

West Kent Volunteer Centre



Trustees' Week: 12-16 November 2018

Have you considered becoming a trustee? Trustees are the volunteers in charge of a charity and there are over 1 million trustees in the UK.

Trustees' Week is an annual event to showcase the great work that trustees do and highlight the opportunities for people from all walks of life to get involved and make a difference.

The website trusteesweek.org has some interesting articles and first hand accounts of why people chose to become trustees.

If becoming a trustee is not for you, there are plenty of other ways to volunteer. Have a look inside this edition for a variety of opportunities. Contact details are given with each advert but if you would like to talk about volunteering more generally then call our volunteering team on 01892 530330 or email volunteering@imago.community.

Brighten the rainiest day

Volunteer at Bedgebury National Pinetum & Forest



Our wonderful team of Visitor Experience Volunteers play a key part in providing a warm welcome and giving our visitors all the information they need for a memorable visit.

Make new friends, help a great cause and work in the amazing surroundings of the National Pinetum and Forest...all great reasons for volunteering at Bedgebury!

Full training provided.

If you love meeting new people, this role is for you.

Please contact bedgebury@forestryengland.uk, phone 01580 879820 or call in at the Visitor Centre for a volunteer application pack.



Volunteer in our store and help change lives

If you....

- Want to learn retail skills
- Would like to make new friends
- Have a spare morning or afternoon
- Want to make a real difference to someone's life

Then your support is needed!

 www.sense.org.uk

Charity number 289888

Tonbridge

11A Pavilion Shopping Centre, High Street, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1TE
t – 01732 360515
e – Tonbridge@sense.org.uk

 **sense**
connecting sight, sound and life



CHIDDINGSTONE CASTLE

HISTORIC HOUSE • COLLECTIONS • VENUE

Volunteer positions at Chiddingstone Castle

We are looking for volunteers for both the closed and open seasons

Deadline: 1st December 2018

More information:

Volunteers are needed at Chiddingstone Castle for the following positions:

- Room Stewards with an interest in art and history (during the open season April-October)
- Collections Volunteer with photography skills/experience to assist the Curator
- Education Volunteer to assist the Education Manager

Training will be provided. We are looking for people with a particular interest in art history and historic properties, as well as a friendly, polite manner and flexibility.

Benefits of volunteering with us include:

- Learning new skills
- Experience in the arts and heritage sector and in education
- Meeting new people
- Access to external training
- Travel expenses reimbursed up to £10
- Discount in tea room

For more information: www.chiddingstonecastle.org.uk

To apply, please send a CV and cover letter to:

Naomi Collick

Curator

Chiddingstone Castle

Hill Hoath Road

Edenbridge TN8 7AD

01892 872 747

curator@chiddingstonecastle.org.uk



National
Trust

Volunteer Role Summary

Castle Keeper – Scotney Castle

We are looking for castle keepers to join our team. Are you looking for a new challenge, interested in learning more about Scotney Castle, need a little something extra on your university application, want a new challenge or simply looking for something fun to do? One of our new castle keepers could be the volunteer role for you.

We are looking for a group of like-minded people who are happy to get stuck in on a number of tasks and duties across the property. No day in this role will be the same, as it's all about making sure our visitors have the best days out with us and want to return again.

Delivering exceptional service is at the heart of what we do and sharing with people our story and unique features is what makes a day out to Scotney Castle so special. We will hand you the keys to the castle and unseen areas, it's up to you to deliver guided tours, sneak peeks or surprises to the visitors around you.

By getting involved, you could

- Use your smile and communication skills to help people feel at home
- Help make someone's visit one to remember
- Join an enthusiastic and varied team and make some new friends
- See National Trust properties from a whole new perspective.

What's involved?

- Making everyone welcome, answering questions about Scotney Castle and the Trust as a whole
- Helping if people ask, suggesting things that they might like to do during their visit
- Giving a quick introductory talk on the house, old castle or the garden for a group of visitors
- Leading guided tours of our collection stores that are not normally open to the public
- Offering visitors the opportunity for a sneak peak in our cellars

If interested contact Laura Edwards (Visitor Experience Manager)

Tel: 01892 893820

Email: Laura.Edwards1@nationaltrust.org.uk

"Loneliness is not having anyone to tell that you are lonely"

Janet, Silver Liner

"Just speaking to someone helps me cope a little better..."

David, Silver Liner



Opportunity Title: Community Engagement Volunteer

By volunteering as a Community Engagement Volunteer you will help us raise vital awareness of The Silver Line in your local community by giving talks, presentations and attending events on our behalf.

Did you know? In the UK, more than 1 million people aged over 65 say they often or always feels lonely. Through this role you will be helping us support the 1,000s of older people who use our service each week and ensuring we continue to reach out to those most in need.

This is a volunteer role that you undertake in your local community. All you need is access to a telephone and the internet. We ask for a commitment of up to a year where possible and the ability to allocate 60 minutes each week to this role. Community Engagement Volunteers need to be proactive in looking for opportunities to promote The Silver Line, be open to attending events we have been invited to go to, and share our enthusiasm and passion for raising awareness of a service which provides such a vital lifeline to so many older people across the country.

Opportunity Title: Signposting & Information Volunteer

By volunteering as a Signposting and Information volunteer you will support the many older people who use our service who also require additional services for which they may struggle to access otherwise. Volunteers will need to have excellent communication skills and a passion for signposting and advocacy.

The role is available from either our London or Blackpool office or alternatively can be undertaken from home. To see how The Silver Line makes a big difference search 'The Silver Line' on YouTube.

To be a Signposting and Information Volunteer you will need:

- Access to the internet and an email account
- To be able to commit a minimum of 2 hours per week (within the hours of 9am – 5pm, Monday - Friday) for up to a year.
- To be able to undertake internet based research on behalf of an older person

Opportunity Title: Silver Circle Facilitator

By volunteering as a Silver Circle Facilitator you will support a weekly telephone friendship group – a Silver Circle – for up to 6 older people each week. This is a volunteer role that you undertake from home. Volunteers will need to have excellent skills in managing group dynamics and have a desire to support older people through encouraging and facilitating friendly discussions.

All you need is access to a telephone and the internet. We ask for a commitment of up to a year where possible and the ability to facilitate the call on the same day and time each week between 8am and 8pm Monday - Friday.

"I love listening to the wonderful conversations the Silver Liners have in their groups. They share life experiences, what they have been up to during the week and lots more!"

Tess, Silver Circle Facilitator

The Silver Line website: <http://www.thesilverline.org.uk/>

The Silver Line Volunteering Page: <http://www.thesilverline.org.uk/get-involved/volunteering/>

Volunteers We Need You

Are you able to commit to a few hours on a regular or ad hoc basis?
Make a positive difference to someones life today - gardeners, admin,
life skills, drivers - just some of the opportunities available.

We would love to hear from you!

See our website www.kenwardtrust.org.uk and complete an
application form at 'Volunteer for us'



The kenward Trust was recognised as Kent Charity of the year 2017 and is a nationally respected service. The trust has been providing residential rehabilitation and recovery services for people with substance misuse issues for 50 years. We are based in Yalding near Maidstone in Kent.

Registered Charity no. 1146481, Registered in England no. 7931728

Kent Association for the Blind

Supporting sight impaired people to live independent lives



Befrienders

Volunteer befrienders are trained and supported to visit people in their own homes on a regular basis, offering companionship and support, for people who might otherwise spend days without seeing or speaking to anyone.

We are looking for some more volunteers to help with visiting people in the Tunbridge Wells area. At the moment we have a number of people who I am looking to match.

We try our best to match people with similar interests and at the moment I am looking for someone to visit someone who likes dogs, but no longer owns one, an elderly lady who would like poetry read to her and another lady who likes antiques and gardens. These are just a few of the many, give me a call to find out more.

If you have a couple of hours' a month to spare then please get in touch. Training is provided and we reimburse expenses.

If you'd like to help, but are unable to commit to a regular visit, then we are looking for volunteers to become telephone befrienders where you would phone someone for a chat on a regular basis.

Sevenoaks Social Club

Just 4 hours a month of your help could save our Social Club in Sevenoaks from closing down. The group is a small group of roughly 10-15 regular attendees and they enjoy a quiz, speaker, musical entertainment, exercise activity or anything you can possibly think of and we are certainly keen to have new ideas!

Sevenoaks Blind Club meet just once a month, on the third Monday of the month in the Community Centre between 2-4 pm. However, without support from volunteers we will not be able to keep this club running, and for many this club offers an opportunity to people to get together that are at a real risk of social isolation.

The role includes designing an entertainment programme, booking entertainers, chatting to clients, helping with a raffle, helping with refreshments – it does not include any personal care duties.

For more information please contact Jo Wilkinson at KAB on 01622 691357 or email jo.wilkinson@kab.org.uk.

We Are Recruiting Volunteers!

We are looking for enthusiastic & inspiring people to join
YMCA West Kent

We have some exciting opportunities to join our friendly,
dynamic and caring teams

Part Time Van Assistants / delivery and warehousing

Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells Furniture Stores

Part Time Retail volunteers

Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells Furniture Stores

Part Time Youth Workers (afternoons/evening)

Tonbridge & Malling and Tunbridge Wells Area

Admin Volunteer

Tonbridge

For more information and full Job Descriptions please contact
Karen Warner on 01892 542209
or email karen.warner@westkentymca.org.uk

YMCA enables people to develop their full potential in mind, body and spirit. Inspired by, and faithful to, our Christian values, we create supportive, inclusive and energising communities, where young people can truly belong, contribute and thrive.

SUPPORT & ADVICE

ACCOMMODATION

FAMILY WORK

HEALTH & WELLBEING

TRAINING & EDUCATION

YMCA West Kent | Tel 01892 542209 | Fax 08712 390677 | Email info@WestKentYMCA.org.uk

Mailing address - Head Office, YMCA Tower House, Vale Rise, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1TB

www.WestKentYMCA.org.uk | Company Limited by Guarantee No 2512960 | Registered Charity No 803529

Registered Office - Head Office, YMCA Ryder House, 1-23 Belgrave Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2BP

Antiques & Museums Visitor Volunteer - Edenbridge

Are you the next David Dickinson or Tim Wonnacott? Do you love exploring museums and historical buildings? If so, this opportunity is perfect for you! In this role you will be supporting a 61-year-old gentlemen in Edenbridge, Kent who loves visiting museums, going to the theatre and going shopping - especially to antique fairs!

As a Mencap Visiting Service volunteer, you will be visiting a person with a learning disability in their local community to spend time with them doing the things they want to do. You will be reducing social isolation, helping them to form relationships and supporting them to enjoy activities.

In your role as a Mencap Volunteer Visitor you will make 6 visits per year to your matched beneficiary. These visits are flexible. Each visit is unique to the individual being supported. Please note that this is a long-term opportunity to take place at weekends.

For more information about the role and how to apply, please click on this link:

<https://jobs.mencap.org.uk/vacancies/7153/antiques--museums-visitor-volunteer--edenbridge.html>

What are the benefits of volunteering with Mencap

Relevant training

Induction to the service and volunteer role

A settling in period to make sure this is the right role for you

To feel fully supported in your role

Agreed out-of-pocket expenses to be reimbursed (e.g. travel)

The opportunity to meet new people and be part of a diverse team

The opportunity to learn new skills

To feel appreciated and valued for my contribution

Ongoing support from Volunteer Services Coordinator



Compaid

Opportunities for disabled people

Help us to make a difference

Compaid is a charity based in Paddock Wood supporting disabled people in a variety of ways, and we are looking for volunteers to assist our work.



Join our **Volunteer Computer Trainers** who support our clients to discover the magic of computers in a relaxed and informal way, and help individuals to gain in confidence and ability.

Become an **Arts & Crafts Volunteer** and share your passion for art & craft and inspire a group of people to discover the fun and sense of achievement that making or painting something brings.



Become a **Music Volunteer** for our exciting new project offering clients an opportunity to explore and enjoy music, including playing instruments and singing, and to learn new IT skills using recording and editing software.

Join our team of **Volunteer Minibus Drivers** providing a vital lifeline to many disabled people, helping them to remain as independent as possible.



Join our dynamic Board as a **Trustee**. The Board meetings are held four times a year in Paddock Wood and each Trustee is also expected to serve on a quarterly sub-committee.

If you have a few spare hours a week we want to hear from you.

To find out more contact:

Judith Williams, H R Administrator

t: 01892 834539

e: judith.williams@compaid.org.uk

www.compaid.org.uk

Registered charity no: 1064160



Volunteer Mini Bus Driver

Alzheimer's and Dementia Support Services are looking for Volunteer Mini Bus Drivers to do a morning and afternoon drive for us, once a week. We are looking for caring and sensitive individuals who would be willing to drive our Day Support Clients to and from our Day Support Suite on Coldharbour Road, Northfleet, to their own homes. Our Day Support service enables people living with dementia to socialise and enjoy person centred and meaningful activities. This role would be critical to enable people living with dementia to live well and be part of community life.

Alzheimer's and Dementia Support Services:

We are Kent's biggest independent charity dedicated to providing support services for people living with dementia. With 25 years of experience in the Dartford, Gravesham and Swanley area we have a local reputation for providing excellence in dementia care. We offer a wide range of services and our team work approach enables us to support the people who use our services in a person centred and proactive way. We believe that people living with dementia should be at the heart of everything we do and our values of respect, honesty and being person centred enable us to do that.

Tasks:

- To drive a mini bus to collect our Day Support clients in the morning and take them home in the afternoon.
- To support our clients to safely embark and disembark from the mini bus.
- To report any maintenance or safety issues with the drive route or mini bus to the Transport Coordinator.

Benefits offered:

- Induction programme
- Additional optional 'in house' training
- Ongoing support
- Expenses paid
- Full insurance cover
- Volunteer recognition events

If you are interested in this or any of our other volunteering roles please contact Eve Wilkinson on 01474 533990 or eve.wilkinson@alz-dem.org.

THE GOOD COMPANIONS

Where friends meet, eat and drink.

Committee Members Needed

The Good Companions Club meet in the New Telegraph Club, Priory Road, Tonbridge.

In order to keep the Club viable the Committee are seeking volunteers in their 40's or 50's to join the Management Committee to assist many long serving members who are now approaching their 80's with a view to succession planning. The Club also seeks volunteer drivers to replace those who have died or retired so that housebound members can continue to enjoy the monthly social evenings run by the Club.

Please phone the Chairman Jan Powis on 01732 355676 for further details.

The Sue Ryder Charity Shop in Tunbridge Wells is looking for several new volunteers. The positions are varied - working in the shop, in the back and on admin. You must be aged 16+ and NVQs in retail may be available for volunteers if they fit the criteria. Good for those before a return to work.

If you are interested contact Kim Lazari, Shop Manager on 01892 517 997 or email kim.lazari@suerydercare.org.

The logo for Sue Ryder, featuring the name 'Sue Ryder' in a blue, cursive script font.

incredible care
for incurable illness

Can you spare some time this Christmas?

20th - 27th December

At Burrswood Health and Wellbeing, our annual Christmas House Party welcomes those who would otherwise be spending Christmas on their own.

To enable our guests to have the best experience, we rely on a band of volunteers who come in at different times throughout the week.

Could you be one of these volunteers this year?

**For more information telephone 01892 863637
or email haritha.pattabhi@burrswood.org.uk**

www.burrswood.org.uk



Imago has a variety of volunteering opportunities available for you to share your skills, meet new people and make a difference locally. A selection of our opportunities are below. For more information and an application form please contact volunteering@imago.community with information about the role you are interested in. We look forward to hearing from you.

Tunbridge Wells:

Do you have a head for numbers?

The finance team are looking for someone available one day a week (Mon or Fri) to assist with a project. The role involves compiling the project income and expenditure.

Do you love driving?

Car owner-drivers are welcome to join the Dial 2 Drive team taking older people or those unable to access public transport due to illness to their appointments. The role is totally flexible to work around your other plans. A DBS and references will be taken up, expenses are reimbursed and you will get to meet some amazing local residents and support them in their quest for independence.

Are you a people person?

Our charity shops have vacancies to help raise funds to support the work of Imago. If you like customers, are happy sorting and pricing donated goods and have a can-do attitude we have the role for you. Shifts are Mon-Fri 9am-1pm and 1-5pm at the main shop in Monson Road or 10am-2pm at the Emporium in Crescent Road. This is a great opportunity to build retail skills.

Good on the phone?

If you are good at answering the phone and taking messages from older passengers to book drives then Dial 2 Drive could have the role for you. Based in the booking Hub you will take bookings by phone, enter them into a database and contact potential volunteer drivers to do the trips. Then a phone call to the passenger to confirm their driver completes the process. The role is one session a week either 9-12noon or 12-3pm Mon-Fri. There are other admin tasks such as envelope filling when it is invoice sending time if you are happy with additional elements.

Sevenoaks:

Do you love driving?

Car owner-drivers are welcome to join the Dial 2 Drive team taking older people or those unable to access public transport due to illness to their appointments. The role is totally flexible to work around your other plans. A DBS and references will be taken up, expenses are reimbursed and you will get to meet some amazing local residents and support them in their quest for independence.

Is admin a role for you?

Would you like to join the Care Navigator Team and assist with an office role collecting satisfaction surveys? This role involves computers, post and compiling information gathered. Based in our office in Sevenoaks you will work as part of a small team. There may be other admin tasks as required including research.



Tonbridge:

Do you love driving?

Car owner-drivers are welcome to join the Dial 2 Drive team taking older people or those unable to access public transport due to illness to their appointments. The role is totally flexible to work around your other plans. A DBS and references will be taken up, expenses are reimbursed and you will get to meet some amazing local residents and support them in their quest for independence.

Gravesham:

Can you be a team player?

Are you free once a fortnight after school time? Our Short Breaks for Disabled Children service runs Youth Cafes where young people with a range of disabilities enjoy games, meeting new people, learning new things and having fun! The young people are aged 8-15 and are an active group. Volunteers are aged 14+.

To find out more about volunteering in your local community,
please get in touch

Tonbridge, Sevenoaks, Tunbridge Wells



@Volunteering_WK



VolunteeringWK

volunteering@imago.community

01892 530330

www.imago.community