

Artsadmin

**“A magical moment
that we will
not experience
again soon”.**

Volunteer in Rennes

Thank you for your interest in volunteering for Dominoes Newcastle as part of NOVUM Summer Festival 2026.

Your time, energy and enthusiasm will help take the simple idea of a domino run and enable it to happen across Newcastle City Centre on a monumental scale.

This information pack includes everything you need to know about becoming Dominoes Newcastle Volunteer.



**Sign up to
volunteer via
Better Impact.**

If you have any questions, or would like an informal chat before signing up, please contact our NOVUM Volunteer Lead:
alison.flanaganwood@newcastle.gov.uk



**DOMINOES
NEWCASTLE**

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION PACK

ABOUT



DOMINOES NEWCASTLE

Across the day, thousands of breezeblocks will form a sculptural chain running east to west through the city centre - on streets, through public spaces, into venues, off buildings, pausing for striking playful large-scale structures, then continuing its journey.

Threading through Newcastle's historic streets and everyday spaces we know and love, Dominoes Newcastle will connect neighbourhoods, landmarks and communities in a powerful chain of cause and effect; a shared moment shaped by the city itself.

Over 300 volunteers will help bring Dominoes Newcastle to life and thousands will watch the domino run fall, creating a one-day, city-wide celebration of Newcastle and the people who make it.

A simple idea, on a monumental scale on Sunday 9th August.

Dominoes Newcastle by Station House Opera is the headline finale of NOVUM Summer Festival - a spectacular, city-wide artwork culminating in a giant domino run through Newcastle city centre.

Dominoes Newcastle visitors are invited to:

- Walk the route as it's built and visit the sculptural builds throughout the day
- Experience NOVUM's wider festival Sunday programme across the city centre
- Find a viewing spot along the route to watch the dominoes fall from 4:30pm

Dominoes has been staged in more than 20 cities worldwide, with landmark presentations at iconic locations including St Paul's Cathedral, the National Museum of Denmark, the Royal Swedish Opera House and Melbourne Town Hall. Its arrival in North East England marks a major cultural moment.

Route maps will be available via NOVUM website from early July and at locations across the festival weekend.

Dominoes Newcastle is part of NOVUM Summer Festival (7-9 August), a three-day celebration transforming Newcastle city centre into a playground of events, performance, music, creativity and unexpected moments.

Dominoes Newcastle is programmed and funded by Newcastle City Council for NOVUM. Supported using funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

VOLUNTEERING AT DOMINOES NEWCASTLE

We're looking for over 300 friendly volunteers to help make Dominoes Newcastle happen on Sunday 9 August.

Volunteers will play a vital role and will be a part of a once-in-a-lifetime, city-wide artwork, helping bring a spectacular domino run to life across Newcastle. With a range of roles and flexible ways to take part, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved.

We'll provide everything you need, including event information, role guidance, training and health and safety support, so you feel confident and prepared.

We want your experience to be positive, enjoyable and rewarding. As a Dominoes Newcastle volunteer, you'll also have the opportunity to join Newcastle City Council's Cultural Events' volunteer team, with access to future events, training and development opportunities throughout the year.

What we're looking for:

This is a great opportunity for anyone looking to get stuck into live events, as you'll gain hands-on experience working on a monumental installation, supporting both the build and the live moment as it unfolds.

It's also part of something bigger, bringing a globally renowned artwork to the region and offering a rare chance to experience this playful, once-in-a-lifetime spectacle up close, not just as a spectator, but as part of the team making it happen.

We're looking for friendly, reliable people who are excited to be part of a major city event and help make it the best it can be. You'll enjoy working with others, chatting to the public, and getting stuck in as part of a team, bringing a positive, can-do attitude to everything you do.

We also value volunteers who are open, proactive and communicative, happy to share ideas, ask questions and raise any concerns so we can support you fully.

But above all, we're looking for people who care about creating a brilliant experience for visitors and take pride in representing the city.



VOLUNTEERING AT DOMINOES NEWCASTLE

Key skills and attributes needed:

- Friendly and approachable.
- Reliable and punctual.
- Comfortable working outdoors.
- Happy to work as part of a team.
- Positive and adaptable - outdoor events can change quickly!
- Respectful and inclusive with everyone they meet.
- Committed to creating a great experience for visitors, artists, and fellow volunteers.
- Comfortable speaking and understanding English.

In return, we will:

- Provide a full induction and any training you need, so you feel confident and prepared in your role.
- Keep you informed with clear, up-to-date information about the event or programme you're part of.
- Treat you with fairness, respect and appreciation at all times.
- Create a safe, inclusive and supportive environment for every volunteer.
- Ensure you have a named contact for any questions or additional support you may need.
- Buddy up all volunteers during shifts - you'll never be on your own.
- Listen to your feedback and offer clear, honest guidance throughout your experience.
- And most importantly - say thank you. We genuinely value your time, energy and contribution.

“It was exciting and madness at the same time, making it a very memorable event, also it was incredible the amount of people who were involved and as one of the volunteers I want to thank everyone for a rather unique Sunday.”

Volunteer in London





ROLES AVAILABLE

The Builder

Get hands-on during the build with NOVUM staff and artists to help bring the run to life. You'll be right in the middle of it helping position pieces, supporting set-up, and seeing how a large-scale creative idea comes together step by step. It's a chance to work alongside the team, pick up a few behind-the-scenes insights, and play a direct role in shaping the final spectacle.

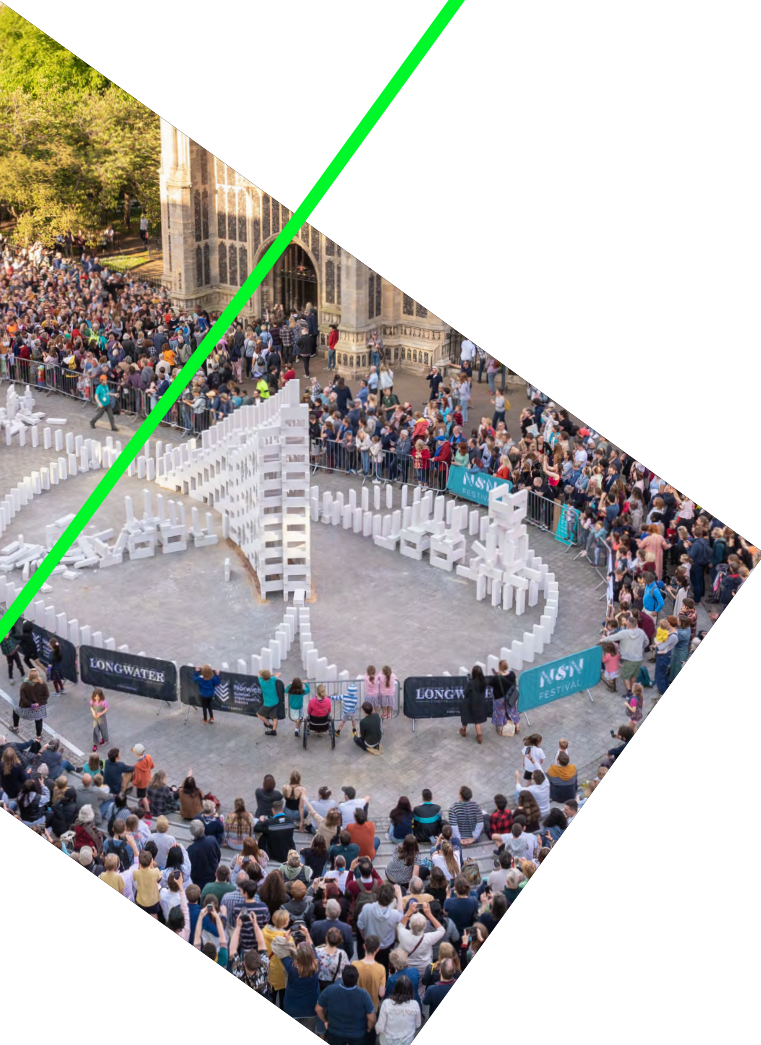
The Builder role is open to individuals, corporate teams and community groups.

The Protector

Be part of the team keeping things safe and running smoothly, while looking out for fellow volunteers. You'll help manage the flow of people, keep an eye on the installation, and make sure everything stays on track ahead of the run. It's about being present, approachable, and calm, helping create an environment where everyone can enjoy the experience without a hitch.

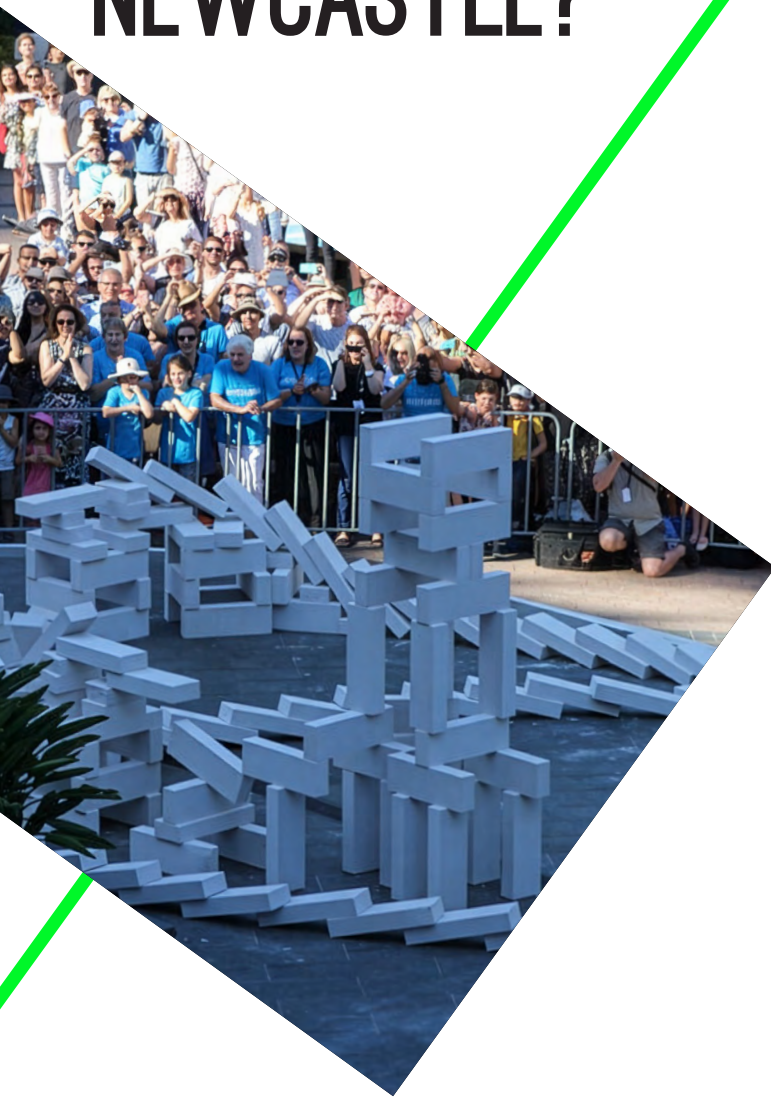
The Storyteller

Chat to curious city centre visitors, share the Dominoes Newcastle story, hand out route maps to passersby and build excitement for the big 4.30pm run. You'll be the friendly face of the project, answering questions, sparking interest, and helping people feel part of something before it even begins. Perfect if you like a bit of conversation and want to help build a buzz across the city.



WHY VOLUNTEER FOR DOMINOES NEWCASTLE?

Volunteering on Dominoes Newcastle is a chance to be part of a once-in-a-lifetime, city-wide artwork — helping bring a spectacular domino run to life across Newcastle.



Benefits:

- **Be Part of Something Extraordinary** - Play a hands-on role in delivering a large-scale artwork that transforms the city centre into a moving domino chain.
- **Be Behind the Scenes of a Major Event** - Experience how a complex, live artwork is built and delivered, working alongside artists and production teams.
- **Meet New People** - Join a friendly, supportive team of volunteers, event staff and artists, making connections along the way.
- **Connect with the City** - See Newcastle in a whole new way as the domino route weaves through streets, spaces and landmarks.
- **Support a Unique Creative Experience** - Help create a shared moment for thousands of people, bringing communities together through art.
- **Gain Event Experience** - Build practical skills and confidence through hands-on involvement in a major cultural event and boost your CV.
- **Be Part of the Big Moment** - Experience the excitement as the dominoes fall and the city comes together to watch.
- **Celebrate Together** - Join fellow volunteers after the event to celebrate your role in making it happen.

EXPECTATIONS / COMMITMENT

To help make Dominoes Newcastle a safe, enjoyable and successful festival for everyone, we ask all volunteers to:

- Complete the Better Impact sign-up process so we can register you and share key information about your role.
- Read the Volunteer Induction Pack in advance (*this will be shared a few weeks before Dominoes Newcastle*).
- Attend a volunteer induction session wk beginning 3rd August, where you'll meet the team, get hands on with the dominoes and get everything you need for your role.
- Commit to and complete the volunteer shift you sign up for, and let us know as soon as possible if your availability changes.

We also ask that you:

- Arrive on time, ready to take part, and follow guidance from the event team.
- Be respectful, inclusive and supportive of fellow volunteers, staff, artists and the public.
- Represent Dominoes Newcastle in a positive and welcoming way.
- Follow all safety guidance to help ensure a safe environment for everyone.
- Be open to learning, getting involved and making the most of your experience.

Volunteer Shifts & Availability

- Volunteer shifts will take place across Sunday 9th August.
- We use Better Impact to manage volunteer availability and shift allocation. You're welcome to express interest in as many shifts as you like.
- A couple of weeks before Dominoes Newcastle, we will confirm your allocated shift(s) and share your timetable along with your volunteer induction pack.
- If your availability changes, please let us know as soon as possible by emailing alison.flanaganwood@newcastle.gov.uk
- All volunteers are invited to a celebration event on Sunday 9 August (approx. 7pm) in Newcastle city centre - a chance to come together and celebrate your contribution to Dominoes Newcastle.

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION EVENTS

We're hosting two informal information events for prospective volunteers, as well as volunteer coordinators from other organisations, to find out more about getting involved in NOVUM Summer Festival and Dominoes Newcastle.

These sessions are a great opportunity to meet the team, learn more about Dominoes Newcastle and volunteer roles, and ask any questions you may have before signing up.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thursday 4th June
10.30am-11.30am
Newcastle City Library

Thursday 4th June
5.30pm - 6.30pm
ONLINE

[Sign up to an information session via our registration form](#)

Sign-up process

We use Better Impact to manage volunteer registration - it's a simple process. First, sign up as a Newcastle Cultural Events Team volunteer for Dominoes Newcastle.

Once you've registered, you'll receive a confirmation email (please check your junk folder just in case). We'll then add you to our volunteer list and will keep in touch with you about important updates and to book in your induction/briefing session ahead of Dominoes Newcastle.

Once you've completed your induction - your volunteer shift(s) will be allocated based on your availability and your role, based on your area of interest.



[Sign up to volunteer at NOVUM via Better Impact](#)

Please note: The email address you register with will be our main way of contacting you.

If you're not comfortable using an online platform, that's absolutely fine - we're happy to help. You can contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Alison Flanagan-Wood, at: alison.flanaganwood@newcastle.gov.uk or via phone: 07471180493



KEEP IN TOUCH & THANK YOU

Thanks for your interest in volunteering at Dominoes Newcastle - part of NOVUM Summer Festival.

By giving your time and energy, you'll be helping to create something truly special - bringing people together, supporting creativity across the city, and making unforgettable moments happen.

We're excited to welcome you to the team and hope you'll join us in making Dominoes Newcastle an incredible experience for everyone.

*Keep in touch with us and
all things NOVUM Summer
Festival via:*



- Signing up to our mailing list via:
www.novumnewcastle.com
- Connect with us on social media
on Facebook & Instagram via:
[@NovumFestival](https://www.instagram.com/NovumFestival)