

Accessible Wales

"because an accessible Wales benefits all"



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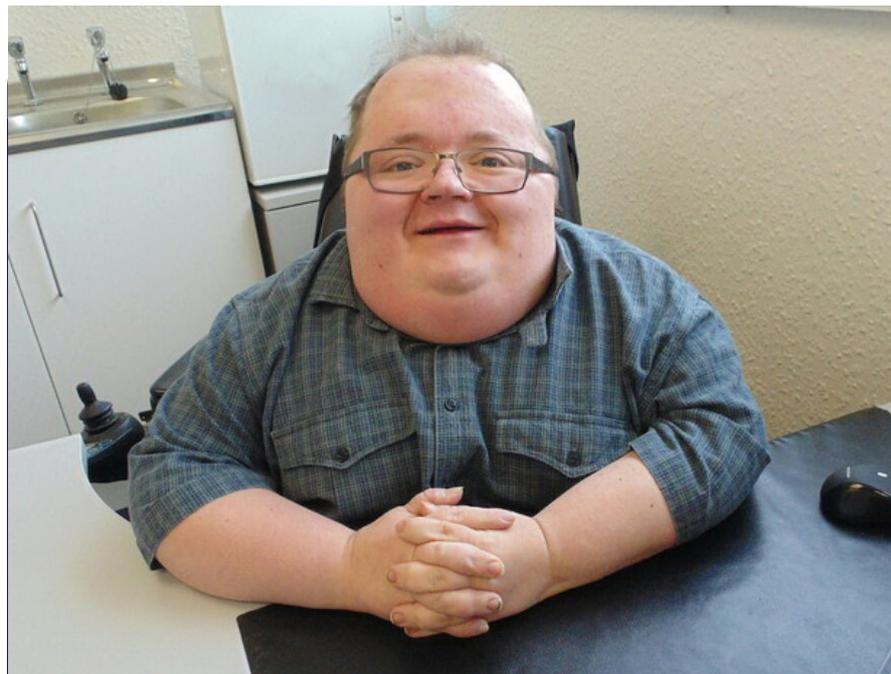
Quarterly Newsletter

Issue 1 | October 2016

Hello this is the first of our quarterly newsletters. Aiming to provide you with information on all things related to Accessible Wales and disability in general.

We will share the latest news with you and give you tips on best practice equality wise. We will also feature clients

and show how good accessibility can be of benefit to everyone. After all our motto is "because an accessible Wales benefits everyone"



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Kind Regards

Richard Jones
Principal Consultant

Swansea Museum, Making History Accessible

Fully accessible to all members of the public, Wales' oldest museum will have you impressed at more than just its ancient artefacts!

Ease of access is evident from the moment you arrive. Five accessible parking bays, an accessible entrance and drop curbs en route make the journey to and from the museum safer for everyone. And, it doesn't stop there. Once inside, a vertical platform lift enables visitors of varying disabilities to access every floor. Whilst the lift is fairly small, a manual wheelchair is provided for those with wheelchairs too large to manoeuvre easily inside the lift. Meanwhile, for those taking the stairs, each landing has a good



number of seats to rest on. On each of the floors, the majority of the furniture is free standing and can be easily moved to accommodate the visitor's needs. Furthermore, the accessible toilet is airy and spacious, and, unlike many other museums, the unisex toilet is equipped with accessible facilities.

Given the grand architecture of such an old building, Swansea Museum should be commended for its efforts in promoting positive access. Such beautifully intricate buildings can

often be difficult to modify, particularly when they house such fragile objects. Yet, despite these problems, the Museum has done everything within its power to improve the facilities. Friendly, knowledgeable staff are on hand at all times to answer your questions and will provide as much support and help as possible. With such a positive attitude towards access, there can be no limit to the influence Swansea Museum can have on its visitors!



Disability Awareness Training... come and join us

Thursday 10th November
2pm - 5pm
Cynon Valley Museum



Our courses aim to raise the awareness of delegates towards the needs of people with disabilities

ONLY
£30
Per person

Our training sessions are informal, highly informative, very effective and at times, highly amusing!

15 Places available

**We can train YOUR staff at YOUR
venue**



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Access Tip # 1

When redecorating try to use different shades of paint to make walls, doors and floors contrast with each other.



Myths About Disability #1

Myth

Disability is a devastating personal tragedy.

Truth

The lives of disabled people are not tragic. What often disables people is the attitudes they encounter and the environment in which they live and work.

Cynon Valley Museum is now Open

Accessible Wales are pleased to have attended the launch of the Cynon Valley Museum as the museum was one of our first clients.

Since opening in 2007 Accessible Wales has had a strong working relationship with the Museum, carrying out a number of access audits/reviews and basing many training courses in the suite upstairs. We've even used the museum as a base for our training/refresher Access Reviews.



Museum Chairperson Dinah Pye (front) with Vikki Howells AM, Richard Jones, Roy Noble, Lord Aberdare and Ann Clwyd MP

Accessible Wales will be continuing to work with the trustees, staff and volunteers of the museum over a prolonged period of time to improve the access in and around the building as well as improving features for people with varying disabilities. The trustees are keen to make the museum the heart of the community and I know they share my view that providing access and facilities for all is the ideal way to accomplish this goal.



Photograph from the first access audit carried out by Accessible Wales

Congratulations to the trustees, Charlotte Morgan (Development Manager) and volunteers on their fantastic effort in getting the museum open and hosting such a fantastic event. Thanks to Clint Elwyn Thomas for some of the photographs.

Get in touch with us to let us help you improve your access, like these and many more



Access Consultancy | Disability Related Training