



PRIVACY NOTICE

Introduction

We treat privacy and confidentiality very seriously. We are a charity with relationships with fundraisers, volunteers, supporters and service users so we use personal information on a day to day basis in order to fulfil our mission to preserve the mining heritage of the Aber Valley. Our use of personal information allows us to make better decisions, fundraise more efficiently and, ultimately, helps us to achieve our vision.

We have developed this privacy notice in order to be as transparent as possible about the personal information we collect and use.

We comply with all aspects of the UK's data protection legislative framework, which includes the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the UK's own legislation, including the Data Protection Act 2018

Please ensure you read this notice carefully and contact us if you have any questions or concerns about our privacy practices.

Who we are?

In this Privacy Policy, "we" "us" or "our" means Aber Valley Heritage Group (registered charity in England and Wales (1161759)).

We can be contacted by telephone on 029 2083 0445 or by email senghen.heritage@btconnect.com and can provide any clarity that you may need about this privacy notice.

What this Notice Covers?

We ask that you read this privacy notice carefully as it contains important information about:

- how we collect your personal information
- the personal information that we collect and use
- the lawful bases we rely on to collect and use personal information
- why we collect and use personal information
- sharing your personal information
- when we transfer personal information outside the EEA
- how long we keep information
- how we ensure personal information is secure; and

- your privacy rights

You should ensure that you read this general privacy notice alongside any specific privacy notice we may issue to you, from time to time, in relation to your information.

How we collect information

We collect information in the following ways:

- You may give us your information in order to complete a contact form, to sign our visitors book, make a donation, purchase our products, register as a volunteer for us, or otherwise communicate with us.
- When you use our website, we collect your personal information using “cookies” and other tracking methods.
- In addition, in accordance with common website practice, we will receive information about the type of device you’re using to access our website or apps and the settings on that device may provide us with information about your device, including what type of device it is, what specific device you have, what operating system you’re using, what your device settings are, and why a crash has happened. Your device manufacturer or operating system provider will usually have more details about what information your device makes available to us.

If you wish to give us personal information about another person, please speak to us to ensure that you are legally entitled to give us the information and for advice on informing that person.

Your information may be shared with us by third parties, if you sign up as a volunteer for us through an external volunteering website.

Social Media

Depending on your settings or the privacy policies for social media and messaging services like Facebook, Instagram, Bluesky or Twitter, you might give us permission to access information from these services, for example when you publicly tag us in an event photo.

Information available publicly

We may share information on our supporters with information from publicly available sources such as charity websites and annual reviews, corporate websites, public social media accounts, the electoral register and Companies House in order to create a fuller understanding of your reason for supporting us. For more information, please see our section on “Building profiles of supporters” below.

Categories of Personal Information that we hold

The personal information that we collect include

- your name
- your contact details (including postal address, telephone number, e-mail address and/or social media identity)

- if you volunteer for us or apply for a job with us, information necessary for us to process these applications and assess your suitability (which may include things like employment status, previous experience depending on the context, as well as any unspent criminal convictions or pending court cases you may have)
- information about your activities on our website(s) and about the device you use to access these, for instance your IP address and geographical location:
- information about events, activities and products which you have shown an interest in
- information you may choose to share with us about your experience of [include details] where you have left us a legacy, any information regarding next of kin with which you may have provided us to administer this
- age, sexual orientation, disability and nationality and ethnicity information for monitoring purposes; and
- any other personal information you provide to us.

The Personal Data of Children and Vulnerable Adults

We are very careful when we collect personal information about children under the age of 13 and vulnerable adults.

Where we are collecting personal information about children under the age of 13, we provide a privacy notice to their parents or guardians for approval, and where necessary consent.

If you have any concerns please contact us.

The lawful basis for processing personal information

We rely on the following legal bases to process your personal information

Performance of a contract	This applies where we need to collect and use your personal information in order to take steps to enter into a contract with you or to perform our obligations under a contract with you
Legal obligation	This applies where we need to collect and use your personal information to comply with applicable laws and regulatory requirements
Legitimate interests	We may collect and use your personal information to further our legitimate business interests. We only do this where we are satisfied that your privacy rights are protected satisfactorily. We're committed to putting you in control of your data and you're free at any time to opt out from any activity we're undertaking based on this legal basis.
Consent	We may (but usually do not) need your consent to use your personal information. You can withdraw your consent by contacting us (see below).
Public task	Although we are not a public body, we do collect and use some personal information where this is necessary to perform tasks that are in the public interests.
Vital Interests	This only applies in the rare instance where we need to process personal data in order to protect someone's life.

Why do we collect and use personal information?

We collect and use personal information for the following purposes, relying on the specific lawful bases set out in the table below

Why?	Legal Bases
To provide you with the services, products or information you asked for	Consent Contract Legitimate interests
To administer your donation or support your fundraising, including processing Gift Aid.	Legitimate interests Legal obligation
To keep a record of your relationship with us.	Legitimate interests Legal obligation
To respond to or fulfil any requests, complaints or queries you make to us.	Legitimate interests Legal obligation
To better understand how we can improve our services, products or information by conducting analysis and market research.	Legitimate interests
To manage our events.	Contract Legitimate interests Legal obligation
To send you correspondence and communicate with you, including updating your contact details (see "Keeping your information up to date" below).	Legitimate interests
To undertake analysis and profiling of our supporters using personal information we already hold.	Legitimate interests
To administer our websites and to troubleshoot, perform data analysis, research, generate statistics and surveys related to our technical systems.	Legitimate interests
To generate reports on our work, services and events.	Legitimate interests Legal obligation
To safeguard our staff and volunteers.	Legal obligation
To monitor website use to identify visitor location, guard against disruptive use, monitor website traffic and/or personalise information which is presented to you.	Consent Legitimate interests
To process your application for a job or volunteering position.	Contract Legitimate interests
To audit and administer our accounts.	Legal obligation
To meet our legal obligations to regulators, government and/or law enforcement bodies.	Legal obligation Legitimate interests
To undertake background checks including checking identity and checks undertaken for anti-money laundering, anti-terrorism reasons, financial and reputational checks. We do not undertake any automated decision making, but we may use credit reference and fraud prevention agencies who may do so.	Legal obligation Legitimate interests Public interest
To manage and administrate our relationships with suppliers of good and services to us.	Legal obligation Legitimate interests
To otherwise carry out the day-to-day operations of our organisation efficiently including managing our financial position, capability, planning, communications, corporate governance and audit.	Legal obligation Legitimate interests Public interest
To train and develop our staff and volunteers.	Performance of a Contract Legal obligation Legitimate interests

To prevent and respond to actual or potential fraud or illegal activities.	Legal obligation Public interest
To establish, exercise or defend our legal rights or for the purpose of legal proceedings in which we may be involved.	Establish, exercise or defend legal rights

Sending marketing communications

Our marketing communications include information about our work, campaigns and requests for donations or other support.

We operate an 'opt-in only' communication policy for electronic communications. This means that, except as set out below, we will only send electronic marketing communications to those that have explicitly stated that they are happy for us to do so.

We may use information you have given us directly, for example the record of your previous donations to and/or relationship with us, your location and demographics, as well as the type of activity you have been involved with, to tailor our communications with you about future activities.

Events and fundraising

When you have asked for details of one of our events, we will send you information including, where relevant and reminders on key information about the activity.

Managing your contact preferences

We make it easy for you to tell us how you want us to communicate, in a way that suits you.

Our forms have clear marketing preference questions and we include information on how to opt out when we send you marketing. If you don't want to hear from us, that's fine, and you can change your preferences at any time. Just let us know when you provide your data or contact us by emailing senghen.heritage@btconnect.com

If you've decided you don't want to be contacted for marketing purposes, we may still need to contact you for administrative purposes. This may include where we are processing a donation you've made and any related Gift Aid, thanking you for a donation or participation in an event, or keeping in touch with you about volunteering activities you are doing for us.

Sharing your personal information

A number of third parties may have access to your personal information or we may share or send it to them. This includes:

- business partners, suppliers and sub-contractors who may process information on our behalf;
- if you are a legacy giver, we may share information with co-beneficiaries;
- marketing agencies that we use

- analytics and search engine providers
- our professional advisers
- IT service providers.

We may also be required to share personal information with regulatory authorities, government agencies and law enforcement agencies. We will use reasonable endeavours to notify you before we do this, unless we are legally restricted from doing so.

We do not sell, rent or otherwise make personal information commercially available to any third party.

We reserve the right to disclose your personal information to third parties:

- if we sell or buy any business or assets, in which case we may disclose your personal information to the prospective seller or buyer of such business or assets; and/or
- if substantially all of our assets are acquired by a third party, personal information held by us may be one of the transferred assets.

Transfers Outside the European Economic Area (EEA)

We do not send personal data outside the EEA. None of the service providers we use to help us run our businesses are based outside of the EEA.

Keeping your information updated

We really appreciate it if you let us know if your contact details change, but to ensure that the information we have is as up to date and accurate as possible, we may use information from external sources such as the post office national change of address database and/or the public electoral roll to identify when we think you have changed address so that we can update our records and stay in touch. We only use sources where we are confident that you've been informed of how your information may be shared and used.

We do this so we can continue to contact you where you have chosen to receive marketing messages from us and contact you if we need to make you aware of changes to our terms or assist you with problems with donations.

This activity also prevents us from having duplicate records and out of date preferences, so that we don't contact you when you've asked us not to.

How long we keep personal information

Our policy is to not hold personal information for longer than is necessary. We have established data retention timelines for all of the personal information that we hold based on why we need the

information. The timelines take into account any statutory or regulatory obligations we have to keep the information, our ability to defend legal claims, our legitimate business interests, best practice and our current technical capabilities. We have developed a Data Retention Policy that captures this information. We delete or destroy personal information securely in accordance with the Data Retention Policy.

How we ensure personal information is secure

We are strongly committed to information security and we take reasonable and appropriate steps to protect your personal information from unauthorised access, loss, misuse, alteration or corruption. We have put in place physical, electronic, and managerial procedures to safeguard and secure the information you provide to us including the use of encryption and pseudonymisation.

Your privacy rights

You have a number of rights in relation to your personal data which we have. Not all of the rights apply in all circumstances. If you wish to exercise any of the rights, please contact us in the ways detailed below:

- You have a right of access to the personal information we hold about you
- You have the right to ask us to correct any information we hold about you that you think is wrong or incomplete
- You have the right to object to any processing of your personal information where we are relying on a legitimate interest to do so and you think that your rights and interests outweigh our own and you wish us to stop. There may, however, be legal or other legitimate reasons why we need to keep or use your information. If this is the case, we will consider your request and explain why we cannot comply with it. You can ask us to restrict the use of your personal information while we are considering your request.
- You have the right to object if we process your personal data for the purposes of direct marketing. If you no longer want to receive communications from us, please contact us. We will stop sending you communications, but will continue to keep a record of you and your request not to hear from us. If we deleted all of your information from our direct marketing databases, we would have no record of the fact that you have asked us not to communicate with you and it is possible that you may start receiving communications from us at some point in the future, if we obtain your details from a different source.
- You have the right to ask us to delete your information. This is also known as the right to be forgotten or to erasure. We will not always agree to do this in every case as there may be legal or other legitimate reasons why we need to keep or use your information. If this is the case, we will consider your request and explain why we cannot comply with it. You can ask us to restrict the use of your personal information while we are considering your request.
- Where our processing of your personal information is based on your consent, you have the right to withdraw it at any time. Please contact us if you want to do so.
- You may have a right to obtain the personal information that you have given us in a format that be easily re-used and to ask us to pass this personal information on in the same format to other organisations. Please contact us to find out if this right applies to you.

How to Complain

Please let us know if you are unhappy with how we have used your personal information. You can contact us the following ways: emailing senghen.heritage@btconnect.com or in writing to Aber Valley Heritage Group c/o Senghenydd Community Centre, Gwern Avenue, Senghenydd CF83 4HA

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office. Find out on their website how to report a concern.

Changes to this Privacy Notice

This privacy notice was last updated on 8th April 2025. We keep this privacy notice under regular review and may change it from time to time by updating this page in order to reflect changes in the law and/or our privacy practices. We would encourage you to check this privacy notice for any changes on a regular basis.