

**EMPLOYEE**

Simon Colverson

**AGE**

63

**POSITION**

Part-time Carer

## Simon began his career in publishing and worked as a book publisher for forty years.

He spent over twenty years with one company rising to the position of director. During the recent recession and the general changes in hardcopy publishing sector the company merged with a larger entity and Simon relinquished his role, although he does continue to work as a freelance publisher on a part-time basis.

At the same time, his parents growing ever older and started to require more care themselves. Simon is an only child so the majority of this fell to him. Although at that time he had not had any formal care experience, he began to understand the implications of ageing and the differing levels of care required. Simon wanted to continue to work on a part-time basis, not only to fit in with his parents needs, his other part-time publishing role, but to allow time for his own free space and hobbies. His wife, who had also changed career, leaving a freelance financial journalist role and re-training as a teacher, was settled in her new position and she encouraged him to look at his first option as a carer. Simon had seen a Beaumont Healthcare role advertised and decided to apply and give it a try! He has now been with the company for five and half years and has completed his level II and III NVQs.

Simon covers the Cambridge area and the villages north of the city. **He says:** "I work with regular clients, many of whom are elderly. A few are younger, but disabled

*so require a little help with day-to-day personal care or sometimes I just help them by keeping things tidy!"*

**He added:** "I very much enjoy working with clients I can build a rapport with. My clients are all men and I think it helps them that I am male and have empathy with their needs. I love the fact that once I am on my rounds, my day is pretty much my own. I obviously need to make the calls required and to time, but I have the freedom to ensure that my clients are looked after to the best of my ability. Sometimes I am the only person my client sees all day long, so I try to make that time special and meaningful – it might mean talking football or having time to sit down with a cuppa to have a chat about their past successful careers, or just making sure their washing up is done.

*The standards required by Beaumont Healthcare are high and are maintained by regular updates, courses and seminars. I have attended all those available to me and I am learning all the time. I also enjoy the fact that I can work the hours I want to which gives me freedom to pursue other roles and interests."*

Simon describes his proudest moments as being able to build a rapport quickly with his clients. He has enjoyed his journey through this new career from starting as a novice and being supervised by colleagues to now working alone and having recognition from both his clients and Beaumont Healthcare.