

**Press Release**  
**March 5 2009**

### **Housing association supports local skills centre**



A new partnership between Melin Homes and Scope Cwmbran Skills Centre is set to bring benefits to both organisations.

Service users at the centre are providing Melin with project-based administrative support and, in return, they will gain valuable skills in office procedures. Funds raised from the work will be donated to the service users' social fund which is used to pay for outings and parties.

The centre is dedicated to helping adults with learning difficulties improve their life skills, receive training in a range of subjects and gain work experience.

Jane Coia, Scope's Service Manager, said: "This opportunity will give the service users an insight into the working environment and the chance to use the skills they have developed during training."

Peter Crockett, Melin's Deputy Chief Executive, said: "At certain times of the year we need additional administrative support. This partnership means that we will receive this support and also help Scope's service users gain valuable work experience."

Service user Janice said: "I'm sure I will enjoy the work experience and I am looking forward to our day trip in the summer."

Scope Cwmbran Skills Centre is based in Pontnewydd. It was set up 40 years ago and, in this time, it has helped many services users gain new experiences and develop social and work-related skills.

To find out more please telephone 01633 482848 or visit [www.scope.org.uk](http://www.scope.org.uk)

**ENDS**

**Photo caption: Service users from Scope Cwmbran Skills Centre are providing Melin with administrative support**

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**Notes to editors:**

Melin Homes is a not-for-profit landlord providing quality homes and services across Blaenau Gwent, Monmouthshire, Newport, Powys and Torfaen. For further information please visit [www.melinhomes.co.uk](http://www.melinhomes.co.uk)