



The countryside charity
Hampshire



Mandy Roberts, CPRE Hampshire's volunteer Christmas cards coordinator

Volunteer profile - Mandy Roberts, CPRE Hampshire's Christmas cards coordinator (Sept 2020)

Hello, my name is Mandy Roberts and I'm the coordinator for the sale of CPRE Hampshire's Christmas cards. I live in Oliver's Battery, Winchester with my husband, Paul, son Bobby, daughter Millie, two dogs Alf and Lily, two guinea pigs, Speedy and Turbo and the fish!

The Christmas card process starts early on in the year with the selection of eight card designs that will hopefully appeal to anybody that still sends Christmas cards! Around 500 packs of cards are usually ordered which means selling 5,000 cards to our loyal and passionate members, as well as in the charity Christmas card shop located at the Guildhall in Winchester.

Unfortunately, this outlet is not opening this year due to the Covid restrictions which means we have a mammoth task on our hands selling this number of cards! So, this year from October to December, instead of my usual routine of liaising with the shop organisers, periodically dropping off quantities of packs of cards, daily monitoring with my trusted group of volunteers to ensure that all our various designs are continually on display, keeping on top of my sales spreadsheet, as well as physically selling cards on the shop floor, I will be looking into any other sales avenues in this very tricky time. As well as raising much needed money from the sales of these cards, I feel it is a fantastic way to bring attention to our extremely worthwhile charity.

I have been involved with CPRE Hampshire for around 15 years when I first worked in the office back when it was located at Beaconsfield House in Winchester. After I left to have my son, I continued to help as a volunteer at many fundraising events doing whatever was needed. This has included serving canapes, washing up, stringing fairy lights and laying out rows of chairs. I was delighted to receive a Positive Contribution award last year for my involvement.

I volunteer because I enjoy meeting people, bringing people together and raising money for such a good cause, whilst at the same time having fun. I feel very strongly about supporting CPRE because I love the countryside. I have my own doggie day-care business so I spend a lot of time walking around the fields and countryside near where I live. I love the peaceful and tranquil feeling that walking in our gorgeous Hampshire countryside gives me, especially in these unsettling times.