I spent only some days as a volunteer when I was younger. This was a fantastic experience to remember but now I can't do it again because I haven't got enough time. I remember I was really happy to take part in this: I helped my grandma to cook, I stayed in touch with people and felt like imitating the actions of adults.

When I was nine years old, I was a scout, and with my mates I did some volunteer experiences to support my team. Each of us had to bring something homemade. My grandma is very experienced in doing these things so I asked her if she wanted to make a special cake as she can usually do. Obviously everyone knows grandmas!! She made me one fruit cake, some chocolate biscuits, and some household items made with wool. I stood the whole day checking what we were collecting: we raised a lot of money!!

In the occasion of the following market all my friends asked me for all those cookies with walnuts and chocolate my grandma had previously made.

The fact that the Scouts are engaged in "good deeds" or in the territory, makes it natural to see the association as a voluntary association, like many others.

Making such an experience, such as helping the refugees or people in need or raise funds, is definitely a way to grow up, to see the world and live the monotonous everyday life in a different way and this should be a reason to do more volunteer work.

I hope that volunteering will become universal and open to all ages because the world of volunteering needs brawn and brains to be carried on. Volunteering is also becoming a great economic reality, not surprisingly called third sector. It produces help and social wellbeing, but also new skills, research and places of paid work.

Have you ever done volunteer work? This is the question to which I hope to have answered in this way in order to convince my peers to undertake an activity of this kind.

**Caterina Tomasso**