

Case Study – Anna Hart – One Step Ahead

I have joined the Community Volunteers at the start of my first year, here, at the University of Lincoln. The reason for this was that I wanted to get more involved with the university life and being a part of CV is a very enjoyable way to do so.

Through the Community Volunteers I got the chance to attend the One Step Ahead Leadership Training Programme in the last academic year.

The programme was a 5-day intensive training in leadership skills, which involved 14 university students from around the UK who came together under the watchful eye of the Student Volunteer England organisers. Originally designed to be a programme to inform the enthusiastic students about the benefits of volunteering to themselves and to the community at large, the programme ended up being a much more enriching experience. Not only did we learn about the various nuances of successful volunteering projects, but we also became friends, and made useful contacts in the House of Lords. We have spoken to inspirational people with an incredible drive and have stretched our minds in the group discussions and tasks.

The programme took place in our capital, London, and the hustle and bustle of this truly international city has added greatly to the overall enjoyment and dynamism of the project. Our group has travelled to different locations which ranged from a quiet haven of a hidden church, just seconds away from the heart of London's financial centre, The Square Mile, to a Buddhist Centre in Zone 2, to the committee rooms of the centre of UK's political power, the Houses of Parliament.

The aim of the project was to inspire young people like us to strive for bigger things, to achieve our goals and not to be afraid of taking on responsibility. We have had lessons on public speaking, on creative thinking, project planning and on self-exploration. I feel privileged of having been given the chance to participate in an event like this and truly hope that it will be repeated in the future. Who knows, if a programme such as this one is organised again, it will be You, the lucky person, who will benefit from the opportunity of taking part in some of the most rewarding 5 days of your life.

Join forces with volunteering and see where it takes you... Anna Hart



Picture above: Anna Hart, (5th from the back right), 2nd Year Accountancy and Finance Student at One Step Ahead Leader Development Programme for Student Volunteering England.

“Get involved in an issue that you’re passionate about. It almost doesn’t matter what it is...” (Barack Obama, 2006) “Be the change you wish to see in the world” (Mahatma Gandhi)

For further details of this training go to:- <http://www.studentvolunteering.org.uk>/Or contact:- jenny@studentvolunteering.org.uk