**GRACEHARBOUR**

**OPPORTUNITY FOR RESIDENTIAL TEAM MEMBER**

We are offering a new vocational part time opportunity for a live-in person, or couple to commence September 2021 subject to the necessary references and experience.

We have an historic farm in rural East Devon with 47 acres of grazing, woodland and gardens on which we keep a small flock of sheep, two horses, two alpacas, chickens and ducks.

We offer comfortable accommodation in a sel- contained single storey cottage on site with double glazing, oil fired CH and woodburner. The generous open plan living room has WIFI and Satellite TV connection & a well fitted kitchenette with fridge, dishwasher & washing machine. There is a tiled bathroom with shower and heated towel rail. All floors are solid oak and the property is finished to a very high standard, having been used as a successful holiday let for 4 years. There is a well sized lean-to next to the cottage housing the oil boiler which has power and water. All costs pertaining to the accommodation, except electricity and telephone calls, will be met by the owners.

The owners have recently registered the farm and its land as a Care Farm and are members of Social Farms & Gardens [<https://www.farmgarden.org.uk>] complying with its Code of Practice (pending).

The successful applicant will have the opportunity to be directly involved in administration &/or facilitation of activities pertaining to the Care Farm working alongside vulnerable adults and those with special needs.

Appropriate experience and willingness to undertake training and necessary assessments is vital.

 All resident staff and key workers within GraceHarbour will be DBS checked.

The position is offered as an Occupancy Agreement with accompanying work contract[s] laying out the exchange duties required.

In exchange for the accommodation, we require part time help with animal care and husbandry, some occasional gardening, various errands [eg shopping, collecting feeds from local merchants, vet & market runs, vehicles for servicing and repairs when required]. We would also require general practical field & yard related chores and basic building maintenance [gutters and drains, bins, mucking out animal housing when required, hay & bedding management]. The owners provide vehicles [subject to clean driving licenses and experience] & tools for all the above. These duties commonly equate to approximately 3 full person days per week on average but are spread out daily as necessary. Most chores on the farm are seasonally driven [eg lambing in Spring/ horses stabled in winter/poultry in lockdown] so there is an increase in activity through the winter months which should be born in mind by applicants. Inclusion to the GraceHarbour team will be on a voluntary basis to begin with, as we are in the early stages of developing the Care Farm and exploring funding streams.

 Additional chores over and above those covering the Occupancy Agreement will generate additional income for the successful person.

The position would suit someone with an affinity toward rural life and the ability to think practically, applying a quiet and logical common-sense approach to their day to day duties. We welcome applications from single people and couples, but we are not able to accept children. The workload could be shared if desired. A clean driving licence and hands on experience with Sheep and Horses is preferred.

As the position is part time, there would be an opportunity for the person to pursue their own work activities and there are a number of outbuildings which can be utilised as workshops with by agreement with the owners. There is also the opportunity for the successful applicant to keep a horse here, or livestock [no cattle] subject to agreement with the owners.

Two weeks’ holiday per annum plus flexible days off to be arranged. As a small but working farm we all work closely as a team to maintain 24/7 cover for livestock & home security and still get out and about!

**GraceHarbour’s Activities**

Grace Harbour provides a safe haven where participants can take part in hands on community orientated work projects and activities here on the farm and its surrounding land.
These include:
• traditional rural skills like ditching & hedge-laying
• fencing
• construction, projects with wood
• water management [land drains/leaky dams]
• tree-planting, pruning, coppicing
• livestock husbandry & handling [horses/sheep/poultry/alpacas]
• gardening [vegetable and produce, mowing, planting, weeding, harvesting]
• wool & fibre [preparing a fleece, spinning, weaving and felting]
• animal assisted therapeutic activities with our horses, sheep and alpacas

**Who can we help?**
• Young adults from 18-25 & adults with learning disabilities and/or difficulties.
• Adults with anxiety related issues and those who have experienced personal setbacks and mental health challenges: eg. unemployment/a sense of isolation
• Adults who are struggling emotionally and unable to work/obtain work
• Students referred from local colleges
• Adults referred from Local Health Authorities, Support groups & Social Action teams

* We also offer activities to corporate teams looking to improve wellbeing following lockdown and the effects of COVID-19

**Why are we doing it?**
• To share this wonderful resource with those in need
• To restore & build a sense of Community
• To encourage & nurture Trust , Self Esteem & Wellbeing
• To enhance Confidence & Communication skills
• To benefit those who are struggling socially, emotionally & physically
• To encourage, enable & empower through the learning of practical, transferrable life skills and social skills
• To encourage team interaction and problem-solving skills by working together in a safe socially distanced but integrated environment, appealing to both individuals and groups
• To provide a safe training ground for learning, thus increasing the likelihood of a return to employment through experience and/or qualification
• To provide a foundation for personal growth through challenge and achievement

**How does it work?**
• Our work & therapeutic activities are in all based here on the farm and can be geared for special needs and taken at a pace which is fun & rewarding for all involved
• Activities are based on a half day [10am-1pm] ] or full day [10-3pm typically] Animal assisted therapeutic activity sessions are typically 90mins
• Participants can also opt to spend their designated time here at Grace Harbour with a team guide. This could be simply walking the fields & woodland paths with a Grace Harbour dog or learning about the plants and trees that thrive here.
• We have many different ongoing projects here in which participants can play a significant role and truly benefit from being part of a Community
• There is also plenty of space to pursue art and creative activities in an undisturbed and safe environment
• Our team are also here to offer pastoral support, mentoring and training & although Grace Harbour is modelled & guided by our faith as Christians, we welcome participants from all faiths and those with none.
• All our team members & volunteers comply with our safeguarding policy

**Facilities:**Volunteering

**Open to the public?** No

**Care Farm Opening hours:** Wednesdays by referral & appointment only

**Accessible?** No

**Has livestock?** Yes

**Details of livestock and rare breeds kept:** Sheep (Poll Dorset, Wensleydale, Jacob, Welsh Black & Crosses), Alpacas, Horses, Chickens & Ducks