

# Blind Veterans UK

## Volunteer Role

## Home Visitor Hayes



Blind Veterans UK ([www.blindveterans.org.uk](http://www.blindveterans.org.uk)) supports anyone who has served in the Armed Forces, or who has done National Service, and who is now living with significant sight loss. We help blind ex-Service men and women lead independent and fulfilling lives by supporting them with our in-depth expertise, experience, and full range of services.

We give veterans much-needed support to adjust to sight loss, overcome the challenges of blindness and enjoy daily life. Our charity has been offering physical and emotional support to vision-impaired veterans since 1915.

- Our 70-year-old Member has in the past enjoyed DIY, engraving, model making, driving, and reading. His interests now include listening to CDs, tapes, the Hillingdon Gazette, and indoor bowls.
- And what about his National Service? He joined the Royal Welch Fusiliers and trained at Crickhowell before joining his Battalion at Ebrington Barracks in Londonderry. He has served briefly in Cyprus, Belize, and Jamaica before a short posting to Gibraltar.
- Our veteran would like to have a patient and understanding female volunteer who can befriend someone on Saturdays, Sundays, or Mondays.
- Are you friendly, would like to listen to our Member's stories, and doesn't matter that he is a smoker? Nowadays he doesn't want to be taken out and about, but once trust builds, it would be good to do that if the volunteer has a car.

If you think you can make a difference in his life, we look forward to hearing from you. By providing regular companionship, social interaction and building a positive one-to-one relationship you can help to reduce the effects of isolation so commonly experienced by our veterans. Your positivity, friendliness and communication can make the world of difference to their daily lives.



### **Why we want you**

We are committed to supporting our blind veterans no matter where they are. Our community home visitors provide crucial social interaction for our veterans who can't reach our centres, and can often feel isolated or lonely. By popping by once a week or fortnight to see a veteran in their area, home visitors are a friendly face that can make all the difference to their lives. A visit could be a simple chat and a cup of tea, helping out with odd jobs around the home that can otherwise be a struggle for our veterans to complete or getting out and about in the local area.

### **What you will be doing**

- You will be required on Saturdays, Sundays, **or** Mondays
- Weekly, we ask for 1½ hours each visit
- Provide friendly and reliable social interaction for our veterans
- Providing regular companionship, social interaction and building a positive one-to-one relationship
- Reducing the effects of isolation so commonly experienced by our veterans
- As our volunteer, you will support a committed team with reducing loneliness for this visually impaired veteran

### **The skills you need**

- Volunteers need to be over the age of 18 years
- You are a patient and understanding female volunteer
- Able to travel independently to and from our veteran's home
- Understand the importance of confidentiality and relationship boundaries
- Start as soon as possible
- Long term commitment
- Happy to work individually
- Friendly and warm
- Positive attitude



- Patient and empathetic
- Good sense of humour
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Trustworthy
- Good communication & listening skills
- Understand the importance of confidentiality and relationship boundaries
- We ask that you are reliable and punctual for our veterans

### **What's in it for you**

- We will give you the necessary training, induction and support to be confident and enjoy your volunteering
- Induction will include introduction of a named volunteer co-ordinator
- Training will include an introduction to sight loss, legalities, sighted guiding skills, staying safe and maintaining boundaries
- Employee Assistance Programme
- Engage with and support people with disabilities
- Gain valuable experience of working in the voluntary sector
- Refund of petrol/transport/public transport
- We will provide a reference on request once you have volunteered with us for at least 6 months

### **Disclaimer**

Our values underpin the way our staff and volunteers work and interact with each other, and how we deliver services to blind veterans. Built around the central statement "We work together as One Team", we ask all to uphold our values: caring is at the heart of everything we do, we enable and trust each other, we foster a pioneering spirit and we celebrate success!

To apply for this role:

An H4ALL application form MUST be completed. We require two references.

To obtain an application form:

Visit [www.h4all.org.uk](http://www.h4all.org.uk) and download or print an application form

Or

Email [volunteerhub@h4all.org.uk](mailto:volunteerhub@h4all.org.uk) to request an application form to be sent to you by email or post

Send your fully completed application form by:

Email to [volunteerhub@h4all.org.uk](mailto:volunteerhub@h4all.org.uk)

Or

Post to H4ALL, Volunteer Development Team, Key House, Yiewsley, UB7 9BQ



Volunteer Home Visitor (Hayes)  
Our 70-year-old Member  
wants a female volunteer  
to visit him weekly just on  
Saturdays, Sundays or  
Mondays.



Rebuilding  
lives after  
sight loss

If you don't matter that this veteran is  
also a smoker, get in touch. Also, your  
public transport/petrol is on us.  
[blindveterans.org.uk/becomeavolunteer](http://blindveterans.org.uk/becomeavolunteer)

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