



# Christmas Volunteering!



Want to spread some Christmas cheer? Why not volunteer?

“Tis the season to be jolly!”

There are lots of charities and events looking for volunteers to help out over the festive season (both in-person or virtually)!

\*Any new or updated opportunities will be added to this document which can be found on the [Volunteer Hub](#).

Interested in a specific date? *Click on the links below, or, if unsure, just scroll through*

[ROLES 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2024 – 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024](#)

[ROLES 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024 – 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024](#)


[ROLES 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER – JANUARY 2025](#)

[BEFRIENDING ROLES](#)




Remember to record your time for any volunteering you do. Visit [www.volunteering.chester.ac.uk](http://www.volunteering.chester.ac.uk)

# VOLUNTEER ROLES

## 2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2024 – 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024




Name of Event	Date(s) & Time(s) required	Location	Information
<p><b>Santa's Grotto, Hospice of the Good Shepherd – Volunteer Elf</b></p>	<p>Happening every day from Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2024</p> <p>Weekend times 10:30am-2pm and 1:30pm-5:15pm</p> <p>Weekday times 12:30pm-4:30pm and 4pm – 6:45pm</p> 	<p>Gordale Garden Centre</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Spread the magic of Christmas!</p> <p>We man the grotto at Gordale for 24 days and get all of the proceeds, last year this raised over £35,000. Elf Helper 1 – Will stand at the front of the Grotto path to check the children in, give them a ticket to enter, talk to Children and preserve the magic of Christmas. Elf Helper 2 &amp; 3 – Will take it in turns to stand at the entrance of the Grotto to greet the next child before taking them through to see Santa when he is free, then get the present from the sack for each child. Take photos of the family in front of Santa before leading the family out via exit. Allow next child in with the other Elf and repeat. Talk to Children and preserve the magic of Christmas. We provide all the elf costumes, these will be available to you on arrival and should be handed back at the end of your shift – so that you are just a normal person when you leave, and preserve the magic also, so that we can launder them.</p> <p>Dates and times available in this <a href="#">chart</a>. The blank spaces are where we need help.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p>

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			Email <a href="mailto:emily.gould@hospicegs.com">emily.gould@hospicegs.com</a> with the date(s) you can do.
<b>Tom's Trust - Event Volunteer</b>	<p>Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024 6pm – 9:30pm</p> 	Just outside Chester (exact location TBC)	<p>This is an invite only Charity Christmas Carol Concert and we need event volunteers to help us guide people to seats, be part of the security team letting people in and helping us to organise refreshments. This is an unique opportunity in a fantastic location. You need to be able to work as part of a team and comfortable speaking to the public.</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:sarah@tomstrust.org.uk">sarah@tomstrust.org.uk</a></p>
<b>North West Air Ambulance – Tesco Charity Collection</b>	<p>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024 9:45am – 12pm or 12pm-4pm</p> 	Bidston Moss, Wirral	<p>Working in pairs/small teams to man a charity stall, chatting with customers, handing out leaflets, and accepting donations in charity buckets.</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Sign up via their <a href="#">Volunteering Form</a> quoting “Tesco, 5<sup>th</sup> December” or Email <a href="mailto:volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk">volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk</a></p>
<b>Give it a go - plogging (jogging and litter picking)</b>	<p>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024, 10am - 11am</p> 	Chester	<p>Plogging is a combination of jogging with picking up litter, merging the Swedish verbs plocka upp (pick up) and jogga (jog).</p> <p>Join us for a light jog as we pick up litter along the way!</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Apply via the <a href="#">Volunteer Hub</a>.</p>

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<p><b>Here and Now Chester - Make calendars and decorate wooden Christmas tree decorations</b></p>	<p>Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024 11:15am – 2:15pm</p> 	<p>United Reformed Church, Blacon, Chester CH15ET</p>	<p>Here and Now is a social enterprise based in Blacon. It aims to bring socially isolated people together in a friendly and relaxed environment.</p> <p>Working with clients and local children from a school, you will be required to assist making calendars and decorating tree decorations. Help clear up.</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:hereandnowchester@gmail.com">hereandnowchester@gmail.com</a></p>
<p><b>North West Air Ambulance – Waitrose Charity Collection</b></p>	<p>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024 9:45am – 12pm or 12pm-4pm</p> 	<p>Formby, Wirral</p>	<p>Working in pairs/small teams to pack customers' shopping bags at the till points and run a charity stall at the store entrance. We'll chat with customers about the charity, hand out leaflets, and accept donations in charity buckets. 2-3 volunteers needed in the morning and 1-2 volunteers needed in the afternoon.</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Sign up via their <a href="#">Volunteering Form</a> quoting “Waitrose, 6<sup>th</sup> December” or Email <a href="mailto:volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk">volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>North West Air Ambulance – Tesco Charity Collection</b></p>	<p>Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2024 9:45am – 12pm or 12pm-4pm</p> 	<p>Formby, Wirral</p>	<p>Working in pairs/small teams to run a charity stall, chatting with customers about the charity, handing out leaflets, and accepting donations in charity buckets. We'll be joined by members of a local rotary club.</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Sign up via their <a href="#">Volunteering Form</a> quoting “Tesco, 8<sup>th</sup> December” or Email <a href="mailto:volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk">volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk</a></p>

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# VOLUNTEER ROLES

## 9TH DECEMBER 2024 – 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024

Name of Event	Date(s) & Time(s) required	Location	Information
<p><b>Santa's Grotto, Hospice of the Good Shepherd – Volunteer Elf</b></p> 	<p>Happening every day from Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November – Monday</p> <p>Weekday times 12:30pm-4:30pm and 4pm – 6:45pm</p>	<p>Gordale Garden Centre</p>	<p>Spread the magic of Christmas!</p> <p>We man the grotto at Gordale for 24 days and get all of the proceeds, last year this raised over £35,000. Elf Helper 1 – Will stand at the front of the Grotto path to check the children in, give them a ticket to enter, talk to Children and preserve the magic of Christmas. Elf Helper 2 &amp; 3 – Will take it in turns to stand at the entrance of the Grotto to greet the next child before taking them through to see Santa when he is free, then get the present from the sack for each child. Take photos of the family in front of Santa before leading the family out via exit. Allow next child in with the other Elf and repeat. Talk to Children and preserve the magic of Christmas. We provide all the elf costumes, these will be available to you on arrival and should be handed back at the end of your shift – so that you are just a normal person when you leave, and preserve the magic also, so that we can launder them.</p> <p>Dates and times available in this <a href="#">chart</a>. The blank spaces are where we need help.</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:emily.gould@hospicegs.com">emily.gould@hospicegs.com</a> with the date(s) you can do.</p>

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<p><b>Warrington Youth Zone – Sleigh Volunteer</b></p>	<p>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December (<a href="#">Dates the following week also available</a>) 4.30pm – 8pm</p> 	<p>Warrington</p>	<p>In the build-up to the big day, Father Christmas will tour various parts of Warrington in his sleigh putting a smile on the face of local people and raising money for various local charities.</p> <p>The role will involve assisting with the sleigh, carrying a collection bucket and handing out chocolate coins.</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:rebecca.dakin@wyz.org.uk">rebecca.dakin@wyz.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Holy Trinity Church – Afternoon Tea</b></p>	<p>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 12:30pm-4pm</p> 	<p>Holy Trinity Church, Blacon</p>	<p>Holy Trinity Church is in the parish of Blacon, Chester.</p> <p>Afternoon tea for residents - assist with setting up/ serving food / clearing up in our hall.</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:rector.blacon@btinternet.com">rector.blacon@btinternet.com</a></p>
<p><b>Here and Now Chester – Christmas Carol and Music</b></p>	<p>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024 11:15am – 2:15pm</p> 	<p>United Reformed Church, Blacon, Chester CH15ET</p>	<p>Here and Now is a social enterprise based in Blacon. It aims to bring socially isolated people together in a friendly and relaxed environment.</p> <p>Help set activity up and talk to members and help serve buffet /refreshments. Help clear up</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:hereandnowchester@gmail.com">hereandnowchester@gmail.com</a></p>

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<p><b>University of Chester Sustainability Team – Support the Festive Collection as a volunteer auditor</b></p>	<p>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024 1pm-4pm</p> 	<p>Exton Park Site, Chester</p>	<p>Get into the spirit of the festive season by helping the University give back and support its local food bank! The Sustainability team are looking for students who are keen to broaden their experiences and skills as a Volunteer Auditor for the University’s annual festive collection.</p> <p>Working with a small team, you will be asked to make a log of what has been donated by the University community and how many items have ultimately been shared with those in need in the local community.</p> <p>No experience needed – all we ask is the willingness to spare a few hours to spread kindness and joy!</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Apply via the <a href="#">Volunteer Hub</a>.</p>
<p><b>Tom’s Trust – Bucket Collector Volunteer</b></p>	<p>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2024 10am – 2:30pm</p> 	<p>Liverpool Central Train Station</p>	<p>Can you spare an hour to help us collect for a great charity Tom’s Trust who provide mental health, clinical psychology support for children with brain tumours and their families. We have SingMeMerseyside joining us from 1300-1430 and it is always a great atmosphere when they are singing. You need to be able to work as part of a team and comfortable speaking to the public</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:sarah@tomstrust.org.uk">sarah@tomstrust.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Heswall Disabled Children’s</b></p>	<p>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2024 – 2pm-5pm</p>	<p>Pensby, Wirral</p>	<p>We provide a summer camp for disabled children in August. To offer more support to those children we want to hold a Christmas party full of fun, games, music and presents.</p>

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<b>Holiday Fund – Christmas Party</b>			<p>We would love to hear from volunteers interested in having an introduction to our summer camps.</p> <p>The role will include meeting the children, providing activities and handing out gifts. Christmas hats, jumpers and spirit would be a huge benefit!</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:vinny.keating@heswallcamp.org.uk">vinny.keating@heswallcamp.org.uk</a></p>
<b>Tom's Trust – Bucket Collector Volunteer</b>	<p>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2024 10am – 2:00pm</p> 	<p>Liverpool Lime Street Train Station</p>	<p>Can you spare an hour to help us collect for a great charity Tom's Trust who provide mental health, clinical psychology support for children with brain tumours and their families. You need to be able to work as part of a team and comfortable speaking to the public</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:sarah@tomstrust.org.uk">sarah@tomstrust.org.uk</a></p>
<b>Minerva Arts – Youth Theatre Assistant</b>	<p>Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2024 9am – 4pm</p> 	<p>Freedom Church, Chester</p>	<p>Assisting with Xmas stocking performance sharing event for youth theatre. Varying roles including back stage support, ushering etc</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:Youththeatre@minervaarts.com">Youththeatre@minervaarts.com</a></p>
<b>Holy Trinity Church – Nativity Messy Church</b>	<p>Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024 11:30am-2pm</p>	<p>Holy Trinity Church, Blacon</p>	<p>Holy Trinity Church is in the parish of Blacon, Chester.</p> <p>Nativity Messy Church requires volunteers to assist with leading children's craft activities; serving food to families and clearing up afterwards</p>

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**VOLUNTEER ROLES**  
**16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2024 – JANUARY 2024**

<b>Name of Event</b>	<b>Date(s) &amp; Time(s) required</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Information</b>
<b>Santa's Grotto, Hospice of the Good Shepherd – Volunteer Elf</b>	Happening every day from Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> November – Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December 2024  Weekend times 10:30am-2pm and 1:30pm-5:15pm  Weekday times 12:30pm-4:30pm and 4pm – 6:45pm  	Gordale Garden Centre	Spread the magic of Christmas!  We man the grotto at Gordale for 24 days and get all of the proceeds, last year this raised over £35,000. Elf Helper 1 – Will stand at the front of the Grotto path to check the children in, give them a ticket to enter, talk to Children and preserve the magic of Christmas. Elf Helper 2 & 3 – Will take it in turns to stand at the entrance of the Grotto to greet the next child before taking them through to see Santa when he is free, then get the present from the sack for each child. Take photos of the family in front of Santa before leading the family out via exit. Allow next child in with the other Elf and repeat. Talk to Children and preserve the magic of Christmas. We provide all the elf costumes, these will be available to you on arrival and should be handed back at the end of your shift – so that you are just a normal person when you leave, and preserve the magic also, so that we can launder them.  Dates and times available in this <a href="#">chart</a> . The blank spaces are where we need help.

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<p><b>Warrington Youth Zone – Sleigh Volunteer</b></p>	<p>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December (<a href="#">Dates the previous week also available</a>) 4.30pm – 8pm</p> 	<p>Warrington</p>	<p>In the build-up to the big day, Father Christmas will tour various parts of Warrington in his sleigh putting a smile on the face of local people and raising money for various local charities.</p> <p>The role will involve assisting with the sleigh, carrying a collection bucket and handing out chocolate coins.</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:rebecca.dakin@wyz.org.uk">rebecca.dakin@wyz.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Here and Now Chester – Christmas Party and Music</b></p>	<p>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024 11:15am – 2:15pm</p> 	<p>United Reformed Church, Blacon, Chester CH15ET</p>	<p>Here and Now is a social enterprise based in Blacon. It aims to bring socially isolated people together in a friendly and relaxed environment.</p> <p>Help set activity up and talk to members and help serve buffet /refreshments. Help clear up</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:hereandnowchester@gmail.com">hereandnowchester@gmail.com</a></p>

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<p><b>Warrington Youth Zone – Food Prep Volunteer (for family Christmas party)</b></p>	<p>Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December and/or Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024 9am – 12pm</p>  <p>An <b>OnSide</b> Youth Zone</p>	<p>Warrington Youth Zone</p>	<p>Warrington Youth Zone is a purpose-built state of the art facility for the town's young people aged 7 – 19, and up to 25 for those with additional needs.</p> <p>Preparing food in readiness for our family meal on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December. Cutting vegetables etc.</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:rebecca.dakin@wyz.org.uk">rebecca.dakin@wyz.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Holy Trinity Church – Holiday Meal and Activities for Families</b></p>	<p>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025 11am-4pm</p> 	<p>Holy Trinity Church, Blacon</p>	<p>Holy Trinity Church is in the parish of Blacon, Chester.</p> <p>Holiday meal and activities for families - assist with serving meal, leading children's craft activities, hosting film afternoon, and clearing up afterwards.</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:rector.blacon@btinternet.com">rector.blacon@btinternet.com</a></p>
<h2 style="color: green; margin: 0;">CHRISTMAS BEFRIENDING VOLUNTEER ROLES</h2>			
<p><b>Changing Lives Together – Telephone Befrienders</b></p>	<p>To suit the volunteer (1 hour per week) <b>*Role can be continued after the festive period if the volunteer chooses</b></p>	<p>From home</p>	<p>Volunteers are at the centre of Changing Lives Together's aim to reduce loneliness &amp; isolation for over 50s by providing clients with a volunteer who can provide an hour or two per week to make a call. This is especially required over the Christmas period.</p>

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			<p>Changing Lives Together offer supported positions. Guided by friendly &amp; experienced coordinators, students are suitably matched and provided with continued support throughout.</p> <p>Online application and remote training are provided.</p> <p>Help make someone happy over the Christmas Period.</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Complete the <a href="#">online application</a> OR Email <a href="mailto:pmarsden@changing-lives-together.org.uk">pmarsden@changing-lives-together.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Christmas Activities/ Befriending service</b></p>	<p>From Mid November – Christmas. Exact dates and times flexible.</p> 	<p>Oaklands Nursing Home, Chester</p>	<p>You would speak to the residents (befriend them) get to know them help out with Christmas activities such as a shopping trip to Cheshire Oaks on 18<sup>th</sup> November (if you are available)</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:Activities@coniferscaregroup.com">Activities@coniferscaregroup.com</a></p>

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<p><b>Virtual volunteering...</b></p>	<p>To be decided by the volunteer</p> <p><b>*Roles can be continued after Christmas</b></p> 	<p>From home</p>	<p>The University of Chester's volunteering website has lots of ideas on how you can get involved with volunteering from home. Whether you are able to spend minutes or hours of your time volunteering, there is something to suit everyone!</p> <p><b>HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?</b></p> <p>Check out the <a href="#">Virtual Volunteering page</a> on the Volunteer Hub.</p>
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**All of the above opportunities rely on the support of volunteers, so any support you can give is gratefully received!**

**Remember...**

**Any volunteering you take part in (unless stated) can be recorded as part of the UCV Award Scheme!**

**[www.volunteering.chester.ac.uk](http://www.volunteering.chester.ac.uk)**

**Facebook: [UOC Volunteering](#)**

**Twitter: [@uocvolunteering](#)**

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Instagram: [@uocvolunteering](https://www.instagram.com/uocvolunteering)

**Thank you!**



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