

Volunteers celebrated by charity

CHARITY

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CHARITIES AND businesses from across the region will be taking advantage of Volunteers' Week (June 1 to 12) to celebrate the valuable contribution made by their helpers.

In England and Wales there are more than 21 million volunteers, all offering their time and energy free of charge to help organisations carry out their work.

One charity that truly understands the importance of these unpaid helpers is the St Vincent

de Paul Society (SVP). The organisation is made up of more than 8,000 voluntary members who donate time to visiting and befriending the lonely, running foodbanks and delivering food parcels to the hungry, supporting refugees and asylum seekers, and providing practical and financial support to families in need all around the country, including in Leeds.

The charity is responsible for running the St Jude's Furniture Store, which provides good quality second hand furniture to individuals and families in need. Staff and volunteers make up emergency packs containing essential items such as cutlery and bedding all donated by the



VOLUNTEER WEEK: Helpers make an invaluable contribution at St Jude's Furniture Store.

local community. They also deliver furniture to people in their homes for affordable prices.

Centre manager Annette Haigue said: "Often people in need are given a council flat, which is completely unfurnished, and they simply do not have the resources to purchase

even a bed or a dining table. The SVP's St Jude's team will deliver comfortable, clean essential items to people in need."

In Leeds the charity also runs the St Vincent's Support Centre and has volunteers who visit people to offer friendship and advice. To find out more about

volunteering, donating or getting support, call 0207 7033030, or 0113 248 4126, email info@svp.org.uk, or visit the St Vincent's Support Centre, Curtis Building, Berking Avenue.

ONLINE: For breaking news, visit www.yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk

IN BRIEF

HAROLD AND MAUDE IN CITY

CITY: Interplay will be performing Harold and Maude on an inflatable stage at the Carriageworks on Friday and Saturday, June 3 and 4. Interplay enables young people with learning and physical difficulties to experience the performing arts. Tickets cost £6 from www.carriageworkstheatre.org.uk or 0113 3760318.

TOWN TO HOST NEXT MARKET

HORSFORTH: Horsforth Farmers' Market will take place on Saturday, June 4 from 9am to 12.30pm. There will be 21 food stalls, including guest stalls from Kosmos vegetarian foods, Gluten Freekz and Horsforth coffee roasters Dogsburys. There will also be entertainment from pianist Owen Evans.

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