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# Volunteer update



Welcome to your monthly newsletter - keeping you updated with news relevant to all volunteers, as well as key group-specific news.



## General updates



**Join us online for the Volunteer Impact Awards!**



**November's Volunteer Voice**

The countdown is on to our Volunteer Impact Awards. We'll be celebrating some of the incredible achievements of our volunteers at our star-studded event on **Thursday 30 November at 7pm**. Find out how you can tune in and help us celebrate our finalists and winners.

[Find out more](#) 

Join us on **Tuesday 28 November at midday** for the usual organisational update and Q&A opportunity. And we'll hear about plans to work with paid face-to-face fundraisers to raise money for the central MS Society in towns and cities towards the end of the year.

[Register to attend](#) 



## Did you receive our safeguarding training?

If you're in a volunteering role which needs you to complete our online safeguarding training, we emailed you the access link last week. Do let us know if you haven't received it. Thanks to those who've already completed it.

[Find out more](#) 



## Join our Volunteer User Panel

If you'd like to play a leading role in ensuring that the MS Society's new Volunteer Management Solution (VMS) meets the needs of volunteers, why not join our new Volunteer User Panel?

[Find out more](#) 



## Get trained to campaign on local issues

If you're passionate about creating positive change in your area, join our expert staff members and campaigners for a series of online training events to help you make a difference.

[Find out more](#) 



## Carols by Candlelight

Tickets are still available for our festive celebration on **Thursday 14 December at 7pm**. If you can't get to London, we now have a link for you to enjoy a live stream of the event on YouTube.

[Find out more](#) 



## Check out our new Stop MS Christmas Appeal

This week we launched our Christmas appeal, aiming to raise £210,000



## Help us make MS prevention a reality!

We want researchers and funders to focus more on MS prevention.

towards MS research. Hear from two of our researchers trying to connect their ideas to new treatments for myelin repair, and the people this could help.

[Find out more](#) 

Could you, or someone you know, offer the experience and expertise needed for our new MS Prevention Taskforce Team? Find out more about the Taskforce and next steps.

[Find out more](#) 

## Other news

**ECTRIMS conference 2023** - Some highlights of the research presented at the annual gathering of MS researchers and clinicians.

**We Are Undefeatable blog** - Active Together helped our Hinckley & District Group secure funding so that local people with MS could live healthier and happier lives through physical activity. The blog shows the impact this has had.

**Ivo Graham and Friends comedy show** - There's still time to buy tickets for the O2 on **Tuesday 23 November**, in aid of our Stop MS Appeal.



## Volunteering in action



## Rebuilding the Retford Group

Barbara shares some of the innovative and creative things her group has done to improve support for people with MS in the area. And how much fun they've had in the process!

[Read Barbara's blog here](#)

## Volunteering has been a real learning curve

Terri is Group Coordinator of our East Cumbria Group. She tells us about her enthusiasm for getting people into the great outdoors and why she shares her lived experience to influence service provision.

[Read Terri's blog here](#)

**\*\*\* If you'd like to share your own experiences of volunteering, please let us know by completing the [online form here](#) \*\*\***



## Updates for groups



### Finance Year End is coming

If you're involved in your group's Finance Year-End process, we've created a resource reminding you of



### Support Volunteer Autumn Forums

Places are still available to join a session at the end of November — for peer support, lively discussion,

the steps you need to take between now and the end of January. Please take a look!

[Find out more](#) 



## December Coffee & Chat sessions

Our quarterly Zoom sessions are a chance to connect with other group volunteers across the UK, and with key staff members who support you.

[Register to attend](#) 

information about MS Support AND a quiz to celebrate 70 years of the MS Society!

[Register to attend](#) 



## Local group donations

A continuing thank you to all our groups that have generously donated to support our research projects and UK-wide services.

[Find out more](#) 

## This month's Top Tips!

Welcome to our 'Top Tips' section. Every month we'll share useful ideas and/or 'how to' hints to help you carry out your volunteering role.

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### Getting your Enthuse page out there

With over 25% of groups now using Enthuse to take online donations, it's a great time to share your Enthuse page far and wide. Whether you're sending out digital

comms or hosting in-person events, you can share your Enthuse page to ask for donations. [Find your Enthuse page by clicking here](#) and searching for your group in the search bar at the top.

### **In-person events**

If you have a Christmas lunch or supermarket collection coming up, a great way to take cashless donations is to create and print off a QR code. Stick it onto your collection buckets or include it on a poster at your event. People scan these with their mobile cameras and are taken straight to your Enthuse page to donate!

[Find out how to create a QR code.](#)

### **Digital comms**

Do you send out digital newsletters or emails? Add a link to your Enthuse page in these as a regular feature, so that people can easily donate to your group. Why not add it into your email signature too? The more you shout about it, the more donations you'll get.

If you have any questions about Enthuse, you can [join a training session](#) or email your Community Fundraiser (Molly) at [fundraising@mssociety.org.uk](mailto:fundraising@mssociety.org.uk).



## Events

### **Events for all volunteers**

**2023 Volunteer Impact Awards ceremony:** Tune in to the live stream on Thursday 30 November at 7pm

**Volunteer Voice:** Tuesday 28 November at midday

**Training troubleshooting:** Various dates available

**Virtual support events:** Information webinars, skills sessions, Conversation Caf  s and Wellbeing courses for different stages of the MS journey

## Fundraising Events Calendar 2023

**Living Well Team events** (including Staying Active with MS)

**Carols by Candlelight:** Thursday 14 December at 6.30pm

**Local campaigning training:** Various dates and topics available

## Events for group volunteers

**Weekly drop-in with Volunteer Support Team:** Every Tuesday at 2pm

**Monthly Health and Safety drop-in:** First Tuesday of every month at 3pm

**Coffee & Chat:** Various dates available

**Portal support session:** Various dates available

**Support Volunteer Autumn Forum:** Various dates available

**Enthuse onboarding training:** Various dates available

Let's stop MS together



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