

Current Volunteering Opportunities

May 2012

This bulletin contains a selection of volunteering opportunities currently being advertised at our Volunteer Centre. Please contact us if any of them are of interest, quoting the opportunity title. If not please get in touch as we have many more opportunities to suit your interests, skills and availability.

If you prefer you can make an appointment to come in for an informal discussion about your volunteering interests.

Please register your interest on-line here....it helps greatly if you complete and send the form, stating either opportunities of interest (preferred) or the type of voluntary work that interests you. You can also contact us directly on 01454 324102, or email volunteeringyate@btconnect.com

Top Opportunities this month

RSVP (Retired & Seniors Volunteering Programme) is seeking a volunteer who is willing to take over the co-ordination of 6 volunteers at the Yate Magistrates Court Tea Bar, If you have management or catering experience that would be a bonus, but is not essential. You should enjoy working as part of a team and meeting people – this is a rewarding role that is also good fun! This role is managed by RSVP and volunteers should be aged 50+ Apply now, full training by outgoing co-ordinator.

More volunteers to help serve in the tea bar are also sought!

Libraries South Gloucestershire

Volunteers of all ages are being recruited to help engage children to participate in this year's Summer Reading Challenge for ages 4-12, over the summer holidays. Volunteers participate in a range of activities with the children and encourage reading. This is your chance to have some fun and make new friends, as well as develop your own skills in communication, team work and creative projects. The scheme is keen to recruit volunteers of all ages and welcomes applications from younger teenagers as well.

Applications must be submitted by 27th May, please apply early as this is always a popular volunteering activity!

Bristol's BIG Green Week 2012

Bristol is hosting the UK's first festival of sustainability in June 2012. Nine days of environmental ideas, art and culture. It will attract visitors to the city, educate and entertain and cement Bristol's reputation as the UK's leading 'green capital city'. The first weekend (9-10 June) sees a large outdoor event and then from the 11th -15th BIG Green week will host a daily stream of speaker events, wildlife films from the BBC at

The Watershed and various art and fringe events. The week will culminate in the Festival of Nature on 16-17 June.

Event organisers need your volunteer support!

No experience is necessary, just enthusiasm and willingness to help out for at least one full day, although volunteers are welcome to assist for more. There are a variety of roles to get involved with from hanging bunting to stewarding, helping on ticketing desk, taking general enquiries, greeting speakers..and if you have any skills you think may be relevant please let them know when applying.

If you are interested please contact us asap!

Meningits UK is seeking volunteers to help with the Big Stroll South West sponsored walk from Keynsham to Bristol, finishing at the Suspension Bridge. Event volunteers are needed to help with a number of tasks such as registering participants, handing out bottled water and acting as marshals. This is a great opportunity to work on a charity event. Apply now!

New!

Green Community Travel

Formerly known to us all as Yate Community Transport, Green Community Travel is seeking a volunteer to cover morning reception duties on Mon, Tues, Weds and Fridays between 9.30am and 12.00pm. The work is varied and interesting and includes reception duties such as answering the phone and meeting and greeting drivers and passengers, as well as some general admin work.

YateFM is a brand new community radio station covering Yate and The Sodburys (currently broadcasting on the Internet) that is seeking volunteers to help it develop. Contact us for more information

Eastwood Park Prison

Volunteers are invited to join the Independent Monitoring Board (IMB) at Eastwood Park Womens' Prison. The IMB monitors life at the prison and ensures that proper standards of care and decency are maintained. You must be over 18 to apply, but no special qualifications are needed. The IMB is especially keen to recruit young people and individuals for BME communities, all of who are currently under-represented. There is a lengthy application process before you start volunteering, so please be aware of this. For full information, please contact us.

Some more of the opportunities registered with us....

Advice/Counselling/Advocacy

County Community Project Advocacy Volunteers

Help people who are elderly, Carers of vulnerable adults and adults with physical and sensory disabilities to find a voice, through helping them obtain services they need, retain dignity, independence and secure rights. Full training provided. South Glos

Caring

Leonard Cheshire Disability: Volunteer Befrienders

As a volunteer you will be a source of social interaction for a disabled resident. The role may include reading, assistance with use of computer, crafts etc South Glos

Hospital: Ward Visitors

Chat and listen to patients who may not get many visitors. The role can also involve making and serving drinks and running errands to the shop.

South Glos Primary Care Trust: Travel Buddies

Help a person with learning difficulties become more independent on public transport South Glos

Princess Royal Trust for Carers

Telephone Befrienders are also being recruited by the Princess Royal Trust. The service offers ongoing support by phone for carers. Volunteers make regular phone calls to 'matched' carers, which provide social contact as well as emotional support. These calls are made from a volunteer's home (a mobile phone is provided).

The Trust is also seeking volunteers for its visiting scheme where volunteers befriend a Carer and sit with their cared for person to give the Carer a break. Volunteers needed in Yate and Sodbury areas.

AGE UK South Gloucestershire is looking for volunteer befrienders. Do you have a few hours to spare to visit an older person in their home? If so, then we would like to hear from you!

Action for Blind People South West

This is an expert national organisation, ensuring blind and partially sighted people get practical support in all aspects of their lives. They are looking for volunteer befrienders for their Link Project to support their members independence by visits and phone. You will be a listening ear as well as provide support and advice, such as reading newsletters, guide for short walks, guidance around basic issues. You should be able to commit to 2 hours a week for at least 6 months, will receive training, out of pocket expenses, supervision and will need to be CRB checked.

British Red Cross Home from Hospital Volunteers

Volunteers in the Home from Hospital Team work closely with the co-ordinator to help provide high quality service to users. This involves visiting service users on their return home from hospital. Visits take place once a week for up to 6 weeks and provide one-to-one companionship and regular contact. Please ask for full role description.

Children & Young People

Leyhill Open Prison: Creche Volunteers

The crèche helps prisoners keep in touch with their children & also organises family days 4 times a year. Volunteers must be 18+ & are likely to be 'older' people with experience of working in a 'play' environment or of parenthood. Volunteers are only needed for weekends at present.

St John's Ambulance - Cadet Youth Workers – can you volunteer for 3 at least 3 hours a week and some weekend? Cadet Youth Workers are proactive in supporting the Leader to run sessions, which includes helping to plan, deliver and evaluate; supporting children and young people to develop and build their confidence through activities.

School Governors are being sought for immediate start by Bradley Stoke Community School. The school is currently undergoing conversion to academy status and is looking for some new members. Desirable skills are safeguarding; health and safety, property maintenance; financial & accounting, HR, employment law, strategic leadership; risk management and planning. All volunteers are CRB checked. You do not have to have a child at the school – or even be a parent to apply.

HELP! Counselling for 9-25 year olds is looking for Fundraisers across South Gloucestershire. You will need to have a friendly nature, have good communication skills, a bit of flair and imagination (eg the ability to write a press release) plus a willingness to tin rattle

Community

Walking to Health: Walk Leaders & Helpers

Do you enjoy walking? Could you encourage others to increase their fitness by helping lead walks locally? The team is looking to recruit volunteers who can help devise, map and lead walks, as well as provide support to other walk leaders. If you prefer you can offer your services as 'middle' or 'back' markers instead. South Glos

Yate & Dodington in Bloom

Volunteers needed with various skills from gardening interest to photography, project development and fundraising

Sodbury in Bloom

Volunteers needed for help with various tasks including sharing skills and planting of seeds, bulbs etc on pre-set work days

Conservation/Animals/Environment

The Hawk and Owl Trust

New volunteers are welcomed to assist with surveying bird boxes locally, help with events and other duties related to the conservation of our birds of prey.

Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust: Volunteers

There are various conservation groups linked to GWT around the Yate area. The groups usually meet on pre-arranged workdays through the year. Please ask for a list of events.

The Friends of Ridge Wood welcomes new volunteers on it's work days and to join in with the general planning of conservation work in this beautiful woodland area in Chipping Sodbury

Disability

Paul's Place (Coalpit Heath)

Volunteers who can spare a few hours to support physically disabled adults are being recruited. Volunteers are needed at their Day Centre.

Activities Volunteers – volunteers are needed to help with a small session (5-10 people) based at Yate Lesiure Centre every Tuesday and Thursday between 9.30 am and 4pm. It involves a range of activities for adults with learning difficulties including sport, art, drama, IT skills, music etc. If you are interested in any of these and can spare a few hours, please get in touch.

Elderly

Oak Tree Care Home, Yate

Volunteers are needed to help with activities for residents suffering from dementia, at this home, including games, reading, make tea and support trips outside the home

Bridge House Residential Home: volunteer visitors

Your role might involve simply talking, playing board games or one resident, who was a rambler is in need of a volunteer to accompany her on walks. Volunteers need to be caring, friendly and enjoy the company of older people.

Cambrian Green Court, Extra Care Facility, Yate

Music Program

A volunteer with an interest in music is needed to organise and run a music program for residents, including a sing-a-long and musical entertainment – on a weekly or fortnightly basis. The events will be open to residents and the larger community

You do not need to be a musician, but should have an interest in music, a good rapport with elderly people and excellent organisational skills

Activities Volunteers

Volunteers are also being recruited to either organise or assist with activities for elderly residents.

If you wish to become an organiser, you will need to have good ideas and organisational skills. For both roles you will need to have a caring nature, be a good communicator and enjoy the company of elderly people

Fundraising & Campaigning

Shared Interest Society

This charity is an ethical investment co-operative, which lends money to fair trade businesses in the developing world. They are seeking volunteers to work in local areas to help increase their membership & raise the profile of shared interest in general. You can give as little or as much time as you wish & the role can be tailored to your skills and interests,...anything from distributing posters to giving presentations and talks.

Willow Tree Pregnancy Crisis Centre – is looking for a volunteer with fundraising experience to help with new ideas and grant applications to raise funds to open and run a new mother and baby unit in Yate area.

Wateraid is looking for volunteers to set up local fundraising groups which will also help raise awareness of the work of this charity.

They are also looking for more volunteers to join their Speaker Network, giving talks in schools, churches, rotary clubs etc to help raise awareness of the work of Wateraid and encourage fundraising.

Fundraising for your favourite 'cause': If you have a small amount of time to give, usually at weekends, you could use a few hours on an occasional basis to help various charities with bucket/tin collections in local supermarkets. Let us know if this type of volunteering interests you.

If you enjoy public speaking you could help a charity by delivering talks about their work to businesses, community groups, possible donators..

There are also ways to campaign or help with fundraising from home, using your computer...Microvolunteering is becoming very popular. If you are interested in more information, contact us & we will send you details.

Office/IT/Micro-volunteering

Motor Neurone Disease: Home based volunteer

If you would like to volunteer from your own home, MND is looking for volunteers who can help by writing newsletters, design/update the website, make phone calls, deal with correspondence and even make items to sell on their behalf.

Practical

Pop Inn Café Yate: Café Assistants

This shopping centre based café for over 50's is looking for volunteers to help serve drinks and refreshments. Volunteers should be 50+

South Gloucestershire Libraries: Home Library Service

Various Libraries seek volunteers to visit the homes of mostly elderly and disabled people who cannot visit the library themselves. You will need your own transport (expenses covered) and this is both a delivery and social role, so good communication skills and a friendly outlook are a must! YATE library is currently looking to recruit

Yate Community Transport: Volunteer Drivers

Volunteers recruited to drive either the mini bus(full training provided) or to take to and collect people from appointments using your own car. You need to be friendly, caring and have good communication skills as well as a clean drivers licence.

Julian Trust Nightshelter, Bristol:

Shelter Volunteers

The Trust welcomes volunteers who can offer a regular commitment, which can be as little as one session per month or can commit a shift over the Christmas period. New volunteers are also welcome to take part in 'taster' sessions to see if this is the role for them. Bristol

Trustees/Finance & Skill-Share

South Gloucestershire LINK: Volunteer Representatives

Volunteers represent the community on various committees linked to Health and Social Care in South Glos. Interesting and rewarding roles for anyone interested in helping individuals and communities gain a stronger voice or a career in this field. South Glos

