



Volunteers' experiences

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A view from a volunteer: Jonathan Hughes



“We are lucky to work in a profession that provides such a varied diet of potential volunteering work. Over the years I’ve enjoyed taking advantage of those opportunities: speaking at the profession’s conferences, helping organise the programme for those conferences and participating in two of the CMI’s committees. It’s a rewarding experience and a great way to broaden your own thinking.”

The experience of a volunteer working in Health and Care

“There are many different ways to contribute to the profession. If you have particular knowledge or experiences that could help take our industry forward, speaking at conferences is a great way to share that insight. I enjoy doing this in particular because the audience is broad-based and has varied viewpoints, which gives you invaluable feedback on your ideas.

If you prefer a more “behind the scenes” role, the conference programme committee always welcome people with fresh ideas to make these events as relevant and interesting as possible. They’re also a lot of fun: for example, I was really impressed by the camaraderie and creativity from the committee organising the programme for the 2013 Health and Care conference.

Volunteering for the CMI lets you make a more technical contribution. The CMI’s work is particularly vital in sectors such as Health and Care, where the products and marketplace are rapidly developing and we all benefit from industry-wide research. Some of the best actuaries I’ve worked with have been volunteers on CMI committees; it’s great being able to work alongside them and make a broader contribution to our industry.

I’ve also benefited personally from volunteer work. It’s a great way to maintain and broaden your network, as well as getting exposure to a broad range of views. My employers past and present have clearly seen the benefits to them of having their staff volunteer, as it brings increased exposure, a higher profile and fresh ideas.

With its relevance to wider social issues, the Health and Care area especially benefits from a broad range of volunteer input. So if you feel you have something to contribute, please don’t be shy: every volunteer group I’ve worked in has been welcoming, professional and most of all fun.”

