



# VOLUNTEERS' WEEK



Volunteers' Week is a UK-wide campaign that will run from Monday 3 June to Sunday 9 June 2024. The week provides an opportunity to celebrate the amazing contributions that volunteers make to our local communities, the voluntary sector and society as a whole.

We would love for you to join this year's campaign and recognise the many contributions that volunteers, past and present, have made to your organisation or community group. We have put together this short guide with suggested ideas for events and activities with links to downloadable resources to help you to celebrate and thank your volunteers.

2024 is also the 40th Anniversary of Volunteers' Week and therefore an extra reason to celebrate. The week will conclude with 'The Big Help Out' from Friday 7th to Sunday 9th, providing an opportunity to promote your organisation or group's volunteering opportunities and encourage more people to join the volunteer community.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss your plans with a member of staff at VAO please contact our Volunteer Development Worker via email at [aimee.harvey@vaorkney.org.uk](mailto:aimee.harvey@vaorkney.org.uk).

Wishing everyone a successful Volunteers' Week 2024!



Supporting The Orkney Community



Hosting an event for your volunteers brings everyone together, celebrates volunteers' contributions and provides a space for them to share their experiences of volunteering.

### EVENT IDEAS:

- A coffee morning, breakfast or brunch (in person or online)
- An evening quiz (in person or online)
- A bring your own picnic (if the weather allows)
- A pizza or curry night
- A day out sightseeing/visiting a local attraction
- Organising a treasure/scavenger hunt
- A wellbeing walk

You can also use the week to bring volunteers together to provide development opportunities such as organising a training session, or an induction session for new volunteers.

Volunteers' Week provides an opportunity to encourage more people to volunteer and can be a useful week to help increase your volunteer base.

- You can promote your organisation or group's volunteer opportunities online
- Hold a volunteer open day
- Run volunteering taster sessions
- Provide opportunities to shadow an existing volunteer for a day

Volunteers' Week could be a great time to launch a new volunteering project that's in the pipeline and create some extra buzz around it.

### RECOGNISING YOUR VOLUNTEERS:

- Send a special message to your volunteers with a 'thank you' card (template included below)
- You can choose to recognise your volunteers more formally with a certificate (template included below)

Social media is a great, free way to celebrate and thank your volunteers.



## USEFUL LINKS AND RESOURCES:

Web address: [www.volunteersweek.scot](http://www.volunteersweek.scot)

Templates:

[Thank you card](#)

[Certificate](#)

[Printable Bunting](#)



[Suggested social media posts](#)

Social Media Hashtags:

#VolunteersWeek

#VolunteersWeekScot

The full resource pack, including downloadable logos and social media images can be found at the above web address.



If you would like us to share content on the VAO Facebook page on your organisation or community group's behalf, please get in touch with [aimee.harvey@vaorkney.org.uk](mailto:aimee.harvey@vaorkney.org.uk) to discuss what you need.



Tag Voluntary Action Orkney (VAO) in your Facebook posts and we can share your activity.

## AFTER THE EVENT:

We would love to bring together a 'highlights from the week' to share with everyone after the event, and would be really grateful if you can tag us in any photos that you are sharing on Facebook, or email them to [aimee.harvey@vaorkney.org.uk](mailto:aimee.harvey@vaorkney.org.uk)

Please ensure that you have permission of those you are photographing before sharing.

