



Amser i ddweud 'diolch'!
Time to say 'thank you'!



WYTHNOS GWIRFODDOLWYR VOLUNTEERS' WEEK



Welcome to BAVO's
Volunteers' Week 2021 special e-bulletin edition!



Time to say thanks!



Volunteers' Week is a special week earmarked to thank volunteers for all that they bring to their local communities and this year it feels more important than ever.

Celebrated every year from 1 – 7 June, it's a week in which the UK celebrates volunteers and says thank you for the contribution that they make. It also raises awareness about the benefits of becoming a volunteer and the diverse volunteering roles that are available. This year marks the 37th year of recognising volunteers with the overarching theme for the week being **Time to Say Thanks!**

Saying thank you feels more important than ever as the voluntary response to coronavirus has been vital in providing services such as shopping, prescription collection or welfare calls to people that are feeling isolated and anxious. In Bridgend County, we had over **1,500 people** register as volunteers! We have truly been overwhelmed and humbled by the generosity and kindness of our local residents.

It's time for BAVO to say A GREAT BIG THANK YOU!



Take a look at a snapshot of some of local volunteer opportunities



Below are some volunteer vacancies you might be interested in, which can be found at www.bavo.org.uk/news-events/latest-news (click on volunteering news).

You can find all the latest volunteering opportunities by visiting Bridgend.volunteering-wales.net

[Volunteer with Blind Veterans UK 's National Support Service](#)

[Bridgend Carers Centre recruiting new trustees](#)

[Emmaus South Wales recruiting volunteers for local charity shops reopening in July](#)

[British Heart Foundation looking for voluntary Warehouse Assistant in Bridgend](#)

[Gig buddies Cymru looking for volunteers](#)

[Home-Start volunteers needed in Bridgend County](#)

[New project needs your help to support older people \(50+\) and carers in your community](#)

[Volunteer/placement opportunities available at KPC](#)

[STEER need volunteers to look after animals and woodlands](#)

[RNID looking for volunteers for their Live Well with Hearing Loss Befriender role](#)



Don't forget, you can also register all your trustee vacancies free of charge by visiting Bridgend.volunteering-wales.net

For organisations working with volunteers, this system will help you to recruit and manage volunteers, log volunteer hours, plan rotas and events, record training and experience and produce reports.

Our Link Up project is extended to October, so extra volunteering opportunities are now available!



If you would like to be involved in helping to run one of the 340+ charities and not-for-profit organisations across Bridgend County, why not volunteer as a trustee (committee member)? [Link Up](#) can match you with an organisation that needs your skills and experience and give you a rewarding experience in return where you can “give back” to the local community. [Read more ...](#)

If you're interested in volunteering as a Link Up trustee or mentor, contact Suzanne at BAVO, email: suzannechisholm@bavo.org.uk or call 01656 810400 for further information.

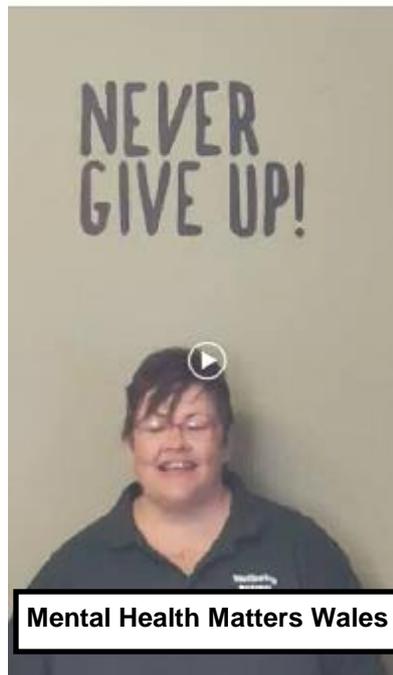
KPC say thank you to their volunteers....

“We would like to our volunteers for all for their support and commitment to KPC.

“If anyone would like to volunteer with us or discuss possible roles please contact us at info@kpcyouth.com”



Click on pictures below to hear our members saying a great big thank you to their volunteers!



BAVO successful in achieving the Investing Volunteers Award for the third time!



Investing in Volunteers (IiV) is the UK quality standard for good practice in volunteer management awarded by WCVA. Achieving the standard demonstrates to our volunteers and potential future volunteers, how much they are valued here at BAVO and provides them with confidence in our ability to provide an outstanding volunteer experience for them.

Since the start of Covid-19 in March 2020, face to face befriending was replaced by telephone befriending and we have had to make many changes to the delivery of our [Community Companions Project](#).



BAVO's Community Companions Development Officer says: "It's reaffirming to know that the changes and developments made during a difficult time are identified as being of a high standard."

Many volunteers were interviewed in the process and commented of their experiences volunteering. One volunteer said that "the support off BAVO is very good. I am impressed by them; I can ring up any time for help. They are very thankful of what I do," and another volunteer said: "you are made to feel very welcomed, valued and supported."

Many volunteers expressed the value that the role of befriending has brought to them: "I enjoy helping out; I get a spark of joy when I speak to the person and I have enjoyed my time volunteering."

BAVO aims to lead by example. Making sure volunteers are valued and respected for the work they do is vitally important and we are delighted that our standards of quality in supporting and developing volunteers have been maintained and recognised.

Click on picture below to hear "thank you" from Invest Local Caerau...



If you work with volunteers, or would like to, do you know there are a range of resources as well as support and information to help you?



If you work with volunteers, or would like to, there is a range of resources as well as support, advice and information to help you.

Visit www.wcva.cymru/i-work-with-volunteers where you can find out about recruitment and selection, how to get started, insurance, download model policies and lots more!

Download Code of Practice for involving volunteers...

The [Code of Practice](#) has been developed to help anyone who works with volunteers to ensure that they do so within the framework of good practice.



Health Board thanks all their volunteers supporting community vaccination centres...

“The volunteer service at Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board has been overwhelmed with the support from existing and newly recruited volunteers keen to support the community vaccination centres, during these difficult times.

“Our volunteers have helped with marshalling at the car parks, meet and greet and signposting those attending the centres.

“We are so proud of the support, dedication and care our volunteers have shown to the centres in order to keep the public safe and we cannot thank them enough.”



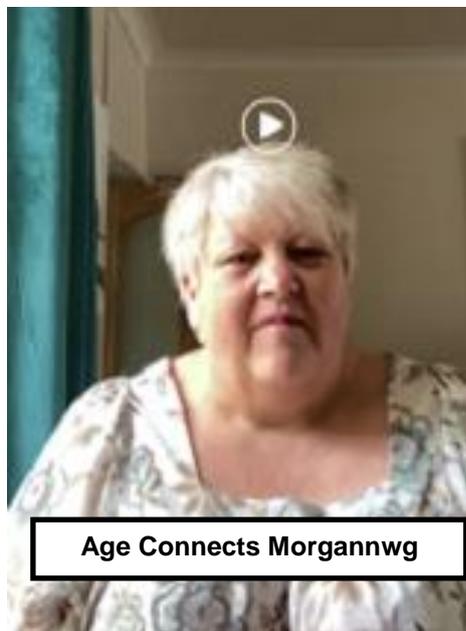
Investing in Volunteers (liV) Essentials ensures volunteers have best possible experience



This free online tool is designed especially for volunteer-involving groups and organisations to do a basic health check on volunteer practice. [You can find out further details here ...](#)



Theo's charity shop, Kenfig Hill



Age Connects Morgannwg

Click on pictures above to hear our members saying a great big thank you to their volunteers!

Thank you because...

“When I was allocated a volunteer driver I was so relieved to have help with my shopping and picking up prescriptions, it was better than winning a million pounds – the volunteer was amazing.”

“Absolutely brilliant don't know how I would have managed without the volunteers to pick up my shopping and prescriptions.”

[You can listen to some of our fantastic volunteers' stories here](#)



Angie – Volunteer Coordinator C9



Becky – Regional Manager



Colin – Community 8 Team Leader



Ffion – Community 5 Support Worker



Diane – ROVI



Helen – Regional Admin



Beth – Volunteer Coordinator C5



Juliette – Volunteer Coordinator C8



Sally – Regional Admin



Lisa – Community 9 Support Worker



Jenny – Community 7 Support Worker

**Sarah Murphy MS – Senedd Constituency Member
says THANK YOU!**



**Huw Irranca-Davies MS –
Senedd Constituency Member
says THANK YOU!**



Chris Elmore MP for Ogmore says THANK YOU!



Finding volunteers

We help local organisations be the best they can be through giving best practice guidance on volunteer recruitment and management, supervision, training, engagement and retention. You can contact our Volunteer Team at BAVO who can provide you with the information they require to make informed choices in volunteering. Registration for organisations is free of charge.

We also run a Volunteer Management Forum which brings organisations together and provides peer support, legal updates, information on safe volunteering and working practices and to learn and share ways to continuously improve the quality and diversity of opportunities to local volunteers. Find out more by visiting www.bavo.org.uk/volunteering/finding-volunteers



Knowledge Hub gives easy access to a range of online information, networking and learning

The hub is an easy to use tool to help voluntary organisations upskill, learn and access high quality information on key areas such as running your organisation, volunteering, funding and influencing. You can register on to the Knowledge Hub at thirdsectorsupport.wales



Volunteering Youth Led Grants offering up to £2,000 now open!

Deadline: 21 July 2021.



How much money can I apply for?

You can apply for the maximum grant of up to £2,000. This is the maximum amount of funding you are able to receive from the youth panel in the financial year 2021/22.

The aim of the funding is to help young people to volunteer aged 14 - 25 to be more involved in community and voluntary organisations in their local community.

The Youth Bridgend Funding Group is made up of a group of young people aged 14 - 25 living in Bridgend County Borough and is funded by Welsh Government and Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA). The panel members are supported by BAVO.

The funding was established to achieve a step change in youth volunteering for young people aged 14 - 25 in a variety of voluntary and community organisations throughout the UK. The funding's purpose is to identify ways to engage more young people from disadvantaged and under-represented communities.

Who is eligible for the grant?

Projects must have a community benefit to the communities of Bridgend County Borough. The funding is to support young people aged 14 - 25 to volunteer in a variety of community organisations within Bridgend.

Funding priorities are as follows:

- Funding is available to voluntary and community organisations that are legally **constituted and want to empower young people to volunteer**;
- Organisations that are committed to listening to and working in partnership with young people;
- Organisations will need to be constituted and have a bank account in the name of the organisation, which requires at least two signatures;
- There is no minimum amount that can be applied for;
- If groups want to apply for the maximum of £2,000 they may be asked to present their ideas to panel members;
- Projects or groups that have applied before can reapply (whether or not they were successful) but their ideas must involve young volunteers.

[Apply now! Read more and download guidelines and application form here](#)

Karma Seas CIC in Porthcawl issue short film thanks to Bridgend Youth Led Grants

Through a BAVO Youth Led Grant of over £1,400, their young volunteers enjoyed learning new media skills so that they could take ownership of sharing their own stories. They learnt how to use new equipment to take photographs and videos for podcasts, which have been shared through a variety of social media platforms to engage more young people and increase involvement from disadvantaged and under-represented young people to volunteer.





Find out lots more information about Volunteers' Week by visiting:

www.bavo.org.uk/volunteering/volunteers-week

www.facebook.com/BAVOhub

twitter.com/BAVO_CVC

You can find all the latest volunteering opportunities by visiting

Bridgend.volunteering-wales.net

For further information about volunteering:

contact BAVO, T: 01656 810400, E: volunteering@bavo.org.uk

visit our volunteering pages at www.bavo.org.uk

or read our latest volunteering news at

www.bavo.org.uk/news-events/latest-news



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