

Volunteer Role Description

Role title
Nature Memories Volunteer
Based at location
The Nature Discovery Centre, Thatcham, Berks, RG19 3TN
Purpose of the role
This role has been created to assist with the running of a café for people living with dementia and their loved ones at the Nature Discovery Centre, Thatcham, serving refreshments and running small nature-based activities. The Nature Memories Cafe ran very successfully for 3 years up until March 2020 when lockdown forced its closure. We are delighted to have secured funding to enable us to restart this popular and valuable activity.
Type of work you will be involved in
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisting the Nature Memories Officer with the set up and clearing away of the café. • Welcoming and greeting participants as they arrive. • Facilitating nature-based craft activities, memory activities and occasional walks and talks for participants. • Suggesting ideas for new activities and working with the Nature Memories Officer to develop them. • Assisting with the evaluation of the cafe. This will include taking photographs of the sessions and helping create a memory book about the Nature Discovery Centre. • Supporting people with dementia and their loved ones to engage and socialise with others in the group- all volunteers will be supported to become Alzheimer's Society Dementia Friends and to learn more about dementia before the first session.
Skills required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friendly, welcoming personality • An interest in working with local people • An interest in local wildlife • Good communication skills • An awareness and understanding of confidentiality • Understanding of and empathy with the needs of older people • Patience, sensitivity and reliability

Suitable for Under 18s
Best suited to volunteers 18+. Will consider volunteers aged 14-17 on a case-by-case basis. Supervision at each session by Nature Memories Officer.
Times/days we would like you to be available
The café will run once a month from 10:30-12:30pm, typically on the third Tuesday of the month. You will need to be available for set up and tidying away as well.
Benefits to volunteer & possible training opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The chance to be actively involved in one of BBOWT's flagship sites. • The opportunity to work closely with local people and enhance their enjoyment of nature. • You will be joining a great team of volunteers and staff and have the opportunity to learn about the site and its wildlife. • Free internal training courses are available as part of BBOWT's 'Developing Your Skills' programme.
You will be responsible to
Jone Ayres, Nature Memories Officer
Expenses payable
No
Interview, References or DBS check required
We would like to meet any potential volunteers at the Nature Discovery Centre to talk about the role including relevant skills and experience. References required. A basic DBS check is required with this role.