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| C:\Users\Staff\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\Dementia_strap.jpg**Help people to live well with dementia.** |  |
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| **Volunteer Role** | **In-Person Befriender** |
| We welcome volunteers from all backgrounds and experience. |
| Providing vital companionship and helping to reduce social isolation  | * For people living with dementia.
* To increase the quality of life of people living with dementia in Oxfordshire.
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| What you will do | * Provide regular visits to a client at home to build an ongoing friendly relationship, to give the person with dementia mental stimulation and companionship, and give their carer some respite. In time, your role could develop to support a client to attend a day centre or memory café.
* Your role could include chatting over a cup of tea, reminiscing using the client’s photo albums, stimulating memory with Life Story work, playing Scrabble or encouraging the client to continue with previous activities like knitting. We would welcome new ideas for activities!
* Continue visits or calls for at least 4 months with some flexibility
* Undertake essential training offered
* Record details of contacts made on our database
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| Working with | * Small client base
* As part of a team of Dementia Oxfordshire volunteers
* Support & guidance from Dementia Advisers
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| Support & training  | * Ongoing support from the Volunteer Coordinator
* Training including induction, dementia specific training and adult safeguarding
* Ongoing training opportunities available
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| Time commitment | * An average of 1.5 hours a week (to include visits to client and recording visit details)
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| Benefits | * A chance to make a real difference to an older person who is isolated
* A chance to use your own life experience to help someone in your community
* Volunteering that fits easily around your existing commitments
* A chance to learn more about supporting someone with dementia,
* The opportunity to gain valuable experience and increase confidence.
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| Skills and personal qualities | * Friendly, easy manner.
* Enjoy building relationships
* Empathy and good listening skills
* Happy to make simple records of visits
* Able to evaluate and report concerns to Volunteer Coordinator
* The ability to work alone and as a part of the wider team
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| Declaration of Previous Criminal Convictions required? | Yes |
| How to apply / what happens next | If you like more information about any of the roles please call 01865 410210 or simply send your completed application form to volunteer@dementiaoxfordshire.org.uk and we will be in touch. |