

Volunteer Update - September 2020

As you are no doubt aware, due to the on-going Coronavirus pandemic and the current Welsh Government Guidance to work from home if at all possible, most volunteering is still happening in a different way. There are a few outdoor opportunities that can carry on, and some charity shops have managed to put the necessary safety measures in place and have re-opened. Most other opportunities that are able to operate at the moment are being offered remotely – using telephone and on-line contact.

As formal volunteering gradually resumes across the county there are a few bits and pieces of news I need to share with you. As always, if you would like to NOT receive these emails in future, please do let us know.

We will be conducting a Volunteer Survey in the next few weeks, in order to find out what your experience has been of volunteering during lockdown, and to build up a picture of the work that's going on across the county. Writing such a survey is tricky when the situation seems to change on a weekly (sometimes daily) basis, but when we have sent the survey out, we would be very grateful if you could take a few minutes to answer the questions.

Below you will find information and links to Volunteering Opportunities that have recently either started or resumed after being in hibernation during Covid. We are encouraging organisations to post their opportunities on Volunteering Wales, so it is always worth checking regularly if you are looking for a volunteering placement.

Trustees Wanted:

This is a special kind of volunteer role – it isn't for everyone and often these roles are best suited to someone who either has a particular skill that they can "bring to the table" (e.g. finance, treasurer), or perhaps they have a particular passion for the work of the organisation and have a desire to help drive the organisation forward as a member of the board of trustees, or ideally of course you would have both! SO, if you think you have what it takes to be a member of a board of trustees, or you know someone who does, please check out the following links:

- Carmarthen Shopmobility – Trustees needed to ensure the continued success of this vital service
- Lluest Horse & Pony Trust – Trustees needed who care about equine welfare
- Prime Cymru – Trustees needed to promote the vision and values of Prime Cymru

Volunteering Opportunities:

- Llanedi Community Council are looking for volunteers to help with their community mapping and asset register program – Do you have good computer skills, enthusiasm for working in the community and an interest in data gathering and research? This might be the role for you.
- Royal Voluntary Service If you like driving and have some time to spare then the Royal Voluntary Service have roles across the County.
- Greyhound Rescue Wales are looking for a Human Resources Volunteer – do you have a background in HR and time to spare?
- Sticking with the canine theme, West Wales Poundies Dog Rescue are looking for volunteers to help in their charity shop in Ammanford.
- Age Cymru Dyfed are looking for volunteers to join their Befriending Life Links telephone befriending service. This role is home-based so you can join the project wherever you live.
- Although this is an older listing, the project at Llanelli Library is renewing its efforts to recruit new volunteers. 'Stordy Digidol' is one element of the Great Place Llanelli project, a project which aims to engage the community with the rich heritage and culture of Llanelli. It is hoped volunteers can start by using existing skills with the aim of developing skills further, in order to document community heritage content, with skills development in digitisation and research available.
- Finally, CBSA, the Centre for Building Social Action, have a project called Be the Change, that may be able to support younger people to start their volunteer journeys. Get in touch with them to find out more.