



Julia's House Big Dog Art Trail Volunteer FAQ

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The Big Dog Art Trail Volunteer Frequently Asked Questions

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Information on Julia's House

What is Julia's House?

Julia's House is a local charity dedicated to supporting the families of children with life-limiting or life-threatening conditions in the heart of the community in Wiltshire and Dorset. Many of these children require round-the-clock care, which has a huge impact on family life.

What services do Julia's House offer?

Julia's House provides bespoke care for every family it supports, with each family receiving around 200 hours of free care each year. Parents can choose when, where and how they receive their care – at home, in the community or at one of the charity's two hospices in Devizes and Corfe Mullen – making it a truly flexible service. Julia's House is there for the whole family, not just the seriously ill child, providing emotional support and social opportunities for parents, grandparents and siblings to help break the cycle of anxiety and isolation that can lead a family to breaking point.

This regular clinical care, respite and emotional support, plus emergency end-of-life care and bereavement support is provided completely free to families, thanks to the generosity of the local community. Julia's House relies on public donations, fundraising and legacies for around 92% of the money needed to keep running its vital service in Wiltshire and Dorset.

Julia's House children's hospice cares for nearly 200 families across the two counties. Currently nearly 80% of the children supported by Julia's House need two care team members present during their community sessions due to the complexity of their condition. And as more life-limited children are living for longer and with increasingly more complex care needs, demand for the specialist care that Julia's House provides is expected to rise in the coming years.

The service that Julia's House provides has been rated 'outstanding' by the Care Quality Commission and the charity is a Sunday Times Top 100 Not-For-Profit Organisations to Work For.

Julia's House is almost entirely reliant on donations to provide its outstanding care for the growing number of children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions across Wiltshire. The charity recently launched its Together We Care Appeal to raise the £1.5m needed each year to continue providing essential respite breaks and support to local families.

For more information visit www.juliashouse.org

How can I make a donation to Julia's House?

If you or a member of the public wishes to make a donation to Julia's House there are a number of ways you can do this:

-  Online through the website www.juliashouse.org the click on the pink "Donate" button at the top.
-  By cheque. Please make it payable to "Julia's House Ltd" and posted to the Julia's House, Allenview House, Wimborne, BH21 1AS.
-  By making a card payment over the phone on 01202 644220. The office is open between 8:30am and 4pm weekdays.
-  By visiting one of our shops and donating at the till.

How can my friends, family and other members of the public register to volunteer with Julia's House?

If your friends, family or members of the public wish to volunteer for Julia's House please ask them to get in touch directly by the following methods.

-  Phone: 01202 644220
-  Email: volunteer@juliashouse.org

- 🐾 Alternatively more information can be found on our websites
www.bigdogarttrail.co.uk/volunteers
www.juliahouse.org/how-you-can-support-us/you-can-support-us-through/volunteering

Information on Wild in Art / The Big Dog Art Trail

What is Wild in Art?

Wild in Art is the leading producer of spectacular public art events that entertain, enrich, inform and leave a lasting legacy. It brings together businesses and creative sectors with schools and local communities through the creation of uniquely painted sculptures.

Since 2008 Wild in Art has animated cities across the world including Manchester, Sydney, Auckland, Cape Town and São Paulo, and created trails for the London 2012 Olympics, the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Historic Royal Palaces and Penguin Random House.

Wild in Art events have:

- 🐾 Enabled over £19.5m to be raised for charitable causes
- 🐾 Injected £2.4m into local creative communities
- 🐾 Engaged over 950,000 young people in learning programmes
- 🐾 Helped millions of people of all ages to experience art in non-traditional settings

The Wild in Art apps are available to download from the App Store and Google Play.

What is The Big Dog Art Trail?

The Big Dog Art Trail is being brought to Swindon by Julia's House and global public art producer Wild in Art, who has previously hosted trails in cities across the UK and worldwide, including the recent elephant parade in Worcester and Cows in Cambridge.

More than 30 larger than life balloon dog sculptures – the Swindogs – are set to be unleashed across Swindon during this summer. The uniquely decorated sculptures will create the UK's first-ever balloon dog art trail and will raise essential funds for the local children's hospice charity, Julia's House.

The Big Dog Art Trail will create a free walking trail through some of Swindon's most well-loved and historic parks, landmarks and streets and will shine a light on art and culture in the heart of the town. As well as encouraging local residents to re-discover the town they love, the paw-some public art spectacle is expected to attract thousands of visitors from outside the town, providing a welcome boost for local businesses.

The Big Dog Art Trail will run from July 15 to September 3 2023 and end with a grand farewell finale where all of the two-metre-high Swindog sculptures will be brought together under one roof. The giant one-of-a-kind creations will then head off to their forever homes after being adopted at a special auction event to raise money for the children's hospice.

How long is the trail here for?

From 15 July to 3 September, more than 30 larger-than-life balloon dog sculptures will be unleashed around town along a free, fun and family-friendly trail.

How many sculptures will there be?

There are 30 supersized Swindogs and 41 super-cute Swinpups involved in the trail.

Where are the locations of the Swindogs?

The sculptures are located across some of Swindon's key attractions, including the Designer Outlet, Swindon Town Football Club's county ground, the beautiful Lydiard Park and the historic Steam Museum.

Why is Julia's House running the trail?

Julia's House relies on support and donations from the local community for 92 per cent of the money needed to keep providing our vital care – receive only eight per cent ongoing Government funding.

The Big Dog Art Trail will raise vital funds to help us continue to run our critical service for the growing number of families in Swindon and across Wiltshire who depend on our care and support.

Why did Julia's House choose the balloon dog as a sculpture?

We're really excited that it's the first time ever the balloon dog has been featured on a Wild in Art trail and it's a great match for Julia's House.

The balloon dog is fun and playful which is at the heart of the care at Julia's House, as we support the most seriously ill children to help them get the most out of life and create amazing family memories and moments.

Art, craft and play is often at the centre of the activities we do with the children, supporting their development and wellbeing and ensuring they're having fun.

Who are the artists that have painted the Swindogs?

At the end of 2022, more than 200 fantastic designs were shortlisted to 60 and now the final 30 designs have been chosen. A list of who our fantastic artists are is listed on our website:

www.bigdogarttrail.co.uk/artists/

This webpage will be regularly updated so please keep an eye out for developments over the coming weeks. You will also receive

When will the auction take place?

The auction will take place on 18th September at 6pm at the STEAM Museum in Swindon.

Where can I find more information about the farewell event and auction?

You can find more information about The Big Dog Art Trail events on the following website:

www.bigdogarttrail.co.uk/events/. This page will be regularly updated so please do keep an eye out for developments on our plans.

Where can people get a map of the trail from?

Maps will be available for the public at a number of locations throughout Swindon. More information on this will be provided nearer the time.

Where do people download The Big Dog Art Trail app from?

You can download the app from the app store on your smart phone. There will be a QR code at each sculpture that will provide a direct link on where to download it from.

What is the cost to download the Bog Dog Art Trail app?

We are pleased to say the app is free to download and use.

What information will the app include?

The app will include locations of the sculptures, information about the trail and Julia's House. It will also provide the opportunity to collect rewards the more sculptures you visit e.g. restaurant discount vouchers.

Information on your volunteer role

Where is the Volunteer Hub?

The Volunteer Hub is based at Carriage Works - Unit 1A, Station Industrial Estate, Swindon SN1 5DB. Please see the [resource hub](#) for full directions.

Will parking be available at the Volunteer Hub?

Parking is available but limited at the Volunteer Hub. Unfortunately you won't be able to leave your car parked at the Volunteer Hub whilst you volunteer for your shift.

What is the purpose of the Volunteer Hub?

The Volunteer Hub is a place for you to sign in and out before your shift, pick up your high-vis jacket and other items relevant for your shift. Light refreshments will also be available for you to pick up.

What do I wear whilst volunteering?

Please dress comfortably and appropriate for the scheduled weather, ensuring you are wearing comfortable shoes as you are likely to be on your feet for most of your shift.

All volunteers will be provided with a high-vis jacket to wear whilst volunteering.

Where do I pick up my uniform from?

Please pick up your high-vis jacket from the Volunteer Hub when signing in, no later than half an hour before your scheduled shift.

What do I do with my uniform when I have finished volunteering?

Once you have finished for the day, you will need to head back to the Volunteer Hub to drop off any trail maps and money from the day and you can then drop off your uniform in the delegated box.

Can I claim expenses as part of volunteering for The Big Dog Art Trail?

Volunteers play a crucial role at Julia's House and it is the Charity's policy to reimburse volunteers for expenses incurred.

All expenses must be agreed in advance with Sharon Daniels or Chris Hyde before carrying out any duties that may incur a cost. Please see the [volunteer expenses policy](#) for more information.

How do I claim my volunteer expenses?

You will need to complete and return a volunteer expenses form to either Sharon Daniels or Chris Hyde.

All amounts claimed as expenses must be fully detailed on the appropriate expenses claim form, and must be substantiated with supporting receipts, invoices or vouchers wherever possible. Only actual costs can be reimbursed, expenses are not a reward or compensation.

Please see the [volunteer expenses policy](#) for more information.

How long will it take until I receive my expenses?

Claimants will normally be reimbursed by payment directly into their bank accounts or by cheque. Please be aware it can take up to 8 weeks to reimburse your expenses. Please see the [volunteer expenses policy](#) for more information.

I am volunteering over lunch, will you be providing food?

Light refreshments will be available at the Volunteer Hub for you to collect should you wish to do so prior or after to your shift. Please feel free to bring food or a packed lunch with you to eat during your shift.

If taking a break during your shift to eat your food, we ask that you take your high-vis jacket off so that you won't be approached by the public to answer any questions.

Can my child volunteer with me?

No unfortunately not. For insurance purposes we are not able to have anyone volunteering for Julia's House under the age of 18.

Will I be able to come to the auction and farewell event?

We will require volunteer support at both events so if you would like to help at either of them, please get in touch.

If you would like to attend the events as a guest you will need to book your place in advance. For more information and to book your place please visit: www.bigdogarttrail.co.uk/events/

I can no longer volunteer, can I ask a friend or family member to step in instead?

If a family member or friend wish to volunteer or cover your space, they will need to ensure that a volunteer form has been completed online prior to your event. If this is not possible then they will not be able to cover for you.

Is there free parking for volunteers?

There is free parking at the Volunteer Hub whilst you collect your uniform and role specific information. Please see parking instructions outlined in your site location brief for more information on potential parking locations and charges based on your allocated region.

Where will I be volunteering?

The Big Dog Art Trail is located across Swindon. You will be provided with a full briefing document outlining your location and shift information approximately one week before you are due to volunteer. For a full list of locations please visit The Big Dog Art Trail website on: www.bigdogarttrail.co.uk

We are asking volunteers to support us at three key regions across Swindon:

-  Lydiard Park and Link Centre
-  Swindon Outlet and High Street
-  Old Town

During your shift you will be patrolling across your allocated region.

Will I be volunteering with others or carrying out the role on my own?

We will endeavour to pair up volunteers so that you will be working with others. There may be the odd occasion due to last minute cancellation or illness where this may not be possible unfortunately.

What will be the shift pattern and hours required?

We will require you to be on sight between the hours of 11am-3pm. We do ask that you come to the Volunteer Hub first to sign in, pick up your uniform and any other items for relevant to your role.

After your shift has finished we ask that you return to the hub to sign up and return the uniform and other items.

When will I finish?

You will leave the trail location at 3pm and return to the Volunteer Hub to check in your uniform and let Sharon know you have finished for the day.

Who do I contact if I have an issue whilst volunteering?

Sharon Daniels 07425 797689 will be your point of contact during the trail and in the event that Sharon is not available you will need to call Chris Hyde on 07391 626017.

Who do I contact if there is a general issues with the location on the day?

Sharon Daniels (07425 797689) will be the first point of contact. In the event that Sharon is not available you will need to call Chris Hyde on 07391 626017

What if there is an accident, do I need to report this and to who?

In the unlikely event of an accident please notify Sharon Daniels on 07425 797689 immediately for advice on next steps. In the event that Sharon is not available you will need to call Chris Hyde on 07391 626017

There will be an accident book held at the Volunteer Hub together with a First Aid Kit. Please report any accidents in the book.

If there is a medical emergency please dial 999.

Who and how to report damage to one of the sculptures to?

Any damage or issues with a sculpture should be reported to Chris Hyde on 07391 626017 in the first instance or alternatively, Sharon Daniels on 07425 797689.