



Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust

Volunteer Role: Walks and Visits Co-ordinator

Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust (the Trust) is looking for a volunteer Walks and Visits Co-ordinator to help lead the organisation into its exciting new future.

Established in 1974, the Trust has been responsible for the rescue of many historic buildings throughout Derbyshire. Using their skills and knowledge, members of the Trust identify neglected and abandoned historic buildings and then work to bring them back into new sustainable use.

The objectives of the Trust are to undertake or support restoration projects for historic buildings within the county; to deliver learning projects to help acknowledge the value of historic buildings and to provide technical advice to those responsible for historic buildings.

To support these objectives, the Trust will fundraise, deliver and organise events, communicate with the Friends of the Trust and undertake surveys.

In 2022 the Trust secured £667,000 of funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to complete their flagship project at the Grade II* listed Wingfield Station near Alfreton. This followed a successful phase of urgent repair works, primarily funded by Historic England. The Trust has a pipeline of future projects requiring attention and are aiming to undertake a visual survey of over 8,000 listed buildings in Derbyshire and the Peak District. In 2018 the Trust launched their Architectural Awards to help promote all the best in Derbyshire's architectural heritage.

The Trust is a non-profit organisation and a registered charity. There are currently eight Trustees on the Board. All trustee roles are voluntary positions. The Trust seeks a volunteer Walks and Visits Co-ordinator to join the team at this exciting time.

Volunteering with the Trust will provide a challenging, rewarding and enjoyable opportunity to volunteer/assist the Trust and you will play an important role in shaping its future as part of the Supporter and Community Engagement team.

Website: www.derbyshirehistoricbuildingstrust.org.uk

Socials: @dhbtrust and find us on LinkedIn

What's involved?

To support our charitable activity the Trust are looking to recruit a volunteer Walks and Visits Co-ordinator to support the organisation of a talks programme. The role will be within our Supporter and Community Engagement Team, and you will work collaboratively with them and our wider stakeholders to help build engaging relationships with supporters and advocate the work of the Trust.

The role will involve:

- Working with volunteers to agree a draft list of monthly visits for each year
- Identifying a volunteer leader and an assistant from the Trust for each visit
- As required, approaching the relevant property owners to secure agreement for the visit and agreeing a date for the visit (usually the third Sunday of each month)
- Sending the relevant property owner the protocol agreement letter and asking for written confirmation that they are happy with it
- Liaising with the leader and/or property owner about carrying out a risk assessment for each visit
- Writing a brief promotional piece (or acquiring one from the lead or property owner) for the Trust's Executive Officer to use for Eventbrite (where all visits are promoted)
- Check the arrangements with the property owner close to the date and thank them following the visit

You will be invited to the Trust's Board meetings, which are held four to five times per year and are generally held in the mornings between 10am-1pm. You will also be expected to attend at least four volunteer meetings with the Supporter and Community Engagement Team each year. These are likely to be a mix of in-person and virtual meetings.

What are the Trust's aims and objectives?

1. Safeguarding the historic buildings we treasure

Ensuring Derbyshire's historic buildings are maintained in good condition for the benefit of current and future generations. Locating all 'buildings at risk' through a county-wide, community-led, survey.

2. Creatively reusing buildings no longer fit for purpose

Where necessary, intervening, with the support of the community, to rescue 'buildings at risk' by acting as a catalyst, enabler, partner or developer in order to restore them to a viable active use.

3. Helping people to live or work in their historic buildings

Encouraging every historic building owner in Derbyshire to be a good custodian of their heritage.

4. Increasing people's access to, and enjoyment of, their heritage

Increasing public awareness of our built heritage through community involvement, interpretation, education and training.

What skills and experience do I need?

- Good organisational skills
- Good communication skills
- Time, enthusiasm, and energy to devote to the Trust on a voluntary basis

What could I get out of volunteering with the Trust?

- Build a good understanding of the heritage sector
- Gain new experiences and meet new people
- Shape how the Trust operates across Derbyshire
- Use your influence for the benefit of the built historic environment
- Priority access to DHBT events and a regular e-newsletter

How to find out more:

In the first instance please contact Lucy Godfrey:

lucy@derbyshirehistoricbuildingstrust.org.uk