



# Cardiff, Wales



## Sharon's profile

I am a Welsh girl born and bred in Cardiff. And I love the place!

I graduated in 2010 with a Business Studies degree, specialising in Human Resource management. I remember feeling a little disheartened that my qualification, alongside my administration skills and experience seemed to be very "unspiritual" compared to other Christians I knew who were studying to be nurses and primary school teachers. In 2010 I became a volunteer with a charity called Firstfruits, run by my church. It was a house for vulnerable pregnant girls in crisis, where they could come and live and be supported up until after the baby was born. It was while I was a "buddy" or "mentor" to one of the women there that I decided that I wanted to work in the charity sector. God started to redeem my views of my skills and abilities, showing me that they were very important to him and his work, by making me Centre Administrator at Living Room Cardiff, a day-care recovery centre for people suffering from addictions. That was an eye-opening 3.5 years! After being made redundant from my post in 2015, God honoured my desire to take a year out and seek him more by leading me to Ashburnham Christian Trust, a Christian community based in East Sussex. There I spent 2 years serving practically and using my skills as well as developing my experience and abilities in a more spiritually focused and pastoral way.

For many years now I have felt called to work with women and girls, especially around the issue of self image. Helping us move back into a proper perspective of how God sees us, allowing us to become all that he intended us to be. I feel that God's heart is tenderly turned towards lost women who are broken and don't know him. After two years at Ashburnham Christian Trust I felt God calling me back to Wales and I began to volunteer at "Caru Amy Byth" as an outreach volunteer, going out on the streets with the staff, supporting and caring for Cardiff's sex workers. This desire to create a spiritual space for them, alongside making contact with several friends when in Sussex who had connections with Unlock lead to the unmistakable conclusion that God was now calling me to be an Unlock worker.

For me, following God is about staying close to him. Having a deep, real and honest relationship with him as the bedrock of my life. As we seek him, everything else falls into place. I feel that God is my life and my life continually evidences his grace.

My hobbies include: studying theology, reading, writing (I haven't done much for a while but I enjoy leading writing sessions and encouraging others to write) watching films and old TV series (particularly 1970's war dramas), going to the theatre, socializing and spending quality time with loved ones.