**Volunteering Advertisment.**

**OPPORTUNITY TITLE:** Researching Jewish material in RCT museums.

This role is offered as part of a partnership project.

**The Jewish History Association of South Wales** (JHASW) was formed in 2017 with the aim to preserve the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of the Jewish communities of south Wales; to make these historical records, artefacts, and oral histories available to members of the public; and to promote, raise awareness and enhance public knowledge of the Jewish heritage of south Wales.

**Pontypridd Museum** is owned and managed by Pontypridd Town Council and is located at the north end of Taff Street in a former Welsh Baptist chapel. We have a collection of over 17,000 objects comprising social and industrial history, art, archival items, photographs and ephemera.

**The Cynon Valley Museum** is run by the Cynon Valley Museum Trust. The CVMT was established in 2015 following the closure of the Cynon Valley Museum. Its aim is to keep the Museum open and make it self-sustainable. The collection you will be working with is owned and managed by the Rhondda Cynon Taf Heritage Service. The two organisations work in partnership.

**Rhondda Heritage Par**k is the lead venue for Rhondda Cynon Taf’s Heritage Service and acts as the Collections Centre for collections held by Rhondda Cynon Taf County borough Council. Rhondda Heritage Park was established in 1986 when a group of local people decided to preserve the recently closed Lewis Merthyr Colliery as a memorial to the communities who worked and lived in the Rhondda. The collection amounts to over 12,500 objects, within this there are a number of strong themes including the industrial history, local celebrities and sports personalities, domestic items, fashion, music and the temperance movement.

**The role will involve:**

This role is suitable for a person interested in social history, local heritage, and archives and museums.

The aim of the role is to research the Rhondda Cynon Taf museums’ collections (Cynon Valley Museum, Rhondda Heritage Park, and Pontypridd Museum) and improve their interpretations.

The tasks will include:

* Researching the museums’ collections and identifying the Jewish material;
* Adding new interpretations to the existing material;
* Digitising and cataloguing the newly acquired material for publication on the People’s Collection Wales (PCW);
* Uploading the material to the PCW.

**Skills required**:

Essential:

* Organised, reliable, and able to deliver a task to a set deadline;
* Attention to detail;
* Excellent command of English; ability to write in a clear and concise manner.
* Willingness to work as part of a team;
* Willingness to learn and improve your skills.

Desirable:

* Knowledge of the People’s Collection Wales;
* Interest in history and heritage;

**What you will gain:**

* An induction specific to the site you will be volunteering at;
* Training in handling museum collections;
* Training in cataloguing and digitisation;
* Accreditation in ‘Digitising materials for museums, libraries and archives’, Level 2, Credit 3, from Agored Cymru (it is not compulsory to complete accreditation);
* Practical experience in museum research, cataloguing, and digitisation;
* A chance to meet other people and improve your confidence and communication skills;
* An opportunity to improve your CV and increase your employability;
* A reference from JHASW (on delivery of the task).

**Additional information:**

The volunteering will take place at the one of the RCT museums, in Pontypridd, Aberdare or Trehafod **on Fridays**.

Hours: You are expected to commit at least **5 hours per week** to the project for a **minimum** **of 3 months**.

Please note that you will need to be available for the induction, which will take place on Friday, the 15th of November, from 10:00 to 15:00, at Pontypridd Museum.

Travel expenses can be reimbursed, capped at £4.00 per person per volunteering session of at least 5 hours.

**To apply, please send a** 2-page CV and 1 page covering letter outlining why you are interested and how you think you would be able to contribute, to **klavdija.erzen@jhasw.org.uk**