

West Kent Volunteer Centre



Why do people volunteer and why do they stop?

Every year a publication called the UK Civil Society Almanac gives us facts and figures about the voluntary sector. The 2018 edition is due in May but some information about volunteering has been released early. They asked volunteers why they volunteer. Almost half (49%) got involved because they wanted to improve things or help others. People also got involved because the cause was important to them (32%) and when they had spare time to do it (28%). Less frequently, people volunteered to get on in their career (7%) or to get a recognised qualification (2%).

People stop volunteering due to changed home or work circumstances (51%), and 14% of respondents because it took up too much time. Almost a quarter (24%) said that they only got involved in a one-off event or activity. Other reasons included moving out of the area (12%) and health problems or old age (11%).

Do you volunteer and if not is it because you haven't yet found anything that is right for you? Take a look inside this month's newsletter and you might find something you'd like to do. To talk to our team call 01892 530330 or email volunteering@imago.community.



THE RACE IS ON!!! CRAZY JEANS NEEDS YOU!

A giant charity soapbox cart race is roaring into Tunbridge Wells in 2018 and we would love YOU to get involved.

Fifty teams will go head to head in a nail-biting, exhilarating race in Dunorlan Park on May 5th to raise money for charities Hospice in the Weald and ellenor.

It's going to be a fun family day out with karts raced by local businesses and some schools.

There are lots of volunteer roles available. If you are interested in getting involved contact Katie Gardner, Area Fundraiser at ellenor by phone on 01474 320007 or email Katie.Gardner@ellenor.org.





Support and friendship
for families

Home-Start
South West Kent

Could you help turn someone's life around?

When Home-Start meets a family, lives change

Home-Start's volunteers visit families in their own homes.

Support can be offered for a variety of reasons including:
isolation, multiple birth, parental or child illness, disability and parenting
issues.

We work using a non-judgemental approach offering practical and emotional
support to build the families confidence and increase their ability to cope
with lifes ups and downs.

If you know about being a parent, are patient and understanding and can
volunteer for a few hours a week to help a family, you could become part of
our local Home-Start team supporting families across South West Kent.

*Apply now to join our free Preparation Course starting in May offering
information, self-development and transferable skills.*

For more information please telephone, Lisa or Lollie
on 01892 524916, or email home-startswk@btconnect.com

Registered Charity No. 1105047 Company No. 5104961





*"Volunteering at Burrswood has
Changed my life."
Danielle*

*Join our team of volunteers and like
Danielle, it could change your life...*

We provide full support and training and are flexible
about when you volunteer.

Get in touch today

Telephone: 01892 865978 or visit

www.burrswood.org.uk/supportus/volunteering

Burrswood 
Health and Wellbeing



Charitique

**NOW
OPEN**

Visit Charitique

a new charity shop in Camden Road
Tunbridge Wells offering vintage goods
along with craft and woodwork items made
by our Kenward Trust residents.

Donations & volunteers needed!



Please call
01622 814187
or find us on
 **/Charitique**


Kenward Trust
transforming lives, creating new futures



Part of Kenward Trust

Kenward Trust is a charity providing residential substance and alcohol rehabilitation and recovery services for men and women at locations across Kent and East Sussex.



National
Trust

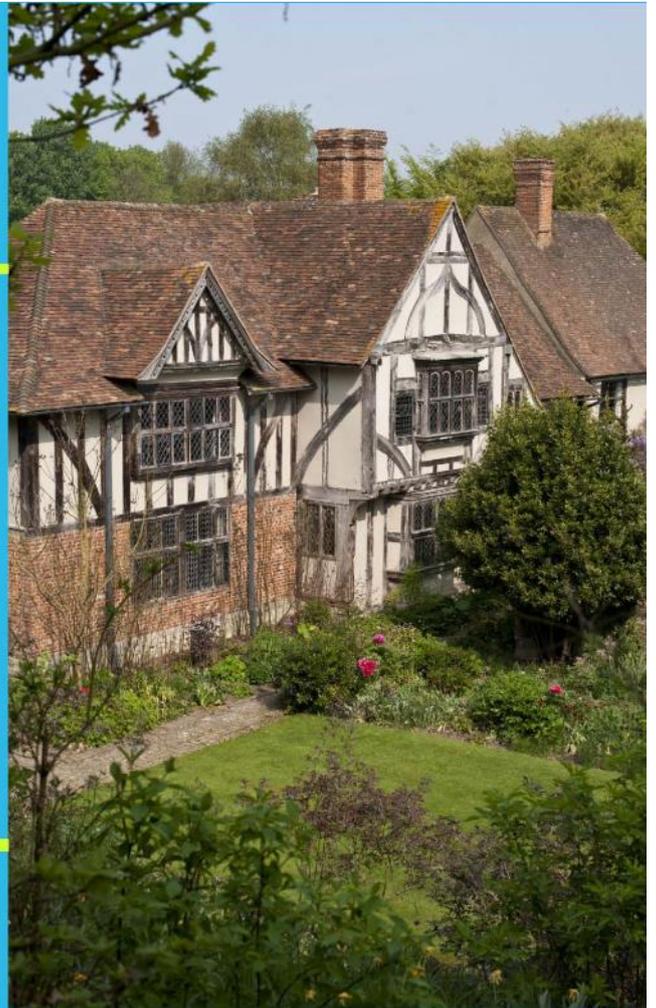
Looking for your next adventure?

Whether you want to put years of skills and experience towards our cause or just want to try something brand new.

Our team is full of inspiring people from all walks of life who get a real buzz from working and learning together.

We're currently looking for volunteer room guides to bring Stoneacre to life for our visitors on Saturdays and Bank Holiday Mondays.

If you'd like more information, please contact Kate Dickinson on Sissinghurst@nationaltrust.org.uk or 01580710700



New experiences this year at Sissinghurst Castle Garden

We are looking for new volunteers to join our team at Sissinghurst.

If you enjoy meeting people, learning new things and spending time in beautiful surroundings there could be a role for you

We have opportunities at times to suit the school run (11–2.30) and we don't ask for a minimum commitment—just give what time you can

For more information contact us on
email: sissinghurst@nationaltrust.org.uk
phone: 01580 710 700
nationaltrust.org.uk/Sissinghurst





Eden Valley Museum

A social history museum in West Kent

The Eden Valley Museum is a community-based museum which serves the community with the support of dedicated volunteers who contribute to the running of the Museum in a number of areas.

Interested in becoming a volunteer?

The Museum welcomes volunteers with interests in the following:

- [Museum Steward](#)
- [Learning Volunteer](#)
- [Research / Oral History Volunteer](#)
- [Historic Walk Leader](#)

If you would like to know more about becoming a volunteer, please contact the Museum on 01732 868102.

Become a Trustee

Would you like to play an active role in shaping the future of the Eden Valley Museum? Put your skills to good use and take advantage of a challenging but enjoyable and rewarding opportunity to become a Trustee.

The Executive Committee welcomes enquiries from people with experience in fundraising, education and audience development, marketing, and information technology.

If you would like to know more about becoming a Trustee, please contact the Museum on 01732 868102 or email: curator@evmt.org.uk



Volunteer role of the month at Knole Showrooms room guide



John Welch is a Showrooms room guide.

“I wanted to spend at least part of my retirement surrounded by history. This gives me the opportunity to indulge my thirst for historical knowledge. I’m particularly interested in how the owners of Knole impacted on the history of our nation.”

“Knole is medieval, atmospheric and bohemian. There really is something for everyone here.”

If you would like more information on the Showrooms room guide volunteer role, please contact the volunteer co-ordinators on knolehouseteam@nationaltrust.org.uk or 01732 467159. Other volunteer opportunities include: Premises Front of House, Visitor Welcomers, Studio Room Guide, Park Walk Leader, Events Volunter, Archaeology Team and Plant Assistant.



Would you like to join our trustee board? We're looking for talented, experienced individuals to join the board of trustees at St George's – an Ofsted 'outstanding' childcare provider and registered charity in Tunbridge Wells.

About St George's: We have been providing affordable childcare to our community in Tunbridge Wells for more than 35 years. We care for children aged 3 months to 12 years in our nursery, term-time preschool, after school and holiday club. We are the only nursery in Tunbridge Wells to provide subsidised childcare to families in need. It means we can support vulnerable children and families who are struggling due to financial difficulties, domestic abuse, mental illness, disability and other difficulties. Our subsidised places are funded through grants from trusts and foundations, donations from corporations, community groups and individuals and fundraising events.

About the role: In this voluntary role, you'll play an instrumental role in leading the business and charity into success and growth. Our board provides overall governance and guidance to St George's Childcare, ensuring that it fulfils its objectives and complies with current charitable and company legislation. Whilst the board are not expected to be experts in any particular field, they are expected to seek advice when appropriate, in order to protect the interests and assets of the organization. The board is obliged to act collectively and decisions and responsibilities are shared.

Time commitment

Once appointed we ask you to:

- Attend our monthly board meeting, which takes place in the evening
- Attend our Annual General Meeting
- Be available on email, approx. one hour of your time per week
- Prepare for meetings including reading relevant documents e.g. policies and proposals

We also encourage you to carry out visits to St George's to allow you to get to know staff and support our organisation.

If you feel your experience and skills could be useful to our organisation we would like to hear from you. **To find out more please contact** Adrian Crouch:

Adrian.crouch@stgeorgesboard.co.uk or call 07801 910267.

Compaid

Opportunities for disabled people

Compaid is seeking a number of new Trustees to join our dynamic Board, as we continue to develop our services and support to disabled and other vulnerable people in and around Kent.

Our Trustees are responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of Compaid, its financial health, the probity of its activities and developing its aims, objectives and goals in accordance with the governing document, legal and regulatory guidelines.

We are particularly seeking individuals with experience in one or more of the following sectors:

- Digital Inclusion
- Information Technology
- Community Transport
- Local and/or National Government
- Fundraising
- HR
- Legal Affairs

Compaid Board meetings are held four times a year, and each Trustee is also expected to serve on a quarterly sub-committee, overseeing either finance and fundraising, business development or governance issues.

If you would like more information about the Trustee vacancies at Compaid, please visit our website at www.compaid.org.uk or contact our Chief Executive, Stephen Elsdon, by email at stephenelsden@compaid.org.uk.

Compaid Trust is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England with company registration number 3400811 and charity registration number 1064160. Registered Office Unit 1 Eastlands, Maidstone Road, Paddock Wood, Kent, TN12 6BU



Kent Community Health

NHS Foundation Trust

CURRENT VOLUNTEER VACANCIES – KENT COMMUNITY HEALTH NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Meet & Greet Volunteer - Podiatry Department, Vicarage Lane, Ashford, TN23 1NJ

We require someone for 2 hours per session on a Tuesday and Thursday am or pm.
The volunteer will be required to meet & greet clients and their carers/relatives when they attend for their appointment.
To be a friendly face that ensures the client is kept at ease if there is a wait for their appointment. To administer the Meridian patient satisfaction survey via the iPad with the client following their appointment.

Meet and Greet Volunteer – Podiatry Department, East Cross Clinic, Recreation Ground Road, Tenterden, TN30 6RA

We require someone for 2 hours per session on a Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday am or pm.
The volunteer will be required to meet & greet clients and their carers/relatives when they attend for their appointment.
To be a friendly face that ensures the client is kept at ease if there is a wait for their appointment. To administer the Meridian patient satisfaction survey via the iPad with the client following their appointment.

Admin & Clerical Volunteer - Cranbrook Community Clinic, Jockey Lane, Cranbrook, TN17 3JN

A volunteer is required for 2 hours per week between Monday and Friday am or pm. The role is to assist the staff in the general organisation of the office, preparing documentation and equipment such as gloves and aprons for the nurses to take out on their rounds.

Meet & Greet, Reception, the Heathside Centre, Coxheath, Maidstone, ME17 4AH

To provide a positive 'meet and greet' facility for clients and their carers/relatives when attending for a clinic appointment at the Centre.

To support their access needs through providing information and minimal practical support, e.g. ensuring they knew where the toilets were and ensuring they could gain access.

To raise any concerns that the client or their carer/relative shares to the clinician holding the clinic

To support the clinician with any minor clerical tasks, such as scanning documents and attaching to client records

To administer the patient satisfaction survey following the clinic appointment via an iPad or advising as to other forms of accessing this (provide cards to identify online access or complete on paper with the client)

Tea Bar & Shop Volunteers - Sevenoaks Hospital & Gravesham Community Hospital

We have a vacancy on a Tuesday at Gravesham Community Hospital and vacancies for various times at Sevenoaks Community Hospital. The role will include customer service, cash handling, stock control and stock rotation.

At Sevenoaks Hospital it will include making hot drinks.

Please contact Maria S Swaby, Voluntary Services Manager, Tel: 01474 360508 or email kchft.volunteerservices@nhs.net or maria.swaby@nhs.net



9a High Street, Lenham, Kent, ME17 2QD

01622 851200

lenham@cropkent.org.uk

www.cropkent.org.uk

CROP is a Kent wide registered charity providing Information and Advice and Advocacy to older people in their homes. Our aims are to support clients in their decision making and interactions in order for them to stay well and self-manage their own affairs, to ensure they exercise the same rights as other consumers, to prevent abuse and resist ageism.

We are embarking upon a period of development and growth and wish to recruit new members to our Board of Trustees. We are seeking Volunteers who have an interest/ experience in financial management, fund raising, marketing and organisational change, to promote the health and welfare of older people through the current period of economic and social change.

Interested? Please contact us without delay at the above address.



Getting involved with the Witness Service

The Witness Service is a volunteer-led service offering support to witnesses giving evidence in court. We also offer specialist support to Vulnerable and Intimidated Witnesses via our Outreach programme, and we're currently looking for new volunteers across Kent to provide this valuable service.

Outreach volunteers are supported by a dedicated Team Leader, and work alongside other volunteers to help prepare and support vulnerable witnesses, including children and those with learning difficulties, as well as victims of domestic or sexual violence. Volunteers meet with witnesses prior to the trial date, and take them into court for a familiarisation visit in advance. They also support witnesses when they give evidence in court or via video link, and meet them again after the trial. We are looking for caring, committed, flexible and non-judgmental people with good communication skills to join us. For more information, please contact Emma Manwaring, Team Leader, on 07584 489 294 or email emma.manwaring@citizensadvice.org.uk.

To access the full role description for an Outreach Volunteer, or to apply for a role, use the following link: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/citizens-advice-witness-service/>

Macular Society

The Macular Society Support Group in Tunbridge Wells is urgently looking for 1 or more volunteers to assist and engage with its sight impaired members at their monthly meetings (not Jan or Aug) at St Augustine's Church, Crescent Road, Tunbridge Wells from 10.30 – 12.30. Meetings are held on the first Thursday.

Help is needed with room preparation, welcoming members, refreshments and, on occasions, escorting members to their pre-arranged transport after the meeting. Membership is around 12 to 18 all of whom are retired and who enjoy conversation and humour. Why not drop in for a coffee to see what your role might entail should you decide to join us? The next meeting is on Thursday 5th April. If you would like to know more, please contact Trish: on 01435 872924 or email trishmandy@btinternet.com



Volunteer with us

✪ Join our friendly Tunbridge Wells team ✪

CURRENT VACANCIES

SHOP ASSISTANTS:

- **Serving customers**
- **Operating the till**
- **Stock merchandising**
- **Processing stock**
- **Registering Gift Aid donors**

For further information
please call 01892 822168
and speak to Sue Lawrence
or email

reception@pepenbury.info

Imago opportunities

The **Imago charity shops** in Tunbridge Wells are looking for volunteers to support the shops over the summer holidays. The main shop at 19 Monson Road is a busy shop with regular donations of goods to sort and sell so if you like a busy environment this is for you. Our shop just around the corner at 14 Crescent Road is quieter and sells books, music, film, collectables and a limited selection of clothing.

If you are good with customers, would like to share a few hours a week in either of our friendly shops then please pop in for an application form (19 Monson Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1LS) or email volunteering@imago.community. Funds raised support Imago services including young carers, children with disabilities and older people.

Dial 2 Drive is looking for volunteers to drive their own cars and take scheme members to their medical/social appointments in the following areas: Tonbridge, Gravesham, Dartford, Tunbridge Wells and Westerham. If you have a car and a few hours to share please visit <http://www.imago.community/Community-Services/Dial2Drive/Volunteer>, email volunteering@imago.community or call 01892 530330.



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