



Volunteer newsletter



Spring 2025

Welcome to our newsletter for volunteers throughout Northern Ireland

The personal ask!

Recent research has again highlighted that the majority of people volunteer because they have been personally asked or because a cause/community has impacted on them. Within Volunteer Now we have limited resources to make that personal ask so we use other forms to encourage people to volunteer; this includes our social media channels, information stands, promotional material, etc. You might have noticed over the last few months that we have been spotlighting volunteers and their organisations in order to make volunteering real and to let people see that they could do it too as well as the positive impact it has on themselves as well as those they support.

We would love your help!

If you have found that perfect role then why don't you share your story with others - tell people what you do, why you do it and how to get involved. You don't need to be in front of a camera but maybe its a chat over a coffee, or at school pick up time or in the post office queue. You could inspire someone locally to get involved to make a difference too!

Volunteering opportunities at The Balmoral Show

Wednesday 14th – Saturday 17th May 2025

The Balmoral Show is the major event in the agriculture/food calendar in Northern Ireland and has been taking place for 155 years. It's a fun event that attracts both rural and urban visitors from all over Ireland and the UK. It attracts around 15,000 visitors each year and runs over 4 days.

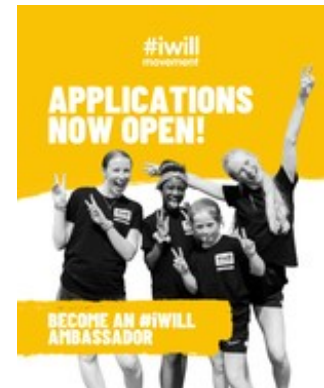


We are recruiting volunteers to help at this event, the main role will be to meet and greet visitors, help them to find their way around and help with visitor questions regarding what's on.

At this stage, we are simply taking expressions of interest to volunteer, and to sign up, please do so [here](#).

#iwill Ambassador Recruitment

#iwill is a youth led movement that empowers, supports and amplifies youth social action across the whole of the United Kingdom. Volunteer Now have been the delivery partners of the #iwill movement in Northern Ireland for last decade, directly supporting ambassadors and champions alike.



Each year, a new group of Ambassadors aged 10-24 years old are recruited to join the movement and become the leading voices for young people. Through social action, Ambassadors inspire other young people to join the movement, and collaborate with partners and organisations, playing a pivotal role in shaping and leading change. Ambassadors are provided with exclusive opportunities which develop valuable lifelong leadership skills, through the enhanced support offered by #iwill.

2025 Ambassador applications are now open!

Click [here](#) to find out more and apply, or contact Matthew, our Volunteering Participation Officer, at matthew.williams@volunteernow.co.uk

Age 55+ and living in Belfast?

Join us for an afternoon of information, volunteering, music, dancing, refreshments and much more!

Tuesday 25 March 2025

12:30pm to 2:00pm

At 2 Royal Avenue, Belfast.



Followed by a Tea Dance from 2:00-4:00pm

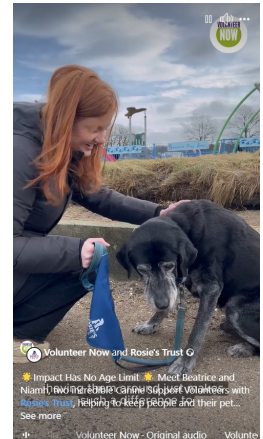
We'd love to see you there! (no booking necessary)

This event is funded by the Public Health Agency.

Share your volunteering story!

If you follow Volunteer Now on social media you will hopefully have seen one of our series of volunteer videos! Would YOU share your volunteering journey so we can inspire others to get involved?

We would especially love to show that there doesn't need to be barriers to getting involved in volunteering – so you might be a wheelchair user, or perhaps you're not originally from Northern Ireland, or maybe you've gained skills in your volunteering that helps with employability!



Let us know if you would like to get involved - contact Kate, our Digital Media Assistant: kate.jackson@volunteernow.co.uk

[Click here](#) to see one of our wee videos just so you know what to expect!

Volunteering at Events & Festivals

Volunteer at some of the great events taking place across Northern Ireland! There are lots of large and small events and festivals that just couldn't take place without the support of volunteers. Have a look at our [Events Calendar](#) to see what's coming up. Most of these are one-off events - bring a friend and enjoy the craic!



And if there's nothing there you fancy at the minute, check back in a week or two as this calendar is always being added to!

Need training as a volunteer?

Did you know that Volunteer Now offers training to volunteers as well as to your organisation? Check out our [training calendar](#) for courses that may be of interest, e.g. the keeping safe training for staff and volunteers, befriending and more!

Featured volunteering opportunities

To apply for any opportunities on our website, click 'apply now' and enter your details on the Be Collective platform. Your details are then sent directly to the organisation advertising the opportunity and they will come back to you with more information.

Belfast Trust Volunteer Team - [Gardener](#) (Antrim Road, Belfast)

WWT Castle Espie - [Wildlife Photographer](#), [Events & Visitors Photographer](#) or [Videographer](#) (Comber)

The Brain Injury Foundation - [Arts & Crafts Enthusiast](#) (Newry)

NI Chest Heart & Stroke - [PREP Service volunteer](#) (Enniskillen)

RSPB NI - [Volunteer Driver](#) (LIFE Raft project, Ballycastle)

Horn of Africa People's Aid NI - [ESOL English Tutor](#) (Belfast)

Eastside Partnership - [Walking Group Leaders](#) (Belfast)

Newry SureStart - [Playgroup Volunteer](#) (Newry)

Down Community Transport - Volunteer Driver in [Castlewellan](#) or [Newcastle](#)

South Antrim Community Transport - [Volunteer Driver](#)

Find a full selection of volunteering opportunities by using the [Opportunity Search](#) on our website

Need some inspiration? Have a look at some of the [latest volunteering opportunities](#) in your area.

Need any help finding opportunities? Email info@volunteernow.co.uk - just let us know where you live and we can send you a few opportunity suggestions

Step by Step Guides

We have put together a quick guide to using your volunteering account on Be Collective and how to search for volunteering opportunities. You'll find it on our website at www.volunteernow.co.uk/volunteering/inspire-me/



If you are aged **under 16**, there is a slightly different application process due to child protection issues and you can find the guide for younger volunteers at <https://www.volunteernow.co.uk/volunteering/youth-volunteering/young-volunteers/>

If you need any help searching for opportunities or with using your Be Collective account, please let us know - contact info@volunteernow.co.uk or phone 028 9023 2020

And don't forget, if you are under 25 years, the Volunteer Now Impact Awards can recognise you for your commitment. Simply join the [Volunteer Now Impact Awards group](#) once you've signed up on Be Collective and remember to tick the box to share your hours.



Get social with us!



We love it when you interact with us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) and share opportunities and news with your friends and family! (If you haven't visited us for a while, please do pop over and see what's new!!)

Feel free to share this newsletter too!

all links to volunteering opportunities are current at time of publication

www.volunteernow.co.uk



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