



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

YOUR APRIL VOLUNTEER & DONATIONS NEWSLETTER



DEAR VOLUNTEERS,

Welcome back to your newsletter. I hope that you had a lovely break over Easter and are enjoying the weather slowly, but surely, starting to improve as we head towards the end of Spring.

I would like to firstly thank all volunteers that recently spoke to Dane as part of our ongoing Investors in Volunteers accreditation. We are hopeful that we will be able to announce an exciting update in the coming weeks!

We will shortly be sending out links to invite all of our volunteers to make accounts on our brand new Volunteer Database system, so please keep an eye out and be sure to register. There are a number of helpful guides online, such as [here](#), but please get in touch if you have any issues or queries.

As always, I hope you find this update full of useful information to inspire and support you whilst you volunteer.

Esther Douglas, Volunteer Service Manager

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Improving lives together

Tracy and Simon win Volunteers of the Month!



Nomination courtesy of Kristina Batty.

Tracy and Simon have worked very hard these last couple of months collecting donations. It has been very busy and they have worked longer hours than normal!

They have collected and dropped off large amounts of donations, as well as helping a staff member do a house move.

The role Tracy and Simon do is very important as all our donations go to people who use Horton services. This can be furniture, clothes and other essential items people sometimes struggle to afford.

Keep up the great work guys!

From April 2021 - April 2022, we received:

55

Compliments

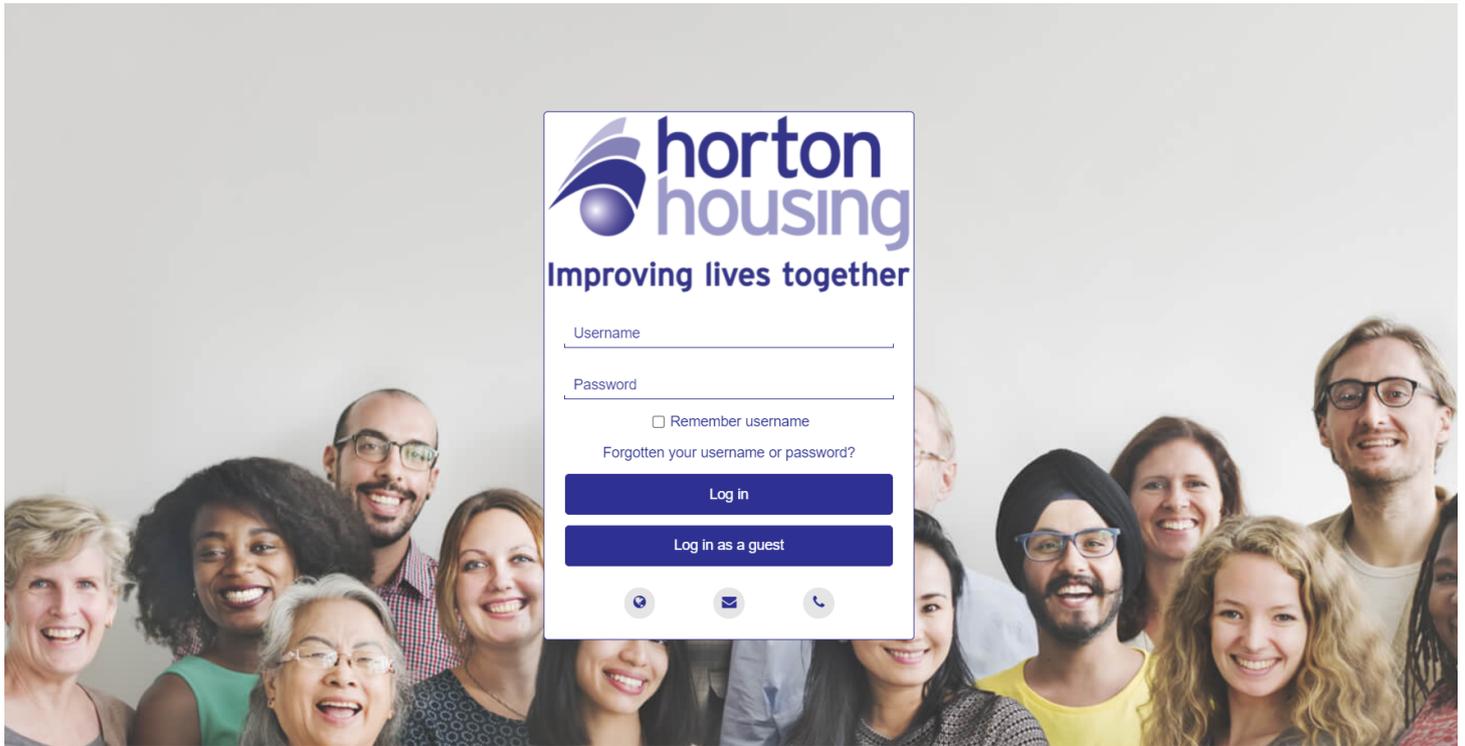
220

Donations

20

Repeat donors

Horton Academy Training Courses



It is really important that you complete your core training in your first six months of volunteering with us. The courses can be accessed remotely online. It is our responsibility to ensure that you are able to carry out the roles you have been recruited to do.

If you are looking for something to keep you occupied and you have access to a PC, tablet or smartphone, then please log in and complete the modules listed below. If you have any questions or need help with logging in, then please contact me.

Mandatory courses for volunteers are:

- **Professional Boundaries**
- **Health & Safety**
- **GDPR**
- **Data Protection**
- **Basic Personal Safety**
- **Equality and Diversity**

You can log in to Horton Academy at home (if this is your preferred way of completing training) via the link below using your name e.g. josephb and password:

<https://hortonhousing.learningpool.com/login/index.php>



Exciting events and opportunities to get involved in!



Ilkley Carnival 2022

Ilkley Carnival is a not-for-profit event which invites people to the streets of Ilkley every May bank holiday for a fun family fiesta! The volunteer-run May Day extravaganza has raised more than £60,000 for local community groups since 2012 which supports organisations including schools, sports clubs, scouts and guides, and local charities including Ilkley and District Good Neighbors, Ilkley Stroke Group and AWARE (Airedale and Wharfedale Autism Resource).

With a spectacular parade which starts on The Grove and attracts more than 1,000 participants from local schools and organisations, the highlight of every Ilkley Carnival is the day of family fun that unfolds on their fabulous showground and brings something for everyone, from live daredevil acts to vintage cars, cricket and football matches, a funfair, an abundance of free children's entertainment and a chance to find the most popular pooch in their fun dog show!

With all profits made from ticket sales going back into the local community, Ilkley Carnival is so much more than a one-day festival – with your support and that of the teams of volunteers who make it happen, it's an event that makes a difference to many lives all year, every year.

For more information, click [here](#).

Exciting Up Skill, Down Dale Opportunity!



The Yorkshire Dales National park have opened up applications for the second year of Up Skill, Down Dale!

- Are you aged 18 to 29 and want to learn new skills to help you become a green leader?
- Do you want to join a supported programme with other like-minded people to explore a suite of exclusive training opportunities with the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority?

The Up Skill, Down Dale programme will provide you with the skills to support a route to employment in the Green Economy through experiences, training and career development opportunities.

Applications are open until May 10 2022. For more information about this exciting opportunity, click [here](#) or email: caroline.hall@yorkshiredales.org.uk

Keep up to date on social media!



If you're not already on social media, why not sign up and follow us to keep up to date with the latest volunteering opportunities, news and events and get to know other Horton volunteers.



'Like' us on Facebook

Horton Housing Association volunteers: [@hortonvolunteer](#)
 Horton Housing Association: [@hortonhousingassociation](#)



'Follow us' on Twitter

Horton Housing Association volunteers: [@HHAVol](#)
 Horton Housing Association: [@HortonHousing](#)



'Follow us' on Instagram

Horton Housing Association: [@hortonhousing](#)

Fairmount Project nominated for Northern Housing Award



Our Fairmount Project in Bradford has been shortlisted in the Northern Housing Awards. The project has been shortlisted in the 'Best Initiative for Tackling Homelessness' category.

Fairmount Project provides accommodation and support in Bradford for people who have experienced rough sleeping. It is funded through the Next Steps Accommodation Programme Funding administered by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).

The Bradford Homeless Outreach Partnership (BHOP) team, who are specialist in supporting people who have experienced rough sleeping, are co-located at Fairmount, enabling joined upworking, sharing of skills and knowledge and holistic on-site support.

Sue Atkinson, Services Director at Horton Housing, said: "I am delighted that Fairmount has been shortlisted for the 'Best Initiative for Tackling Homelessness' Award. The shortlisting for the award is a testament to the hard work of everyone involved in supporting the service. As the Project opened in March 2021, it is great to receive this recognition within its first year."

The team will find out if they have won at the Northern Housing Awards ceremony on Tuesday, 17 May.

Meet the team: Jonathan Woodhead



Jonathan is one of our Activities Volunteers at the Fairmount Project.

What will you be doing in your role?

I started working as a volunteer for Horton Housing a short time ago. I provide support to a professional team and the residents of a Hostel. My role is as an Activities Volunteer assisting with a variety of supportive activities, ranging from simple things like walking with someone to the shops or just having time out with a coffee for someone that wants to talk. I help out in the allotment planting veg for the summer with the residents and also in the office at times with some day to day tasks and generally being on hand as a friendly face to help out. I work to support the staff and residents alike and see the hostel as an evolving, positively charged community.

Why did you want to become a volunteer?

I became a volunteer to give back my time that others once had kindly given to me and use my skills and learn new things. Also, I wanted to gain confidence in myself and instil belief that help is available to anyone that wishes to make a change in their life. Looking to the future, I am going to college and learning again! So much has changed and I'm looking forward to updating my knowledge for the times ahead. I'm not sure where this is all leading for the future but I am happy with the journey.

Tell us about yourself:

I'm just over 50-years-old, gratefully moving to another new chapter in life. I have a person-centred, humanistic approach having attained a HNC qualification in counselling 12 years ago. These skills have proven to be very rewarding over time and something I value greatly. I've been working on my cooking skills for the last few months and trying to improve, and I enjoy taking short walks out and about. I love playing my rhythm guitar that has been next to me all these years, keeping me busy when busy was the best for me, and lately I have been practicing singing, though I am tone deaf unfortunately. But I like a challenge and I have improved a little!

Meet the team: Chris Tribe

Chris is one of our Upcycling Volunteers and is based at Fieldhead Business Centre.

What will you be doing in your role?

We will be repairing and generally sprucing up furniture that Horton Housing would otherwise be dumping. This includes beds, sofas, arm chairs, tables dining chairs and more. They will then be available for those moving into accommodation. So my role kills two birds with one stone, helping people get started in a new home and also reducing waste.

Why did you want to become a volunteer?

I retired from furniture making and teaching about a year ago and want to make use of my time and skills. I have long had an interest in homelessness issues, I am a host for Bradford NightStop, so this opportunity seemed appropriate.

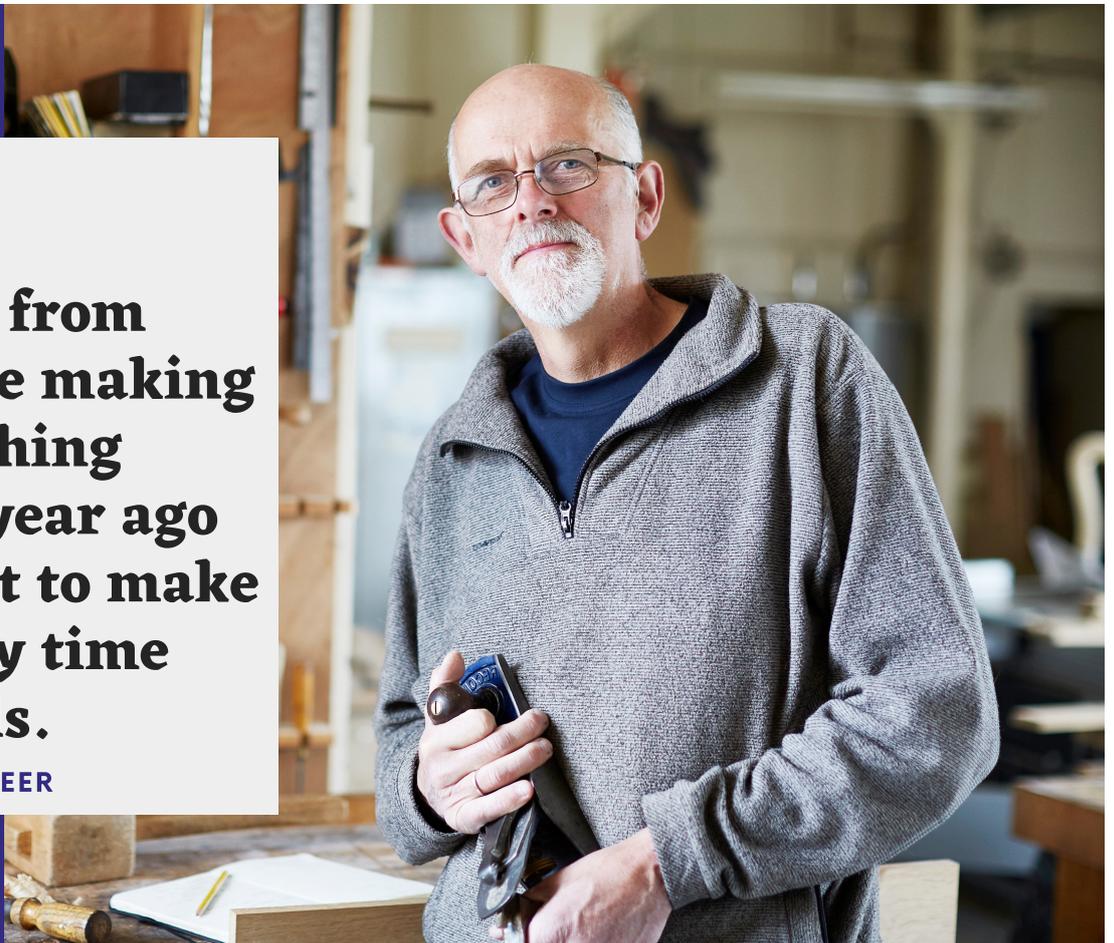
Tell us about yourself:

I worked in furniture making and teaching adults for over thirty years. Since retiring I have done a fair bit of volunteering in conservation work with Aire Rivers Trust and River Worth Friends. I also work with Ilkley Tools for Africa, collecting and refurbishing tools to send to craftsmen in Africa. Away from that, my hobbies are fly fishing and musical instrument making.

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I retired from furniture making and teaching about a year ago and want to make use of my time and skills.

CHRIS, VOLUNTEER



Ray finishes gruelling fundraising challenge!



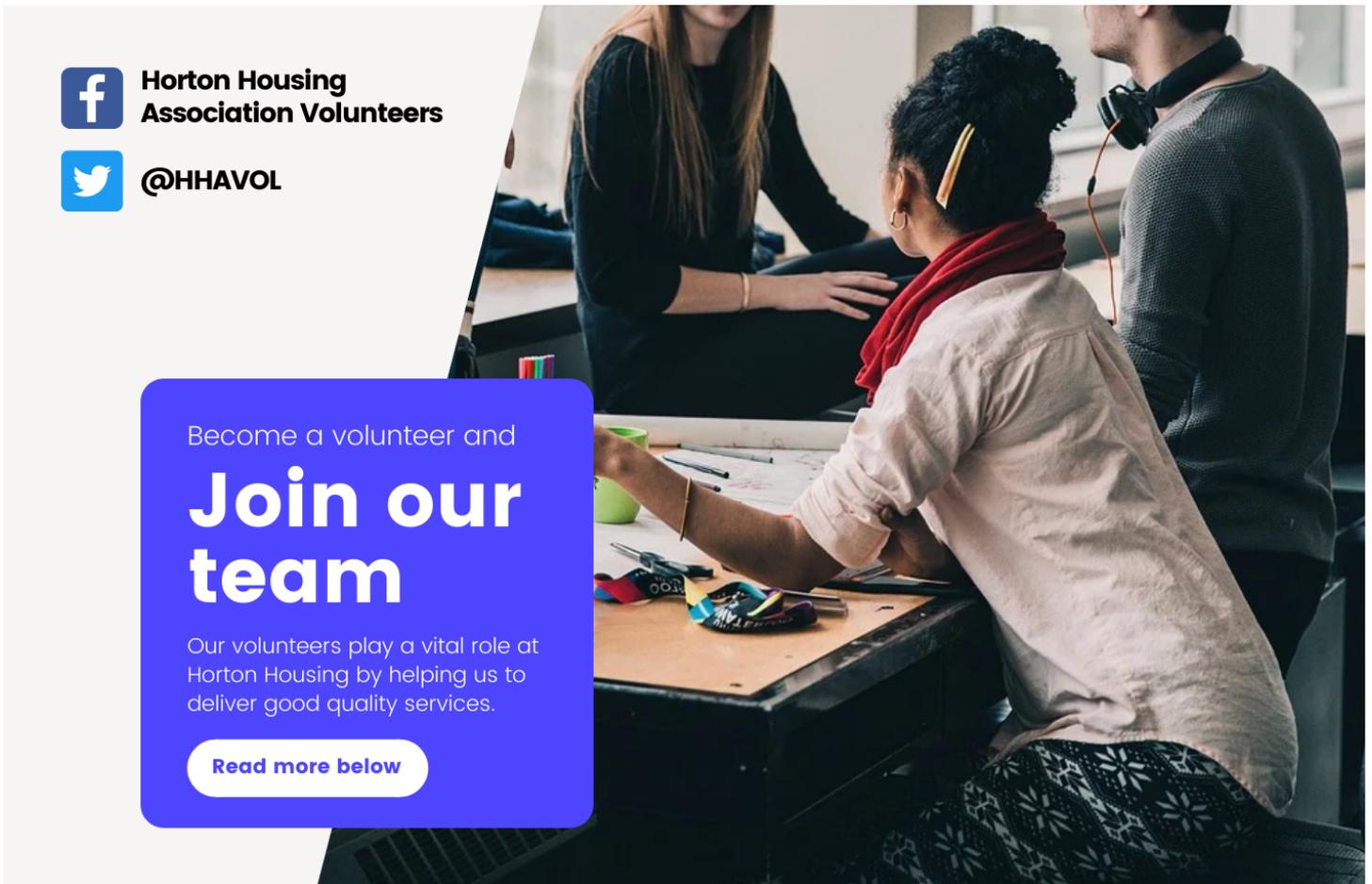
Horton Housing Board Member Ray Milne has completed his year-long challenge, walking 5km a day for 365 days. The finishing line for the final walk was outside Bradford City Hall, taking the distance Ray has covered in the last year to 2,628km.

So far, he has raised an amazing £1,845, which will be donated to Afghan families we support and our upcoming work with families and individuals displaced by the Ukrainian crisis. Ray's workplace have also said they will match the amount he raises to double the donation!

Ray told **The Telegraph and Argus**: "I feel fantastic and on top of the world to have completed the challenge. Doing it every day means in the rain, snow and hail! 5k usually takes around 50 minutes. It got really tricky when I had flu, but I still got out there. It's a great cause which I'm happy to support."

We would like to thank Ray for his wonderful fundraising efforts. To donate, please click [**here**](#).

Three new exciting roles!



f Horton Housing Association Volunteers

t @HHAVOL

Become a volunteer and

Join our team

Our volunteers play a vital role at Horton Housing by helping us to deliver good quality services.

[Read more below](#)

We have new volunteer roles to fill! For more information, contact Esther Douglas or email: volunteer.applications@hortonhousing.co.uk.

Van Driver's Mate:

We are looking for volunteers to help our drivers with organising and collecting furniture or large item donations around the region. You will help to keep accurate records of collections and deliveries.

Wellbeing Cafe Assistant:

Horton Wellbeing Cafe is aimed at adults aged 18 and over living in the Selby District who have mental health challenges or concerns, and their family members or carers. You will assist the Community Development Worker in the delivery of weekly drop-ins.

Van Driver:

We are looking to recruit volunteer van drivers who will help collect donations that we receive and distribute them to our different services. The shifts will be on Wednesdays and you will need a clean driving licence for this role.

Get in touch



Please...
**GET IN
TOUCH**
WITH ANY FEEDBACK

I would love to know what you think about your new look volunteer newsletter!

Please get in touch with me via the details below to give any feedback, or if you have any news stories or suggestions for future issues.

Get in touch!

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For the latest volunteering opportunities, please visit our [website](#).