

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MAKING ASHTON BETTER

The Salvation Army in Ashton-in-Makerfield are looking for referrals of individuals and families who would benefit from some extra support at Christmas. We will be able to provide Christmas food hampers and toys.

During the week commencing Monday 11th December I will be putting the parcels together. I may require extra volunteers to help with making up hampers and wrapping toys. Please let me know if you are able to help during that week. I will have more details about what I require in the way of volunteers in a few weeks time. Contact Claire.Marriott-lodge@salvationarmy.org.uk

THE BRIDGE AT LEIGH

The Bridge is looking for volunteers to help run our Community Cafe, Food Market and Charity Shop. We are an environmental project helping reduce food waste, food poverty and social isolation open Monday to Saturday 10 am till 3 pm. If you have a few hours to spare and are keen to make a difference in our community why not join our lovely team. We have lots of roles - kitchen assistant and washing up, serving meals, serving in the food market, drivers, cleaners, sales assistants in the charity shop.

Experience not essential - just a willingness to learn and work as a team

Please call in:

The Bridge Community Cafe King Street Leigh WN7 4LJ

Bottom of Leigh Bridge opposite Aldi

Facebook: The Bridge at Leigh email: thebridgeatleigh@gmail.com

ATHERTON AND LEIGH SHELTER FOR HOPE AND ATHERTON AND LEIGH FOODBANK

Both looking for volunteers to join their groups

To contact the shelter visit www.bit.ly/2AywRDz or the foodbank at www.athertonleigh.foodbank.org.uk

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A COMMUNITY HEALTH CHAMPION AND SUPPORT MEMBERS OF YOUR COMMUNITY WITH ALCOHOL ADVICE?

Addiction and Wigan & Leigh Recovery Partnership, in partnership with Wigan Council, are looking to recruit and train members of the community to become Community Health Champions. Training will be given, regular meetings held to receive further training and support.

If you are interested, please contact The Recovery Partnership on 01942 404299 to find out more.

You can also text/call 07972639250 or email john.settle@addaction.org.uk

WIRELESS VOLUTEERS WANTED

A charity is appealing for volunteers to help the blind and partially sighted in a unique scheme. British Wireless for the Blind Fund is the only charity providing specially adapted radios to blind people across the UK and the charity is now looking for radio support volunteers in Wigan.

Their role would involve visiting people with sight loss in their homes, install their new radio and teach them how to use it as well as providing ongoing support where needed.

Contact Sophie on sophie@blind.org.uk or phone 07540 724063

VOLUNTEERS WANTED TO KEEP HOME BOOK SERVICE GOING

Wigan Council has vowed to keep its library book home delivery service going despite having to slash budgets. But as the system undergoes a revamp there will be a lull in activities and there will be a greater need for volunteers, an appeal for whom has been made.

The authority has prided itself in not shutting borough libraries despite the cuts and has done this by reducing hours, pooling the service with other facilities and deploying a large volunteer workforce. The new service will move towards a volunteer-led model and will be built around individual customers.

If you would like to volunteer please visit the website www.wigan.gov.uk/volunteering or call at your local library

THE READER - PEOPLE POWERED HEALTH CARE

The Reader is an award-winning charity working to connect people with great literature through shared reading groups. For older people and those living with dementia, shared reading groups improve quality of life through cognitive stimulation, social interaction and meaningful engagement each week.

An exciting opportunity has arisen for 'Reader Leader' volunteers who will be invited on our training course. You'll learn new skills and give isolated older people or people living with dementia the opportunity to make real connections. It's a fantastic way to make a difference and give something back.

Contact 'Chris' E: christopherlynn@thereader.org.uk T: 07807 106838

or for more information go to: <http://www.thereader.org.uk/getinvolved/volunteer/wiganandleigh/>

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE INVOLVED IN OUR NEW PILOT PROJECT?

Wigan & Leigh Pensioners Link are looking for "Buddies" for HOME SAFE—WINTER RESILIENCE PROJECT in partnership with Wigan & Leigh Pensioner's Link, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary and Wigan Council.

The project offers companionship and reassurance for patients when they are discharged from hospital to their homes. We distribute a welcome bag, and provide information and advice to the patients in order for them to get settled comfortably in their own home.

The service will commence on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 11 am—2 pm and will start on 2nd November 2017 to 31 March 2018.

If you are friendly, easy going, committed and want to help people in the community please contact us for further information. Training will be provided and you will be given a choice of day that you are willing to work. Ring Wigan & Leigh Pensioners Link on 01942 261753

HELPING PEOPLE TO HELP THEMSELVES

Citizens Advice Wigan Borough are working in partnership with both Wigan Council and Greater Manchester Police to offer daily support Monday to Friday to families or individuals that are struggling to overcome issues that are affecting their health and wellbeing and as a result are turning to the Police for assistance.

As a Family Engagement volunteer you will be confident in your ability to visit and talk to individuals or families that are struggling to overcome their problems as a possible result of debt, unemployment, substance misuse or family separation. Being non judgemental with a genuine desire to help people is essential for this post.

If you can commit to a minimum of 4 hours a week, we will in return, provide you with support and training that will enhance your knowledge and understanding around what services are available to help individuals overcome their problems. You will be mentored by Police officers and supported by Citizens Advice staff that will provide you with the confidence to ask the right questions that will lead you to making appropriate referrals into services for clients. We will also help to develop your interview and exploration skills so that together you will be able to sign post confidently people into the right service for

them. Interested? Please email Joyce John, j.john@cawb.org.uk or telephone 0161 856 7179 for more information.

THE FRIENDS OF HAIGH WOODLAND PARK ARE LOOKING FOR NEW VOLUNTEERS...

We are a group of like-minded people who came together a few years ago to breathe new life into a much loved area of Wigan which was beginning to look very tired and neglected. Over the last few years we have renovated the original crazy golf course and staff it entirely by volunteers; our aim is to open every weekend and school holidays from Easter until the end of October. We work in co-operation with Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles to organise other events in the park and are currently helping to organise "picnic brass" concerts in the park throughout the summer.

The park has been transformed over the last couple of years and, if you would like to be a part of that, why not come and join us and help us to play a part in continuing this transformation. Although we have a wide range of talent and skills, anyone wishing to join us would be most welcome as we are always looking for new ventures. Tel: Cora on 01257 422377

DO YOU OWN A CAR?

Volunteers urgently required to visit house-bound older people in their homes for tea and a chat—travelling expenses paid. We cover Wigan and Leigh areas.

Please call in to the office and ask to speak to Tutik.

Wigan & Leigh Pensioners Link, 27 Charles St, Leigh WN7 1DB 01942 261753

DORSET ROAD COMMUNITY CENTRE

Our wonderful Community Cafe is here every Thursday 11:30 am until 2 pm - currently seeking volunteers to join their lovely team!

Contact 31 Dorset Rd, Atherton, Manchester M46 9GJ Phone: 01942 884184

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED TO HELP PROVIDE RESPITE FOR YOUNG CARERS

A charity that supports young carers is looking to recruit volunteer drivers to help run its after-school respite groups.

Wigan and Leigh Young Carers runs 12 groups, including four in the Leigh area, catering for five to 11-year-olds, 12 to 16-year-olds and 16 to 24-year-olds. Project manager Paul Carroll said:

"Can you help and make a difference to children and young people's lives?"

"Can you spare approximately three to four hours per fortnight?"

"Your mileage will be reimbursed and we will require and provide an enhanced DBS (CRB) check."

"Free training and safeguarding will also be provided."

Most groups start at 5pm and run for two hours.

Anyone interested should call Paul on 07546 487063 or 01942 679352 or e-mail info@walyc.org.uk

THE WELL WOMEN CENTRE LEIGH

The Well Women Centre in Leigh is looking for a qualified Complementary Therapist who is willing to offer her services on a voluntary basis. Ideally, this would be for a minimum of 2 hours on the same day per week.

If you are interested, please call 01942 681411 or email admin.wellwomen@btconnect.com

COMMUNITY CIRCLES

Community Circles are a national charity and have been commissioned by Wigan Council to work with all care homes across the borough to keep people connected to what really matters to them.

A Community Circle brings two or more people together around someone who wants a little help to make a change in their life. That change can be anything – from getting out and about more, to starting a new hobby or restarting an old one, or creating opportunities to spend more time with friends or family.

Everyone then works towards making this change happen with the support of a volunteer Community Circles Facilitator. The Facilitator keeps meetings flowing, following a tried-and-tested, step-by-step process that ensures that conversations are focused and lead to actions.

If you have a couple of hours a month to spare and are keen to make a difference in your local community contact Cath on 07979331745/cath@community-circles.co.uk www.community-circles.co.uk

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN DIABETES? JOIN OUR WIGAN TASK FORCE

Are you passionate about helping others?

Are you keen to make a difference in your local community?

Are you thirsty to learn new skills and volunteer for a national charity?

Are you concerned about Type 2 diabetes and want to do your bit to raise awareness?

We are recruiting volunteers to form a task force in Wigan who will work as a team to raise awareness about Type 2 diabetes and how people can prevent themselves from developing it.

This is your opportunity to make a real difference and help us move closer to a world where diabetes can do no harm. Interested? Email: jessica.graham@diabetes.org.uk Phone: 01925 644 566

LIBRARY'S PLEA

Aspull Library is in urgent need of volunteers.

People with as little as 2 hours a week to spare are being encouraged to step forward as soon as possible.

For further details contact k.collins@wigan.gov.uk

ST THOMAS & ST LUKES ASHTON BOYS BRIGADE

Is in urgent need of help in all three sections of the Boys Brigade, but especially the Junior and Company sections. If anyone can help once a week/once a month please contact Gareth Hamlett on 07903 866501

DRIVEN

Driven is a new volunteer led, door to door transport service designed to enable your neighbour's and other community residents to get out and about more easily. It's aimed at people who might be stuck in their own home, struggle with public transport and taxis or don't have access to a car themselves. We are currently recruiting part time posts as:

- Owner drivers
- Minibus drivers
- Drivers assistants
- Booking desk
- Admin roles
- Promotions
- General help

For more information email iptomlinson@icloud.com 07889 061637

HAVE YOU GOT A BIG HEART?

Come and join the team at Chapter One Tea Room

We have lots of roles such as

- Serving Customers
- Cooking Meals
- Deliveries
- Supporting guests into creative workshops
- Supporting guests in the dementia reminiscence sessions

Contact Sam Broxton on 01942 316355 Chapter One Tea Rooms, Hindley Library, Hindley, Wigan

AGE UK WIGAN BOROUGH: CONNECTUP

ConnectUp is the exciting new project from Age UK Wigan Borough, designed to help people feel more a part of their local community, know what's available and make new friends.

ConnectUp has 3 elements:

Face-to-Face befriending

This part of the project matches volunteers with people wanting a weekly visitor. Because of the limited number of volunteers, this part of the project is only available to those people unable to get out of their home, aged over 65 and with no other services going in.

Call in Time

Fancy a weekly telephone call? A friendly voice on the other end of the line can make all the difference in helping you feel better.

ConnectUp Groups

ConnectUp groups occur in different locations across the borough, and offer short-term support to enable people to get out of the house, find out what's happening in their local area and meet new people.

The idea is that people come along to the group for a short period of time, and are introduced to the wide range of things happening across the area, from tea dances to bingo, trips out to reading clubs, knit and natter to singing in a choir. It's hoped that with support and encouragement from our staff and volunteers, people will then use the local ConnectUp group as a way to connect to the various activities and so feel more fulfilled and do the things they enjoy.

Do you fancy coming along-or volunteering to help make a group happen?

We are also looking to recruit volunteer buddies and we're particularly looking for volunteers for the ConnectUp groups. A time commitment of about 2.5 hours per week is required to help with the groups, slightly more for the buddying roles.

For further details, please contact the ConnectUp Development Worker, Margaret Royce, on 01942 615884 or via e mail margaret.royce@ageukwiganborough.org.uk

CASEWORK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - SWAP

Working at SWAP is always a rollercoaster ride; you will meet people, learn things, and experience things you never thought you could in Wigan.

- Offer valuable support and advice to refugees and asylum seekers to help them settle in to a new environment.
- Help vulnerable asylum seekers and refugees to access suitable support services, the NHS, social services and legal representatives.
- Help them access healthcare, clothing and local amenities.

- Work with people from around the world in a role where no one day is the same.

You need to be diplomatic, with good communication and teamwork skills.

If you are interested please email Emma our Volunteer Coordinator or to apply at: emma@swapwigan.org

TEA PARTY HELPERS WANTED TO HELP LONELY

A charity is looking to recruit volunteers to help set up a tea party for elderly, lonely people. Contact the Elderly has been holding a monthly tea party in Wigan since 2014 but has decided to start a second group. In order to create the second group, which the charity hopes to launch this month, they need volunteer hosts and drivers to come forward. To find out more contact Prabina Lord on 0161 460 2950 or email Prabina.Lord@contact-the-elderley.org.uk

HOMELESS SUPPORT PROJECT

We are currently looking for 1 or 2 volunteers to help us on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday evenings. You would need to be available from 4pm to 7pm to either help out in the kitchen, or to help serve the meals.

If anyone would like to join a great team and help the less fortunate in our community, then please get in touch with us.

All contact info and address is at the top of our Facebook page, or on our website www.hspleigh.co.uk

WIGAN & LEIGH HOSPICE

We always have opportunities to become a hospice volunteer. Increasingly, many employers look favourably on people who have undertaken voluntary, charity work. It can be advantageous on CVs and in job applications. Supporting charities can indicate a willingness to work and learn; a community spirit; and the opportunity to develop and expand a wide range of personal skills and experiences.

More details E-mail: info@wlh.org.uk Tel: 01942 525566

MENS SHEDS – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED URGENTLY!

Abram Ward Community Cooperative runs a weekly Men's Sheds group at Platt Bridge Community Zone. The group meet Thursdays from 11am till 2pm and current projects include:

- 3d printing
- Woodworking
- Gardening
- Cooking

The group also provides an opportunity for Men to get together to meet and chat, in a social environment and make new friends, reducing Social Isolation. We are in the process of developing a Community Garden, plus an opportunity for Men to develop their own Community Business.

We also host a Pay As You Feel Café at the same time, that is open to the community, as well as Men's Sheds attendees. If you would like to get involved and volunteer for Men's sheds, please contact David Baxter for more information - d.baxter@abramwardcooperative.org

JOIN US ON OUR VOLUNTEER QUEST!

Wigan & Leigh Carers Centre support people acting as unpaid carers looking after family members or friends with a range of conditions. Carers can often feel stressed, lonely or isolated due their caring role and you can help local people.

Do you have a few hours a week to share? Do you enjoy a good old chat and a cuppa? Do you want to make a big difference in the lives of local carers? Yes? Why not find out about volunteering with Wigan & Leigh Carers Centre Buddying or Befriending project? Offering your time to sit with the cared for person whilst the carer takes some time for themselves or offer a listening ear to a carer on a regular basis. Gain

experience, meet others, make a difference or try something new – you don't need any specific skills just understanding, non-judgmental and a good listener.

Contact Catherine Ellis on 01942 705959 catherine@wiganandleighcarerscentre.org.uk to find out more and meet for a chat.

THE BRICK

The Brick relies on Volunteers to add value to the Charity and its work and we try to involve the community in tackling homelessness and relieving poverty and to enable people and families to be active in their community. Each person involved in The Brick brings different skills and ideas to the project and therefore can reach different people in their own way.

We now hold open sessions for volunteer applicants to drop in and get a taste of the work we do and the environment we work in. After we have received your application we will write to you and invite you to a taster session (The 1st Tuesday afternoon of the month at 1.30pm and / or the 3rd Thursday morning of the month at 10.30am) here you will get to meet existing staff and volunteers and fellow volunteer applicants.

We hope this will allow you to get a more realistic idea of what the role entails and help you decide if you want to proceed with the induction. More details at <http://www.thebrick.org.uk/>

SCOUTS APPEAL FOR MORE VOLUNTEERS

Tens of thousands of young people are being forced to wait to join the Scouts due to a lack of volunteers. Record numbers of people are signing up to help out, but many have a limited amount of time to give, according to the Scout Association.

Around 17,000 more volunteers are needed.

RESOLUTIONS MEDIATION, LEIGH - BEFRIENDER

Resolutions are a small, local charity which is looking for committed people to join our team of befrienders.

- Do you have 2 or more hours a week to spend with parents or carers who needs some moral or practical support?
- Are you reliable and friendly? Do you want to make a difference?
- Training and travel expenses provided
- Can you be someone who really makes a difference to someone who is lonely, frustrated or bored?

Contact Tracy or David on 01942 602501 visit: www.resolutionsmediation.org

Or Email admin@resolutionsmediation.org

WRIGHTINGTON, WIGAN AND LEIGH NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Are you passionate about helping people and making a difference?

Then, Wrightington, Wigan and Leigh NHS Foundation Trust may be the place for you.

Volunteering is an enriching and rewarding experience, helping others and giving something back to the community. It also provides volunteers with the opportunity to meet new people and make friends, whilst gaining new experiences and skills. Our team of 400 volunteers are an invaluable asset to our Trust, contributing over 90,000 hours a year. They freely dedicate their time and commitment to helping support our patients and healthcare professionals.

We are always looking for enthusiastic, motivated and caring individuals with a passion for helping people to join our team. At present, we are particularly interested in applications for the following volunteer roles:

Dementia Champion volunteers

Our Dementia Champion Volunteer Role focuses on providing one-to-one support to patients living with dementia such as reading; listening and reminiscing. More and more people are living with dementia, so this is a vital role in supporting this group of vulnerable patients.

Patient Companion volunteers

Volunteers play a vital role in supporting and enhancing the patient experience. Our newly developed Patient Companion Volunteer Role aims to provide meaningful interaction with patients from being a listening ear to patients' worries to providing companionship during their stay in hospital. We are currently looking for Patient Companion Volunteers on our wards at Royal Albert Edward Infirmary with a view to rolling this pilot out at our other sites, as the role develops.

Reception Help Desk volunteers

Our Help Desk Volunteers across all our sites enhance our patient experience by providing a welcoming and friendly face to patients, visitors and carers, as they enter the hospital. Our hospital Help Desks typically deal with over 180,000 enquiries per year, so this volunteer role is vital for supporting our patients. At Wrightington Hospital's brand new £18 million state-of-the-art development, we are looking to recruit at least 20 volunteers to welcome and escort patients and visitors to wards and departments. We are also keen to recruit more volunteers for their Help Desks at our Boston House, Royal Albert Edward Infirmary and Thomas Linacre Centre sites in Wigan.

If you are interested in any of the above opportunities, please contact 01942 822 509 or volunteer@wwl.nhs.uk for further information about the role and how to apply.

BEEHIVE COMMUNITY CENTRE (LINDALE HALL LINDALE ROAD M28 1BG)

This new organisation is looking for volunteers to help with light snacks/lunches on a Thursday and/or Friday from 10 am to 1pm. Any time that you could give would be very much appreciated. For information contact Mavis on 0161 799 7178 or at Beehivecommunitycentre@hotmail.com

VOLUNTEER DRIVER – SKILS CIC

The trips would be largely for SKILS CIC & other community groups, many of which would not manage their trips without someone to help them by driving the minibus.

You need to have:

- a full driving license with at least three years driving experience and hold D1 on their licence
- have a MiDAS certification or be willing to complete a MiDAS training course

To apply please contact us Sam Broxton on 01942 522 333/07872 180 162 or alternatively you can email sam.broxton@skilscic.co.uk

VOLUNTEER DEVELOPMENT WORKER

- Do you love going the extra mile and making people feel valued and respected?
- Do you go out of your way to help your friends and relatives and believe that you could extend this to other people?
- Do you enjoy helping people no matter how small the task?
- Is it important for you to work with a friendly team caring for others?

If this sounds like you - and you feel you're a naturally caring person, then a volunteer placement at SKILS CIC may be right down your street! SKILS CIC specialise in providing an alternative quality community service, offering opportunities for people aged 18+ with support needs to enhance life skills and strengthen quality of life through positive thinking and creative activity.

To apply please contact us Sam Broxton on 01942 522 333/07872 180 162 or alternatively email sam.broxton@skilscic.co.uk

ALZHEIMER'S

Volunteers are also needed for supporting the work of the Alzheimer's Society.

BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION – LEIGH

Volunteers are required to help in the Charity Shop in Bradshawgate Leigh

If you are interested either call in at the shop or ring 01942 607120.

WIGAN COUNCIL

For further details and to volunteer go to <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

LIBRARIES

Full training is given. Library volunteering opportunities include:

- Voluntary work within community libraries - Aspull, Hope (Marus Bridge)
- Reminiscence Making Memories (Dementia Friendly Groups)
- I.T. buddies and more <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

MUSEUMS

The Museum of Wigan Life is looking for volunteers for the following placements:

- Education programme - The Education Programme is held during the school holidays with family activities. These activities are held on a Tuesday and Thursday 1pm - 2.30pm.
- Exhibition volunteers - Painting and installing new exhibitions, moving collections, hanging art work and general DIY. Volunteers required at certain times throughout the year.
- Collection volunteers - Potential research and documentation Opportunities. Training will be given, own transport required. <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

ARCHIVES

The Borough Archives at Leigh Town Hall is looking for anyone with an interest in history and conservation to support our Carry On Cleaning project.

Volunteers will be shown around the archives and taught how to conserve, clean and catalogue original documents from our huge collections of Wigan's Victorian court records - playing a vital role in helping to make these items available to researchers and family historians.

We are looking for volunteers interested in history and historical research.

We are launching a project to research and create biographies for every past Mayor of Wigan, Leigh and all the surrounding townships.

You can be completely new to the subject and we will show you how to use the archives and collections.

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

HEALTH CHAMPIONS

Health Champions are not traditional volunteers who give a set number of hours each week or month.

Instead each Health Champion commits to trying to make a positive difference to health and wellbeing in whatever way they can. Often this is through incorporating the messages received in training to improve the health of their own family, community network and workplace

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

CANCER CHAMPIONS

We need people to become Cancer Champions to undertake the Be Clear on Cancer training to spread the word about:

- The importance of early detection
- The key facts about cancer in the UK
- The early signs and symptoms of 7 key cancers
- Knowing how to talk about symptoms with a GP

This session is open for all. <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

COMMUNITY RESOLUTION PANEL

Volunteers are needed for:

- X Zones (Youth diversionary activities) - Working with experienced youth workers on projects across the borough working with hard to reach young people helping prevent anti-social behaviour (ASB).
- Mediation team - To visit complainants of ASB and identify what the issues are and mediate between young people who are causing the ASB and the complainant

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

DEMENTIA FRIENDS

Opportunities include supporting activities which are delivered across the Borough, these ranges from reminiscence sessions, cafes, musical activities plus many more.

Become a Dementia Friend Champion who encourages others to make a positive difference to people living with dementia in their community by helping people understand what it's like to live with dementia and the actions they can take in their communities.

Dementia in hospitals - Patients who are unwell and also have dementia often experience distress and increased anxiety when in hospital, as the environment and routine are unfamiliar.

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

DEMENTIA REMINISCENCE

This role requires you to assist session leaders in tasks and activities. It requires you to have an interest in supporting and empathising with people who have been diagnosed with dementia and a desire to see them manage their illness in a positive way. <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

SHARED LIVES

The Shared Lives Service works with adults who need support due to disability, age or illness.

Shared Lives support people to develop meaningful friendships that enable them to live life to the full in their local communities. It can help them achieve goals such as going to college, develop travel skills, visit places outside Wigan and go on holiday.

Adults who need support are carefully matched with Shared Lives champions, who are local people with shared interests or simply someone that they get on well with.

If you are interested in becoming a Shared Lives Champion or would like some further information about Shared Lives then please contact the team on 01942 487044 or e-mail us at sharedlives@wigan.gov.uk

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

ESTATE VOLUNTEERS (WIGAN COUNCIL)

There are a number of volunteering opportunities from:

- Eyes of your estate

- Customer inspectors (Mystery shoppers)
- Estate volunteers
- Tenants and residents groups <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

DOMESTIC ABUSE CHAMPIONS

Domestic Abuse Champions play a vital role in the community. They're trained to recognise all the tell-tale signs of domestic abuse and to help victims by signposting them to the services which can change their lives for the better.

If you interested in supporting your local community by becoming a champion we'll provide you with all the appropriate training to increase your knowledge and understanding, giving you the confidence and the skills to help victims and their families take that first step.

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

SCHOOL GOVERNORS

Could you be a school governor?

- Do you want to give something back to the community?
- Are you open to new ideas and ready to learn?
- Do you have time to spend a couple of hours a month to go to meetings and read documents and reports?
- Are you motivated and interested in education?
- Would you like to make a positive impact on the education of thousands of children and work towards better schools and communities?

If the answer is yes to any of these and you have enthusiasm and commitment then you could be a school governor. If you are appointed as a governor there is an expectation that you will attend induction training. <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

'FRIENDS OF' GROUPS

'Friends of Groups' are local community-based volunteers, who need your help to keep our parks and green spaces maintained for the enjoyment of all.

There are 17 groups across the borough that does things like:

- Fundraising and grant applications
- Nature conservation
- Horticulture
- Clean ups and painting
- Health walks
- Events

<https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

BOROUGH IN BLOOM

This opportunity is offered to:

- Individuals
- Schools
- Businesses
- Community groups

In Bloom allows you to get involved all year round involvement in :

- General cleanliness: litter picking; fly posting and graffiti removal, wash street names plates and traffic signage

- Install In Bloom planters and plants
- Plant up floral beds and landscaping areas with summer blooms (annuals)
- Plant salad, vegetable and herbs (part of 'incredible edible' planting)
- Early weed control treatments
- Remove moss growth from street furniture

For further details and to volunteer go to <https://www.wigan.gov.uk/Council/The-Deal/Volunteering>

COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Volunteers are needed to help run the 'Pay As You Feel' Community Café at Dorset Road Community Centre Atherton every Tuesday between 11 am and 2 pm.

If you can help or want more details please contact Atherton Children's Centre on 01942 486366 Option 2

COULD YOU VOLUNTEER TO DRIVE A MINIBUS? VOLUNTEER DRIVERS URGENTLY REQUIRED

Wigan & District Community Transport is run by volunteers, to help provide services to the community. In return, we provide varied experience and training opportunities. You will acquire new skills, meet a wide range of people, gain vital experience in the workplace, and receive expenses to cover your travelling costs.

There are no constraints on when you volunteer, it is up to you.

Volunteer drivers must be between 21 and 70 years old, hold a full driving licence for at least two years and will receive full training. Our base is at Hope Enterprise Centre near Robin Park Wigan.

Contact David Jones for more information.

Tel/Fax: 01942 768811; E-mail: davidjones@wiganct.org.uk; Website: www.wiganct.org.uk

EMBRACE WIGAN AND LEIGH

Are you looking for a new challenge? Do you have 3 or 4 hours per week to spare? Do you enjoy helping children develop and grow? If the answers are YES, then carry on reading:

Adventure Service Challenge (ASC) is an organised, structured, yet flexible and adaptable scheme of activities for children aged 8-14. It is fully inclusive and offers its services to scheme leaders and volunteers who wish to meet the needs of young people with a wide range of abilities.

Embrace has successfully piloted two schemes over the last twelve months and is now looking to expand the service across the borough.

We are looking for scheme leaders who are willing to run an ASC scheme in your local area. Each scheme runs over a 16 week program and full training and support will be provided along with the ASC Handbook which provides guidance and advice.

You will need to source volunteers to help support the scheme and local community rooms/school facilities to host the sessions. Expenses will be provided and contributions towards the cost of room hire and activities can be provided. DBS checks will also be required

Please contact Chris or Andy at Embrace (01942 233323) for further details.

THE BRIDGE AT LEIGH CHARITY CAFÉ

The Bridge at Leigh Community Cafe is currently in need of recruiting new volunteers.

There are opportunities available for unskilled volunteers, as well as volunteers with

- Kitchen experience
- Food service experience
- Drivers

If you are able to help email thebridgeatleigh@gmail.com

PENNINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB,

Are looking for volunteers to help with refreshments on their match days, they are also looking for team members for a new GIRLS TEAM. Please contact Nicola Jones on 07759 313363 for further details.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO EXTEND OPENING HOURS OF NEW LOWTON COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Volunteers are needed to help run a new community cafe. Lowton Community Cafe opened earlier this month on Newton Road. More help is needed to extend its current opening hours of noon to 2pm on Monday and noon to 3pm on Tuesdays.

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact Luke on 07716 14910

lowtonyouthandcommunitycentre@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR YMCA GROUPS

Volunteers are needed to help run monthly groups at the YMCA, Ashton-in-Makerfield.

- Diamond Group Plus session - 2nd Monday of the month - 11am to 1pm
- Dementia Group - 2nd Thursday of every month - 11am to 1pm

Both groups have the first hour as an activity or presentation followed by a healthy home cooked lunch. If you know anyone who may be interested in helping, please contact Joyce Gorman, Business Development Manager by email joyce.gorman@ymcaashton.org or phone 01942 274684

DO YOU HAVE THE RIGHT QUALITIES TO BECOME A LOCAL MAGISTRATE?

Residents of the borough are being urged to apply to become a magistrate following a shortage of volunteers. There are now vacancies at courts throughout the region including Wigan & Leigh Magistrates Court.

Magistrates contribute to the judiciary system in the most exceptional ways – giving their considerable skills, experience and time in a voluntary manner. Recruitment has now opened and the campaign will continue over the summer.

Application forms and further information on how to become a magistrate are available at www.gov.uk/become-magistrate

or you can contact the HR team if you have any queries at magistrate-shrteam@judiciary.gsi.gov.uk

ADOPT A WATERWAY FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

Could you help look after local waterways by adopting a one mile stretch? That's the challenge from the Canal and River Trust (CRT) which is urging local communities to play a bigger part in looking after the waterways on their doorstep.

The call comes as part of the charity's wider plans to ensure that Wigan's waterways continue to thrive and don't fall back into the dereliction of the mid-twentieth century, when some sections were almost lost forever. Adoption groups will work in partnership with the Trust in order to make their local waterway shine; anything from improving wildlife habitats and access for local people, to creating a linear veg-patch for the community. Each group works at least one day a month for 12 months and agrees the projects they want to prioritise to make their mile matter. To support the call, the Trust has published an online map that showcases existing adoption groups and areas that are available for people to support.

The Trust also has more informal volunteer opportunities including volunteer lock keeping and drop-in volunteering sessions. More information is available at www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/volunteer
For full details of the volunteer map visit <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/adopt-a-canal>

SHOPMOBILITY WIGAN & LEIGH – PROVIDING MOBILITY WITH DIGNITY AND INDEPENDENCE

Shopmobility are looking for volunteer mobility scooter service/repair engineers and PAT Testers for our Wigan or Leigh offices. Any times/days are available.

Travel expenses and lunch vouchers are provided. The charity provides mobility scooters and wheelchairs for daily or long term hire to provide independence to those with limited mobility to shop and socialise with dignity and independence.

If you are able to offer any assistance please contact Clare on 01942 777985/607128

FEED BELLIES NOT BINS

“The Real Junk Food Project, Fur Clemt are an environmental project based in Wigan who use waste food to provide delicious meals to the community. They do this on a ‘Pay as you feel’ basis.

The project is coming to Mealhouse Court, Atherton We hope to have a regular luncheon/afternoon tea. No details have been set yet.

We need volunteers. Does this sound like you?

- Enthusiastic
- Eager to learn new skills
- Good sense of humour
- Happy to get stuck in

Can't cook? We'll teach you.

To Volunteer: Email D.Simmons@wigan.gov.uk Telephone on 07771371491

THE OLD COURTS

Volunteer Opportunity:

Work in an art gallery. Our art gallery is open every Friday and Saturday 11-4pm.

Find our current exhibitions at: <http://www.theoldcourts.com/gallery>

Upcoming Dates: Starting now.

Responsibilities include: Welcoming visitors to the gallery, handing out surveys, making coffee/tea, tallying visitors, setting up for art exhibition openings (tidying, setting out glasses, etc).

Depending on how involved you'd like to be you can also assist with giving tours of the exhibition to visitors, press releases for exhibitions, blogging, marketing the up and coming exhibitions on social media, helping with install and take down of exhibitions (more dates for this below).

THE OLD COURTS

Volunteer Opportunity:

Work with us on posters and flyers! As a not-for-profit, we always need extra help getting the word out about what we do here.

Dates: Starting now.

Responsibilities: Help us take down old posters, and put up new ones around the building.

We also need help with flyers at events! We regularly give out leaflets to shops and cafes in the town centre.

SAMARITANS SHOP NEEDS HELPING HAND

An appeal has gone out for extra volunteers to support Samaritans charity shop in Hallgate Wigan.

People interested in sparing a morning or afternoon should call Jean on 07425 166482

OVER 50? MALE? WE NEED YOU!

Wigan & Leigh Pensioners Link are looking for men to take part in our Mind Over Matter Project

Mind Over Matter is a pilot project that is about helping older people maintain a healthy lifestyle via activities that encourage physical activity, keeping the brain active, and healthy eating. All the activity sessions provided are free of charge and most will be for a minimum of around six weeks in Leigh/Atherton/Tyldesley/ Astley/Lowton/Golborne/Hindley.

As we would like to seek further funding and extend these sessions across the Borough, it is very important that we monitor and evaluate how useful and successful they are with older people. So we are asking everyone taking part to complete some very simple forms and to give us their feedback.

For further details please contact Sue on 01942 261753 or, alternatively you can visit us at 27 Charles Street, Leigh, WN7 1DB. If you are a group, I would be more than happy to come along and have a chat with you about the project.

BREAST CANCER CARE

"I would first like to introduce myself, I am the Volunteer Manager for Breast Cancer Care's North of England region and I am responsible for the recruitment and training for volunteers who live in the region who support our work. At the moment I am recruiting for a volunteer to support our Moving Forward courses which we are running in partnership with the Breast Care Nurses in Wigan.

The Moving Forward courses offer support and advice to anyone living with and beyond breast cancer, helping them to approach life after treatment with increased confidence. Breast Cancer Care is currently looking to recruit and train a volunteer to support these courses, to offer that unique support that only someone who had a previous personal experience of primary breast cancer can bring. Volunteers offer the chance for clients to talk openly away from family and friends with someone who understands what they are going through. We know that talking to someone who's been there can be a great source of information and support.

Please contact Lisa Holland direct on Lisa.Holland@breastcancercare.org.uk Direct line: 0114 263 6496