



Heritage Action Zone (HAZ) - Memories Shared Volunteer

Library Service

Purpose of the role:

As part of the Heritage Action Zone Project, to help run 20 Memories Shared Reminiscence sessions between October 2022 and December 2023. These sessions aim to:

- Have a positive impact on the health and well-being of older people, including those living with dementia and memory loss;
- Reduce isolation, social exclusion and loneliness;
- Begin to break down barriers to technology for older people.

Main tasks and activities may include:

- Running events in group settings e.g. Care Homes, Memory Cafes;
- Showing people how to use the Memories Shared tablets and view the photographs;
- Encouraging people to reminisce and share their memories with others in the group.

Volunteers will have these qualities, skills and experiences:

You do not need to have any previous experience of volunteering or working in a library. For this role you will need:

- An interest in libraries and desire to be an advocate for the service;
- Good conversation skills;
- To be reliable;
- To enjoy meeting new people;
- To be calm and patient;
- To be familiar with using the tablets (full training will be given but prior knowledge of using an iPad would be useful).

Types of training and resources available to support volunteers:

- An Induction which explains how the library service operates and outlines all the policies and procedures that you will need to know;
- A tour of the library at which you will be volunteering;
- Details of any resources available to help you in your volunteering role;
- Dementia Friends, and role-specific training;
- Introductions to members of staff and other volunteers, alongside whom you will be volunteering;
- Out of pocket expenses can be paid;
- Accreditation may also be available.

How often does the volunteer activity tend to take place?

We are funded to deliver 20 sessions between October 2022 and December 2023, which means we aim to run at least 1 session per month, but sessions may not be regular. Volunteers will be contacted about their availability. We are hoping that at the end of the funded project we can work with our volunteers to discuss how best to expand the project and take it forward

Where does the voluntary activity take place?

Activities must take place in the Weston Area. We hope the role will expand to cover other areas in North Somerset after 2023. Please see the Vacancies page of our website for more information: <http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/nsc-library-volunteering> or call using the details below.

Name and contact details of the volunteer co-ordinator:

Name: The Library Volunteering Team

Email: library.volunteers@n-somerset.gov.uk

Phone: 01275 888 864

Other important information:

- If you are concerned that volunteering may affect any benefits you receive, please ask and we will do our best to assist you.
- All library volunteering roles involve dealing with the public and are customer focused.
- Volunteers are complementary to paid workers and volunteers should not be used to replace staff.
- This role usually takes place at different locations in the community, rather than at the library.

Help is also available for people who require Council information in different formats and languages other than English. Please contact the Library Volunteering Team via email library.volunteers@n-somerset.gov.uk or phone 01275 888 864, for more information.

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