

Some Facts

Did you know...

SoLO currently has 98 volunteers who are actively working to support our work.

Our volunteers bring to the organisation a huge range of skills and support our members on projects, provide transport for our members, help us with designing this newsletter, help us with our website, fundraise for us, help out in the office, and sit on our Trustee Board.

It is estimated that the level of support that is given to our organisation from our volunteers (if costed out on a support worker rate) would amount to £75,000! **What can we say? THANK YOU!**



SoLO says a big THANK YOU to all its volunteers for their help!

Interviews with ...

Mavis Evans



Mavis is a volunteer with Icebreakers

We asked Mavis about volunteering for SoLO

Mavis, what do you do to support SoLO's work?

I work as a volunteer on Icebreakers which means I collect two or three members with a learning disability from their homes and take them to wherever the group has chosen to spend the evening together. Last week we went to the Solihull Library Theatre and saw Oklahoma – we all had a great time, The month before we all went to the Black Boy for a meal, and the month before we went ten pin bowling. The nice thing about Icebreakers is that the members are able to chose where they want to go. I also help out in the office.

How long have you been involved?

I got involved about three years ago.

What do you like most about your volunteering experience?

I just love meeting people and I love the fact that I can make a difference to their lives – and they have certainly made a difference to mine!"

Phil Upton

We also talked to Phil about his voluntary work with SoLO.



How long have you been volunteering with SoLO?

I've been volunteering at Teen Open Door for 6 months and at Open Door for 3 months.

What does your voluntary work involve?

It involves supporting the members to have lots of fun in a safe environment. I ensure members are active and stimulated whilst they are there. As both Open Door and Teen Open Door provide dinner, I also support members to eat their meals and have a drink.

What do you get out of volunteering?

It's fun working with the members and I get to do many different things I wouldn't usually get the chance to do whilst supporting them.

What have been the highlights of your voluntary work?

Bowling with Open Door and seeing everyone thoroughly enjoy themselves and at Teen Open Door, the first time a particular member said 'yes' to me who rarely responds verbally.

What would you say to potential volunteers out there?

Give it a go – its great fun!

We talked to Phil Upton about this voluntary work with SoLO