Volunteer Role Description

Role: Engagement & Outreach Team Member

Team: Engagement & Outreach

Role Purpose:

- To develop and deliver the informal learning & outreach experiences offered by the museum, ensuring they are safe, enjoyable, stimulating, and rewarding for everyone taking part.

Reports to: Community Engagement Officer

About The Long Shop Museum
The Long Shop Museum is housed in a cluster of historic buildings in the Suffolk market town of Leiston. The buildings are survivors of the original 19th century works site of Richard Garrett and Sons. Garretts were world-famous manufacturers of steam engines and other agricultural machinery, and the Museum has important collections relating to farming machinery, steam traction, tools and commercial and domestic products that were made by the works during its 200 year history - from sickles to steam engines, from seed drills to tumble dryers, and from threshers to cardboard box makers.

The Museum site covers over an acre. It includes historically and architecturally important and protected buildings. The Long Shop itself – a prototype for assembly line production – is unique and grade II* listed. The museum helps to explain the town's industrial character and how its residents contributed to the agricultural and industrial revolutions.

Attracting up to 10,000 visitors a year, The Long Shop Museum makes an important contribution to the local tourism offer, both in Leiston and in the East Suffolk area. The Museum is also a place of pilgrimage for many people interested in industrial heritage and archaeology. Our volunteers are at the heart of what makes the museum a success.

What you will be doing:

- Creating and developing resources, such as handling collections, physical and digital media, and activities materials and guides.
- Assisting with the delivery of engagement and outreach experiences, such as guided learning, story-telling, role playing, and interactive work with children and adults.
- Providing a warm welcome to all.
- Providing information about the Museum and its facilities as necessary to ensure that everyone is comfortable and relaxed in the environment.
- Remaining aware of Health and Safety, First Aid and Emergency procedures and aiding learners when necessary. Following procedures for reporting incidents.
- Remaining aware of, and abiding by, the museum's Safeguarding policy and guidelines.
- Supporting other Team Members in their duties and providing cover for them when necessary.

This role would suit someone who:

- Is keen to encourage life-long learning for all
- Is interested in working with people of all ages
- Enjoys making learning fun and immersive
- Has good communication and interpersonal skills
- Is a creative thinker
- Has practical skills to turn ideas into useful resources

What will you get from working as a volunteer at The Long Shop:

- A sense of involvement in a meaningful project.
- Development of critical thinking and interpretation skills.
- Satisfaction and reward of delivering learning experiences to a variety of audiences.
- Regular interaction with a team with a shared purpose in an accessible and inclusive environment.
- A sense of fulfilment and achievement.
- Regular manual and intellectual activity, and self-actualization.

What training and support will you receive in this role:

- You will receive regular information updates about your team and the museum
- You will be invited to attend regular volunteer forum meetings and social events
- You will receive induction training that includes Health & Safety, and site and task familiarisation
- You will be offered optional training related to your chosen role(s) to make your tasks more enjoyable and rewarding

How this role benefits the Museum:

- It helps us to Maintain our reputation for well organised, safe and fulfilling learning experiences.
- It raises the profile of the Museum as a source of learning and intellectual exploration and growth.
- It allows positive interaction with a range of gateway audience groups.
- It strengthens the Museum's links with the local community.

Interested in this role?

Please contact us by either:

- Emailing the museum at - info@longshopmuseum.co.uk
- Writing to us at – The Long Shop Museum, Main Street, Leiston IP16 4ES
- Using the Enquiry Form at - https://www.longshopmuseum.co.uk/volunteer-3/
- Calling the museum on - 01728 832189 (you may need to leave a message)

We will provide you with a Volunteer Application Pack by your preferred method (email or post) which will include instructions for if you choose to proceed.