

## Mary Jones World Access Statement

### Introduction

Mary Jones World is a state-of-the-art visitor and education centre which tells the story of a young girl and her 26-mile journey to obtain a Bible in her chosen language (Welsh) from Thomas Charles and the impact it had not only on Wales but the world. It uses touch-screen technology, text panels and interactive exhibits to help all ages enjoy and learn more details of this inspiring story. The centre is housed in a redeveloped Grade 2 listed building, which previously was used as the parish church of Llanycil. Facilities include disabled toilets with baby changing stations, a café area, ample parking and the opportunity to purchase small souvenirs.

### Contact Details

Mary Jones World  
Llanycil  
Bala  
Gwynedd  
LL23 7YF

Open: 10 am – 5 pm (last entry at 4 pm) (1 April to 31 October)

NB. During the winter season, the centre is only open to pre-booked groups.

Telephone: 0808 1784 909

Email: [centre.manager@bydmaryjonesworld.org.uk](mailto:centre.manager@bydmaryjonesworld.org.uk)

Twitter: [@bydmaryjones](https://twitter.com/bydmaryjones)

Facebook: [Byd Mary Jones World](https://www.facebook.com/BydMaryJonesWorld)

Trip Advisor: [Byd Mary Jones World](https://www.tripadvisor.com/Attraction_Review-g186413-d1150111-Byd_Mary_Jones_World.html)

### Pre-Arrival

- Mary Jones World is situated in the former St Beuno's Church located off the A494, on the edge of Llyn Tegid, only one mile south of Bala High Street. You can plan your journey by car or public transport using [transportdirect.info](https://www.transportdirect.info) to get directions. The centre postcode is LL23 7YF.
- The centre is located approximately a 20-minute walk from the centre of Bala town.
- It is also accessible from the cycle path which runs from the outskirts of Bala parallel to the lake.
- There is ample parking onsite for general visitors including cars, coaches, bicycles and disabled bays. The entrance to the centre is located along a level path which is accessible for wheelchair users.
- The pathway routes to and from the centre through the churchyard area and the car park are well lit. Lighting is automatically switched on by sensors.
- There is a £1 parking charge for visitors using Mary Jones World facilities, which is redeemable against the price of entry ticket when the ticket is presented to a member of

staff at reception. The car park machine is clearly located by the beginning of the path towards the centre. There are two manual wheelchairs available, one of which is located in the centre itself and the other in the Ysgoldy Thomas Charles building. If you would like to have one available for your visit, please let us know in advance so that we can make the necessary arrangements.

## The Centre

- The main entrance door is an automated glass door (108cms) activated by pressing one of two grey buttons. These buttons are situated immediately on your left as you approach the centre and on the wall to your right when leaving the building. Both of these buttons are at wheelchair friendly height and activate the door to open outwards. There are also manifestation dots present on all glass doors to assist visually-impaired visitors.
- Immediately on entering the centre, there is a small carpeted vestibule with the floor beyond consisting of underfloor heated ceramic tiles. There is also a carpeted mat in the reception area of the centre.
- There is a hearing loop situated in reception, and the main video is subtitled in both English and Welsh.
- The reception desk is at two heights, 75cms and 100cms to maintain visual communication with someone seated or of short stature.
- The centre is heated by a system of underfloor heating, which runs throughout both levels of the church, which aims to keep the temperature in the centre around 23 degrees Celsius and relative humidity below 55%.
- All interactive screens are at a height of 75cms in order to ensure they are accessible and user friendly to maintain visual communication with someone seated or of short stature.
- There are two small steps at the far end of the centre which allow access to the education zone; both are 10cms height and 150cms wide. A ramp is available on request at reception to ensure access for wheelchair or powered mobility vehicles.
- Most manoeuvring space exceeds the regulated 220cms. All areas of the centre are at least 115cms wide.
- Seating is available at various points around the centre; chairs are also stored within the centre which can be used by visitors.
- There is one unisex accessible toilet within the centre; another unisex accessible toilet is available in Ysgoldy Thomas Charles.
- Our accessible toilets meet DDA and building regulations for disabled access.
- The gift shop is presented on a bookshelf; staff members are available to pass items to customers if required.
- There are baby changing facilities within the unisex toilets.

### **Ysgoldy Thomas Charles**

- There are two doors into this separate building, measuring 82cms and 188cms and there are also manifestation dots on the glass to aid visually-impaired visitors. The double doors lakeside are easily hooked back to allow ease of access for wheelchairs.
- Two handrails are present on the outdoor steps leading from the building; and all pathway areas are level and ecogrid covered to allow ease of access for wheelchairs.
- Refreshments are available within Ysgoldy Thomas Charles.
- A wheelchair is available in the building, if required.
- There is seating with tables in Ysgoldy Thomas Charles and picnic benches surrounding the building and the play area.

### **Car Park and Play Area**

- The car park has 29 parking spaces, including two disabled spaces and bike racks.
- The car park machine can be operated from a seated position.
- Drop kerbs are situated at various points to allow ease of access for wheelchairs.
- Pathways are all constructed using ecogrid gravelled surfaces, ideally designed to permit ease of use for wheelchairs.
- The carpark is all one level and features picnic areas and a playground for children.
- The playground is checked daily to ensure safety standards remain high.
- The play area is suitable for children up to 12 years old but must only be used under parental supervision.
- Multiple waste bins are situated around the car park, and we kindly ask you to dispose of your rubbish before leaving.

### **Toilets at Ysgoldy Thomas Charles**

- There is a men's toilet with 2 two urinals, one cubicle and baby changing facilities.
- There is a ladies' washroom with two (WC) cubicles and baby changing facilities.
- There is a unisex disabled toilet.
- These toilets are cleaned daily and monitored throughout the day. If you have any concerns, please contact a member of staff.

### **Additional Information**

- Service dogs are welcome.
- Smoking is not permitted on the site or in the buildings.
- First aid trained staff are available during opening hours.
- For your safety, a CCTV system operates throughout the whole of the site including the car park, graveyard and Ysgoldy Thomas Charles.
- There are sound recordings, including one with music, associated with some displays.
- There is poor mobile phone signal on site.

## **Future Plans**

We welcome your feedback to help us continuously improve.

If you have comments or suggestions, please leave them with a member of staff or at reception before you leave, or complete a customer feedback form located at reception. Byd Mary Jones World is also on Twitter, Facebook and Trip Advisor. Should you have a complaint, please ask to speak to the Duty Manager.