****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**](https://volunteering.chester.ac.uk/news/christmas2023/)**.**

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

***[ROLES NOW – 24](#Now)[TH](#Now) [NOVEMBER 2024](#Now)***

[***ROLES 25TH NOVEMBER 2024 – 1ST DECEMBER 2024***](#Nov)

[***ROLES 2ND DECEMBER 2024 – 8TH DECEMBER 2O24***](#Dec)

[***ROLES 9TH DECEMBER 2024 – 15TH DECEMBER 2024***](#middle)

[***ROLES 16TH DECEMBER - JANUARY 2024***](#end)

[***BEFRIENDING ROLES***](#befriend)

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| **VOLUNTEER ROLES**  **NOW-24TH NOVEMBER 2024** | | | |
| **Name of Event** | **Date(s) & Time(s) required** | **Location** | **Information** |
| **Tom’s Trust –Bucket Collector Volunteer** | Saturday 9th November 2024  10am – 2pm | Liverpool Central Train Station | 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  [A blue hammer with text  Description automatically generated](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http://www.tomstrust.org.uk/&data=05|02|volunteering@chester.ac.uk|7ddeb06e78a141e10fd008dcf8b7e985|18843e6e1846456ca05c500f0aee12f6|0|0|638658716021758482|Unknown|TWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D|0|||&sdata=OR6hiwZE4y6zUPA1eRAgevC1Vx91FaCNhzOqgf3R0cQ%3D&reserved=0)  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [sarah@tomstrust.org.uk](mailto:sarah@tomstrust.org.uk) |
| **Here and Now Chester - Decorate a pot and plant a bulb** | Thursday 14th November 2024 11:15am – 2:15pm  Image result for here and now chester | United Reformed Church, Blacon, Chester CH15ET | Here and Now is a social enterprise based in Blacon. It aims to bring socially isolated people together in a friendly and relaxed environment.  Working with clients to decorate plant pots and plant a bulb, helping with refreshments and clearing up.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [hereandnowchester@gmail.com](mailto:hereandnowchester@gmail.com) |
| **“Give it a Go” (UoC Volunteering & Hope House Charity Shop) –** **Christmas Window Shop Dressing** | Monday 18th November 2024  (Timings TBC) | Chester City Centre | Join the Volunteering Team and Staff from Hope House as we prepare their charity shop for Christmas!  By the end of the session we hope that you’ll have gained some inspiration and knowledge about Hope House, and look at ways you can make a difference through voluntary action – all whilst having fun!  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Apply via the [Volunteer Hub.](https://volunteering.chester.ac.uk/lookingtovolunteer/giveitago/) |
| **Chester Christmas Light Parade – Event Ambassador** | Thursday 21st November 2024  4:45pm-8:30pm | Chester City Centre | This is a great event which the University of Chester is proud to be part of.  Your role on the night will be as an ***Event Ambassador*** and you will either be assigned to walking with the parade and the performers or assisting in crowd support. Within both these roles you will be ensuring that performers are safe, the public are safe, and you are safe; this involves preventing the public from getting too close to the parade etc.  Your role may also consist of having a designated area in the city centre to support the event and ensure the crowds don't become too restless; prevent interference with the parade; preventing public access to key sites (near cathedral gardens & Eastgate Clock) to help ensure the public safety; ensure the parade is safe; and you are safe; this may also include moving any barriers at the beginning or end of the night; and answering general questions (FAQs will be available in advance).  From previous experience, the weather may be cold, and possibly raining/snowing, so please prepare for this and dress warm but comfortable, i.e. hats, gloves, scarves, layers, **sensible walking shoes**, warm waterproof coat etc.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  [Complete this form](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.office.com%2Fe%2F5EqaFitAt6&data=05%7C02%7Cvolunteering%40chester.ac.uk%7Cb9d411106ee7473c995d08dcf77df76a%7C18843e6e1846456ca05c500f0aee12f6%7C0%7C0%7C638657367603890785%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Gdm%2F4HZJj1mvxYxZvPwtJrNs4w9HetQ7faBLxkWwX4s%3D&reserved=0)to provide key information for the night. |
| **Holy Trinity Church – Messy Church** | Sunday 24th November 2024  11:30am-2pm  https://www.holytrinityblacon.org/content/pages/uploaded_images/1656596627-uE18te52.jpg | Holy Trinity Church, Blacon | Holy Trinity Church is in the parish of Blacon, Chester.  Messy Church requires volunteers to assist with leading children's craft activities; serving food to families and clearing up afterwards  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [rector.blacon@btinternet.com](mailto:rector.blacon@btinternet.com) |
| VOLUNTEER **ROLES**  **25TH NOVEMBER 2024 – 1ST DECEMBER 2024** | | | |
| **Name of Event** | **Date(s) & Time(s) required** | **Location** | **Information** |
| **UoC Hedgehog Friendly Campus - Big Hog Friendly Litter Pick Challenge** | Monday 25th November 2024  1pm-2pm  Image result for big hog friendly litter pick challenge | Exton Park (Chester) | Volunteer to Litter Pick around Campus for an Hour as part of the Big Hog Friendly Litter Pick Challenge.  We will be meeting outside of Binks building on Exton Park Campus, if it is raining we will be inside the entrance to Binks building.  We will be meeting at 1pm until 2pm on Monday 25th November.  All of the equipment will be provided for you and it's a great way to support our hedgehogs on campus.  All participants will receive a certificate of participation once the Big Hog Friendly Litter Pick closes.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  No need to book – just drop-in! |
| **Garden Quarter Christmas Market – Set up** | Monday 25th November 2024  9:30am onwards | St Thomas Church, Chester (Corner of Parkgate Road/Cheyney Road) | To help set up ready for the Christmas market. Roles will include: decorating the church, remove church seating and set up tables for the market (also, asking for help on Saturday 30th November to clear up)  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [disonrachel@hotmail.com](mailto:disonrachel@hotmail.com) |
| **“Give it a Go” UoC Volunteering - Christmas Card writing for the elderly** | Wednesday 27th November 2024  11am-1pm | Careers Seminar Room, Exton Park (Chester) | Spread some Christmas cheer and write a Christmas card to an elderly person in a local care home. This session will take place on Wednesday 27th November, 11am - 1pm. You can arrive when you like and stay as long as you like - just factor in how long it might take you to write a message.  We will send the cards off so they arrive in time for Christmas.  The activity coordinators in the care home will then see if any of the residents are interested in writing a reply to the Christmas cards - if you are lucky you may receive a personal reply in the new year from the person What To Write In A Christmas Card - American Greetingswho received your card. (We cannot guarantee this however, just know that your card will have spread some Christmas joy for the resident receiving it.)  We have lots of Christmas cards you can write a message in. Or, if you fancy getting creative, we have lots of card and felt tips, so you can make your personalised Christmas cards.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  No need to book – just drop-in! |
| **West Cheshire Foodbank and Trussell – Food Drives** | Thursday 28th – Saturday 30th November 2024  Volunteers to do 2 - 4 hour slots | Tesco, Frodsham Street, Chester  Or  Tesco, Sealand Road, Chester | Trussell supports a network of over 420 food banks to provide a minimum of three days’ emergency food and support to people experiencing hardship in the UK. **Key tasks:** Greeting customers, Offering guidance and leaflets on the best items to donate, Engaging with customers to raise awareness about the food bank, Receiving food donations (I.e. Giving out shopping list), Thanking customers and explaining where their donation is going, Sorting food ready for delivery back to the food bank **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [info@Westcheshire.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@Westcheshire.foodbank.org.uk) |
| **Chester Aid to the Homeless (CATH) – Annual Sleepout** | Friday 29th November 2024, 10pm-6am    **ALTHOUGH WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO ATTEND & FUNDRAISE FOR THIS EVENT, YOU CANNOT RECORD VOLUNTEERING HOURS FOR ATTENDING.** | Chester Football Club, Chester | Have you got what it takes to SLEEP OUT? We've opened registrations for our annual sleep out event, take part by sleeping outside in an effort to raise money for our charity!  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email  [info@cath.org.uk](mailto:info@cath.org.uk) to register |
| **North West Air Ambulance – Charity Stall at Bromborough Christmas Fair** | Friday 29th or Saturday 30th November  Exact time slots to be confirmed but volunteers will be needed sometime titlebetween 10am-4pm | Bromborough, Wirral | Help to run a charity stall, chat with fair attendees, hand out leaflets, sell merchandise, and accept donations in charity buckets in pairs/small teams.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Sign up via their [Volunteering Form](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.volunteero.org%2Fview%2Faf7cefed-6edd-4121-9856-c3603dd6088c&data=05%7C02%7Cvolunteering%40chester.ac.uk%7Cb6421bd20fac41d23b0808dcf4f526d6%7C18843e6e1846456ca05c500f0aee12f6%7C0%7C0%7C638654581044696674%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OaMkV5eoaIKYotCV0m5ii7YqxUEHA%2FVRxfni%2BMerrbY%3D&reserved=0) quoting “Bromborough Christmas Fair”  or Email [volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk) |
| **Santa’s Grotto, Hospice of the Good Shepherd – Volunteer Elf** | Happening every day from Saturday 30th November – Monday 23rd 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 [chart.](https://volunteering.chester.ac.uk/news/hospice/)The blank spaces are where we need help.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [emily.gould@hospicegs.com](mailto:emily.gould@hospicegs.com) with the date(s) you can do. |
| **Garden Quarter Christmas Market – Set up** | Saturday 30th November 2024  3:30pm onwards | St Thomas Church, Chester (Corner of Parkgate Road/Cheyney Road) | To help clear away in the church after the Christmas market. Roles will include: clearing the tables and putting back the church seating (also, asking for help on Monday 25th November to set up)  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [disonrachel@hotmail.com](mailto:disonrachel@hotmail.com) |
| **North West Air Ambulance – Liverpool Santa Dash** | Sunday 1st December 2024  8am-early afternoon  Image result for nw ambulance liverpool santa dash | Pier Head, Liverpool | You be working as a small team and roles will include greeting runners, stewarding, cheering on, and handing out medals to runners of the 5k festive race. Some of the runners have raised sponsorship in aid of our charity so we want to be there to support them on the day.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Sign up via their [Volunteering Form](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.volunteero.org%2Fview%2Faf7cefed-6edd-4121-9856-c3603dd6088c&data=05%7C02%7Cvolunteering%40chester.ac.uk%7Cb6421bd20fac41d23b0808dcf4f526d6%7C18843e6e1846456ca05c500f0aee12f6%7C0%7C0%7C638654581044696674%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OaMkV5eoaIKYotCV0m5ii7YqxUEHA%2FVRxfni%2BMerrbY%3D&reserved=0) quoting “Liverpool Santa Dash”  or Email [volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk) |
| **North West Air Ambulance – Street Collection** | Sunday 1st December 2024  Either 9:45am – 12pm or 12pm – 4pm  title | Liverpool One, Liverpool | Working in pairs to engage with shoppers, chatting to them about our charity, handing out leaflets, and accepting donations in charity collection buckets.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Sign up via their [Volunteering Form](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.volunteero.org%2Fview%2Faf7cefed-6edd-4121-9856-c3603dd6088c&data=05%7C02%7Cvolunteering%40chester.ac.uk%7Cb6421bd20fac41d23b0808dcf4f526d6%7C18843e6e1846456ca05c500f0aee12f6%7C0%7C0%7C638654581044696674%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OaMkV5eoaIKYotCV0m5ii7YqxUEHA%2FVRxfni%2BMerrbY%3D&reserved=0) quoting “Street Collection, 1st December”  or Email [volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk) |
| **Chester Santa Dash (for Hospice of the Good Shepherd) – Volunteer** | Sunday 1st December 2024  9:30am – 11am/12pm | Chester City Centre | Join in with one of Chester's most anticipated events in December and support the Hospice of the Good Shepherd.  This event promises to be as great as ever with thousands of Santas taking to the streets of Chester. Last year saw over 2000 Santas run through Chester’s city centre and this year we are hoping for even more. We need marshals along the route to keep people safe and keep runners to the route. We also need volunteers to help hand medals and meda;s to all the participants.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [emily.gould@hospicegs.com](mailto:emily.gould@hospicegs.com) |
| **VOLUNTEER ROLES**  **2ND DECEMBER 2024 – 8TH DECEMBER 2024** | | | |
| **Name of Event** | **Date(s) & Time(s) required** | **Location** | **Information** |
| **Santa’s Grotto, Hospice of the Good Shepherd – Volunteer Elf** | Happening every day from Saturday 30th November – Monday 23rd 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 [chart.](https://volunteering.chester.ac.uk/news/hospice/)The blank spaces are where we need help.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [emily.gould@hospicegs.com](mailto:emily.gould@hospicegs.com) with the date(s) you can do. |
| **Tom’s Trust - Event Volunteer** | Wednesday 4th December 2024  6pm – 9:30pm  [A blue hammer with text  Description automatically generated](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http://www.tomstrust.org.uk/&data=05|02|volunteering@chester.ac.uk|7ddeb06e78a141e10fd008dcf8b7e985|18843e6e1846456ca05c500f0aee12f6|0|0|638658716021758482|Unknown|TWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D|0|||&sdata=OR6hiwZE4y6zUPA1eRAgevC1Vx91FaCNhzOqgf3R0cQ%3D&reserved=0) | Just outside Chester (exact location TBC) | 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.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [sarah@tomstrust.org.uk](mailto:sarah@tomstrust.org.uk) |
| **North West Air Ambulance – Tesco Charity Collection** | Thursday 5th December 2024  9:45am – 12pm or 12pm-4pm  title | Bidston Moss, Wirral | Working in pairs/small teams to man a charity stall, chatting with customers, handing out leaflets, and accepting donations in charity buckets.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Sign up via their [Volunteering Form](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.volunteero.org%2Fview%2Faf7cefed-6edd-4121-9856-c3603dd6088c&data=05%7C02%7Cvolunteering%40chester.ac.uk%7Cb6421bd20fac41d23b0808dcf4f526d6%7C18843e6e1846456ca05c500f0aee12f6%7C0%7C0%7C638654581044696674%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OaMkV5eoaIKYotCV0m5ii7YqxUEHA%2FVRxfni%2BMerrbY%3D&reserved=0) quoting “Tesco, 5th December”  or Email [volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk) |
| **Give it a go - plogging (jogging and litter picking)** | Thursday 5th December 2024, 10am - 11am  Image result for plogging | Chester | Plogging is a combination of jogging with picking up litter, merging the Swedish verbs plocka upp (pick up) and jogga (jog).   Join us for a light jog as we pick up litter along the way!  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Apply via the [Volunteer Hub.](https://volunteering.chester.ac.uk/lookingtovolunteer/giveitago/) |
| **Here and Now Chester - Make calendars and decorate wooden Christmas tree decorations** | Thursday 5th December 2024 11:15am – 2:15pm  Image result for here and now chester | United Reformed Church, Blacon, Chester CH15ET | Here and Now is a social enterprise based in Blacon. It aims to bring socially isolated people together in a friendly and relaxed environment.  Working with clients and local children from a school, you will be required to assist making calendars and decorating tree decorations. Help clear up.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [hereandnowchester@gmail.com](mailto:hereandnowchester@gmail.com) |
| **North West Air Ambulance – Waitrose Charity Collection** | Friday 6th December 2024  9:45am – 12pm or 12pm-4pm  title | Formby, Wirral | 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.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Sign up via their [Volunteering Form](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.volunteero.org%2Fview%2Faf7cefed-6edd-4121-9856-c3603dd6088c&data=05%7C02%7Cvolunteering%40chester.ac.uk%7Cb6421bd20fac41d23b0808dcf4f526d6%7C18843e6e1846456ca05c500f0aee12f6%7C0%7C0%7C638654581044696674%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OaMkV5eoaIKYotCV0m5ii7YqxUEHA%2FVRxfni%2BMerrbY%3D&reserved=0) quoting “Waitrose, 6th December”  or Email [volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk) |
| **North West Air Ambulance – Tesco Charity Collection** | Sunday 8th December 2024  title9:45am – 12pm or 12pm-4pm | Formby, Wirral | 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.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Sign up via their [Volunteering Form](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fforms.volunteero.org%2Fview%2Faf7cefed-6edd-4121-9856-c3603dd6088c&data=05%7C02%7Cvolunteering%40chester.ac.uk%7Cb6421bd20fac41d23b0808dcf4f526d6%7C18843e6e1846456ca05c500f0aee12f6%7C0%7C0%7C638654581044696674%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=OaMkV5eoaIKYotCV0m5ii7YqxUEHA%2FVRxfni%2BMerrbY%3D&reserved=0) quoting “Tesco, 8th December”  or Email [volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@nwairambulance.org.uk) |
| **VOLUNTEER ROLES**  **9TH DECEMBER 2024 – 15TH DECEMBER 2024** | | | |
| **Name of Event** | **Date(s) & Time(s) required** | **Location** | **Information** |
| **Santa’s Grotto, Hospice of the Good Shepherd – Volunteer Elf** | Happening every day from Saturday 30th November – Monday 23rd 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 [chart.](https://volunteering.chester.ac.uk/news/hospice/)The blank spaces are where we need help.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [emily.gould@hospicegs.com](mailto:emily.gould@hospicegs.com) with the date(s) you can do. |
| **Holy Trinity Church – Afternoon Tea** | Tuesday 10th December 2024  12:30pm-4pm  Ship of Fools: Holy Trinity, Blacon, Cheshire, England | Holy Trinity Church, Blacon | Holy Trinity Church is in the parish of Blacon, Chester.  Afternoon tea for residents - assist with setting up/ serving food / clearing up in our hall.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [rector.blacon@btinternet.com](mailto:rector.blacon@btinternet.com) |
| **Here and Now Chester – Christmas Carol and Music** | Thursday 12th December 2024 11:15am – 2:15pm  Image result for here and now chesterupp | United Reformed Church, Blacon, Chester CH15ET | Here and Now is a social enterprise based in Blacon. It aims to bring socially isolated people together in a friendly and relaxed environment.  Help set activity up and talk to members and help serve buffet /refreshments.  Help clear up  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [hereandnowchester@gmail.com](mailto:hereandnowchester@gmail.com) |
| **University of Chester Sustainability Team – Support the Festive Collection as a volunteer auditor** | Friday 13th December 2024  1pm-4pm | Exton Park Site, Chester | 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.  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.  No experience needed – all we ask is the willingness to spare a few hours to spread kindness and joy!  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Apply via the [Volunteer Hub.](https://volunteering.chester.ac.uk/details/1130/) |
| **Tom’s Trust –Bucket Collector Volunteer** | Saturday 14th December 2024  10am – 2:30pm  [A blue hammer with text  Description automatically generated](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http://www.tomstrust.org.uk/&data=05|02|volunteering@chester.ac.uk|7ddeb06e78a141e10fd008dcf8b7e985|18843e6e1846456ca05c500f0aee12f6|0|0|638658716021758482|Unknown|TWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D|0|||&sdata=OR6hiwZE4y6zUPA1eRAgevC1Vx91FaCNhzOqgf3R0cQ%3D&reserved=0) | Liverpool Central Train Station | 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  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [sarah@tomstrust.org.uk](mailto:sarah@tomstrust.org.uk) |
| **Heswall Disabled Children’s Holiday Fund – Christmas Party** | Saturday 14th December 2024 – 2pm-5pm | Pensby, Wirral | 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.  We would love to hear from volunteers interested in having an introduction to our summer camps.  Image result for heswall disabled children holiday fundThe role will include meeting the children, providing activities and handing out gifts. Christmas hats, jumpers and spirit would be a huge benefit!  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [vinny.keating@heswallcamp.org.uk](mailto:vinny.keating@heswallcamp.org.uk) |
| **Tom’s Trust –Bucket Collector Volunteer** | Saturday 14th December 2024  10am – 2:00pm  [A blue hammer with text  Description automatically generated](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http://www.tomstrust.org.uk/&data=05|02|volunteering@chester.ac.uk|7ddeb06e78a141e10fd008dcf8b7e985|18843e6e1846456ca05c500f0aee12f6|0|0|638658716021758482|Unknown|TWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D|0|||&sdata=OR6hiwZE4y6zUPA1eRAgevC1Vx91FaCNhzOqgf3R0cQ%3D&reserved=0) | Liverpool Lime Street Train Station | 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  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [sarah@tomstrust.org.uk](mailto:sarah@tomstrust.org.uk) |
| **Minerva Arts – Youth Theatre Assistant** | Saturday 14th  December 2024  Image result for minerva arts chester 9am – 4pm | Freedom Church, Chester | Assisting with Xmas stocking performance sharing event for youth theatre. Varying roles including back stage support, ushering etc  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [Youththeatre@minervaarts.com](mailto:Youththeatre@minervaarts.com) |
| **Holy Trinity Church – Nativity Messy Church** | Sunday 15th December 2024  11:30am-2pm | Holy Trinity Church, Blacon | Holy Trinity Church is in the parish of Blacon, Chester.  Nativity Messy Church requires volunteers to assist with leading children's craft activities; serving food to families and clearing up afterwards  https://www.holytrinityblacon.org/content/pages/uploaded_images/1656596627-uE18te52.jpg  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [rector.blacon@btinternet.com](mailto:rector.blacon@btinternet.com) |
| **VOLUNTEER ROLES**  **16TH DECEMBER 2024 – JANUARY 2024** | | | |
| **Name of Event** | **Date(s) & Time(s) required** | **Location** | **Information** |
| **Santa’s Grotto, Hospice of the Good Shepherd – Volunteer Elf** | Happening every day from Saturday 30th November – Monday 23rd 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 [chart.](https://volunteering.chester.ac.uk/news/hospice/)The blank spaces are where we need help.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [emily.gould@hospicegs.com](mailto:emily.gould@hospicegs.com) with the date(s) you can do. |
| **Here and Now Chester – Christmas Party and Music** | Thursday 19th December 2024 11:15am – 2:15pm  Image result for here and now chester | United Reformed Church, Blacon, Chester CH15ET | Here and Now is a social enterprise based in Blacon. It aims to bring socially isolated people together in a friendly and relaxed environment.  Help set activity up and talk to members and help serve buffet /refreshments.  Help clear up  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [hereandnowchester@gmail.com](mailto:hereandnowchester@gmail.com) |
| **Holy Trinity Church – Holiday Meal and Activities for Families** | Friday 3rd January 2025  11am-4pm  Ship of Fools: Holy Trinity, Blacon, Cheshire, England | Holy Trinity Church, Blacon | Holy Trinity Church is in the parish of Blacon, Chester.  Holiday meal and activities for families - assist with serving meal, leading children's craft activities, hosting film afternoon, and clearing up afterwards.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [rector.blacon@btinternet.com](mailto:rector.blacon@btinternet.com) |
| **CHRISTMAS BEFRIENDING VOLUNT****EER ROLES** | | | |
| **Changing Lives Together – Telephone Befrienders** | To suit the volunteer (1 hour per week)  **\*Role can be continued after the festive period if the volunteer chooses** | From home | Volunteers are at the centre of Changing Lives Together’s aim to reduce loneliness & 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.  Changing Lives Together offer supported positions. Guided by friendly & experienced coordinators, students are suitably matched and provided with continued support throughout.  Online application and remote training are provided.    Help make someone happy over the Christmas Period.  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Complete the [online application](https://forms.gle/UuB4tTBF63XYksWTA)  OR  Email [pmarsden@changing-lives-together.org.uk](mailto:pmarsden@changing-lives-together.org.uk) |
| **Christmas Activities/ Befriending service** | From Mid November – Christmas.  Exact dates and times flexible.  Oaklands Nursing Home: Employee Reviews ... | Oaklands Nursing Home, Chester | 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 18th November (if you are available)  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Email [Activities@coniferscaregroup.com](mailto:Activities@coniferscaregroup.com) |
| **Virtual volunteering…** | To be decided by the volunteer  **\*Roles can be continued after Christmas** | From home | 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!  **HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?**  Check out the [Virtual Volunteering page](https://volunteering.chester.ac.uk/lookingtovolunteer/virtualvolunteering/) on the Volunteer Hub. |

**All of the above opportunities rely on the support of volunteers, so any support you can give is gratefully received!**

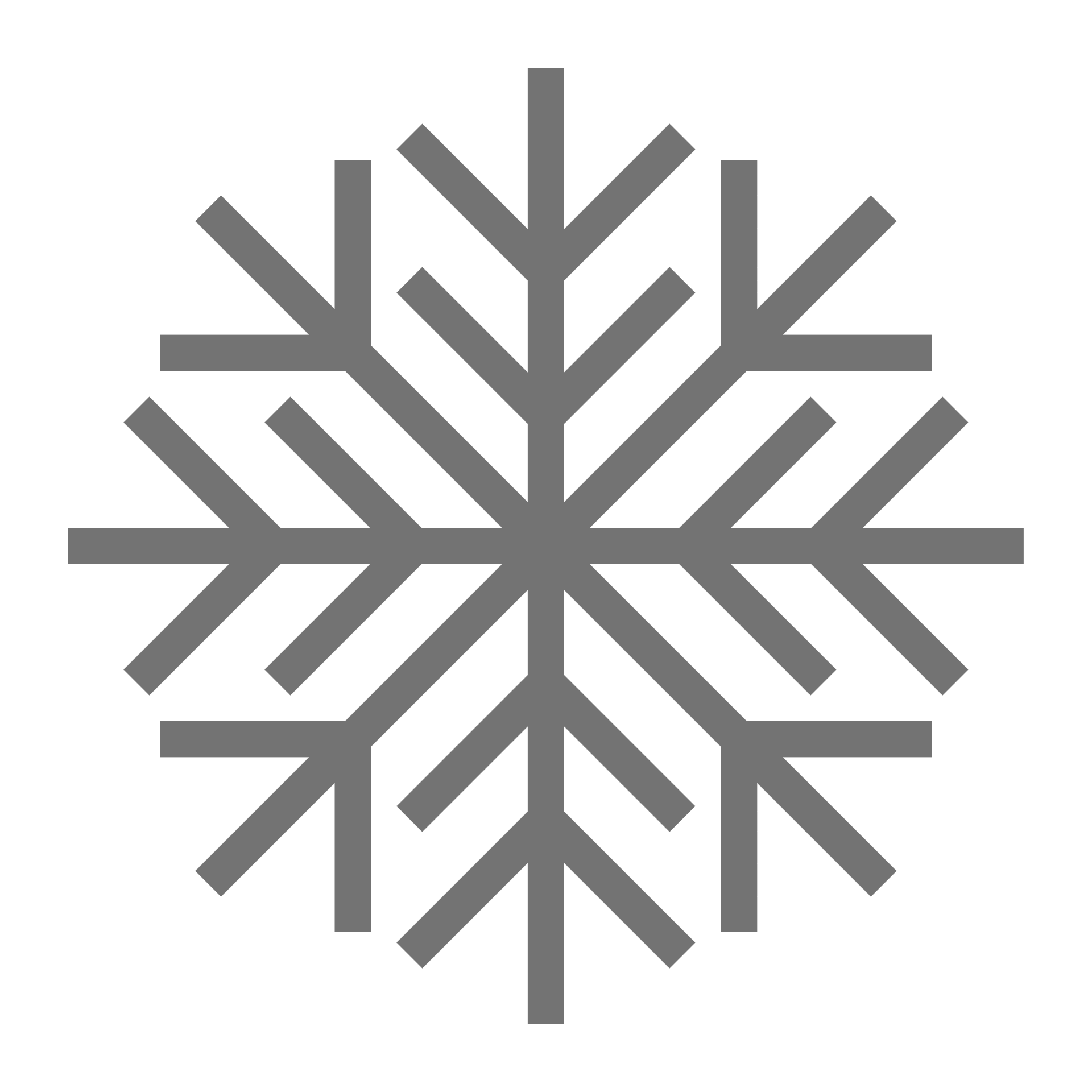
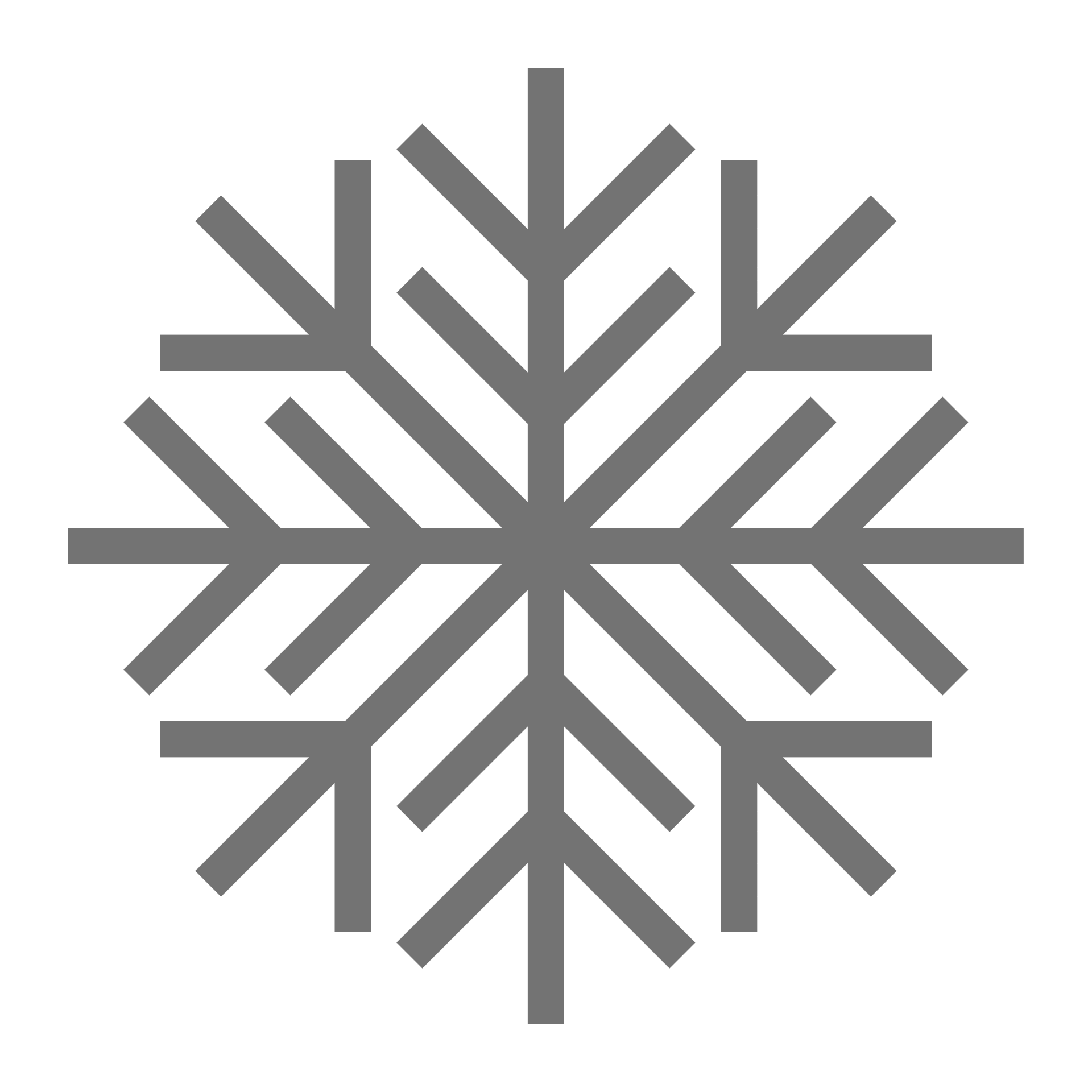
**Remember…**

**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**](https://www.facebook.com/UoCVolunteering/)

**Twitter: @**[**uocvolunteering**](https://twitter.com/uocvolunteering)

**Instagram:** [**@uocvolunteering**](https://www.instagram.com/uocvolunteering/?hl=en)

**Thank you!**