

Our first Appreciation Event

In March we invited all active volunteers to our first Thank You Lunch, an event to show our appreciation for everything that volunteers do and the time they give.

On arrival volunteers were invited to browse a variety of display stands, to find out more about the volunteer opportunities within Locala and how they can get more involved in the organisation.

Karen Jackson (Chief Executive) and Emma Dickens (Head of Communications and Engagement) officially welcomed everyone to the event, as we sat down to enjoy an afternoon tea together.



Raffle tickets were on sale to raise money for two charities, chosen by our volunteers: Forget Me Not Children's Hospice and Baby Café. Prizes donated by local organisations were presented by Chris Reeve (Director of Corporate Affairs), which included a chocolate hamper donated by Asda.

Following the afternoon tea and raffle draw, volunteers were invited to share their experiences of why they applied to volunteer with Locala and what they enjoy about their role. Video stories from an Immunisation Team Supporter and Self-Weigh Link Supporter were shown, alongside presentations from two of our Breastfeeding Peer Supporters.



Volunteer Services Managers, Sarah Peacock and Heidi Curry, presenting a cheque to Forget Me Not Children's Hospice.



Calderdale Breastfeeding Peer Supporter Lead Coordinator, Bridget Hall, presenting a cheque to the Baby Café Team.

We received some wonderful feedback after the event and hope to hold another appreciation event next year!

Fantastic event! You have made me feel very appreciated and lunch was delicious, thank you!

Lovely event! Lunch was delicious, I enjoyed getting to know new Locala volunteers, thank you!

Lovely afternoon tea. Was great to learn of the other volunteering roles.

Thank you

We would like to say thank you to all of our volunteers for their generosity of time and valued contribution and give a warm welcome to all volunteers who have recently joined us.

We currently have 130 active volunteers, fulfilling 19 different roles, volunteering 180 hours every week.

Volunteers have the opportunity to make a real difference for our patients and service users and we really do appreciate the time they're able to give. We hope that we can give them something in return, whether this be training, practical experience, a sense of belonging, or the knowledge that they're helping others.

Turn the page...
...to meet our volunteers and find out how volunteering is making a difference to Locala and the local community.

Meet the Team

Meet the Locala team here to help you



Sarah Peacock
Volunteer Services Manager
0303 330 9392
sarah.peacock@locala.org.uk

Sarah and Heidi's role is to recruit and support volunteers and to work with teams to increase the number of volunteering opportunities within Locala. They also liaise with charities and other third sector organisations, looking at how Locala can work in partnership with them, to benefit our patients and service users.



Heidi Curry
Volunteer Services Manager
0303 330 9392
heidi.curry@locala.org.uk



Emma Dickens
Head of Communications & Engagement
0303 330 8771
emma.dickens@locala.org.uk

Emma's role is to lead on all aspects of communications and community engagement, this includes supporting the Volunteering Team.



Bridget Hall
Calderdale Breastfeeding Peer Support Network Lead Co-ordinator
033 3043 6277
bridget.hall@locala.org.uk

Bridget and Michelle's role is to promote, recruit, train, co-ordinate and support all Locala breastfeeding peer supporters within Calderdale.



Michelle Davies
Calderdale Breastfeeding Peer Support Network Assistant Co-ordinator
033 3043 6268
michelle.davies@locala.org.uk

Volunteer Feedback We're keen to gather feedback from our volunteers, to ensure their volunteering experience is positive. The following results, taken from our annual survey carried out in January, and our latest set of exit evaluation questionnaires, are wonderful to read:



Awards!



Kirklees Volunteering Quality Award Reaccreditation:

In March Locala were extremely proud to be reaccredited with the Kirklees Volunteering Quality Award, which is valid for another three years. Receiving this award is evidence that we value our volunteers and involve them in ways that have been agreed as good practice by Volunteering Kirklees, Kirklees Council and Third Sector Leaders.

Good practice includes making sure volunteering is open to everyone, encouraging volunteers to develop their skills and offering quality support and supervision.



Chris Reeve (Director of Corporate Affairs), Sarah and Heidi receiving the award from Becky Bracey, Volunteering Kirklees



Standing Ovation Award:

As an organisation, Locala is built on the values of working together, leadership and respect. Colleagues are therefore encouraged to nominate someone who truly lives Locala's values for a Standing Ovation Award; an unsung hero who provides great patient care and deserves some recognition.

We're extremely proud to say that Sharon Holt, Low Mood Maternal Peer Supporter, won the first Volunteer Standing Ovation Award in May, which was presented by Karen Jackson (Chief Executive). Here's her nomination:

“Sharon has made a positive impact, both on the lives of the clients that she has supported, and within the 0-19 teams. Sharon goes above and beyond her voluntary role, by periodically meeting with discharged clients, to ensure their continued progression, and volunteering at Locala events, including Batley Pride in the Park.

An incredibly kind individual, Sharon is always willing to help others and truly lives the Locala values. Sharon is described as an ‘inspiration’ by her fellow peer supporters and she continues to inspire every day. The success of the role is a testament to how passionate and valued Sharon is, by her clients, the 0-19 teams and as a volunteer.”



Sharon receiving her award at Locala's Head Office with Sarah

Celebrating Volunteers' Week 2019 (1st - 7th June)

Thank You Gifts: As part of our Volunteers' Week celebrations, Locala gave all active volunteers a little thank you treat, with a special message attached on a gift tag. Bridget, Heidi, Michelle and Sarah thoroughly enjoyed writing and delivering them to our Calderdale and Kirklees volunteers.

Here's a few special moments they shared:



Top row (from left to right): Steph, Holly (pictured with Heidi) and Nageen
Bottom row (from left to right): Sarah, Ariful and Overthorpe Self-Weigh Team

Top row (from left to right): Zainab (pictured with Ciara Schofield, Infant Feeding Lead) Patrick and Priscilla (pictured with Sarah)
Bottom row (from left to right): Emma and Liz (pictured with Michelle and Bridget)

Community Links Fair: During Volunteers' Week, Heidi and Sarah attended a recruitment fair held by Community Links at the Huddersfield Methodist Mission. The event provided members of the community with the opportunity to chat to colleagues and volunteers from local charities and organisations, to find out what volunteering opportunities are available in the area.

The fair was really well attended and provided Heidi and Sarah with the opportunity to promote the volunteer roles Locala has on offer, alongside the benefits that volunteering brings, which includes gaining experience and offering a valuable contribution to their local community healthcare provider.



Kirklees Befriending Partnership: Locala are proud to be part of a new Kirklees Befriending Partnership, which was showcased for the first time at the Community Links Fair. Working closely with Age UK (Calderdale and Kirklees), Kirkwood Hospice, The Royal Voluntary Service and The Yorkshire Children's Centre, the partnership will connect people, to try and reduce social isolation by offering befriending opportunities.

Get Involved!

There are alternative ways you can get involved with Locala, other than joining us as a volunteer:

Community Membership

We encourage community membership because we want to make sure that the NHS services we provide are what local people need and want.

We want members to:

- Have a say in how we shape and deliver our community healthcare services.
- Be involved in the future development of Locala and influence how it grows.

As a member of Locala you will be able to:

- Stand for election to our Members' Council and represent members at the highest level of the organisation.
- Vote for members to represent you on the Members' Council.
- Receive invitations to Members' Council meetings and the Annual Members' Meeting.
- Receive invitations to members' events and other ways to get involved and have your say.
- Receive regular news and updates including our members' newsletter.

Members' Council:

Our Members' Council meet approximately four times a year and make sure that colleagues, patients, carers and local people have a voice in Locala and influence the decisions made by the Locala Board.

Who can become a member?

Anyone who lives in Kirklees, Calderdale or Bradford, or who cares for someone who does, and is over the age of **14 years old**.

If you have any questions about membership, please contact our Membership Lead:

Tel:
030 3330 9802

Web:
www.locala.org.uk/get-involved/membership/

Facebook:
Locala Members

Readers Panel



All volunteers have the opportunity to join Locala's Readers Panel, in addition to their volunteer role.

Being a member of the panel provides volunteers with the opportunity to review documentation such as patient leaflets and tell us what they think. This helps Locala to produce better quality information for our patients and their families.

Members of the Readers Panel are invited to review literature as a group, or review the literature by email.

If you would like to join the Readers Panel, please contact the Membership Team.

Meet our Social Media Supporter

The Creative & Media Studio School

The Creative & Media Studio School

Patrick Newton joined Locala's Communications Team as a Social Media Supporter volunteer in March. Patrick volunteers one day each week, as part of a 12 month pilot programme run by The Creative & Media Studio School, where he is currently studying.

Locala has partnered up with the Media School, to improve employability skills through long-term industry placements.

1. Q: Why did you apply for the Social Media Supporter role?

A: So I could gain more insight into how media functions in society and to gain experience to put on my CV.

2. Q: What projects have you supported the Communications Team with since starting your role?

A: The projects that I have supported consist of helping to improve Locala's social media pages, I did this by evaluating multiple Locala Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages. My role here was to help break the pages down so they could be targeted easily towards audiences old and new. Through my experience with social media and technology, I was able to provide insight into how to market these pages better to the Communications Team. I've also helped the Communications Team with editing videos. The team filmed some footage of volunteers, I helped edit the footage in a video package at college, which could be presented on social media pages and to colleagues. I've also helped as a supervising camera operator when the Communications Team went to a Locala Sexual Health clinic in Bradford.

3. Q: What have you enjoyed most about your role so far?

A: I've enjoyed meeting new people and becoming acquainted with their roles. Colleagues have helped me settle and I think that's made a huge difference to how I perform in the workplace.

4. Q: What skills do you feel you have gained?

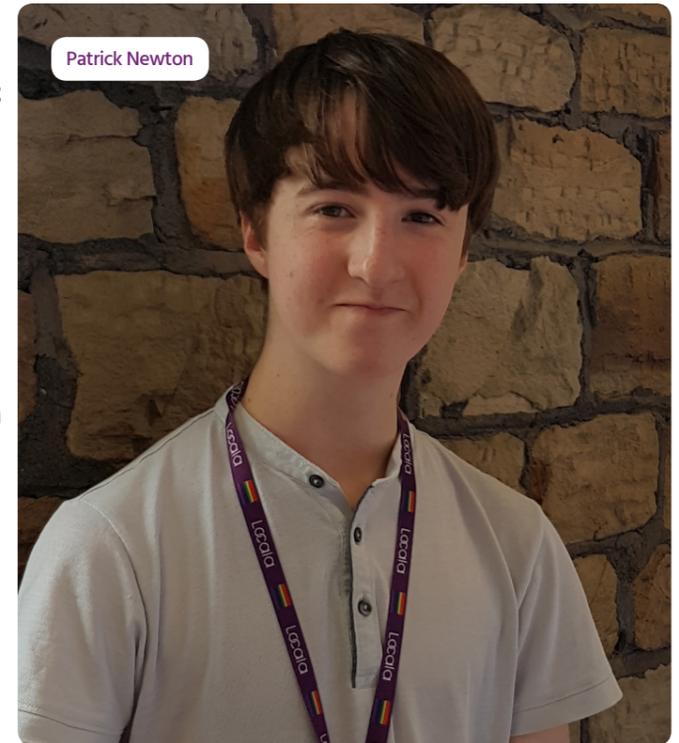
A: By working in a new, unfamiliar environment, I've learnt to adapt quickly into new environments and situations.

5. Q: What difference do you feel you have made?

A: I think I've been able to provide key insight into how to reach out to people my age, through social media. I'm hopeful this can help Locala reach a whole new audience.

Steve Pearson, Communications Manager, added:

"Patrick has settled in well and worked efficiently on an initial project to review Locala's current social media usage by services. He is very focused, completing his work well, and has been keen to start the next project. Well done Patrick!"



Patrick Newton

Would you like to become a volunteer?

Every year, over 20 million people across the UK volunteer, donating more than 100 million hours to their communities every week. Would you like to be part of this?

Volunteers bring fresh ideas, enthusiasm and experience, so why not volunteer with Locala, because we recognise that everyone has a skill they can share!

We recruit volunteers from all sectors of the community and hope to match you with the most appropriate opportunities to suit your needs and expectations.

Benefits

Volunteering provides you with opportunities to:

- Make a real difference for our patients and service users
- Use your skills and talents as well as develop new ones
- Build your confidence and gain work experience
- Enjoy what you do and make new friends

Volunteering provides Locala with the opportunity to:

- Value and benefit from the skills and knowledge that volunteers bring
- Enhance the patient services we provide
- Interact with our local community

Here are some of the active roles we currently have within Locala:

- **Befriender** Westmoor Rehabilitation Service, Mirfield and Oakmoor Rehabilitation Service, Netherton, Huddersfield
- **Breastfeeding Peer Supporter** Kirklees and Calderdale
- **Cardiac Rehabilitation Buddy** Mill Hill Health Centre, Huddersfield and Huddersfield Stadium Fitness
- **Immunisation Team Supporter** Batley, Cleckheaton, Dewsbury and Ravensthorpe Health Centres
- **Patient Supporter** Dewsbury Health Centre, Holme Valley Memorial Hospital (Holmfirth), Dewsbury and District Hospital (Walk in Centre), Horne Street Health Centre, Halifax (Walk in Service)
- **Social Media Supporter** Beckside Court, Batley
- **Self-Weigh Link Supporter** Golcar, Overthorpe, Slaithwaite and Birkby Children Centres
- **TB Patient Supporter** Dewsbury and District Hospital
- **Team Supporter** Eddercliffe Health Centre, Liversedge

If you're interested in becoming a volunteer for Locala, either:

Visit our website at www.locala.org.uk/about-us/volunteering/current-volunteer-vacancies

Email us at volunteering@locala.org.uk

Call our Volunteer Services Manager on 0303 330 9392

 LocalaVolunteering

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