cardiff Street, **Aberdare**  
CF44 7DP  
01685 871452

### Registered Address:

6, Caroline St  
Bridgend, CF31 1DQ

Tel (General enquiries):  
01656 332756

Charity Number: 1136010

## Emmaus South Wales is Growing!

Since the last newsletter in the Spring, much has changed across Emmaus South Wales.

We have welcomed our first locally referred Companions to Emmaus South Wales. They have made a great start and are doing well, working in our shops and in the Community home at Nant Lais. See more below

Introducing our new Business Manager, Nigel Oanea-Cram, interviewed by one of our Trustees, Kate Lowry



Nigel Oanea-Cram grew up in Pontarddulais and Clydach. He studied at Nottingham University, then worked as a manager in Toys R Us. On his return to South Wales he worked in retail before spending the last seven years with Neath Port Talbot CVS running projects with volunteers & developing a befriending service for vulnerable people.

*What attracted you to the job of Business Manager for ESW?*

After a varied career in the retail and the voluntary sector I was ready for a new challenge and the job seemed to be the perfect opportunity to use my experience of working both with volunteers and vulnerable people, and in business, to benefit people in need.

*How does this job differ from your previous roles?*

This is a business 'with a heart'. The profits from 'normal' businesses go into the pockets of their shareholders; in the ESW social enterprise model all profits go to support and develop the Emmaus Community.

*Do you have one final message you would like to send to the readers of this newsletter?*

The success of our business and our Community depends entirely on the generosity of everyone who donates goods for us to sell in our shops and on all who choose to shop with us. So please do continue to support us in these ways, as and when you are able.

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*The formerly homeless people who will live in the Community home are called 'Companions', and we have spaces for more!*

*Companions join the Community for a variety of reasons, including seeking a new purpose in life. To be part of Emmaus South Wales, Companions have to live by the Community rules and be willing to work a 40 hour week in the Emmaus South Wales Social Enterprise. They have to sign off all benefits except housing benefit, but receive their food, accommodation and an allowance.*

*If you know of anyone who would benefit from being a Companion, and who would also make a positive contribution to Emmaus South Wales, they can contact us at [community@emmaussouthwales.org.uk](mailto:community@emmaussouthwales.org.uk) or ring 01656 667215 for more information.*

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