



Julie Wedge

I have been asked to give you all a 'brief' introduction to how I started and where I am now through my volunteering.

I became a friend via facebook with Jon through his football work and through time we chatted more and more and we spoke about volunteering. Jon knew that I had always wanted to work behind the screen of a computer as this was and is where I am most comfortable. (Long story but I lost a lot of confidence over the past 5 years)

However Jon asked if I would be interested in working on the Volunteer Handbook to which I try my very best to help with. I have played a small part in welcoming people to the facebook page and my confidence to post and comment has somewhat started to grow.

Since May I have met more and more faces from the Volunteer Bureau and it is a pleasure to put faces to names, I now have a bigger circle of people I can call friends. My biggest achievement this year was being asked to present the 50th Anniversary Jigsaw with some of the team to Cllr Darren Rodwell and the Mayoress . At this event I was asked if I would be interested in making a posy for the Queen for her visit to Barking and Dagenham in July.

I am now more actively involved with volunteering at the Boat House and part of the steering group in Barking to which my skills as a volunteer are developing daily.

I owe my improved self esteem and involvement to Jon Gildersleeve and Joan Brandon whom have expressed faith in me and my skills for my new business. Flower-shed.

The story continues within my family and my journey with the community and team that is Barking and Dagenham