



Volunteer Centre

West Berkshire

Charitable Incorporated Organisation number 1156302 est 1974

ANNUAL VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT FAIR 2022 GOES ONLINE

ZOOM-IN THE COMFORT OF YOUR OWN HOME!

Saturday 5 February – 10am to 12.30pm

Join us on Zoom:

<https://bit.ly/33V4Vx1>

Meeting Id: 895 5615 6435

Passcode: 459944

Join us online and meet some of the inspiring local charities that need your help across West Berkshire. Potential volunteers can log in via Zoom and chat with over 20 charities. All people need to do is go to the Charity website home page www.volunteerwestberks.org.uk and click on the link to join the event which will be chaired by Garry Poulson.

These organisations are charities and volunteer led community groups offering a range of opportunities from providing free counselling and support to young people and befrienders to serving food to the homeless & vulnerable and making Berkshire's countryside a better place for everyone to live, work and enjoy. There is something for everyone! Many opportunities are flexible and can fit around work and life commitments. There are so many reasons for volunteering:

- **To give back to your community and make a real difference to the lives of others.**
- **Do something fulfilling and rewarding.**
- **Meet new people and make new friends.**
- **Share and gain professional work experience.**



The Virtual Volunteer Fair is free to attend and open to all resident interested in volunteering.

Organisations

1

Berkshire Scouts

www.berkshirescouts.org.uk



Scouts gives young people the opportunity to get involved and try new activities and skills, as well as have adventures that help build their confidence, resilience and social skills.

It's a lot of fun for both the young people and adult volunteers and involves activities like camping, hikes, fire building, kayaking, climbing, cooking, arts and crafts, playing games. We can promise you won't be bored!

We don't ask for any previous experience as we provide lots of training which is easily accessible on line and are looking for volunteers from all different backgrounds and experiences to help both with the young people and behind the scenes. We have approx. 20 groups in West Berkshire looking for support.

2

Berkshire Vision

www.berkshirevision.org.uk



A local charity providing support to visually impaired adults and children with the continual challenges they face, including;

- **Support officers**
- **Telephone & Face to face befriending**
- **Adapted Sports**
- **Social Activities/Clubs.**
- **Remote Activities**
- **Equipment support**
- **Tech Buddies**
- **Children, Young People and Families Programme**
- **Peer Support Groups**
- **Employability Support**
- **Living Well with Sight Loss Courses**

Sight loss can take away independence and confidence, leaving those affected isolated. We aim to support those affected in Berkshire, to live their lives to the full.

3

Bus of Hope



<https://www.busofhope.com/>

Since 2013 'Bus of Hope' (BoH) has been reaching out to local communities providing: "Somewhere to go, Something to do, Someone to talk to".

The converted double decker bus is a place where children and young people can enjoy games, crafts, sports, snacks and a chat.

The Bus can also be used as a mobile resource from which various projects can be facilitated to meet an identified need.

To keep their visitors and volunteers safe during the pandemic BoH has been providing detached children's and youth work, and partnering with other organisations to meet the needs of the local communities.

4

Citizens Advice West Berkshire



www.citizensadvicewestberkshire.org.uk

Citizens Advice West Berkshire provide free, independent, confidential, and impartial advice across most subject areas including benefits, debt, housing, family and relationship, employment and legal rights. We have a specialist Carers Advice Service who can help people with disabilities and their carers for benefit claims and other information.

We also aim to improve the practice and policies that affect people's lives.

We value diversity, promote equality and challenge discrimination. During Covid, we have generally been helping people over the telephone and email but usually we also do face-to-face drop-ins and appointments.

5

CPRE Berkshire



<https://www.cpreberkshire.org.uk/>

We're passionate about making Berkshire's countryside a better place for everyone to live, work and enjoy. We care about:

Nature and landscapes: landscapes, tranquil places, dark skies, hedgerows, a countryside for all

Better places to live: what gets built where, homes people can afford, green belt, a cleaner countryside

Farming: farming that puts back habitats for wildlife, provides fresh air and clean water, stores carbon and looks after the landscapes that make our countryside so special

Sustainable transport: better rural transport and alternatives to car travel and roads

Climate change and energy: climate emergency, renewable energy, zero waste

6 **Cruse Bereavement West Berkshire**



<https://www.cruse.org.uk/>

West Berkshire Cruse Bereavement Care provides support to bereaved children, young people and adults regardless of the nature of the death or length of time since the bereavement. Cruse provides a range of services including: access to information and support, helpline, email, face to face (1:1), group sessions alongside response to major incidents in local communities such as the recent tragedy encountered by Mary Hare School.

Cruse in West Berkshire has provided services to the local community for the past 31 years. The delivery of vital bereavement services in the area is only possible with the commitment and support of local volunteers. Currently around 25 local Bereavement Volunteers (BV) provide services across West Berkshire.

In Spring 2022 we are launching a new Walk + Talk initiative. Our aim is to provide support for people who are bereaved in a group setting.

7 **Daisy's Dream**



www.daisysdream.org.uk

Daisy's Dream is a charity offering a free professional support service which responds to the needs of children and families affected by life threatening illness or bereavement. Working predominantly in Berkshire and the surrounding areas, we offer tailored support packages including telephone support for parents and professionals, group events and school/home visits for the child or young person.

We believe that no child's future should be defined by a death or a life-limiting illness within the family. Given time and support, we believe that children and young people can learn to cope with the changing dynamics of their life and ultimately move forwards in a positive way.

8 **Eight Bells Community Strength**



www.eightbellsnewbury.co.uk

<http://eightbellsnewbury.co.uk/cs>

Eight Bells for Mental Health strives to offer a safe, supportive, and welcoming environment to people in Newbury, Thatcham and surrounding areas who experience mental ill health.

It is a uniquely member-led organisation where our service users have the opportunity to get involved with the running of the charity, elect their own management committee, and organise and manage fund raising events.

Eight Bells runs a drop-in centre three days a week where members take part in activities on offer such as an award-winning art group outdoor nature therapy ,meditation, yoga and day trips out.

We work tirelessly to help members improve their lives, wellbeing, confidence and self-esteem with the help of a dedicated team of volunteers.

We aim to prevent and reduce social isolation throughout West Berkshire by encouraging people of all ages to look after themselves, live independently and have a good quality of life whilst supporting their mental health and wellbeing.

Our Community Navigators will help people to recognise and develop their own strengths and stay safe and well in their own homes.

9 Falkland Cricket Club

<https://www.falklandcc.co.uk/>



Falkland Cricket Club
Established 1884
Registered Charity Number 1168595

Falkland Cricket Club is situated on Enborne Street in Wash Common. We are fortunate to have two picturesque grounds situated at the southwest edge of Newbury.

We enjoy great support from our local community and work with them in providing crickets for all and our new pavilion is used as a community hub by Wash Common resident's.

We have a vibrant junior section with 200 junior members. We cater for boys and girls with teams playing in the Berkshire junior competitions.

The men's senior section has four competitive sides on Saturdays, 2 on Sundays and 2 on Wednesday evenings.

10 Five A Day Market Garden

www.fiveaday.org.uk



Five a Day Market Garden is a not for profit horticultural therapy project that aims to engage the rural and urban community by

- growing, selling and providing affordable, healthy naturally grown produce
- providing education service for children on healthy eating and where their food comes from
- therapeutic outdoor sessions for adults with disabilities and older people, with a focus on art, nature and fruit and vegetable production
- wildlife and craft workshops for adults in the community
- offering a unique team building experience to corporate organisations

Our volunteers maintain the garden and support the services.

11 **Greenham Trust**



<https://greenhamtrust.com/>

Greenham Trust supports a wide range of charitable projects in our local area. In 2022 Greenham Trust celebrates 25 years of supporting the local community. To mark this milestone, a [25th Anniversary Youth Appeal](#) has been launched that will support 11-25 year olds to fulfil their potential, with an aim to raise £500,000 including £250,000 match funding from the Trust. A Greenham Trust Fundraising Day on 25 June in Newbury will raise donations towards the appeal and volunteers are welcome to help make this day a success.

Further details of the Trust's work and the 25th anniversary activities can be found at <https://greenhamtrust.com/25years>

12 **Greenham Common Control Tower**



<https://www.greenhamtower.org.uk/>

Greenham Common Control Tower was built in 1951/2 and played an important part in Britain's role in The Cold War.

When the airbase closed, the Control Tower was left abandoned and fell into a poor state of repair.

In 2014 Greenham Parish Council purchased the building with the vision of turning it into a visitor centre for community use. The Control Tower which had been unused for almost 3 decades was refurbished and is now a popular and iconic grade II listed visitor centre and community cafe.

The tower is operated as a charity and is manned mainly by volunteers. Some of their roles include; building guides; café members; Exhibition and Outreach; Walks guides.

13 **Home Start**



www.home-startwestberks.org.uk

Home-Start West Berkshire is an innovative and unique family support charity, respected within the community for our ability to make a difference to families' lives. We have been operating in West Berkshire for over 20 years and in the last year alone we supported over 350 disadvantaged children. Our aim is to empower families to cope with their challenges, reducing the requirement for further intervention.

Trained volunteers offer emotional and practical support on a one-to-one basis within the family home. Families may encounter barriers to accessing support, suffering multiple disadvantages such as poverty, physical or mental ill health, or isolation.

14 **Lambourn RDA**

www.lambournrda.co.uk



Lambourn RDA is a member group of The Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA), which is a charity that makes a difference and excels as a provider of disability sport.

The group is based at Manor Farm Stables in Chilton Foliat, RG17 0TJ. It is a very friendly group run providing riding sessions five days a week, for 47 participants with a wide range of abilities, both children and adults. The group is completely self-supporting and our annual running costs are around £70,000.

New volunteers are always needed. No previous experience is required and we would love to hear from you.

15 **Lions Club of Newbury**

www.newburylions.org.uk



LIONS CLUB OF NEWBURY

Newbury Lions serve West Berkshire.

Lions are a bunch of ordinary caring people dedicated to helping those in need. You may have enjoyed our Fireworks at The Racecourse or seen Santa on the streets, but we do much more.

'Where there's a need there's a Lion.'

Is this you?

16 **Loose Ends Newbury**

Registered Charity No. 1189240

<https://www.looseendsnewbury.org/>



Loose Ends is a drop-centre in Newbury serving food to the homeless and vulnerable. We are run solely by volunteers. We strive to provide a safe, friendly atmosphere where people can socialise.

Our clients are often homeless or 'sofa surfing', may have addictions, suffer from a mental illness or are on low incomes. The preparation and serving of healthy, hot meals is our main function but we also offer groceries, tins, toiletries, bedding and clean clothes to all those in need. We signpost clients to other agencies and charities that can offer support.

17 Neighbourhood Watch

www.ourwatch.org.uk



Newbury Neighbourhood Watch is a voluntary organisation. With all the lovely community spirit at the moment, it is the ideal time to set up a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

Neighbourhood Watch is not just about looking out of the window and being alert for any crime in the neighbourhood, it is helping the Police to reduce local crime and make the community a safer place to live.

We are looking for people in West Berkshire to volunteer to be Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators.

18 Newbury Friends of the Earth Lockdown Woods project

<https://www.newburyfoe.co.uk/>



Newbury Friends of the Earth Lockdown Woods project encouraged residents to grow their own trees during lockdown and has planted out 2000 saplings so far in four memorial woods to the losses of the coronavirus pandemic. We will continue to tend our developing woodlands, increase wildlife and beauty within them, and plant more saplings in 2022. Have a look at our website, and our Facebook group for more information about the project, and to keep up to date.

We are seeking a volunteer to help us to get more people involved, especially young folk, to encourage love and care for our living world.

19 Newbury and Thatcham Handybus

<https://www.volunteerwestberks.org.uk/our-services/handybus/>



Newbury and Thatcham Handybuses are three 8 seater minibuses modified to provide easy access, including low steps and passenger lifts to enable wheelchair bound passengers to be carried. They provide regular transport for elderly and disabled people on shopping trips and visits to clubs, mostly in and around Newbury and Thatcham, as well as one-off trips and excursions where regular commitments permit.

As well as the Handybuses, Volunteer Centre West Berkshire own and operate a 'Chairman' vehicle. This is a Fiat Doblo people carrier modified to provide accommodation for a wheelchair and easy access for disabled people.

20 **PALS**

www.palsweb.org.uk



PALS is a local charity that supports children and young people from the age of five to twenty-five with physical disabilities. Since the charity started in 1997, we have helped many youngsters access leisure and recreational activities that would otherwise be unavailable to them.

At the same time we are providing a respite service for the families, in the knowledge that their children are being well supported and having fun, while parents and carers have a chance to have some quality time for themselves. We are looking for new people to come and join the fun supporting our members!

21 **Sebastians Action Trust**

www.sebastiansactiontrust.org



Sebastian's Action Trust supports families of seriously-ill children across Hampshire, Berkshire, Surrey, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire. We provide emotional, social and practical care at our two centres and through our extensive outreach programme.

The Trust walks alongside families from diagnosis, through treatment and beyond. Sebastian's Action Trust does not receive a penny of statutory funding so we are reliant on our own fundraising efforts. We have a wonderful shop in the Kennet Centre, Newbury called **Bas Books and Home** and we are looking for friendly volunteers to join our team. For more information about volunteering at the shop and/or other support for the Trust, please contact KatieL@sebastiansactiontrust.org

22 **The Fair Close Centre**

<https://www.fairclosecentre.org/>



We are a vibrant social hub supporting over 65s with fun, food and friendship the heart of everything we do.

During COVID-19 we have been delivering hundreds of hot and healthy meals on wheels every week to isolated older people.

We are in the process of relaunching after the pandemic planning an extensive range of great activities and projects.

Come and join a dedicated team of staff and 60+ volunteers in making life special for seniors!

23 Time to Talk

www.t2twb.org



Time to Talk is a local charity that offers free counselling and support to young people aged 11-25, in person, via phone/video. We also offer online digital support.

We are looking for volunteers to support and encourage young people who have chosen to follow a new psycho-education software we have invested in. Volunteers would act as a digital mentor, offering guidance and answering questions regarding the digital learning/CBT experience.

24 Tools with a Mission

www.twam.uk



We are Charity based in Ipswich, with centres across England. We empower people in Africa living in poverty to create livelihoods. We do this by sending trade kits of tools that are used in skills centres, offering a way to put poverty in the past and begin sustainable careers.

We send around 18 containers to Africa every year, with tools that have been across the UK, and refurbished in our refurbishment centres.

We also have a wide range of volunteering opportunities enriching local UK communities and provide a safe environment for people to make friendships whilst making a difference.

25 Trust House Reading

<http://trusthoureading.org/>



Trust House Reading Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre provides specialist support to women, men and children living in Berkshire who have been affected by rape and sexual abuse and their families.

Affiliated to The Survivors Trust, Trust House Reading provides counselling to adults and a range of therapeutic services to children and young people including counselling, play and art therapy. We also provide an advocacy service and a telephone help line.

We are looking for volunteers in a variety of roles including admin and finance, helpline volunteers, patrons and fundraisers.

26 **Two Saints Limited**



TWO SAINTS
REBUILDING LIVES FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

<https://www.twosaints.org.uk/>

Two Saints offer support to people who are homeless, vulnerable or at risk of becoming homeless, and need help to get back on their feet. Our services include safe, flexible and reliable client led housing and support with a focus on breaking the homelessness cycle by improving health and wellbeing and building on individual's skills and resilience.

Joining our volunteer befriender service means you can help our clients to achieve their goals and access activities and services in the local community. If this sounds like something you'd like to be involved in then we'd love to hear from you.

27 **Volunteer Centre West Berkshire**



<https://www.volunteerwestberks.org.uk/>

Volunteer Centre West Berkshire's overriding ethos is to match local people to local need. We provide information, advice and guidance on a wide range of local volunteering opportunities.

We also provide information and guidance to local voluntary sector organisations.

We run the Newbury Volunteer Car Scheme, Newbury and Thatcham Handybus service and Newbury Shopmobility.

28 **Young People and Children First**



<https://www.youngpeopleandchildrenfirst.org.uk/>

YPACF gives a home to young people (aged 16-25) who are leaving care or who are homeless. We have three houses in West Berkshire; Cornerstone, Rebecca House and Hope House.

All our residents are provided with personalised support in a family environment, helping them to develop life skills, as well supporting them into education, training or work.

Our residents have typically experienced varying challenges during their childhood. We provide them with a stable home, emotional support and practical help during this crucial time as they move into independent adulthood. With 26% of care leavers going on to experience homelessness the support we provide is vital and we rely on the generous support of amazing supporters.