

# NEWSLETTER

**Epiphany Term Newsletter**

**ISSUE 2**  
**12-03-2024**

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## Volun'tea' and Easter Crafts



EJ and Kai will be holding the next Volun'tea' session as an Easter Crafts special for students and staff members - these crafts will be sent to community partners for distribution to service users and fundraising! It will take place on Thursday 14th February from 1.00-3.00pm in the Chemistry Building, Room 007.

**Student Sign-up**


**Staff Sign-up**



To find out more:

Check out our social media and website

 @du\_college\_volunteering

 <https://duvolunteering.webspace.durham.ac.uk>

Or contact us at

 [college.volunteering@durham.ac.uk](mailto:college.volunteering@durham.ac.uk)

 PC041, The Palatine Centre

# Student Volunteering Week Re-cap

From Monday 12th to Sunday 18th February 2024, we participated in the nation-wide Student Volunteering Week. Students all around the country are encouraged to participate in volunteering opportunities within their local community.

Our department promoted a calendar with 30+ opportunities for students to get involved in, whether they were already a regular volunteer, or someone just interested in giving back to the community and trying new things.

Sessions included litter picking at Crook Hall Gardens or with Wear Rivers Trust, gardening at Old Durham Gardens and St Margaret's Church to supporting the Durham Park Run, primary school Valentine's disco, or donating in the Once a Month sanitary product drive.



Hedgehog Friendly volunteers litter-picking (17-02-24)



Volunteer socialising with cat at Stray Aid (15-02-24)

Alice, Volunteering and Community Officer at Crook Hall Gardens said, "we had a very successful volunteering week last week with 8 volunteers coming along to the litter picks". Those volunteers then went on to express their interest in making this opportunity a regular monthly event to further support the work of the National Trust in the Durham area.

Over the course of the week, over 92 volunteers committed to over 270 hours of volunteering. Georgia Donohue, Volunteering Team Leader commented, "this has been one of the most successful student volunteering weeks we have seen in recent years. The engagement from student volunteers, including those that helped find opportunities and pull the timetable together, really highlights the commitment and dedication to volunteering from Durham students".

Click [here](#) to read more.

## Student Volunteering Week Stats Roundup



**24 Providers**



**273.5 Hours**



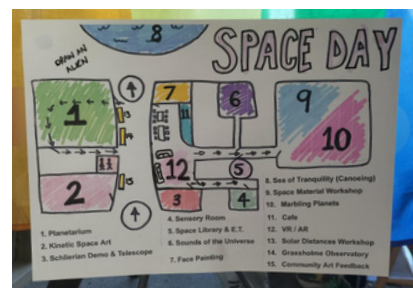
**36 Sessions**



**92 Volunteers**



Volunteers walking dog at Stray Aid (15-02-24)



TCR Hub Space Day map (18-02-24)

# Volunteering Awards Nominations

Nominations are now open for the 2024 Volunteering Awards! If you know a staff member, student, or project that you think has done amazing volunteering this year, then nominate them for one of the 12 Volunteering Award categories:

**Best Cultural Effort** – an award for a volunteering effort that has widened access and participation to arts and cultural activities.

**Best Educational Effort** – an award for a volunteering effort that has increased educational opportunities and academic enrichment.

**Best Environmental Effort** – an award for a volunteering effort that has made a positive impact and/or raised awareness for environmental and/or sustainability issues.

**Best Health and Wellbeing Effort** – an award for a volunteering effort that supports and promotes wellbeing and healthy lives.

**Best New Volunteering Initiative** – an award for a new volunteering initiative that has positively impacted the community.

**Best Social Inclusion Effort** – an award for a volunteering effort that has enriched the lives of people who are from traditionally socially isolated groups. For example, the elderly, the homeless, people living with disabilities and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

**College of the Year** – an award for a College who have shown continued commitment and dedication to making a positive impact on the community through volunteering.

**Longstanding Volunteer** – an award for a volunteer who has shown inspiring levels of commitment and dedication to volunteering.

**Outstanding Volunteer** – an award for a new member of Durham University, who has shown inspiring levels of commitment and dedication to volunteering.

**Team of the Year** – an award for a team (e.g. sports team, society, department, college team, DUSVO project) who have shown continued commitment and dedication to making a positive impact on the community through volunteering.

**Volunteer Leader of the Year** – an award for a volunteer who has successfully led, developed and progressed a volunteering project or opportunity, to support the community.

**Volunteer of the Year** – an award for a volunteer who has gone above and beyond in their volunteering role, by supporting the community, developing personally and inspiring others.

## Volunteering Awards 2024

Nominations are now open!

*Closing Date: Sunday 28 April 2024*



Click here to make  
a nomination!





# Sabbatical Applications Open

Applications for the two volunteering sabbatical roles, Student Volunteering President and College Volunteering Assistant, are now open. Please see the links below for the detailed job descriptions and reach out if you have any questions. You can contact us at the email addresses below to have a chat or ask any questions about the positions:

- Student Volunteering President (EJ): [ej.lord@durham.ac.uk](mailto:ej.lord@durham.ac.uk)
- College Volunteering Assistant (Kai): [kai.a.flynn@durham.ac.uk](mailto:kai.a.flynn@durham.ac.uk)

To apply for the Student Volunteering President position please email your CV and a cover letter to [georgia.m.donohue@durham.ac.uk](mailto:georgia.m.donohue@durham.ac.uk), and to apply for the College Volunteering Assistant position email your CV and a cover letter to [katie.binks@durham.ac.uk](mailto:katie.binks@durham.ac.uk).

Applications are due by Monday 25th March 2024.

Click [here](#) for the Student Volunteering President Job Description

Click [here](#) for the College Volunteering Assistant Job Description

## Epiphany Term Highlights

### Durham Global Awards

We're very proud of Zhihan, the DUSVO Cultural Chair and Project Manager of Durham Global Schools, for winning the Global Student Experience Award on Friday 1st March! She has done incredible work managing the Durham Global Schools project, overseeing the four DUSVO cultural projects, and representing DUSVO at events such as the International Students Reception.



### Durham SU Awards

Durham University Volunteering and Outreach had an impressive run overall at the SU Awards this year. I'd particularly like to congratulate Van Mildert Outreach for their efforts which won them the Community Impact Award. Well done also to Lottie Gravelsons, the diligent project manager of DUSVO Gardening Project, who won the Sustainability Award.

I'd also like to give honourable mentions to the people shortlisted for their amazing efforts. Well done to Code Club, DU Scouts and Guides Group, Hyo Sung Jun (Mildert Outreach volunteer), Josephine Butler College, Julita Gajewska (1-2-1 Tutoring), and Kat Dawes (Hedgehog Friendly).

