



# **The Wales People's Library**

**People will always be  
our greatest resource**

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## The People's Library: Growing Together

The People's Library project exists to unite people of different age groups and backgrounds, encouraging the sharing of knowledge and life experience. By building bridges between generations and cultures, we strengthen our communities and make individual voices heard.

This Autumn we're launching the Wales People's Library from our community hub at St John's Day Centre in Swansea. You'll be invited to meet with others, "borrow" them for a conversation about their life experience and draw inspiration from the way they've coped with everything life has thrown at them.

Do you have a story to tell about the place where you live or work, about the experiences that have shaped your life, the friends and loved ones who've inspired you and the journey you've found yourself making? If you'd like to share it in conversation, in images or on video, we'd like to hear from you.

Email [hello@connectedsa5.com](mailto:hello@connectedsa5.com) for more information.



## St John's Day Centre – Your Central Library

Approximately 10% of Swansea's population are aged 75 and over. While we're thankful for the advances that have seen life-expectancy rise to this point, longer lives bring their own challenges. At St John's Day Centre in Cwmbwrla, those challenges are met with love and respect.

Centre manager Amanda Gallivan sets the tone, giving local people a meeting place, a project management hub and a wellness centre. The youngest current attendee at St John's is 54 years old, and there are others in their late 90s. Over the years Amanda has helped people celebrate 100th birthdays. And in her eyes, these people's lives are something to be celebrated.

At St John's they are guaranteed a greeting from highly trained, compassionate professionals who make each day count. They offer care balanced with respect, always reaffirming each person's sense of identity and self-worth. And with the centre also proving to be a magnet for younger people, attracting employees and volunteers of all ages, it offers visitors warmth and vibrancy that keeps them coming back day after day. And the centre also offers excellent training and meeting facilities which make it a suitable training hub for individuals and organisations.

At St John's you can count on:

- **Professional seminar and webinar training facilities**
- **Support for people with complex needs**
- **Support for their families and carers**
- **Wellness treatments**
- **Projects that serve and inspire the community**

St John's Day Centre is the ideal setting for the Wales People's Library, perfectly matching our brief of bringing together people of all ages and backgrounds.

## The Wales People's Library History Wing

What's your definition of history?

Events that took place a long time ago in places far removed from here and shaped the world we live in?

Landmarks in the lives of our parents and grandparents?

The choices we make every day that influence our community and improve the lives of those around us?

All of these things meet our definition. The **History Wing** will discuss our global, national, local and personal histories, with presentations that remind us of the impact that each of us can make on the world around us.

## The Wales People's Library Arts Wing

We know of Swansea and Wales's rich artistic tradition. A 1949 BBC radio broadcast famously brought together the Kardomah Gang of Dylan Thomas, poet Vernon Watkins, composer Daniel Jones, writer John Pritchard and artist Alfred Janes to discuss the future of the arts in Swansea as we moved into the second half of the 20th century.

But now we're well into the 21st. Who are the new artists who will inspire us? They may be following a traditional path, or they may be finding new outlets for their talent.

Which creative paths will our musicians follow in the 2020s? Will our most creative minds be writing novels or will they be podcasting?

There's no reason why they can't do both. The **Arts Wing** will meet to share our thoughts on and our hopes for the arts in the 2020s and beyond.



## The Wales People's Library Science Wing

Science encompasses traditional advancements in biology, chemistry and physics, of course, and it also includes developments in technology that shape our everyday lives in ways we might not recognise.

On this planet right now there are far more devices connected to the internet than there are people. 250 miles above us there's an international space station that uses the same cloud technology to keep its systems running that many of us use to do our jobs.

Around us in Swansea there are businesses that don't just use technology to keep moving forward, they use it to safeguard the environment.

And artificial intelligence is doing more and more of the jobs that, even a few years ago, would have taken up huge amounts of our time. It's not a threat to us, it's giving us a platform to use our skills and do the things that only people can do.

Meetings of the **Science Wing** will discuss where we go next.

## The Wales People's Library People's Choice Wing

The Wales People's Library is here to promote conversation, knowledge-sharing and the building of bridges between generations and cultures. Not everything we want to talk about will fit neatly into a category. And why should it? People have many different interests and many different ways of communicating them.

That's why we're hosting regular meetings of the **People's Choice Wing**. Local people will choose the topics, sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm and bringing them to a new audience.

Your choice, your forum, your days. Enjoy them.



## **Your People's Librarians**

**Amanda Gallivan**

**Wales People's Library Centre Manager**



Twenty-five years in social services, allied with natural empathy and problem-solving ability, makes Amanda the ideal choice to lead the Wales People's Library. No one does more to bring people together. No one does more to ensure that people of all ages and backgrounds are respected and valued.

**Jess Gullivan**

**Wales People's Library Ambassador**



An accomplished speaker and a champion of good causes, Jess is sharing the message of the Wales People's Library with a wide audience and will be a regular presenter at our forthcoming events.



**Steve Pearson**

**Wales People's Library Project Manager**



A pillar of the community, Steve is the leader of our local People's Library manufacturing and conservation projects and has built up the Manselton Men's Shed into a group that champions environmentally friendly local production.



## LAUNCH EVENT

### September 11<sup>th</sup> - Official Launch and Awards Day

We all know people who've stepped up since coronavirus began to impact in our lives, making us feel supported and valued just when we needed it most. It's time to acknowledge that support. It's time to say thank you.

The People's Library Community Awards will honour the people who've made a difference. The awards day will follow whatever social distancing protocols are in place and awards will be given to Community Champions who have inspired us in 2021.

Following the Awards ceremony and an introduction to the People's Library, we're hosting **Ready, Sheddy Cook**, a cookery challenge in which we'll prepare meals from ingredients grown at the St John's Men's Shed. We're challenging people to grow their own food and protect their environment. We're also challenging them to show us what can be done with the results. Join us and share in home-grown culinary creativity

## PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We are happy to meet with prospective commercial partners to discuss sponsorship options including the following:

- Sponsoring a wing of the library
- Sponsoring an event or series of events
- Featuring in joint marketing and Wales People's Library publications
- Gaining access to training in fields including customer service, sales, marketing, recruitment and diversity and inclusion

***All partnership donations are payable to a non-profit organisation and as such are subject to tax relief.***

To find out more, or to discuss any aspect of the Wales People's Library's work, contact us at

[hello@connectedsa5.com](mailto:hello@connectedsa5.com)