

Here are a few volunteering opportunities currently available in the Downpatrick area. For a full selection of opportunities, have a look at the Opportunity Search on volunteernow.co.uk If you need any assistance finding or registering for an opportunity, let us know and we can help!

Volunteer Caseworker – SSAFA (Co. Down)



Would you like to support people who have served in the Armed Forces? You don't need a military background, just the ability to listen, some basic I.T skills and good written and spoken English. If so, this could be the role for you. Caseworkers work with clients to figure out what type of help they need. Next, they find the right sources of support and arrange for clients to access it. This might be funds for special equipment for someone with a disability, adaptations to a property so an older client can remain at home or funds for a rental deposit. Caseworkers also sign-post clients onto specialist local services for advice on benefits, housing, mental health, debt, finding work etc. For more info: <https://tinyurl.com/yd49znre>

Garden Allotment Volunteer - Downpatrick Community Allotments



Volunteers will have the opportunity to learn basic plant skills, including how to correctly care for and water plants. You will be able to grow from seed and transplant to baskets and tubs. For more info: <https://tinyurl.com/4z2eufke>

Various Volunteering Roles – National Trust South Down (Downpatrick)



Group Walking Volunteer Are you passionate about walking and inspiring others to get active, outdoors and connect with nature? We are creating a team to support setting up and delivering walks across our beautiful countryside around Castle Ward.

Retail Volunteer Castle Ward Giftshop Everyone likes a bit of retail therapy, don't they? Retail volunteers love helping visitors and telling them the story of our products. Through their sales, volunteers are helping the National Trust look after special places for everyone.

Retail Volunteer Castle Ward Bookshop Do you a good thriller? Or are you more a romantic? Our bookshop volunteers know where to find the poetry section, or the holiday reads, and love helping our visitors to find something they will enjoy. You could be the right person to join our team of dedicated bookshop volunteers!

Accessibility Buggy Driver Drivers are the Formula 1 stars of National Trust – just with a bit less speed! They help visitors who might struggle to get to and from the car park, as some of our historic places weren't built to be pedestrian-friendly! Enthusiasm and a current driving licence required!



Hearing Aid support Volunteer SEHSCT– RNID (Downpatrick)

What you'll be doing Main activities 1. Maintaining hearing aids 2. Helping people check their hearing 3. Informing people 4. Meeting and greeting 5. Administration. Help us offer a free, in-person drop-in service for people who are deaf, have hearing loss or tinnitus, or want to get their hearing checked. For more info: <https://tinyurl.com/ynb3femk>

For more information about volunteering in the **Newry, Mourne & Down** areas contact our Volunteering Support Officer:

- Clara O'Callaghan: 07999 118485 / Clara.O'Callaghan@volunteernow.co.uk; or
- Contact our Head Office: 028 9023 2020 / info@volunteernow.co.uk

Information correct at time of publication



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Volunteer Befriender Home Visits – SEHSCT — Co. Down

Complement the delivery of services within the South Eastern Trust and enhance patient / client care, and quality of life by reducing social isolation and loneliness. The role offers an opportunity to build friendships with older people, to help them improve their quality of life, a chance to contribute invaluable to their local community and increase their own circle of friends. **Friendship / Befriending** Regularly visit your patient / client in their own home for a chat and companionship' to (to reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation) and subsequently arrange to take them out to other venues that offer opportunities for friendship and camaraderie. For more info: <https://tinyurl.com/4pmbjka2>



NI Ambulance Service
Health and Social Care Trust

NI Ambulance Service Volunteer Car Driver – NI Ambulance Service

As a Northern Ireland Ambulance Service Volunteer Car Driver you will transport in your own car those non-emergency patients that do not require an ambulance to and from their health care teams for their medical treatment and care. This is a personally rewarding and fulfilling opportunity to help patients in your community. Flexible to fit in with other aspects of your life. For more info: <https://tinyurl.com/52n24n6h>



New Branches Network Volunteer — National Autistic Society

We are keen to expand our branches network across Northern Ireland . We are looking for branch chairs to lead the way with setting up some new branches. **Do you have a few hours a month to give to volunteering?** This role can fit around your responsibilities, and you can decide when and how you would like to volunteer. There is flexibility on the amount of the time you give too. We know our volunteers have busy lives and we do our best to fit around you. The role is fully supported by the regional Senior Branch Engagement Officer and the other branch volunteers. You will receive full guidance and training for everything you'll need to do. For more info: <https://tinyurl.com/4j3vmhzn>



Helpline Volunteer — MS Society UK

Are you a good listener? More than 130,000 people live with multiple sclerosis (MS) in the UK. Every one of them shares the uncertainty of life with MS. People are most likely to find out they have MS in their thirties, forties and fifties; news that can be worrying and heart breaking. MS can get steadily worse, or symptoms can come and go unpredictably throughout someone's life. **Could you spare two or three hours a week to provide emotional support and information to those affected by MS?** If so, the MS Helpline team would like to hear from you. We're the UK charity for people with MS. We're fighting for better treatment and care to help people with MS take control of their lives, and we're funding research that we believe will stop MS for good. We've already made important breakthroughs, and big advances in MS treatments are possible within our lifetimes. With your support, we will stop MS. For more info: <https://tinyurl.com/365wyrx9>

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