

Volunteers' Week 2020!

SPOTLIGHT on Outpost Shop & Gallery Assistant, Evgenia

Volunteer since: Nov 2019

Hours to date: 50

What were your reasons/motivations for volunteering?

I've been living in Holloway for ten years and I love the diversity of the area. I was excited to be involved with a community-focused social enterprise and become a more active member of my community.

Why did you choose to volunteer at Outpost?

Outpost sits in the heart of Holloway and attracts a range of different customers every day. It seemed like a great place to get to know the locals better and really experience the diversity of the area. I was attracted to Outpost because it promotes ethical and independent makers' products, and because I found out PB has been supporting disadvantaged local people for decades.



What do you most enjoy about volunteering at Outpost?

I absolutely love working with the amazing team! I'm given all sorts of different tasks every time I come in and I also receive insight into how a small retail business runs, which will be useful to me for future employment. Also, it always feels good selling items made by local artists and makers from The Workshop. It's such a great idea to give people the opportunity, not only to learn and develop creative skills, but also to sell their products through Outpost.

Has volunteering had a positive impact in other areas of your life?

I definitely feel more connected with the local community. I like getting to know people (and it's really nice to bump into customers on the street and say hello!) I'm also more aware of my own buying habits, so I'm more careful about buying and using ethical and environmentally friendly products.

How would you like to see our volunteering offer evolve in the future?

It would be really helpful for Outpost volunteers to tour The Workshop, meet some of the makers and the team delivering courses there, as well as seeing the making process in action. I would love to see the gallery space being used to its full potential, such as holding small creative workshops for customers and their kids. I'd like to be involved in the organisation/delivery of these events.