

What is involved in volunteering for the Nearly New Sale?

The Sale is entirely run by volunteers, 270 of them. Most of the work is done during the five days of the Sale, but volunteers also help with other tasks before then and afterwards.

How do I volunteer?

If you are not already on our email list - or not sure whether you are - email Sophia Crawford at NearlyNewSale@NorwichWomensClub.org, giving your name, mailing address, and phone number(s). She will email you about 1 month in advance of each Sale with the schedule of the Sale shifts. Most shifts last 3¼ hours, some a little shorter. From the schedule, select the shift, or shifts, that suit your timetable and let her know in your reply.

To volunteer without using a computer, phone Debbie Carter at **802-649-1216**. Leave a message with your name, postal address, phone number(s), and a good time for her to call you back with details of available shifts.

A week before the Sale you will receive an email confirming your shift time.

Even if you are not available for the Sale dates, please reply so that we don't bother you with phone calls.

Can my friend volunteer with me?

We are always delighted to welcome new volunteers, so please let us have her (his) name, postal address, email address if possible, and phone number.

I've never done this before: how will I know what to do?

Each Sale shift has its own supervisor who will allocate the volunteers to the different jobs that need doing, and give them the necessary guidelines and instruction.

During the Consignment shifts on Wednesday pm, all day Thursday, and Friday am, every item of clothing that is brought in has to be:

1. Inspected - *good inspectors are methodical, meticulous, sharp-eyed;*
2. Tagged, Priced and Listed - *in a team of two with the consignor, so suits volunteers with good people skills as well as - absolutely essential! - clear handwriting;*
3. Folded or Hung - *which suits volunteers who are neat, tidy, methodical.*

During the Sale shifts on Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday, when the public come in to buy the clothing, we need volunteers:

1. to fold or hang the clothing
2. to help at the cash registers, de-tagging and bagging bought clothing

There are also Set Up on Wednesday morning and Take Down on Sunday afternoon: as their names suggest, these shifts are when the racks, mirrors, tables, etc, are set up, and then dismantled and taken back to storage. While we always need strong-armed volunteers for these shifts, we also welcome children 5th grade and up* to Take Down who can help fold unsold clothes, collect clothes hangers, etc.

***Can my children work with me?**

- Children in 8th grade and up can work with you or another supervising adult, as long as they are prepared to work a full shift, folding and hanging clothing.
- If they are high school juniors or seniors, or older, they may work unaccompanied.
- All Hanover High School students who work shifts at the Nearly New Sale are eligible for community service credit.
- Children in 5th grade and up can accompany a parent to work the Sunday Take Down shift.

The Sale is not a safe or suitable working environment for younger children.

What benefit do I get from volunteering at the Sale?

- Helping us raise \$35,000 a year which is distributed as college scholarships to Norwich residents
- Meeting other friendly people - shifts are 12 to 20 strong
- Community service credit for Hanover High School student volunteers
- Eligibility to attend the Workers' Sale which runs on Friday October 14th, 4 to 6 pm, before the Grand Opening for the public
- Previewing items on the racks
- Having FUN!