

Neglected Communities

Who is running Science Shops?

The Science Shop project is being run by the University of Glamorgan and University of Wales, Newport, in south east Wales. The universities hope to encourage the people of Wales to feel more comfortable about using their educational and other services.

Who pays for Science Shops?

Science Shops Wales are paid for by a department of the Welsh Assembly Government. For this reason, they can offer research services either free or at very low cost to community groups in Wales. There is funding for Science Shops from the Higher Education Funding Council of Wales

(HEFCW) until 2010.



Volunteers help local people to learn about wildlife

SIOPAU GWYDDONIAETH CYMRU
SCIENCE • SHOPS • WALES

scishopw@glam.ac.uk • 0845 • 841 • 3545
<http://www.science-shops-wales.org.uk>

Where will I find a science shop?

Science Shops Wales is based at the University of Glamorgan in Treforest. We also have places called contact points where you can pick up more information on science subjects. These contact points are in libraries, community centres and museums all over the Valleys. Give us a call or check our website to find out where your nearest contact point is.

More information?

If you would like to volunteer with Science Shops Wales, please call us on 0845 841 3545, or email us at scishopw@glam.ac.uk

You can also pop into our office and talk to one of our staff directly.

For more information on Science Shops Wales visit our website: www.scienceshops-wales.org.uk

For more information about the work of science shops around the world, visit the Living Knowledge website: www.scienceshops.org

University
of Wales,
Newport

Prifysgol
Cymru,
Casnewydd



VOLUNTEERING WITH SCIENCE SHOPS WALES

Knowledge at the service of the community

SIOPAU GWYDDONIAETH CYMRU
SCIENCE • SHOPS • WALES

scishopw@glam.ac.uk • 0845 • 841 • 3545
<http://www.science-shops-wales.org.uk>

What is a Science Shop?

Science Shops are not the usual kind of shop. They are small units in local communities that carry out scientific research for community groups. They already exist in lots of countries across Europe and the rest of the world.

What sort of problems can a Science Shop tackle?

'Science' can mean almost any topic as long as we are able to use a logical approach. We can carry out projects on topics such as the environment, health, social problems, or even history and law.

Who can volunteer with Science Shop Wales?

We welcome applications from people with different backgrounds and life experiences, with an interest in helping their community. Some people may have experience of doing research, but many will not. Whatever role you take on, you will receive full training and support.

What sort of tasks could I take on if I volunteered with Science Shops Wales?

You may work with a team helping to carry out research projects. You may help put on Science Shop events and training, and you could play a part in the daily running of one of our Science Shops.

Examples of volunteering with Science Shops Wales

- * Helping local people carry out a biodiversity audit
- * Helping with fun science activities at fairs and festivals
- * Working with a local charity to grow organic vegetables

SIOPAU GWYDDONIAETH CYMRU
SCIENCE • SHOPS • WALES
scishopw@glam.ac.uk • 0845 • 841 • 3545
<http://www.science shops wales.org.uk>

Community Improvement Neglected Communities

How would I benefit?

At Science Shops Wales, we want all our volunteers to benefit from working with us. You'll receive training, the chance to gain qualifications and go on to further learning. You'll work with a team of friendly supportive people. You'll gain skills, knowledge and confidence that will help you in future, whatever path you choose. You'll also be serving your community – 'giving something back.'

How do I volunteer?

The first step is to fill in an application form. (We can help with this). You'll then have a short interview with a member of the Science Shops Wales team. We'll let you know as soon as possible whether we can make use of your services at that time. If you are successful, we may ask you to complete an application for a criminal records check. We will store your details securely and in line with the Data Protection Act.

Would Science Shops Wales pay my expenses?

Yes—we'll refund the cost of your bus or train tickets from your home to your placement. If you travel by car, we'll give you back 40p a mile.

How else does Science Shops Wales support volunteers?

You'll get a full induction and training. You'll get the chance to achieve a basic module with the University of Glamorgan. You'll find out about the work of Science Shops. Induction will tell you about your rights and responsibilities and how to work as safely as possible. A Science Shop Development Officer will be chosen to guide you. Together, you will draw up an agreement giving your role and duties. At least once a month, you will be able to meet with your officer to talk about progress and any issues you may have.



Volunteers help Science Shops Wales run events at local fairs.

SIOPAU GWYDDONIAETH CYMRU
SCIENCE • SHOPS • WALES
scishopw@glam.ac.uk • 0845 • 841 • 3545
<http://www.science shops wales.org.uk>