

VOLUNTEER CENTRE NEWCASTLE

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Festive Edition – the Season of giving isn't just about money

In this edition there are volunteering opportunities with...

- BLOODWISE
- THE CHILDRENS FOUNDATION
- CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS
- NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY
- CRISIS SKYLIGHT NEWCASTLE

- TOMA FUND

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In the newsletter, there are two types of volunteering opportunities, one offs and ongoing, the one-offs appear first.

BLOODWISE

Volunteer Gift Wrappers - Location: Metrocentre, Gateshead

The role: The fundraising team of Bloodwise North are looking to recruit a team of friendly, reliable and dedicated gift wrappers to join them this Christmas at the Metrocentre, Gateshead. If you have a passion for making a difference, and would like to put your expert gift wrapping skills to good use this festive season, we'd love to hear from you! This is an exciting public facing role where you will wrap a variety of gifts in return for donations for our good cause.

What you'll be doing:

- Wrap a variety of gifts to a high standard
- Set up and dismantle the gift wrapping stand
- Be responsible for all money donated until it is collected at the end of the day
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About Bloodwise, (formerly Leukaemia & Lymphoma research) is the UK's leading research charity dedicated to beating all types of blood cancer including leukaemia, lymphoma & myeloma. Every year we stop more people dying of blood cancer and our researchers are working to stop people developing blood cancer in the first place. We improve the lives of patients with blood cancers because we believe everyone should be able to live their life to the full. We've been working to beat blood cancer for over 50 years and we won't stop until we do.

Skills required:

Essential:

- Good quality gift wrapping skills!
- Working within a team
- Friendly, flexible and approachable
- Responsible and reliable

Desirable:

- Previous experience as a volunteer
- Previous experience of dealing with the general public

Commitment:

We have three dates available and each shift will last approximately 3 hours. We would love to hear from you if you can help out on one or multiple dates, so please do get in touch.

- Tuesday 19th December (various shifts available between 9am – 10pm)
- Wednesday 20th December (various shifts available between 9am – 10pm)
- Thursday 21st December (various shifts available between 9am – 10pm)

Rhian Jackson

Tel: 0191 338 7871

rjackson@bloodwise.org.uk

Christmas Pantomimes

The Children's Foundation has been invited along to fundraise at Newcastle Panto Company's spell-binding adaption of Sleeping Beauty taking place at Gateshead International Stadium in December. The company are kindly offering our volunteers free tickets to watch the performance before collecting donations at the end of the show. We have the following dates available;

Tuesday 12th – 7pm
Friday 22nd– 7pm
Saturday 16th – 1pm
Saturday 23rd – 7pm

Christmas Wrapping stand at Eldon Square

With Christmas only around the corner, we are looking for volunteers to help out with our Christmas gift wrapping stand outside Fenwick's in Eldon Square throughout December. This volunteer event is perfect to get you in the Christmas spirit, if you have an artistic flare or just enjoy wrapping gifts.

Friday 8th: 2-4pm (3 spaces)
Saturday 9th: 10-12 (4 spaces), 12-2 (2 spaces), 2-4 (4 spaces), 4-6 (3 spaces)
Sunday 10th: 12-2 (2 spaces)
Monday 11th: 4-6pm (3 spaces)
Tuesday 12th: 4-6pm (5 spaces)
Saturday 16th; 10-12 (4 spaces) 12-2 (3 spaces)
Saturday 23rd: 10-12 (4 spaces) 12-2 (3 spaces) 2-4 (4 spaces) 4-6(4 spaces)
Sunday 24th: 2-4 (3 spaces)

Please get in touch with laura.mcveigh@nuth.nhs.uk if you are interested in getting involved.

NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY

Generations: 'Give and Take' in Changing Times

Interview participants needed for a research project

Would you like to take part in a research study exploring how people of different ages relate to each other in their daily lives and as members of society?

We are interested in how people of different ages think about education, health care, pensions, social welfare and housing.

We are aiming to use our findings to help shape future policies

Who are we looking for?

- People aged 18+ living in Tyne and Wear

What's involved?

- A member of our research team will interview in a place convenient to you
- The interview will last around 1 hour
- You will be asked your views on the contribution you make to family and society, and the help and support you receive from family and state. We will ask you what you think about education, housing, health and social care and pensions.

- You will not have to answer any questions you feel uncomfortable with

As a token of our thanks, you will receive a *£10 shopping voucher* at the end of your interview

Interested? Please contact:

Dr Josephine Wildman (j.wildman3@ncl.ac.uk); tel: 0191 208 2287

Dr Anna Goulding (anna.goulding@ncl.ac.uk), tel: 0191 208 5399;

Dr Suzanne Moffatt (suzanne.moffatt@ncl.ac.uk) tel 0191 208 5005



CHINESE NEW YEAR PARADE

Variety of roles and opportunities

- **Social media Guru**

Could you support the committee by setting up their FACEBOOK profile - adding content, photographs, linking to individuals and groups on Facebook that may want to link with the committee or participate in the performance and parade The committee have little IT knowledge so as well as being good at social media you will need to be able to support the chair and encourage them to send information

- **Drummers - Women**

You don't have to be a drummer you just need to want to learn some basic drumming to be part of the parade, training is given WE HAVE A WOMEN ONLY DRUNMMING SECTION - A MENS SECTION AND MIXED section also need participants

Workshops

- **Women Dragon Dancers**

The dancing dragon is the most iconic symbol of Chinese New Year celebrations, we are looking for women willing to learn how to do the dragon dance. We will give full training, other dancing also available

These roles are open to anyone over 18

Contact the Chair *Amanda Chan*

cnyparade2018@gmail.com

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CRISIS SKYLIGHT NEWCASTLE

Crisis are **FULL** for all volunteers except for Entertainers on Christmas Day morning and Boxing Day at anytime. Magicians, musicians, arts-session leaders or cabaret performers are all welcome to apply!

Please contact the Christmas Team (Emily, Zoe, Jax or Sam) for further information on 0191 222 0622 or christmas.newcastle@crisis.org.uk

TOMA FUND

Every single day TOMA Fund are helping children and young people and their families, who are affected by childhood cancers in the North East and Cumbria. We provide grants to help families with things like specialist equipment and treat days to create lasting memories for families going through cancer treatment.

We want you, to make this happen by supporting our staff in their work.

What will you do?

Assist with our bag pack at Marks & Spencer, Intu Metro Centre, Gateshead on Friday 22nd December 2017 between 9am and 5pm.

Volunteers need to be able to cover a minimum 2 hour slot to help with this event.

Please contact info@tomafund.org if you can help

GREAT EXHIBITION OF THE NORTH

Great Exhibition of the North is a summer of amazing exhibits inspired technology, vibrant street performance, cutting edge culture and magical experiences from 22nd June to 9th September 2018. Explore the stunning cityscape of NewcastleGateshead and discover the dynamic story of the North of England – how its innovators, artists and designers shaped our present and are inspiring our future.

There will be a range of exciting and flexible volunteer opportunities for individuals and groups. This truly is a once in a life time opportunity to be part of the largest event in England in 2018, as part of a team of 400 volunteers over the 80-day event. Volunteers will be welcoming visitors to NewcastleGateshead, interpreting themes of the exhibition, leading school groups, being event support at special one of occasions. There will be access to a unique training opportunity providing tools and skills to fulfil volunteer roles. Volunteers will be invited to exclusive previews, social gatherings and celebration events.

Be the first to find out more about volunteer opportunities by signing up to our volunteer mailing list as an individual or a group by visiting Volunteer Opportunities at GetNorth2018.com or email amy@getnorth2018.com

WHEELS AND WELLIES WALK

Be part of the Contact team and help us to reach families sooner. Contact has been supporting families with disabled children across the UK for over 35 years. Whatever the condition, whenever they need us, wherever they are, we are here for them. Contact is looking for volunteers to dedicate a few hours of their day on Sunday 25th February to ensure that our first Wheels and Wellies Walk is a great success!

Our first sponsored Wheels & Wellies Walk will take participants on a 1km or 3km wheelchair and pushchair accessible loop around Gateshead's Saltwell Park. Along the way there'll be puzzles and tasks for everyone taking part and the money they raise will help Contact to reach more families with the advice and support they need as soon as they need it.

We are looking for volunteers for the following roles:

Route Marshals guide and encourage the participants around the course warning them of any potential obstacles or hazards, as well as ensuring that other park users are aware of the walk taking place.

You will be standing at a designated spot and encouraging the walkers to continue in the right direction. Some of you may have stickers to hand out to everyone who has passed, or stamps for them to collect. You will receive full instructions regarding your role in plenty of time before the event, and there will also be a marshal briefing when you arrive.

Route marshals will be asked to arrive at 10:00, and will be finished by 13:00.

Set Up Volunteers will help to set up the registration area and put out the signage needed around the route before registration opens.

Set Up Volunteers will be asked to arrive at 08.30, and will be finished by 10:15.

Promotion Volunteers: if you aren't available on Sunday 25th February but would like to help us promote the Wheels and Wellies Walk in the run up to the event, we would love to hear from you. If you can spare some time to put posters up in your local community, share posts on social media and tell your friends and family about the walk, please get in touch.

If you would be interested in volunteering on Sunday 25th February, please contact Katie Britton, Community Fundraising Development Manager on Katie.britton@contact.org.uk or telephone 0207 608 8767

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION

Join the British Heart Foundation and turn your spare time into lifesaving research this Christmas.

The British Heart Foundation (BHF) is looking for volunteers in Newcastle to help accelerate the fight against heart disease by joining the Newcastle Fundraising group.

Around 29,000 people across Newcastle are fighting a daily battle with heart and circulatory disease. Each year these devastating conditions claim the lives of more than 605 people in Newcastle alone.

The BHF is looking for volunteers to take heart and join the fight against heart disease by starting up new fundraising group in Newcastle and raising vital funds for heart research.

By volunteering for the BHF in a Fundraising Group, you become the face of the BHF in the local community and work as a team to organise fundraising events, support schools local businesses with their fundraising and much more. Being part of a group gives you the opportunity to bring your skills to a team environment to really make a difference.

Any time that you can give will be invaluable, because the money raised from Fundraising Groups will help fund vital research and identify new treatments that could help save lives.

If you are interested in joining the Newcastle Fundraising Group or volunteering in your community, please contact Hannah Saxon Groups and Volunteering Manager on 07714069135 or email communityvolunteer@bhf.org.uk. **We will be bringing everyone together who is interested in volunteer in Newcastle on the 26th January at 2pm venue TBC.**

SHARED INTEREST

Data Entry

Shared Interest is a North East based organisation, which aims to alleviate poverty by helping people in remote and disadvantaged communities, to trade, and earn a living.

At the beginning of 2018, Shared Interest will be undertaking our sixth member survey to help form our strategy for the next five years. We receive just over half of responses by post and need you to help us enter these on our online survey.

Attention to detail is important, as this will enable us to accurately record and understand our members' opinions. The role will involve manually entering paper based surveys onto our online system and will require you to use your own computer or laptop.

Although this role is home based, volunteers will be required to attend an induction training session at our office in Newcastle.

You will have the opportunity to utilise or develop your data entry skills to support us in this key area and will get the chance to understand how our organisation engages with our Investors.

We would love to hear from you if you:

- Have the time to commit to this role throughout February 2018 including the ability to attend training in our office (end Jan - date TBC).
- Can demonstrate accuracy and attention to detail.
- Help Shared Interest make a positive impact for our producers.
- Have access to a computer to carry out the data entry
- Are self-motivated to carry out tasks independently

We will support you with the following:

- Ongoing support with a staff contact
- Expenses (travel etc)
- Induction training
- Basic reference (if requested)

Volunteers will be selected based on ability to meet the above criteria.

APPLY NOW BY EMAILING volunteers@shared-interest.com

Places to go.....

WINTER WONDERLAND

16th December 10.30-12.30 at Scotswood Community Garden

Explore the magical woodlands, visit the elves workshop, meet Father Christmas, follow the cheeky elves trail, singing around the campfire and much more!

<https://sncg.org.uk/contact/how-to-get-here>

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES FOLLOW

CHILLI STUDIO – HEADS & TALES MENTAL HEALTH HERITAGE

We hope to create a new Archive on the heritage and lived experience of Mental Health in the North East. This archive will be based on contemporary perspectives on Mental Health heritage, elevating representation, voice and equality in archival material as well as creating new narratives and future archives by creative means.

As a volunteer taking part in the Heads & Tales Project, Chilli Studios will give you the opportunity to strengthen and gain skills in a variety of different area as well as knowing you have supported a worthwhile cause and inclusive Heritage Project in the North East. These volunteer roles are flexible and can be expanded to personal interests.

1. Research Volunteer

As a Volunteer Researcher you will be supporting members/participants in accessing current archives and guide them through the research process in both Museum settings or online. Training will be available for this. You can also choose to carry out your own mini research project in one or more of the key themes and areas of the heritage project. Key themes includes:

- The Social & Political Context
- Language & media
- Treatments/Medication
- Mapping & location
- Recordings, creations & ephemeral (from those experiencing Mental Health issues).

2. Digital Volunteer

As a Digital Volunteer you will be supporting the projects digital systems and the important role of supporting the creation and maintenance of the online Heritage Archive/Website platform. This role may involve:

- Support in scanning and digitalising of old Hospital records and objects

- Recording and creating new audio, video and media on current day stories perspectives
- Supporting creative sessions that include photography, animation and audio/radio recordings
- Saving material and supporting database systems
- Supporting the creation of programming interactive searches for the website
- Supporting promotion and marketing of the project

3. Activities Volunteer

As an Activities Volunteer you will be helping in the project's activities and trips. This is a more person based role so experience in working with vulnerable adults is desired. All above aspects also will involve working with our members, volunteers and staff in skill sharing and support of the projects development.

Please contact us for further information or if you would like support with filling out the volunteer form. Call Jo on 0191 209 4058 or email jo@chillistudios.co.uk

The first stage is to fill out the online form on this webpage:

<https://www.chillistudios.co.uk/heritage>

We will contact you after the form is complete to talk further about the volunteering opportunity and if you are successful to chat about the next steps.

ST OSWALD'S HOSPICE

St Oswald's Hospice in Gosforth provides care to those with life limiting conditions and needs to raise £7.5 million each year to continue to provide the service it does. As such, volunteers make a huge contribution to the overall running of the Hospice and there are some amazing volunteer opportunities which need filling:

- **Events Volunteers & Ambassadors**
- **Kitchen Assistants**
- **Hairdressers**
- **Collection Line Assistants**
- **Housekeepers**
- **Digital Communications Assistant**

For a list of all of our current onsite vacancies, task descriptions and shifts on offer, please Email: volunteer@stoswaldsuk.org, visit www.stoswaldsuk.org or phone: 0191 246 9125.

St Oswald's Hospice Charity Shop of the Month: Gosforth Bookshop

St Oswald's Gosforth Bookshop needs some literary loving volunteers to help them out! Do you know your Dickens from your Shakespeare? Could you help support a busy and friendly charity shop in the heart of Gosforth High Street? If you have a few hours to spare each week and could use your passion for reading to help sell books, then this could be the perfect role for you! Working amongst a fantastic team, you will have the chance to make friends, gain experience and you can help raise money for the Hospice by representing St Oswald's in your local community.

To find out more about St Oswald's retail volunteering opportunities, please contact the retail helpdesk via retailhelpdesk@stoswaldsuk.org, call 0191 246 9071 or pop into any shop and speak to the manager. For specific shop contact details, please visit www.stoswaldsuk.org/shop.

RELATE

Receptionist Morpeth

Can you help out as a Receptionist on a Wednesday evening in central Morpeth?

Relate offer relationship counselling on a Wednesday evening in Morpeth and we are recruiting volunteers to provide a reception service from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. on a rota.

The role involves meeting and greeting clients, simple administrative tasks and ensuring the rooms are kept tidy and pleasant.

If you can offer your time to help with this valuable service in the community we would love to hear from you.

For further information please contact Nick Price

nt.appointments@relate.org.uk, or send a message through our website, or call 0191-269-7905

For more information about what we do please visit www.relate-nt.org.uk

STAR AND SHADOW CINEMA

We are refurbishing the new place by as much volunteer labour & LOVE as possible. Whatever your skill-level we hope you'll come along and help out. See the "Get Involved" section of this website for more details. <https://www.starandshadow.org.uk/involved>

- **Monday to Friday 10am to 6pm**
- **Saturday & Sunday 11am to 5pm**

From a building perspective skilled volunteers needed:

Carpenters and joiners

Plasterboarders

Bricklayers

Plumbers

Electricians

All round DIY skills all the time

Stong people to help lift sheets of plasterboard

semi or un-skilled volunteers all the time

starandshadow@gmail.com

SAMARITANS OF TYNESIDE

The Samaritans urgently need volunteers.

We are known for the support we offer our callers on the phone but we also offer support by email, SMS, face to face and through written correspondence. Helping Samaritans in this way is known as being a listening volunteer.

We also need volunteers who can support us in many other ways which can include marketing, fundraising, outreach or a variety of administrative roles.

If anyone is interested in coming along could they please e-mail isabellemilburn@gmail.com ☐

SPICE FM

We always need volunteers at Spice FM
Ad sales
Technical
Admin
general
Sandeep Kapoor sandeep@spicefm.co.uk
07771 565 836

RNIB - Give a little time, make a big difference

Network Committee Member

You can play a key role in supporting the RNIB to be led by people living with sight loss by:

- working with other people living with sight loss, RNIB and partner organisations
 - Identify, share and agree key priorities for people living with sight loss in the North East
 - Actively support progress of the priorities
 - Provide advice/opinion based on your knowledge and experience (and that of the community you represent) to inform Committee decision making and development of our Network

What skills are needed for the role?

- · effective communicator (including listening)
- · influencing and negotiating skills
- · problem solving
- · and the ability to adapt to change

To apply for the role visit www.rnib.org.uk or for more information please contact Mike Hall 07713302114 or email Michael.hall@rnib.org.uk

Thank You

GUIDE DOGS

Human Guide

Do you want to be the person who enables a person with sight loss to walk into 2018 with confidence?

At Guide Dogs we believe that no one with sight loss should be left out of life and by being a volunteer sighted buddy you can help us make this a reality in the New Year.

Can you spare just the equivalent of a couple of hours a week (some of our volunteers and service users go out for a day once a month or half a day once a fortnight) to accompany someone to do something they enjoy or want to do?

Recent activities have included Paula and Jane going out on a 'girl's day out cuppa and shop' once a month (Paula's husband isn't keen on clothes shopping!) and Rob taking Steve to Newcastle home matches. We still have people out there who would like to do things ranging from fitness activities to visiting the theatre, having walks along the coast with a fish and chip dinner at the end or simply learning a bit more about what is on in their local communities. Our sighted guides have full training and support of staff and peer group.

Just those couple of hours could make a massive difference to someone's 2018 and make sure they are not left out of life. So please make it one of your resolutions to get in touch and find out more about this sociable and rewarding volunteer role.

**CONTACT CATHERINE PARRY ON 03451430220
OR CATHERINE.PARRY@GUIDEDOGS.ORG.UK**

YMCA NEWCASTLE

YMCA Newcastle is seeking volunteers to join the Board of Trustees.

If you have skills, knowledge and experience of;

- Property development or management,
- Events management
- Fundraising

and can give around 3 hours of your time each month we would love to hear from you.

Women, people from minority ethnic groups and people under 40 are underrepresented on our board.

YMCA Newcastle is seeking the support of volunteers with skills and experience of;

- Sales
- Business Administration

to help us run our new Social Enterprise during normal office hours.

THE TIME EXCHANGE - BOARD MEMBERS REQUIRED

We are a residents' skills-share charity that improves life in Newcastle's West End.

1. We facilitate skills-exchanges
Supporting local residents to access skills and services which they would not otherwise be able to afford.
2. Welfare and wellbeing support
 - We offer information, advocacy, and intensive support at times of crisis.
 - We provide a gateway to statutory services, or specialist support agencies.
3. *Group activities* and workshops to bring together local residents from a wide range of ethnic and social groups.

We would like to offer Trustee positions to individuals who are interested in supporting the Time Exchange in its future development. Training opportunities will be provided where appropriate.

There are two vacancies on our Board. We would particularly welcome applications from people with the following skills:

- Income-generation
- Accounts
- Marketing and promotions

To apply, please email a brief summary of how you could help to info@thetimeexchange.org

To find out more, call Project Manager Theresa Ball on 0191 245 0663.

WERS

West End Refugee Service (WERS) Male Befrienders Required

WERS offers practical and emotional support to asylum seekers/ refugees living in Newcastle.

Our clients frequently suffer from isolation which is exacerbated by not knowing anyone, having limited language skills and facing barriers to inclusion within the community.

To support those experiencing isolation, and to assist with them feeling at home in their new surroundings, we coordinate a Befriending Scheme offering friendship and support. Our scheme matches trained volunteers with asylum seekers and refugees to meet on a regular basis either to explore the local area, have a cuppa or just to enjoy spending time in each other's company.

Would you be able to help us?

To meet current demand, we are looking for some more men to become volunteer befrienders.

Are you...

- Interested in asylum issues and human rights?
- Over 18?
- Able to listen and understand difficulties with a non-judgmental approach?
- Someone with good interpersonal skills?

If so, and you'd be interested in volunteering, please complete our application form via <http://www.wers.org.uk/how-to-help/volunteering/> or contact Hannah or Sarah for a chat

NEWSLETTER ENDS

Newsletter sent by

Karen Watson || Volunteer Centre Officer

07419 988821

Volunteer Centre Newcastle, Broadacre House. Market Street East NE1 6HQ

INSPIRING PEOPLE

CHANGING COMMUNITIES

VOLUNTEERING MATTERS

2017
charitytimes Awards
Recognising leadership and professionalism
Shortlisted