



Rebecca (left) and Marj

LINKED FRIENDSHIP CASE STUDY

MARJ BUSH AND REBECCA FARNAM

2006-2012

Volunteer Marj Bush has been with The Befriending Scheme for seven years now and has been a linked friend to Rebecca and her family for six of those years.

When Marj first came to us it was to volunteer at our then 'A Place to Talk' (now Hub) group on Tuesday mornings. It transpired that Marj is very good with craft, so she was very soon appointed Head of Craft!

After being at the group for a few months, Marj said she felt confident enough to extend her volunteer work and also have a linked friend (in fact she now has three linked friends!)

Rebecca was on the waiting list for us to find her a link at that time, and as Marj and Rebecca had already forged a firm friendship, Rebecca was the obvious choice to be linked with Marj.

As well as seeing one-another at the Hub group every Tuesday, Marj also spends time with Rebecca at her home, which enables her parents to have a night out safe in the knowledge that Rebecca is being cared for by Marj.

I asked Julie, Rebecca's Mum, to comment on the friendship they have with Marj and what it means for them as a family, this is what she said:

'Marj is part of Rebecca's family now. She sits with Rebecca once each month, which enables my Husband and I to have an evening out together.

They also see each other at the Hub on a regular basis.

This ongoing link is so important to us all and works so easily as Marj is such a lovely Lady.'

This is just one example of the many linked friendships we support and highlights the invaluable service we provide to cared for people and their families.

Amanda Eaves
Volunteer Co-ordinator
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