

# Joined Up Careers Derbyshire

## Journey into health and social care – Hazel’s story

### **What was your first job?**

*My first job in health and social care was a care assistant working nights in an elderly care home. I applied for the job in the 80s as I had three small children at the time, two of them are twins, and working nights suited my child care arrangements. I wasn't 100% sure I would enjoy the job, I have a very caring nature but I had no real experience in caring for anyone other than my babies. I thought I would become too attached to people and be upset when they died. However I learned that having a caring nature and understanding that it is upsetting when people die, being able to provide comfort to the individuals and having the ability to offer sensitive compassionate support to families at these times is a privilege.*



### **How did you get to your current role?**

*My previous experience and qualifications provided me with the suitable knowledge requirements to apply for the position.*

### **Did you move across different career paths?**

*Over the years I have undertaken higher level qualifications that have led me on to doing different roles within Health and Social Care mainly management roles both in Domiciliary Care and Residential /Nursing care. I also moved into workforce development which involved amongst other things assessing and training care managers which I equally enjoyed.*

### **Did you face any challenges to get to where you are now?**

*Learning new roles can be challenging. I have gained an excellent portfolio of experience through my working career which has been varied and interesting so worth the challenge.*

### **What do you do now?**

*I am a senior project officer, for Joined up Careers Derbyshire. I support recruitment in the social care sector and promote careers in Health and Social Care.*

**What is it about your job that inspires you?**

*I really enjoy all aspects of my job, I especially enjoy inspiring students to work in health and social care I feel I'm part of creating our future workforce.*

**What is positive to you about working for Derbyshire County Council-  
Joined Up Careers?**

*I am immensely proud to be a member of the Joined up Careers team. Joined Up Careers is proving to be both innovative and successful.*