

*Appreciation remarks at Blessing and Rededication of Jonah Jones windows, St David's Church, Mold*

*David Townsend Jones, 4 June 2023*

*Diolch am y gwahodd i siarad i chi bore 'ma yn Egwlys Dewi Sant.* Thank you for inviting me to say a few words to you this morning in St David's Church.

I'm David, Jonah Jones's eldest son, and I'm here not just as a family member but also as a board member of Scene & Word. We are a non-profit company with charitable aims set up in 2006 to safeguard Jonah's legacy – which, of course, includes trying to make sure that Jonah's public art works, like these windows, don't disappear forever into landfill.

When we first heard in 2016 that the church in Morfa Nefyn, for which the windows were originally made, was to be closed, I must say our hearts sank. But, thanks to the vision and imagination of Bishop Peter, they have ended up safely here in company with the splendid windows of Dom Charles Norris, who, like Jonah, was a pioneer of the *dalle de verre* method. My brother Peter will tell you more later about Jonah's glass work and these windows.

So we are very grateful to Bishop Peter – as we are, very much so, to St David's very own force of nature, Mike Bunting, whose energy, commitment and practical spirit drove this project from the beginning all the way over the line.

Thanks too to my fellow board member, Alun Adams, who is Scene & Word's architectural conservation expert, for recommending the Architectural Glass Centre at Swansea College of Art, one of the very few European centres of excellence in its field, to carry out the painstaking work of restoring, and sometimes rebuilding, these windows to the good-as-new condition in which we now see them, good to last for at least another 50 years.

Thanks too to the team, Owen Luetchford and Stacey Poultney, at the Architectural Glass Centre, who carried out the work in the middle of the Covid pandemic; and also to David Hughes of Lawray Architects, who advised on the design and layout of the scheme.

*Gwaith ardderchog gan pawb!* Excellent work from all! *Diolch yn fawr iawn.* Thank you very much.