

Volunteer Profile:

Joyce



- How long have you been volunteering with the Good Neighbour Scheme?

Right from the very beginning with Annette. Thanks to Annette (who really has been the driving force and great motivator), Nick, our Treasurer, Laura, our Safeguarding Officer, and Ginnie our Befriending Officer who took on key roles, meant the idea of setting up the BGNS became a reality.

- What is your primary volunteering role within the Scheme (i.e. providing transport, befriending, other)?

My main input apart from Chair is befriending, mainly by phone at the moment and the odd prescription run. I'm looking forward to seeing our Members and Volunteers in a more social way soon.

- What made you decide to get into volunteering?

When my daughter was little, I was aware that being new to the area and not having any family in the area there were a lot of people in the same boat and a lot of elderly who were alone. So initially I volunteered with Help the Aged to visit some elderly people in the Community and my daughter loved these visits. Work then got in the way.

I'm lucky enough to be self-employed now and therefore I can split my time. I already volunteer at the library and help out when needed at the Bishop Beveridge Club on Coffee Mornings. Now there is the BGNS which opens up so many volunteering opportunities.

- What advice would you give to anyone who is interested in volunteering?

Don't feel you are committed to helping everyday or for years to come. Any little time you can give to suit your lifestyle is very welcome. It's a good way to meet different people and it's also a great way to learn what groups, social events are going on in the Village and in the area.