





Gemma Bell Project You Co-Ordintaor

What I do

I am a football coach in my spare time, and have achieved my UEFA B Licence in Coaching Football. I volunteer at Lincoln United FC running u6, u8, U11 Girls and u14.

The impact this has

Through volunteering I found a new career path with the skills I leart and ended up doing Degree at Lincoln College in Sports Coaching, Education and Development. This in turn has seen me take on Coordinator role at Lincoln College.

It's certainly given me a lot of sense of achievement. It is also another support network as it really does feel like family. Nothing beats a 4 year old telling you they love you because you make them feel valued.







Jackie Ross Lecturer – Business

What I do

I volunteer at a local Teaching Swimming Club where I am Chairman there and the lead teacher / coach for the club. It involves me teaching and coaching children and adults from 4 years to infinity how to swim, dive and play Water Polo. I do this with other volunteers and also encourage our older swimmers to volunteer as well by helping teachers as in-pool assistants. This not only grows a future generation of swim teachers but a future generation of volunteers.

The impact this has

Children learn to not only swim (a vital key skill for life) but to love the water and enjoy the fun and exercise in a non-competitive environment. Having said that we produce at least 2 swimmers a year who we recognise as outstandingly talented and move them on (when they want to) to our partner competitive clubs in Louth and Lincoln. Some of these children go on to become Lifeguards, Swim Teachers and volunteers in the future - this is exactly how I myself started as a child with a local swim club!

How I feel - I love it! It is a very rewarding activity and uses my skills in teaching and passion for swimming. My fellow volunteers are like a family to me, and we have a social life together outside of the pool.







Tom Marsden
Director of
Strategic Growth

What I do

I volunteer as a school governor and also as a DofE supervisor.

The impact this has

I chose roles that maximise my skills and are the ones I feel I can add most value. I like to help with the school because the staff have given so much to my three boys who have all really enjoyed their time at school





Lynn Baker Lecturer – Functional Skills

What I do

I play saxophone in a swing band and organise rehearsals, music and players.

The impact this has

As a not for profit band, we are able to encourage younger players who do not have access to musical pathways at school and we support local charities by playing for events.

Above all, I feel that we have a responsibility to promote the benefits of playing an instrument before it becomes a lost art.







Gary Headland CEO

What I do

I think voluntary activities are really important as they help us to develop our knowledge, skills, mindset and network. I am also a bit of a 'magpie' and being in other organisations helps me to see 'shiny' ideas that might work in our context.

I have held voluntary roles alongside my day-job since 1987. These have included things like supporting clubs and associations, and being a governor of several different schools, through to my current roles.

I volunteer now more than at any other time during my working life. My current roles include:

- Deputy Lord Lieutenant of the County of Lincolnshire and Member of the Lincolnshire Lieutenancy Committee
- President of the Royal British Legion for Lincolnshire
- Chairman and Non-Executive Director of Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce
- Regional Chairman of the Institute of Directors for the East Midlands
- Non Executive Director of the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (GLLEP) and Chair of the GLLEP Appointments Committee
- Midlands Engine Export Champion for the Department for International Trade
- Member of the Audit and Risk Committee of Lincoln Cathedral
- Member of Lincoln University Technical College
- Member of the High Sheriff of Lincolnshire Appointments Committee

These roles are interesting and enjoyable; otherwise why do them?

What impact this has

Each of these roles gives me a communication channel so that I can tell people about the extraordinary work that our people do in support of our communities in line with our vision, mission and values.





Craig Gollin Catering Manager

What I do

For the last 3 years I have volunteered as a Director of Growing Futures (Queens Park community Hub)

My duties include;

- overseeing the accounts, annual sign off.
- supporting the manager when he's on leave.
- opportunities for additional revenue.
- holding quarterly meetings with other Directors.
- during Covid (while on Furlough) I went in and tried being a cleaner appropriate never again, hard work, big RESPECT to all cleaners!

The Impact this has

I love supporting Growing Futures as I feel valued and appreciated, I enjoy giving something back to the community and to people with learning disabilities.







Lincoln / Newark / Gainsborough

Jane Hill Careers Guidance Adviser

What I do

I volunteer for a Wildlife Watch group at Farndon Willow Holt. The meetings are held on a Saturday morning once a month. They enable young people to have fun, meet new friends and develop a real understanding and commitment to the natural environment. Activities involve artwork, waste recycling, pond dipping, barn owl surveys, making hedgehog and bird boxes.

The impact this has

I love being outside and working along side young epople to support them in devleoping new skills to enable them to do new things in life.







Andrew McGill Lecturer - Sport

What I do

I am currently volunteering my time to coach/manage the Lincoln United Under 16 football team, as well as helping out with their Under 11 girls team when needed (my daughter plays). The volunteering currently requires me to take a session on a Wednesday night and manage the team on a Sunday, as well as the admin that comes with it.

First and foremost, I do this because I enjoy it and I have found a football club whose values and beliefs of developing young, local football players, in the correct manner (holistically) aligns with my own. I also do it because I feel that it is important for me to stay current within the industry that I teach about and thus it really is about being and maintaining that 'dual professional' role. I feel that the volunteering enables me to have real credibility when stood in front of my students and enables me to have lots of stories and anecdotes to help bring their learning to life, connecting the theories we discuss to real life scenarios. Additionally, as a department we are in a strategic partnership with Lincoln United, delivering a BTEC Football Academy in collaboration with them. With me coaching the Under 16s, it gives us a direct link to talented football players within our area and the opportunity to 'drip feed' in the benefits of doing our extraordinary provision over some of our competitors. In an over-saturated market place, I hope that the relationships forged with these players over a longer time period will bear fruit.

The impact this has

I hope that the impact I have on others by undertaking this volunteering is first and foremost that young people enjoy kicking a piece of leather around a field, trying to get it between two big sticks!!! If, along the way their skills and techniques are enhanced and their tactical understanding of the beautiful game is progressed then that is brilliant. However, this or winning a game should never be at the expense of the enjoyment for these young people.







Penny Taylor Newark College Lead – Education and Training

What I do

I have volunteered as a Brownie Leader for over 20 years. Over the years I have seen Brownies develop from being shy, scared and nervous, to confident, young ladies who are resilient and ready for a challenge. As Brownies is girls only this creates a safe space for them to develop and learn about themselves. We regularly take them on pack holiday which again sees them learn so many new skills and to take part in activities they might not otherwise engage in.

I have also for 16 years had a role with Lincolnshire Scouts in relation to Poacher, which is an International Scout and Guide camp at the Lincolnshire showground every 4 years. There are 7000 young people and 3000 adult volunteers on site for a week - my role is to organise activity places to keep them busy every day during the week.

The impact this has

Weekly sessions seeing the Brownies devlop in their confidence, skills and behvaiours makes it worth while. When at Poacher seeing their smiling faces, seeing them developing their independence, meeting new people, and watching them take part in a range of different activities, from paragliding, to go-karting to sailing in the day, to foam parties, roller skating or cinema shows in the evening, its amazing - they have so much freedom in such a safe place. These young people have an adventure they will never forget.





Hannah Taylor Visiting Operation Teamleader

What I do

During the pandemic I was fortunate enough to be able to continue to work but I felt useless to what was going around us so I joined the Newark Community First Aid group and have recently starting attending events. The group cover lots of events (sometimes 5 or 6 each weekend alone) providing first aid care. This is mainly done across the Newark area but has recently been expanding due to the ever decreasing numbers of first aid charities.

The impact this has

I am hoping it will give me a sense of achievement, give me a chance to meet new people, helping others but also maybe help improve my lacking confidence.

Previously, I have also helped with support groups and a drama group I attended with their financial accounts.

Where my iron levels allow, I also try to regularly donate blood.







Samuel Illsley Lecturer- Pilot Operations (IASTI)

What I do

I have been a keen ice hockey player from a young age, including coaching roles over the last several years and promotional events for my local club.

The impact this has

I particularly enjoyed volunteering in adult coaching sessions, as many parents who gave up their time to take their kids to training/games every week had the chance to learn how to play.







Lincoln / Newark / Gainsborough

Ross Tarnowski Head of Engineering and Technology

What I do

I have worked at Lincoln RFC for the past decade in various volunteer roles. Over the last few years, I have been an active member on the board of directors as Director of Senior Rugby, and responsible for the on-field performance of our men's and ladies teams. I also currently coach the U12 age group and have worked with these players since they were all five years old!

My work at Lincoln RFC also sees me managing and leading on off-field aspects of the club as a commercial and business entity with the other board members.

The impact this has

I absolutely love the role and giving back my time to a club and sport which has supported me over many years. Volunteering my time really does provide satisfaction in helping others. Most recently, I have undertake the new England Rugby Mentoring Award to allow me to work with other club volunteers and assist them in achieving their goals.







Charlotte McHugh Head of Students Serives and supported Education

What I do

Passionate in SEND and Mental Health, my volunteering focuses on supporting others. I am the Chair for LIAISE Steering Group - LIAISE being an impartial service, commissioned by the local authority, to provide support, advice and guidance to those with SEND. Many will know me more for my 'dog role' in the College.

The impact this has

I'm not quite sure how many hours I have spent training the College faculty dog - I'm even doing it during teatime at the dinner table! It's a privilege to have him and to train him so that he can go on to support so many people here at the College. We have now started a dog fostering programme which also takes quite a lot of work in the background to co-ordinate and support - but I enjoy every aspect of it.





Laura Waring Learning Support Assistant

What I do

I have recently started volunteering at Happy Hooves, an Equine Assisted Learning Centre. Alongside the horses they have many other animals for clients to work with too, from ferrets to sheep and even a barn owl! I volunteer a couple of hours a week at a weekend to help with animal care and with any groups that are running. It's great to be out in the fresh air, interact with the animals and work with the other volunteers. It's also lovely to see clients enjoying their time and making new friendships.

The impact this has

I have also volunteered with the Riding for the Disabled Association in the past which I thoroughly enjoyed too. Seeing clients develop their riding skills and their confidence was incredibly rewarding.