



Volunteer Vision

News for volunteers in the South Hams

It's cool to care says South Hams

All week we asked, and every day you replied: 'Volunteering is Cool, Sub-zero even'.

During Volunteers Week, June 1-7, your team went out to the four main towns with a *Cool Wall* and asked passers-by to rate volunteering as they saw it.

About half the people we met said they volunteer (this is in line with UK statistics) and enjoy it. Most are very proud of their organisations, and have stayed with them for years.

Young people were savvy, too. They pointed to an inspired teacher, Duke of Edinburgh awards and Young Devon.

But few of the public at large had ever heard of the national Week, in its 25th year!

No matter, the local media were primed and the centre was more than pleased to gain a splash on the front page of the Ivybridge Gazette, along with encouraging messages from the town mayor and deputy mayor.



Pip Harris of the RNIB Transcription Service joined the Cool Wall pitch outside Ivybridge Watermark.

Pip wants to meet volunteers who can voice official leaflets into mid-European languages.

Who scooped £1,000?.... see p4

New.....

With this issue...

Classified

opportunities

Volunteer Centres based in Devon (there are nine) outpace all the others in the UK in terms of roles found and filled.

We do so by about 14 to one! That's such a big lead we double checked with our informants at *Count Me In* before boasting about it!

To make it a bit easier for you to start making a choice from opportunities galore, this issue advertises two pages of them (no payment was involved) with *direct contact numbers*.

You can get the detail on many more of our South Hams opportunities at

www.do-it.org.uk

Prefer an introduction?

Call Howard Tues to Thurs:

Volunteer Centre

South Hams

01803 862 266

www.volunteerdevon.net

volunteeing@

southhamscvs.org.uk

The centre is Accredited with Merit by VE



Volunteer Centre South Hams



Opportunities Galore!

★ The Volunteer Centre has been hauling in fresh opportunities and organisations of all kinds are renewing their calls for help. They'll be very pleased to hear from you. *NB:* some of these are personal numbers. To help you start thinking, we've given this *Volunteer Vision* spread to a selection of free 'classifieds'. These are just a taster- we can show you many more activities. Some calls were urgent at the time of printing, so may be filled: please call us for information, or make a date to pop in. If you have access to the internet you can see opportunities we post at www.do-it.org.uk

ENERGETIC/EXTREME

Not yet energetic or extreme, but a good step. Walk & Talk **TOTNES** invites you to train on October 13. as a Leader. Kate Wright 07920 786505

ENVIRONMENT

TOTNES Transition Town needs thinkers and doers in building & housing, economics & livelihoods, education, energy, food, health & wellbeing, heart & soul, local government, arts, admin, transport. The rickshaws need drivers. TTT: Minda Bunce 01803 867358 Rickshaw Company: David Lacey 01803 862 283

GOVERNANCE

KINGSBRIDGE Lifeworks gives young people with learning disabilities a brighter future. Chief Officer Richard Hanlon wants people to join the trustee board and drive forward several practical projects. Call Richard at 01803 840 744

HERITAGE

TOTNES treasure the Guildhall seeks stewards. Nicky Nicholson 01803 862 147

TOTNES Museum 'a lively time machine' seeks desk stewards. Alan Langmaid. 01803 863 821

*Abandon Hope All Ye
Onscreen advice from
AVG anti-virus software:
"Test cannot be started
because it already
does not exist"*

ANIMAL WELFARE

DARTINGTON Eco-watch. Save species by conserving and monitoring their environs. Tom Stevens 01803 847028

TORBAY Wildlife recording at Coast and Countryside Trust 01803 696 258 or 606 035 Build wildlife database by recording sightings of plants, birds, butterflies, etc across the Bay.

BABBACOMBE Animals in Distress: Roles in the shops and at Ippelen rescue centre, or shake a tin and spread word. Kim-Marie Drew 01803 312 603

ASHBURTON What an owl: a choice of practical, office, and local community activity with Barn Owl Trust Kelly 01364 653 026

ARTS

IVYBRIDGE keyboard player Eric seeks a flautist to make a duo, performing WW2 songs in rest homes. Pse call volunteer centre

Radiohead! Soundart 102.5 FM **DARTINGTON** invites you to broadcast, do soundscapes, run studio. Lucinda 01803 862 224

DARTMOUTH The Flavel = arts, comedy, music, technology. Opportunities include: stewards, box office, duty manager, administration, film assessment, projection, programme development. Debbie Di-Bello, Hazel Chapman 01803 839 530

CHILDREN

DEVONWIDE BBC Children in Need. Volunteer Trustees advise on what to fund Emma Beeston 0117 974 7600

KINGSBRIDGE Childrens Centre-Playbus Support. Nick Jenkin (Barnardos) 01503 265582

CULTURE, LEARNING, LEISURE

SOUTHWEST Love your job? Inspire the young in school. Young Enterprise. Lynn McNulty 01865 776 845 Ext:239

DEVONWIDE the Scouts seek young people and adults 16-65 as Skills Instructors to provide training, for example swimming, cooking, climbing, photography. Mrs Barbara Bowles 01752 839 362

In **TOTNES** and around, Judith Cohen is retiring from her key role at the Retired Senior Volunteer Project. Will you take up the reins? Call Volunteer Centre.

volunteering@southhamscvs.org.uk 01803 862 266

Volunteer Centre South Hams

Opportunities Galore!



MEDIA

DARTMOUTH Know how to build a relationship with the media? Dartmouth Caring would strongly appreciate your joining the board to build new campaigns. A great group, and it will do wonders for your cv. Cheryl Loverock c.e.o. 01803 862 266

PERSON TO PERSON

IVYBRIDGE Caring - a new group avid to build a practical team. Call Sue at 01752 690 479 as she will welcome your help in a number of ways. It is an independent group, taking part in Devon's Complex Care programme.

Memory café **KINGSBRIDGE** seeks volunteers. For the latest, contact Nick Cape at Volunteer Centre South Hams 01803 862266

KINGSBRIDGE Saltstone Caring Lisa Butcher wltm you for your friendly help a couple of hours a week on weekdays. Make a real difference to the life of an older person living in Kingsbridge, Salcombe and surrounding area. Shopping, walks, transport to non-medical appointments and companionship. A one-day preparation is provided. Pse call Lisa at 07890 986 550

TOTNES Caring invite you to join their large team of drivers, mini-bus drivers and helpers, shoppers, befrienders, lunch club helpers, coffee morning and fundraising helpers. Call Liza Moore on 01803 868 425

In **TOTNES**, Citizens Advice Bureau have a further outlet at Town Mill and invite volunteers to be a

first point of contact and diagnosis. Call CAB manager Emma Handley on 01803 862392

DEVONWIDE A call for frontline volunteers! Victim Support offers practical and emotional support to victims and witnesses of crime. This takes the form of phone calls, home visits and support at court. Volunteers are central to the mission. Because of the nature of the role, you do need to be over 18. To find out more, talk with Sovay Peplow, 01626 357580 sovay.peplow@victimsupport.org.uk

PRACTICAL

SALCOMBE Historic ship Egremont needs your TLC! Tremendously popular with young people for teamwork and sea skills, as seen on TV. Looking for help with it all: Any - from electrical, plumbing, carpentry, welding, engineering, painting, general assistance, making up displays. They run a ferry to the ship! Pse call John Smith 01548 531 176

ACROSS DEVON the charity Cleanup UK helps volunteer litter-clearing groups and individuals. They'll help you start a group in your area. Ask George Monck 077 9669 1220 or see website www.cleanupuk.org.uk

YOUNG VOLUNTEERS

Aged 16-25: Call Young Devon. Based **IVYBRIDGE** but plenty going on across the county. Roles supporting young carers, or raising funds, or joining the board. If you are young, it's one of the best qualifications you can have! A large outfit, always looking for creative ideas, too. Try Michelle Shaw 01752 691511

Public view on access

Ideas, observations, points of view are strongly welcomed by **South Hams Access Group**.

As reported in the online Volunteer Vision, this independent local watchdog was holding a public meeting in Totnes to develop key actions by the group.

Led by volunteers, the group has the ear of planners and others who set out our streets, paths, car parks, public buildings and much else that affects the quality of life—particularly where people have mobility needs.

Work is very much ongoing and you are invited to contact the group for information:

Hugh McCahill (Chairman) 01803 863 722 or **George Black (Secretary) 01803 865534**.

CHRISTMAS



Do you run an ORGANISATION?

We want to hear from you! Friendly volunteers make such a difference at Christmas, on or around the Day.

Volunteers call us each year only to learn of an apparent shortage of opportunities—and we do keep searching.

So if you run or know of a Christmas activity of any kind ... let us know so we can bring people together in good time.

Thank you!

Volunteer Centre South Hams

volunteering@southhamscvs.org.uk 01803 862 266

Thankyou Jill and Sue (to mention just two)



Organisers: CVS keen to help you

While the Volunteer Centre focuses on volunteers and their opportunities, its parent CVS, Community & Voluntary Services, supports voluntary and community action in South Hams.

This makes CVS the ideal port of call for an organisation, group, or even individual seeking information and support.

While firmly rooted in practical, local activity, the CVS is in the thick of regional and national development.

For example, it is currently working with the Community Enterprise Unit on ways groups can ride the credit crunch.

The friendly, experienced team can help with fundraising, legalities, general good practice, team-building, training...or simply the hire of a projector.

Seen on tee-shirt:
"I have an inferiority complex, but it's not a very big one"

This year's visits to South Devon affirm it as one of the best of all places to be. But year round, our true quality of life gains from 'unsung heroes' who give their time.

Volunteers look after the coast, animals and birds, not to mention village festivals, the steam heritage, fundraising, garden parties. At the sharper end, they get trained up to deal with crisis calls, possibly from a teenager in the dead of night, or to save lives at sea.



Sue

Jill

Here in the volunteer centre, we help to match up people with such opportunities and as part of a CVS (see right) we are more than keen when new community activities start. They are good news all round.

Two key volunteers with the centre, **Jill Todd** and **Sue Lavender**, have achieved

exactly that. Jill saw the need for a healthy walks programme in Totnes, and got it going, twice a week, complete with newly-trained leaders. Sue agreed to take on the centre's monthly outreach in Ivybridge, made it buzz and is now helping to build a new Ivybridge Caring.

Big, big thanks to you two stars not only for your cheerful enterprise but also for the productive partnership it creates between health services, local authorities and the voluntary/community network.

Local scouts scoop £1,000

OK, it's cheeky to call it the Bish Bash, but July 1st was a fun day to remember: a marquee in Exeter's Bishop's Palace, complete with string quartet, cake-swapping, and jovial Bishop **Michael Langrish**.

Pictured here, **Jonathon, Alex** and **Rachel** from Teignbridge youth group The Junction pick up their £500 draw prize from BBC tv's **Emily Wood**.

They entered their group for *Count Me In!* - a project to gather data on the enormous industry of Devon's volunteers year on year.

Other winners included South Hams' 1st Ivybridge Scouts - top prize £1,000 - and individual volunteer **Joan Dauncey** of Dart Heartbeaters.



Contact us

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South Hams

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Charity number

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Company number

6215893.

