

Kelly Smith – Project Officer VAST

*Creating a Local Volunteer
Managers Network*





Established in 1920, VAST is a registered charity, providing specialist services to the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Sector in Staffordshire, supporting them to deliver high quality services to local communities.



VAST Volunteering

Our offer

- Volunteer brokerage service
- Promoting safe & inclusive volunteering
- Identifying & breaking down barriers
- Training
- Support & advice
- Stoke Volunteer Managers Network



Creating a Volunteer Managers Network

The Volunteer Managers Network gives people working with volunteers in and around the local area an opportunity to

- Share ideas
- Promote Best Practice
- Provide mutual support
- Networking



Aims of a Volunteer Managers Network

To celebrate and promote volunteering activity

To raise awareness and understanding of volunteering related issues

To improve networking and co-operation between organisations and across voluntary and statutory sectors

To share good practice

To provide a supportive network for volunteer managers

Managers Network Survey

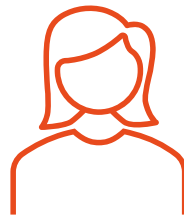
Recent feedback

Listening to what the group expects
and needs going forward.

“The meetings are so beneficial. Everyone is always approachable, helpful and informative”

“The network is a safe place to share concerns & get support”

“Newsletters are beneficial. Keep up to speed if we can’t attend meetings”



Quarterly Newsletter

This month's topics

Onboarding Volunteers

Good News Stories



Meet Jodie! Jodie volunteers with Father Hudson's on their allotment and luncheon club. Jodie wanted to

Volunteer Managers Network



Welcome back to our Volunteer Managers
Network Newsletter

A newsletter to share information, stories and key dates as reminders and to inform those unable to attend the meetings.

Feedback welcomed the more refreshing approach of a newsletter other than minutes.



Identifying & Addressing Barriers

To Volunteer Engagement



Language



Physical



Skill Level



Time



Money



Location



Expectation



Identifying & Addressing Barriers

To Volunteer Engagement

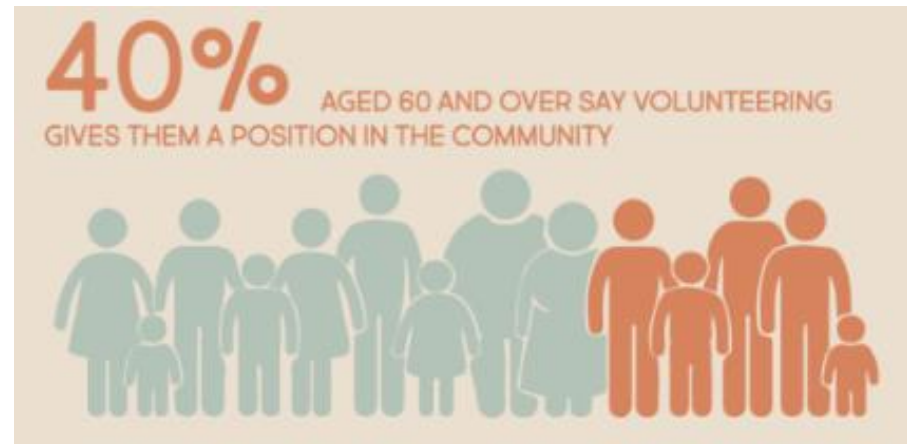
As a network we work to...

- Identify & define
- Support & Advise
- Address & overcome



Vintage Volunteers

Peer Research



A project aimed at reducing isolation and loneliness in those aged 60+.
Working to improve the volunteering offer in Stoke-on-Trent.

Report: <https://vast.org.uk/volunteering/>



A Case Study

Duke of Edinburgh (DofE)

Barrier/Need

- Accessing volunteering opportunities for young people
- Low engagement from local VCSE
- Lack of knowledge about onboarding young volunteers



Volunteer Engagement

- Understand local issues
- Celebrate success
- Make links & share resources
- Link into online groups
- Volunteer newsletters

Volunteering in Stoke-on-Trent Facebook group

Have you joined our Facebook group?

Request to join [here](#) and help to grow the group by posting, commenting, and sharing volunteer opportunities.

You can also get news and updates via VAST Volunteering on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).



vast 
Volunteering

#STOKEONTRENTTOGETHER

Welcome back to our
VAST volunteering newsletter



As the nights are getting longer, and the temperature is starting to drop, now is a great time to think about volunteering. Any time you can spare can make a huge difference in your local community!



Volunteer Fayres

Taking a different approach to attracting and engaging volunteers



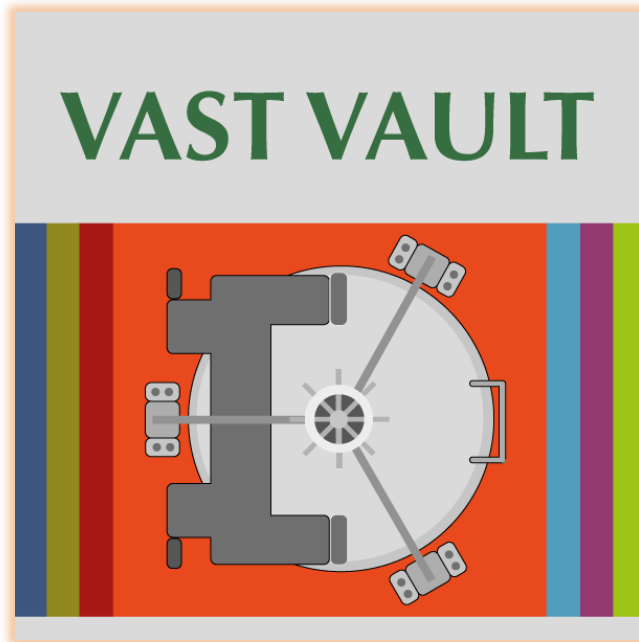
vast 
Volunteering
invites you to our free
VOLUNTEER
FAYRE

Thursday 15th September, 11:00 - 13:00
The Dudson Centre, Hope Street,
Hanley, ST1 5DD

No need to book, simply turn up and find out more about the latest volunteering opportunities! Email volunteering@vast.org.uk for more information



Resources



<https://vast.org.uk/the-vast-vault/>



www.vast.org.uk/volunteering





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