

Joanne Roberts MSc, BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy.



Please tell us about the work you are doing at the moment.

I qualified as an Occupational Therapist 23 years ago. I have worked in a variety of fields including General Medicine, Orthopaedic Rehabilitation, Stroke Rehabilitation, Amputee Discharge Planning and Posture and Mobility. I was a team leader for over 10 years in a busy rehabilitation hospital, further developing my communication and leadership skills.

I then became Clinical Lead for Acute Stroke in a large teaching hospital.

Since leaving the NHS fully in 2015 I have divided my time between being a Case manager for children and young adults with birth / acquired brain injuries, I also run my own Occupational Therapy practice- Rowan Tree Therapy Services.

What skills you are looking forward to sharing with us at Moss-Rose Cottage?

I am passionate that everyone should have the opportunity to contribute to society, to have a valued role and be valued by society. I constantly highlight how the value of occupations cannot be underestimated and the need for balance within our occupations is crucial for well-being.

Within my role I constantly meet people who have a great deal to give to society, who want to have an active role - however as they are unable to fit into the 'normal / expected' role of working they are unable to do so. Quite often the simple things in life are taken for granted - the ability to work / to have a structure, a routine. The ability to make friends and to socialise. I am hopeful that Moss Rose will create these opportunities for so many people.

I am happy to share my knowledge and skills with those who need it - whether this being trying new and different activities (I am always willing to try a different activity) - or whether it is learning basic functional skills. I am hoping to work alongside Cardiff University Occupational Therapy students in order to enrich their learning as well as take advantage of their skills and knowledge.

Why did you agree to be a director at Moss-Rose Cottage?

I agreed to be Director of Moss Rose - simply because I feel this is a unique opportunity. There is no doubt that there is a gap in service provision for those with invisible barriers yet hidden talents and I am hopeful Moss Rose will uncover these talents which will in turn benefit the individual, their family as well as society as a whole.

What do you hope we will achieve at Moss-Rose Cottage in the long term?

I believe there are no limits for Moss Rose, it has the ability and capacity to help and support so many people and their families - I cannot envisage the end product- however am excited to be part of the journey.