

NEWSLETTER

Michaelmas Term Newsletter

ISSUE 2
01-11-2023

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Volun'tea'

EJ (the Student Volunteering Assistant) and Kai (the College Volunteering Assistant) held Volun'tea' sessions on Wednesday 11th and 25th of October. We had a casual chat with student volunteers over drinks and biscuits, and answered questions about volunteering. We would love to meet more of you so please come along to our next session on **Wednesday 8th November!**



Lumiere Reminder

Lumiere - Light Art Festival

From the 16th-19th November, Durham will host the Lumiere Festival featuring light art creations by local and internationally-renowned artists which will be dotted around the city in public spaces or projected onto buildings.

To sign up as a volunteer, follow this [link](#) or scan the QR code which will take you to our DU volunteering platform.

You will then receive an email which will prompt you to sign up on the Durham County Council website which you must do in order to receive all the relevant information.

LUMIERE
BRILLIANT 2023





Christmas Opportunities



Festive Foodbank Donation Drive

01 November - 30 November 2023

Can you help collect donations for families across our local area?

College donation points include: St Hild and St Bede (incl. Ernest Place), Collingwood, John Snow, Josephine Butler, South, St Aidan's, St Cuthbert's Society (Bailey & Parson's Field), St John's, St Mary's, Stephenson, Trevelyan and Ustinov College.

Follow [this link](#) for more information on other drop off locations and suggested donations.



Christmas Card Appeal



06 November - 10 December 2023

For the last few years colleges have created Christmas cards for local care homes. Almost all of the colleges have agreed to take part this year. If you would like to get involved, place a post-box in your College reception, along with the promotional materials at the end of this newsletter (make sure you let us know!).

You could make the cards more personal by crafting them yourselves, [crocheting](#) or knitting snowflakes to put inside, or making small [tree ornaments](#).

Christmas Craft Sessions

Would your college like to host a Christmas Craft session?

We still have a few slots available for colleges who would like to host Christmas Craft sessions. You will make reindeer dust, tree lollipops or sweet cones to aid some local charities.

If you would like to arrange a session in November, please get in touch with us at college.volunteering@durham.ac.uk as soon as possible.



Foodbank Donation Sorting Session

Thursday 07 December

09.00 - 16.00

The Sports and Wellbeing Park, Stockton Road, DH1 3SE

Are you available to help sort donations for the recipients of all the collected donations?

Sign up [here!](#)



Santa's Sleigh - Rotary Club



Help deliver some Christmas cheer this year by helping the Rotary Club with Santa's Sleigh, each weekend of December.

The Sleigh will operate from 10.00am to 4.00pm each day, except the 24th of December when Santa will leave for the North Pole at 2.00pm. There are two shorter sessions each day so you don't have to be there for a full six hours. Click [here](#) to sign up.

December						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
				1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.
18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.
25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.	31.

Shincliffe Poplar Tree Garden Centre

Sainsbury's Arnison Centre

Marks & Spencer Arnison Centre

Market Place Durham City Centre

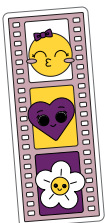
'Give It A Go' Week

Come and try some volunteering activities during our 'Give It A Go' Week, happening from the **4th-8th of December**. See below for the opportunities available - more events will be added as we organise them and there will also be a DUSVO social. We will announce details about timing closer to the week. If you have any college events happening that week, let us know so we can add it to our timetable. For example, you could arrange some Christmas card making/writing sessions.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Painting and sorting donations at DASH	JB College Volunteering Day (JB students only)	Volunteering with the Daisy Chain Project	Sorting Festive Food Drive donations	Volun'tea' sessions
			St Chad's & St John's Colleges Volunteering Day	



Volunteer Memories



Next year we are celebrating 35 years of student volunteering at Durham University, and in preparation for this we want to hear about your experiences. If you have any memories you would like to share with us, please fill in [this form](#).

Student Volunteering Week 2024



Student Volunteering Week 2024 will take place from February 12th to February 18th.

This is a great week to promote established college volunteering projects and host one off opportunities such as a college volunteering day.

If you have any ideas for opportunities to promote to your students during this week or if we can be of any assistance, please contact us at college.volunteering@durham.ac.uk.



Volunteering Fair



In January we are hosting a Durham University Volunteering Fair for both staff and students. At the fair we will have a few college volunteering stands - please have a think about if you would like a stand and what you would need to bring. You will be expected to bring your own materials and attend to your table. If you are unable to come along to represent your college, please send us an up-to-date summary of all your volunteering projects to college.volunteering@durham.ac.uk by Wednesday 10th January 2024.

!FOR COLLEGE VOLUNTEERING REPS ONLY!

College Volunteering Rep Catch-Ups



STAFF

Would your college be interested in hosting a 'Coffee and Catch-up' for the staff College Volunteering Reps?

Each term we would like to host two catch-up sessions for the Staff and Student Volunteering Reps - one for staff and one for students.

If your college would like to host a coffee morning for the staff during the week beginning the 11th of December, please get in touch with us at college.volunteering@durham.ac.uk.



STUDENTS

This is the final notice for letting us know your availability for the student rep catch-up. We will have festive treats and drinks, followed by a festive crafts session for those who want to get involved! Please use [this link](#) to tell us your availability; the session will take place on the day with the most available attendees.

College Volunteering Christmas Card Appeal

Share some Christmas joy with elderly members of the Durham community!

Make sure to post your cards by December 10th



Find the postbox
in your college!



Questions?

Email college.volunteering@durham.ac.uk

College Volunteering Christmas Card Appeal

DO's and DON'Ts

DO's

- Address the card to 'Dear Friend' for example, as you will not know their name.
- Say a little about yourself, where you are from, what you are studying, family, interests, and hobbies.
- Wish them a very Merry Christmas.
- Try to write clearly and legibly (if your handwriting is difficult to read perhaps include a printed copy).
- Write as many as you like, there is no limit to the number you can send.
- Get creative - you could send a picture you've drawn/painted or something you've made, but please don't send any photographs of yourself.
- Remember that you are representing your college and university.
- Post your cards by the 10th of December.

DON'Ts

- Seal the envelope, the care homes like to be able to choose the recipient who will most enjoy your card.
- Provide any personal details (address, phone number, surname etc.), just your first name.



Questions?

Email college.volunteering@durham.ac.uk

College Volunteering Christmas Card Appeal Example Cards

Dear Friend,

Wishing you a very merry Christmas and hoping that you have a lovely Christmastime. I'm Alex, a student at Durham University and I'm studying Archaeology. Soon I'll go home to see my family for Christmas – I live in Atherstone, a very small village near Birmingham. I'm most looking forward to Christmas dinner, especially the sprouts. I hope you have a good Christmas dinner too!

Sending you lots of Christmas joy,
Alex

Dear Friend,

Wishing you a happy Christmas, I hope you have a wonderful time this year. I'm Sam, a student at Durham University. I'll be staying in Durham for Christmas so I'm planning to eat chocolate and watch LOTS of Christmas films. My favourite is The Nativity because it makes me laugh and I love the soundtrack! If you get the chance to watch it, I would recommend it highly. Have a lovely Christmas.

Sending you Christmas wishes,
Sam



Questions?

Email college.volunteering@durham.ac.uk