



LLYFRGELL GENEDLAETHOL CYMRU
THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF WALES

Gwirfoddoli
Volunteering

Volunteer Newsletter

Summer 2023

Record-breaking numbers!

We're pleased to announce that April - June was a record-breaking quarter in terms of the numbers volunteering within the Library building, with 64 volunteers attending weekly.



The volunteering scheme will remain open throughout the summer; however, things will be a little quieter, what with the exodus of students, as well as some volunteers on parenting and grandparenting duties.

Peace from across the sea:

Through the 1920s, as a result of the Great War, the Women's Committee of the Welsh League of Nations Union led campaigns on peace. In 1923, women throughout Wales organised the Women's Peace campaign which involved peace activists going door-to-door to almost every household in the country. The result was a Memorial Petition signed by 390,296 women (allegedly 7 miles long) which was shipped and presented to the women of America.

One hundred years later, the oak chest and its contents has returned to Wales. The Petition is currently being catalogued and digitised by Library staff; the digitised version will be available for online volunteers to transcribe on the Library's crowdsourcing website from November onwards.

We will soon be inviting a few of our in-house volunteers to help with a preliminary task to identify the location (town/village) of some of the names in the petition where only a street name has been recorded. This will involve searching the Census to match names and addresses.

Student placements pilot:

Due to the high number of post-graduate students of the University's Information Studies Department that signed up to volunteer over the year, a scheme offering volunteering placements within Library departments was piloted. Eight placements were offered; the feedback from both staff and students has been very positive. Three of the students have since secured employment. One of them noted that his placement with the NLW photographs curator had helped him secure employment at a museum in San Diego.

If any NLW staff would like to offer a 12-week placement for a post-graduate student between October 2023 and July 2024, please get in touch.

Recording the Dairy Industry in Mid Wales:

Colin has been scanning and creating data for the People's Collection Wales website recording the history of Milk Marketing Board creameries in Mid Wales. Michael Morgan's personal collection of photos, documents and ephemera record his time working at Felin Fach Creamery from 1965 - 1988, and later at Llangadog Creamery from 1988 - 2005.



Some of the collection has already been uploaded to the PCW website., with more to follow soon - <https://www.peoplescollection.wales/discover/query/milk%20marketing%20board>

April - June 2023 Stats

64 volunteers

1,906 volunteering hours

14 projects/tasks
in progress



Welcome

A very warm welcome to the
following volunteers who have
recently joined us:

Llinos, Natasha, Sue, Cath,
Mike, Harriet, Lynne, Emrys,
William, Dafydd.

Meet a NLW Volunteer

Why did you become a volunteer and for how long have you been volunteering at the NLW?

Volunteering is rewarding and educational. I was encouraged to do it as a teen and have continued on and off since then, starting here at the Library in April. It fits in well with part-time teaching and family life.

What type of volunteering tasks are you involved with?

An interesting project involving the collection of the names and details of the members of the Orsedd from 1880 to the present in order to create a database.

What, in your opinion, are the benefits of volunteering at the library?

It opens your mind to being part of something bigger, part of the history and culture of Wales. I've met many lovely people and get to practise (and hopefully improve) speaking, reading and writing in Welsh.

Favourite place and why?

Pen Dinas, top of Constitution Hill, Parc Natur Penglais....oh, the views!

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

Walking up hills (see above). Comedy. Listening to music (especially Bwncaeth recently). Flute, singing and dancing (not all at once).

Are you a member of any Clubs/societies?

Côr ABC and Clwb Iwcadwli (Aber's finest ukelele band).

Favourite TV programme/film and why?

The series 'Dal y Mellt'. Super tense and exciting but also funny and with a heart.

Best period in time?

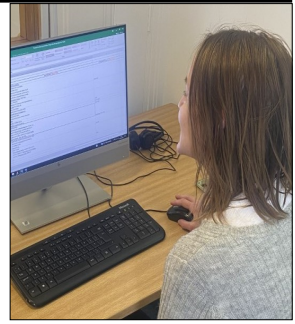
The 2020s in our part of the world for the freedom of expression and diversity that we're all starting to enjoy. But the 70s for wacky fashion.

Name 3 things that you'd take to a desert island?

Family, flask of tea, a cheeseboard.

An interesting fact about you

I have the strange and completely UN-useful ability to do 'the moonwalk'.



Sue

Meet a member of the NLW Staff:

What school and university did you attend?

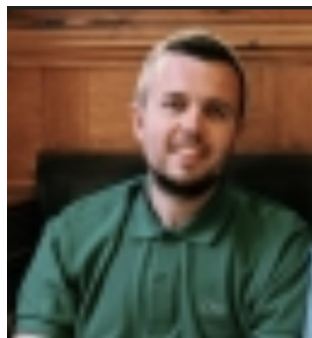
Bro Ddyfi school and then Bangor University, where I graduated in Media Studies.

Best memory of School ?

Representing the school in the S4C sports quiz 'Pencampau'. We lost in the first round, but with the highest losing score ever - robbed!

What is your role at the Library?

I'm responsible for the NLW events programme.



Dan Johnson

Your interests?

I'm a keen supporter of Birmingham City and I also follow Wales to both home and away games. Outside of football I enjoy cricket, reading and listening to podcasts.

Favourite TV programme/film?

'The Wire' with Idris Elba and Dominic West. Favourite film - 'The Godfather'. Classic!

Clwb Sgwrsio

If you're a Welsh learner, there's an opportunity to practice the language in an informal and friendly environment at our Clwb Sgwrsio for volunteers.

Over a coffee every Monday from 11:00 - 11:45.

Contact Gwyneth if you'd like to join us.

Favourite food?.

Fillet steak (medium), chips and loads of peppercorn sauce... and bread to mop up the sauce.

Your favourite time in history?

Ancient Rome - iconic people, history and city.

Name 3 things that you'd take to a remote island?

A random copy of Wisden Cricketers Almanack, loads of water to drink and a boat.

3 famous people (dead or alive!) you'd invite for a dinner party?

Muhammad Ali, David Bowie and Steve Coogan.

An interesting fact about you?

I completed a 10k race a couple of months ago, less than 6 months after taking up running.



If you wish to take part in our volunteering scheme please contact:

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Cledan Davies 01970 632437

E-mail: volunteering@llgc.org.uk



@NLWVolunteering