

# BULLETIN

...for volunteers

Autumn 2007

## Celebrating the Diversity of Volunteering in Tameside

Volunteer Centre Tameside and Tameside Third Sector Coalition recently hosted "The Face of Volunteering", an event to celebrate the diversity of volunteers in Tameside and the contribution they make to the local community.

The evening was designed for volunteers to relax and enjoy a varied range of entertainment, delicious food and an award ceremony for Volunteer Centre Tameside's Volunteer Award Scheme.

The official photos taken on the day are on show at the volunteer centre and copies are available to be ordered, call in to take a look and order yours.



We were recently featured in the Mayor's new Blog:

*On Wednesday I attended a special evening at Dukinfield Town Hall to mark Volunteers Week and also to celebrate Volunteering in Tameside. It was a lovely night and I was pleased to have the opportunity to acknowledge the work of the Borough's volunteers and to thank them for their service and their precious gift of time.*



[www.tameside.gov.uk/mayor/blog](http://www.tameside.gov.uk/mayor/blog)



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Volunteer Centre Tameside is a registered charity, number 514804

# LATEST VOLUNTARY OPPORTUNITIES

Cut out and take to the Volunteer Centre for more information

## Car Scheme Driver

*Volunteer Centre Tameside*

Volunteer Drivers use their own cars to transport people who due to illness, age or disability are unable to use public transport to get about, would struggle to use taxis, or would find using public transport too stressful due to mental ill-health.

Drivers would pick up the passenger from the passenger's home, take them to the destination and, in most cases wait with the passenger until they are ready to return home.

## Communication Support

*The Stroke Association*

The Stroke Association is the only national charity solely concerned with combating stroke in people of all ages.

An opportunity exists for a volunteer to provide assistance to people who have communication difficulties following a stroke in a group setting under the direction of the Communication Support Coordinator.

## Employability Skills

*Tameside Education Business Partnership*

Tameside Education Business Partnership coordinates workshops to be delivered by local employers or retired people.

The aim is to equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary for working life.

Each session is 30 minutes and the topics are:

- Job skills and interviews.
- Applying for a job.
- Communication and teamwork.

## Willow Wood Hospice

### Volunteer Shop Manager

*Willow Wood Hospice*

To oversee the running of the Willow Wood Hospice Charity Shop in Ashton-under-Lyne and to endeavour to ensure the opening of the shop at the appointed times.

To maintain the layout and overall standard of the shop and the appropriate display of goods and to take responsibility for cash, including banking on a daily basis & monitoring of all sales and stock control.

To supervise and support the work of the volunteers and to ensure that the shop is adequately manned with volunteers during opening hours.

### Volunteer Driver/Driver's Mate

*Willow Wood Hospice Charity Furniture Shop*

Volunteers are required to drive/accompany the driver of the Willow Wood Hospice van, picking up and delivering donated or sold furniture to and from the Willow Wood Furniture Shop and Warehouse.

Duties:

- To provide a good customer service to a high standard at all times
- To work out routes and then contact customers with approximate delivery and pick up time
- To uphold Willow Wood's public image whilst driving Willow Wood Hospice van, ensuring safe and competent driving at all times.
- Lifting and positioning of large items of furniture
- Full clean driving license, been driving for approximately 3 years
- The Willow Wood Hospice uniform and volunteer badge to be worn at all times, whilst volunteering

## Vehicle Cleaner

*Community Transport Manchester*

Community Transport Manchester provides occasional transport (minibus) to individual people in Greater Manchester, training (Midas) for people wishing to drive minibuses and group transport to voluntary, community and statutory organisations.

A volunteer is required to clean vehicles inside and out. Training and full protective clothing provided.

These and 100's of other chances to volunteer in Tameside await you at [www.do-it.org.uk](http://www.do-it.org.uk) or your local volunteer centre

## Volunteers Wanted

Are you aged 50 years or over and living in Tameside?  
Would you like to help make your community a better place to live by helping an older person to feel valued and safe and making sure they are getting the support they need?

You will meet new friends and enjoy yourself, learn about support services for older people in Tameside, be trained by Age Concern Tameside who will support you in your role and make sure that you have all the guidance and information you need to make a real difference to someone's life!

Your role will be to visit an older person in their home to conduct a Personalised Information Service. Full training will be given and expenses will be paid.

To date, we have recruited and trained 22 volunteer CORA Advisors who in the main are existing Age Concern volunteers. However, we are still looking for more volunteers! To become a volunteer CORA Advisor please contact the CORA coordinator on **0161 308 5007** or email: **cora@ageconcerntameside.com**

## Tameside Radio Launch Date

The long anticipated launch of Tameside Radio has been confirmed. Tameside's first and only dedicated radio service will be launched on Sunday 30th September.

The station has been three years in the planning, and will broadcast great music from the last five decades combined with essential information and community news.

Tameside Radio will broadcast across the whole of the borough. The studios will be in the West End of Ashton, in the Renewal Area. The station will have lots of local voices with over 80 volunteers and some well known names currently registered with the station.

Andy Hoyle, Tameside Radio's Head of Presentation and formerly Revolution Radio's breakfast presenter said "launch date is great news, a radio station totally dedicated to the listeners, communities and businesses of Tameside. The team is really looking forward to being both entertaining and informative. This will be a first class community radio station, putting Tameside on the dial as well as the map."

## Friendly People Wanted

HOST UK is looking for friendly people who would be interested having the occasional visit from an international student who is studying in the UK. We match hosts and students so that you know about each other and have something in common. The feedback shows that students love the experience: "Everything was perfect! From the first moment we met I felt very welcome and comfortable. My hosts were so friendly! We had lots to talk about and it was never boring" said a German student from King's College London.



Hosts volunteer to have international students for a day or a weekend visit occasionally or regularly to suit their lifestyle.

HOST is about finding out about each others' culture and making new friends: "It was much better than I expected! The hosts were really nice during the whole weekend. They taught me dozens of things about British culture and lifestyle that I'd never know if I hadn't been there. I enjoyed every second of my weekend" enthused a Spanish student from the University of Warwick.



Every host family is supported by a Regional Organiser and by the team at the HOST office. A small contribution is made towards your expenses. So if you would like to meet people from different lands and cultures, perhaps because you have travelled abroad yourself, or to broaden the kids' outlook, then why not become a HOST volunteer? For more information please see our website at **www.hostuk.org** or email: **info@hostuk.org**

# GMPA seeks volunteers

A pioneering scheme introduced by the Greater Manchester Police Authority (GMPA), the governing body for Greater Manchester Police (GMP), is looking for volunteers from the Tameside area.

The Appropriate Adult scheme, the first of its kind in the country, is a round the clock service run by volunteers aimed at supporting juveniles or vulnerable adults through custodial procedures. Volunteers attend within an hour and a half making the process much faster and reducing the time the detainee has to remain in custody.



There are currently 40 volunteers that have lent their support over 2,000 times to help young people or adults with mental ill health or learning disabilities through the distress or pressures that the experience of arrest or police detention may cause them.

This service is currently provided to British Transport Police, Manchester Airport and eight out of the twelve divisions.

Derek Osbaldestin JP, who chairs the Authority, said: "The work of an 'Appropriate Adult' is very varied and can be extremely rewarding.

This invaluable voluntary role ensures that a vulnerable person is not kept in custody longer than necessary, which also helps to save many police hours. The scheme aims to reflect as accurately as possible the make-up of the community and we welcome both male and female volunteers from all walks of life and of any age or ethnic background."

Appropriate Adult volunteers are given initial training and receive on-going support from the Authority. The service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days of the year and volunteers are expected to undertake a minimum of 4 shifts a month. Their role is to look after the detained person's welfare, explain police procedures, provide information about their rights and ensure that these are protected; and facilitate communication with police. They will be present during a range of custodial procedures including PACE interviews, drug testing and charging.

If you would like further information on becoming a volunteer please contact the scheme coordinator, Lisa Hindle on **0161 793 3048** or email: [lisa.hindle@gmpa.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.hindle@gmpa.gov.uk).

Further details can also be found on the GMPA website [www.gmpa.gov.uk](http://www.gmpa.gov.uk).

# Volunteer Viewpoint by Ben Stoddard



Lin Denidni is the Community Development Worker for Tameside & Glossop Mind, Lin first started with Mind as a volunteer before becoming a member of staff in 2007.

## What inspired you to become a volunteer?

I had worked in education for quite a few years and then had a break. After a few months at home, I decided I wanted a change and was interested in volunteering. It was at this point I approached Volunteer Centre Tameside to look at my options.

## What duties did your role include as a volunteer with Mind?

I started as a Social Club Volunteer, my duties included talking to people who came to the club, organising and going on trips and organising different activities within the centre. I also volunteered as a Duty Worker, conducting interviews and giving information to people on their initial visit to the centre.

## What training and support did you receive whilst volunteering with Mind?

I received a 30 hour induction and attended different training events which ran one day per month. I also attended a counselling course at Tameside College.

## What experience and skills do you think you gained as a volunteer?

Through volunteering with Mind I have developed my listening skills and have learnt a great deal about mental distress.

## What would you say to other people who are thinking about volunteering?

I really enjoyed every minute of volunteering and have met some great people who I wouldn't have met if I hadn't volunteered.