



Friday 20th October 2023

Hi folks,

It's a bit wild here today but the food went out and we welcomed folk for a soup and a natter at Hot Service. Thank you to everyone who had a hand in today's endeavour and indeed the week's. We say it often but never enough: We can't do it without you!



So, welcome all to this week's Roundup, we hope you are having a great week.

This week.....Fundraising news - Giving, Texting, and Imagining...Drivers we Need You!....Wonderful feedback via the Garden Survey.....and a few other bits and bobs on the Notice Board

### Give as You Live

We're now part of **Give as You Live!**

Partnering with more than 6,000 retailers to turn online purchases into donations for charities, including us! If you're an online shopper, perhaps consider signing up.

it's a very quick process, and means that your purchases could turn into donations for us as an added bonus! You can sign up (and ideally select us as your charity of choice!) [here](#). If it's not for you, but you know someone who does like a bit of online retail therapy, we'd be grateful if you could share this with them.

**3 easy steps:**

- 1** Sign up for **FREE** and select us as your chosen charity
- 2** When you shop, use Give as you Live Online to visit your chosen retailer
- 3** Your purchases will generate **FREE** donations for us!

Logos of partner retailers: M&S, Booking.com, ebay, Amazon, Debenhams, Expedia, trainline, ASOS, Argos, viking, Hotels.com, ticketmaster, GROUPON, SCREWFIX, Boden, LAKELAND, WAITROSE, JUST EAT.

## Text to Donate

We also now have a 'text to donate' number! People can now text **MEALS5** to donate £5, **MEALS10** to donate £10, etc. to 70580. You will soon see this on our website and various other bits and pieces we share on social media, and elsewhere, including at our Hibernian Women Match Sponsor Games. Watch this space!

## Winter Fundraising Appeal - Looking for Your Ideas!

Thank you to everyone who has made suggestions so far - we really appreciate your input. If you have any thoughts about our wording/messaging please feel free to let Emily know, add to the Board in the mezzanine/break area, or add to this [digital whiteboard](#).

## Delivery Volunteers needed - any help appreciated!

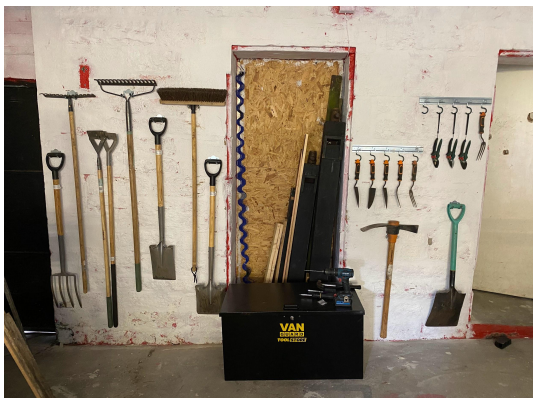
It's time to have a go. Ever fancied trying a delivery volunteer shift? Maybe you are one of our 100 or so volunteers who expressed an interest in driving but haven't yet tried a delivery run?

The Delivery team is looking for support from volunteer delivery drivers or cyclists. Delivery volunteers do an amazing job in getting the meals we make to service users who need them. We offer mileage expenses to volunteers using their own car for deliveries, and all routes are planned out for you on a handy app.



**If you are interested in doing a delivery shift, please get in touch with us on [volunteer@emptykitchens.co.uk](mailto:volunteer@emptykitchens.co.uk) or message/call us on 07918 121606**, and the team will be able to add you to the Delivery Rota on Rota Central. As always, thank you so much for your support!

## News from the Garden



Once again - thank you to everyone who took the time to fill in the survey about the garden space. We were really delighted to read your feedback, and thought that everyone might like to see some of it!

*"The garden makes a wee chat easier as we feel more comfortable in such a beautiful place!"*

*"As well as it being a lovely space to spend time I also enjoyed seeing it as a gardener and felt inspired to try similar veggie growing at home"*

*"Amazing how much the garden has progressed over the summer. Feels like a really welcoming area."*

*"The improvement in the garden space since the spring of this year is incredible. It was a litter strewn place overgrown with brambles and nettles in places and there was nowhere to sit and relax . It was completely unproductive and now is a source of some basic veg and herbs . The addition of flower beds and upcycled planters has added colour. I think it is a valuable addition to the Empty Kitchens functionality."*

*"The gardeners have done an amazing job transforming the area in a relatively short time"*

*"Wonderful space even for drying the washing and engaging with our wonderful 'gardeners'"*

*"The space is fabulous. The garden looks so much bigger and inviting now."*

Wonderful to read these whilst the wind howled around the place, this morning.

And just to point once more to Lauriston Farm's upcoming **Pumpkin Quest** event. So....Do you like Pumpkins ? Do you know your Blue Hubbard from your Banana Pink Jumbo? No worries if not - theirs is the place to find out!

Join them for Pumpkin Quest 2023 - the taste test! Click for all details and bookings:  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/pumpkin-quest-pumpkin-tasting-party-tickets-729800050597>

Hoping you and yours are warm, dry and safe,

[Mike](#), [Janet](#) & [Martin](#)

P.S. Do please let us know what's on your mind by email at [et@emptykitchens.co.uk](mailto:et@emptykitchens.co.uk) or just come and have a chat.

## THE NOTICE BOARD

### **Volunteer Services & Rota Central**

Shift availability is now live for **November** for all departments.

We could really do with your help on deliveries over the coming weeks.

**December** and the holidays.....To confirm we will be operational throughout the festive period. **Shift availability for all departments for December will be visible on Rota Central next week.**

Please, if you can, let us know if you're unable to attend for a shift, we know sometimes it's not possible to give us notice, but if you can it's really helpful!

**If you are not receiving the Wednesday Rota Central email or you are but the role(s) are not the one(s) you signed up for, do let us know.**

Let us know if you wish us to add or remove roles, have any volunteering or shift queries or problems with Rota Central or are leaving us.

Contact us via the WhatsApp channel (07918 121606) or to **Volunteer Services** at [volunteer@emptykitchens.co.uk](mailto:volunteer@emptykitchens.co.uk) Our **Volunteer Coordinator**, Sarah, can be contacted on [sarah.hutchison@emptykitchens.co.uk](mailto:sarah.hutchison@emptykitchens.co.uk)

### **Health & Safety**

Please remember to not take whites and aprons into the bathrooms, and leave them inside before heading out to enjoy the garden on the fine days.

If stepping outside for a cigarette or vape, can we ask that you distance yourself from the building - there's plenty of space on the greens for example, and certainly away from the kitchen windows.

### **Other Fundraising News**

**London Supernova**... For volunteers who may be in London in mid November - or for those with family, friends or colleagues in and around London, we have been offered 5 free Charity Spaces via [JustRunning](#) at the [London Supernova](#) event on November 18th. Get in touch with [Emily](#) or [Sarah](#) if this is something for you.

And whilst pointing to events like this, whether initiated or offered by other organisations or creating your own fundraising effort for Empty Kitchens Full Hearts, we'd be grateful if you let us know ahead of time - it's always great to hear about what you're doing and for us to support and assist in amplifying your endeavours. You can

set up a fundraising page via our [website](#) and [Emily](#) is always available to provide guidance and support. Please ask if you wish to use our branding and logos.

### **Board of Trustees**

**The next Board Meeting is on 23rd January 2023.**

If you are interested in attending future Board meetings do let the Secretary, Sam, know.... [sam@emptykitchens.co.uk](mailto:sam@emptykitchens.co.uk)

### **Membership:**

**The next members meeting is the AGM on Wednesday 15th November 2023, not as stated in previous Roundup.**

We always welcome new applications to be Empty Kitchens Full Hearts Members! As a Member, you have oversight of what we do, you'll influence strategy, and be voting on matters of constitution and governance including electing our Trustees. Members' meetings take place approximately twice a year, so we hope it's not too big a commitment! You can always come and talk to us about it if you'd like to know more before you apply...

Registration forms are available from the Welcome Desk.

