

Dementia Connections Volunteer

Project:	Dementia Connections - Meeting Centres
Time requirement:	10-3 (Tuesday or Thursday)
Location:	Westmoor Community Centre or Howdon Hub
Accountability:	Head of Charity Services
Required training:	General Volunteer Induction - mandatory Dementia Awareness training - mandatory Safeguarding Training - mandatory Tailored training as required
DBS (prev. CRB):	Yes

What is the Dementia Connections Team?

The Team consists of Admiral Nurses and Dementia Coordinators who support those living with dementia and also their families and carers.

The Team provide emotional support, education, signposting and information regarding dementia services available.

We also support those living with dementia and their carers/families to access and engage in social activities.

The Dementia Connections team are introducing Meeting Centres within North Tyneside and we need your help!

This is an exciting Project which has the potential to improve and support the well-being of people with dementia and their families/carers living in the locality.

What will the project / Role entail?

Meeting Centres are a local resource, operating out of community buildings, providing warm and friendly support to people living at home with dementia (that's people with a diagnosis of dementia), alongside their family/carers and friends.

At the heart of the Meeting Centre is a social club where people can meet to have fun, talk to others, and get help that focusses on what makes life great.

You would be a member of a team, trained in the Meeting Centre ethos to provide an enjoyable and flexible programme to members. All activities are designed to help people adapt to the challenges that living with dementia can bring.

This involves getting together socially, being creative, active and sharing lunch. The activities are tailored towards individuals needs and are developed in conjunction with the members.

Duties of the volunteer:

- Supporting people with dementia and their carers to engage and socialise with others in the group
- Provide support and basic information on dementia to people with dementia and their carers (training will be given)
- Support the facilitation of the activities including helping serve teas and coffees

Skills that are required/desirable:

- Good communication skills
- An awareness and understanding of confidentiality
- A sense of humour
- Understanding of and empathy with the needs of older people
- Patience and sensitivity
- Reliability as you will need to commit to weekly attendance
- To be respectful of the service user's individuality

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