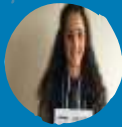


35 things our volunteers say about volunteering for North Devon Hospice

We asked our volunteers why they love volunteering with North Devon Hospice and this is what they had to say:

1. The incredible feeling that just being there even for a short period of time is important to the wellbeing of others
2. It's a lovely environment to be in, it feels welcoming, warm and calm
3. Meeting and supporting patients, their families and carers who are nearly always brave and an inspiration
4. Flexibility of hours means that I can fit it in around other commitments
5. The friends I have made among the volunteers and manager, and have always felt from day one, part of the team
6. Being with people and staff dedicated to raising funds for the hospice
7. Giving something back to the hospice, that people are grateful for
8. I'm repaying them for the wonderful care my sister received there
9. Hoping I help patients through a difficult time in a small way
10. Enabling patients to enjoy small everyday things in life that we may all take for granted
11. I'm learning new skills
12. Knowing when I sell something in the shop it makes a difference to someone's life
13. In this time of too much waste I really think of the Hospice shop as a great recycling machine!
14. I get as much from my volunteering as I give
15. I feel valued and love the people I work for, both patients and volunteers/staff





16. It keeps me active

17. Local charity, personal hospice experience with family and know the need and the support offered

18. I learn to appreciate the generosity of those who donate furniture for us to sell

19. By meeting people to inform them of the wonderful work the hospice does and hopefully will continue to do so

20. Privileged to share in people's journey of life and facing death

21. Feeling that I am actually doing something that helps raise funds and so supporting the staff who actually provide the care to folk who need it

22. Volunteering at the hospice is the best decision I have made

23. Being part of a group of volunteers - a member of "the family"

24. Retired people can sometimes feel marginalised and volunteering can give structure to life and provided another group with which to interact.

25. Extending my skills in areas outside of my previous career

26. The social interaction with all kinds of people who I wouldn't otherwise meet

27. I feel valued and able to contribute ideas

28. I enjoy meeting all the local community and visitors in the shop

29. I like raising funds for the hospice, to help those who need it most

30. It's good for my wellbeing; we have a lot of laughs & have made friends with the people I work with

31. I feel it is such a good cause; we never know when we or someone we love/know may need its services and therefore I feel privileged to be contributing to it

32. The best thing is the people –they are a very caring, friendly team. Staff, patients and carers really appreciate our efforts

33. The hospice is a wonderful place to volunteer at. It has such a calm atmosphere and I have got a lot more out of it than I have given

34. Apart from making friends and doing something I never thought I would, with volunteering I am learning all the time and am gaining in confidence all the time

35. I began volunteering as part of my Duke of Edinburgh Award but I enjoyed it so much I have stayed. It's great to know what I am doing is helping others when they need it most and I am benefiting too