





Across the UK the COVID-19 pandemic has transformed the landscape of 'voluntary action' and Volunteer Now along with the other 3 UK nations have been supporting research to understand the impact and the emerging needs as we move forward. On 2 December 2021, Volunteer Now will host a conference to explore the findings from the research and you are welcome to join us. We'll be sharing more information about our conference on our website and socal media in the coming weeks.

Organisations throughout NI are telling us that your support, as volunteers, is imperative to their continued operation and success! **Thank you!!** They do need more volunteers so please encourage others to give their time, talents, skills and energy (just like you do) to some of the wonderful opportunities below and on our website.

## **#iwill Volunteer Ambassadors**

Do you know a young person leading change? Maybe that person is you? In partnership with UK Youth, Volunteering Matters, YouthLink Scotland and the Welsh Council for Voluntary Action, Volunteer Now is recruiting for our next cohort of ambassadors, ready to lead the movement of young people (10-25 years) driving change in their communities.

#iwill is a UK-wide movement helping more young people make a difference in their communities through social action.



We're looking for young people who know how good it feels to make a difference and want to share that with others.

Find out more on our website, where you'll also see videos from Ben and Tim about their experiences of being an #iwill Ambassador: <a href="https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/do-you-know-a-young-person-leading-change/">www.volunteernow.co.uk/do-you-know-a-young-person-leading-change/</a>

# **Climate Craic Festival**

Northern Irelands first climate festival will be hosted by Climate Craic on Sunday 19 September

The event will be held in the grounds of the Stormont Estate and is open to people of all ages who would like to learn more about and celebrate climate activism. There will be a variety of activities at the festival, including live entertainment, eco-friendly workshops, presentations from guest speakers, and displays from local artists.

Volunteers are needed to help at the Festival: Climate Craic Stewards Climate Craic Waste Warriors

Find out more about the Festival at <u>climatecraic.com/ni-climate-festival/</u>

And if you're interested in volunteering at other events coming up in the next few months, have a look at our Events Calendar: www.volunteernow.co.uk/volunteering/events-calendar/

### **Bolster Community**

Bolster Community (previously known as SPACE NI), has grown from a small campaigning organisation in Warrenpoint, to a key third sector agency providing services, support, training and leadership on community development, resilience and well-being for people living in rural Mournes and Slieve Gullion.



Home2Hospital is a vital service taking older people

from Slieve Gullion, Kilkeel and the surrounding areas to out of area hospital appointments. Is this something that you think you can help with? Join their Volunteer driver team today!

- Kilkeel volunteer drivers
- Slieve Gullion volunteer drivers

(Picture: Bolster Community Home2Hospital volunteer drivers at a recent Thank You event with Minister for Health, Robin Swann MLA)

## **Thomas Doran Parkanaur Trust**



Thomas Doran Parkanaur Trust is a residential college just outside Castlecaulfield for students aged 18 years and over with intellectual, physical and/or sensory disabilities. The college provides residential student placements and offers residential students and attending students a range of accredited vocational and educational courses with life skills training and social recreational activities.

Volunteers are needed to help with ...

- Gardening Assistant
- Admin Assitant
- Grounds and General maintenance



#### Thomas Doran Parkanaur Trust Volunteers Wanted!

#### **Get Crafty for Vincent's**

St Vincent de Paul are continuting their brilliant upcycling project and this month features your old or broken jewellery. The idea is that you don't throw out your old costume jewellery but instead make it into something they could sell in their charity shops. They have a video showing you how to update a boring old photo frame into something fabulous!

#### Find out more

at <u>www.volunteernow.co.uk/event/vincents-september-upcycle-jewellery/</u>

Fast Fashion Jewellery is often made from plastics and other cheap & toxic materials. Cheap jewellery lacks durability. leaving you with broken pieces that often get disposed of after only a few uses. These nonbiodegradable pieces end up in our landfills, releasing toxic chemicals into our environment.

#Recrafted4Vincents

DID YOU KNOW:

fashion?

Upcycle your broken or unwanted Jewellery Share on social media Donate your craft to

Share your photos of your creations on social media **#Recrafted4Vincents** and then donate to <u>your local</u> <u>Vincent's store</u>.

# Featured volunteering opportunities

(To apply for any opportunities on our website, click 'apply now' and enter your details on the Be Collective platform. Your details are then sent directly to the organisation advertising the opportunity and they will come back to you with more information).

Saintfield Development Assoc - <u>environmental volunteers</u> wanted to help round the village with planting / flower maintenace, litter picking etc.

Milford House - get involved with a leading tourist attraction in Armagh! Volunteer roles include: <u>Visitor Welcome volunteers</u>, <u>Trustee Director</u>, <u>Tea Room volunteers</u>, <u>Housekeeper</u>, <u>Events Volunteers</u> and <u>Tour Guides</u>.



Belfast Trust - <u>meet and greet volunteers</u> needed at the Macmillan Support & Information Centre at Belfast City Hospital

**RSPB** - Join RSPB at Whitehouse Lagoon, Newtownabbey on September 24th for a morning of <u>litter</u> <u>picking</u>

Dungannon Men's Shed - volunteers needed to help with Admin and also to paint furniture

Tamnamore Community Development Assoc - <u>Volunteer Caretaker</u> wanted. Also <u>Youth Club</u> <u>volunteers</u> and <u>Maintenance Volunteers</u>

**IncredABLE** - opportunities in Armagh, Craigavon and Banbridge to help with <u>packaging social</u> <u>enterprise</u>, <u>youth clubs</u>, <u>peer outings</u> and <u>youth empowerment</u>

**Confederation of Community Groups Newry -** volunteers needed for their <u>Good Day Good Neighbour</u> telephone befriending service

Find a full selection of volunteering opportunities by using the Opportunity Search on our website

Need some inspiration? Have a look at some of the latest volunteering opportunities in your area.

**Need any help finding opportunities?** Email us <u>info@volunteernow.co.uk</u> - just let us know where you live and we can send you a few opportunity suggestions

# Holding on to Hope in a Changing World

The five Health and Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland have joined forces with the Public Health Agency (PHA) and the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS) to deliver a campaign to encourage everyone to hold on to hope, to nurture our mental wellbeing and to raise awareness of the local and national services that are available to help when times are tough.

'Holding On To Hope in a Changing World' is a five week social media campaign which links World Suicide Prevention Day on 10th September to World Mental Health Day on 10th October.



Find out how you can get involved with this campaign on our website: <u>www.volunteernow.co.uk/holding-onto-hope-in-a-changing-world-mental-health-and-suicide-prevention-campaign/</u>

# Volunteering is good for the body and soul!

Volunteer Now are encouraging people to consider volunteering as an option to taking their 5 steps to wellbeing. Connecting with people and giving back not only helps others, but is proven to make us feel better about ourselves. <u>Click here</u> to find out more about how you can **Take 5!** 



# Step by Step Guide

We have put together a quick guide to using your volunteering account on Be Collective and how to search for volunteering opporutnities. Youll find it on our website at <u>www.volunteernow.co.uk/volunteering/inspire-me/</u>

If you are aged **under 16**, there is a slightly different application process due to child protection issues and you can find the guide for younger volunteers at <a href="https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/volunteering/youth-volunteering/youth-volunteering/youth-volunteering/youth-volunteering/youth-volunteernow.co.uk/volunteering/youth-v



And don't forget, if you are under 25 years, the Volunteer Now Impact Awards can recognise you for your commitment. Simply join the Volunteer Now Impact Awards group and remember to tick the box to share your hours.

### Get social with us!

We love it when you interact with us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u> and share opportunities and news with your friends and family! Feel free to share this newsletter too!

\*\*all links to volunteering opportunities are current at time of publication\*\*

#### www.volunteernow.co.uk

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Read the VerticalResponse marketing policy.





