



# Countryside Jobs Service

## Focus on Volunteering

8 February 2010

In association with BTCV



BTCV celebrated its 50th anniversary last year and as the charity moves into its second half century there's more need than ever to look after our environment.

Current issues such as climate change and the recession mean that BTCV's hands on environmental opportunities are extremely relevant.

BTCV's response to climate change saw the launch, last December, of Carbon Army. The Carbon Army undertook 3000 days of action whilst 3000 delegates met at the UN Conference on Climate Change in Copenhagen.

Our campaign proved that actions speak louder than words. BTCV's volunteers are still busy looking after more than 50,000 places. Much of the Carbon Army's work embraces climate change and there's still every opportunity to get involved. You could volunteer at a BTCV local food growing projects to reduce the carbon impact of food miles or help to conserve urban green spaces to keep cities cool.

BTCV'S Carbon Army campaign helps communities, both urban and rural, pull together to improve their surroundings and relationships with one another. It's also had some good political backing in the form of Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change Ed Miliband and Shadow Defra Minister Nick Herbert.

Both politicians got stuck into some volunteering in December as did celebrity gardener Charlie Dimmock.

Charlie said: "I was only too pleased to sign up as a Carbon Army volunteer. It doesn't matter whether you are seeing milder winters changing our gardens, towns and countryside here, or watching footage of environmental disasters elsewhere in the world on the TV, global warming is a fact that we must all take responsibility for.

"By getting involved in the Carbon Army's operations, we can individually make a difference both to ourselves and our local community. The beauty is that in doing so, we'll also be healthier in mind and body, and learn new skills in the process."

There's still time to join the Carbon Army at [www.btcv.org/carbonarmy](http://www.btcv.org/carbonarmy)

There's also plenty of opportunity to volunteer in your community or further afield. Check out BTCV's website at [www.btcv.org](http://www.btcv.org) for more information.

You don't have to be physically fit, a master of tools or have any kind of specialist know how. If you turn up then we'll show you how.

Jane Whitham, BTCV



photo  
online

### National:

**Get outdoors & dirty** with the Waterway Recovery Group & help us restore the derelict waterways of England & Wales by going on one of our working holidays called 'Canal Camps'. Learn to brick-lay, meet new people, have lots of fun. £56 (food & accom.) Age 18-70. [www.wrg.org.uk](http://www.wrg.org.uk)

**The British Horse Society** is mapping all horse riding & carriage driving routes in the UK. This information will be displayed at [www.emagin.org](http://www.emagin.org) for public use. We need volunteers to help map Britain on horseback using either paper maps or GPS. For more information please contact [EMAGIN@bhs.org.uk](mailto:EMAGIN@bhs.org.uk) or 01962 707812.

**Visit [www.thecareerbreaksite.com](http://www.thecareerbreaksite.com)** for information on full-time volunteering, learning & working opportunities in the UK & around the world. Impartial advice & information on your adult gap year or sabbatical.

**Moths Count** aims to encourage interest in moths throughout the UK & to establish an ongoing National Moth Recording Scheme to improve knowledge & conservation of the 900+ species of larger moths. You can submit moth sightings, attend moth events, or get involved in Butterfly Conservation's work to conserve moths. [www.mothscount.org](http://www.mothscount.org)

**World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms (WWOOF)** is all about giving volunteering your time to work on organic farms in return for food, accommodation & knowledge exchange. It's a great way to meet likeminded souls, reconnect with the earth & learn about farming, animal husbandry & more sustainable ways of living. [www.woof.org.uk](http://www.woof.org.uk)

**Volunteers' Week** is a national celebration of volunteers & volunteering which takes place from 1 – 7 June each year. During the week there is a burst of activity as events take place across the country to thank volunteers & find out more about volunteering opportunities. Please visit the website: [www.volunteersweek.org.uk](http://www.volunteersweek.org.uk)

**Butterfly Conservation** is the national charity working to save our native butterflies, moths & their habitats. There are county & regional branches all over the UK, many with their own reserves, which run habitat management days & training workshops. See [www.Butterfly-Conservation.org](http://www.Butterfly-Conservation.org) & go to your local Branch website link.

**A vibrant, hands-on charity** working for the conservation of rivers across the British Isles through the iconic brown trout. Our expert staff offer advice, support & practical help to many rivers' interests, including an increasing network of groups working to conserve urban rivers. Volunteer input is greatly welcomed. Wild Trout Trust. See [www.wildtrout.org](http://www.wildtrout.org)

**Summer Camp Volunteers**

YHA 'Do it 4 Real' summer camps encourage young people to enjoy and appreciate the inspiring natural environments they discover whilst away from home. We are working with the John Muir Award to enhance this.

Have you got some spare time this summer and the enthusiasm to help young people enjoy, connect with, and care for wild places?

Could you: ● Volunteer as a Team Leader and help us deliver the John Muir Discovery Level Award as part of that? One to six week placements are available. ● Run a weekly session at a camp near you, to help boost awareness of the local area and support campers to conserve it? (E.g. a practical conservation task or making wildlife homes.)

For more information on Do it 4 Real and an application form visit [www.yha.org.uk/volunteering](http://www.yha.org.uk/volunteering) email

[volunteers@yha.org.uk](mailto:volunteers@yha.org.uk) or call 01629 592562 For more information on the John Muir Award visit [www.johnmuiraward.org](http://www.johnmuiraward.org)

## Benefits of Volunteering

It doesn't really matter why volunteers donate their time and effort. What matters is that volunteers get enjoyment and satisfaction from their efforts. Some enjoy the social mixing that volunteering brings or the fact that you can be part of a group. Others enjoy being able to get out and about in the open air and see new places, or may want to learn new skills or even to use volunteering as a stepping stone to getting conservation work. Some want to give something back or further a passion for the environment or for a particular local beauty spot.

The conservation sector relies heavily on volunteer labour and if you are a volunteer or potential volunteer there should be a host of voluntary opportunities with local conservation organisations. The important thing for conservation organisations is that volunteers bring enthusiasm (they want to be there), and usually skills from previous jobs which can be useful for the organisation. Volunteers bring fresh energy, but the important thing is that this is managed by host organisations to ensure smooth running of the volunteer experience. Effective management of volunteers works best for both the volunteer and the organisation. Don't (mis)use your volunteers by giving them inappropriate or unattainable tasks. Nurture volunteers and they will remain faithful to the organisation for years, repaying many times over your initial investment in them. Don't forget to train them.

The key to volunteering is to enjoy it!! As a volunteer you will learn new skills and have the satisfaction of knowing that you have helped achieve something for your local environment. Doing voluntary work can be extremely rewarding and is a form of direct action that can lead to instant results. In an era where we may feel at the mercy of global environmental trends, taking a bit of local direct action can be extremely refreshing. For me, voluntary work gives a chance to 'put something back' and offers an opportunity to try and leave a positive, albeit tiny, mark on the environment. Although individual volunteer efforts may feel like a 'drop in the ocean', great results can follow from collective and sustained volunteer action. A few examples from Scotland; a 1.8km stretch of footpath up to the Tarmigan summit (NTS property at Ben Lawers) was built entirely by volunteer effort. A denuded glen at Carrifran, near Selkirk has been planted with hundreds of thousands of trees (including a huge volunteer effort). Trees For Life have achieved a huge amount with volunteers undertaking reforestation work in the Highlands. Being a volunteer is in effect being part of a much larger movement.

Volunteering can bring a whole host of benefits. Once the bug has bitten it stays with you. It can bring results which are large, noticeable and important. Volunteer and enjoy it!

Article by Peter Gilbert, Volunteer Co-ordinator at Scottish Wildlife Trust



**Scotland:**

REF	VOL-DIRECT-1/3	JOB	OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR
BE4	N / A	LOC	INSH MARSHES NNR, KINGUSSIE, INVERNESS-SHIRE
PAY	Some travel expenses & training provided FOR RSPB		
DES	To assist in the day to day running of a small office. General administration, answering phone calls, opening mail, ordering leaflets, filing, data entry, computer work. BUT Organised, good admin skills & basic computer literacy. Good communication skills. Interest in nature conservation issues useful. ASK / Chat: Pete Moore, Warden, 01540 661518 (office), 07866 578079 (mob) <a href="mailto:pete.moore@rspb.org.uk">pete.moore@rspb.org.uk</a>		

REF	VOL-DIRECT-OK8	JOB	Volunteer Data Analyst, Community Fundraising Dept
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BE4 ongoing LOC EDINBURGH  
 PAY any out of pocket expenses reimbursed FOR RSPB SCOTLAND  
 DES The Fundraising Team coordinate a large number of fundraising activities, events & vols throughout Scotland. We believe that the conservation issues of today should be dealt with today; therefore the donations we receive are channelled as possible to support our critical work. To help us achieve our ambitious goals, we need you. Role will entail inputting data regarding our collection box schemes on to excel spreadsheets. Collating info about vol involvement in our national Love Nature street collections. Uploading confidential vol details onto central vol management database. Analysing data & producing reports on fundraising income streams, enabling us to accurately track performance. Create spreadsheets which enable us to quickly access & efficiently analyse data to improve our fundraising activities. BUT Organised & dependable & proficient in use of excel & databases. No knowledge of birds required. 1 to 2 days per week Mo – Fri on an ongoing basis. ASK Nicki Wilde 0131 3116574 nicki.wilde@rspb.org.uk

REF	HOL-DIRECT-1/11	TITLE	<b>CONSERVATION WORK WEEK VOLUNTEER</b>
DATE	from Mar to May & Aug to Nov	BASE	HIGHLANDS OF SCOTLAND
COST	min contribution of £70 per week*	WITH	TREES FOR LIFE
DES	The Caledonian Forest needs you. Award winning conservation charity carrying out vital forest restoration work. Volunteer on Work Weeks to help restore the natural env. Spend a week in the Highlands amongst forests, rivers & mountains learning about ecological restoration. Work incl tree planting, felling non native trees, fence removal, seed collection & more. Also run dedicated tree nursery weeks, where the work is gentler but equally important. * all food, accom, tools & transport from Inverness included. BUT 18+ years & have reasonable level of fitness. No previous experience is required but an interest in conservation & ecological issues helpful. ASK www.treesforlife.org.uk & following volunteering links. rosie@treesforlife.org.uk 01309 691444		



REF VOL-DIRECT-24/5 JOB RSPB LOVE NATURE COLLECTION VOLUNTEERS  
 BE4 21/5/09 no interview LOC Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Inverness, Perth, Stirling  
 PAY any out of pocket expenses reimbursed & equipment provided FOR RSPB SCOTLAND  
 DES After huge success of the first Love Nature collection week in 2009, 2010 wee will take place from 29 May to 6 June 2010. There are charity street collections booked in the above towns. Volunteer as a collector & help raise much needed funds for conservation projects world-wide. BUT Enjoy meeting new people & can spare 2 hrs please sign up & join in the fun. Why not rope in your friends & family. No experience is necessary & no bird knowledge is required. ASK Nicki Wilde nicki.wilde@rspb.org.uk or Caroline Rance caroline.rance@rspb.org.uk 0131 3116574

REF VOL-DIRECT-22/2 JOB ASSISTANT BAT CONSERVATION OFFICER  
 BE4 22/2/10 LOC EDINBURGH  
 PAY training in bat conservation work FOR NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND  
 DES Assist NTS Conservation Adviser in the implementation of the Bat Conservation Plan & the co-ordination of Bat Group. Work from 11 April to 1 October 2010, 1 day per week in office & at least 1-2 nights a week in the field during June/July/August. BUT Passion for wildlife, excellent communication & diplomacy skills (a people person), ability to write clear reports, good attention to detail, knowledge of computer systems, full clean driving licence. ASK CV & a paragraph on why you are interested in this position to Mr Lindsay Mackinlay lmackinlay@nts.org.uk 0844 4932454 for chat.

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB EVENT VOLUNTEERS  
 BE4 N / A LOC ACROSS SCOTLAND  
 PAY Training & expenses\* FOR RSPB SCOTLAND  
 DES We need your help to ensure that events run smoothly & that attendees enjoy themselves. You can help us convey the RSPB's message to a wide audience especially families with children. public \*The opportunity to meet people of different ages, backgrounds & knowledge levels, the chance to work with a friendly, dedicated team. We can help you gain skills & give you valuable insight into our work. BUT Enthusiasm, confidence & good speaking & listening skills to greet members of the public & talk about the work of the RSPB. An interest in wildlife & some knowledge of the RSPB's conservation efforts is expected. Driving licence & own transport desirable but not essential. ASK / Chat: Jackie Brown, Jacqueline.brown@rspb.org.uk 0131 3116500.

<p><b>SCRA are looking for volunteers</b> to help this professional association. Particularly interested in those with skills in media and PR, training and development, and also people interested in being regional representatives for the association in Scotland. Keen to hear from any one interested, more details on request. Contact niall@scra-online.co.uk or 07720 774461 information at www.scra-online.co.uk</p>	
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REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB VOLUNTEERS  
 BE4 ongoing LOC FIFE  
 PAY 0 FOR SCOTTISH NATIVE WOODS  
 DES / BUT Come & help us restore & expand native woodlands, & learn new skills such as tree planting, felling & dry-stane dyking. The activities are usually on the first Sunday of the month, & run from 10am to 4pm. There are regular breaks & you can do as little or as much as you choose. Refreshments provided. Please bring your own lunch. All tools, training & any safety equipment will be provided. We regret we cannot provide transport. ASK Please check our website for alterations or updates, www.scottishnativewoods.org.uk More info or to book a place on an activity: Chris Childe, Community Education Officer, 01337 832619 chris.childe@scottishnativewoods.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-15/3 JOB VOLUNTEER OFFICER

BE4 12/3/10 LOC PAISLEY, RENFREWSHIRE  
 PAY Access to BTCV training courses & reasonable travel experiences paid FOR BTCV  
 DES Join the BTCV Renfrewshire Green Gym as a VO & learn practical conservation & community development skills. Assist the Green Gym Co-ordinator in all aspects of running the Green Gym programme which helps people improve their physical & mental wellbeing through practical env volunteering. The Green Gym goes out 3 afternoons a week & carries out a variety of tasks all over Renfrewshire. Responsibilities incl leading & supervising vols, liaising with partners, ensuring H&S procedures are adhered to & lots of practical work. Also free access to a variety of training courses incl First Aid at Work & Leadership Skills. BUT 21+ & able to commit to a min 3 month placement. Full driving licence. Enthusiastic, full of energy, a good team player with a genuine interest in the env. ASK Julie Wilson, Green Gym Co-ordinator, 0141 842 1330 Julie.Wilson@btcv.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB BIRD SURVEYOR  
 BE4 N / A LOC BADENOCH & STRATHSPEY, HIGHLAND  
 PAY Some training & travel expenses available FOR RSPB  
 DES To survey breeding waders & key passerines on farmland within Badenoch & Strathspey. Also carry out basic vegetation mapping. BUT Good bird ID skills (incl songs & calls), primarily for wading birds but also key farmland passerines. The surveys will need to be conducted either early in the morning or in the evening & paperwork, incl basic vegetation mapping, completed. ASK / Chat: Pete Moore, Warden, 01540 661518 (office), 07866 578079 (mob) pete.moore@rspb.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-15/3 JOB VOLUNTEER SEASONAL ECOLOGIST  
 BE4 15/3/10 LOC MAR LODGE ESTATE  
 PAY Training\* & free accom FOR THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND  
 DES Duties involve assisting the full-time ecologist in ecological monitoring & survey & other general ecological duties incl: monitoring regeneration of the native pinewood, bird survey work, vegetation & invertebrate monitoring, database management & env education. \* Training in ecological monitoring techniques. BUT Desirable attributes incl: rel degree, good knowledge of upland ecology & conservation issues, some knowledge of upland birds & plants, experience of ecological monitoring, ability to work alone in remote & high altitude envs, full clean driving licence & ability to work in a team. ASK Mar Lodge Estate Rangers Office, 013397 41669 srao@nts.org.uk

**Finlaystone Country Estate** is a heavily visited 150 acre woodland estate overlooking the Firth of Clyde & is seeking volunteers to assist in the woodlands & gardens. Are you up for the challenge? For further information visit our web site @ [www.finlaystone.co.uk](http://www.finlaystone.co.uk) or email the Head Ranger @ [info@finlaystone.co.uk](mailto:info@finlaystone.co.uk)

**North East:**

**Durham Wildlife Trust** is recruiting volunteers to carry out valuable conservation work on nature reserves in County Durham, including tree planting & felling, hedge planting, footpath, step, & boardwalk construction, grass cutting & raking, erecting of fences, gates, & waymarkers. For more information, contact Lisa Givens on 0191 5128943, [lgivens@durhamwt.co.uk](mailto:lgivens@durhamwt.co.uk)

**Volunteer Conservation Group with BTCV** - carries out practical conservation projects throughout Humber & East Yorkshire. We run these every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday throughout the year & no experience is required. Meet new friends, learn a new skill & try something different. Contact Ian or Mike - 01482 620309.



**Groundwork Leeds** is an environmental regeneration charity that offers a wide range of exciting volunteer posts to support community environmental programmes throughout Yorkshire and the Humber. Voluntary roles include education, practical conservation, environmental business services, community consultation and much more. Contact Leah Black on 0113 238 0601/[leah.black@groundwork.org.uk](mailto:leah.black@groundwork.org.uk) for further information.

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB VOLUNTEER GUIDED WALK LEADERS  
 BE4 N/A LOC NOSTELL PRIORY, W YORKSHIRE  
 PAY travelling expenses FOR NATIONAL TRUST  
 DES/BUT/ASK Role description to be sent on request. Michael Warrington, Vol Coordinator, 01924 853892 ext 100 michael.warrington@nationaltrust.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB GREEN GYM VOLUNTEER OFFICER  
 BE4 Ongoing LOC WAKEFIELD  
 PAY Training & certification\* protective clothing & expenses FOR BTCV WAKEFIELD  
 DES To assist with planning, preparation & delivery of allotment based food growing activities. Groups attending sessions are vols of mixed ability incl those with disabilities & mental health issues who go to the Green Gym to improve their health & wellbeing through physical activity & increased access to fresh fruit & veg. Gain experience & skills in supervising & leading groups of vols, working with diverse groups, project planning & development & sharing & learning practical skills. \*First aid, H&S, manual handling, leadership, equal opps & working with vulnerable groups. Access to fresh fruit & veg. BUT Enthusiasm for the project & working outdoors, good people skills, experience / willingness to work with vulnerable adults & at least basic levels of literacy, IT & fitness. Some experience of growing things & clean driving licence (held for 1 year) useful. Enhanced CRB Disclosure. ASK / Chat: Aine Welsh, 07801 686 01924 299 815 gg-hemsworth@btcv.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-8/3 LOC WEST BOLDON  
 BE4 5/3/10 FOR GROUNDWORK SOUTH TYNESIDE & NEWCASTLE

**JOB**

**Education Assistant**

Gain valuable experience in delivering env education activities to a variety of age groups. Opportunity to assist with the development & delivery of Forest School, Green Start, public events & family learning sessions. You will also be able to gain valuable practical site management & species survey skills & assist with the production of promotional materials.

**Business / Marketing Assistant**

The Education Team are due to move back into a new zero carbon footprint log cabin at the site at West Boldon in the Spring. In re-launching ourselves we would like to promote the Centre not just as an educational venue for school groups but as a resource that everyone in the local community can access & gain enjoyment from. This provides opportunities for Business / Marketing students to lead with the design & implementation of a Business & Marketing plan for the new Centre. Both: Commencing April 2010 for 6 months, 30 hrs per week.

**PAY** Full training & opportunity to get involved in all areas of our work, & to work towards the Platinum Level Youth Achievement Award. Out of pocket travel expenses up to £80 per week. **Desirable skills:** experience of working with young people & adults from a cross section of the community, passionate about the env with an interest in current env issues & healthy lifestyles, the ability to work to a high standard, an enthusiastic & amenable personality, computer literate & good presentation skills. **ASK** Sarah Dinning, Education Co-ordinator, Groundwork South Tyneside & Newcastle, 0191 428 1144 westboldon.4seasons@pop3.hiway.co.uk



**Wildlife spotting and other ways to volunteer with British Waterways**

By now most of us will have already broken our new year's resolutions, but one that we should all aim to keep is to do more volunteering.

Waterscape.com is aiming to reel in even more volunteer wildlife watchers this year, with the British Waterways (BW) Wildlife Survey, which runs from spring through to autumn. The survey aims to record the health of the nation's waterway wildlife, and this year there will be a special focus on the kingfisher. Keep checking [www.waterscape.com/wildlifesurvey](http://www.waterscape.com/wildlifesurvey) for more information on how you can take part.

The eyes and ears of the public are so important to the success of the wildlife survey, and in turn the success of BW in helping to maintain the habitats of these precious species.

BW relies on the vigilance and efforts of wildlife lovers and waterway enthusiasts across the UK, and in 2009 a record number of 42,500 sightings were collected between April and October. This is an enormous increase on the previous year's total of 3000 and shows that more people appear to be engaging with their local waterway.

Positive news, especially since respect and a feeling of ownership for the canals and rivers is something that BW's keen to promote amongst the public. Increasing volunteering both along the waterways and within British Waterways is a major goal for 2010 and onwards, as well as a pivotal part of BW's plan to become a third sector organisation.

The work has already begun with the development of a new volunteering site at [www.waterscape.com/volunteer](http://www.waterscape.com/volunteer), where potential waterway helpers can find contacts for volunteering organisations, read testimonials from experienced volunteers, and find out about future volunteering events. As well as this, soon people will be able to search for volunteering opportunities in their area, both on [waterscape.com](http://waterscape.com) and [britishwaterways.co.uk](http://britishwaterways.co.uk).

For those who are worried about working out in all weathers, BW also hopes to extend volunteering to the office, where a number of roles such as website maintenance, may become available in the future. These roles will serve as great opportunities to gain some office skills, especially for young people or graduates who may be struggling to build up their work experience in a tough job market.

As well as the wildlife survey, Spring will see the return of old volunteering favourite, Towpath Tidy (1 – 14 March 2010). Towpath Tidy is always a great success as the public join forces with BW staff to shift tonnes of rubbish from the towpath and water, paint lock beams, remove graffiti, and generally spruce up the waterside. 2009 saw a fantastic effort with 149 tonnes of litter removed by over 2000 volunteers, and BW are hoping 2010's tidy-up will go even further. Keep checking [www.waterscape.com/towpathtidy](http://www.waterscape.com/towpathtidy) for updates.

Melissa Ezechukwu, [waterscape.com](http://waterscape.com).

Contact [feedback@waterscape.com](mailto:feedback@waterscape.com) for more information.



photo online

**North West:**

REF	VOL-DIRECT-1/3	JOB	TREE NURSERY VOLUNTEER OFFICER
BE4	Flexible	LOC	KENDAL, CUMBRIA
PAY	Travel expenses & training	FOR	BTCV

**DES** Native trees, grown from locally collected seed, must be part of our future if we are to conserve biodiversity & protect wildlife. We collect seed from some of the most scenic areas in the British Isles, & propagate it at our tree nursery. You can do this! Gain experience in plant propagation in polytunnels & outdoor beds, & learn a range of techniques to get seeds to grow. See the trees become bigger, & go out to be planted in local conservation projects. Work with & lead a wide range of interesting people & community groups. Training (informal & formal) provided. **BUT** Willing to get muddy & wet; inquisitiveness to learn more about species ID & characteristics, inventiveness to create

solutions to problems, & a friendly manner. Min 4 days / wk, flexible. Pref 6 month commitment. ASK Rachel Miller, 01539 742612 r.miller@bctv.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB VISITOR CENTRE VOLUNTEER  
 BE4 N / A LOC YARROW VALLEY COUNTRY PARK, CHORLEY, LANCS  
 PAY Training & development FOR CHORLEY COUNCIL  
 DES To join the team at our Green Flag Award winning Country Park. The role involves dealing with visitor enquiries & providing information about the park, liaising with the Ranger Service, assisting with centre displays & group bookings. BUT Confident handling phone & face to face enquiries, good communication skills, interest in nature. Subject to CRB check. Weekday & weekend slots available. ASK Sarah Leach, 01257 515148 sarah.leach@chorley.gov.uk

**Europe's most successful conservation movement** would love to hear from you. Learn new skills, meet new people, work in amazing landscapes. Join wardens on coastal properties in Morecambe Bay, the Wirral or Formby or help to maintain countryside properties in Cheshire & the Lake District. The National Trust nw.volunteering@nationaltrust.org.uk 0161 925 4345



## Recruits needed for National Spring Clean 2010



Keep Scotland Tidy has started the new decade with an appeal for volunteers exasperated by litter to sign up for National Spring Clean 2010 – Scotland's biggest volunteer clean-up event.

Registration for the annual blitz on litter during April has opened and already there are more than 7,000 volunteers committed to pulling on their bright yellow spring clean tabard at 82 clean up events across Scotland.

Re-established four years ago the month long campaign has grown exponentially becoming one of the country's largest volunteer events. Families, schools, community groups, environmental organisations and businesses have all taken up the challenge to do something to improve the cleanliness of their local areas – and now Keep Scotland Tidy is calling for even more people to come forward and help make National Spring Clean 2010 the biggest yet.

Almost 60,000 people, at over 1,000 locations across Scotland, took part in fun litter pick events during the month of April 2009, filling enough black sacks of litter to fill 28,819 standard wheelie bins, but this year the campaign aim is to achieve even more.

Donna Niven, Programme Manager said, "Keep Scotland Tidy hopes to attract back many of those who took part in National Spring Clean last year, but we also look forward to welcoming some new recruits to bolster numbers and really give the country a good Spring clean".

"Not only is a litter pick a way of getting out in the fresh air after an over indulgent festive period, it also provides a cheap, yet fun activity for all of the family.

"So, please help us this April and organise, or take part in, an event near you – all you have to do is chose a location and sign up on line for your FREE clean up kit at [www.keepsotlandtidy.org/springclean](http://www.keepsotlandtidy.org/springclean)".

Environment Minister Roseanna Cunningham said, "Last year's National Spring Clean was the most successful campaign by some distance with almost 60,000 people taking part – and we aim to do even better in 2010!

"As well as providing substantial funding in a bid to make this year's clean-up the best yet we have set ambitious recycling targets and outlined our vision for a zero waste Scotland.

"Litter is an ugly intrusion on our public places, offends our sense of pride and is a poor advertisement for Scotland. This month-long blitz offers people throughout Scotland the opportunity to restore a sense of community pride and clean up their neighbourhoods for themselves and visitors to our country."



photo online

Keep Scotland Beautiful

### Northern Ireland:


REF VOL-DIRECT-29/3 JOB LONG TERM VOLUNTEER WARDEN  
 BE4 end March LOC West Lighthouse viewpoint, Rathlin Island, County Antrim, N Ireland  
 PAY 0 FOR RSPB  
 DES From April to August inclusive. Location welcomes 10,000 visitors during the summer. Work with a small team showing the puffins & cliffs packed with guillemots, enthusing an interest in birds, wildlife & the work of RSPB, incl recruiting & retail work. BUT Good people skills & approachable personality along with ability to work as part of a team essential. Specialist knowledge not necessary, but enthusiasm for wildlife & an interest in conservation is. May take part in island community activities & local events. 18+ years. Free accom provided in cottage hostel 1 mile from Viewpoint. 4 week min stay. ASK brochure &/or app form [www.rspb.org.uk/volunteering/residential](http://www.rspb.org.uk/volunteering/residential) volunteers@rspb.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-29/3 JOB VOLUNTEER FARMLAND BIRD SURVEYORS  
 BE4 April LOC NORTHERN IRELAND  
 PAY 0 FOR RSPB Volunteer and Farmer Alliance Project  
 DES/BUT Do you know your farmland birds? Then you could help us with important conservation work. Volunteers visit a farm 3-4 times between April & July to conduct a bird survey. The results of the survey are then used to provide the farmer with a full report & advice on how to help the birds found on their farm. This is a great opportunity to put your bird ID skills to use & get access to areas you wouldn't normally be able to visit. If you would like

to get involved with this year's surveys please get in touch ASAP. ASK Contact: Patsy Harbinson V&FA Project Officer  
028 90 491547 patsy.harbinson@rspb.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB ESTATE WARDEN (Voluntary)  
BE4 ? LOC NORTHERN IRELAND  
PAY 0 Accommodation provided FOR NATIONAL TRUST  
DES Assist with practical habitat management & monitoring of flora & fauna on the National Trust's South Down properties in Northern Ireland. Opportunity to gain experience in environmental conservation, inc recognised certification in the use of pesticides, brushcutters & first aid. BUT No practical experience required but must have an interest in nature conservation & able to work as part of a team. Enthusiastic, reasonably fit & enjoy working outdoors.  
ASK (Quote Ref: CJS) Malachy Martin, Area Warden, Murlough NNR, Keel Point, Dundrum, Co. Down, Northern Ireland, BT33 0NQ, Tel: 028 4375 1467, Email: malachy.martin@nationaltrust.org.uk

**Midlands:**

 <p>Charity No 1084504</p>	<p><b>Discover new skills</b> and care for churchyards with the Churchyard Task Team. Every Tuesday volunteers undertake conservation work across Herefordshire &amp; South Shropshire. Free training. Minibus lift/travelling expenses available. Contact Caring for God's Acre on 01568 611154, info@cfga.fsnet.co.uk, www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk. Project kindly funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.</p>
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REF VOL-DIRECT-22/2 JOB RESIDENTIAL VOLUNTEER INTERNSHIPS  
BE4 17/2/10 LOC Northern England & Midlands RSPB reserves  
PAY free accom &\* FOR RSPB  
DES/BUT Spend a year living & working in a fantastic place with fantastic people, seeing things you'd never normally see. 9 residential volunteer internships starting in April for trainee wardens & visitor officers. \*lots of first hand experience, get to do things you won't get to do in other roles. ASK Info pack: Alison Cook 01484 868405  
alison.cook@rspb.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-22/2 JOB VOLUNTEER RANGER PLACEMENT  
BE4 19/2/10 LOC CARSINGTON WATER RESERVOIR  
PAY Free training\* FOR SEVERN TRENT WATER  
DES / BUT Around 30 hrs wk. Opportunity to work at the stunning reservoir on the border of Peak District National Park. This award winning public access site attracts over 1 million people a year & boasts some of the best bird watching in the midlands. Support the 5 strong ranger team with day to day management of the site, undertaking tasks such as general estate maintenance & conservation work. \*Free training in chainsaw, brush cutter, tractor, pesticide, grassland management etc. ASK CV & covering letter to Ben Young, Site Manager, Carsington Water Visitor Centre, Severn Trent Water, Derbyshire DE6 1ST 01629 540 696 Fax: 540 558 ben.young@severntrent.co.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB VOLUNTEERING  
BE4 ongoing LOC HATTON BUG ZOO (nr Warwick) & Shustoke  
PAY expenses may be paid FOR NATURAL WORLD EXPERIENCE LTD  
DES We run a Bug Zoo & Gift Shop at Hatton Country World, as well as breeding of invertebrates, going into schools delivering env ed & run our own activities throughout holiday periods. Assist in shop, help with the invertebrate rearing programme & deliver some of the env activities. Some of this work will involve working with young children as well as older people. More info www.naturalworldexperience.com BUT No specific quals required but applicants must have knowledge of the natural world, be prepared to work & handle various invertebrates, reptiles & amphibians. Must be able to communicate with both very young and older people. Outgoing & prepared to work in all weathers. ASK Paul Taylor 07811 403713 info@naturalworldexperience.com or in person at the Hatton Bug Zoo & Gift Shop (Sats & Suns only)


<p><b>Opportunities exist for volunteering</b> at unique our Grade 2* listed detached gardens: Hands on work – hedge laying, clearance, plot development; Research – fruit trees, roses, plants general, structures, oral history, gardening and allotment history; Education work with local schools. For more information please see our web site www.staa-allotments.org.uk</p>
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REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB FENN'S MOSS NNR VOLUNTARY WARDEN  
BE4 N/A ongoing LOC Fenn's, Whixall & Bettisfield Mosses NNR, & NNR Base (N Shropshire)  
PAY 0 travel expenses \* FOR NATURAL ENGLAND & COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES  
DES Great opportunity to assist with the restoration of part of Britain's 3rd largest lowland raised peat bog. The NNR is 635ha & straddles the English / Welsh border, 4 miles from Whitchurch, Shropshire & 10 miles from Wrexham. Role is varied & can incl practical estate & habitat management tasks, surveying / monitoring, assisting with events / guided walks & office projects. Protective clothing provided & in-house training. BUT Suitable for a student looking for a work placement or someone wanting to gain further experience in the conservation sector. Reliable & enthusiastic, keen interest in wildlife & conservation, physically fit & prepared to work outdoors. ASK Peter Bowyer, Reserve Manager, peter.bowyer@naturalengland.org.uk 01948 880362 www.naturalengland.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-27/12 JOB PLANNING VOLUNTEER  
BE4 31/12/10 LOC BRANDON MARSH NATURE CENTRE, COVENTRY  
PAY Training provided\* FOR WARWICKSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST  
DES Are you enthusiastic about wildlife & conservation? Do you want to make a real difference to improving the landscape for biodiversity? Assist the Planning & Biodiversity Officer in dealing with the many & varied planning issues across Warwickshire. From demolished cow-sheds to major new housing estates, from golf course developments to wind farms, we deal with it all, & we need your help to ensure that wildlife is not harmed by new development. \*Learn more

about planning & conservation, reference available. BUT Basic computer skills, incl Word & internet, or willing to learn. Interest in wildlife & conservation. Good team-working skills. ASK Amanda Henshaw, 07818 579298  
amanda.henshaw@wkw.org.uk

REF	VOL-DIRECT-31/5	JOB	<b>VOLUNTEERS WANTED</b>
BE4	31/5/10	LOC	nr WORCESTER, WORCESTERSHIRE
PAY	0	FOR	GREEN AND AWAY
DES/BUT Europe's only environmentally-sound outdoor conference centre. We need willing helpers to build the centre, run the camps and pack up. In return for your enthusiasm and hard work, you will live in beautiful countryside among friendly people, eat excellent vegetarian food, and contribute to the environmental cause. We need volunteers for a week or longer during June, July and August. ASK Visit <a href="http://www.greenandaway.org">www.greenandaway.org</a> or contact <a href="mailto:volco@greenandaway.org">volco@greenandaway.org</a>			



## Why not try residential volunteering?

"When I returned home from my week away in August this year I had learned new skills, lost weight, gained a suntan and was happier, healthier and fitter than I had felt for months! Had I been to a spa in some far-flung destination? No, I had spent a week volunteering on the Island of Ramsey, the RSPB's reserve off the beautiful Pembrokeshire coast." Ruth Paley, Community Mental Health Nurse

Volunteers are essential to the RSPB; many volunteers can only commit themselves to a few hours a week, or a month. Others have much more available time to give, and volunteer for months, gaining the necessary experience to start a career in conservation. But what about holidays? Have you thought about spending a week, a fortnight or longer as a residential volunteer?

Ruth says of her holiday, "Carrying my food and belongings on the little boat transporting us to the island necessitated the decision to leave the wine at home. However, drinking tea by hurricane lamplight whilst I laughed and chatted with my fellow volunteers felt utterly intoxicating. There was no electrical supply into which I could plug a cd player, but I could listen to the magical sound of hundreds of Manx shearwaters flying over our bungalow as a storm raged through the night. One morning, a magnificent red deer watched me through the kitchen window as I prepared breakfast. Shortly after, I became aware of a family of little owls perched on a nearby wall, blinking lazily in the early sunshine.

Spending an afternoon measuring the length of grass seems unusual to say the least but, as Greg and Lisa (the lovely resident wardens) explained, sward height is crucial in encouraging Choughs to feed so I was helping to ascertain whether the grazing sheep on the island were effectively maintaining the balance in the absence of rabbits.

During that week I saw no television, read no newspapers and heard no radio - we spent our free time walking, sitting on the cliffs watching seals and Peregrine falcons but mostly, just marvelling at the beauty of nature.

I work full time as a community mental health nurse and prior to my trip some colleagues expressed surprise that I would choose to spend a week's holiday "working instead of relaxing". How wrong they were! I rediscovered something in myself during this delightful week; expertly guided by Greg and Lisa I was able to take myself out of my comfort zone and rise to new challenges, but most importantly I could take time to just be still and look....."what is this life if full of care we have no time to stand and stare...".

Annually, around forty reserves across the country need, and provide for, residential volunteers. The reserves have different needs, and duties may include habitat and species management, visitor and shop work, guided walks, research, monitoring, maintenance/repair work, species protection and farm work. You can choose a reserve that needs the services that you can and wish to offer.



So how do you find out what opportunities are available? Simply ring the Volunteering Development Department on 01767 680551 and speak to Kate Tycker or Jane Shah who run the Scheme.

## a million voices for nature

Alternatively, download details from: [www.rspb.org.uk/volunteering/residential](http://www.rspb.org.uk/volunteering/residential) .  
RSPB Volunteers



photo online

### Wales:

**The Cardigan Bay Marine Wildlife Centre** based in New Quay, West Wales is a public information, education & research centre dedicated to raising awareness of the local marine environment. To find out more & see how you can get involved contact Laura Mears on [volunteer@cbmwc.org](mailto:volunteer@cbmwc.org) or 01545 560032  
[www.cbmwc.org](http://www.cbmwc.org)

**Passionate about nature? Love to talk?** Then we need you to grab the attention of the public at events throughout the year in South Wales! You could: increase support for campaigns, collect donations, run children's activities, show people wildlife or make more RSPB members. Contact Sarah Lewis: [sarah.m.lewis@rspb.org.uk](mailto:sarah.m.lewis@rspb.org.uk) 02920353046

REF	VOL-DIRECT-1/3	JOB	VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES
BE4	N / A	LOC	TONDU, BRIDGEND
PAY	On-site training available	FOR	ECODYSGU

DES / BUT We are an holistic env education centre set in a 42 acre site incl 15 acres of ancient woodland. Without vols, we would struggle to exist. We offer long & short term vol placements to enable people to develop vocational skills whilst taking part in the regeneration of a historical site. Work available: gardening, woodland management, arts & crafts, building & maintenance, & furniture & sculpture making. This year we are also creating Eco-buildings – straw bale & cob. Come & be inspired, it could be life changing! ASK Lorraine or Chris 01656 728137 ecodysguecolearn@aol.com www.ecodysgu.co.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-29/3 LOC NEW QUAY, WEST WALES  
 BE4 See below FOR CARDIGAN BAY MARINE WILDLIFE CENTRE  
 JOB DES

Voluntary Assistant Photo-ID Officer BE4 31/3/10 IV first week of April. Long term placement from mid-April to Sept / Oct. Main responsibility will be to assist with the cataloguing of the bottlenose dolphin photos for the photo-ID purposes of CBMWC. This will incl matching individuals to previous year's images, co-ordinating & training other vols participating with the photo-ID work, giving talks on the work, transferring & storing images & helping compile the 2010 Photo-ID catalogue. BUT Fluency in English essential; IT skills; able to work well in a small team & independently without supervision; enthusiastic & hard working; interest in wildlife & conservation; experience working with the public & public speaking useful; interest & knowledge of British cetaceans an advantage; background in biology, particularly marine / env science useful; excellent verbal & written communication skills.

Marine Wildlife & Conservation Volunteers Applications accepted all year round for positions between April-Nov. To help with ongoing research, education & interpretation programmes concerning the marine wildlife of Cardigan Bay. We primarily study the bottlenose dolphins through photo-ID & also monitor harbour porpoise & Atlantic grey seal populations. Vols are vital to our org & this is a fantastic opportunity for you to make a positive contribution to marine wildlife conservation, gain knowledge & experience of the species & habitats in Cardigan Bay, field work, research methods & public awareness & education programmes. BUT No experience necessary, but must be reliable & enthusiastic with an interest in wildlife conservation. You will be dealing with the public so fluency in English is vital. Both: Willing to work in a conscientious, responsible & reliable manner; ASK Laura Mears, volunteer@cbmwc.org 01545 560032 www.cbmwc.org

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB VOLUNTARY WARDEN  
 BE4 N / A LOC RAMSEY ISLAND, PEMBROKESHIRE  
 PAY 0 Self-catering accom & free boat crossings FOR RSPB

DES To join our small team from April to Aug 2010. You will: gain experience in grassland & heathland management; assist with livestock; be responsible for leading guided walks; guide on boat trips to Grassholm Island; assist with survey of common breeding birds & seabird colonies; work with our team of short-term vols. All our previous long-term vols now have paid positions within RSPB or other conservation orgs. ATV training provided if required. BUT 18+ & prepared to live in a very remote location. Competent bird ID, enthusiasm & confidence talking to the public essential. ASK <http://www.rspb.org.uk/volunteering/opportunities/details.asp?id=302> lisa.morgan@rspb.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB LONG TERM VOLUNTEERS  
 BE4 ? LOC MACHYNLLETH, WALES  
 PAY 0 FOR CENTRE FOR ALTERNATIVE TECHNOLOGY

DES 6 months commencing March 2010. We are looking for LTVs in the following depts: Engineering; Productive Gardens; Display Gardens; Information; Media; Publications; Visitor Centre Maintenance; Visitor Centre Displays. BUT Anyone over 18 can apply, but we are usually looking for people who have certain skills & experience to offer. In return we offer a unique work experience & learning environment. ASK Joni Pickering joni.pickering@cat.org.uk

**East Anglia:**

**Norfolk National Trust Volunteers** carry out practical outdoor conservation work at weekends, on properties & land owned by the National Trust within Norfolk. Volunteers don't have to be super fit, just prepared to give it a go. New members are always welcome. Email: [membership@norfolkntv.co.uk](mailto:membership@norfolkntv.co.uk)  
 Web: [www.norfolkntv.co.uk](http://www.norfolkntv.co.uk)

**The North Norfolk Workout Project** welcomes volunteers over 16 years to join in with practical conservation tasks on sites in North Norfolk on Mondays, Thursday & Fridays afternoons. Learn about the natural environment, whilst improving your health & fitness & meeting new people. Contact Mark Webster on 07843069567 or [www.btcv.org/norfolk](http://www.btcv.org/norfolk) for programme

**Volunteer Officer Norwich**, volunteer for us two days per week as a VO & in return we'll provide free training. Gain valuable conservation experience on a variety of sites around Norwich. Contact Debbie Murray, BTCV email [d.murray@btcv.org](mailto:d.murray@btcv.org) phone 01603 767300

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB WILDLIFE WATCH LEADERS  
 BE4 ONGOING LOC THROUGHOUT SUFFOLK  
 PAY 0 FOR SUFFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST

DES Help run network of children's wildlife clubs. Wildlife Watch Groups are the junior branch of the Wildlife Trusts & normally run once a month for 2 hours, often on a Sat morning. They are aimed at 6-12 year olds. BUT An enthusiasm to work with children & teach them about wildlife & conservation is all that's needed. ASK Wildlife Watch Organiser Martha Cowell on 01473 89089 or [martha.cowell@suffolkwildlifetrust.org](mailto:martha.cowell@suffolkwildlifetrust.org) for more details [www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org](http://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org)

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB NATURAL ENGLAND VOLUNTEER  
 BE4 All year LOC SUFFOLK COAST NNRs, FROSTENDEN, nr BECCLES  
 PAY Training i.e. brushcutter / chainsaw. Travel expenses. FOR NATURAL ENGLAND

DES The volunteering opportunities on the Natural England Suffolk Coast NNRs are wide & varied with a focus on habitat, species & visitor management. Often working alongside NE Reserve staff, vols will be contributing to the

management of a broad spectrum of habitats including wetland, heathland & woodland. BUT Volunteering opportunities for all, no quals needed. When working on site, training will be offered for all duties undertaken. Occasional lone working. ASK Will Russell, Reserve Manager, 07876 796143 will.russell@naturalengland.org.uk Vol posts will be offered after an informal chat & trial period.

REF VOL-DIRECT-23/2 LOC NORFOLK  
 BE4 18/2/10 (except \*) FOR NORFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST  
 JOB DES



**Volunteer Boat Operators\*** NWT Hickling Broad Visitor Centre. BE4 23/2/10. Hickling Broad is the largest expanse of open water in the Broads system & is a NNR. It is a haven for rare plants & wildlife, particularly bittern & swallowtail butterfly. We are looking for vols to operate public boat trips during May to Sept guiding our electric powered traditional reed lighter across open water, through reeds to hides & / or the Tree Tower. Providing information along the way about habitats & wildlife. General cleaning of boat & battery charging. Travel / mileage expenses to be agreed in advance. BUT Friendly & confident in dealing with visitors. Ability to handle powered watercraft. RYA 2 Cert & 1st aid qual essential. Able to swim, experienced with fitting lifejackets. Able to read number plate at 20.5 metres & to follow emergency procedures. Experience of or ability to learn about wildlife, conservation & local habitats.

**Volunteers** Positions at: Hickling Broad Visitor Centre - above; NWT Holme Dunes Visitor Centre – one of the most stunning on the north Norfolk coast where the Wash meets the North Sea & is an important birdwatching site. The varied landscape consists of mudflats, sand dunes, pines, saltmarsh, freshwater & grazing marsh & reedbeds; NWT Ranworth Broad Visitor Centre – The Centre is a floating thatched building with fabulous views over Ranworth Broad. One of Norfolk's most popular Broads with plenty to see & do for both families & naturalists; NWT Weeting Heath Centre – one of the most important areas of heath in Breckland. The site is home to a number of rare plants, birds & insects. Of particular importance are the stone curlews which breed here. Stone Curlews have declined dramatically as their heathland habitat has been destroyed & they are now nationally rare. Woodlark, another rare heathland bird, also breeds on the reserve. Assist the Summer Warden here. At all locations duties incl: Assist the Centre Co-ordinator with all day to day visitor centre activities & tasks. The Centres are open daily from Easter to Oct, vols work on a rota system to suit. (Weeting Heath open from end March to Sept.) Duties incl opening & closing the Centre, supervising vols, providing a friendly service for visitors & general information about the nature reserve & its wildlife. Respond to phone enquiries, take boat trip bookings. Ensure goods for sale are displayed & promoted, check stock, promote trust membership. BUT Friendly, enthusiastic & welcoming personality, confident dealing with visitors, good communication skills. Interest in wildlife / wild places & passion for sharing knowledge about local wildlife & the nature reserve. Child friendly approach desirable. Numerate & able to use a cash register, or willing to learn, ability to keep accurate records Reliable timekeeper, enjoy working in a team

**Senior Volunteers** NWT Hickling Broad Visitor Centre & NWT Ranworth Visitor Centre. As above but to take responsibility for all visitor centre activities in the absence of the Centre Co-ordinator. Must be able to work on own initiative & to multi-task at peak times. All posts: PAY On the job training, travel / mileage expenses to be agreed in advance. ASK www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk & click on Get involved / Volunteering / Current Opportunities for role description & app form, or 01603 625540 to receive them by post.

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB RSPB VISITOR & PUBLICITY OFFICER  
 BE4 28/2/10 LOC TITCHWELL MARSH RSPB NATURE RESERVE, NORFOLK  
 PAY Free accom & all necessary training FOR RSPB  
 DES Working closely with the reserve's Visitor & Publicity Officer you will assist in providing an excellent visitor experience. You will be responsible for developing & delivering a busy events programme, assisting with promoting the reserve through contact with the media & maintaining reserve interpretation. BUT Good people & communication skills & an approachable personality essential, as is the ability to work as part of a team. Specialist knowledge is not necessary, but an enthusiasm for wildlife & interest in conservation desirable. ASK Dave Hawkins, Visitor & Publicity Officer, dave.hawkins@rspb.org.uk 01485 211974.

**South:**

**Cholderton Rare Breeds Farm & Youth Hostel**, nr Salisbury are offering opportunities for volunteers to work with & learn about a range of rare breed farm animals. Full training & support, accommodation at the youth hostel & all meals provided. Call Luke Mcewan our manager on 01980 629438 for more information.

**BTCV's Biodiversity Action Team** is looking for new volunteers to take part in various practical conservation tasks throughout Southern Hampshire. Thursday mornings on the Meon Valley Trail from Wickham & other locations. Meet new people & learn new skills! Please contact Rachel on 02380769719 or hampshire-bat@btcv.org.uk for further information.

**Serious about conservation?** Spare time on your hands?  
 \* Conservation Trainee (Biodiversity team)  
 \* College Lake Nature Reserve - Cafe, Meet & Greet volunteers  
 \* Buckinghamshire - practical conservation across the county with a new Mid Week & Field Team.  
 Interested? Find out more - contact Cathie Hasler. BBOWT 01865 788309 & cathiehasler@bbowt.org.uk

**Opportunities across Hertfordshire for volunteers** to lead short, regular, free 'health walks'. Walking has many health benefits & is a great way to get outside, get more active & meet new people. All leaders receive free certified training. More information at www.hertsdirect.org/healthwalks or contact Michelle Roberts on 01462 459395 or healthwalks.cms@hertscc.gov.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB COMMUNITY PROJECTS VOLUNTEER OFFICER  
 BE4 ? LOC READING, BERKSHIRE  
 PAY free training\*& all reasonable travel costs covered FOR BTCV  
 DES Help increase vol numbers through a project called the Biodiversity Action Team. One of current projects, Friends of Stoke Common, is also growing & we would like to offer this group more support. Also deliver a range of

community focused, practical projects & support for local community groups. Assist in leading conservation vol activities, with the aim of eventually leading them on your own. Projects incl scrub clearance, pond maintenance, hedge-laying & much more. Help in accessing funding to work with young people & leading this youth work. Help maintain tools & Tool Room & visit sites to discuss potential projects. Assist in organisation of events, recording of activities, writing news releases, undertaking general admin & dealing with enquiries. \*formal & informal training, covering areas such as leadership, first aid, risk assessment & practical skills, such as hedge-laying, dry stone walling, wildlife garden design & fencing. BUT Commit 3+ days per week but pref 4 or 5, for 4+months. Incl significant evening & weekend work. Basic level of literacy, computerate, clean driving licence for 1 year suitable for manual vehicle & basic level fitness. ASK Oonagh Kelleher, Community Project Officer 0118 9475049 o.kelleher@bctv.org.uk 16 Bridge Street, Caversham, Reading, Berkshire REG4 8AA

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT ESTATE WORKER  
 BE4 26/2/10 LOC DINTON PASTURES, BERKSHIRE  
 PAY Allowances lunch & travel FOR WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL Countryside Services  
 DES Placement length to suit you, ideally between 3 & 12 months. 4 days per week. Opportunity for paid work as seasonal Duty Ranger in the summer. Opportunity to join a friendly & sociable team & the chance to gain lots of valuable experience in practical conservation & estate / site management. Training will be given. This could be an exceptional stepping stone for someone who wishes to pursue a career in conservation & land management. You will be assisting in the day to day practical maintenance of country parks & nature reserves. This may incl operating [power machinery, path construction, installation of cside furniture, woodland & wetland management. BUT Physically fit, able to work outdoors in all weathers. Driving licence. First aid (training given if necessary). ASK CV & covering letter to Simon Bartlam, Countryside Service, Dinton Pastures, Davis Street, Hurst, Berkshire RG10 0TH simon.bartlam@wokingham.gov.uk

#### **Buckingham Community Wildlife Project – BTCV**

Do you want to help wildlife & meet new people in the heart of Buckingham? Then come along with the welcoming Friends of Bourton & Heartland Parks & the friendly Friends of Maids Moreton Avenue for events like planting mistletoe & building bird boxes. Interested? Call Jane or Monique on 01296-330033

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB ASSISTANT EDUCATION RANGER X 2  
 BE4 26/2/10 LOC nr READING, BERKSHIRE  
 PAY Travel & lunch allowance FOR WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL Countryside Services  
 DES Opportunity to join a friendly & sociable team, training given, chance to gain lots of valuable experience in env education & practical conservation management. Over 2000 school children visit Dinton Pastures each year. The post holders will assist in the delivery of a school's programme, leading sessions such as pond dipping & minibeast safaris. There may also be opportunities to run a programme of summer holiday activities & to get involved in practical conservation work & ranger duties. BUT Some prior knowledge of env work, as well as enthusiasm & ability to communicate about the natural world. ASK Chat, full job desc & person spec: Lynn Yardley, 0118 934 2016 lynn.Yardley@wokingham.gov.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB VOLUNTEER SEASONAL WARDEN  
 BE4 3/3/10 IV 17/3/10 LOC MARSTON MORETAINE, BEDFORDSHIRE  
 PAY 3 training courses & steel toe capped boots FOR FOREST OF MARSTON VALE  
 DES Part-time, 3 days per week. 6 month post starting April. The Millennium Country Park has wild areas of woodland, wetland & grassland with multi-user paths, sensory garden & formal areas. Duties would include patrolling the park, footpath maintenance, grass cutting, habitat management, working with volunteers & could incl running guided walks, working with school groups & wildlife surveys. All training, tools & equipment provided. A training course in First Aid & 2 other courses related to individual interest in conservation or site management provided (could incl Dragonfly or Otter Survey). BUT Practical conservation experience useful. Enthusiasm for outdoor working is key. Flexibility & ability to work in a small team & alone essential. ASK Alexis Pym, 01234 767037. CV & letter outlining any previous experience & specific interests to: alexis.pym@marstonvale.org Forest of Marston Vale, Forest Centre, Station Road, Marston Moretaine, Bedfordshire MK43 0PR

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB VOLUNTEERS  
 BE4 N / A IV 29/3/10 in Brighton LOC SUSSEX & SOUTH AFRICA  
 PAY 0 FOR THE WILDLIFE FOR ALL TRUST  
 DES / BUT Env charity with a unique approach. We work to conserve endangered species & habitats, putting a lot of emphasis on tackling human problems such as greed, selfishness & the 'me, me, me' mentality. We train our team to understand how these psychological factors have a huge impact on the success or failure of nature conservation projects. The key to the causes of our env problems, & to any realistic chance of overcoming them, lies in changing the way we think about the world around us. If this deeper approach appeals to you, there is a chance to get involved with our work – which incl nature reserves in Sussex & South Africa. We all purposely work non-paid. ASK www.wildlifeforall.org

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB WILDWOOD ECOMIND VOLUNTEER  
 BE4 N / A LOC HERNE BAY, KENT  
 PAY Basic training in woodland management, dead-hedging, tool use FOR WILDWOOD TRUST  
 DES Wildwood is set in many acres of ancient woodland, & needs your help in keeping this in top condition, as well as helping us construct & maintain animal enclosures. We have collaborated with the charity Mind to enable people who are mental health service users the opportunity to volunteer at Wildwood & learn new practical skills in our wonderful woodland surroundings. You will help in keeping the Wildwood grounds & facilities in excellent working order, help in the construction of new animal enclosures, help our keeper team develop better conditions for our animals. Skills will incl: pathway construction; waste minimisation; groundworks & building; rainwater collection & distribution system; woodland

management incl coppicing. Spaces available 10am to 2pm Mon to Fri. BUT No quals needed. Reasonably fit / mobile, for people suffering mental distress only. ASK Chat / app form: Volunteer Co-ordinator, 01227 712111.

REF VOL-DIRECT-28/6 JOB VOLUNTEER FORESTER  
BE4 July 2010 LOC CLIVEDEN TAPLOW, MAIDENHEAD  
PAY Training & equipment\* FOR NATIONAL TRUST

DES Assist in implementing the Trust's twin objectives of the conservation of its properties & helping people to enjoy & understand them. Cliveden's forestry vols help with the daily maintenance & management of the estate's grade 1 listed woodlands. Learn all aspects of estate & woodland management, & the use & maintenance of vehicles & machinery. Good working relationships will be established with other vols, members of staff, members of the public, tenants, farmers, neighbours etc. Anticipated time required is 35 hrs / wk (flexible) for 1 year. We'll aim to integrate your aims, interests & expertise with our own needs in a worthwhile partnership. \*Full training, supervision & all personal protection equipment, accom if required. BUT Newly qualified, on a university or college sandwich course, or between jobs. Looking for practical experience & skills in cside or heritage management. Our scheme is open to anyone over 18 yrs old. ASK Alex Livingstone, Forster-in-Charge, 01628 605069 alex.livingstone@nationaltrust.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB EVENTS VOLUNTEER  
BE4 N / A LOC HAMPSHIRE  
PAY Training Provided & expenses paid FOR HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT WILDLIFE TRUST

DES To join our exciting new event team for 1 day per week. Some events planned incl a Wildlife Gardening event at Sir Harold Hillier gardens, Hampshire Water Festival, Marine Week & Hampshire Bird Fair along with a selection of smaller village fetes & country shows. The role will involve talking to the public about the work of the Wildlife Trust, answering questions about local wildlife & supervising a range of activities such as badge making, dragonfly making & a wildflower quiz. Full training given at an induction day in March 2010. BUT Keen interest in wildlife & the Wildlife Trust. Comfortable using a computer & experience in the use of MS Word & Outlook. Good standard of English. Good organisational skills & ability to work to deadlines. Friendly phone manner & good communication skills as the role will incl contact with the media. ASK Donna Birch, Volunteering Development Manager, 01489 774442 donnab@hwt.org.uk

## Shadow Ranger Scheme

Sherwood Forest Community Rangers, in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council, Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust and Greenwood Community Partnership, provide voluntary apprenticeships known as Shadow Rangers. These placements are targeted at individuals seeking to gain experience in the countryside sector.

A 6 - 12 month placement, volunteering 1-3 days per week, allows volunteers to develop on the job skills and experience, including practical site management, working with groups, planning and undertaking countryside events and environmental education. A range of formal and informal training opportunities are also provided alongside work-based learning to allow individuals to develop a good range of skills and abilities during the programme.

Since 2005 70% of shadows have gone on to successfully find relevant work in the field or have gone on to further study. The shadow ranger scheme enables individuals to gain direct experience from those in the profession as well as being given the chance and freedom to lead on an assortment of projects, tasks and events, all in preparation for developing careers within the field.

"I've found the Shadow Ranger scheme as informative as it is rewarding. It takes volunteering to the next level, with a great balance of in-house training days, coupled with 'hands-on' manual labour tasks. It's a great chance to really get to see how different Rangers operate, their daily responsibilities, and their overall involvement in the running of diverse environmental projects, giving me an insight into what skills and knowledge is required for a career within the industry" Jeff Gilliam, Shadow Ranger

If you would like to find out more about this opportunity take a look at [www.forestry.gov.uk/eastmidlandsvolunteering](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/eastmidlandsvolunteering)  
Forestry Commission, Sherwood District



photo online

### London:

**Sutton Ecology Centre** is seeking enthusiastic Environmental Education Volunteers for the spring-summer season. Gain valuable skills & experience: work outdoors with children, plan & prepare for nature sessions & events, assist with teaching school & community groups in local green spaces. Ring 020 8770 5820 or email: sec@sutton.gov.uk to find out more!

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB VOLUNTEER OFFICER  
BE4 ongoing whilst positions available LOC LAMBETH, working over SE & SW London  
PAY travel expenses, PPE provided, access to free training FOR BTCV

DES Help to run the BTCV South London Biodiversity Action Team (BTCV BAT South). Assist & lead teams of practical vols on practical landscape / hort / conservation / construction projects every week from Tues – Thurs. Support & lead projects on the ground, duties also incl the management of project admin, project preparation & site surveying work. Each VO is ultimately given the opportunity to manage their own project from start to conclusion whilst in post (from initial client liaison, through project design / quotation to project prep & delivery) with as much or little support from the Project Officer as required. BUT An env background advantage but not essential as all necessary training provided

in post. Must be keen & willing to commit to 3-4 days a week for 6 month period. ASK R.Jedrzejczak@btcv.org.uk quoting Lambeth VO opportunity. Chat: Richard 07764 655694

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB VOLUNTEER EDUCATION ASSISTANT  
 BE4 ? LOC VAUXHALL CITY FARM  
 PAY 0 FOR VAUXHALL CITY FARM  
 DES Established in 1977, the Farm is a free of charge charity urban farm locate in a deprived inner city area & is open to the public 5 days a week. We offer talk tours & workshops to schools to teach children about food & farming, animals & the env. We go out to schools to set up gardening & incubation projects & we also have lots of family events. You would help us deliver a range of sessions & develop materials for schools to use. You'll gain valuable experience in planning & leading educational activities for different age groups. BUT Enjoy working with children & enthusiastic about helping them understand & care for the natural env. CRB Disclosure. We'll ask you to fill out a vol application form, provide 2 character refs & have a short, informal meeting with us to check suitability. ASK Hannah, 0207 582 4202 vcfeducation@btconnect.com

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB VOLUNTEER OFFICER – LAVENDER POND LNR  
 BE4 1/3/10 IV 9/3/10 for this application, but ongoing LOC ROTHERHITHE, LONDON  
 PAY Travel & training\* FOR TRUST FOR URBAN ECOLOGY (BTCV)  
 DES 10.00 – 16.00, Tues, Weds & Thurs, min 6 months. Carry out all aspects of reserve management, maintenance & development. Gain practical skills & experience working with & helping lead teams of vols. Some admin required. Weekly offsite projects (Thursdays). \*BTCV training courses, onsite training in practical skills, travel expenses up to £6 a day within London, refreshments (not lunch). BUT Would suit graduate or similar needing practical experience in env conservation, specifically with a view to becoming a warden / vol leader. Desire & ability to work outside carrying out practical conservation. Good knowledge / understanding of the env, willingness to learn new knowledge / skills & pass these on, ability to work well with & lead other vols. Keen. Reliable. ASK r.hawkwood@btcv.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB EDUCATION VOLUNTEER OFFICER  
 BE4 Ongoing LOC HARINGEY, NORTH LONDON  
 PAY Travel expenses & training\* FOR BTCV  
 DES Haringey BTCV is looking for people to provide vital support in helping deliver the env education sessions at Railway Fields LLR. There will also be opportunities to work on other BTCV education projects in the borough incl the holiday children's activities in the local parks. \*Recognised professional work experience in env education & opportunity to attend free BTCV courses. BUT Keen interest in working in env education. Outgoing with good communication skills. Reliable & enthusiastic. Knowledge of the natural world. Willingness to work occasional weekends. Full, clean driving licence held for 2+ years. ASK Catherine Price, 020 8348 6005 c.price@btcv.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB VISITOR CENTRE ASSISTANT  
 BE4 Ongoing LOC COLNE VALLEY PARK CENTRE, DENHAM  
 PAY Travel expenses FOR COLNE VALLEY PARK VISITOR CENTRE  
 DES Colne Valley Visitor Centre is at the heart of Colne Valley park providing information to visitors about the wealth of activities, events & places to visit that are on offer. You will be responsible for opening the visitor centre, assisting with events & activities, serving in the café & providing advice to visitors. Based in the beautiful setting of Denham Country Park this is an ideal role for someone looking to gain experience or wanting to give back to the community. BUT Flexible, friendly & willing to take on a variety of tasks. Ability to work under own initiative is essential, as is a welcoming personality who ensures customers wish to return time & again. The centre must remain open daily & so vols need to be reliable & able to commit to a min of 3 months. ASK Louise Morris, 01895 839855 to discuss.



## Environmental Education Volunteering

Owned by Brent Council the Gordon Brown Outdoor Environmental Education Centre is named after a Brent scientist who believed that every child should have the opportunity to experience the environment. The 25 acre site provides residential education to children of all ages with accommodation for up to 60 children plus a Tipi village housing over 40. During a week long residence

children from the inner city schools discover a completely different world, experiencing new sights, smells and sounds and enjoying the freedom to splash in muddy puddles whilst learning new skills and most importantly developing their confidence. Being away from home, sharing dormitories and seeing the teachers in new surroundings helps to develop positive relationships.

The centre has up to five environmental education volunteers living on site for up to one year; usually arriving soon after competing degrees in a wide variety of subjects. The volunteers work with the children teaching them a range of environmental subjects such as sensory work, river study, conservation planning and also teamworking and leadership skills via problem solving courses and low rope and trim and trail courses along the way children learn survival skills such as how to light a fire, to cook popcorn and shelter building.

Because the centre is not wholly focussed on environmental education but on building life skills there are many duties which volunteers at other centres many not encounter, such as looking after the goats, pigs and chickens on site. To collect eggs and hold a chicken can be a magical wonder to a child who has only ever seen eggs in a box on a supermarket shelf or chicken on a plate. During their time at the Centre the children see and hear many things not normally experienced in the urban environment of their daily lives. By spending time at the centre with all the wonders of nature at their disposal the children learn life skills which may give them the confidence to tackle and cope with future experiences and challenges.

Quite simply spending time at the centre is a life changing experience for children, teachers and volunteers. Our volunteers who work here for a year tell us again and again the massive impact it had on their lives and how after their year with us how they come to cherish the place and harbour a desire to return to see how the Centre is developing.

Tess Malcolm, Head of Centre (Admin@thegordonbrowncentre.org.uk), 01256 762824



photo  
online

### South West:

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB BRISTOL E2E OUTDOOR TEAM VOLUNTARY OFFICER  
BE4 1/3/10 LOC BRISTOL  
PAY training FOR BTCV BRISTOL  
DES Working on an Entry to Employment project with young people aged 16 – 18 undertaking a 22 week programme of personal & skills development. Opportunity to gain experience in practical conservation & leading groups of young people. Position will involve supporting leading practical days & organising the programme. BUT Confident & outgoing with strong interest in the env & working with young people required for 2+ days a week. ASK Jon Atwood 07740899706 J.Attwood@btcv.org.uk

**Wildlife Information Volunteers** (1 - 6 months) - various work including an Information Centre, updating web & social network sites, research for a weekly radio show & help present on Radio Scilly, can combine with reserves work. IOS travel discount available & free bunk-bed accommodation. Contact julielove@ios-wildlifetrust.org.uk

**Enjoy a day out with us!** • Get some exercise in the fresh air • Meet new people • Help your local wildlife • Friendly atmosphere • No need to be super fit • Tools & instruction provided. Everyone welcome on these fun & friendly tasks. Teignbridge DC. See our events diary at [www.teignbridge.gov.uk/greenspacesevents](http://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/greenspacesevents)

**Wembury Marine Centre**, nr Plymouth needs volunteers to help during the busy season, April - Sept. We need help with marine education work eg helping with rockpool rambles during the week & at weekends, there is no minimum commitment & travel expenses can be paid. Contact Cat on 01752 862538 [info@wemburymarinecentre.org](mailto:info@wemburymarinecentre.org)

**Volunteers required at National Trust Lanhydrock** plant Nursery to include potting weeding & all nursery duties all days available. Friendly Picturesque environment. Contact Kenneth Harris, Cornwall 01208 78861

**The National Trust Lanhydrock Garden Cornwall** Volunteer guides required to lead garden tours & to answer general garden questions. Some knowledge of horticulture would be an advantage. Training given. Please contact Head Gardener – [tommy.teagle@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:tommy.teagle@nationaltrust.org.uk)

**Trees for Health – Volunteer Events**  
Wednesday 17 March - tree care & nursery work - Combe Royal, Kingsbridge, 10.30-3.30.  
Sunday 9 May - wild food harvesting & processing - help us gather & make wild food products, Follaton Arboretum, Totnes, 10-4. Contact details for both: Liz Turner 01803 867018, [info@treesforhealth.org](mailto:info@treesforhealth.org) [www.treesforhealth.org](http://www.treesforhealth.org)

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 LOC RSPB ARNE NATURE RESERVE  
BE4 Ongoing FOR RSPB  
JOB DES

**Natural Bloggers** We would like to set up a team of people that regularly go out into the Arne reserve & record the wildlife that they see, then transfer this information to the latest sightings on the RSPB website & to a new local site called 'Nature of Dorset'. Entering data onto our computer system could be home based. The role will give you the opportunity to share your love of nature with others, which in turn will attract more people to the reserves. It will also help keep our records up to date. Out on the reserve you can make some great new friends, ensuring a great visitor experience. So why not add a little extra to your regular walk & give nature a helping hand. BUT A reasonable knowledge of birds an advantage, although we could look at having a range of people with different specialities i.e. mammals, wild flowers, insects etc.

**Roving Reserve Guide** Being a friendly face representing the RSPB on the paths, beach & viewpoint & in the hides at Arne, helping visitors to identify wildlife from birds of prey to dragonflies; Dartford warblers to butterflies! Whatever your wildlife interest & if you enjoy talking to people this could be the role for you. The idea is to enhance the visitor experience through furthering their knowledge & interest. This in turn will encourage visitor return visits & hopefully membership. Binoculars & a radio to report sightings available for use, along with a rucksack containing information leaflets & ID books. BUT Some natural history / conservation knowledge desirable, but training given as well. Tact & diplomacy required. Both: Training & expenses given. Half day per week would be desirable. ASK Alexia Hollinshead, 01929 553360 [alexia.hollinshead@rspb.org.uk](mailto:alexia.hollinshead@rspb.org.uk)

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 LOC POOLE, DORSET  
BE4 Open FOR BTCV  
JOB PAY DES  
**Practical Conservation Projects Volunteer Officer** Free NVQ To help organise & lead midweek & other practical days. Gain experience in project management, leadership, client liaison & land management. Practical experience could incl coppicing, fencing, hedgelaying, coast path maintenance, along with habitat creation & repair. In return for your commitment of 2 or more days a week you will receive training in first aid & minibus MiDAS cert & able to access free NCFE conservation certs through the BTCV Institute. You will also be eligible to apply for free NVQ Level 2 in Env Conservation. BUT Ideally 21+ with full clean driving licence of over 2 year & access to own car. Enthusiasm & an interest in the env, although no formal quals required as training given.  
**Projects Support Volunteer Officer** Training Take a lead in co-ordinating vol tasks with landowners & vols throughout Dorset & producing vol task programmes. The post also involves collating vol information,

entering information onto databases & keeping track of finances. This post can either be practical with the inclusion of running practical vol tasks days or not. In return for a commitment of 1 or more days a week we are offering NCFE BTCV Institute Training in rel areas. BUT Organisational skills & a lot of enthusiasm. Both: Commitment of 6 or more months ideally. No accom available. ASK Kirsty Davis, 01202 632101 dorset@btcv.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-22/2 JOB VOLUNTARY ASSISTANT with AWT Ecological Consultancy  
 BE4 22/2/10 LOC BRISTOL  
 PAY Travel expenses FOR AVON WILDLIFE TRUST  
 DES Needed to help with office based projects as well as accompanying fieldworkers on wildlife surveys. There will be the opportunity to learn a lot about wildlife, habitats & conservation first-hand. Long-term basis 1-3 days a week on weekdays during office hours. BUT Computer-literate, good communication skills, hard-working & good sense of humour. ASK <http://www.avonwildlifetrust.org.uk/people/volunteer.htm#biodiversity> Contact Consultancy Manager with CV & some info about yourself: enquiries@awtecologicalconsultancy.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 FOR RSPB  
 BE4 Ongoing PAY Training & expenses  
 JOB LOC DES  
Publicity Officer Wareham or Home Based The RSPB has some fantastic stories to tell people, but we need your help to get our voice heard by more people. This can be through a variety of methods, local papers & radio stations, websites, mailings even TV if you fancy becoming a bit of a celeb! Do you fancy writing regular press releases about Dorset reserves or talking about our work on local radio or TV? Or coming up with an eye-catching advertising campaign. We want to encourage more people to visit our reserves & get in touch with the natural world & using media is a very effective way of getting our stories & messages across. Training courses are available. BUT Computerate with an eye for detail, some previous marketing experience desirable but not essential. Commitment of 1 day per week would be desirable.  
Speak Up For Nature Volunteer RSPB Arne Nature Reserve Community talks is a great way of telling stories to local people with a range of different interests. We are hoping to increase our talks programme so that we can meet more people. The aim of the talks is to encourage people to visit our fabulous reserves, learn more about the exciting work that RSPB does & inspire the audience to join RSPB. BUT Comfortable with public speaking & happy to use either Powerpoint presentations or slides. Training available. Commitment of half day per month, some evening work involved. ASK Emma Foulger, 01929 556651 emma.foulger@rspb.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB PASSIONATE PEOPLE FOR NATURE  
 BE4 Ongoing LOC VARIOUS EVENTS, SHOWS & RESERVES, DORSET  
 PAY Training & expenses FOR RSPB  
 DES Memberships are vital to enable the RSPB carry out its wildlife conservation work, safeguarding species & habitats in the UK & internationally. We need your help to enthuse & inspire others with amazing facts & stories about our wildlife conservation projects & encourage funds through membership to support this work. We are looking for passionate people to help us encourage new members at events, festivals & shows in the local area & also at our Dorset reserves. This is a great opportunity to help fund wildlife conservation, meet people from a wide variety of backgrounds & enhance your skills. It's also a great way of getting into the big shows for FREE! BUT Commitment of 1 day per week is desirable. ASK Lynne Burningham, 01305 773519 / 07826 919038 lynne.burningham@rspb.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB WILDLIFE WALK LEADER  
 BE4 Ongoing LOC RSPB ARNE NATURE RESERVE, DORSET  
 PAY Training, expenses given FOR RSPB  
 DES Taking people out on guided walks is a great way of inspiring them about all things wild & talking about the work of the RSPB. In return you get to learn more about the reserves & enjoy the great outdoors, plus you will be passing on your knowledge & skills to many people of different ages & backgrounds. BUT A good natural history knowledge & a desire to inspire others would be advantageous but training provided. 1-2 days per month would be desirable. ASK Alexia Hollinshead, 01929 553360 alexia.hollinshead@rspb.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 LOC ASHTON COURT ESTATE, BRISTOL  
 BE4 28/2/10 FOR BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL  
 Ashton Court Estate is the third busiest UK country park & the premier green space within the Bristol area with 900 acres of mixed habitats incl 2 operational deer parks, formal gardens & rose gardens, historic mansions & associated properties & a diverse recreation base & events programme.  
 JOB DES  
Volunteer Gardener / Grounds Operative To join the Gardens / Grounds Team of 5 on hort works, habitat management & estate work. BUT Some basic experience beneficial but considerable training opportunities exist.  
Volunteer Visitor Centre Assistant Support the visitor services & retail operations at the Visitor Centre. Considerable opportunities also exist to become involved in marketing, event management & office management. BUT Limited experience required.  
Volunteer Ranger To join the Rangers on habitat management, estate work, deer management & event management. Opportunities for project work & considerable responsibility. BUT Some basic experience beneficial but considerable training opportunities exist. All: Part & full time requests all considered. Must be motivated & enthusiastic. PAY Some expenses covered & training programmes provided. ASK Chat: 0117 9639174 07736 640955. CV & brief covering letter detailing the reasons why you wish to join us to Jerry Baker, Estate Manager, Ashton Court Estate, Long Ashton, Bristol BS41 9JN jerry.baker@bristol.gov.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB VOLUNTEERS On Bushcraft Camps For Children & Families  
 BE4 N / A LOC DARTMOOR, DEVON  
 PAY 0 FOR WILDWISE EVENTS

DES To support the practical aspects of running camps, incl food preparation, fire tending, water carrying & helping with the bushcraft activities. This is a very enjoyable opportunity to be part of a good team offering groups meaningful outdoor experiences in a beautiful woodland. BUT Open to anyone interested in working with groups in the outdoors, helping to support individuals connection to nature & wildlife. This is a great experience for anyone wanting to further a career in outdoor education or to help develop your own interest in the outdoors. ASK / chat: 01803 868269 info@wildwise.co.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 LOC FYNE COURT, SOMERSET  
BE4 ? FOR NATIONAL TRUST  
JOB DES / BUT

Fyne Court Volunteer Warden (Visitor Services) 1 day every month min (weekends in particular). Assist in implementing the Trust's twin objectives of the conservation of its properties & helping people to enjoy & understand them. Provide a warm welcome to visitors & provide information & inspiration by talking about the site, the work of the NT & the cside in general.

Fyne Court Volunteer Warden (Practical Conservation) 1 day every month min. Assist in the practical habitat & estate maintenance tasks that w carry out across the property. Habitat work incl scrub & bracken control, grassland management & woodland work. Estate management incl the repair & maintenance of footpaths, tracks & their associated cside furniture / infrastructure, litter clearance, upkeep of signs, hedges, fences & green spaces.

Fyne Court Volunteer Events Assistant To provide assistance to the staff & regular vols in the organisation, preparation, running & clearing up involved in putting on special events. You need a commitment to a few of the events happening throughout the year. Some evening & weekend work required. From family focused activities such as den building to art exhibitions, Fyne Court will be a busy place this year. BUT Good first impression, friendly & confident, must enjoy working with people. Experience of working with the public desirable. Willing to attend rel training.

Fyne Court Volunteer Catering Assistant Half a day a fortnight or more. To assist with the efficient running of the catering service at the tea room. All: PAY Out-of-pocket travel costs between home & volunteering location & other reasonable expenses. ASK Isabella Mullin, Isabella.mullin@nationaltrust.org.uk 01823 451587.

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB MEMBERSHIP MOGUL  
BE4 Ongoing LOC DEVON, CORNWALL & BRISTOL  
PAY Appropriate training & expenses re-imbursed where necessary FOR RSPB

DES We need your help to enthuse others about wildlife conservation & encourage support of our work by recruiting new members to the RSPB. You will help our staff to run recruitment & information stands at various events & venues across the county. BUT Friendly, enthusiastic & outgoing people who love a challenge. (Role will involve standing for long periods at events & shows, & being able to carry membership materials.) ASK Nikki Marks, 01392457194 nikki.marks@rspb.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB PRACTICAL NATURE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS  
BE4 N / A LOC DWT reserves in the BLACKDOWN HILLS AONB  
PAY 0 FOR DEVON WILDLIFE TRUST

DES Winter: mainly scrub management. Summer: mainly fence maintenance, bracken management, livestock checking. Habitat is predominantly springline mire. BUT Willing & able to work outdoors in wet sites. ASK Edric Hopkinson, Reserve Officer, ehopkinson@devonwildlifetrust.org For details of other voluntary opportunities & practical conservation tasks with DWT contact Dawn Lenn, dlenn@devonwildlifetrust.org www.devonwildlifetrust.org

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB VOLUNTEER CONSERVATION OFFICERS / S  
BE4 N / A LOC Various sites across DEVON & CORNWALL  
PAY Limited expenses & training\* FOR SOUTH WEST LAKES TRUST

DES To implement the Trust's conservation programme; deliver practical conservation tasks; assist in updating species lists & env inventories; organise work utilising a team of conservation vols & contractors; assist in drawing up future plans & projects for sites; take responsibility for H&S of self, colleagues, customers & contractors. Will involve working outside in all conditions. \*Basic protective clothing provided. Task based & equipment training as appropriate. BUT Some practical conservation experience, enthusiasm to work outdoors with likeminded people, ability to organise self & team of vols. Own transportation beneficial due to remoteness of some sites. ASK Chat: Neil Reeves, Conservation Officer, 01822 855700 nreeves@swlakestrust.org.uk Further info: www.swlakestrust.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB BREEDING BIRD SURVEYOR  
BE4 1/3/10 LOC RSPB EXE ESTUARY RESERVE, DEVON  
PAY Free accom, all out of pocket expenses, training in survey methodology FOR RSPB

DES Min 5 days / wk for 4 months, mid March 2010 to end of June. 3 separate reserve areas covering lowland wet grassland, arable farmland, large open water bodies & salt marsh. Nest finding & repeated predation surveying of breeding waders. Incl regular early morning surveys. When not surveying, depending on the season this could be up to 30% of time, assist in the provision / maintenance of estate infrastructure around the reserve. Assist in the monitoring of water levels & water abstraction. Patrol the reserve & report on farming activities & stock management. BUT Driving licence essential. Able to ID by call & song all common breeding birds. Physically fit & prepared to work outdoors in difficult conditions. Able to show initiative, keen to input own ideas & opinions. Some experience of practical conservation work or practically minded. ASK Chat / info: Antony Bellamy, Assistant Site Manager, 01392 824614. CV to antony.bellamy@rspb.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB PEOPLE ENGAGEMENT VOLUNTEERS  
BE4 ongoing LOC RSPB EXE ESTUARY RESERVE, DEVON  
PAY Training day + Exe Estuary 'all you need to know guide' FOR RSPB

DES To act as ambassadors for the nature reserve, chatting to people about the estuary landscape & the work of the RSPB. Opportunity to be the face of the RSPB & an essential part of a tea, which will rely heavily on vol support. There

will be a training day with an opportunity to meet staff & experienced vols. BUT A great 'people person', comfortable & happy chatting to people in a friendly & helpful manner. Able to inspire people about our work, & the history & natural history of the Exe Estuary. Available for half a day twice a month. Interest in conservation & env issues would be great, although not essential, as we would train you in everything you need to know beforehand. ASK [www.rspb.org.uk/volunteering/opportunities/index.asp](http://www.rspb.org.uk/volunteering/opportunities/index.asp)

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB WILDLIFE WALK LEADER  
 BE4 Ongoing LOC WEYMOUTH RESERVES  
 PAY Training & expenses given FOR RSPB  
 DES Taking people out on guided walks is a great way of inspiring them about all things wild & talking about the work of the RSPB. In return you get to learn more about the reserves & enjoy the great outdoors, plus you will be passing on your knowledge & skills to many people of different ages & backgrounds. This is a very fulfilling role, just imagine gathering a group of people together to listen for their first dawn chorus & enabling them to identify different species, or walking round a corner & seeing a secretive water vole feeding at the side of the river. BUT A good natural history knowledge & a desire to inspire others advantageous. ASK Luke Phillips, 01305 778313 [luke.Phillips@rspb.org.uk](mailto:luke.Phillips@rspb.org.uk)

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB VOLUNTARY MARINE ASSISTANT PLACEMENTS  
 BE4 1/3/10 LOC KIMMERIDGE, WAREHAM  
 PAY Travel expenses FOR DORSET WILDLIFE TRUST  
 DES 13 week between March & Sept 2010. To join the Living Seas team for our marine conservation, education & awareness programme. Involves: day-to-day running of the Fine Foundation Marine Centre & aquaria; engage & provide information to visitors; patrol the Purbeck Marine Wildlife Reserve & liaise with users; assist with school groups, public events & activities, shore based survey & monitoring programmes, marine projects & events along the wider Dorset coast, & with local publicity & advertising. Training given in: First Aid, H&S, Marine species ID, marine education & awareness; assisting with leading & delivering school talks & events. There are various dissertation opportunities. Funding available for 16-25S. BUT Availability to work weekends useful. Own transport essential. Subject to CRB Disclosure. ASK CV & covering letter to Emma Rance, Marine Officer, Dorset Wildlife Trust, Fine Foundation Marine Centre, Kimmeridge Bay, Purbeck Marine Wildlife Reserve, Wareham, Dorset BH20 5PF 01929 481044 [erance@dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:erance@dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk)

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB GUIDE IN HIDE  
 BE4 ongoing LOC RSPB RADIPOLE LAKE, WEYMOUTH  
 PAY Training & expenses given FOR RSPB  
 DES We want our visitors to really enjoy their day & this role is a key part of that experience. Being a friendly face representing the RSPB out on the viewpoints & in the hides at Radipole Lake, helping visitors to identify wildlife seen. Whatever your wildlife interest & if you enjoy talking to people this could be the role for you. The idea is to enhance the visitor experience through furthering their knowledge & interest. This in turn will encourage return visits & hopefully membership. BUT Some natural history / conservation knowledge is desirable, but training will be given as well. Tact & diplomacy required. ASK Luke Phillips, 01305 778313 [luke.phillips@rspb.org.uk](mailto:luke.phillips@rspb.org.uk)

REF VOL-DIRECT-5/4 JOB VOLUNTEER WARDEN  
 BE4 1/4/10 LOC BOTALLACK, ST JUST IN PENWITH, CORNWALL  
 PAY appropriate training\*, workwear FOR THE NATIONAL TRUST  
 DES Residential vol wishing to gain cside management experience. Be part of team undertaking practical management tasks, incl footpath & estate management, nature conservation, community work & other projects. Other opportunities incl env education, archaeological & wildlife survey, writing articles, photography & leading guided walks. \*incl certificated skills & 1st Aid. Post offers real responsibility & opportunities with wide range of high quality training courses & plenty of hands on experience. Ideal opportunity for someone with a rel qual planning a career in conservation, to get practical experience. Free shared accom & heating with out of pocket expenses paid. BUT 6+ months commitment, full year pref. Would suit a recent graduate. Rel degree /diploma & full driving licence. Enthusiasm & commitment essential. ASK CV & covering letter to [bob.robinson@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:bob.robinson@nationaltrust.org.uk) or Bob Robinson, The National Trust, The Counthouse, Botallack, St Just, Penzance, Cornwall TR19 7QQ

REF VOL-DIRECT-22/3 JOB VOLUNTEER WARDEN for the Large Blue Butterfly  
 BE4 19/3/10 IV 31/3/10 LOC COLLARD HILL, STREET, SOMERSET  
 PAY Accom, board & travel free FOR THE NATIONAL TRUST  
 DES 6 weeks, 31/5/10 to 9/7/10 The only open access site to see this rare butterfly & attracts hundreds of enthusiasts from across the country. Lead person to co-ordinate a team of vols delivering visitor management & biological recording during busy flight season. High profile role offers unique chance to work with some of the countries leading butterfly experts. Duties: ensure visits & enjoyable & that the butterfly is protected. Also conduct important research into butterflies population & distribution, as well as the visitor experience & summerising findings in an end of season report. BUT Enthusiastic, able communicator & can demonstrate experience of working with the public. Active interest in env conservation & able to demonstrate the benefits this post would bring to their work. Good knowledge of butterfly ecology strong advantage although training given prior to flight season. Physically fit & able to walk on steep slopes often in very warm conditions. ASK [Isabella Mullin, Isabella.mullin@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:Isabella.Mullin@nationaltrust.org.uk)

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB VOLUNTEER OFFICER  
 BE4 ongoing LOC BRISTOL  
 PAY 0 FOR BTCV  
 DES /BUT Becoming a Volunteer Officer with BTCV is not only fun & rewarding, but it also provides you with that all important experience to help towards getting paid work in the conservation industry. Training opportunities include First Aid at Work, MIDAS minibus, Residential Leadership & a whole host of practical conservation training days. ASK Claire Dinsdale [c.dinsdale@btcv.org.uk](mailto:c.dinsdale@btcv.org.uk) 07739 447995

REF VOL-DIRECT-8/3 JOB VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT WARDEN  
 BE4 8/3/10 LOC BROWNSEA ISLAND  
 PAY 0, but free accomm\* FOR DORSET WILDLIFE TRUST  
 DES From 8th March - 31st Oct 2010. Assist the Wardens on Brownsea in daily maintenance of the nature reserve. Public liaison, possibly guided tours. Practical habitat maintenance. BUT Pref: Physically fit, ability to work outdoors in all weathers, able to work with people of all ages and abilities, good communication skills, cside skills an advantage. \*Nb: This is a 'live-in' post - applicant is expected to provide reasonable evening/ weekend cover. Must have: Driving licence Must be over 18. ASK Chat: 01202 709445 brownsea@dorsetwildlife.co.uk The Villa, Brownsea Island, Poole Harbour, Dorset BH13 7EE to apply & arrange interview

REF VOL-DIRECT-1/3 JOB Heathland Management Practical Conservation Volunteer  
 BE4 ? LOC DORSET  
 PAY 0 FOR RSPB  
 DES Opportunity to help with practical habitat management, get/stay fit & become part of a small team. Learn about various types of habitat management & build skills & experience. Excellent chance to make a generous contribution to wildlife conservation on some of the most beautiful sites in Dorset. Gain valuable insight into the workings of Europe's largest conservation charity. BUT Enthusiasm & an interest in conservation essential. No specialist skills required though chainsaw licence would be a bonus & desire to work outside essential. Need an up to date tetanus injection & to enjoy working as part of a team. Survey skills desirable. ASK Sarah Alsbury 01929 556651 sarah.alsbury@rspb.org.uk

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB FUNDRAISING RESEARCH ASSISTANT  
 BE4 ongoing LOC HOME BASED (Devon, Cornwall, Dorset)  
 PAY appropriate training provided & expenses FOR RSPB  
 DES Help us fundraise in the South West. Help research new methods of community fundraising such as walks for wildlife, challenge events, themed days, quizzes etc. Also research new external events for us to attend across the region from Cornwall to Bristol. BUT Good IT skills, especially ability to use Excel spreadsheets & the internet. Must be organised & able to keep accurate records of the research undertaken. ASK Nikki Marks 01392 457194 nikki.marks@rspb.org.uk

## Something Different? Volunteer at a Zoo

Living Coasts is a Coastal Zoo situated in Torquay Devon, with a range of fascinating coastal creatures, birds, penguins and fur seals.

Alex is one of many volunteers at Paignton Zoo and Living Coasts.

After being out of work due to health issues, I was stuck with ways to get back into work, especially as my previous employment had been based in a very London-centric industry. I took a visit to Paignton Zoo with the family and picked up a leaflet on volunteering. After getting in touch with the Zoo, I was taken on at Living Coasts, a part of the same charity as the Zoo, but with a focus on coastal wildlife. Luckily, my background fitted in to a couple of areas where I could support the staff and make a contribution.

What I've gained over the last year or so is not only a huge boost to my confidence and employability, but knowing that I'm helping support a charity with clear, positive goals. That's one aspect of volunteering that I've really enjoyed; it's mutually beneficial to you and the organisation. One of the highlights has been getting involved in month long event called 'Sea Fest', which ran all through September. We focussed on the ways in which the sea affects our lives from the food we eat to the impact we make upon it, and the way it's shaped our past and future.

So for me, it's not only been about getting back into work, it's been about supporting an organisation that is making a positive difference to the world, but I get to work with some great people in a great location to boot! Jane has been a Keeper Volunteer at Living Coasts for three years.

I'm mostly involved with the penguins which are "free range" they can leave the enclosures and waddle among the visitors. Therefore we have staff called Penguin Patrollers. The volunteers cover their breaks, talk to the visitors, and run a Touch Trolley displaying feathers and eggs. Penguins can be very inquisitive, we keep an eye on them to make sure people don't try to stroke them. A positive relationship between penguins and visitors is important.

I also help the keepers with feeding this involves chopping up fish for species such as the inca terns and guillemots although many animals, like the penguins, take their fish whole. The penguins have four feeds a day, the fish trough is cleaned before each of these so, that's the first of my duties, I also help with keeping the enclosure clean and tidy.

To find out more about volunteering contact Stephanie Robey, Volunteer Co-ordinator on [stephanie.robey@paigntonzoo.org.uk](mailto:stephanie.robey@paigntonzoo.org.uk)



photo online



### International:

REF VOL-DIRECT-OK8 JOB CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER IN AFRICA  
 BE4 Available all year LOC SOUTH AFRICA  
 PAY All training carried out onsite FOR SHUMBA EXPERIENCE  
 DES We have a wide variety of conservation projects, where you'll live & vol on game reserves. Time will be spent working alongside rangers monitoring wildlife, learning bush survival skills or even gaining hands-on veterinary experience. Projects range from 2 to 12 weeks & costs start at £895. If you're looking for excitement, want to make a difference or yearning for adventure then come & join our conservation projects in South Africa. BUT Someone who likes wildlife & wants to get involved in conservation work. A passionate & committed individual looking for an exciting adventure. ASK Chat: 0845 257 3205 Apply: [www.shumbaexperience.co.uk](http://www.shumbaexperience.co.uk)

**Volunteers needed for major long-term monitoring programmes** (rocky shore, phytoplankton & zooplankton, terrestrial plant), at a privately funded Marine Station on Sherkin Island off SW coast of Ireland. Full board & a little pocket money. Period from April to October. Email Sherkin Island Marine Station at [sherkinmarine@eircom.net](mailto:sherkinmarine@eircom.net) Web: [www.sherkinmarine.ie](http://www.sherkinmarine.ie)

**Bees Abroad Volunteer Welcome Day 21 March 2010** Stoneleigh Park. Bees Abroad work in a hands-on way with a variety of projects in developing countries. Help to set up businesses, market honey & train beekeepers. Raising funds for projects. Find out more about the organisation & how you can help. Veronica Brown [info@beesabroad.org.uk](mailto:info@beesabroad.org.uk) 0117 230 0231 before 14/3/10

**Conservation Volunteers Australia** has programs Australia-wide, every week of the year! Join us for tree planting, wildlife recovery, walking tracks, weed control, seed collection etc. Coastal areas, deserts, National Parks, World Heritage areas - we go to the best places! [www.conservationvolunteers.com.au](http://www.conservationvolunteers.com.au) or email [bookings@conservationvolunteers.com.au](mailto:bookings@conservationvolunteers.com.au)

REF	VOL-DIRECT-27/12	JOB	ORGANIC FARM VOLUNTEER
BE4	31/12/10	LOC	COSTA RICA
PAY	0	FOR	GLOBAL VISION INTERNATIONAL (GVI)
DES	A once in a lifetime opportunity, vols will work in the fields helping to harvest the organic herbs & produce, help take care of the animals & be immersed in the practices of bio-dynamic farming. Vols will be immersed in the local customs, culture & the env, working alongside local community members on the farm & interacting with the local flora & fauna, & perhaps even learn a little Spanish along the way. Full training through presentations & handouts given incl in-country information, H&S, project aims & objectives & farming techniques. BUT Reasonable level of fitness to walk from accom to project site, & undertake physical labour in a hot or wet env. Enthusiastic, presentable & happy to work hard. No formal farming or construction background required as each vol will be supported by the Program Manager, farm workers & organic & sustainability specialists. ASK <a href="http://www.gvi.co.uk">www.gvi.co.uk</a>		
REF	VOL-DIRECT-27/12	LOC	VARIOUS
BE4	31/12/10	FOR	GLOBAL VISION INTERNATIONAL
JOB	DES		
	<u>Jaguar Conservation Program in Costa Rica</u>	Conduct surveys with a GVI Patrol Leader along the tropical beach & forest of Tortuguero National Park to set up remote camera traps to help identify individual jaguars & their prey species, as well as searching for & identifying signs, such as tracks. One of the biggest threats to jaguar populations is a lack of accredited information & human pressures on their habitats & prey species. Work from our jaguar studies has been recognised at a top level worldwide. Opportunities at weekends for rainforest tours, canopy tours, visiting idyllic beaches & white water rafting. College credit may be available. BUT See below*	
	<u>Sea Turtle Conservation Project in Costa Rica</u>	This vol programme takes you to the heart of Tortuguero National Park & gives you the opportunity to become an active member of the GVI's conservation team. You will be conducting night-time patrols along the tropical beach, looking for nesting turtles, & counting tracks. If you find a turtle you may assist the experienced GVI patrol Leader by helping to measure it, count the eggs being laid, look for previous tags & distinctive markings & record the data. You may be lucky enough to see and record the juvenile turtles emerging from the nest & record data on hatchling success, poaching & mortality rates. *Both above posts: Vols receive hands-on training on all aspects of the research. The data goes to national & international networks, is presented at international conferences, & used in species & area management. BUT No previous experience required. Willing to learn, over 18, physically fit, able to swim (300m fully clothed), enthusiastic, hardworking & sociable; good sense of humour!	
	<u>Conservation on Australia's Great Barrier Reef</u>	Queensland, based on Brampton Island, part of the WhitSundays & home to the world famous Great Barrier Reef. Sail by catamaran from Mackay to Brampton Island where you will set up camp on a tropical beach for 2 weeks. Part of a small team of vols assisting the Natural Resource Managers return Brampton Island National Park to its natural state. The majority of the work incl eradicating invasive vegetation, collecting & analysing marine debris & conducting surveys & health checks on the coral reef. In your free time you will have the opportunity to snorkel the reef, explore the island & enjoy the local wildlife. The conservation work has a direct & lasting impact on the island's plants & animals. BUT No special training or quals required as you will receive training in the field.	
	<u>Great White Shark Conservation Program in South Africa</u>	Located in Mossel Bay, at the start of the world famous Garden Route. Assisting a renowned research team, gain theoretical & practical training & attend classes to learn about Great White Sharks & their behaviour. Gain first hand experience of some of the most exciting White Shark research projects; surveys of wounded & entangled seals on Seal Island & shore & boat-based observations of seal / shark interactions, manual acoustic tracking of white sharks, tagging & genetic sampling of white sharks, photo ID, recording & entering behavioural data. BUT Pref given to: students enrolled in academic institutes & studying towards a science major; graduated scientists with a min of a BSc (or equiv) with a scientific major; exceptional naturalists who can shoe a 'real world' dedication to research, management or conservation of animals or ecosystems.	
	<u>Volunteer on Conservation Projects in Queensland, Australia</u>	Townsville, Northern Queensland. Opportunity to work alongside Australia's leading practical conservation org to make a real difference to the env through practical conservation projects. Projects range from protecting & enhancing the natural areas found along the Great Barrier Reef Coastline to protecting the unique vegetation found in & around the tropical rain forests & waterways, the habitat for the widely diverse wildlife found in this area. Experience to see a unique part of the Australian env rarely seen by the average visitor. Vols will be shown how to use all tools & equipment safely before they start the project & there will always be a local Team Leader with first aid training on site with the team. Any essential safety equipment provided & vols shown how to use it. ASK <a href="http://www.gvi.co.uk">www.gvi.co.uk</a>	

## Has the 'Credit Crunch' affected volunteering?

Here at CJS over the past year we've noticed a change in the number and type of vacancy being advertised. However, we only see the adverts and not the enquiries generated so we asked a few of the bigger organisations with volunteering programmes if they had seen any difference. Most said that they have seen an increase in enquiries from people wanting to volunteer and a subsequent rise in volunteer numbers; RSPB saw a 13% increase in volunteer numbers between January '09 and '10. The National Trust for Scotland reported that at the beginning of the recession they received a few enquiries from people recently made redundant but that this trend did not appear to continue in 2009. A couple of people in this situation did start to volunteer but it was interesting that within 2-3 weeks they secured full time paid work. Violet Dalton, Head of Volunteering at the Trust believes that volunteering helps to change job seekers attitudes making them more positive and a more appealing prospect to potential employers. Violet noted that last year NTS has seen an increase in European volunteers and she speculates that the weak pound may, in part, make Scotland more appealing.

Reasons for volunteering don't seem to have changed with the change in personnel. A spokesman for BTCV commented that people are using volunteering to improve their skills sets and their CV thereby their employability. Volunteers are pleased to be learning new skills outside of their usual sphere.

Alan Murray, Head of Volunteering at RSPB told us they have seen various effects of the 'Crunch'. Perhaps the one with most direct effect on the charity is an increase in the numbers of volunteers claiming expenses. Previously people often waived their right to expenses seeing it as a donation to the work of the Society; understandably, participants are now watching the pennies more carefully and feel the need of the expenses offered. It would also appear that people prefer to volunteer closer to home and seem less willing to go off the beaten track to the more remote areas especially when they learn that travel to the site is not part of the expenses package. Alan also reported an increase in enquiries most particularly from those looking for short term placements. Where previously volunteers sought a new challenge and to gain different experience participants are now preferring to use their existing skills to keep these up to date with the aim of a swift return to paid work. However, he noted that over the past year people with a wider range of skills than previously witnessed are enquiring about volunteering. But the rapid turn over of these types of volunteers returning to paid work brings its own issues for RSPB. It's a challenge to identify these short term opportunities that will meet both the RSPB's needs and those of the potential volunteers.

The Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambridgeshire, Northants and Peterborough has also seen a marked increase in the calibre of volunteers. Sue Jenkins, Volunteers Co-ordinator at the Trust is unsure if this is because people have been made redundant or that in these straightened times they feel the need to 'put something back'. Chloe Cooke, the Volunteering Administrator at the National Trust also noticed the change in volunteers reporting an increase in enquiries especially from graduates and that more people appear to be volunteering when out of work to keep active, informed and to keep their skills and CV up to date. Centrally the Trust saw an increase in enquiries from 214 in January '08 increasing to 250 in January '09 but like NTS numbers once again seem to be tailing off with a slight decrease in November / December '09 in comparison with the same period in '08.

Maybe these are first green shoots of recovery! Let's hope so, but one thing is for sure; with fewer paid posts available and an increase in the number of applicants it is more important than ever to make your application the one to stand out and volunteering still looks excellent on your CV demonstrating your commitment and highlighting the skills you already have, have learnt and developed.



CJS

<b>Key:</b>	REF CJS reference no. (job number – source – delete date)	JOB	Title
BE4	Application closing date IV = Interview date	LOC	Location
PAY	£ range - usually per annum (but check starting point)	FOR	Employer
DES	Description of Job BUT Person Spec / Requirements	ASK	More details from / How to apply
<b>CJS Suggestions:</b> Please check the BUT section to ensure that you have all of the required qualifications / experience before you apply. Contact ONLY the person, number or address given & if an SAE is required double check you use the correct stamps.			
arb = arboriculture	asst = assist/ant	p/t = part-time	computerate = computer literate
cside = countryside	cert = certificate	env = environment	equiv = equivalent
esp = especially	incl = include	rel = relevant	org = organization
qual = qualification	IV = interview	pref = preferably	c = circa
hort = horticulture	temp = temporary	SAE = stamped self-addressed envelope (NB check postage!)	
ol = volunteer	wb = week beginning	2+years' = 2 or more years	? = no info/unclear
[yes] = yes that is what it says			
These are the main abbreviations used in CJS Weekly. The glossary on the website has these abbreviations and lots more			

PLEASE REMEMBER to DOUBLE CHECK the BE4 (closing date) of the vacancies. And please contact only the person, telephone number, email address given.

Also, please mention CJS when applying.

This CJS Focus was published 8/2/10.

The CJS team would like to thank everyone who has contributed adverts, articles and information for this CJS Focus publication. Next edition will feature Farming & the Environment, published 24/5/10.