



## *Nasrina Begum*

The decision to take up voluntary work was not taken lightly. To accommodate a lifestyle and background that discourages women from working or educating themselves is frowned upon. So having faced disapproval, GOAL has helped me with this life changing decision.

Although being a housewife is very important, I now had a few hours to spare and I didn't want to waste my time. I also needed a new challenge. Since doing my A levels I had not been in any formal education. I had done some weekend work but this was quite some time ago.

By becoming a volunteer I not only wanted to break barriers within the community that discourages women to work but also wanted to be a role model for my daughter and for others who wish to go back into work. Whilst not compromising my vital role as a mother, I initially volunteered for GOAL hoping to gain more experience in admin. When the opportunity arose to help in teaching 'Reading Ladies' I took it as teaching was something that I always wanted to do. I volunteered for GOAL on Wednesdays and Thursdays and have thoroughly enjoyed it. The hours fitted perfectly around my lifestyle as my daughter would be in nursery. It has been a great experience that I am grateful for.

Whilst volunteering for GOAL I had the opportunity to take up the PTTLs course (Preparing to Teach in Lifelong Learning). The course was quite challenging and required a lot of effort. After successfully completing the course I now have the foundation to become a teacher.

Throughout the years that I have been with GOAL I have met many people and gained much knowledge. I was a shy person when I first started and even my family and friends have noticed a tremendous change in my confidence and personality. My future intention is to become an ESOL teacher. I will carry on teaching the 'Reading Ladies' group with GOAL. I love teaching adults and will put 100% effort into this opportunity.