



## Community Stories Volunteer – Role Overview

**Do you know of, or are interested in capturing, local community stories that deserve to be remembered? Including stories of work, family and community life growing up, as well as day-to-day experiences that have changed over time?**

Age UK Wakefield District is looking for volunteer interviewers to help capture voices for Our Stories, an oral histories project seeking to preserve and celebrate working-class voices from across Wakefield and the 5 Towns. We are looking for people who live in, or have connections to: Eastmoor and Wakefield Central, Hemsworth, Featherstone, Knottingley and/or their surrounding areas. These recordings will be archived for future generations and shared through exhibitions celebrating local lives and experiences.

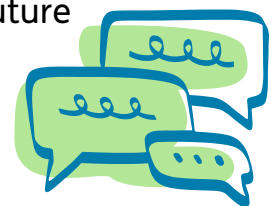
**Can you help us capture them?**



### Purpose of the Role

To help collect high quality audio recordings of local people's life stories as part of Age UK Wakefield District's oral histories programme. Volunteers will spend time in the community listening to, recording and helping preserve personal memories of everyday life, work- and community history.

These recordings will be showcased in exhibitions at local community spaces, as well as larger heritage sites such as the National Coal Mining Museum and Nostell Priory, and archived with Wakefield Museums to ensure local voices are preserved for future generations.



### What You'll Be Doing

This role is focused primarily on interviewing and recording, with editing optional if you're interested.

Main activities include:

- Meeting older residents in community venues or their homes (with support and safeguarding procedures in place)
- Having friendly, relaxed conversations and helping people feel comfortable sharing their stories
- Recording interviews using project equipment (training provided)
- Uploading or handing over recordings so they can be edited and archived

Optional (only if you want to):

- Learning how to edit recordings into soundscapes for exhibitions
- Supporting the creative shaping of stories for public displays

You will not be expected to edit audio unless you choose to – the most important thing is helping us capture people's voices.

## Who This Role Would Suit

This role would suit someone who:

- Enjoys listening and talking with people
- Is interested in local history, community life or lived experience
- Is respectful, patient and curious
- Feels comfortable meeting people in the community
- Would like to learn interviewing or recording skills

You don't need previous experience in oral history or audio recording. Full training and ongoing support are provided.

## Training and Support Provided

**All volunteers will receive:**

- An induction to Age UK Wakefield District
- Guidance on safeguarding, consent and confidentiality
- Practical training in interviewing and using recording equipment (including phone recording)
- Ongoing support from the Oral Histories Project Worker

**Volunteers will need to:**

- Be aged 18 or over
- Complete a Disclosure & Barring Service check and attend a Volunteer Induction session

## What You'll Gain

- The chance to play a key role in a meaningful local heritage project and ensure working-class voices are not lost.
- New skills in interviewing, recording and oral history work
- Confidence working with people and documenting real lives

## How to Apply

To find out more or express an interest in volunteering, please contact:

**[volunteering@ageukwd.co.uk](mailto:volunteering@ageukwd.co.uk) or call Amy on 07715 638533**

**For more information about this or any of our volunteer roles please contact:**

**Tracey Shaw  
Volunteer & Befriending Services Manager**

**Age UK Wakefield District, 7 Bank Street, Castleford, WF10 1JD  
t 01977 552114 e [volunteering@ageukwd.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@ageukwd.org.uk) [www.ageukwd.org.uk](http://www.ageukwd.org.uk)**