



www.batias.com and email
batias.grays@batias.com



or send to **The Beehive Centre, West Street,
Grays, RM17 6XP**



Or you can call us on **01375 389871**



For more information see our website
www.batias.com



Registered Charity No: 1016226 Company No: 2776330



Would you like a
BATIAS
Citizen Advocate Volunteer
to visit you



**Empowering people to lead a full and
active life that reflects personal choice**



Ellie's Story

Ellie wanted to join a social club to meet new friends but found going out on her own in the evening too frightening.

Ellie asked BATIAS to help her find a volunteer who could help her to get out and meet new people.

BATIAS introduced Ellie to Mary who volunteers as a Citizen Advocate.

A Citizen Advocate is a volunteer who supports people to speak up for themselves and helps them to join in activities within the community.

With Mary's support Ellie was able to go along to a BATIAS group which was held in the evening. Ellie was shy to begin with but with Mary's support Ellie made new friends and now travels to the group independently.

Although Ellie is happy at the social club, Mary and Ellie continue to meet once a week and Ellie chooses where she wants to go out. Sometimes this is to the shops, out for a meal or bowling. Mary also helps Ellie if she has some concerns, sign posting her on to people that maybe able to help her.



How do I ask for a volunteer Citizen Advocate?



- Phone 01375 389869 or email the BATIAS office and ask to speak to **Angie** who is the volunteer manger.



- Angie will meet with you to find out what support you would like.



- We will put your name on a waiting list until the right person who will be your citizen advocate is found.



- Once a volunteer Citizen Advocate is found we will arrange a meeting so that you can have a chat to see if you like each other.
- Angie will help you to get to know each other, this may take a few weeks.

All BATIAS Volunteers are interviewed, have references and are DBS checked (Disclosure and barring System) to make sure that you will be safe.

If you would like to know more about the work of BATIAS please take a look at our Website www.batias.com