

## VOLUNTEER ROLE

**Title: Community Hospital Volunteer**

**Hours:** Ideally 3 hours per week

**Supported by:** Well-Being Team

**Location:** Community Hospitals at one of the following: Farnham

**Role**: To facilitate group activity sessions and provide 1:1 visits to patients within the community hospitals.

**Main duties**:

* Provide weekly visits to older people staying within a community hospital
* Support older people during their hospital stay to keep stimulated and engaged.
* Provide small group sessions with another volunteer to include reminiscence sessions, art and crafts, crosswords, reading, discussion and other activities.
* Motivate and support older people to engage in small group activities during their hospital stay. This may require some 1:1 support initially to build confidence to join in.
* Support and motivate older people to think through the process of returning home, to discuss what support they may require initially and to signpost to other services such as Age UK’s Advice and Information service.
* Maintain close contact with the Wellbeing Team
* Provide a brief record of sessions people attend.

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**Personal Qualities:**

* Good communication skills
* To be a facilitator not a fixer
* Ability to motivate people
* Have empathy for older people and those with dementia
* The ability to value and respect others’ opinions and beliefs
* Ability to read and understand Virgin Community Hospital guidelines and policies on Health and Safety, confidentiality etc.
* Flexible
* Car owner/ driver

Training will be provided prior to working within the community hospitals.

The role requires a DBS and two references.

**Expenses:** Age UK Surrey will reimburse expenses such as travel costs and telephone.