

## Volunteer Role Description

### Community keeping in touch

Community keeping in touch volunteers help staff to prepare and delivery one-day programmes working with elderly residential homes, day care centres and dementia groups both on and off site. Depending on the time of year groups either visit Westonbirt, taking part in sensory activities out in the arboretum, or outreach sessions that take tactile, reminiscence activities out to the surrounding community. Both programmes aim to evoke memories, share stories and learn fascinating facts about trees from around the world. The activities incorporate a variety of natural objects, scents, and sounds to connect with the wonder of trees.

#### When

Different programmes are delivered throughout the year, depending on the activity each day varies from 1-3 hours, anytime between 10am-4pm; dates and details are advised in advance. Regular volunteer involvement is required in order to keep the programme running.

#### What's involved?

- ✧ Supporting individual participants to enjoy and enhance their experience.
- ✧ Helping to set up and close activities.
- ✧ Helping to evaluate sessions by documenting anecdotes/feedback of participants.
- ✧ Supporting and maintaining health and safety practices.
- ✧ Developing resources for activities through preparation and research e.g. medicinal and therapeutic facts about specific trees.
- ✧ Occasionally travelling to outreach setting from Westonbirt (or meeting at setting if closer to your home location).

#### We'd like you to be

Enthusiastic with a patient and friendly approach, reliable and a good communicator with a positive attitude, and have a willingness to be flexible and help where needed; a background in working with older and/or vulnerable adults is advantageous.

#### We will

- ✧ Provide new starter training and ongoing support, help and guidance.
- ✧ Give you an on-site radio for communication.
- ✧ Not expect you to perform any physical care duties e.g. pushing a wheelchair
- ✧ Pay a contribution to the cost of volunteering travel.
- ✧ Help you to complete the required Disclosure and Barring System checks (DBS).

#### Please send your application to us

By email at [cheryl.pearson@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:cheryl.pearson@forestry.gsi.gov.uk) or by post to Cheryl Pearson, Westonbirt, The National Arboretum, Tetbury GL8 8QS

### Recruitment coffee morning Saturday 19 November at 10.30am

To find out more come along to the volunteer recruitment coffee morning in the Great Oak Hall starting at 10.30am, where we'll give you a brief presentation about volunteering at Westonbirt followed by a cuppa and piece of cake whilst you chat to staff and volunteers about our current opportunities.

[www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt-community](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/westonbirt-community)