

# Cityco Weekly Bulletin

## Volunteering opportunities in north Manchester



North Manchester residents are being given the chance to take part in a pilot scheme, offering volunteer and training placements across the city.

'Experience Volunteering,' east Manchester's successful volunteer service is expanding into north Manchester and has a range of training and volunteer opportunities for residents including youth work, events, retail, office based and environmental projects.

The scheme, funded by Manchester City Council, is the first of its kind in north Manchester and is open to anyone aged 18 and over who has been long term unemployed. It provides volunteer work placements, accredited training and helps residents gain practical skills to improve their employment prospects.

Initially the scheme will place 50 people into volunteering opportunities, provide training for 25 and set up a scheme to mentor 13 people with high support needs.

Susan Willocks, the north Manchester project manager, says: "The scheme aims to build the confidence of those who have been out of work for a long time and ease them back into employment.

It's a chance for them refresh their working skills, get some training and reacquaint themselves with the world of work in a volunteer role."

All of the placements on offer are with the voluntary sector and can be for varied durations, depending upon what is appropriate.

Since the scheme started in 2006 in east Manchester, 650 people have taken part. It is part of Manchester City Council's Helping Hands campaign that helps residents

and businesses with the effect of the current economic downturn.

Councillor Sue Murphy, Manchester City Council's Executive Member for Employment and Skills, says: "For many people, being out of work for an extended period can undermine their confidence and self belief. The thought of finding work can feel extremely daunting, if not impossible.

"Experience Volunteering gives people the opportunity and support to get back into a working environment at their own pace. We're really pleased that we've been able to extend the offer to north Manchester residents."

North Manchester has many thriving employment areas such as North Manchester General Hospital, Manchester City Council, Manchester Fort Shopping Park in Cheetham Hill. Central Park in Newton Heath and North City Shopping Centre in Harpurhey.

Anyone who would like to find out more about the north Manchester Experience Volunteering opportunities, can pop into the office at 311 Moston Lane, ring 0161 870 6578, email

[experience.volunteering.4ct@btconnect.com](mailto:experience.volunteering.4ct@btconnect.com) or visit [www.experiencevolunteering.com](http://www.experiencevolunteering.com)

## 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> February – Flower Market – Piccadilly Gardens



The Flower Market is open every weekend from 11am until 5pm, enhancing the cosmopolitan and international

feel of the city.

Cut flowers, bouquets, potted plants, shrubs, bulbs, bonsai, exotic and traditional plants will be on sale. The Flower Market is just the latest in the specialist market event schedule from Manchester's Markets. The Farmer's Market is now a regular fixture,



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selling local produce and specialised meats, cheeses and delicacies every month in the nearby Northern Quarter.

The Farmer's market is held twice monthly, on the second and fourth weekend (Friday and Saturday) of each month, between 10am and 6pm. The market contains a number of stalls and brings together farmers from across the North West, selling a whole host of fresh produce.

## 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> February – Farmers Market – Piccadilly Gardens



It is the farmers themselves who attend this market, giving you the opportunity to

ask them all about the products they are selling.

The market contains a number of stalls and brings together farmers from across the North West, selling a whole host of fresh produce.

A wide variety of fresh meats including pork, venison, lamb, beef, ham, sausages, turkey and chicken and fish (smoked salmon, trout and kippers) are available.

The market is held twice monthly, on the second and fourth weekend (Friday and Saturday) of each month. It is open between 10am and 6pm.

## 27<sup>th</sup> February – Fashion Market – Tib Street/Market Street



Haven't got a stitch to wear? If you are looking for individual pieces that combine elegance, high quality materials and

workmanship at affordable prices, then pop along to the latest addition to Manchester Markets.

Manchester Fashion Market takes place every Saturday on Tib Street in the Northern Quarter. It aims to give budding designers a leg up the retail ladder, whilst giving the shopper the chance to buy original clothes, bags, purses, hats and jewellery.

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