The Volunteer Centre newsletter is back!

It's been a difficult time for everyone and there is no doubt that the voluntary and community sector has been affected. We haven't been able to match an increased interest in volunteering with available opportunities because many services were temporarily closed. We're slowly starting to see more volunteering opportunities becoming available. There is a variety of opportunities so we hope that you will be able to find something to suit. If you are looking for a specific type of opportunity that isn't featured here then get in touch with our team and we will see if we can help, email volunteering@imago.community. It’s good to be back at a time when the voluntary sector is never more needed and when vulnerable people really need help.

The Imago Volunteering Team
BE WHO YOU NEEDED
WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER

Did you know... emotional disorders are the most common disorder among school-age children?
A mentor could change a young person's school experience and helps to deal with:

~ PEER PRESSURE ~
~ EXAMS ~
~ MENTAL HEALTH ~
~ EMOTIONS ~

BECOME A MENTOR!

CONTACT US TO START YOUR NEW ROLE AND INSPIRE A YOUNG PERSON TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL

01622 693459
volunteering@ylf.org.uk
www.ylf.org.uk

@ylf.org.uk @ylfcharity @ylfcharity
Interested in volunteering?

Could you volunteer to make a difference in the community?

If you're thinking about volunteering in Edenbridge then look no further! We have plenty of opportunities that you might consider once we reopen -

- Serving our visitors across the counter
- Cooks
- Kitchen Assistants
- Help with Fundraising
- Help with Creative arts
- Home Baking
- DIY & Gardening
- Duke of Edinburgh volunteering

We offer a friendly environment to work in with a team of volunteers who have a wide range of backgrounds & interests.

To have a chat about any of the above positions or about what talent you can bring to our centre, please email Mary Perrett, the Centre Manager - Mary@bridgescentre.org or call 01732 868186.
Feeding Children Today, Educating Children for Tomorrow

Can you spare 6-8 hours every 3 months to help us collate and stuff envelopes with our Charity Newsletter?

Kisumu Children Trust helps transform a little Kenyan community by helping families support their children through education and into their chosen vocation, providing a family income.

We’re a little, faith-based charity in Tonbridge with a friendly home/office environment. We’d love to have 1-2 volunteers to join us around Feb/May/Aug/Nov to help us out.

You’d be coming in on Mon/Thursday mornings or afternoons.

**Covid-19** – we’ll happily deliver the materials to your house

Thank you so much.

For more info: please contact Lynn Allen,
E: Office@kisumuchildren.org.uk

T: 01732 369303 (Mondays or Thursdays)

Kisumu Children Trust, Charity No. 1091477
Bradbourne Riding for the Disabled Group, Sevenoaks

Bradbourne RDA (Riding for the Disabled) provides disabled children and adults with the opportunity for enjoyment, therapy and achievement through riding and carriage driving. The Group is run entirely by trained volunteers who help disabled children and adults to:
- Reach therapeutic goals — improve muscle tone and posture
- Combat social isolation — build relationships and develop self-confidence
- Develop life skills — improve communication, and take responsibility
- Experience the outdoors — ride or carriage drive in the countryside.

Volunteers — We Need You!

Trustee – Experienced Group Secretary

Bradbourne RDA Group is now seeking to strengthen the expertise of its Board and is keen to appoint an individual with extensive experience in corporate governance from a Company Secretary or professional legal role.

Ongoing responsibilities include trustee meeting administration, Charity Commission and Companies House updates, RDA UK reporting, sharing communications, handling Group correspondence, coordinating insurance documentation, and liaising with relevant contacts over awards.

Ideally the individual will be able to assist the Board of Trustees with contractual documentation, lease queries, implications of charity law changes, and all types of matters arising from documentation with external parties while ensuring the charity pursues its defined objectives.

Help with Riding Sessions

Volunteering at Bradbourne RDA provides friendship, healthy exercise, hands-on contact with horses, a warm glow and yes, occasionally, very muddy feet!

We operate on weekdays during academic terms in the mornings, afternoons and evenings, and require helpers to get the ponies ready, assist the riders and provide support to the coaches to ensure every session is safe and a very enjoyable experience for all taking part. No knowledge of horses or riding is needed and all training is provided.

If you wish to find out more about either role please visit our website: [http://www.bradbourne-rda.org.uk/](http://www.bradbourne-rda.org.uk/) or contact us via [contact@bradbourne-rda.org.uk](mailto:contact@bradbourne-rda.org.uk) or phone for an informal chat: 07914 273610.

We very much look forward to hearing from you and welcoming you to the Bradbourne RDA team.
Stewarding at the Eden Valley Museum

Eden Valley Museum is something of a hidden treasure of the Eden Valley, a social history museum covering the rich history of the towns and villages. Largely run by Volunteers, our Stewards are the heart of the Museum. If you can give a few hours of your time each month as a Steward you will become part of a friendly, welcoming team. Now we have re-opened we are more in need of volunteers than ever. We’ve implemented changes to the Museum to keep both our Stewards and the public safe and new Stewards will be given full guidance and training by the House Manager. If you feel you can give your time please get in touch via email: curator@evmt.org.uk.

We asked one of our long-standing Stewards to give some feedback on his experience of the role and what it means to him, have a read of his thoughts and see if helping the Museum as a Steward might be for you.

I look forward to hearing from some of you soon.

Martin Frost, House Manager
Eden Valley Museum

Richard Johnson, Steward:

My mantra has always been “you get out of something that which you put in.” My wife and I really enjoy our time there, giving something back to the community and would urge anyone with some time to spare to volunteer as stewards to enable this excellent tourist attraction to open as frequently as possible. It really is something that the local area should be proud of.

Unsurprisingly, the more volunteers there are the easier it is to fill the times when the museum can open. For many years now my wife and I have covered a Saturday morning (10am-1pm) once a month. The visitors range from a quick look lasting for 5 minutes to those that stay for a couple of hours showing real interest and deriving real pleasure from the exhibitions. Those that can be given information regarding a relative or a property connected with same are always grateful. I am helped by the fact that my wife happens to be 5th generation Edenbridge but the museum also offers an excellent research service if the stewards are unable to help on
Help your community commute safely, offering a friendly face and advice.

Visit the link below to find out how the help of volunteers at station entrances could make a real difference in your community.

Can you spare a few hours to help your community?

Autumn marks a significant time as students return to school and employees return to work following lockdown. We’re looking for volunteer Journey Makers in your community to help people feel more confident and comfortable travelling on public transport.

Sign up to become a Journey Maker at either the Faversham or Tonbridge stations by scanning the QR code below or following the link.

[journey.moe/35wWp5P](journey.moe/35wWp5P)
Role **Book Group Volunteer (Kent)**

Service Older People

Love reading? For many of our older residents, reading is a useful mental exercise to aid memory, discuss literary themes and debate issues in a lively atmosphere which improves service users' quality of life.

Location Various schemes across Kent (Tonbridge and Snodland).

Commitment A minimum of 2 hours per week, during office hours between Monday and Friday.

We hope the volunteer will stay for a minimum of 4 months.

DBS This role requires us to carry out a check through the Disclosure and Barring Service.

Activities Inviting service users to decide what they wish to get out of the weekly book groups.

Inviting service users to suggest books, as well having your own input.

Choosing a book(s) for residents to read for the following week’s discussion.

Creating a comfortable atmosphere which will encourage and motivate service users to maximize their learning and build confidence.

Exploring books from service users’ generation and/ or home country.

Discussing book and film adaptations.

Support Volunteers receive a thorough induction and have access to any relevant in-house and external training.

Volunteers have a named supervisor providing support and encouragement.

Reasonable travel and lunch expenses will be reimbursed.

Interested in applying for this role or have any questions? Please get in touch on **0300 333 6712** or drop us an email [Volunteering@clarionhq.com](mailto:Volunteering@clarionhq.com).
Did you know that 1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men will experience some form of domestic abuse?

We are currently looking for male and female volunteers who are able to commit just one day a week to help us provide desperately needed emotional support, practical safety advice and advocacy services to victims in West Kent.

Full accredited training provided.
Just think... by committing just one day a week you will be helping local men, women and children rebuild their lives.

Interested? Want to find out more? office@davss.org.uk
Thank you.
Fundraising Support Volunteers – Working From Home

Tree of Hope is a children’s charity that helps the families of children and young people with a disability or serious illness. We support them by helping them to raise the funds required, to access the specialist care for their child, which is not freely available through the UK healthcare system.

We are looking for volunteers to support our fundraising in the community, who are able to work without supervision, and are happy to work from home – no experience necessary, we will give you the support and resources you need.

So, if you would like to run fundraising events, support our fundraising activities, or become an Ambassador volunteer we would love to hear from you!

For more information please contact Karen Warner (Fundraising Manager)
karen.warner@treeofhope.org.uk 01892 335311
Remap: making things possible

Remap is a national charity that helps disabled people of all ages to live more independent lives by designing and making customised equipment free of charge.

The unique contribution of Remap is that its network of skilled volunteers design and custom make equipment for each individual – after all, everyone’s needs are different. This helps to improve quality of life and increase independence for disabled people of all ages. The service is provided free of charge; the charity receives no statutory funding and depends on donations and grants.

Recent examples of Remap’s work range from a microphone/amplifier system for five year old James who has vocal cord palsy, to adapting Rosie’s wheelchair so she could complete a sponsored climb of Mt Snowdon. From adaptations at a charity shop so wheelchair user Jade can continue to volunteer in support of her local hospice, to an ingenious adaption of a church door to include a handrail despite its listed building status.

Across the country Remap has about 900 skilled volunteers, organised into local groups including Remap Kent. Last year they completed over 3,800 projects, helping a wide range of disabled people of all age groups. Its volunteers include engineers, technicians and electronics specialists as well as people who organise, promote and fundraise. The charity is run from a small office in Kemsing where a small team of paid staff look after volunteer recruitment, fundraising and promotion for the UK. To find out more, visit Remap’s website or send an email to the team at data@remap.org.uk.
Sign up to become a Taylor Made Dreams sewing Bee and join our hive of crafty activity! To receive your welcome pack, please email: taylormadedreamscio@gmail.com

Let’s get busy buzzing!

#TMDSewingBees
Helpline advisor volunteer

About the role
We’re looking for two new helpline advisors to join our small, friendly team in Maidstone. In this office-based role you’ll be providing high quality, relevant, up-to-date information, to people with convictions, their friends, families and supporters. Full training will be provided.

We’re looking for somebody who ..... 
- Is a person with a criminal record
- Is confident, with experience in a customer-facing role
- Has a passion for making a difference and challenging inequality
- Loves working in a small team but is self-motivated enough to excel without supervision
- Has excellent verbal and written skills and is able to communicate effectively with a wide range of people
- Is confident in using computers
- Is able to commit to volunteering 2 days per week for at least 6 months
- Lives near to our Maidstone office; we have a limited travel budget but travel costs can be covered where agreed in advance.

Interested?
- Closing date – Monday 27th April 2020
- For further details about the role and an application form, please email debbie.sadler@unlock.org.uk or write to Debbie Sadler, Unlock, MCSC, 39-48 Marsham Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1HH
Fundraising volunteer

What will you do?

We’re looking for a proactive fundraising volunteer to fundraise in Tonbridge and Sevenoaks and occasionally in other areas across North & West Kent.

The role will be on a flexible basis with a variety of fundraising activities such as manning awareness stalls, bucket collecting at various venues, circulating posters and flyers and generally researching opportunities to raise funds and promote awareness.

What’s in it for you?

- make a real difference to people’s lives
- work with a range of different people, independently, in a team and within your local community
- have a positive impact in your community

And we’ll reimburse expenses too.

What do you need to have?

You don’t need specific qualifications or skills but you’ll need to:
- be friendly and approachable
- have a positive attitude towards fundraising

How much time do you need to give?

We can be flexible about the time spent and how often you volunteer so come and talk to us! Contact Carol Hunt to find out more about this role - by email carol.hunt@nwkent.cab.org or call 01732 373839.
Could you support the RNLI Fundraisers?

The Sevenoaks branch had organised some dates to fundraise in Sevenoaks town centre and in Chipstead in May. These will go ahead if our current situation changes but if not they will be re-arranged.

This is a difficult time for those charities that rely on donated items and fundraising events.

Please support your local branch to help them to build up their funds again.

If you are interested please contact Peter Hawker, Branch Chairman, by email peter@thehawksers.info or phone: 01732 832343.
VOLUNTEER FOR YOUR LOCAL CHILDREN’S CHARITY

Dandelion Time helps children who are struggling with the effects of trauma, domestic abuse and neglect. Children spend time on our farm with animals and crafts to overcome emotional difficulties, grow in confidence and begin to love and trust again.

Have you got time on your hands? Do you want to put something back in the community and help vulnerable children?
If you want to roll up your sleeves and get outside for physical work, Dandelion Time is the perfect place for you. We are looking for volunteers to develop our new exciting site in order to deliver therapy to help vulnerable children and families.

What? Gardening, weeding, general maintenance, building a new vegetable garden
When? Every Friday for the foreseeable future
Where? At Dandelion Time in West Farleigh
Who? If you are able to work physically. We also welcome Corporate Volunteers for team building
How? Register on our website
Government guidelines and social distancing regulations will be adhered to.

If you prefer to speak to someone in person, please call Anyès Reading - 01622 814 001 or email: anyesreading@dandeliontime.org.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.
Are you looking for a new challenge and to help others at the same time?

We have a number of volunteering opportunities at our village in Aylesford, Maidstone:

- Catering Assistants to help with the smooth running of our onsite community café and hub, helping to prepare food, serve customers and general tasks.
- Van drivers to help with local deliveries for our onsite Social Enterprise, Britain’s Bravest Manufacturing Company. Deliveries will be made using RBLI’s Transit Curtainsider.
- Receptionists to assist in our Emergency Veteran Accommodation - helping with answering the telephone, booking appointments, booking in visitors plus general back office tasks;
- Office Assistants to assist with data inputting;
- Befrienders to support our residents living in our onsite nursing home - providing valuable social interac-

If none of these appeal, we are always on the look out for willing new volunteers who may have particular skills that can help our charity. Full training will be given - and travel expenses will be payable in accordance with our Expenses Policy.

To find out more or to apply please contact Volunteer@RBLI.co.uk or call 01622 795924.

Royal British Legion Industries is the UK’s leading charity helping ex-Armed Forces Personnel into employment. Established in 1919 to help soldiers returning from WW1, we have a proud heritage as a military charity. Today we use our skills and experience to support people in the wider community with disabilities and health conditions and those struggling to find work.
The Light of the World Trust

We are a registered charity that provides a free dog walking service to elderly and disabled people in need of our help. We are looking for volunteers in the Tunbridge Wells area and we have some service users in need of dog walkers.

Contact us:
Call 01895 271659
Email: info@thelightoftheworldtrust.org

With appropriate social distancing measures in place, our fantastic, hardworking and truly dedicated volunteers have been able to undertake some essential lineside clearance at a variety of locations across the railway! We are always on the lookout for more volunteers and maintenance of our lineside is something often missed when people join a railway.

We are particularly looking for someone to take charge of our Lineside Clearance, so if anyone out there enjoys volunteering, working outdoors, in an area of outstanding natural beauty and would like the opportunity of being in charge of 4 1/2 miles of lineside maintenance which includes:

• Keeping on top of vegetation.
• Managing various teams of lineside volunteers.
• Following appropriate railway rules and regulations.

Then please get in touch! We’d be delighted to hear from you.

Working on the lineside is a very rewarding task, makes the views even better for our passengers and if you’re into photography you get access to otherwise off limit areas to take photos of our beautifully restored steam and diesel trains!

If you’d just like to join us to help keep on top of our lineside clearance or are interested in taking the lead on lineside clearance at our heritage railway then please email: Jonnie.pay@spavalleyrailway.co.uk.
Pact Mentoring Role Description

Aim: Our service is designed to provide support to offenders through mentoring to encourage full integration and to promote social inclusion.

Duties: To be led by each individual service users needs, it could be attending an appointment with them, registering at a GP surgery, discussing feelings and emotions, helping with reading and writing, listening, having a coffee and chat or meeting at the prison gates on release, it really depends on the individual, but it will include:

- To build up a relationship
- To establish and maintain appropriate boundaries to the mentoring relationship
- To acknowledge positive qualities and skills
- To spend time with/share activities with service users
- To be consistent, reliable and dependable
- To work within a spirit of non-discrimination
- To respect confidentiality according to Pact policies
- To keep in touch with your co-ordinator
- To carry out admin tasks (Volunteer Agreement, Contact Records and Expense Forms)
- To attend volunteer support meetings

Important Information:

Time Commitment: 6 months (minimum time), with a minimum of 1 hour per week

Training: An initial two day foundation training is provided by Pact and ongoing relevant/refresher training will be provided during support meetings.

Expenses: Reasonable travel costs (on public transport) or mileage will be reimbursed (to a maximum of £10).

Other: This post is subject to security clearances and enhanced DBS.
Putting you in the driving seat

Transport is a means to independence, but when you are unable, too poorly or wary of using public transport then isolation and loneliness can become the normal.

Dial 2 Drive has a fantastic team of volunteer drivers who use their own cars to offer a lifeline to local older or less mobile people, helping them get to their appointments and with trips out and about.

If you are looking for a volunteering role that is flexible enough to fit around your other activities, where you can volunteer for one drive a month or more, with expenses reimbursed, then look no further!

Dial 2 Drive supports people living in the Kent districts of Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge, Sevenoaks and is looking to recruit drivers to meet the demand from residents in Swanley, Dartford and Gravesham.

To find out more, visit our website for details and an application form. Once received our Co-ordinator will be in touch to have an informal chat and answer any questions. If you both feel the role is right for you then we would take up references and carry out a DBS check before offering you a shadow drive.

It is a great role and one that makes such a difference to those who need it.

“Meeting new people, seeing new parts of my local area and helping those who need it the most— that’s why I volunteer for Dial 2 Drive.”

https://imago.community/Community-Services/Dial2Drive/Volunteer driving@imago.community
Service with a smile

If you love being around people, like to keep busy and make a difference at the same time, then our Imago Charity Shop could have the role for you!

Volunteering at the shop offers retail experience, social interaction and a unique place to share your time whilst helping support others. Tasks include receiving and thanking the public for their donations, checking for Gift Aid donors; sorting the items into those which are suitable to be sold in the shop, via eBay or through other means; pricing items using the handy guide; steaming clothing to look it’s best; displaying items in the shop and keeping the shop tidy and looking great.

We aim to offer helpful customer service with a smile. Training on our easy to use till will be provided and you will be the face of the charity to those who walk through the door.

If you are looking to be part of a team and are able to work under your own steam at times then contact us for an application form today: sally.simms@imago.community

You will be contacted for an informal chat about the role and if both feel that the role is right for you then we will take up your references. There may be opportunities for DofE candidates, please enquire.