

## Welcome

I would like to welcome you to the first edition of Volunteer News, the newsletter of Kildare Volunteer Bureau.

The Newsletter will appear on a quarterly basis and provide information on volunteering in County Kildare. It is important that this news-



*Volunteers at the Jack & Jill Foundation Family Fun day*

letter is of interest and value to you the reader, therefore, we would welcome your comments and views on all aspects of volunteering. We are delighted that people wishing to volunteer may now register online and check out volunteering opportunities at [www.volunteerkildare.ie](http://www.volunteerkildare.ie)

Hoping that your volunteering experiences are fun and rewarding.

*Anne Daly*  
Chairperson



### Volunteer Facts

- Over 50% of volunteers registered with KVB are under 35 years of age
- 81% of volunteers are female

## Who Are KVB?

**Kildare Volunteer Bureau** is the organisation tasked with supporting, and developing volunteering in County Kildare.

Newbridge Volunteer Resource Centre at the request of Kildare County Development Board piloted a model Volunteer Bureau suitable for mainstreaming on a County-wide basis. The model was adopted at a meeting of the CDB in September 2004 and responsibility for developing the Bureau as a countywide resource was placed with the Social Inclusion Measures team of the CDB.

Newbridge Volunteer Resource Centre was one of eight bureaux nationally named by the Minister of State, Noel Ahern TD as beneficiaries of his proposals to strengthen and support Volunteering.

Newbridge VRC decided to join with the SIM Initiative to become Kildare Volunteer Bureau.

Our head office is based in Newbridge with an Outreach office in NUI Maynooth. We are hoping to open a second outreach office in Athy.

This Countywide model is now accepted, by the Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht, as the preferred model for emerging volunteer centres.

KVB is part of Volunteer Centre Ireland, the National organisation for Volunteering.



*Volunteers enjoying the KVB Christmas party.*

## Ten reasons why People Volunteer

1. Want to do something in my community
2. Meet new people/make new friends
3. Free time
4. Interested in issue
5. To gain work experience.
6. New challenge
7. For Fun
8. Try something different from job
9. To gain new skills or improve skills

## Disability awareness training.

We are currently working with a number of agencies in developing a disability awareness training course for people wishing to volunteer with people with disabilities.

We hope to offer the course in October.

## Maynooth Office

The Maynooth outreach office is situated in the Student Union Centre in NUI Maynooth.

The office opened in March this year following a joint submission by KVB and NUI Maynooth to the Dept. of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs Cohesion funds.

The centre works with the Students Union, Clubs and Societies to provide quality volunteers for the many organisations in the North and North west of the County. The students will also gain opportunities to put their new skills at the service of the community.

The Clubs and Societies also wish to offer their expertise to communities and schools

It is intended to hold an open evening for all organisations seeking volunteers in the University in October.

The initiative is the first time that a Volunteer Bureau has opened an outreach in a Third Level Institution.

Rotimi Adebari, Participation Officer, is currently working with the Students Union in devising ways for supporting students during their volunteer placements.

If your organisation wishes to tap into this huge resource, please contact Rotimi on 01-7084712 or e-mail him at [info@volunteerkildare.ie](mailto:info@volunteerkildare.ie)



*Rotimi Adebari, Participation Officer*



## Volunteer Facts

- 83% of Volunteers registered with KVB have not volunteered previously

## Upcoming Events

**September: Public** Information and training evenings in Clane, Celbridge, Kildare and Naas.

Registration and information at shopping centres in New-



*Michelle Adamson, Participation Officer*

bridge and Maynooth.

**October:** Open Day, NUI Maynooth. Fairs day, NUI Maynooth.

**November:** Volunteering Conference, Guest Speaker, Fergus Finlay, Barnados.

**December:** Volunteers and Organisations Christmas Party

## Thinking of Volunteering?

**Why not visit our website [www.volunteerkildare.ie](http://www.volunteerkildare.ie) where you can find information on volunteering, view our volunteering opportunities and also register online.**

**Contact us on 045-449156,**

**Maynooth office 01-7084712 or email us at [info@volunteerkildare.ie](mailto:info@volunteerkildare.ie)**

## Advisory Group

Following a huge interest in our request for volunteers to join the Board, we have set up an advisory group to interact with volunteers and advise the Board on volunteers experiences.

The advisory group will shortly contact registered volunteers to elicit their experiences of volunteering.

It is hoped that the results of their research will be available for our volunteering conference in November, with follow up contact with Registered organisations.

The members of the Advisory group are: Eileen Doyle, Lenny Chopamba, Katerina Karantzi, Eadaoin Ni Ghiosain and Sr. Maria Giovanni.



## Volunteering Facts

- Three organisations have five different opportunities
- Four organisations have four different opportunities
- 34% of organisations have two or more active opportunities

## Our Staff

**Michelle Adamson** is the Participation Officer based in our head office. Michelle has worked in the community sector a number of years and lives in Newbridge.

**Rotimi Adebari**, is the Participation Officer in Maynooth. He has worked as an anti-racism consultant and lives in Portlaoise where he is a Town Councillor.

**Mick Power** is Manager of the Bureau, Mick represents KVB on the Board of Volunteer