

Volunteer Walking Book Group Leader

The Book Project was initiated during one of the lockdowns of Covid-19 to address various issues: Closure of libraries so no access to free books, closure of charity shops so no where to take no longer wanted books and a need to stay active but a lack of motivation by many to continue to do so. Putting free books into book boxes for people to have access to gave and still gives a reason for people to take a walk, run or cycle. Why not reward yourself with a free book.

As things have opened back up The Book Project continues, supporting people to connect with their neighbours and fellow book worms, encourage physical activity with book boxes being placed where possible near parks and green spaces and also with the development of walking book groups. A walk and a talk with a subject to get you started with. We also offer a small service of delivering books to those who are unable to get out and about, with a smile and a chat on the doorstep.

Volunteering with the Book Project you will be helping people in the community to get active, increase their confidence to join new groups and reduce levels of isolation. You will support the project to ensure activities are friendly, safe, and well run. Your role will include:

- Undertaking risk assessments of new routes, familiarising yourself with the route and checking regularly
- Welcoming walkers & readers, giving a brief talk before the walk to make sure everyone is prepared
- Ensuring participants have access to free books to choose from on the suggested theme.
- Arranging with the food team for refreshments to be available on return from walk.
- Leading and managing walks, trouble-shooting and dealing with problems and reporting any accidents/incidents
- Ensure all participants are signed up & registered and NHS track and trace procedures are followed
- Provide information about other sessions offered by TAWS
- Attending occasional run leaders' meetings and refresher training

We're looking for someone who has:

- An up-to-date first aid qualification
- DBS check
- Excellent leadership, group management and communication skills
- The ability to empathise & support individuals in situations which may be physically & emotionally demanding
- Good organisation and a logical approach
- Reliability and time-keeping skills
- Enthusiasm for the outdoor environment and your specialist activities
- Patience and tolerance towards those lacking in confidence or behaving in a challenging way
- A calm and reassuring demeanour
- The ability to assess a situation rapidly and act decisively under pressure

As a Book Project Volunteer, you can expect:

- A fun and welcoming team
- Full training and induction to volunteering on the project and each walk
- To be kept in the loop about plans for the project and good news stories
- Access to our wellbeing services as a member of the team
- Expenses, including mileage covered in line with our volunteer policy
- To always have a point of contact should you have any questions
- The opportunity to build skills and confidence through an individual development plan

When & Where:

Various locations across the city

[Click here to be directed to our application form,](#)
or visit:
<http://bttr.im/3si5t>