



Hi and welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter for volunteer involving groups in Northern Ireland. You're receiving this email as you are one of Volunteer Now's partners on the Be Collective volunteer management platform.

In this newsletter we hope to give you some top tips on using Be Collective, details on any updates, etc, but don't forget that you can get help at any time from ...

- The [Be Collective Guide for Groups](#) on our website
- Be Collective Help Centre - a full selection of topics and help videos (the link to the Help Centre is at the bottom left corner when signed in to your Be Collective account)
- Or contact Volunteer Now and one of our team can support you - just email info@volunteernow.co.uk for assistance
- You can also view previous editions of this newsletter [on our website](#)

Be Collective 2nd Anniversary

Two years ago we welcomed Be Collective to NI as our partner, supporting organisations to promote and manage their volunteering and individuals to find their dream role. Even with the curve ball of the pandemic Be Collective has welcomed over 6800 individuals wishing to volunteer and 420 new organisations promoting over 1200 brilliant opportunities.



We will be celebrating our birthday partnership over the next couple of months so watch our social media channels for the celebrations. If you would like to share your journey please email: jane.gribbin@volunteernow.co.uk

Need new volunteers?

Link your opportunities on Be Collective to your social media!

Did you know that you can easily link your volunteering opportunities on Be Collective to your



group's social media channels in order to maximise your reach?

Join us online on **Wednesday 2nd February 2022** (10.30am-11.30am) to explore how to do this effectively and make those links with other organisations on the platform who can also support you to do this. Jamie from Be Collective will also provide other updates if time permits. Please register with Sandra.faulkner@volunteernow.co.uk



Volunteer Now can also give an extra push on our social media for any opportunity that you have uploaded to Be Collective and shared with Volunteer Now - just email the link to your opportunity to lynne.jardine@volunteernow.co.uk along with any photos or images you want us to use (optional).

Adding an Event

Adding events is a great way of grouping multiple opportunities that take place under the same umbrella, like a fun run or festival, or even a volunteer information evening. Events show up both in your own group profile on Be Collective and also to volunteers who search for events.



To add an event, go to your group summary page and either click the little 'plus' symbol under your main header image, or scroll down to the 'Things you can do' section, or click on 'events' on your header tabs.

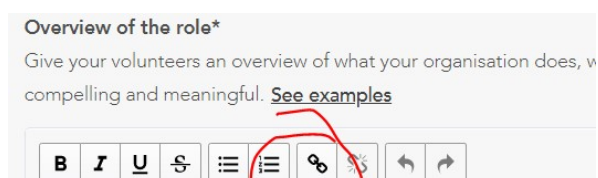
Points to note:

- Each event needs at least one volunteering opportunity before it can be published.
- You can't link existing opportunities to an event, you need to create them when you're adding the details of your event
- You don't need to add anything in the 'campaigns' box as this is only relevant to groups who have a [Be Collective Plus](#) account.
- You can't share an event with groups on Be Collective but you can share your volunteering opportunities. Make sure you share them with Volunteer Now and they then show on the Opportunity Search facility on our website as well as on the Be Collective platform. We can also manually add your event opportunity to our [Events Calendar](#) *(if you close your opportunities or the event is cancelled please let us know and we can remove them from our calendar)*

Check out the Be Collective help centre for full details on [adding events](#).

Adding hyperlinks

You are welcome to add hyperlinks on your group details, group application or opportunity application forms to take volunteers directly to your website or another URL.



To do this, simply highlight the text you want to hyperlink and then click the icon to add your hppt address.

Check your opportunity status by searching for 'hyperlinks'

You can easily see if your opportunities are open to applications at any time. To do this, go to your group summary page and click 'Opportunities' from the tabs under your main header image. (Make sure you are in the 'active' opportunities section)

Manage opportunities

All (32) **Active (19)** Ended (20) Drafts/Pending (

In your list you can see if the opportunity is open to applications and also the application close date.

Title	Application Status	Application Closed Date	Type	Time/Date	Location	Hours Logged
Cycle courier <small>Manage Edit Duplicate Message Invite Share</small>	Open	30 June 2021	Shift	Shifts from 09 November 2020	Briar Hill VIC 3088, Australia	5h 30m
Cycle courier - February <small>Manage Edit Duplicate Message Invite Share</small>	Closed	30 November 2020	Shift	Every week on Monday, Wednesday until February 28, 2021 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Briar Hill VIC 3088, Australia	0h
Cycle courier - January <small>Manage Edit Duplicate Message Invite Share</small>	Closed	30 November 2020	Shift	Shifts from 06 January 2021	Briar Hill VIC 3088, Australia	9h
Cycle repairperson <small>Manage Edit Duplicate Message Invite Share</small>	Paused	30 April 2021	Shift	Every week on Saturday until July 31, 2021 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM	Thornbury VIC 3071, Australia	0h

Keep your eye on your application close date as once the platform reaches this date your opportunity is no longer visible to potential volunteers. [Click here](#) to see the help item relating to opening, pausing or closing your opportunity.

And don't forget...

... to process your volunteer applications!

One of the benefits for volunteers using the Be Collective platform is that they can see their volunteering hours accumulate and can keep a record of their volunteering activities through their Social CV. For this reason it is important when a volunteer registers for your opportunity that you then process it.

When you receive a notification that you have a volunteer registration, you have several options that you can choose so you always know what stage the application is at...

- Pending



VOLUNTEERING

Date	Hours	Opportunity
February, 2021 (ongoing)	4	Social Media Volunteer

- Planning

- Reviewing
- Background checks
- Interviewing
- Pre-approved

Then, once you have been through your recruitment process, you can either accept or decline the volunteer. Please note, both these options will trigger an automated email from Be Collective so please make sure your applicant knows in advance of your decision.



January, 2021 (ongoing)	30	Local Sports Coach Volunteer
January, 2021 (ongoing)	14	River Clean-Up Volunteer

ABOUT ME

I am passionate about helping out in my local community and hope to make the world a better place by giving time where I can.

SKILLS / EXPERIENCE

Experience

Interactive/Social Media/SEO

Unverified

Advocacy, Dog walking

View the help article: [How do I review volunteer applications?](#)

Recognise your young volunteers through the Volunteer Now Impact Awards

We launched the Volunteer Now Impact Awards on 2 June 2021. Created and designed in partnership with our youth forum, this Awards programme works in partnership with our online platform, ensuring that all young volunteers have the ability to be recognised for their volunteering commitment.



For further information and support relating to youth volunteering and the Impact Awards, check out the [Youth section](#) of our website or contact youth@volunteernow.co.uk

Information Sessions for Volunteer Organisers

We hold VOLT sessions usually every month or so, during the pandemic restrictions these have all been online. VOLT sessions address topics that those working with volunteers want to hear more about. All events are **free** although you need to register your interest.



Our next session covers **Safeguarding Q&A** and will be held on Thursday 10 February from 11am-12.00pm.

If you'd like to come along please book your place for the online session [here](#)

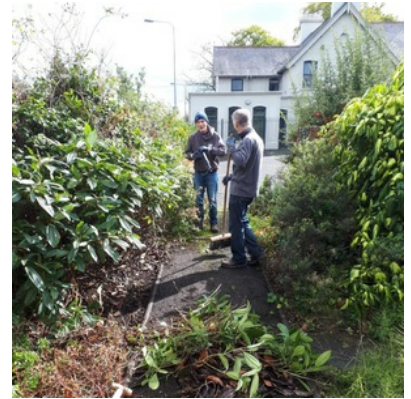
You can view some recordings of previous sessions on our website [here](#). And feel free to give us a shout if you have a topic you think would be useful to other volunteer organisers in a future session! Email Sandra on sandra.faulkner@volunteernow.co.uk

Employer Supported Volunteering

Does your organisation have any opportunities that might be suitable for [Employer Supported Volunteering](#)? These are normally one-off group opportunities over a half or full day that employers can use as part of their corporate social responsibility, team building, etc.

In the past, groups have undertaken tasks such as painting and decorating a room, clearing and planting a community garden, litter picks, and much more!

If you would like to offer an ESV opportunity, please contact us at info@volunteernow.co.uk and we'll be in touch to get more details.



Keep Informed!

Volunteer Now have other newsletters that you might find useful..

- **VConnect** - a roundup of general information useful to volunteer involving groups
- **VTraining** - details of training sessions offered by Volunteer Now

You can sign up for both newsletters either at the bottom of any page [on our website](#) or sign up as a [member](#) and you'll receive both too.

If you just want VTraining – email training@volunteernow.co.uk with your details and we'll add you to the mailing list.

Get social with us!

We love it when you interact with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)!



www.volunteernow.co.uk

[Click to view this email in a browser](#)

If you no longer wish to receive these emails, please reply to this message with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line or simply click on the following link: [Unsubscribe](#)

Belfast, England BT4 1AF
UK

[Read](#) the VerticalResponse marketing policy.

