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**Volunteering Bulletin**



**This month’s new opportunities**

**Darwen Valley Community Centre – Foodshare Driver**

Every week, Darwen Valley Community Centre go to Recycling Lives in Longridge to take advantage of their Foodshare Scheme. They use food from this project to assist low income families in their area.

The Community Centre are in need of a volunteer who can make the weekly journey to Longridge to pick up the food. Travelling expenses will be paid (they don’t want to see a volunteer out of pocket) and it will be a great help to the centre as they continue to help those in their Community in most need.

Anyone interested in helping Darwen Valley can call Mark Westall at the centre on 07402 475726 or Geoff Wilkinson at Community CVS on 01254 583957

**Little Harwood Community Centre**

Volunteer run Little Harwood Community Centre is a busy social hub that needs a little more help from local residents. Based on Whalley Old Road in Blackburn, they are in need of some people who might be able to help them open up at 9am in the morning or help lock up the centre at 5pm. The Centre realise that this is a very large commitment for just one person to take on…you might be able to help open up on Tuesday mornings….or just be able to help lock up on a Thursday afternoon…whatever time you can help them out, they would be very grateful.

If anyone would like any further information about the roles or the centre, please call Kay at the centre on 01254 681210 or Geoff at Community CVS on 01254 583957

**SW Angling and Sports Association** need Volunteers.

A few years ago, SW Angling and Sports took on the old Mill Lodge on Bennington Street/Dickens Street and converted the pond back into a fishing club. For years, the lodge had been used as a local dumping ground for fly tippers. It took over 18 months but SW Angling and Sports managed to turn the environmental eyesore into a beautiful, urban paradise. They even had classrooms built so they could teach local residents how to fish.

The Environment Agency restocked the lodge and membership increased as the promise of excellent fishing became a lure for Sports Anglers across the region.

However, in recent months, an introduced weed has become a very serious threat to the lodge. Anglers are losing their equipment in the thick weed and the fish hide within it, not needing to come out. This has resulted in the membership dwindling to almost zero.

Whilst the weed persists, the lodge’s suitability as a fishing lodge diminishes. Within 6 months, the problem will be irretrievable.

The club are looking for a few volunteers to help with the weed clearance. Now the growing season has nearly come to an end, the club plan to remove the majority of the weed in one fell swoop then do monthly weeding exercises to keep the weeds down. On top of that, the area around the lodge also needs to be kept on top of so as to discourage overgrown lodge banks.

The volunteers will be provided with equipment but suitable footwear will be needed (as well as a willingness to get mucky). Volunteers will be offered free fishing passes at the lodge – maybe even a few lessons as well. The club are looking to start their environmental work in early November.

If anyone is interested or need further information, please call Geoff Wilkinson at Community CVS on 01254 583957

**The RAF Association Volunteers Programme**

**Fundraiser– Volunteer**

What is a Fundraiser volunteer?

A Fundraiser is part of a team raising funds for the RAF Association, in their town, city or area. Funds are raised through supporting street and premises collections and other activities organised by the Fundraising Team Leader volunteer in your area or by the RAF Association.

Duties of a Fundraiser include:

Carrying out street and premises collections, as per instructions given by the Fundraising Team Leader. Engaging with the public about the RAF Association and its work (you will be given information about it beforehand). Helping to count the money after collections have been made. Any other help that is needed on the day.

How does it work?

Those interested in the Fundraiser volunteer role will get in touch with the RAF Association by registering on our website. Once you have registered and selected the region/s you are interested in volunteering in, you will be given information on the volunteering activities taking place in those areas. If there is a Fundraising Team Leader in your area, they may also get in touch with you to let you know about activities they are organising, that you may wish to get involved in.

Fundraisers will be able to take part in as many fundraising activities as they wish to, all year round, with a big focus on events during September, for the RAF Association’s Wings Appeal week.

What qualifications, skills or experience do I need to be a Fundraiser volunteer?

Fundraisers need to be: Comfortable in social environments, Approachable, cheerful and friendly, Enthusiastic and able to take a positive approach to all situations. Willing to have an understanding of the work of the RAF Association (to have read briefing note and be able to talk to others about our work). A strong communicator

In addition, Fundraisers will need to: Be able to get themselves to the event or activity they are taking part in under their own steam. Share emergency contact details with the Fundraising Team Leader; Be able to hold a full collection tin or bucket, or to arrange for a table with the Fundraising Team Leader if necessary. Be able to stand for long periods of time or to arrange for seating with the Fundraising Team Leader if necessary. Be willing to wear an RAF Association T-shirt, sash or tabard to identify yourself to the public

We recognise that many of our Fundraiser volunteers lead busy lives and therefore would be delighted to welcome you to participate in any fundraising activities that you can. However, ideally, you would be willing to support: One street collection each year (up to one day, ideally during the month of September, when the RAF Association carries out the annual Wings Appeal – usually on the first Saturday after 15 September) Three premises collections a year (one or half a day each). Any other activities set up by you, the RAF Association or the Fundraising Team Leader in your area.

**Fundraising Team Leader**

A Fundraising Team Leader is someone that creates fundraising activities, for a defined region (village, town, city or borough), and helps to recruit and support a group of fundraisers in that region.

Fundraising Team Leader volunteers are responsible for arranging fundraising events. Examples include organising supermarket or street collections or simple community events such as coffee mornings, quizzes and raffles in their area. In addition, they will help the Association with the recruitment of other volunteers in the area so there is a suitable number of additional fundraisers to support each fundraising activity the team leader arranges (approximately five to ten volunteers per activity). The Fundraising Team Leader will then keep the group updated and help to manage everyone on the day of an event.

Duties of a Fundraising Team Leader include: Recruiting local fundraisers to support a range of fundraising events (with support from the Volunteering Team). Recruitment could involve putting up posters, asking friends and colleagues to help at specific events, contacting the local paper and other creative ideas the team leader has.

Setting up street or premises collections (with support from the Fundraising Team) or other local fundraising activities, challenges, etc. We hope that each Fundraising Team Leader can run two or three events a year, as well as a street collection for Wings Week in September. Keep fundraisers informed and updated about the events they are helping at. For example, providing information about the logistics of the day. To receive and manage fundraising equipment and supplies. Examples of kit include collection buckets, t-shirts and stickers to hand out at events. Completing the template risk assessment provided by the Association, for the activity and informing the group of any hazards to be aware of and what to do in case of an incident. (You will be given instructions on this to inform the group of). Briefing and motivating volunteers on the day of the activity using our guidance briefing documents and other information provided. Counting the monies raised and returning the funds to the Association in accordance with our cash handling policies. Communicating with and thanking volunteers after the event – including updating the team on the total amount raised - and encouraging them to support a future activity you organise.

As Fundraising Team Leaders become more established in the role, they may work more closely with local businesses and be able to ask for a regular ‘slot’ at a supermarket or to ask local businesses to help advertise fundraising opportunities to their staff. The Association will constantly provide guidance on this and all other fundraising activities.

Fundraising Team Leaders need to be:

Able to recruit, motivate and lead others. Confident in arranging fundraising events (following the training you will receive). A good problem solver and able to respond calmly and sensibly to last minute changes. Highly organised. A strong communicator. Comfortable in social environments. Approachable, cheerful and friendly. Enthusiastic and able to take a positive approach to all situations

In addition, Fundraising Team leaders will need to: Have access to a car and be prepared to use it for RAF Association volunteer work. The insurance company you are with will need to be alerted to the fact your car is being used for business use. Have the ability to hold a full collection tin or bucket, or to arrange for a table if necessary. Be able to stand for long periods of time or to arrange for seating if necessary. Be willing to wear an RAF Association T-shirt, or tabard to identify yourself to the public

Volunteers should also be able to work confidentially, in a non-judgemental manner and in line with the RAF Association Volunteer Agreement and Health and Safety Policy which you will be asked to sign and adhere to.

**BwD Age UK, Service Area: Hopwood Day Care**

Role: Minibus Driver

What your responsibilities will be:

To collect mentally and/or physically frail older people from their homes and to transport them to Hopwood Court for day care, returning them to their home during the afternoon.

This role is subject to a satisfactory driving assessment in the organisational vehicle.

Previous Experience of driving large minibuses. Practical approach to problem solving. Good communication skills. Empathy with and understanding of older people. Ability to follow written and verbal instructions. Clean, current driving licence. Good timekeeping. Local knowledge of Blackburn and Darwen. Must be 25 years plus

How much training and how long it will take:

All volunteers are required to attend Moving and Handling Non-Care, Initial and Refresher Health & Safety, Fire Awareness, Infection Control, MiDAS, First Aid EFAW, Lone Worker, Challenging Behaviours, Disability Awareness, Information Governance training and Safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults (SOVA).

In addition this role requires training in:

To complete the whole training package takes approximately 8 hours over 4 weeks.

What qualities you will need:

Honesty, Reliability, A clean and presentable appearance, A pleasant, polite and confidential manner

Things you MUST agree to:

Comply with Age UK Blackburn with Darwen policies at all times, especially those regarding Equal Opportunities, Health & Safety and Confidentiality

Undertake required mandatory training, including Safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults (SOVA), Challenging Behaviours and health and safety, provided by the organisation to comply with current legislation

Participate in volunteer reviews

Keep your manager informed when you are unable to attend or of other things that affect your volunteering i.e: health conditions

Fundraising - As a local independent charity, fundraising is vital to the continuation of our local services for older people. There are lots of ways of supporting us through helping with bag packs or bucket collections, delivering posters, helping at events, undertaking sponsored activities, sharing our social media posts, donating to and buying from our Charity Shop in Darwen. All volunteers are asked to support us in this way.

**CLIC Sargent Representative**

We’re looking for volunteers to join our team of CLIC Sargent representatives throughout Lancashire. You’ll be giving your time to represent us in your local community; to be our voice, and to assist with fundraising and awareness raising activities near you.

This is a flexible role and we’ll tailor it to the skills you bring. It is a proactive role with a focus on developing relationships with new supporters, and can include;

Organising local fundraising events in your area i.e. cake sale, coffee morning, sweepstakes; Promoting CLIC Sargent to contacts in your area, like schools, businesses or community groups; Researching & approaching potential corporate supporters (with help from your fundraising manager); Managing CLIC Sargent “Collection Can” distribution in your area; Organising and delivering talks/presentations about CLIC Sargent to local groups & clubs; Championing CLIC Sargent through your local networks, to improve our presence in the area.

You will need: A good knowledge of your local area, and the passion to drive opportunities in your area; Good research skills and a desire to develop them; Good communication and interpersonal skills to represent CLIC Sargent in a professional manner; Happy & willing to approach & talk to people & groups about CLIC Sargent – you don’t need lots of experience, just enthusiasm! Willingness to learn and work with guidance from your local contact at CLIC Sargent.

You’ll receive – Support from a local CLIC Sargent fundraising manager;

Appropriate training to support you in your activities and develop your skills; An opportunity to develop your skills and develop practical experience of charity fundraising; A flexible role where you can concentrate on what interests you & the skills you have; An insight to the work of a national charity for young people & chance to support young people with cancer in your area.

**St Catherine’s Hospice relies on the hard work and support of its team of more than 600 dedicated volunteers.**

The following opportunities are available**:**

**Charity Shop Volunteer – Ashton**

**Charity Furniture Shop Assistant – Chorley**

**Charity Shop Assistant - Leyland**

**Charity Shop** **Volunteer – Chorley**

**Charity Shop Assistant – Longridge**

**Charity Shop Volunteer – Preston**

**Superstore Charity Shop Volunteer/Driver (various roles)** **Ribbleton Lane, Preston**

**Charity Shop Assistant for Brand New Store in Bamber Bridge**

We are currently looking for volunteers to assist with sorting stock, provide Great customer service, operating the till and processing Gift Aided donations. Full training will be provided.

**Van Driver – Chorley Furniture**

Van driver – collection and delivery or furniture and bulky items. Must be

Physically fit with a driving license.

**Van Driver – Donation Centre Lostock Hall**

Van driver – collection and delivery or furniture and bulky items. Must be

Physically fit with a driving license.

**Donation Centre Assistant – Lostock Hall**

The purpose of the role is to assist in all aspects of the day to day running of our busy donation centre. This includes:

Assisting donors. Assist with the preparation of stock for delivery. To help unload and load our furniture/collection van. Process donations. Occasionally use computer system.

**Boutique Charity Shop Assistant – Fulwood**

**Boutique Charity Shop Assistant – Longton**

**Boutique Charity Shop Assistant - Penwortham**

We are currently looking for volunteers to assist with sorting stock, provide Great customer service, operating the till and processing Gift Aided donations. Full training will be provided.

**Van Drivers Assistant – Charity Shop, Leyland**

Role: Van driver’s assistant – collection and delivery of furniture and Bulky items. Must be physically fit and able to lift some heavy items.

**Charity Tea Bar Assistant - Magistrates Court, Preston**

Role: Serving customers drinks and snacks

To be flexible with hours if possible in order to cover holidays

**Advisors are available to discuss volunteering opportunities at the drop-ins Tuesday 10.30 to 12 noon at the Boulevard Centre 45 Railway Road, Blackburn, and Friday from 11am to 12.30 at Your Support Your Choice Town Hall Street, Blackburn.**

For more details of these opportunities contact:

Community CVS

The Boulevard Centre

45 Railway Road

Blackburn

BB1 1EZ

Tel 01254 583957

office@communitycvs.org.uk

