VOLUNTEER

CASE STUDY

KATH MARRIOT

CANCER CARE

KATH MARRIOT

RECEPTION VOLUNTEER, CANCER CARE

KATHS'S VOLUNTEER ROLE

Kath Marriott is a reception volunteer for the charity Cancer Care, which provides a range of support services and therapies for those affected by cancer.
The charity offers services in North Lancashire and South Cumbria. Kath is based at the charity's Barrow centre where each week she gives her time to provide a friendly first point of contact, for those visiting or contacting the charity for support.

I like to feel I'm helping. I like to meet members of the public and I like to feel that they are happy to be with us and make the centre a friendly place rather than a scary place to visit. Some of those visiting are in a place that is difficult to understand but that's where I feel we can help we can just either chat or sit and listen or whatever, making it welcoming and friendly I feel that's important.

Kath has been volunteering with the Charity since 2019. Kath first became aware of Cancer Care when her husband was diagnosed with cancer.

I first came into contact with Cancer Care when my husband was taken ill with mesothelioma and was very grateful for the help they offered, we didn't actually need it because he unfortunately didn't survive very long but we knew the help was there if we needed it.

This experience has given Kath a personal understanding and empathy with others affected by cancer.
When a friend working at Cancer Care asked Kath if she would like to volunteer with them, Kath was very happy to be able to help the charity.

Volunteering at Cancer Care has enabled Kath to develop new skills.
Kath has enjoyed learning how to use a computer something she had not done much before.

My younger years were not spent on computers, so I have learned as I've been going along, the office manager has been very, very helpful and if I'm struggling, she's always there to help me sort things out.

It has enriched my life because as a widow it's giving me a purpose. You're not quite able to describe what good it does for you I think if you have not volunteered before you have got to give it a go. It is not for everybody but if they want to I would recommend they try it and it's amazing the effects it can have on things.

Kath has also undertaken training in safeguarding and first aid.
Kath feels she has gained a lot from being a volunteer and would recommend it to others.

WE ASKED KATH WHAT THREE WORDS WOULD DESCRIBE HER VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCE SHE SAID:

REWARDING, PURPOSEFUL & SATISFYING