



# Volunteer Case Study

## Dr Faye Prior

### How long have you been a volunteer?

Since October 2009.

### Why did you decide to volunteer at the Quilt Museum and Gallery?

I am very interested in textile history and medieval buildings.

### Describe your role at the Quilt Museum.

I usually act as a steward, ensuring the safety of visitors and the exhibits, welcoming people into the gallery and answering questions. I also help out with volunteer projects whilst stewarding, which can involve sewing in the museum. Quite a lot of the visitors have a good chat about the exhibits or their own projects.

I help out in the library and with occasional admin tasks., and I've researched and written a history of St Anthony's Hall for use by volunteers.

### What new skills have you gained from being a volunteer?

I've developed my sewing skills! I've learnt paper piecing, and I've also learnt how to quilt, although I've very much a beginner still! I've picked up no end of helpful sewing and crafts hints and tips from fellow volunteers and visitors.

### Would you recommend volunteering with us?

Absolutely! It's very different to other museums where I've worked and volunteered. As the Collections are so specialised it attracts people who are genuinely fascinated by the pieces on display. Visitors tend to be very knowledgeable and I have learnt a lot from them. Although, you don't have to be in to patchwork or quilting to volunteer here. It's certainly somewhere you can develop new skills and find new hobbies.

