



Arun Volunteer Centre

CASE STUDY 2

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Julie Roby

Acting Manager Wick Information Centre



I am a mother of five in my late 40s. I spent 25 years looking after my children one of which has Special Needs and lived at home. They started leaving home one by one which meant my life became quite empty in the day time. I started looking for a paid job but found I had lost my confidence and did not really know what path to follow.

Over 4yrs ago I walked into Wick Information Centre looking for yoga sessions and ended up becoming a volunteer, at first I was taught how to use the computer, file, photocopy, fax, laminate, answer the phone,

update data base and answer questions for the general public.

Just over a year ago my Co - ordinator had to leave and I was offered the job and more hours but felt I did not have enough experience at this time to fill the role.

The role was filled by a gentleman but he could not cope with hall bookings too so I was offered a paid job for a few hours a week as Hall Manager, a job which I had been trained for.

After about 10 months the manager became quite ill and after a period of about 6 months, I was asked to take over as acting manager. It has been such a fantastic experience for me. My confidence has grown and grown.

Because I knew the job so well it was easy to make the transition. I now have to look after and

support 7-8 volunteers so my 4 years experience as a volunteer is proving invaluable.

One of my volunteers has moved on to paid work so I feel as if I am passing on my experience and love for my work.

Volunteering worked for me and I now regularly tell people how they can get involved.

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