

Royal Holloway Volunteering Report
Phil Simcock, Volunteering Manager

- iwill week during w/c 12 November encouraged students to make their own pledge of support to the community, and supported community partners to consider how they engage young people as volunteers.
- Christmas Volunteering;
 - 117 festive bags in association with Age UK Surrey were packed by students from donations on campus and with support of Centrica staff
 - 158 shoe boxes filled with specific age related gifts were collected by individual students and student groups in association with FSCI, to support vulnerable groups of children and people in Bulgaria
 - Inspire Strode's involved Royal Holloway students supporting over 50 Strode's College students to help them try a volunteering experience in Egham (High Street charity shops, Manorcroft Primary School, Runnymede Foodbank supermarket collections, Manor Farm Social Centre) during a special Christmas initiative on 10 and 11 December
- Royal Holloway's staff survey supported 3 chosen charities (Age UK Surrey, North West Surrey Samaritans, Runnymede Foodbank) with donations, for which they were invited to receive a cheque from the Principal on 16 January.
- The national Student Volunteering Week 2019 took place w/c 11 February, promoting to students the 5 volunteering streams of Community Action, Social Action, Community Research, Volunteering Abroad, and Sports Volunteering
- The Community Research Hub was officially opened by the Deputy Mayor of Runnymede at the Egham Literary Institute on 15 February. This is a volunteer resource which can receive requests from charities and community organisations who need support with research work. The trial lasts 40 weeks, and shares space with Egham Museum.
- Royal Holloway Volunteering staff and a lecturer with students from Law Department represented us at a Dinner for Judiciary hosted by the High Sheriff of Surrey on 25 January held at the University of Surrey
- A new Grow Wild project is due to begin with St Jude's Junior School for our Community Garden group to work with year 3 and 4 pupils. This is in partnership with Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew, and funded via National Lottery.
- Our student-led Love Your Community group supported the local community clean up event on Saturday 2 March in Englefield Green

Future Events

- Our Volunteering student leaders are further supporting students at Strode's College to engage with their local community through a Spring Volunteering initiative in Egham on 18 and 19 March.
- To kick-start the Great British Spring Clean (national campaign run by Keep Britain Tidy) on 22 March our international students will attempt a Guinness World Record attempt 'most nationalities collecting litter'. The aim is to record over 60 different nationalities involvement, of which we have more than 140 represented at Royal Holloway.
- Wendy Solesbury MBE of British Red Cross will be our guest speaker at the Runnymede and Spelthorne Volunteer Awards on 4 June, a partnership event between Royal Holloway Volunteering and Voluntary Support North Surrey.