

## Volunteering Newsletter

September 2023



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## Since April TAWS Volunteers have given 3472 hours

to support our projects.

Thank you!

#### TAWS Update



The Tales of Tyseley exhibition took place at Hay Hall recently.

Find out more about this project by visiting our <u>website</u>, where we will soon be publishing the exhibition photos.

#### Have you visited our Share Shack?

Ladywood Share Shack is **now** open on Saturdays between 10am-2pm, and we have two new drivers for the mobile Share Shack vans so they'll be getting out and about much more. Check our Social Media pages to find out more.

pages to find

Share Shack Welcomes You





Our Big Birmingham Bikes Team have started a new partnership with Shropshire Council, providing bikes for a group of young people from asylum seeking backgrounds. Can can read more on this <u>HERE</u>.



#### BIRMINGHAM



We are excited to welcome our first cohort of Student Nurses from BCU this September, who will be volunteering in our Community Cafe's and Share Shack over the next few months.

We welcome placements from schools, colleges and universities, please get in touch for more details.

#### Do you love cycling?

We are looking for volunteers to help support our cycling team across all of Birmingham.

If you have a couple of hours you can spare each week please get in touch for a chat.

Email: volunteering@theaws.org





We will be sending out details of our next Volunteer CommuniTEA meet up soon.

This is a chance for all our volunteers to come together and chat over a cuppa and cake.

We would love to see you at our next one!

#### BIRMINGHAM



#### Community Cafe Volunteers Needed!

Our Community Cafes are always looking for volunteers to help in the kitchens or front of house, helping set up and meet & greet visitors.

If you would like to get involved, get in touch!

#### Our Listen & Connect Team Need You!

If you are interested in volunteering with our Listen & Connect Team, we have volunteering roles available in befriending or support our regular Listen & Lunch meet ups.

### Get in touch for a chat to find out more.

(Enhanced DBS and additional training required)





#### Become a Share Shack Volunteer

Are you a whizz with a sewing machine, or an electrics expert?

We're looking for people to share their skills with the community at the Ladywood Share Shack, now it's open 6 days a week.

Email: **volunteering@theaws.org** find out more!





#### Welcome to Sally

Sally Dobson is our new Volunteer Co-ordinator for Colchester.

"I have lived & worked around the Colchester area for around 20 years. My earliest memory as a volunteer was as a Guide – helping others in my local community. I really enjoy working with a wide range of the community and have held positions as a PTA member, A School Governor, an Athletics Coach and committee member.

I am really looking forward to getting my teeth into Colchester Pedal Power where I have been made to feel so welcome already."

#### Bike Builder Volunteers Needed

We have 100's of bikes to build ready to get away FREE to local residents in:

Jaywick & Clacton Harwich & Dovercourt Basildon Colchester

Want to get involved?

Email: volunteering@theaws.org find out more!





#### Event & Giveaway Support

Sign up to become a volunteer and help support the teams at local bike giveaways. No experience needed. Help needed in:

> Jaywick & Clacton Harwich & Dovercourt Basildon Colchester

Email: volunteering@theaws.org find out more!

**ESSEX** 



Harwich & Dover Pedal Power Team held a Family Fun Day in August, where given out 44 bikes. Despite the bad weather, everyone (including the Town Crier) had a great day, local supermarkets donated food and drink for all that attended and we made everyone complementary picnics.

Here's one of their volunteers recieving a certificate for the hours given us to build bikes to change the lives of lots of local residents

#### Essex Pedal Power Celebrates its 2 year anniversary!

An event held in Clacton on Saturday 12th August, saw residents, local organisations and bike recipients come together as part of the Clacton Carnival procession, to celebrate two years since the launch of Essex Pedal Power in Clacton & Jaywick Sands. Read all about it <u>HERE</u>.



"I volunteers as I really want to see more bikes on the local streets giving other people the pleasure I have received from being a bike recipient"



#### Thank you Paddy!

Most Thursdays you will find Paddy at the workshop, alongside Alex, Colchester's Bike Mechanic – working as a volunteer bike builder.

After a stroke in 2022, which left him unable to drive for a living, Paddy wanted something to fill his time and keep him active. He received a bike from the Colchester Giveaways and has stoked up hundreds of miles and is keen to spread the word of his new found lease of life.

#### Tell us your story...

We know we have some amazing volunteers supporting our projects and we are really keen to hear what made you become a TAWS Volunteer?

We want to highlight the benefits of volunteers to show how much of a positive experience it can be, and encourage anyone who is thinking about getting involved that it might just be for them!

If you would like to share your story email: volunteering@theaws.org

#### See the latest news on our website: <u>www.theaws.co.uk</u>

Please support and share our campaigns, and keep up to date on our Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

