



## October 30, 2018 – Hull mobility team

Welcome to your autumn newsletter.

### Service Updates

- We're hoping to move into our new office space at the beginning of November, which is situated opposite our current building. We'll inform you of all contact details and changes when the move has happened, but be assured that the office telephone number will remain the same.
- Since the last newsletter, we've had five new partnerships qualified within our team. In November, we'll be picking up 7 dogs for advanced training, and 4 young dogs for early training; it's a busy time!

### Team Changes

We've had some staff changes in the last few months. We said farewell to Simon Goodwin at the end of August, who is now Head of Canine Resources, and we wish him all the best in his new position.

- Paul Bush, our engagement officer, is on secondment as the team's service delivery manager.
- Sue McGuire, one of our business support co-ordinators, is on secondment as business support manager.
- Ella Jacklin, a Guide Dog Mobility Instructor, is joining us from our Leeds team on November the 5<sup>th</sup>. We're looking forward to welcoming her to Hull.
- We are currently in the process of recruiting an engagement officer for three days a week on secondment.

Congratulations to everyone, and good luck in your new roles!

### A New Role – My Guide

My name is Wendy Smith, and most of you will know me as a Business Support Manager or support worker within the Hull Team. Things are a bit different now, as about four months ago I decided I needed a change, and I was lucky enough to be offered the job of My Guide Volunteer Manager. This is a new position within the Hull team so it's very exciting to be able to develop the role as I learn. I currently work alongside Suzanne Allott, My Guide Services Manager and Samantha Bradley, Volunteer Consultant, and they

are teaching me all they know when it comes to My Guide and Volunteering.

My main focus is currently recruiting volunteers within Hull, East Riding, and York for our ever growing waiting list. A lot of our clients missed out on the fabulous events that were in Hull during the City of Culture 2017, and it would be fantastic to enable this to happen in the future. The City of Culture vibe is still strong within Hull and it is no longer known as the city at the end of the M62. Being able to have a strong team of My Guide volunteers in Hull would be amazing for our clients, as it would enable them to explore our historical city.

I'm really enjoying getting out and about meeting our volunteers, having spent the last 9 years sat behind a computer screen; it's as if someone has opened a magic door for me to find a whole new world outside!

Meeting and interviewing our prospective volunteers is so inspiring, and it's fascinating to hear the reasons that people have for volunteering, from someone wanting to give back to their local community, to those who had never heard of the service becoming volunteers.

The more I talk about My Guide to people, the more passionate I become about this service.

If you would like to know more about volunteering for My Guide, please email me at [wendy.smith@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:wendy.smith@guidedogs.org.uk).

## Contacts

- Hull Mobility Team Telephone 0345 1430207 or email: [hull@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:hull@guidedogs.org.uk)
- Guide Dogs website: [www.guidedogs.org.uk](http://www.guidedogs.org.uk)
- Follow us on Twitter: [www.twitter.com/GDHumberLincs](http://www.twitter.com/GDHumberLincs)  
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