

Andrew Bennett - Candidate Statement for Trustee of IGI

I am a committed Christian from Northern Ireland. I became a Christian at a young age and was deeply impacted by a trip to Malawi to visit missionaries with my parents when I was just 8 years old. Since then I have harboured a love for Africa and a desire to support and encourage Christians working there. I cemented my faith whilst at university at Durham University where I studied the Bible rigorously for the first time and appreciated the truth of the gospel of grace. I attend Jesmond Parish Church, Newcastle, where I am involved in a home group and help at an international students' cafe which aims to welcome international students to the UK, make friendships, and share the Christian faith with them.

As a solicitor working in an international law firm, I am currently working in Leeds on a government-led financial services regulation investigation.

From studying and practising law at Durham University, and attending talks and conferences organised by the UK based organisation the Lawyers Christian Fellowship, I developed a biblical understanding of God's heart for justice and the need to apply my legal skills to the issue of corruption around the world.

I would like to be a trustee because I can see the evidence of how IGI is helping to make a difference in communities and promote God's heart for justice around Africa and I want to promote their work more in the UK. I aim to share the work of IGI with my contacts throughout the UK in other churches, in Northern Ireland where I am originally from, and with other Christian charities in the UK. Having met Sakwa in the recent past, I have a desire to support his work and his partners in IGI in any other way that I am able.

