

Margaret Bauchop

Started volunteering at Lyveden in 1999

From collecting the key to the Visitor Centre from the coal shed to Lyveden as it is today...

The joys and pleasures of my time volunteering at Lyveden are wide-ranging.

In the early days the open landscapes, vistas, swards and peaceful environment mattered most. Families enjoyed this unusual location where the freedom to explore together, even picnic, gave great pleasure.

Visitors came to learn more of the history and religious symbolism depicted in the Bield or experience the quiet contemplation along the path of the labyrinth.

Gradually, special occasions with drama and musical events, on-going research projects, Christmas, Easter and 5th November celebrations and V.I.P. visits needed more planning, but large numbers of visitors created much excitement.

The introduction of the audio guides, the replanted orchard, the opening of the cottage as a Tea Room and the children's den all enhanced the enjoyment of our visitors.

It is my interaction with the visitors, their varied expectations and shared experiences that remain a lasting memory and pleasure of volunteering at Lyveden.

