

## Further information

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| <i>Volunteer activity</i> | <p><b>Chair of North London Friends of the Family Holiday Association</b><br/> <b>Member of the Finance and Personnel committee at Jacksons Lane Arts Centre</b></p>  |
| <i>What I do</i>          | <p>For the Family Holiday Association I organise fund raising events during the year, ranging from carol singing at train stations, organising a cream tea event, having stalls at local fetes, shaking tins in the street to organising an Art and Craft Fair with over 30 stall holders. I run the meetings and prepare agendas and minutes.</p> <p>For Jacksons Lane I attend meetings four times a year and read and prepare papers in advance of each meeting. My role is to advise on staffing and employment issues.</p>   |
| <i>Time commitment</i>    | <p>Family Holiday Association: this varies during the year depending on what events we are organising. The Art and Craft Fair is very time consuming but other events are relatively straightforward. I probably average 2-3 hours a week over the year.</p> <p>Jacksons Lane: 4 - 5 hours every 3 months</p>   |
| <i>Why I do it</i>        | <p>Family Holiday Association: because I know that we are lucky enough to have family holidays and enjoy all the benefits they bring. 1 in 3 families across the UK are not able to take any break away from often desperate financial and social conditions. Most have never had a family holiday and many cannot even afford a day trip. There are children in Tower Hamlets who have never seen the Thames never mind the sea. The Family Holiday Association is the only national charity specialising in providing holidays to disadvantaged families. The benefits of a holiday to these families are enormous.</p> <p>Access to the arts is so important and should not be the preserve of the privileged. A local arts centre like Jacksons Lane has much to offer to the local community in terms of reasonably priced arts events, classes and activities for all age groups and interests. I am in a position where I can enjoy a range of arts activities available in London. I want to help Jacksons Lane so the local community can enjoy and benefit from everything it has to offer.</p> |
| <i>Downsides</i>          | <p>Raising money for the Family Holiday Association is difficult as there are so many competing causes and sometimes we put a lot of effort in for little return.</p> <p>At Jacksons Lane it is financial constraints - there is a lot of potential but very little money to spend.</p>   |
| <i>What to do next</i>    | <p>Contact Haringey Volunteer Centre: 020 8 880 4032; Islington Volunteer Centre: 020 7 766 6800, <a href="http://www.islingtonvolunteer.org.uk">www.islingtonvolunteer.org.uk</a>; Camden Volunteer Centre: 020 7 424 9990, <a href="http://www.volunteercentrecamden.org.uk">www.volunteercentrecamden.org.uk</a></p> <p>Visit <a href="http://www.do-it.org.uk">www.do-it.org.uk</a> (government website co-ordinating volunteer opportunities)</p> <p>The Guardian (Mondays, media section) has a page of Volunteer opportunities</p>   |