

# Area Board Project

## 1. What is the project?

**“Celebrating Volunteering” – Event on May 4<sup>th</sup> 2015**

Volunteering is central to strong communities. The Devizes area is proud that it has one of the highest rates of volunteering within the County. We want to celebrate and highlight the enormous amount of volunteering that already exists as well as encourage even more to take place.

Several organisations within the Devizes area including the Area Board, Wiltshire Heritage Museum, DOCA, Develop and AONB have worked on an event to help achieve the above aim. It will take place on May 4<sup>th</sup> 2015, as the town will already be full of people attending for the Lions Club May day fayre.

The proposal is for professional artists to design and create pavement chalk art that has a powerful visual impact and manages to capture something of the wealth of volunteering that takes place. The expectation is that many of those organisations that already rely heavily on volunteers will be able to contribute to the art work. Part of the Brittox will be partitioned off to allow this to take place with provision made in case it rains

Alongside the art work, there will be a stall with volunteering stewards who can talk to those who are interested in volunteering opportunities. One of the great advantages of this event is that people will not just be given contact information but in many cases can be taken to the Market place and instantly put in contact with a suitable organisation that depends upon volunteers.

There will also be additional information available to hand out and DEVELOP are looking to put on an event shortly afterwards for enquirers.

This ‘celebrating volunteering’ event will be used to also launch ‘Spice Credits’ that act as an incentive and reward for volunteering. It will also be used to start a campaign to increase volunteering and we are currently exploring how this can be linked to the WW1 legacy and the number of local people who fought in the war.

## 2. Where is the project taking place?

Devizes town centre

## 3. When will the project take place?

May 4<sup>th</sup> 2015

## 4. What are the Community benefits/evidence of need/desired outcomes?

Volunteering is central to strong communities. The event will help strengthen this volunteering, acting as a 'Thank you' to those who give their time up and a catalyst to increase the amount that is carried out.

**5. Who will manage/be responsible for this project?**

The Community Area Manager will manage the project with the support of the working group  
Cllr Peter Evans will be the Area Board champion

**6. Costs/quotes/ match funding?**

£2,000 to pay for the pavement art and design, leaflets, and publicity