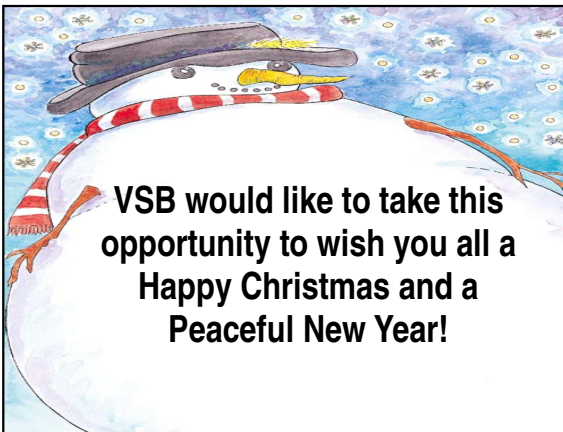


# VSB: Volunteer Centre Fermanagh

## VSB - Volunteer Centre Fermanagh

VSB, Voluntary Service Bureau, has over 40 years experience of providing the infrastructure to support, encourage and promote citizenship and participation through voluntary activity. VSB are funded through the Voluntary and Community Unit of the Department for Social Development to run two other volunteer Centres - Belfast & Castlereagh based in Belfast City Centre and North Down & Ards based in the seaside town of Bangor. We are delighted to provide a volunteer support service for the County Fermanagh and would encourage people to contact us .

*Volunteering is the commitment of time and energy for the benefit of society and the community, the environment or individuals outside ones immediate family. It is undertaken freely and by choice, without concern for financial gain.*



## The role of a volunteer centre is:

- To raise awareness of and promote the benefits of volunteering
- To initiate, develop and support a diverse range of volunteer opportunities
- Recruit and support volunteers and match them with opportunities
- Promote good practice in volunteer management
- Raise awareness of volunteering issues and inform local initiatives

## How can we help you?

Volunteers are people from all walks of life, from all ages and stages. What they have in common is the desire to make a difference in the community - and in their own life - by the giving of time.

Have you some spare time? Would you like to give something back to your community? Volunteering can help you meet new people, gain work experience and can add a great deal to your life and the lives of those for whom you volunteer.

Here are some examples of the kind of things volunteers do:

Work with children and young people; advice work; work with older people; counselling; work with families; office based work; volunteer in the arts or heritage; work with adults or children with disabilities; sports and leisure; work in the environment or fundraising. These are just some of the types of things you can get involved in.

If you would like to make a difference, then contact us today to receive a Volunteer Registration Form. We have information on many local volunteering opportunities and can talk to you about what is available and what you want to do. We can arrange for you to meet with organisations and provide support throughout your volunteering placement.



**We Volunteer  
.... Join Us !**

## VSB Volunteer Centre Fermanagh

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Web: [www.vsb.org.uk](http://www.vsb.org.uk)

## How can VSB help your organisation?

- **Promotion of your volunteering opportunities** - ensuring your opportunities are featured in our Volunteer Opportunities newsheets, and on the soon to be re-launched [www.volunteernow.co.uk](http://www.volunteernow.co.uk), the website which enables potential volunteers to search for opportunities, locally or regionally
- **Recruitment of Volunteers** - finding and matching volunteers with specific interests and skills if necessary, with the opportunities available within your organisation
- **Development of Volunteering Opportunities** - providing support to develop opportunities that will be attractive to potential volunteers as well as benefiting your organisation
- **Local expertise** - access to good practice in managing and involving volunteers. You will be invited to join our VOLT training and networking session - Volunteer Organisations Linking Together

To enable your organisation to benefit from this free service, please request an Organisation Registration Form and Volunteer Opportunity Registration Form (guidance notes are also included). Information on these forms is entered onto our database and helps us to 'sell' your organisation to potential volunteers. It is therefore helpful if you could update your details and volunteer opportunities with us on a regular basis as this will help facilitate successful and timely recruitment of volunteers.



Statistics from 'It's all About Time', a report on Volunteering in Northern Ireland 2007, state that there are currently an estimated 282,067 formal volunteers throughout Northern Ireland. The overall economic value of formal volunteers, based on the Northern Ireland average wage, is **£504 million!**

**If you are a volunteer or an organisation previously registered with the Volunteer Centre and do not wish to receive any further information from VSB, please contact us and we will update our records.**

## Voluntary Organisations Linking Together

Voluntary Organisations Linking Together (VOLT) is a Forum facilitated by VSB to bring voluntary and community organisations from across Belfast and beyond together to discuss and promote volunteering and volunteering issues. All voluntary and community groups registered with VSB can attend VOLT and past participants have found the Forum useful for exchange of information, training, networking and forging cross community links.



The latest VOLT session took place on 24 October 2008 when an audience of 70 welcomed the return of Gerry Faloon who facilitated our VOLT Session on the subject of "Recruiting and Retaining Volunteers".

Gerry has strong links with the voluntary sector and his session advised on how to attract, motivate and retain volunteers.

For more information or to register for VOLT please contact VSB on 6634 0285 or email [lorraine@vsb.org.uk](mailto:lorraine@vsb.org.uk)

## Investing in Volunteers

Having successfully achieved the UK quality standard Investing in Volunteers during the summer, along with Arthritis Care Northern Ireland and New Lodge Duncairn Community Health Partnership, VSB was delighted to learn that 4 more organisations have attained the standard. Down District Volunteer Centre, Down's Syndrome Association NI, Strabane Community Project and Young at Art have all received the Investing in Volunteers National Award. This brings to 10 the number of Northern Ireland groups. VSB fully endorses this important quality standard and would encourage all organisations working with volunteers to find out more by visiting [www.investinginvolunteers.org.uk](http://www.investinginvolunteers.org.uk) or by phoning the Volunteer Development Agency on 028 9023 6100.



**A large print version of this publication is available on request**  
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