

Bring A Book To Life

Remember Jackanory? No? Me neither. The volunteer project Bring A Book To Life aims to do refresh our memory of just what Jackanory did and make reading fun and fresh for a new generation.

Volunteers led by project leader Mary Roddy travel to three local schools, Norfolk Park and Hallam School and one other which is yet to be confirmed, to as the name of the project succinctly puts it bring books to life! This is achieved by using a variety of mediums such as arts, crafts, role-plays and is also structured using specific themes.

Norfolk Park is a special needs school and volunteers will be using the theme 'The Farm Yard' to engage a total of eight pupils in books relative to the chosen theme. Sessions have already begun as Mary says "We have run two sessions of the project in Norfolk Park, they went really well! This is a really lovely school, all the children and staff are really friendly and lovely - it's been really rewarding!" They have been looking at the book *I Love Animals* and plan to do



an animal for every fortnight across the eight weeks that the project will be running. As Mary reflects on the last sessions "This week and last week it has been dogs so we've made dog pictures and dog Masks using colours and lots of different fabrics in order to make it as multisensory as possible. Incorporating colour and texture is great for sight and touch".

In Hallam School, the volunteer's will be using the theme of 'Places' to promote reading to pupils in a year 2 class. Mary explains "The first week they are doing the Seaside and they are making their own postcards and then the group are varying the places they cover, gradually getting more exotic and exciting, I think they are hoping to do Europe and Asia etc."

And finally, the lucky school which is yet to be confirmed will be doing

the theme of 'Animals'. "They are starting off with *The Hungry Caterpillar* where they will be making a massive caterpillar with the whole group using paper plates; the caterpillar will be made out of all their own favourite foods. They are building up to bigger animals such as dogs and tigers ending in *the Gruffalo*, so not quite real animals!"

On behalf of everyone on Publicity Team and Hallam Volunteering, we wish the Bring a Book to life project and its participants all the fun, excitement and success for another year! Hope it doesn't go Jackanory!

By Mark Copping



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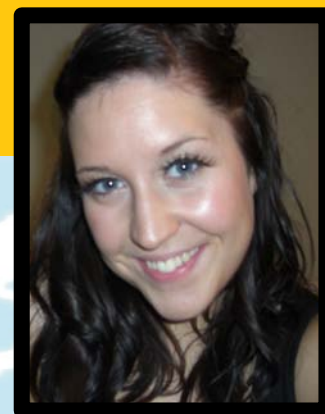
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Welcome to the March edition of eVOLve!

We have now past the half way point of the academic year and there is still so much great work going on by many projects! Congratulations to those who have had their events and we wish the remaining projects the best of luck for your forthcoming events.

The stories featured in all our newsletters plus extras are also placed on our Hallam Volunteering Publicity Blog – hvpublicity.blogspot.com - so we urge you to take a peek to keep up to date with all the great Hallam Volunteering news as it happens! Keep up with all the wonderful work, but above all, enjoy it!

Amy x
Amy Louise Moore, Publicity Officer



'So, you think you're musical?'

Now the New Year is fully underway there are lots of exciting things to look forward to, and 'Sounds in the City' is no exception.

This music event is the latest in a line of many events happening at Hallam volunteering. They appealed to the general public for anyone between 11 and 17 to audition on 17th and 18th February. The final showcase being delivered on 30th March will give everyone the opportunity to hear some genuine, natural talent bred closer to home.

Returning volunteer Michael Frawley, a second year Business Management student is heading up the project. Michael and his team of

volunteers have been working really hard to get the event on its feet. They have appealed to schools and youth clubs in the Sheffield area to promote the event and have even generated interest from record label 'Red Tape' involved, who are always on the lookout for fresh talent and local clubs 'Plug' and 'Boardwalk'

'Sounds in the City' is a project that has been running for 3 successful years (in previous years ran under the name 'Urban Sounds'). Mike hopes that the event will match up to previous years' success; 'I've not been involved in event planning before and would definitely do it again. I have learned a lot about music and the business and I am really enjoying it,' Mike responded when asked about his personal experiences on the project.

The auditions were closed to paying audiences, but the final showcase on 30th March will be open to anyone who wants to come along and

embrace this local live music event. All successful acts from the auditions will go ahead to the showcase, which will cost £1 on-the-door for over 18's but will be free for those under 18. The event has booked the whole upstairs of the Hubs, with acts appearing in alternating pods. When talking to Mike he was very excited about the plans for the event; "It's going to be a great night for people to come along and kick back before exams start...Everyone has worked really hard putting this event together, and I'm really pleased with how everything is going."

'Sounds in the City' is going to be an amazing event, so make a note in your diaries and be sure to come along to the showcase on 30th March.

By Sam Wilson



The Fit Club Gets Off To A Fabulous Start!

Hallam students are running an activities program for pensioners as part of a 'keep fit' scheme.

Fit Club, which was started by Hallam Volunteering several years ago, is a twice-weekly program operating in two Sheffield care homes, Guildford Grange and Bowfield Court. Volunteers guide elderly residents through various aerobic routines and activities.

Taking place every Tuesday and Wednesday, Fit Club began to run their sessions on the 2nd February and will continue for the duration of nine sessions. A typical session lasts for an hour and includes 'chair aerobics', activities with hoops and beanbags, 'memory' games, in which residents can win gold medals, and then finishing it all off with a group evaluation.

The project is designed for all residents of different abilities, including those with disabilities.

Project leader Francine Gleadall said: "It's important not to undermine any resident's ability-most are very capable of most activities"

Francine, a second year English student, said the results of Fit Club have been rewarding, "There's a bit of a stereotype between the elderly and younger generations. I think it's great for the residents to see young people giving back to the community. It's really lovely seeing the smiles on their faces. I'd advise anyone to get involved."

Alongside regular sessions, volunteers are planning additional activities for residents, including an Easter egg hunt in March. Francine described residents' feedback on the project as 'really good' and said it will continue running in the next academic year.

Fit Club meetings take place at the Hubs every Tuesday between 6-8PM.

By Emily Spruce



Tell us why you love Mondays?

The Monday Club is dedicated to providing a happy and safe environment for adults in the local community with Asperger Syndrome.

It's a monthly social club running a variety of fun activities such as Bingo, quizzes, bowling and film nights. The team within Hallam Volunteering aims to organise a fun, friendly, welcoming club that meets the participants' interests and needs, creating an

enjoyable experience for all.

One trip already organised by the team for Monday 1st March is a bowling trip for the group. Twenty participants as well as the eleven volunteers will be making sure it is a fun filled evening with food provided, which has all been funded by money raised by other activities within the group.

Other activities planned are bag-packing sessions at Morrison's planned in April and May to act as a fundraiser. All left-over money from the activities throughout the year will hopefully be spent on a yearbook and/or DVD for the team as a tangible reminder of their time with the Monday Club, comprised of all the memories over the last year and the fun times had by all.

A party at the end of term is also in the pipe line for a celebratory ending to

a very successful and enjoyable year for all members. Project leader Elaine Heathcote would also like to express her thanks to each and every member of the team for all their hard work and dedication throughout the project and long may it continue as the project progresses.

By Jenny Pead



Have you got the V Factor?

Friday nights at the Hubs will soon be an explosion of singing for weeks to come, as a new event, 'V-Factor' kicks off!

The Fundraising team have organised this light-hearted competition to provide great entertainment, a chance for people to showcase their talent, and also the money raised will be going to charities and organizations within Hallam Volunteering.

Similarly to the X-Factor, drama students will be singing for your votes, and the audience decide who makes the cut. There will also be a panel of judges, including drama students and a member from the 'Antics' group possibly adopting a Simon Cowell-esque persona.

The winner of the competition will be presented with an award and will go home safe in the knowledge that all you fellow students loved their singing and were well and truly entertained! Also, in each interval there will be performances from the drama team, such as comedy acts, so there will never be a dull moment!

The Fundraising Officer, Emma James said of the event: "The audience have the power to save their favourite act, which makes it entertaining, it's bound to be a fun-filled night of musical acts and comedy!"

The V-Factor will begin on the Friday 26th February. Semi-finals will be held on the 5th March and the finals, consisting of the last three acts, will take place on the 12th March. The nights' start at 8pm, and will be held in POD C of the Hubs.

Tickets are £2 per night in advance, and £2.50 on the door, but for all three nights together it's just £5! There is also a V.I.P option available, priced at £3, which consists of front row seating, and constantly flowing drinks. Sounds good right? Tickets are currently available from POD 4 and arrangements are being made so that they will also be available from the City Campus - so keep an eye out!

They can't promise you Cheryl Cole, but the V-factor will definitely be a great night out. The whole team are very excited about the venture, and with your support, hope it will be a great success. So come on, buy a ticket and find out who has the V-Factor!

"What better can you do on a Friday night?" commented Emma James

By Emily Stott.

PUBLICITY OFFICER

Amy Louise Moore

CONTRIBUTORS

Jenny Pead
Emily Spruce
Sam Wilson
Mark Copping
Emily Stott
Catherine Hall

EDITORIAL TEAM

Laura Smith
Martha Brown
Ashleigh Withall-Prince
Sam Wilson
Donna Child
Amy Louise Moore
Adam Reaney

GRAPHIC DESIGN TEAM

Thomas Levesley
Katherine Jones
Khawaja Javaad Ahmad
Nishith Patel
Mudassar Manzoor

