

Bugail dy: Rebound Review

My task is to update you all on the arrival of our exciting new project at 2 Wheat Street (the new office).

We are calling our workspace Bugail dy – some of you will recall the old Lion Street office having the same name in Jim's time – the meaning is Shepherds House.

In early September we moved in and Robin, Steve, Gar, Ruth and Laura took on a two day a week programme of activities. Shortly after we began and largely because we had this new space available we were able to accept a most serendipitous offer passed on by Elen from some friends of hers. This was to rehouse "Rebound Books" a small business which rebinds unwanted books (destined for landfill) into notebooks, journals and diaries.

With some excitement and apprehension we welcomed the founders of this enterprise to stay, Brad & Jen, who with a hefty amount of equipment and stock, 4 children, a caravan and a very nice experience as we spent 2 ½ days plus learning the art of binding and selling (this new product). The risk taken on both sides has paid off as we settle into the rhythm of the work and get to grips with owning an internet shop! Brad, Jen and family are in contact, providing support and we hope before long they will be around again to check up on and further encourage us.

Please feel welcome to call in on Thursday and Friday lunch times 12 – 1pm to see what it's all about.

Find us on the 2nd Saturday of the month at Brecon Farmer's Market or visit our website

www.reboundbooks.co.uk

We value your support.

Wanted:

Old, tatty books

Volunteers 1 or 2 sessions per week at Bugail dy

Special events in our community:

Community Christmas Celebration

Thursday 23rd December,
5.30pm
Glasfryn House
Bring & Share Supper

Community AGM

2nd February 2011
6.30pm
Venue – to be announced
All welcome



L'Arche Brecon Community Newsletter

Winter 2010

Happy Holidays from L'Arche Brecon

Welcome to the latest edition of our Community Newsletter. As 2010 draws to a close it is time to give thanks for the many gifts we have received as a community this year.



This is the first time we have welcomed someone with a learning disability in seven years and is the start of what we hope will be a period of growth in the first few years of the new decade.

When Kate stepped as Community Leader in February we were pleased to welcome Mariusz to replace her. After a few months it became clear that the role wasn't quite suited to Mariusz and he asked to step down in July.

This led to my arrival from L'Arche Liverpool as temporary Community Leader, with Mariusz taking the role of House Leader.

Over the summer months and into the Autumn I have been conducting a full review of the community and developing a new plan to expand over the next two years.

To help achieve the Committee have appointed a new Community Leader, Jacquelyn Box who will be starting on 17th January.

Hellos and Goodbyes

Thank you to Divyesh, Laura and Mariusz for your time in the community.



Welcome to Rov, returning as Deputy House Leader, Becca, the new House Leader and Joanna Niderla and Peter Farquharson who recently started their trial periods as assistants.

I hope you enjoy reading the rest of our news. It has been a good year for the Community - the move to the new office in Wheat Street, the opening of Bugail dy and the arrival of Paul Jones herald the beginning of many hopes and dreams to become a bit bigger, more stable and to continue to be a place of life, a sign of God's love in Brecon. On behalf of all of us in the Community I wish you a very happy Christmas and all good things in 2011.

Paul Doocey
Acting Community Leader

Phoebe Caldwell Seminar

Autism and Intensive Interaction

Back in November the Community were delighted to sponsor a seminar where Phoebe talked about her work using body language to support people with severe autism. Phoebe then spent a couple of days with us to help us identify how we could improve our ways of working with each other.

Phoebe Caldwell is the winner of The Times/ Sternberg Award for pioneering Autism treatment. She has worked for over 35 years supporting people with severe learning disabilities and is the author of several books.

The feedback from all who attended the seminar was extremely positive, if you've never heard of her you could look at her website

www.phoebecaldwell.co.uk

Welcome Peter

Hi, my name is Peter Farquharson. I was born in Edinburgh, but lived in Lewis in the Western Isles. I lived in Southern Africa for 20 years. Firstly working in a hospital and then for scripture union, a christian organization. I came back to the UK and worked for the Lodge Trust, a christian organization looking after people with learning disabilities, for almost 8 years. So, how did I end up at L'Arche Brecon? For a few years now I have been thinking and looking for something new in my life. I was looking here and there but found nothing. Then one day L'Arche came into my thoughts. I do get the L'Arche newsletter but I had never actually thought of working there. I sent away an application form and here I am living in L'Arche Brecon.

Peter

Welcome Joanna

Hello. My name is Joanna Niderla, I come from Poland. All my life I spent in Warsaw, which is the capital city of Poland. I was born there, went to school there and studied History of Art at University of Warsaw. Then I worked in many different jobs, for example as a curator of contemporary art gallery or as a photo editor in the publishing house.

I am interested in travelling, this year I went alone on a Balkan trip through Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina. After that I decided to try to do something different, to live abroad for some time and to get a completely different experience. I had enough of busy Warsaw life. I was looking on the Internet for an occupation outside the borders of my country. That is how I found L'Arche Brecon. I decided to join the community. This is my first month and they welcomed me kindly, so I feel like between my friends.

Joanna

Summer Holiday to Preston

Preston was the location for this year's summer holidays and we spent almost two weeks there. We usually go away in the first two weeks of August but we always miss the Brecon Jazz festival so decided that this year we would go two weeks earlier so that we could be here for the festival.

The house in Preston is bigger than Glasfryn so you can easily lose yourself there. We had so much fun whilst there and had the opportunity to do many things such as visiting Rebecca's parents, black dog and cat and staying overnight there, a day trip to the lake district which included a boat ride for some and an opportunity to look at old cars for others, shopping in Preston town to buy records for Steve and also on those rainy days staying in and watching DVD's and across the road there was a park which Gar and I enjoyed.

It was a peaceful place to sit and have a cup of tea. Oh and I mustn't forget the tennis tournaments. Everyone enjoyed themselves and had a good time.

Alice

Plumbers and Cold Water

How many plumbers does it take to change a bathroom?

Two – one to turn off the water and one to fix the taps. Did you say turn off the water? That's why we haven't got any hot water for a bath – or is it because the outside temperature had plummeted to -7 °C and everything is frozen.

Yes it's all going on with water at the moment. Gareth, Robin & Steve have been very patient waiting for their turn to use our one bathroom that works. It's only the beginning of December but the big freeze has already started and as Murphies law dictates – yes, the plumbers have moved in to refurbish two of the bathrooms just to add to the chaos.

Despite all this we are all still on good terms with each other as we start making plans for Christmas.

Rennie

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We're on the Web! Visit us at: <http://www.larchebrecon.org.uk>

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