

Volunteer Newsletter July 2026

*Bringing you the latest news and
celebrating all the wonderful things
you do!*



Welcome

Volunteers' Week is always one of the highlights of our year. Our volunteers hold a special place at WWL. The difference you make to our patients, visitors, and staff goes beyond the hours that you give. You provide a warm and welcoming presence to people at one of the most difficult times in their lives.

Volunteers' Week is therefore the perfect opportunity to give special thanks to all of you, and to highlight and recognise the amazing work that you do to support our patients, visitors, and staff. We wanted to do something a bit different this year and give you a special personal thank-you gift. If you have not yet received your gift, please check your volunteer folder or designated volunteer cupboard in your area. If you are unable to locate your gift, please contact Voluntary Services and we would be happy to arrange collection from our office.

In this issue, we will be sharing a few snaps taken of our Volunteers' Week celebrations across WWL. We will also be highlighting the amazing work our Bone Bank and Tissue Service is doing to change the lives of our patients through bone donation and transplants. If you are also looking for a new challenge, The Three Wishes' charity will be taking part in the Wigan 10k this September. Find out more below!

#VolunteersWeek



Welcome New Volunteers!

- ✦ Hameedat Adeniyi, Ward Volunteer
- ✦ Mo Ali, Ward Volunteer
- ✦ Zavvar Anwar, Ward Volunteer
- ✦ Warda Aziz, Ward Volunteer
- ✦ Sophie Bott, Ward Volunteer
- ✦ Sheila Dainton, Chaplaincy Volunteer
- ✦ Thejas Dipu, Ward Volunteer
- ✦ Emmanuel Dosumu, Ward Volunteer
- ✦ Matilda Faithfull, Ward Volunteer
- ✦ Olga Kim, Ward Volunteer
- ✦ Matthew Kitchen, Ward Volunteer
- ✦ Olushola Kole, Grow Our Own Volunteer
- ✦ Lucy Nkrumah, Ward Volunteer
- ✦ Shoaib Vaka, Chaplaincy Volunteer
- ✦ Millie Watmough, Ward Volunteer
- ✦ Stephen Wiggins, Pets as Therapy Volunteer
- ✦ Mary Wignall-Finch, League of Friends' Volunteer

A newsletter for volunteers

Our Volunteers' Newsletter is all about you and includes what information, news, or stories you would like to hear about. If you have a story you would like to tell or an achievement you would like to celebrate, we would love to hear from you! Please contact Nadia, Mel, or our Patient Experience Team to be featured in one of our editions. Our contact details can be found below.

Voluntary Services' Contact details

Nadia's working hours:

Monday 8.30am – 4.30pm

Tuesday 8.30am – 4.30pm

Wednesday 8.30am – 4.30pm

Tel.: 07899 039 955

Email: volunteer@wwl.nhs.uk

During these hours, our Patient Activities' Volunteer Coordinator, Melanie Cornish will be able to support you.

Thursday 12.30pm – 4.30pm

Friday 8.30am – 4.30pm

Tel.: 01942 77 3061

Email: volunteer@wwl.nhs.uk



This year, we wanted to do something a little different and give you all a special thoughtful thank-you gift that they could keep. You all work so incredibly hard and do some really amazing work. You go the extra mile to help support our patients, staff, and visitors. You are a highly valuable part of our Trust and the positive impact you have on our patient experience is beyond measurable.

[illegible]

[www.patientexperience](#) [@NHS Patient Ex](#) · Jun 7
Ward staff say "Mary is the best volunteer in the world" 🌟 and Mary says she loves to help and chat to people! #volunteerweek

A photograph of a woman with short blonde hair, wearing a grey NHS uniform and a yellow lanyard. She is smiling and holding a white certificate with a blue border. The certificate has a star icon and text that reads: "Thank you for your contribution to patient experience". Below it, it says "Ms. Mary E. O'Brien, RGN". The background shows a hospital ward with wooden floors, chairs, and windows.

This year, we asked you what you love most about volunteering. Your answers were very simple: just helping people.

Thank you doesn't feel enough, but from the bottom of our hearts, Mel and I are so thankful for everything you all do, and

feel so privileged to be in a position to lead and support you all. Thank you so very much, volunteers!

WWL's Bone Bank Service changes lives through bone donation

Located at Wrightington Hospital, WWL Bone and Tissue Bank is a donation and transplant service. When patients are listed for a total hip replacement, they are asked if they would like to donate their bone, the bone or femoral head that is removed during the operation and would normally be disposed of in theatre. This bone can be retrieved and kept with the intention to help another patient requiring critical orthopaedic procedures like reconstructive surgery or trauma repair.

The Bone and Tissue Bank was set up in 1990 and later became independent in 2015. Ten years on, the service has successfully expanded by not only providing bone allografts for clinical use within WWL theatres, but also to over 100 other hospitals throughout the UK.



The donation and transplant service are licensed by the Human Tissue Authority. Every two years, an on-site inspection takes place. This is to ensure that the Unit is compliant with HTA standards for safe practice, continuing to maintain high standards and offering quality assurance to surgeons who use the stored donated frozen bone and most importantly, the patients are receiving the best and safe treatments.



Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, Mr. Bode Purbach has worked at Wrightington Hospital since 1997, practising in contemporary hip arthroplasty using principles established by Sir. John Charnley and refined by Prof. B.M. Wroblewski at Wrightington Hospital.

In 2009, he became Designated Individual (DI) and Clinical Lead for the Bone and Tissue Surgery. A technique, known as 'bone grafting,' is of huge benefit, offering the best treatment to many patients. Mr. Purbach has always been at the forefront leading the service, which has gone from strength to strength by providing an external provision programme to other UK hospitals, taking part and leading teaching workshops, as well as supporting Lancashire and Merseyside Fire and Rescue Victim and Recovery Services.

Mr. Purbach retired at the end of March and handed over the position to his colleague, Consultant Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgeon, Mr. Henry Wynn Jones.

In the last ten years, WWL Bone and Tissue Bank have had seven successful HTA Inspections. It has harvested over 4,000 bones kindly donated by our consented patients, implanted over 2,000 bones, provided over 1,200 bones externally, so patients from other Trusts can also receive life-changing surgery.

Take on the Wigan 10K for Three Wishes



Looking for a new challenge? Why not sign up for the Wigan 10K on Sunday 6th September and raise funds for Three Wishes, our hospital charity. By taking part, you'll be helping us enhance patient care across our hospitals.

Whether you run, jog or walk, this is a great opportunity to challenge yourself. And why not get your friends and family involved too?

Our supporters say it best:

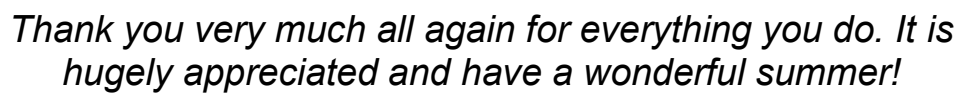
"I'd never run before, but the team were so friendly and supportive - I realised I wasn't on my own."

"I really enjoyed it... I'd encourage anyone to give it a go."

If you're interested in taking part, get in touch: ThreeWishesCharity@wwl.nhs.uk.

Volunteering Opportunities





Next Newsletter out in September 2026!

The image shows a woman with blonde hair, wearing a red blazer, holding a certificate that reads 'LAWSON 2014'. She is standing in front of a large presentation board. The board has a blue header with the text 'Put Yourself in My Place' and a list of names: 'Sherronda S. Brown, M. Ed., K-12 Reading Specialist', 'Sherronda S. Brown, M. Ed., K-12 Reading Specialist', and 'Sherronda S. Brown, M. Ed., K-12 Reading Specialist'. The board also features the 'MPS' logo and the text 'Midwest Professional Society'.

Do you have a story to tell or an achievement to celebrate? Then, we would love to hear from you!
Email: volunteer@wwl.nhs.uk
Tel.: 07899 039 955 / 01942 822 509