The importance of volunteering with the National Trust

The National Trust is supported by over 60,000 volunteers who gift their time, energy and skills in many different ways. From toad patrollers to trainers, room guides to rangers, our volunteering roles benefit both the individual and the organisation, and they all have one thing in common – an effective volunteer manager. The way that we involve, support and manage volunteers directly impacts on their ability to support and champion our cause.

It’s vital therefore that we are constantly investing in the development of our volunteer managers – usually paid staff, although sometimes this role is carried out by volunteers as well. 40% (approximately 4,500) of our staff manage volunteers, usually as part of a wider role. Part of our investment in this area was the ‘Volunteer Management Traineeship Project’, which tested the merits of a structured, accredited, training programme for volunteer managers. Between 2013 and 2017, with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund’s ‘Skills for the Future’ Programme, we hosted 17 full time, paid trainees in volunteer management.

An entry level programme, trainees spent 18 months at a variety of National Trust places around the country, including historic properties like Tyntesfield and outdoor places like the White Cliffs of Dover. Each trainee followed an ILM level 3 qualification in the Management of Volunteers. We learnt a huge amount about volunteer management through this programme which is useful for the sector as a whole. This is what we found:

Dedicated volunteer managers have a positive impact

The project gathered data about the impact of having a dedicated volunteer management role within the team, rather than as an add-on or as part of a wider role. As you might expect, paid staff were in support: “Having someone dedicated to volunteer management at a property made a huge difference to what we were able to achieve, and really improved communications between staff”.

What was perhaps more surprising (given the often-held assumption that volunteers don’t want or need to be ‘managed’) was that 67% of volunteers at the places with a trainee felt that the role improved their volunteering experience. 589 volunteers, across 16 places, took part in the survey.
Furthermore, performance indicators at participating places demonstrated the value of a dedicated volunteer management role, with key drivers such as leadership, engagement, communication and staff confidence in managing volunteers all increasing over the lifetime of the project.

**On-the-job experience is more important than accreditation**

The project tested the value of accredited training for volunteer managers. All 17 trainees successfully completed their qualification; however it was the framework for the training that provided the biggest benefit, rather than the accreditation itself. Combining regular classroom training days, one day a week for paid study, a cohort learning pathway and on-the-job experience proved a winning formula for the trainees, all of whom moved on to related employment.

**Leadership matters**

We selected host places based on their support for the traineeship to it to be a success. Where this leadership remained consistently in support of the importance of volunteer management, trainees and volunteers rated their experience as more positive. As the manager at one participating site put it: "the role of the leader can make or break the success of the volunteer culture, and of the way volunteering is seen". It’s crucial that those in leadership roles have support and training to enable them to understand the volunteering culture of the organisation, and empower their teams to make great volunteering happen. Including volunteer management in the induction for leaders is key, and volunteer managers on site can play an important role in communicating this aspect to new leaders.

**Support networks are beneficial**

The trainees were well supported, with a line manager, a local buddy to provide pastoral care and advice, and a mentor. Volunteer management is often hugely fulfilling, enjoyable and rewarding, but, like any role, can have its ups and downs. Encouraging support networks can provide much needed advice, especially when a volunteer manager might be the only person in that role within a team. The network was hugely valuable to the trainees, but also provided development for the mentor, and is certainly a transferable model to other discipline areas. Within this project, 38% of the mentors were external to the National Trust, offering valuable alternative perspectives and providing links into other organisations for the trainees.

**Investing time in recruitment pays dividends**

Spending time planning a recruitment strategy is time well spent, especially if you are looking to appeal to staff and volunteers from under-represented groups. The project aimed to ensure recruitment was inclusive, suitable for entry level roles, and reflected the local population. The recruitment window was long at 6 weeks, and we worked with and through partners to ensure we reached a large number of people. Getting the images and wording right on the advert was key – 50% of applicants were attracted by the ‘no experience necessary’ angle and representative imagery ensured that 61% of applicants were from either BAME backgrounds or within the 16-25 age range. The application and selection process used creative methods too, to encourage a wide range of people to apply - not just those with academic talents. Applicants could submit a short film or visual presentation alongside their written statement, and selection days were designed around group activities.

To find out more about the project and to download resources, including role profiles, recruitment tips, training plans, mentoring guides and more, go to [https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/documents/resource-pack.pdf](https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/documents/resource-pack.pdf)

Volunteers pull ragwort at Trevose Head, Trevose, North Cornwall © NT Images

Volunteers at a summer school, Birmingham Back to Backs © NT Images
Scotland:

Butterfly Conservation Scotland’s 'Bog Squad' runs regular bog restoration sessions with volunteers on peatland sites throughout central Scotland. Tasks usually include installing dams, clearing scrub and conducting peat depth surveys. More information is available on our blog http://bogssquad.weebly.com/ Get in touch with David Hill at peatproject@btconnect.com or on 01786 459813

Saturday March 12th, 11am- 2pm. Beach clean at Ceinn an Ora. For more detail please contact ranger@north-harris.org or 01859 502222

Friends of Eglinton – Every second Wednesdays and Saturday 9:30am – 12:30pm. Eglinton Country Park. Come along, meet new people, get active and feel great. Wear suitable clothing for the weather and sturdy footwear. Tools and training provided. Contact North Ayrshire Ranger Service on 01294 551776 or email joannejohnstone@north-ayrshire.gov.uk for further information.

Saturday 24th February. Hushinish beach clean. 11am-2pm. Contact ranger@north-harris.org, 01859 502222

Castaway to Carna Working Holidays take place on the stunning Island of Carna in Loch Sunart, NW Scotland. You'll be taking part in our ‘Wilderculture Carna’ ecological restoration project, learning about holistic management and testing some innovative regeneration techniques. It’ll be a fun, physical immersion in nature. 015394 37794 for details.

There are great Green Exercise programmes at University Hospital Ayr & Ailsa (UHA & A) as part of the NHS Greenspace for Health project. These are a Green Gym (every Wednesday 10am – 1pm), a 5 Ways Well Green Gym (every Friday 10am – 1pm) Email: d.meechan@tcv.org.uk NHS Office No: 01292 885946 TCV Mobile No: 07773 200525

We run regular upland path conservation days to help protect our mountains in both National Parks in Scotland. Volunteers can discover new places, meet people, learn new skills and also improve your health and wellbeing. No previous skills or experience required. For more information visit http://themountainsandthepeople.org.uk or contact volunteering@themountainsandthepeople.org.uk.

The charity Scottish Badgers is looking for volunteers to assist with their ‘Badgers in the Landscape’ project in South Lanarkshire. Flexible volunteering opportunities available on badger surveys, sett monitoring sessions and trail camera expeditions. Free training provided. To join their adventures, contact Elaine Rainey via projectofficer@scottishbadgers.org.uk or call 07565 813401.

Would you like to find out more about volunteering for nature and the environment in the spectacular Cairngorms National Park? Visit www.cairngorms.co.uk/volunteers for the latest opportunities with a range of groups and organisations, learn more about becoming a Cairngorms National Park Volunteer Ranger and sign up to our mailing list.

CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER - NORTH EAST

Any full day Monday to Thursday. We are looking for volunteers to work with our Reserves Project Officer based at Dundee to undertake a varied range of outdoor practical tasks on our nature reserves such as grassland, woodland & peat bog management. Travel from Dundee to the work sites & back is provided. You should be interested in the environment & carrying out physical work outdoors sometimes in poor weather. Willing to work as part of a team. Contact Peter Gilbert pgilbert@scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk for details

CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER

Any day Monday to Thursday. You are free to choose your commitment but if you volunteer, you must be available for a full day. A varied range of outdoor practical tasks on our nature reserves such as grassland, woodland & peat bog management. Travel from Grangemouth to the work sites & back is provided. You should be interested in the environment & interested in carrying out physical work outdoors sometimes in poor weather. Willing to work as part of a team. Information from pgilbert@scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk
ISLE OF MAY VOLUNTEER RANGER

April-August. Scottish Natural Heritage are looking for volunteers to assist us with three areas of work on the island: visitor management; meeting and providing information to our daily visitors and help run events and manage the visitor centre, toilets and path network. Species monitoring; ringing, monitoring and population counts especially of ground nesting birds including Arctic Terns, Eiders and large Gulls. Practical maintenance of the reserve incl habitat management and basic maintenance tasks and anything else which crops up on the island! To apply please complete an Expression of Interest form that can be found here http://c-jd.co.uk/1Tuagx5 and return it, with your CV to David Steel, david.steel@snh.gov.uk or to SNH 46 Crossgate, Cupar, Fife, KY15 5HS

RESIDENTIAL VOLUNTEER - PEOPLE ENGAGEMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

This is an exciting opportunity to help us engage with a wide range of people and raise awareness of the global importance of the peatlands of Caithness and Sutherland, an area known as The Flow Country. You will work primarily with our Learning Development and Communities Officers to build upon our existing work and increase our reach across this large area. This includes developing learning sessions for primary and secondary schools, preparing and delivering events for local youth groups, organising and supporting a programme of community events across the Flow Country, contributing to our marketing and communications work and exploring the opportunities to promote the Flow Country to a wider audience. Regular working hours, alongside staff. Please request further information by contacting our Learning Development Officer, Sjoerd Tel: 07912 774587 or sjoerd.tel@rspb.org.uk

COMMUNITY GARDENING AND MAINTENANCE

Options of different roles. One off clearing space at a dementia friendly garden, being part of a community garden, other gardens in need of volunteers, Mentoring in the outdoors with others in community gardens. *Training in pruning, growing vegetables with others in the community, working in groups, expenses for bus fares paid. Contact Karin on 07824 838364 or at karinchipaulina@carrgomm.org

LAPWING VOLUNTEER

Time: 5 days per week from start April to end of June. We're after a volunteer to help with monitoring of breeding lapwing. The main role will involve working alongside the warden team to find nests, monitor chicks and assess productivity. The volunteer will also monitor predator activity and contribute to wider monitoring on the other 2 Tayside Reserves - Loch of Kinnordy and the Tay Reedbeds. Call or email Vicky Turnbull, Tayside Reserves Warden for further details or to apply. 01577 862355 or vicky.turnbull@rspb.org.uk

VOLUNTEER CITIZEN SCIENTIST

Time: 7-14 days depending on survey selected. Volunteers join our team on board to work alongside the HWDT crew as marine mammal field biologists. Full training in visual and acoustic data collection is provided by the excellent crew on board during these live-aboard monitoring expeditions. Find our full survey list here: https://hwdt.org/silurian-timetable

CONSERVATION / COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

Objectives of the volunteer role: volunteers on Eigg work amidst the fresh sea air, live, eat and work with like-minded people, learn about conservation management through practical work and direct observation, have an insight into island life and contributing enormously to the islands infrastructure. Personal attributes/qualification required: Enthusiastic caring folk with a love for the outdoors. Work well as part of a team, at times volunteers will be without supervision so it is essential that you are self-motivated and can work independently. A reasonable level of fitness is required due to the physical nature of the tasks and our remote location. You are also required to walk to and from work sites daily that are usually 3 to 4miles from the volunteer house. No previous experience is necessary. You must be 18yrs or over to apply. Places are available between April to September. Applications will only be considered for a minimum period of two weeks. 5 days a week with weekends off. Approx. 6hrs/day. Please look at www.volunteeroneigg.co.uk for full details on volunteering on the Isle of Eigg. You will also find our application form of which you must complete and return to volunteer@isleofeigg.net.
CJS Focus on Volunteering www.countryside-jobs.com

REF 359-FOCUS-OK8 JOB MARINE BIOLOGY VOLUNTEER
BE4 N/A LOC ST ABBS
PAY Travel expenses from reasonable distance, training FOR ST ABBS MARINE STATION

We are looking for medium term volunteers available for 1-3 months, minimum 3 days a week, hours between 9am – 5pm. St Abbs Marine Station is currently accepting applications for volunteers to work in our research aquarium & laboratory for our busy spring & summer periods. We are seeking individuals who are interested in gaining or adding to existing practical experience of working in a marine research facility. Primary duties will be animal husbandry & general aquarium maintenance & upkeep. There will also be opportunities to aid & develop research projects, work in invertebrate larval rearing, carry out fieldwork, sample collection & analysis, & help with public outreach activities.

Training will be provided as necessary. Please send your CV (2 page maximum) & a short covering letter describing why you are interested in this position, & how it will help you meet your long-term goals to hello@marinestation.co.uk

REF 360-FOCUS-16/3 JOB MARINE RANGER x 2
BE4 16/3/18 IV end March LOC EYMOUTH
PAY Accommodation, travel & skills development FOR St Abbs & Eyemouth VMR Management Committee

4 – 6 months. This is an excellent opportunity for applicants to gain interdisciplinary & transdisciplinary experience while working with a unique marine conservation charity. The St Abbs & Eyemouth Voluntary Marine Reserve (or VMR, established in 1984) encompasses 10.3km² of some of the most diverse & stunning marine environment along the East Berwickshire coast, supporting a variety of commercial & recreational interests. The Marine Rangers will be the public / visible arm of the VMR. Activities will include raising awareness of the marine environment & the organisation through education & interpretation, public events (particularly along the shore), questionnaires, community engagement & liaison with stakeholders & user groups, social media campaigns, as well as some more traditional scientific research activities. The Marine Rangers will be an integral part of the VMR team ensuring delivery on projects that have successfully secured funding for 2018. This post is full time, flexible hours & some weekend working. Application packs & more information available from Sarah Russell, berwickshirecoast@gmail.com 0781 8227307

www.facebook.com/berwickshirecoast

REF 361-FOCUS-OK8 JOB VOLUNTEERING ROLES
BE4 N/A LOC MILLPORT FIELD CENTRE, ISLE OF CUMBRAE, SCOTLAND
PAY 0 FOR FIELD STUDIES COUNCIL

FSC is an environmental education charity providing informative & enjoyable opportunities for people of all ages & abilities to discover, explore & understand the environment. FSC is an independent charity receiving no core revenue funding from statutory sources & we therefore rely on fees paid by our visitors & on the generosity of donors, trust funds & grant bodies to finance our activities. Ideally we are looking for someone to welcome people to the aquarium & museum at weekends 10am – 4pm, who would be willing to do stock takes, keep shop clean, take small payments, greet anyone coming in. If willing or keen we are looking for someone to do guided tours of the museum & aquarium too. If you feel that you meet the skills we are looking for, then we want to hear from you. To find out more please email Alex MacFie, Centre Manager, alex.sco@field-studies-council.org

REF 362-FOCUS-16/3 JOB VOLUNTEER ASSISTANT RANGER
BE4 14/3/18 IV wb 26/3/18 LOC MULL AND IONA RANGER SERVICE, WEST SCOTLAND
PAY Accommodation, travel & training FOR National Trust for Scotland & Mull & Iona Community Trust

3 months full time. The role involves assisting with varied tasks over a number of island sites, including wildlife survey work, delivery of education projects and public events programme, providing information to visitors, practical maintenance tasks. Enthusiasm for wildlife and the great outdoors. Some knowledge / experience in the relevant field. Flexibility, good communication skills, ability to work under own initiative, and a desire to learn essential. You will need to be willing and able to work outside or inside in all weathers, including some lone working in rugged coastal terrain. Some weekend/evening hours will be required. Contact Emily Wilkins, ewilkins@nts.org.uk 01681 700659, 07717 581405, for more details and an application form (no CVs please).

REF 363-FOCUSR-2/3 JOB Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels - Volunteer Spring Squirrel Surveyor
BE4 1/3/18 LOC AYRSHIRE, DUMFRIES & GALLOWAY, SCOTTISH BORDERS
PAY Training and mentoring will be provided FOR SCOTTISH WILDLIFE TRUST

Throughout March and April each year the Saving Scotland’s Red Squirrels project engages in a massive survey of red and grey squirrels across all the regions where we work. the survey areas available would suit people based near the following towns - Barrhill, Balkissock, Colmonell, Girvan, St. John’s Town of Dalry, Crossmichael, New Galloway, Castle Douglas, Dumfries, Moffat, Craigieburn, Coldstream, Eyemouth, Ayton, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Foulde, Chirnside and Allanton. Tasks will include siting and placing squirrel feeder boxes and hair traps, monitoring the feeders three times each during the survey period, data entry and record keeping, sending hair traps by post to local project staff. Good level of fitness required, and ability to travel by car or bike to some of the more remote locations. Survey materials and full training with on-going support from local project staff. Some travel expenses will be reimbursed at a rate of 35p per mile agreed in advance with your volunteer line manager. Time Commitment: Three survey days over March and April. Please contact squirrels@scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk to register interest.

REF 364-FOCUS-23/2 JOB VISITOR EXPERIENCE VOLUNTEER INTERN
BE4 21/2/18 IV wb 26/2/18 LOC RSPB LOCH GARTEN OSPREY CENTRE, ABERNETHY NNR
PAY Accommodation FOR RSPB SCOTLAND

Six months starting mid-March. Experience every aspect of an RSPB Visitor Experience Officer’s role, as part of a dedicated & passionate team at the world-famous Osprey Centre, Abernethy NNR, delivering top quality visitor experience & 1st class customer care. On-going professional development & appropriate training. A mentor to monitor your progress & help with personal / professional development. Experience of working with & supervising other volunteers, both residential & day. Access to RSPB internal vacancies. Membership Recruitment, 1st Aid, Safeguarding, Working with Volunteers, public affairs, opportunity to gain research or conservation experience on Abernethy reserve.
Corporate Social Responsibility, perspectives from Keep Wales Tidy

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is a phrase passed around by businesses and other organisations and is taken to many different levels. Importantly, well organised CSR is very good for the image of the company and the wellbeing of staff who take part.

For Keep Wales Tidy, one of Wales’ leading environmental charities, CSR is an opportunity to make significant positive changes to local communities and the environment across Wales. Sometimes an area needs a big piece of work doing before a community group can take over responsibility, sometimes there is no community group nearby and a piece of work needs the help of many hands primarily for the benefit of the environment. Often CSR activities help employees to understand first-hand how things such as microplastics, flytipping, or invasive species impact on the environment and people’s lives. Importantly, it encourages people to come outside and be the difference.

There are hardly any examples of the hundreds of CSR volunteers we have organised events for not enjoying what they have done. Contrariwise, there are many examples of business volunteers saying that they weren’t looking forward to it, but then really enjoyed it and found it valuable. Most end up recycling more and think about what they buy. The hope is that by volunteering with us, we can help to motivate, enthuse and educate staff around environmental issues while developing their own team(s) within their workplace.

We have had staff who have gone on to join community groups outside of work and some who have signed up as Keep Wales Tidy Litter Champions. Businesses see what we do and often ask us for help to look at their own waste including plastics, waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) and paper shredding, all of which Keep Wales Tidy can help them to deliver. These relationships are mutually beneficial and help our charity to gain crucial non grant-funded income. Frequently, Keep Wales Tidy uses support from CSR days to complete contract or smaller grant funded projects without the need for heavy machinery. This has proven to be very useful in very sensitive or inaccessible areas.

Health and wellbeing is taken so seriously and the positive effects of doing something beneficial for local communities or the environment on their wellbeing cannot be understated. Volunteering a day with us can burn a thousand calories more than if the member of staff was sitting in their office in front of a computer. These all help to reduce stress which is one of the biggest issues in the modern workplace. Something funny normally happens during a day and this is fondly remembered by staff who take part. Staff learn new things about their colleagues which they may never have known outside of the work environment. Problem solving, communication and leadership skills also come out on CSR days with us.

Replacing a rustic bench using storm damaged trees (Keep Wales Tidy)

Helping to do a beach clean (Keep Wales Tidy)
Helping to build gabions on a nature reserve
(Keep Wales Tidy)

experienced staff have to keep an eye on everyone and they work very hard to make sure that everyone is having fun while also working hard to complete the task. There is always a fantastic buzz at the end of a CSR day and it is very rewarding for our staff too knowing that they have played their part in making it end this way.

For more information about CSR opportunities with Keep Wales Tidy, contact Chris Partridge on chris.partridge@keepwalestdy.cymru.

Wales:

REF 365-FOCUSR-OK8  JOB WOODLAND & COUNTRYSIDE SKILLS PARTICIPANT
BE4 Ongoing
LOC MID & WEST WALES
PAY Travel expenses / training
FOR TIR COED
3 days / week. The purpose of this role is to assist our uplands ranger team with maintenance work and activities on woodland, build simple structures, identify species & more. Accredited training in a range of skills for persons who are unemployed, under-employed, disabled etc. Supportive environment. Free woodland skills training while volunteering with the charity Tir Coed. All levels welcome incl people with disabilities or long term health problems; some minimum criteria (age, benefit status) are in place for some opportunities due to funding restrictions. Must live in / near to Ceredigion, Powys, Pembrokeshire. Details on the website at www.tircoed.org.uk

REF 366-FOCUS-2/3  JOB UPLANDS RANGER (FULL TIME VOLUNTEER)
BE4 5/3/18 LOC Brecon Beacons, National Trust base at Dan y Gyrn, Blaenglyn Farm
PAY Accommodation / expenses
FOR NATIONAL TRUST
3 or 4 days a week. The purpose of this role is to assist our uplands ranger team with maintenance work and activities across our sites in the Brecon Beacons and Monmouthshire, in particular our footpath repair work and family events, whilst helping to preserve these special places for future generations. As and when appropriate spending time at our information point at Pont ar Daf in the Brecon Beacons, engaging with our visitors and providing them with information on the area and the National Trust. There may also be other tasks, projects or activities required throughout the duration of this role. For further details contact Lead Ranger Robert Reith, 01874 625515 / 07771 980123 or robert.reith@nationaltrust.org.uk. Apply: http://c-js.co.uk/2ofWOUU

REF 367-FOCUSR-OK8  JOB VOLUNTEERS
BE4 N/A LOC KNIGHTON, POWYS
PAY Training & out of pocket expenses
FOR KNIGHTON TREE ALLOTMENTS TRUST
One day per week, alternating Thursdays & Sundays, 9.15am to approx 2.30pm. We are a group of volunteers who come together to share & learn woodland skills & use them for the benefit of wildlife & our members. We aim to manage woodland sustainably & to allow our members access to affordable woodland products – such as firewood & timber. We need help with hands-on woodland management (such as tree planting & firewood processing), regular flora & fauna surveys & admin tasks. Volunteers choose how much of the day to stay for & work at their own pace. KTAT provides all the tools & training needed. Where funding allows, formal training to industry recognised qualifications. Enthusiasm & willingness to get involved in our activities. A certain level of fitness is required for physical work in our woodlands, but we have a very wide variety of roles. We welcome those with plenty of experience & those with none, but one area we would appreciate help with is flora & fauna surveys. Find out more on http://c-js.co.uk/2kmTxLP or woodland@tveg.org.uk 01547 520374 or 520929.

REF 368-FOCUS-30/3  JOB ORGANIC GROWING ASSISTANT
BE4 31/3/18 LOC PRIMROSE ORGANIC FARM, VELINDRE, HAY ON WYE
PAY Full board plus £50 a week expenses
FOR PRIMROSE ORGANIC FARM
Primrose Organic Farm is a market garden supplying organic fruit and veg to local people. Anticipated time commitment required. 35 hours per week. Assisting in growing harvesting and delivering fruit and veg to the Hay-on-Wye Market and local pubs and restaurants. Please e-mail primroseorganicfarm@gmail.com or ring 01497 847636.
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**Keep Wales Tidy run working** parties throughout the year & tasks include litter picking, habitat management, footpath works, woodland management, CoastsCare & many more. Anyone who would like to volunteer should contact KWT on 029 20256767 or info@keepwalestidy.cymru

**Actif Woods Gwynedd** are currently seeking volunteers to help with health and wellbeing activities in woodlands in Gwynedd. Volunteers should enjoy spending time outdoors, be happy to meet and greet participants and assist leaders in a variety of woodland activities. There will also be opportunities for training. Contact Melissa for further details on actifwoodsgwynedd@smallwoods.org.uk

**Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust** is the leading wildlife conservation charity in the county. Volunteers are vital to every aspect of our work, which includes regular nature reserve work parties, wildlife surveys, engaging with members of the public and much more. Visit www.montwt.co.uk find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter. To find out more about volunteering with MWT email: vols@montwt.co.uk

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**REF 369-FOCUSR-OK8 JOB PEMBROKESHIRE COAST NATIONAL PARK ACTIVITY VOLUNTEER**

**REF 370-FOCUS-9/3 JOB COMMUNITY COASTODIAN**

**REF 371-FOCUS-9/3 JOB FULL TIME CAMPSITE SUPERVISOR – GUPTON FARM**

**REF 372-FOCUS-9/3 JOB VOLUNTEER RANGER**

**REF 373-FOCUS-9/3 JOB NATURE CONSERVATION ASSISTANT**
CJS Focus on Volunteering www.countryside-jobs.com
fit & healthy; UK driver with full driving licence, own transport useful. If you are available 5 days a week for 6 months you’ll get a good introduction to the role, but if you are here for 12 months you will gain the fullest range of skills, knowledge & experience. Please contact Tracy Whistance, 01646 823110 stackpole.volunteers@nationaltrust.org.uk

REF 374-FOCUS-OK8 JOB GREEN ACADEMIES PROJECT / PROSIECT ACADEMIAU GWYRDD
BE4 N / A LOC ERDDIG, WREXHAM, LL13 0YT
PAY 0 FOR NATIONAL TRUST ERDDIG

“We are champions of youth work and nature is our tool.” GAP is part of Our Bright Future, a £33m programme funded by the Big Lottery Fund. Website: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/green-academies-project-2
Facebook: www.facebook.com/ErddigNT Twitter: @ErddigNT Mobile: 07484 503674 Email: stephanie.fletcher@nationaltrust.org.uk

Northern Ireland:

REF 375-FOCUS-OK8 JOB RANGER (LONG TERM VOLUNTEER)
BE4 N / A LOC CROM ESTATE, CO FERMANAGH, NORTHERN IRELAND
PAY Shared accommodation is provided* FOR NATIONAL TRUST

Min 25 hours per week. What’s involved? Assist in the management of Crom Estate, working on a wide range of practical conservation skills; practical conservation techniques from seasonal habitat work such as scrub clearance to maintaining fences, gates and other access points; monitoring work including compilation of fauna surveys and botanical quadrats/transects; invasive species control; environmental education and interpretation work including website articles and press releases; maintaining good working relationships with tenants, farmers, neighbours, other voluntary organisations, local communities and local authorities; welcoming and liaising with visitors by providing information and guidance, which may include public speaking and guided walks; undertaking such other appropriate practical and administrative tasks as may be reasonably requested; occasional weekend working; becoming familiar with and then following the National Trust’s Health and Safety Policy at all times; you will be required to support Florence Court and Castle Coole ranger teams in a variety of works - primarily with events. We will cover agreed cost, these will be discussed and clarified at interview. * Heat (oil central heating), wood burning stove and electricity costs are all covered. Contact Colin Beacom on tel 07818017160 or email colin.beacom@nationaltrust.org.uk or visit website www.nationaltrust.org.uk/crom/

Farmland Bird Surveyor - East County Down. A chance to assist the RSPB with high priority work. Good opportunity to improve bird identification skills, increase knowledge of farmland bird ecology and learn more about farming. Four early morning surveys April - June on pre designated farms. Contact: Colin Graham 02890 491547, colin.graham@rspb.org.uk

Residential Volunteering Scheme - Portmore Lough, Aghalee, Craigavon. Short Term (two weeks) and long term (up to 6 months). Develop your skills in: Habitat & Estate Management, Practical Conservation work, Survey & Monitoring, Visitor Engagement. Accommodation is a three bedroomed cottage adjacent to the Reserve. Contact: Colin Graham 02890 491547, colin.graham@rspb.org.uk

Residential Volunteering Scheme - Rathlin West Light Seabird Centre. Short term (2 weeks minimum) opportunities available for 2018 summer season. Mid March - Mid September. Experience the sights and sounds of the seabird colony and help us give all our 20,000 visitors a memorable visit by being one of our Visitor Experience Assistants. Contact: Colin Graham 02890 491547, colin.graham@rspb.org.uk

Wildlife Trust Trainee scheme proves valuable to the future careers of biological recorders & biodiversity alike.

Author: Julia Simons, Biodiverse Society Project Officer, Lancashire Wildlife Trust

There are 12 new and enthusiastic naturalists in the North West following an ambitious three-year biological recording project.

Trainees Molly and Tony survey Sandwich Terns on the Sefton Coast © Cheryl Knott

The Biodiverse Society project succeeded in updating knowledge of Local Wildlife Site (LWS) systems through engagement of volunteers, local naturalist groups & provision of wildlife survey training. The provision of year-long traineeships for 12 participants were integral to the delivery of the 3 year project, whilst also being a key outcome and expanding the scope of work that could be achieved.

The traineeship built on previous successful trainee schemes such as the Marine & Coastal Heritage Scheme (2014-17) that addressed ‘growing skills shortage and a lack of ‘work ready’ individuals for the UK environmental sector (LANTRA 2010)’.

The Biodiverse Society traineeships provided successful
applicants experience in wildlife surveying, including phase 1 habitat surveys & protected species
experience, knowledge of legislation at the local & regional level and awareness of the planning process.
2016 trainee, Catrin Watkin said ‘we’ve learnt so much about the workings of a conservation charity and the
importance of all our volunteers. The skills and experience we have gained throughout the year will be
incredibly valuable for our future in the conservation sector.’

It was important that the traineeships be open to all, not just recent graduates or those in the 16 - 25
category. As a result of this, we were able to recruit 3 individuals who were keen to make a career change
that didn’t fall into either the graduate or 16-25 category.

The main role of the trainees over the 3
cohorts, was to carry out condition
assessments on LWS across
Lancashire & North Merseyside whilst
also creating biological records and
phase 1 habitat maps. The standard
that was expected of them was very
high & an intensive 4 week induction
ensured that each cohort bonded and
supported each other through their
learning. Personal development plans
made sure that the individual needs of
each trainee was addressed to meet
their short-term goals and long-term
career aspirations.

A generous training budget supported
their continuous learning throughout the
year, with trainees attending numerous
internal & external training courses.

These included courses that would be directly applied to the role such as FSC and MMU Day courses in
botany, Great Crested Newt Surveying and GIS. Some courses were attended for personal development
such as assertiveness training, whilst others to further their career prospects gaining licences in pesticides,
brush cutter & chainsaw. Each gained an Outdoor First Aid certificate lasting 3 years. Trainees were able to
gain experience in local, regional and national conservation training opportunities, including strategic and
landscape scale wildlife conservation discussions. In 2016 two trainees were able to attend the RSWT (The
Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts) national conference as ‘future young leaders’. The conference was part of
the living landscapes initiative to explore wildlife in post-brexit reconstruction.

Throughout the year with the project, numerous networking opportunities provided occasions for learning
from local naturalists, and partnership working with the Local Environmental Record Centres & Museums.
These proved to be mutually beneficial as local naturalists were able to pass on their knowledge to the next
generation of recorders, and Local Environmental Record Centres and Museums gained exposure to the
wider recording community, enabling better use of their resources & collections to assist in data collection &
harvesting.

2017 Trainee Johnny Pescod,
said: ‘This year has really been
a fantastic opportunity for me,
both to build up my skills in
species ID and working with
volunteers, and to meet
interesting and knowledgeable
people from all over the North-
West. Whether walking the
green beach at Ainsdale with Dr
Phil Smith, or learning about
plant natural history with Hilary
Bedford, I’ve learned a lot from
a lot of different people.’

The success of the traineeship
can be seen in the eight
trainees that secured further employment or voluntary field work within 3 months of completing the
traineeship, taking up various positions with Natural England, Lancashire Wildlife Trust, ecology firms and
outdoor education companies. 3 of the most recent trainees are currently looking for positions within the ecology sector.

Achievements for wildlife as a direct result of the work of the trainees are reflected in the 162 Local Wildlife Site condition assessment reports with management recommendations that were delivered to landowners. Over 40,000 biological records were produced for use at Local Environmental Record Centres to inform local and strategic conservation planning. This information has already been used to update the LWS citations, inform decision making on planning applications, extension of Local Wildlife Site boundaries & cited features and contributed to the Lancashire and Cheshire Fauna Society vertebrate Atlas on the distribution of all vertebrate species in North Merseyside and Lancashire. Community Awareness of the importance of Local Wildlife Sites & their associated wildlife was increased. In addition, trainees were able to survey sites to gather fauna and flora records, with a view to extending existing LWS and enabling the proposal of new LWS, gathering information from these sites to assist decision making in coming years.

The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester & North Merseyside are continually building on these experiences to apply to future trainee schemes. The Carbon Landscape, our latest landscape scale project produced by the Great Manchester Wetland Partnership, is recruiting a number of short and long term work placements over 5 years. Long term placements will include restoration and connectivity of the landscape, empowering local groups and communities and improving access to the landscape and short term placements will assist the project and research. The advantage of these placements is that successful applicants will get to network with all 12 partners, including Natural England & City of Trees. The next long term placements will be advertised in May 2018 and will be found at http://carbonlandscape.org.uk, where you can also keep up to date with the current trainees via their blog or their Facebook page @CarbonLandscapeTrainees.

We also regularly recruit placements for the rest of the organisation including within our Education team. All paid traineeships & voluntary positions are advertised through our website http://www.lancswt.org.uk/jobs For more information on the Biodiverse Society Project and its outcomes, please visit http://www.lancswt.org.uk/biodiversity-society-project or contact Project Manager Joanne Brierley-Moore jmoore@lancswt.org.uk . For information on traineeships & volunteering at the Lancashire Wildlife Trust please contact our Volunteer Co-ordinator Catherine Haddon chaddon@lancswt.org.uk both can be reached through 01772 324129.

2015 trainees presented with certificates by LWT Chair Steve Garland © Brian Jones

North East:

REF 376-FOCUSR-3/8
JOB PRACTICAL CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER
BE4 2/8/18
LOC HOLLYBUSH CONSERVATION CENTRE, KIRKSTALL, LEEDS
PAY Expenses up to £4 per day
FOR THE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS
1-3 days per week. Gain well-rounded experience in many practical skills. Our team of project staff & fully trained volunteers – Hollyvols – work locally to enhance the natural environment. People from all backgrounds regularly participate & the work ranges from footpath construction, planting trees & dry stone walling in local green spaces & the countryside to building wildlife gardens, growing areas & outdoor classrooms in schools. Volunteers can expect training in the use of many different hand tools & conservation techniques, a lively, sociable team to be part of & some amazing outdoor places to visit & enhance. Hollyvols runs Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday each week, 9.15am to 4pm. Boots, waterproofs, tea / coffee & biscuits are provided. Contact Col Powell or Michael Bird, The Conservation Volunteers, Hollybush Conservation Centre, Broad Lane, Kirkstall, Leeds LS5 3BP 0113 274 2335 c.powell@tcv.org.uk or m.bird@tcv.org.uk
Every second Sunday and fourth Thursday The Friends of Armley & Gotts Park Practical Group
Armley or Gotts Park, Leeds, West Yorkshire organised by Leeds City Council Parks and Countryside Wade's Ranger.
Contact: 07712 215638 claire.rogers@leeds.gov.uk http://www.facebook.com/leedsparks
Do you want to make a difference to Armley and Gotts Park? Do you enjoy the outdoors, being active and learning new skills, then why not join us?! 10 - 12pm to carry out vital conservation work in both parks. All are very welcome, no experience required.

The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) - Help enhance and protect green spaces in and around York & North Yorkshire. Join in and make a difference. You'll learn new skills, make friends. Practical tasks run every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday. We offer free transport, full supervision, tools and equipment provided. Please contact TCV - York (01904) 414927 or email: york@tcv.org.uk Facebook: www.facebook.com/TCVYork

Would you like to spend time in the outdoors; learn to grow organic vegetables & meet great people? We need volunteers to help us maintain our allotments for schools and community groups. Thursday 10am-1.30pm. Grimesthorpe Allotments Sheffield, S4 8LE. For more information contact Jenny on volunteering@greencityaction.org.uk or leave a message on 0114 2440353.

Discover beautiful woodlands, learn how to manage woodland habitats or even how to make charcoal. Join our weekly tasks every Monday and Thursday and help protect our natural heritage for future generations. No experience necessary, wear outdoor clothes and bring a packed lunch. Peter Downes 07484 093411 pdownes@durhamwt.co.uk

Join the Ranger team on the Cragside Estate managing nearly 40 miles of footpaths, 4 lakes, 6 miles of historic carriage drives, meadows, grasslands and great facilities such as the Adventure Play Area. The work can be physically demanding at times but is extremely rewarding and satisfying. Contact 01669 622026 or leigh.philp@nationaltrust.org.uk.

The Friends of York Cemetery Task Day Group meet on the first Saturday of every month. Meet outside the Gatehouse at 10am work until 2pm with a break for lunch. Tools, gloves, refreshments supplied. The work involves bramble and nettle bashing, weeding and planting out. Contact Clive Dawson. 01904 610578 yorkcemeteryvolunteers@gmail.com

Seal Watch volunteer, Ravenscar near Scarborough. 4 hours, one day per week. Engage with visitors about Ravenscar’s colony of up to 300 grey seals and how to behave around them, plus monitor and count seals. Training given. Outdoorsy; reasonably fit to walk up the cliff; keen to work with people and wildlife? Contact yorkshirecoast@nationaltrust.org.uk 01723 870423.

Whether you prefer to be a Volunteer Ranger patrolling the Park, an Archaeology Volunteer helping conserve iconic structures from the Industrial Age or a Visitor Centre Assistant co-leading educational family activities; we’re sure that we have a volunteering opportunity just for you. Please see our website for more details http://c-js.co.uk/2nn1rNj

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REF 377-FOCUSR-OK8 JOB LAND OF OAK & IRON EVENTS VOLUNTEER
BE4 Ongoing LOC DERWENT VALLEY, NE ENGLAND
PAY Training FOR Land of Oak & Iron (through Groundwork NE & Cumbria)
Approx. 1 day / month. Provide support to the Land of Oak & Iron staff team & partner orgs in organising & helping on the day at a range of events to promote Land of Oak & Iron & opportunities for local people to take part. Tasks may incl event planning & publicity, setting up on the day, running activities & talking to members of the public. Individuals need no prior experience, just enthusiasm & passion for the area. Find out more from Kath Marshall-Ivens kath.marshall-ivens@groundwork.org.uk 01207 524883 / 07966 330028

REF 378-FOCUSR-OK8 JOB VOLUNTEER ECOLOGICAL RECORDS ASSISTANT
BE4 ? LOC MORLEY, LS27 7JQ
PAY Expenses / training FOR WEST YORKSHIRE ECOLOGY SERVICE
Min 1 day per week for several months. WYES is the Local Ecological Records Centre for West Yorkshire. The objective of this post is to research protected/notable species & habitat data & input this data from a variety of sources into the WYES databases. Records are input into Excel & then imported into Recorder 6, an ecological recording package. These are then exported to a Mapinfo GIS system so that they can be viewed spatially. This will provide exposure to professional ecological survey reports, use of Recorder 6 & GIS packages & rel work exp. Records need to be entered accurately at the highest spatial resolution possible following WYES data structures. Keen interest in a career in ecology or similar discipline & be computer literate in the use of Microsoft Excel. The position would be ideal for under graduates or recent graduates looking for rel work exp. If you would like to be considered please email a CV to Robert Masheder robert.masheder@wyjs.org.uk

REF 379-FOCUSR-OK8 JOB VOLUNTEER GARDENER
BE4 Ongoing LOC VALLEY GARDENS, HARROGATE
PAY 0 FOR FRIENDS OF VALLEY GARDENS HARROGATE
Weekly or fortnightly mornings. Volunteer gardener to help our professional gardeners to maintain the award-winning park. Volunteers also required to show visitors the restored Old Magnesia Well Pump Room once or twice a month. Further information email Jane Blayney, Chair, Friends of Valley Gardens jane.blayney23@gmail.com
Volunteering

**Butterfly Habitat Improvement Officer**

**JOB:** BUTTERFLY HABITAT IMPROVEMENT OFFICER  
**REF:** 380-FOCUS-27/7  
**BE4** N/A  
**PAY:** Reduced cost accommodation  
**LOC:** TEES VALLEY  
**FSC:** TEES VALLEY WILDLIFE TRUST  
**HOURS:** 3 months. This is part of the Wings of the Tees Project, there is an interesting butterfly project that would be suitable for a current second year student to start considering to undertake for their final year dissertation. We would like to look at improving habitat for the Grayling and Dark Green Fritillary. Both these species are struggling within the Tees Valley area. The idea of the project would be to do a feasibility study into the best areas within the River Tees Rediscovered Project area (areas immediately adjacent to the River Tees from the South and North Gares up to Croft on Tees). The Wings of the Tees project has funds to be able to pay for plug plants of the caterpillar food species. Groups of volunteers would be available to help with preparing the ground for habitat management and improvement and to assist with planting of the plug plants. The project would involve collating and looking at data of past surveys (which are very limited) and undertaking further surveys for evidence of these species currently. Vegetation surveys would be required to establish if the area is suitable to be managed for the butterfly species in question. Advice from a highly experienced botanist can be provided to assist with the project.  
**EMAIL:** lworking@riverholmeconnections.org  
**CONTACT:** Emily Taylor 01287 636382.

**Inspiring People Voluntary Trainee**

**JOB:** INSPIRING PEOPLE VOLUNTAIRY TRAINEE  
**REF:** 381-FOCUS-2/3  
**BE4** 28/2/18 (5pm)  
**PAY:** Travel & training*  
**LOC:** STIRLEY COMMUNITY FARM NEAR HUDDERSFIELD  
**FSC:** YORKSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST  
**HOURS:** 3 days per week for 12 months. A few miles from Huddersfield Stirley Community Farm shows how agriculture and conservation can go hand in hand. We have a herd of holistically reared shorthorn beef cattle, wildflower meadows and a brilliant community vegetable garden. We welcome school groups and the public to join in with activities that showcase local produce, promote conservation farming and inspire them to connect with nature. This voluntary role is for 12 months, 3 days per week. You will gain experience and skills in a wide range of people engagement and education tasks including marketing, event programme development and educational delivery. A keen interest in outdoor learning and inspiring children and young people about the natural world is essential as are excellent communication skills. The most important thing however is a willingness and desire to learn. *Travel expenses, competitive training budget, internal training and development all included. Full details (including application forms) can be found on our website at: http://www.ywt.org.uk/voluntary-trainee-vacancies. Applications should be sent to volunteering@ywt.org.uk.

**Lead Volunteer Standedge Visitor Centre**

**JOB:** LEAD VOLUNTEER STANDEdge VISIToR CeNtRe  
**REF:** 382-FOCUSR-OK8  
**BE4** N/A  
**PAY:** Travel  
**LOC:** MARSDEN, WEST YORKSHIRE  
**FSC:** CANAL & RIVER TRUST  
**HOURS:** 0  
**FSC:** NORTHERMANDE WILDLIFE TRUST  
**HOURS:** We are looking for a Leader for our volunteers at Standedge Tunnel Visitor Centre, undertaking tasks like outside garden and maintenance work, and indoor DIY/maintenance. You'll work alongside staff and volunteers to plan, deliver, and celebrate volunteering at this fascinating and inspiring site at Marsden, West Yorkshire. This is a responsible role with a lot to offer the right person, so if it sounds just what you've been looking for, we'd love to talk to you about it. Find out more at http://rc-js.co.uk/2E45McU.

**Practical Conservation Volunteers**

**JOB:** PRACTICAL CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS  
**REF:** 383-FOCUSR-9/3  
**BE4** N/A  
**PAY:** Training  
**LOC:** NORTHERMANDE WILDLIFE TRUST  
**FSC:** NORTHERMANDE WILDLIFE TRUST  
**HOURS:** We are looking for volunteers to help with restoration work, such as tree planting to restore one of the wildest landscapes in England for the ‘Kielderhead Wildwood’ project. The project is to establish low density, native upland woodland, on 100 ha of open land along Scap Burn at Kielderhead. As one of the remotest places in England in partnership with the Forestry Commission & funded by HLF. Tree planting begins in March 2018 (dates to be confirmed). No experience is necessary, all training will be given. So if you want to be part of this exciting project please visit www.nwt.org.uk/volunteer or contact Lou Chapman, Volunteer Co-ordinator, louise.chapman@northwtt.org.uk.

**Volunteer Ranger**

**JOB:** VOLUNTEER RANGER  
**REF:** 384-FOCUSR-29/6  
**BE4** 27/6/18  
**PAY:** Travel & equipment  
**LOC:** HARDCASTLE CRAGS  
**FSC:** NATIONAL TRUST  
**HOURS:** Rangers love the countryside and being out in the fresh air, so they know what our outdoor visitors need. They’re great at taking care of the wildlife and stunning landscapes of Hardcastle Crags, for ever, for everyone. By getting involved you could be: helping the ranger team with practical work to keep the countryside in great condition including learning many skills, dry stone walling, scything hay meadows, improving our ancient woodland, footpath maintenance, construction tasks, invasive species removal, timber extraction and general estate repairs; act as information assistants for the National Trust, communicating with the public whilst onsite, maintaining exceptional standards of customer service as part of delivering the visitor experience; maintenance of vehicle and cleaning tools; maintaining a clean and tidy workshop, container and yard; adhering to the National Trusts health and safety procedures; making each visitor feel welcome, helping people understand why we need to take care of special places and thinking about the needs of all visitors; letting staff know of any issues with fences, footpaths etc.; maintaining good relationships with people who share the land. We provide equipment to help you do this role well and safely. We’ll also cover agreed costs of your travel between home and Hardcastle Crags. Contact: Emily Taylor 01535 607075 emily.taylor@nationaltrust.org.uk.

**River Steward Lead Volunteer**

**JOB:** RIVER STEWARD LEAD VOLUNTEER  
**REF:** 385-FOCUSR-9/3  
**BE4** N/A  
**PAY:** Training  
**LOC:** HOLMFIRTH  
**FSC:** RIVER HOLME CONNECTIONS  
**HOURS:** We are a charity with ambitious plans to improve the whole catchment of the River Holme. We are looking for someone to help raise funds for the area, volunteer with us on work party days, be part of a ‘friends of group’ for the river side trail, bring ideas to phase two of the project, support art & access improvement projects & attend 4 steering group ‘catch ups’ per year. This requires ongoing involvement, year round, & half a day per month for fundraising. You need knowledge of wildlife, access & practical working. Please contact Elizabeth Dudley, Volunteer Engagement Officer, 01484 925529 volunteering@riverholmeconnections.org.
If you are looking for experience to land you a job in the environment sector or you would like to get stuck in to a committed practical volunteering opportunity which will support an environmental charity, becoming a Voluntary Officer might be for you! You will receive training in lots of aspects of conservation work, including practical skills, leadership skills, first aid, risk assessment & health & safety, & even minibus driving if you’re eligible. You will have real responsibility over the planning & execution of practical volunteer tasks, & be an integral member of our team. We ask in return that you commit ideally for 3, 4 or 5 days a week for at least 6 months. For more information contact TCV on 01904 414927 or york@tcv.org.uk

Are you a whizz with a spreadsheet and nosey about what’s going on around you? The Volunteering Development Team are looking for volunteers to help us learn about Yorkshire and connect more people with nature in 2018. Volunteering at our Potteric Carr office you’ll develop posters and recruitment campaigns to send out for specific volunteer roles. It might be getting more gardeners for our farm site near Huddersfield or finding inspiring people to lead events in communities around Doncaster. Whatever the role you’ll take charge from start to finish for each project, dealing with enquiries and application forms until the role is filled. Commitment: 2-7 hours per week. We’re looking for people with good computer literacy and an eye for detail. Applicants should be interested in researching local communities and have a drive to connect people with nature. * Travel expenses are available and all volunteers have access to our volunteer training programme. For more information please email volunteering@ywt.org.uk

Are you a whizz with a spreadsheet and nosey about what’s going on around you? The Volunteering Development Team are looking for volunteers to help us learn about Yorkshire and connect more people with nature in 2018. Volunteering at our Potteric Carr office you’ll develop posters and recruitment campaigns to send out for specific volunteer roles. It might be getting more gardeners for our farm site near Huddersfield or finding inspiring people to lead events in communities around Doncaster. Whatever the role you’ll take charge from start to finish for each project, dealing with enquiries and application forms until the role is filled. Commitment: 2-7 hours per week. We’re looking for people with good computer literacy and an eye for detail. Applicants should be interested in researching local communities and have a drive to connect people with nature. * Travel expenses are available and all volunteers have access to our volunteer training programme. For more information please email volunteering@ywt.org.uk

We are a charity with ambitious plans to improve the whole catchment of the River Holme. We are looking for enthusiastic individuals who are passionate about our aims to bring people to their local rivers, to improve the appearance & natural habitats of the river corridor & learn about our natural & industrial heritage in fun & engaging ways. The Crown bottom car park in Holmfirth is one of the only places to access the river but it has become run down. Our exciting new project aims to have better access to the river, to see more wildlife; better plant, tree & environment management. So we are looking for a small team of volunteers to maintain our new development through land maintenance & habitat management. The maintenance volunteers will need to be self-motivated & willing to work under their own steam. Approximately 2 hours per fortnight – a day of your choosing. We supply hand tools. Please contact Elizabeth Dudley, Volunteer Engagement Officer, 01484 925529 volunteering@riverholmefarmconnections.org

Are you a whizz with a spreadsheet and nosey about what’s going on around you? The Volunteering Development Team are looking for volunteers to help us learn about Yorkshire and connect more people with nature in 2018. Volunteering at our Potteric Carr office you’ll develop posters and recruitment campaigns to send out for specific volunteer roles. It might be getting more gardeners for our farm site near Huddersfield or finding inspiring people to lead events in communities around Doncaster. Whatever the role you’ll take charge from start to finish for each project, dealing with enquiries and application forms until the role is filled. Commitment: 2-7 hours per week. We’re looking for people with good computer literacy and an eye for detail. Applicants should be interested in researching local communities and have a drive to connect people with nature. * Travel expenses are available and all volunteers have access to our volunteer training programme. For more information please email volunteering@ywt.org.uk

3 days per week for 12 months. A few miles from Huddersfield Stirley Community Farm shows how agriculture and conservation can go hand in hand. We have a herd of holistically reared shorthorn beef cattle, wildflower meadows and a brilliant community vegetable garden. We welcome school groups and the public to join in with activities that showcase local produce, promote conservation farming and inspire them to connect with nature. This voluntary role is for 12 months, 3 days per week. You will gain experience and skills in a wide range of land management and livestock tasks including office based admin as well as fencing, calving, hay making and dry stone walling. A keen interest in conservation farming is essential as is a willingness to get stuck into tasks in all weathers. Driving licence is essential but most other skills can be learnt in role. If you’re looking for experience of conservation farming this is for you! *Travel expenses, competitive training budget, internal training and development all included. Full details (including application forms) can be found on our website at: www.ywt.org.uk/voluntary-trainee-vacancies Application should be emailed to volunteering@ywt.org.uk

As a Wildlife Ambassador you would be assisting our Wildlife Supporter Officers by talking to visitors at our sites and going to events with them, or you could fly solo and attend events local to you. You will be helping to spread the word in your ambassadorial role by raising awareness of the Trust and telling our stories that will inspire people to take action for wildlife. We’d like to hear from you if; you enjoy being part of a team of passionate individuals, enjoy talking to people
about the importance of nature conservation, would like telling our stories and be able to actively encourage people to join up should the moment arise. The role will be based from York for training and your staff contact, however we want volunteers based across Yorkshire. All enquiries to volunteering@ywt.org.uk or 01904 659570

REF 392-FOCUS-OK8 \ JOB \ BUTTERFLY SURVEYORS
BE4 Ongoing \ LOC \ NORTH YORKSHIRE
PAY Training \ FOR \ YORKSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

Spending time outdoors is good for our wellbeing and getting some exercise is good for our health. Luckily we have the perfect opportunity for you if you enjoy being outside and walking around beautiful nature reserves. So what’s catch, well we’d like you to count butterflies while you’re there. We have some fantastic species on our sites from delicate Marbled Whites, to diminutive Duke of Burgundy and not leaving out the spectacular Peacock butterfly. We need Butterfly Surveyors at many of our nature reserves in North Yorkshire, you’d be part of a team of surveyors, on a rota to survey the site over a 6 month period. You will survey the same section of site each time, making a note of what species you encounter on the visit. As the survey period stretches from spring to autumn you will be able to see the delightful seasonal changes on your reserve. For enquiries and application form email volunteering@ywt.org.uk or call 01904 659570

REF 393-FOCUSUR-30/3 \ JOB \ WILD WATCH SURVEY VOLUNTEER
BE4 31/3/18 \ LOC \ NIDDERDALE AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY
PAY Travel expenses to survey sites \ FOR \ NIDDERDALE AONB

We are looking for a commitment of approx 4 days May - September to attend training and carry out surveys. The Wild Watch is your chance to be part of Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty’s biggest ever wildlife survey and help your wildlife flourish. We are recruiting volunteers to carry out a variety of surveys, gathering information on wildlife right across the AONB, ready for the 2018 survey season. Volunteers will walk a 1km survey route between May and September 2018 (timing will depend on species being surveyed), recording sightings of target species. The routes can be walked at a time convenient to you, each transect should take 1-2 hours. Find out more http://c-js.co.uk/2DToSeEc or email Alice Crosby, The Wild Watch Project Officer alice.crosby@harrogate.gov.uk

REF 394-FOCUSUR-OK8 \ JOB \ COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT VOLUNTEER
BE4 Ongoing \ LOC \ NORTH YORKSHIRE
PAY Training / expenses \ FOR \ NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

The role involves promoting the North Yorkshire Rotters project and offering information and practical advice about the ‘three R’s’: reduce, reuse and recycle – by promoting campaigns such as love food hate waste and home composting. You will have the chance to talk to the public at events and help them to find out about ways that they can reduce waste sent to landfill and protect the environment. Opportunities are also available to help deliver waste prevention workshops to schools and deliver talks to community groups in your area. You should have an interest in helping our community, good communication skills, enthusiastic and enjoy volunteering as part of a friendly and helpful team. For further information and to apply email nyrotters@northyorks.gov.uk or 01609 797212. http://c-js.co.uk/2D6NZd

REF 395-FOCUSUR-OK8 \ JOB \ WILDLIFE CHAMPION WASHINGTON TO CONSETT
BE4 Ongoing \ LOC \ NORTH EAST
PAY Training \ FOR \ SUSTRANS

We are looking for Wildlife Champions to cover the Coast to Coast track from Washington to Consett. You will be responsible, along with others, for monitoring the biodiversity along this route. This involves collecting data that enables us to record, improve & promote the diversity of wildlife on walking & cycling routes. You will be expected to monitor your allocated section every month to allow us to gain an accurate picture of the area’s biodiversity. This should take no more than a few hours. In addition you will need to dedicate a day or two a year to supporting or organising an engagement event in your area. You will be supported by a local Group Coordinator & receive an induction pack with full instructions, guidance notes & resources & staff will be on hand to provide support & dedicated training. You don’t need to be a wildlife or biodiversity expert to take part! All we need is your enthusiasm & dedication. Contact volunteers-north@sustrans.org.uk 0191 2616160 for details.

REF 396-FOCUSUR-OK8 \ JOB \ WILDLIFE CHAMPION RYHOPE TO SEAHAM
BE4 Ongoing \ LOC \ NORTH EAST
PAY Training \ FOR \ SUSTRANS

We are looking for Wildlife Champions to cover National Cycle Network Route 1 from Ryhope to Seaham. You will be responsible, along with others, for monitoring the biodiversity along this route. This involves collecting data that enables us to record, improve & promote the diversity of wildlife on walking & cycling routes. You will be expected to monitor your allocated section every month to allow us to gain an accurate picture of the area’s biodiversity. This should take no more than a few hours. In addition you will need to dedicate a day or two a year to supporting or organising an engagement event in your area. You will be supported by a local Group Coordinator & receive an induction pack with full instructions, guidance notes & resources & staff will be on hand to provide support & dedicated training. You don’t need to be a wildlife or biodiversity expert to take part! All we need is your enthusiasm & dedication. Contact volunteers-north@sustrans.org.uk 0191 2616160 for details.

REF 397-FOCUSUR-OK8 \ JOB \ LAND MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT VOLUNTEER
BE4 Ongoing \ LOC \ SHEFFIELD
PAY Training / expenses \ FOR \ SHEFFIELD & ROTHERHAM WILDLIFE TRUST

The work takes place on our reserves, in & around Sheffield & Rotherham from Blacka Moor & Wyming Brook on the edge of the Peak District to Centenary Riverside, a flood alleviation scheme & nature reserve on an ex steel works site, on the edge of the River Don near Rotherham town centre. Our current living landscapes project, Rotherham Rivers, funded through Waste Recycling Environmental, sees us visiting & improving sites, managed by other organisations for the benefit of wildlife, such as water voles, kingfishers & otters, in & around Rotherham, including Rother Valley Country Park, Don Island, Klinhurst Ings & Whiston Meadows. This role would suit someone who is keen to engage in a range of
practical conservation work, including site maintenance such as fencing, & habitat management such as woodland & heathland. Volunteering with the Landscape Management Team helps people develop practical conservation skills, build knowledge about local wildlife habitats, keep physically active & is a great place to start developing a career in the sector. In return we can cover expenses, on the job training & funding for relevant external courses such as brush-cutter & first aid at work. Apply on: http://www.wildsheffield.com/volunteer 0114 2634335

REF 398-FOCUSR-O8 JOB WILDLIFE CHAMPION YORK
BE4 Ongoing LOC YORKSHIRE
PAY Training FOR SUSTRANS

We are looking for Wildlife Champions to cover sections of our National Cycle Network in York - NCN 62 at Foss Islands and NCN 65 Solar System Way (Skelton to Riccall). You will be responsible, along with others, for monitoring the biodiversity along this route. This involves collecting data that enables us to record, improve & promote the diversity of wildlife on walking & cycling routes. You will be expected to monitor your allocated section every month to allow us to gain an accurate picture of the area’s biodiversity. This should take no more than a few hours. In addition you will need to dedicate a day or two a year to supporting or organising an engagement event in your area. You will be supported by a local Group Coordinator & receive an induction pack with full instructions, guidance notes & resources & staff will be on hand to provide support & dedicated training. You don’t need to be a wildlife or biodiversity expert to take part! All we need is your enthusiasm & dedication. Contact volunteers-north@sustrans.org.uk 0191 2616160 for details.

North West:

Every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday Practical Conservation Volunteer
Meet on Tues at Town Hall, Knowsley Street, Bury, BL9 0SW, Wed & Thurs on Major St, opposite the coach station, Manchester M1 3ED, The Conservation Volunteers Contact: 0161 962 9409 manchester@tcv.org.uk
Meet at 9.30am. Get involved in conservation tasks all over Greater Manchester. You can learn practical skills such as path and steps construction, tree felling, pond creation, tree planting and traditional skills such as hedge laying and dry stone walling.

The Conservation Volunteers are looking for volunteers to help out on task days every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Tasks include woodland management, habitat creation, and construction. We pick up at Liverpool museum for nine thirty, we provide hot drinks, good company. Please contact Eric Joinson at e.joinson@tcv.org.uk

Volunteer opportunities for people looking to gain experience or spend time outdoors working on an exciting environmental conservation project. Regular days are Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Lead Officer: Hamish Jeffreson, contact on 07928 668581 or email hjf@lancswwt.org.uk

Ribble Rivers Trust has various conservation volunteering opportunities available in Lancashire and the Yorkshire Dales; tree-planting, electrofishing, riverfly monitoring, fencing, invasive species control and more. If you want to do something worthwhile, get outdoors or gain job experience contact us at admin@ribbletrust.org.uk or ring 01200 444452. See ribbletrust.org.uk/calendar for more.

We volunteer on Sundays at National Trust sites mainly across the North West undertaking rhododendron bashing, fence construction, pond clearance, footpath maintenance, hedge laying etc. No previous experience is necessary; just enthusiasm and a willingness to get your hands dirty. Contact: info@mntv.org.uk http://www.mntv.org.uk Tel: 0161 2866542

Merseyside National Trust Environmental Volunteers work at National Trust sites in Merseyside and nearby on Sundays about fortnightly, e.g. hedge and tree planting, woodland, heath and footpath maintenance, coastline conservation. Previous experience unnecessary, tools provided, friendly welcome. Under 16 must be accompanied by adult. Contact John at 0151 677 9664, jmh@noc.ac.uk

Join friendly Chester National Trust Volunteers for a day; details see our website: https://chesteemtv.wordpress.com/ CNTV Tuesday & Thursday groups do voluntary work at NT sites across Cheshire, Marches, Wirral in alternate weeks. Previous experience unnecessary, a job for everyone, Tools provided, friendly welcome – Brian Payne, briansue.payne@btinternet.com

If you love working with children and enjoy being outdoors join our team of education volunteers in Lancaster. Help children discover the magic of the waterways through our Canal & River Explorers programme by leading sessions for primary schools, cub scouts and brownie groups in their classrooms, meeting places and out and about on our canals & rivers. Find out more at http://c-js.co.uk/2Ep9pa

REF 400-FOCUSR-O8 JOB VOLUNTEERS
BE4 N / A LOC WEAVERHAM, CHESHIRE
PAY 0 FOR MERE BROW FARM LTD

A new organic permaculture project seeking year round volunteers to assist on an ad-hoc basis. Mainly outdoor-based tasks available. Volunteering available Monday – Friday, as much or as little time as you can commit to. Previous experience of volunteering is preferred but essential & we are interested in working with people who have an interest in permaculture & organic growing. Find out more on www.facebook.com/merebrowfarm or contact Sadie on volunteering@merebrowfarm.co.uk
We have been working in the region for over 50 years & manage 45 nature reserves with habitats ranging from grasslands & wet meadows to reedbeds, coastal dunes & wetlands. Our reserves provide a refuge for rare species inc natterjack toads, great crested newts, the bittern & a wide range of dragonflies & butterflies. We carry out practical habitat management on our reserves & require assistance from volunteers in doing so. No specific quals required, we just ask for a good level of fitness, a love for the outdoors with an ability to work in all weathers & have your own transport. Download a volunteer registration form at www.cheshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/volunteering & email to volunteering@cheshirewt.org.uk

**WASTE REDUCTION VOLUNTEERS**

**JOB** WASTE REDUCTION VOLUNTEERS  
**REF** 402-FOCUSR-OK8  
**BE4** Ongoing  
**LOC** CHESHIRE  
**PAY** 0  
**FOR** KEEP BRITAIN TIDY

No min length of commitment, this is a fully flexible role. Events & talks take place during the week, weekends & evenings & you can attend as little or as many of these whenever you are available. Help us to reduce waste across Cheshire West & Chester by doing any of the following: attending events, local shows, fetes & fairs, giving individual advice; delivering workshops in schools; working with community groups; writing articles for press or websites; delivering talks & presentations to local groups & organisations; working with waste management departments at larger events; or anything that suits their skills! Benefit from developing communication skills in a variety of settings with a wide range of people, whilst helping local people save money & help the environment. Age 18+. Driving licence & vehicle may be necessary to attend events. See: http://c-js.co.uk/2Djii4 Margaret Warren, Project Coordinator margaret.warren@keepbritaintidy.org 07583 019497

**CANOE SAFARI ASSISTANT**

**JOB** CANOE SAFARI ASSISTANT  
**REF** 403-FOCUSR-9/3  
**BE4** N / A  
**LOC** WWT MARTIN MER  
**PAY** Training, WWT Benefits & Discounts  
**FOR** WILDFOWL & WETLANDS TRUST

At the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust we believe that the best way for people to understand and connect to wetlands is to experience them so, we bring awe-inspiring nature up close. We are looking for friendly, outgoing volunteers to help run our canoe safari from March to November, ensuring that our visitors feel part of something amazing. The role will involve assisting with: provision of instructions and advice to visitors on using the canoes safely; illustration of the use of canoes and paddles (demonstrating where necessary); completion of paperwork relevant to canoe hire and cleaning / maintenance of the canoe hut and surrounds. No previous experience is required as training will be provided. However this role will suit you if you have a love of wildlife and the outdoors. Experience of canoeing is an advantage. We have opportunities on all days from March to November. For further information and to apply please see our website: http://c-js.co.uk/2qDK75r

**BOAT OPERATOR**

**JOB** BOAT OPERATOR  
**REF** 404-FOCUSR-9/3  
**BE4** N / A  
**LOC** WWT MARTIN MER  
**PAY** Training, WWT Benefits & Discounts  
**FOR** WILDFOWL & WETLANDS TRUST

At the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust we believe that the best way for people to understand and connect to wetlands is to experience them so we bring awe-inspiring nature up close. We are currently seeking confident volunteers to conduct weekly guided tours around our canoe safari channels, driving our silent electric boat through reed beds and wet woodlands, ensuring that our visitors feel part of something amazing. Duties will include: driving the boat carefully and safely (after training); interacting with visitors; assisting with completion of paperwork relevant to boat trips and assisting with cleaning/maintenance of the canoe hut and surrounds. No previous experience is required as training will be provided. However this role will suit you if you have a love of wildlife and the outdoors. Preferably one or two days each week, from March until November. For further details and to apply please see our website: http://c-js.co.uk/2qDK75r

**YOUTH RANGER / ASSISTANT RANGER**

**JOB** YOUTH RANGER / ASSISTANT RANGER  
**REF** 405-FOCUSR-2/3  
**BE4** 28/2/18  
**LOC** FELL FOOT, CUMBRIA  
**PAY** Travel expenses, ongoing training  
**FOR** NATIONAL TRUST

Once a month on a Sunday. Youth Ranger Assistant Leaders support the Rangers to help create, plan, organise, promote and facilitate engaging outdoor activities on monthly sessions, where young people aged 12-17 can volunteer and take part with countryside and conservation activities within Fell Foot. Email Kelley Sproston-Heath, Volunteering & Community Involvement Officer at Fell Foot, kelley.sprostonheath@nationaltrust.org.uk for more information or apply online through the National Trust website: https://myvolunteering.nationaltrust.org.uk/opportunity-search

**EDUCATION – FORMAL LEARNING SESSION ASSISTANT**

**JOB** EDUCATION – FORMAL LEARNING SESSION ASSISTANT  
**REF** 406-FOCUSR-OK8  
**BE4** N / A  
**LOC** WWT MARTIN MER  
**PAY** WWT benefits & discounts  
**FOR** WILDFOWL & WETLANDS TRUST

1 to 2 days per week (Monday to Friday) 9.30am – 2pm during term times. At WWT we believe that the best way for people to understand & 'connect' with wetlands is to experience them so, we bring awe-inspiring nature up close. You will be directly involved in shaping children’s unforgettable experiences through the warm welcome you give them, your interactions with them & the information you provide. We need enthusiastic people to help deliver our education programmes to school groups & in doing so ensuring that the feel part of something amazing. You will be assisting with school groups, leading selected guided learning sessions (session plans provided). Experience in an educational setting would be an advantage but not essential. You will need good communication skills & the ability to work well in a team of staff & other volunteers. For further information & to apply: http://c-js.co.uk/2sawpLD Should you have any questions: volunteer.martinmere@wwt.org.uk
For the National Waterways Museum in Ellesmere Port, we are looking for enthusiastic and committed individuals to coordinate existing and new volunteers in our costumed interpretation team for weekends and events. You will help engage more volunteers with costumed interpretation and work with staff to develop this opportunity and activity across the site and at events. This is a responsible role with a lot to offer the right person, so if it sounds just what you’ve been looking for, we’d love to talk to you about it. Find out more at http://cjs.co.uk/2BYP4tx

We’re looking for a Volunteer Environmental Assistant as a voluntary sandwich year placement within our Environment Team. Based at Northwich, you can expect to travel regularly to our offices, canals and rivers across the North West and North & mid Wales on both field and office based work. You’ll need a good understanding of environmental issues, and have good research, data management, communication and time management skills. The placement will be available for a minimum period of 36 weeks and is being offered for a minimum of 3 days per week. Find out more at http://cjs.co.uk/2Em4pti

Why the UK’s National Parks are celebrating their Volunteers

There are 15 members in the UK National Park family. These vitally protected areas span the length and breadth of the country, renowned for their beautiful countryside, wildlife and cultural heritage. National Parks are full of life, people live and work amongst these most treasured landscapes and the farms, villages and towns are protected along with the land and wildlife. English National Parks alone welcome over 90 million visitors a year and all Parks provide opportunities for everyone to experience, enjoy and learn about their special qualities.

Last year, nearly 5,000 people volunteered their time across the UK’s 15 National Parks. Volunteering is an important part of stewarding these precious landscapes for future generations, and it’s about so much more than clearing litter, as Rosie Hancock Pook, Communications Manager at National Parks UK tell us: “National Park Volunteers give their time, energy, skills and enthusiasm to help us conserve and enhance the country’s 15 greatest assets and safeguard them for future generations to experience and enjoy. It’s easy to get involved, each National Park lists volunteering options on its website, with roles ranging from practical work to more ambassadorial roles in visitor centres and promotion at events and festivals. Volunteers can also be called on to carry out wildlife surveys, lead guided walks and work with schools on educational visits. Most parks run volunteer ranger programmes too, with the opportunity to work with full-time rangers.

Our volunteers come from all walks of life. From retirees who want to ‘give something back’ to students and young people looking to widen their experience and aid their first step into work. Some come to us individually, others as part of an existing group or as a corporate volunteering task with their employers. What all our volunteers have in common is the wish to give their time, energy and skills to help the National Parks achieve their purposes of conserving their special qualities and helping visitors to enjoy and experience all the Parks have to offer.

James Gillies, 52, from Glasgow, agrees: “I wanted to give something back”, he told The Guardian. “Volunteering is a great way for me to put all that knowledge about the countryside I’ve picked up over the years to good use.” Gillies volunteers as a ranger in the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, maintaining upland hill paths and working in the park’s visitor centre. The keen walker has also become an Adopt a Path volunteer, surveying a trail at Beinn Ime Mountain in the Arrochar Alps twice a year, with his reports informing the park’s maintenance work.
For Gillies, volunteering has offered a lifeline during a spell out of work. “It keeps me busy and shows potential employers that I’ve not just sat around doing nothing. Working in visitor centres has made me much more confident talking to people, too.”

Over on the Pembrokeshire Coast, the National Park’s youth rangers are helping to inspire local people. The group is open to 18 to 25-year-olds, and members regularly take part in conservation work, as well as running children’s activities and talking to the public about the park. “Taking part gives the young people a greater sense of community and pride in the National Park and where they live,” coordinator Tom Moses told the Guardian website.

James Gillies and the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park youth rangers are both past nominees in the National Parks UK Volunteer Awards. We run the annual awards to recognise and reward the transformative action made by our dedicated National Park volunteers. Any individual, group, young person or project volunteering in National Parks can be nominated and winners are selected by an expert panel including television presenter and National Park advocate, Julia Bradbury.

We are delighted to be able to showcase through the awards just how incredible our volunteers are and for the nominees and winners it provides an opportunity to meet like-minded people from across the UK and take a well-deserved break from their hard work in the Parks.

The 2017 awards ceremony was held at Kendal Mountain Festival and saw winners presented with their prizes by BAFTA-winning adventurer, writer and television presenter Steve Backshall. Winners received bursaries toward future volunteering activity and the latest outdoor kit from official National Parks outfitter Columbia Sportswear, who also generously sponsored the event.

Derek Collins from Dartmoor Preservation Association won the Individual category for his tireless work across Dartmoor National Park - from bracken management to clearing ground around ancient scheduled monuments, and the mucky job of clearing water leats.

Caitlin McCauley spends her university holidays supporting families and children from the most deprived areas of the Tees Valley in their visits to North York Moors National Park and was the recipient of the Young Person category award. The Cleveland Way Adoption Scheme, winner of the Project award, enables families, scout troops and other groups to carry out practical conservation in North York Moors National Park and provides crucial information to the Cleveland Way Maintenance Ranger and National Trails Officer.

The winner of the Group award was the Peak District Mosaic group; a collective made up of individuals from BME (black and minority ethnic) communities around the Peak District National Park. They give their time to mentor,
increase confidence and encourage people from BME communities and those who have challenging social and community issues to access the Peak District National Park

I would wholeheartedly recommend recognising the work of your volunteers with an awards ceremony. Not only do they provide some much-deserved recognition for those generously donating their time to support your cause but, crucially, they can help publicise the generosity of volunteers and communicate the impact this sometimes overlooked but consistently vital workforce has on the UK’s extraordinary countryside."

For more information on volunteering in National Parks, please visit nationalparks.gov.uk, or follow us on social media @uknationalparks

**Midlands:**

REF 409-FOCUSR-OK6 JOB VISITOR CENTRE VOLUNTEERS
BE4 N / A LOC BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER
PAY Travel expenses covered and training provided FOR GLOUCESTERSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

We’re opening a new visitor and education centre at Greystones Farm in Bourton-on-the-Water. The site is home to beautiful SSSI grassland and a scheduled ancient monument dating back to the Neolithic age. Our visitor centre will provide visitors with everything they need to know about the work of the Trust, the site’s wildlife and heritage. Plus the farm is open to school groups for education sessions led by staff. Our Visitor Centre volunteers will be there to welcome visitors and groups to the site, handout useful information leaflets, sell trail guides and hire out our explorer packs to families. The Trust will provide training and there will always be a member of staff on hand to provide support. Time: weekly. If you would like to find out more please contact Donna Cavill at volunteering@gloUCESTERSHIREWILDLIFETRUST.co.uk or call 01452 383333

REF 410-FOCUSR-2/3 JOB WILDLIFE GUIDES
BE4 6/3/18 LOC BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER
PAY Travel expenses covered and training provided FOR GLOUCESTERSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

Ideally a minimum of 2 days a month between April-Sep. We are looking for volunteers who would be interested in leading wildlife and heritage guided walks at Greystones Farm in Bourton-on-the-Water. The site is home to beautiful SSSI grassland and a scheduled ancient monument dating back to the Neolithic age. The River Eye runs through the reserve and provides a multitude of wildlife to discover including the much-threatened water vole. For more information please contact Donna Cavill at volunteering@gloUCESTERSHIREWILDLIFETRUST.co.uk or call 01452 383333

REF 411-FOCUSR-OK8 JOB OUTDOOR RANGER & FARM VOLUNTEERS
BE4 N / A LOC SHUGBOROUGH ESTATE, STAFFORDSHIRE
PAY Travel expenses, training available within role FOR NATIONAL TRUST

At least one day per fortnight. We are looking for ranger and farm volunteers to support us at Shugborough Estate. If you decide to join the ranger team, you will be helping to look after landscapes for future generations; working alongside passionate countryside management professionals and learning new skills along the way; keeping fit and healthy and making new friends. If you join the farm team you will learn more about livestock and running the farm; using your communication skills to make visitors feel welcomed and helping people feel as welcomed to Shugborough as you do. Contact Kate Gibbon, volunteering coordinator, kate.gibbon@nationaltrust.org.uk

REF 412-FOCUSR-OK8 JOB CHURCHYARD TASK TEAM VOLUNTEER
BE4 Ongoing LOC SHROPSHIRE AND HEREFORDSHIRE
PAY Travel expenses / training FOR CARING FOR GOD’S ACRE

The Churchyard Task Team is a group of volunteers, led by a coordinator, who go out & about every week to Shropshire Churchyards. We undertake conservation work such as scything, tree pruning, hedge laying, walling & sapling removal. There are two task days a week. Join in regularly or occasionally. All abilities welcome, work at your own pace, we are a very friendly bunch & we would love to have you along. Please contact Ben Mullen ben@cfga.org.uk, 01588 673041

REF 413-FOCUSR-OK8 JOB FENN’S MOSS NNR VOLUNTARY WARDEN
BE4 Ongoing LOC Fenn’s, Whixall & Bettisfield Mosses NNR, & NNR Base (N Shropshire)
PAY Travel expenses FOR NATURAL ENGLAND & NATURAL RESOURCES WALES

Great opportunity to assist with the restoration of part of Britain’s 3rd largest lowland raised peat bog. The NNR is 690ha & 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 & some formal courses & in-house training provided. Suitable for a student looking for a work placement or someone wanting to gain further exp in the conservation sector. Reliable & enthusiastic, keen interest in wildlife & conservation, physically fit & prepared to work outdoors. Apply with David Tompkins, Reserve Manager david.tompkins@naturalengland.org.uk 01948 880362 www.gov.uk/natural-england

REF 414-FOCUSR-OK8 JOB CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER
BE4 Ongoing LOC DERBYSHIRE DALES NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE
PAY Travel expenses (restricted distance), on the job training FOR NATURAL ENGLAND

Regular commitment preferred; Tuesdays & Wednesdays only at the moment. Volunteer on a National Nature Reserve helping us to conserve one of the UK’s most important sites. You will be learning practical conservation skills, such as: grassland, scrub, woodland & boundary management. You would be volunteering alongside a small team of staff & vols delivering to a professional standard. Possibility of certified training for long term vols. Previous experience of practical
in a given year you are entitled to a National Trust volunteer card with various benefits. Time: Supporting with a minimum of 4 events over the year. Apply via the website: http://c-js.co.uk/2EK6DAi or email: kate.price@nationaltrust.org.uk

- **Ref 419-FOCUSR-OK8**
  - **Job:** CANAL & RIVER EXPLORERS BIRMINGHAM CENTRAL
  - **BE4 N/A**
  - **Loc:** BIRMINGHAM
  - **Pay:** 0
  - **For:** CANAL & RIVER TRUST

If you love working with children and enjoy being outdoors join our team of education volunteers in Birmingham. Help children discover the magic of the waterways through our Canal & River Explorers programme by leading sessions for primary schools, cub scouts and brownie groups in their classrooms, meeting places and out and about on our canals & rivers. Find out more at http://c-js.co.uk/2BbHzck

- **Ref 420-FOCUSR-OK8**
  - **Job:** LEAD VOLUNTEERS ASSET DELIVERY
  - **BE4 N/A**
  - **Loc:** LAPWORTH, STRATFORD UPON AVON CANAL, SOLIHULL
  - **Pay:** 0
  - **For:** CANAL & RIVER TRUST

We are looking for potential Leaders for our expanding volunteer teams on planned works, on tasks like moving boats to lock repairs, installing towpaths, and maintaining bridges. You’ll work alongside staff and volunteers to plan, deliver, and celebrate volunteering, particularly on the Grand Union and Stratford Canals in Warwickshire. This is a responsible role with a lot to offer the right person, so if it sounds just what you’ve been looking for, we’d love to talk to you about it. Find out more at http://c-js.co.uk/2FOdDdM

- **Ref 421-FOCUSR-OK8**
  - **Job:** VOLUNTEER RANGER
  - **BE4 N/A**
  - **Loc:** BROCKHAMPTON ESTATE, HEREFORDSHIRE
  - **Pay:** Fuel expenses, in-house training
  - **For:** NATIONAL TRUST

Time: At least once a month. Rangers love the countryside and being out in the fresh air, so they know what our outdoor visitors need. They’re great at taking care of the wildlife and stunning landscapes of Brockhampton Estate, for ever, for everyone. Apply through myvolunteering on the National Trust website - http://bit.ly/2bOJf6Y or contact nicholas.hinchcliffe@nationaltrust.org.uk for more information.
are usually on the first and third Sundays each month.

Weekly Volunteer Day every Friday & alternate Tuesdays. 9.30-15.30. Meet at Brandon Marsh Nature Centre, CV3 3GW. Contact: anna.jennings@wkwt.org.uk

The Dunsmore Living Landscape scheme aims to reconnect Warwickshire's ancient woodlands, hedgerows and grasslands. Join us to get stuck in with practical habitat management and surveying in this beautiful area.

Lincoln Conservation Group carries out practical nature conservation work in the Lincoln area, helping to sustain the local plant and animal life and having fun at the same time! We provide tools and training. Volunteer days (16 years +) are usually on the first and third Sundays each month. http://www.lincolnconservationgroup.org.uk
We run practical conservation volunteer days across Birmingham and the Black Country. We provide tools, equipment and training (and tea and coffee!). Meet new people, learn new skills, enjoy being outdoors and make a difference to greenspaces and wildlife on your doorstep. Details from: http://www.bbcwildlife.org.uk/whats-on; alison.w@bbcwildlife.org.uk or 0121 523 0994.

If you love getting involved in nature this is the role for you! Grounds volunteers do practical work to help keep the Castle site looking great. The role is extremely varied and perfect if you like getting out come rain or shine. Contact Tattershall Castle for more details on maggie.everington@nationaltrust.org.uk.

The National Trust is looking for local volunteers in South Birmingham. We support work with Millennium Green Park charitable trust in Kings Norton (B38). On Saturdays, volunteers are involved in everyday practical tasks to keep the site looking its best. Training, PPE provided. Many other opportunities available! peter.emms@nationaltrust.org.uk

Anglia:

Practical conservation work party every Wednesday, 9am-5pm. Come and join the Woodwalton Fen NNR team for a variety of practical management tasks. Suit those of a practical nature who are physically fit & can work outdoors in all weathers. No previous experience necessary. Contact us for more information john.kerr@naturalengland.org.uk

REF 428-FOCUSR-2/3 JOB WINDPUMP GUIDES
BE4 Ongoing LOC HORSEY WINDPUMP, HORSEY, NR29 4EF
PAY Training / expenses FOR NATIONAL TRUST
4-6 hbw. Volunteers will be involved in many aspects of the recently restored Windpump, helping visitors to understand its operation, share the story ‘so far’, engage visitors with our local industrial heritage, maintaining equipment, general housekeeping and assisting with visitor enquiries. This is an exciting, flexible role in which no two days will be the same, typical duties involve: providing a warm welcome to visitors, checking membership cards, selling tickets and giving out leaflets or trails; developing a good knowledge of Horsey Windpump and the wider offer so that all that all visitors receive accurate and rel information to enhance their visit and ‘make a day of it’; assisting colleagues and fellow volunteers in the maintenance of the working equipment; interpreting the water drainage process to visitors through answering questions, giving talks or leading short guided tours; assisting with special events or any other circumstances as required; becoming familiar with and then following the National Trust’s Health and Safety Policy at all times. For further information please contact Sarah at Horsey Windpump; sarah.keenan@nationaltrust.org.uk, 07585 980745 or 01493 393904

REF 429-FOCUSR-OK8 JOB CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER
BE4 N / A LOC NORWICH
PAY Training in practice conservation techniques FOR THE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS
Time: You can come along for as long as suits you. The Conservation Volunteers help hundreds of thousands of people each year to reclaim green places. Through our own environmental projects and through our network of 2,000 community groups, we see people every day, and all across the UK joining in and feeling good. The Conservation Volunteers receive no core funding from the government to carry out our work supporting people and places. We rely entirely on the generous help of our volunteers and supporters. Debbie Murray 01603 274512 07740 899691.

REF 430-FOCUSR-OK8 JOB VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN THETFORD FOREST
BE4 Ongoing LOC SUFFOLK / NORFOLK
PAY Volunteer benefits available FOR FRIENDS OF THETFORD FOREST
Friends of Thetford Forest is a voluntary organisation set up to help increase understanding, knowledge & enjoyment of Thetford Forest & to encourage the involvement & support of the community in its development. We have a wide range of outdoor & conservation volunteering opportunities supporting the Forestry Commission & are always looking for new volunteers. We are currently in particular need of ‘Meet & Greet’ volunteers welcoming visitors & providing information at High Lodge Forest Centre in Suffolk, & volunteers to inspect local walking trails. For more information about our volunteering opportunities, please visit https://www.fotf.org.uk/content/fotf_contact_us or email volunteering@fotf.org.uk

South:

Conservation Volunteer for Celtic harmony Camp. The conservation team meets every Monday and Thursday 10-4pm. Our skilled conservation team need help to conserve the natural habitats of Bourne Wood and maintain access facilities for visitors. Activities vary from conservation work such as woodland management to wattle fencing to working on the herb garden. Complete the application form at www.celticharmony.org/volunteering

The Thanet Coast offers free training and support for volunteer ‘Coastal Wardens/Guardians’ to help look after sections of coastline and monitor activities, wildlife or join practical tasks - from non-native species control, beach cleans, school fieldtrips to helping run educational ‘Seashore Safaris’. Further information: nekmpa.org.uk or contact us at: thanet.coast@thanet.gov.uk

Discover opportunities to get involved in nature surveys, citizen science and wildlife photography at Morden Hall Park in London. Join our Nature Group to get involved regularly, or volunteer at events such as our annual BioBlitz survey event (2nd - 3rd June 2018). To find out more visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/mordenhallpark
**Friends of Peartree Green** are looking for volunteers to assist with some conservation work parties, using hand tools, at Peartree Green LNR, Southampton. The sessions will take place on 18th February and 18th March. Please contact Phil Budd (07748 236666) for more details.

**Hampshire Conservation Volunteers** We work at weekends on a wide variety of sites. Spring and summer are for construction of paths, boardwalks and fences, while autumn is the time for pond maintenance. Winter tasks include coppicing, hedgelaying and scrub-bashing, usually with a roaring bonfire. Phone 023 9232 5570 or see www.hcv.org.uk.

**Join our volunteer force** to help conserve 110 acres of SSSI woodland near Cobham, Kent. We’ll be working to our approved management plan to remove sycamore seedlings and rhodo, cut back scrub for the OCND project, plant trees to replace sycamores etc. Usually 9.30 on the 1st Sun in the month, visit wk dct.org.uk email mike@mikeadams12.plus.com

**CCV is always seeking new volunteers** to join their regular Sunday conservation tasks in nature reserves around the Chichester area. Lifts can be arranged. Training & tools will be provided. Physically fit volunteers of any age over 16 will be welcome. Contact Scott Robertson: 01243 552113, scottrob293@hotmail.co.uk

**Volunteers welcome to help** with surveying areas of Greater London for a range of wildlife including butterflies and plants; and also of more 'specialist' groups. Details from the website at www.lnhs.org.uk

**Bournemouth Parks** has many opportunities for volunteering. With ten fantastic nature reserves, including Hengistbury Head, Stour Valley and Turbary Common, there is plenty of conservation work to get involved with, as well as wildlife monitoring and recording. For more details, please contact Richard Hesketh - richard.hesketh@bournemouth.gov.uk

**Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust** Tuesday Work Party. Habitat management/ surveying for rare reptile species on SSSI Lowland heathland sites across the Surrey/Hampshire Weald. We meet every Tuesday at the Witley Centre. Contact: Ralph Connolly ARC Weald Volunteer Coordinator, ARC, Witley Centre, Godalming, Surrey GU8 5QA ralph.connolly@arc-trust.org 07387 261217 www.arc-trust.org

**Help a local garden get ready** for spring and get some exercise outdoors too. The Capital Growth garden map is an interactive tool where you can find many different growing spaces in London. Build some valuable skills, meet amazing people, and help us build a greener city! http://www.capitalgrowth.org/spaces/

**London Wildlife Trust’s team** of Survey Volunteers are surveying London’s freshwater habitats, dragonflies and damselflies. We are running dragonfly and damselfly ID workshops in June and July, and survey the adult insects between April and September with the goal of creating an atlas of Odonata for London! Contact: wfw@wlondon.org.uk

**Enjoy seasonal scrub clearance**, coppicing, path/step work & pond restoration task days with our great conservation crew. Task days run Mon, Tues, Weds, Thurs and 1-2 Sundays/month in NE Surrey, Croydon & Sutton areas. Also voluntary livestock checker/farm helper opportunities. Info: www.downlandsproject.org.uk; Downlands Partnership Facebook; Twitter @downygrazers; call 01883 341140.

**Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust** Tuesday Work Party. Habitat management/ surveying for rare reptile species on SSSI Lowland heathland sites across the Surrey/Hampshire Weald. We meet every Tuesday at the Witley Centre. Contact: Ralph Connolly ARC Weald Volunteer Coordinator, ARC, Witley Centre, Godalming, Surrey GU8 5QA ralph.connolly@arc-trust.org 07387 261217 www.arc-trust.org

**Help a local garden get ready** for spring and get some exercise outdoors too. The Capital Growth garden map is an interactive tool where you can find many different growing spaces in London. Build some valuable skills, meet amazing people, and help us build a greener city! http://www.capitalgrowth.org/spaces/

**Join the Wood Wardens**, a friendly group of volunteers who help manage Broxbourne Woods National Nature Reserve near Hertford. They meet on the 1st Friday and 3rd Sunday every month to undertake practical woodland management. Activities include tree planting, clearing ponds, scrub management and boardwalk construction. No experience necessary. Email: miriam.linhorth@hertfordshire.gov.uk tel 01992 588433.

**Enjoypeasonalscrub clearance**, path maintenance, woodland management, signage making (carpentry in our Horton Country Park workshop) & pond restoration task days with our great conservation crew. Task days run Tues, Weds and Thurs in North Surrey & Kingston areas. Info: www.lowermoleproject.org.uk; Lower Mole Partnership Facebook; @ExploreSurreyUK; call 01372 743783.

**Enjoy seasonal scrub clearance**, path maintenance, woodland management, signage making (carpentry in our Horton Country Park workshop) & pond restoration task days with our great conservation crew. Task days run Tues, Weds and Thurs in North Surrey & Kingston areas. Info: www.lowermoleproject.org.uk; Lower Mole Partnership Facebook; @ExploreSurreyUK; call 01372 743783.

**Grow your own food?** Team PollinATE is looking for volunteers in Brighton & Hove to help collect data on home-grown food. If you’d like to: learn how to identify pollinators, meet other growers and find out how much your produce, visit www.teampollinate.co.uk to find out how you can get involved.

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**WE HAVE A WIDE RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERING INCLUDING GARDENING, CRAFT ACTIVITIES, JAM MAKING, HELPING WITH FUNDRAISING EVENTS, MINIBUS DRIVING, FUNDING APPLICATIONS, ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT AND MORE. YOU WILL WORK ALONGSIDE OUR HIGHLY SKILLED TEAM AND HELP PROVIDE SUPPORT TO ADULTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES. FOR MORE INFO HTTP://C-JS.CO.UK/2GV36A5**

**Reigate Area Conservation Volunteers**, undertakes conservation tasks around the Reigate area of Surrey. With over 30 years’ experience, including DoE students at all levels, RACV has undertaken work for Wildlife Trusts, Local Authorities, National Trust, Woodland Trust, and private landowners & companies. Come and join us! See: www.racv.org.uk

**Volunteers in Brighton & Hove to help collect data on home-grown food.** If you’d like to: learn how to identify pollinators, meet other growers and find out how much your produce, visit www.teampollinate.co.uk to find out how you can get involved.

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**NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

**OUR PAST, OUR FUTURE VOLUNTEER**

**JOBSITE: www.countryside-jobs.com**

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**REF 431-FOCUSR-OK8**

**JOB OUR PAST, OUR FUTURE VOLUNTEER**

**BE4 N / A**

**LOC NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK**

**PAY Travel expenses**

**FOR NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY**

The Our Past, Our Future Landscape Partnership Scheme volunteers can take part in archaeological digs, botanical surveys, digitising historical documents, recording the history of commoning, clearing invasive plants, monitoring water quality & much more. The range of activities are supported by 11 different partners to inspire a new generation to champion & care for the New Forest. Volunteers can give as much time as they would like. No previous experience or
Volunteers at the Lee Valley Park

**Volunteer at Edgebury?**

Your time could help others.

Our visitor experience volunteers help our visitors to get the most from their time at Edgebury. They play a key role in meeting the visitors, helping them with their queries, giving them directions and advice. You could make a real difference by giving visitors a warm welcome at Edgebury.

If you are interested, please get in touch:

[Link to Volunteer Information]

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<tr>
<td>432-FOCUS-OK8</td>
<td>VOLUNTEER RANGER</td>
<td>NATIONAL TRUST</td>
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<tr>
<td>BE4</td>
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<td>LOC</td>
<td>BADBURY WOODS, OXFORDSHIRE</td>
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**Volunteer Officers & Leaders**

Role is flexible & negotiable but usually involves 2 days per week for a min of 6 months. We have 4 weekly vol groups & work with community groups across the county. Whether part of one of our action teams or helping to organise & deliver projects to improve green spaces; vols are essential to everything we do. Volunteer officers & leaders can train to lead vol groups on a range of practical conservation activities & can get involved in all aspects of running projects depending on their interests & skills they want to develop. This is a great opportunity for someone looking to gain work experience in conservation, community building or someone looking to use their skills to help others. We can provide: work experience on conservation & community building; opportunity to use your skills to help others; leadership experience. All level of experience is welcome. Enjoy working outdoors; passion for nature. Community orientated & enjoy assisting people. Further information from Nicola Downs, Senior Project Officer, 01206 764470. essex@tcv.org.uk

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<tr>
<td>433-FOCUS-OK8</td>
<td>VOLUNTEER OFFICERS &amp; LEADERS</td>
<td>THE CONSERVATION VOLUNTEERS</td>
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<td>BE4</td>
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**Volunteer Ranger**

Volunteers attend conservation tasks supervised by the Ranger Team & Volunteer Leaders to carry out management of the Lee Valley Park. Help to undertake management Plan & Biodiversity Action Plan driven tasks & activities to benefit conservation, the environment, fauna & flora, & visitors in the Lee Valley Park. Contact: volunteers@leevalleypark.org.uk, 01992 709867

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<td>VOLUNTEER RANGER</td>
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<td>LOC</td>
<td>COUNTYWIDE OPPORTUNITIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>PAY</td>
<td>Training &amp; materials provided</td>
<td>Countryside Management Service, Hertfordshire CC</td>
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**Hertfordshire Health Walks Ambassador**

1 or 2 hours per week. Man stalls at health & wellbeing awareness events; give talks to community groups & orgs who are potential advocates (GP patient participation groups etc.) or to potential walkers (diabetes, pulmonary rehab or cardiac support groups etc.); actively seek out opportunities for promotion & building partnerships within your local community to increase awareness of & signposting to the Health Walks initiative; lobby locally, use social media & engage with press to promote the Health Walks locally; support new walks & struggling walks to ensure sustainability long-term; attend 3 x yearly Ambassador steering groups with CMS & provide feedback for the 3 x yearly Health Walk Leader meetings in your area; maintain a stock of up-to-date promotional literature (programmes, flyers, posters etc.) at libraries, GP surgeries, tourist information etc. This role requires & can help to develop the following skills: ability to think creatively & communicate the health & wellbeing messages supporting the initiative; public speaking experience & confidence speaking in front of groups; ability to motivate others into action; proactive & organised; ability to plan ahead & see a project or task through to the end. Find out more on 01992 588433, healthwalks.cms@hertfordshire.gov.uk

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<tr>
<td>435-FOCUS-OK8</td>
<td>CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER</td>
<td>HERTFORDSHIRE, ESSEX &amp; LONDON</td>
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<td>BE4</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
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<td>LOC</td>
<td>LEE VALLEY REGIONAL PARK AUTHORITY</td>
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<td>PAY</td>
<td>Uniform, tool training</td>
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Come and volunteer in the countryside and the community! Do you enjoy keeping physically and mentally well outdoors? Would you like to improve the community's green spaces for people and wildlife? This weekend opportunity is new for Spring 2018. Meet our friendly team and come and see what we are all about! If you are interested, why not take a look at our website: www.nwkcpc.org or give us a call: 01322 621 239. If you prefer email: sara.spellman@kent.gov.uk

REF 436-FOCUSR-OK8  JOB  SATURDAY VOLUNTEER
BE4  Ongoing  LOC  NORTH WEST KENT
PAY  0  FOR  NORTH WEST KENT COUNTRYSIDE PARTNERSHIP

Would you like to improve the community's green spaces for people and wildlife? This weekend opportunity is new for Spring 2018. Meet our friendly team and come and see what we are all about! If you are interested, why not take a look at our website: www.nwkcpc.org or give us a call: 01322 621 239. If you prefer email: sara.spellman@kent.gov.uk

REF 437-FOCUSR-OK8  JOB  WILDLIFE CARE ASSISTANT
BE4  Ongoing  LOC  SIDLESHAM; WEST SUSSEX
PAY  Training  FOR  BRENT LODGE WILDLIFE HOSPITAL

Animal husbandry, incl feeding, cleaning and provide care to wildlife patients. Assisting staff with other tasks inside the hospital as required. At least once a week. Further information: 01243 641672 enquiries@brentlodge.org

REF 438-FOCUSR-3/8  JOB  CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER
BE4  N/A  LOC  SOUTH OCKENDON, ESSEX
PAY  Full training to carry out tasks will be provided.  FOR  LITTLE BELHUS COUNTRY PARK TRUST

Working 10 am - 3 pm Thursdays or 10 am - 12:30 pm Fridays / Other days can be arranged. Help with habitat creation and management. Typical tasks involve tree planting, mulching, weeding, litter picking and creating features for wildlife. You can help us carry out wildlife surveys if you prefer. Please contact dhruitbell@littlebelhuscountrypark.co.uk or phone on 07725 246192 or 01708 857245

REF 439-FOCUSR-OK8  JOB  GREEN AIDERS
BE4  N/A  LOC  HERTS, WEST ESSEX, CAMBS & BEDS
PAY  Training & travel  FOR  GROUNDWORK EAST

Want to volunteer outside & help vulnerable residents? Then join Groundwork's Green Aiders team! Put your skills into action with weekly gardening sessions in gardens across Hertfordshire, Harlow, Essex, Cambridgeshire & Bedfordshire. Get buckets of experience – two new gardens every time. Free training in gardening & power tool use. All PPE, tools, equipment, lunches & travel costs covered. www.groundwork.org.uk/east To book a place, arrange a taster day or for more info Emma Reynolds, 01707 255177 emma.reynolds@groundwork.org.uk

REF 440-FOCUSR-OK8  JOB  ANIMAL CARE VOLUNTEER
BE4  N/A  LOC  LEATHERHEAD, SURREY
PAY  0  FOR  WILDLIFE AID FOUNDATION

Time: Volunteers opt for a regular shift, which they attend every week at the same time. Weekend shifts can be weekly or fortnightly. Animal care: cleaning and feeding of animals at the centre. Setting up pens and cages for new admissions. Restocking food supplies for all areas of the hospital and advising of any shortages. Helping to move animals from one area to another as they progress with their rehabilitation. Being available to help veterinary staff with jobs. Please visit the website https://www.wildlifeaid.org.uk/become-volunteer/

REF 441-FOCUSR-OK8  JOB  FINANCE, EDUCATION, OFFICE, GARDEN & EVENT VOLUNTEERS
BE4  N/A  LOC  SOUTH LONDON
PAY  Travel and lunch expenses, some training  FOR  THE SOUTH LONDON BOTANICAL INSTITUTE

Dependent on the role, finance 3 days per month approx, all others 1 day per week. Varied roles are available. I suggest you look at our website www.sibi.org.uk/getinvolved to find out more about these, or contact us direct. Please contact us by email: info@sibi.org.uk

REF 442-FOCUSR-OK8  JOB  CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER
BE4  N/A  LOC  All over Sussex at National Trust Properties
PAY  Training & travel  FOR  SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL TRUST VOLUNTEERS

We have conservation work parties mostly every other Sunday with the occasional Saturday. Work includes scrub clearance, coppicing, dry stone walling, fence work, laying paths etc. No qualifications or previous experience required. No time commitment. *Petrol costs if car sharing, tool training, learning new skills, working alongside experts in their field, making new friends, knowing you’re making a unique contribution to the National Trust, counts towards your Duke of Edinburgh Award. Contact Details: sdtv@hotmail.com https://southdownsntv.org.uk/ https://www.facebook.com/SouthDownsNTV Need to say where you heard about us.

REF 443-FOCUSR-OK8  JOB  EDUCATIONAL VOLUNTEERS
BE4  Ongoing  LOC  EPPING FOREST FIELD STUDIES CENTRE
PAY  0  FOR  FIELD STUDIES COUNCIL

We are looking for volunteers to help deliver environmental education sessions, providing an opportunity for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy and learn through first hand experiential activities. Activities for primary schools include pond dipping, minibeast hunts and sensory activities. There are also sessions for secondary schools. Other activities you may help with include guided walks, professional development, training for teachers and family activity days. Please email volunteer.ef@field-studies-council.org

REF 444-FOCUSR-OK8  JOB  PARK EXPLORERS VOLUNTEER
BE4  N/A  LOC  NATIONAL TRUST MORDEN HALL PARK
PAY  0  FOR  NATIONAL TRUST

Monday mornings during school term times. Help to lead an innovative programme of weekly activities for children aged from 18 months to 4 years and their parents/carers. Set up for sessions, using and maintaining resources and equipment appropriately, and ensuring that it is returned to its proper storage place after use. Monitor the quality of the work through
evaluation and informal feedback. Manage the daily finance of the activities including taking money, recording and following financial procedures. Work with the Learning Assistant and the rest of the team to ensure that all sessions are adequately resourced and staffed in advance. Act as a good ambassador for the National Trust, providing a warm, friendly welcome to all visitors. Learn about Morden Hall Park as a whole so you can tell our visitors about it. To apply for this role, please complete the online application form on the National Trust Volunteering web page, or alternatively contact the Learning Assistant for more details at mordenhallparklearning@nationaltrust.org.uk.

REF 445-FOCUSR-9/3 JOB WELCOME TEAM ROAMING MEMBERSHIP RECRUITER
BE4 N / A LOC WWT ARUNDEL, WEST SUSSEX
PAY WWT Benefits & Discounts FOR WILDFOWL & WETLANDS TRUST

As a Membership Recruitment Volunteer you will help develop the Arundel Centre and charity’s support by engaging with our visitors, and enhancing their experience with your knowledge and enthusiasm. This will inspire people to support us as members of WWT. Roaming our reserve and actively engaging our visitors with our mission to save wetlands for wildlife and people, you will be asking visitors about their day and persuading them what a great idea membership would be by tailoring the benefits to their needs. Training in how to do this will be provided. You will really enjoy this role if you enjoy meeting and chatting with people and have good communication skills. Ideally you will be available two weekly shifts, 10.30am to 1.00pm or 2.00pm to 4.30pm. Please see our website www.wwt.org.uk/support/volunteer-with-wwt for more details and to apply. If you have any questions please email volunteer.arundel@wwt.org.uk.

REF 446-FOCUSR-OK8 JOB EDUCATIONAL VOLUNTEERS
BE4 Ongoing LOC Greenwich Park, Regents Park, Bushy Park, QE Olympic Park & Stratford
PAY WWT Discount & Benefits FOR FIELD STUDIES COUNCIL

We are looking for volunteers to help deliver environmental education sessions, providing an opportunity for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy and learn through first hand experiential activities. Activities for primary schools include pond dipping, minibeast hunts and sensory activities. There are also sessions for secondary schools. Other activities you may help with include guided walks, professional development, training for teachers and family activity days. Please email aaron.lr@field-studies-council.org.

REF 447-FOCUSR-9/3 JOB EDUCATION – SCHOOL FACILITATOR
BE4 N / A LOC WWT LONDON WETLANDS CENTRE
PAY WWT Discount & Benefits FOR WILDFOWL & WETLANDS TRUST

At WWT, we believe the best way for people to understand and connect to wetlands is to experience them, so we bring awe-inspiring nature up close. We are looking for people to join our London Wetland Centre Learning Team and contribute to this aspect of our work by assisting them in facilitating our special school visits. Your role will be to assist the Learning Team with preparatory tasks in advance of school visits, greeting and briefing school groups upon arrival, engaging learners during the self-guided portion of their visit, assisting with guided learning sessions, and to tidy up resources after schools have left. We are looking for volunteers on weekdays during Spring/Summer/Autumn school terms - shifts from 9am to 3pm. Please complete and submit an online application form via our website http://www.wwt.org.uk/support/volunteer-with-wwt/ If you have any problems completing the application online please email volunteer.london@wwt.org.uk. Successful applicants will be asked to come and meet the team to find out more about the role and discuss availability before being offered a placement.

REF 448-FOCUSR-OK8 JOB CANAL & RIVER EXPLORERS CROFTON PUMPING STATION
BE4 N / A LOC CROFTON, MARLBOROUGH
PAY 0 FOR CANAL & RIVER TRUST

If you love working with children and enjoy being outdoors join our team of education volunteers at Crofton near Marlborough on the Kennet & Avon Canal. Help children discover the magic of the waterways through our Canal & River Explorers programme by leading sessions for primary schools, cub scouts and brownie groups in their classrooms, meeting places and out and about on our canals & rivers. Find out more at http://c-js.co.uk/2su4wj

REF 449-FOCUS-OK8 JOB SURREY COUNTRYSIDE PARTNERSHIPS VOLUNTARY INTERNSHIPS
BE4 Ongoing, flexible opportunities LOC Based at Caterham (Downlands) &/or Epsom (Lower Mole)*
PAY Experience FOR Surrey Countryside Partnerships (hosted by Surrey County Council)

Gain a wide range of practical conservation experience working to maintain/restore a diverse range of habitats, in particular rare chalk grassland & woodlands. Principally weekdays; we are flexible on duration/days of week. You would be principally joining in on scheduled task days, gaining essential on-the-job experience learning about targeted countryside/rare habitat management practices; helping to prepare for tasks, carpentry & opportunities to work with our Downlands Partnership grazing service; some formal training (brushcutters etc) could also be made available. We work closely with volunteers of all ages, plus school & corporate groups so excellent communication skills are required & you need to be able to work confidently as part of a small busy team. Physically demanding at times and involves working outdoors in all weathers. Full clean driving licence and access to a vehicle essential. An ideal first internship during/post countryside management studies. *but required to work across partnerships’ area (principally North/NE Surrey and in to Croydon, Sutton, Kingston) Please email your interest to countrysidepartnershipsteam@surreycc.gov.uk. For initial informal discussion contact Debbie Hescott on 01737 733931. www.surreycc.gov.uk/surreycountrysidepartnerships

REF 450-FOCUSR-27/4 JOB ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS
BE4 N / A LOC DEVIL'S DYKE ESTATE OFFICE, SADDLESCOMBE FARM, BN45 7DE
PAY Training and some expenses FOR NATIONAL TRUST

Approximately once a fortnight. The role involves assisting or leading outdoor educational activities with school groups from KS1 to KS13. Duties include helping prepare resources, setting up activities on the day, engaging with children, connecting them to nature and promoting the National Trust values. Please email devilsdyke@nationaltrust.org.uk for more information.
Would you like to work with us at Komsberg Wilderness Nature Reserve in South Africa? The Wildlife For All Trust is a British registered environmental charity with a pioneering approach to nature conservation. We are looking for individuals who really want to help make a difference. We strongly encourage & train our team members to be the best they can be.

We are unusually successful, focusing on achievement. This is an exciting & unique opportunity to do something meaningful. For more details, including how to apply, please see the ‘Interviews’ page of our website: www.wildlifeforall.org

**Opportunity to Volunteer at a Community Allotment**

Where people from different sections of our local community all work together. Whilst it is targeted at those who wouldn’t normally get involved in growing food, everybody’s welcome to take part in growing and gardening, learning and developing hands on skills, and sharing the harvest. Both amateur and experienced gardeners are welcome to attend and join in the fun. Contact Karen Heynike, Walton Charity, Tel 0203 328 0254 email kheyxine@waltoncharity.org.uk

**Opportunity to Volunteer with us**

Visit the ‘Volunteer with us’ pages for further details: www.countryside-jobs.com

**1. ALLOTMENT / GARDEN VOLUNTEERS**

**Environment & Wildlife – Nature Conservation in South Africa**

**2. PRACTICAL ACTIONS OFFICER - VOLUNTARY**

**3. FRIENDS OF HARTHAM COMMON VOLUNTEER**

**4. BIODIVERSITY ASSISTANT**

**5. EDUCATION – SCHOOL FACILITATOR**

For more information and to apply, please visit our website: www.wwt.org.uk/support/volunteer-with-wwt/ If you have any problems completing the application online please contact us on 01992 588433 or isabel.crozier@hertfordshire.gov.uk Visit the ‘Volunteer with us’ pages for further details: www.countryside-jobs.com

**Senior Project Officer**

**Countryside Management Service, Hertfordshire County Council**

**COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS TO HELP HARTHAM COMMON FOR WILDLIFE AND FOR USERS**

Friends of Hartham Common are a group of local people who work in partnership with East Herts Council to enhance Hartham Common for wildlife and for users. We are looking for a volunteer who wants to help promote the group, such set up a Facebook page, write articles, send out emails or help organise events. The Friends meet on the 2nd Saturday of the month for a practical morning session. Activities include tree planting, clearing ponds, scrub management, building a boardwalk or installing a gate. No experience necessary.

**Senior Project Officer**

**Countryside Management Service, Hertfordshire County Council**

**2. - 3 hours per month. Friends of Hartham Common are a group of local people who work in partnership with East Herts Council to enhance Hartham Common for wildlife and for users. We are looking for a volunteer who wants to help promote the group, such set up a Facebook page, write articles, send out emails or help organise events. The Friends meet on the 2nd Saturday of the month for a practical morning session. Activities include tree planting, clearing ponds, scrub management, building a boardwalk or installing a gate. No experience necessary.**

**Training**

**Senior Project Officer**

**Countryside Management Service, Hertfordshire County Council**

**3. BIODIVERSITY ASSISTANT**

**Senior Project Officer**

**Countryside Management Service, Hertfordshire County Council**

**4. EDUCATION – SCHOOL FACILITATOR**

**Senior Project Officer**

**Countryside Management Service, Hertfordshire County Council**
Successful applicants will be asked to come and meet the team to find out more about the role and discuss availability before being offered a placement.

**What volunteers want**

(& how the Canal & River Trust tries to provide it)

A happy volunteer is a productive volunteer. An unhappy volunteer will often take their services elsewhere, or worse, stay resentfully and suck up lots of staff and volunteer time and enthusiasm. So, we all want to keep our volunteers happy, but how can we do it?

At the Canal & River Trust we’ve had an amazing 5 years, building our volunteering from a few hundred volunteers delivering 205,000 hours in 2012 (our launch year) to today’s 2,700 volunteers delivering 540,000 hours right across our charitable works, from crucial maintenance of towpaths and locks through keeping our customers happy to guiding our strategic development.

From the start we planned to keep them happy: providing uniform and equipment, paying expenses, investing in training and skills for both volunteers and the staff managing them. As time has passed, we’ve rolled out more in response to demand – regular communications, social events like summer trips and Christmas parties, and closer integration with our staff teams. There’s been some great local innovations, but not much consistency across the Trust, which has caused frustrations.

A lot of feedback is informal, picked up via chats in the mess room, or shared on social media. So how do we make sure we’re getting an accurate picture of common problems and priorities for our volunteers? Since we started we have run regular surveys and reviews, generally on a local or team basis: ‘end of season’ reviews for our visitor-facing roles (like the iconic Volunteer Lock Keepers), and quarterly snapshots of random selections of volunteers. They’ve helped us identify some common problems such as communications, processing of expenses and distribution of equipment, and reassured us with good levels of retention and approval – a fairly steady 87% would tell friends and family to give volunteering with us a go.

But this is only a small proportion of our volunteers, and crucially missing out some of our most diverse but distant groups, those from other organisations - such as parish councils, businesses and Scout groups. To reach everyone, in summer 2017 we did only our second ever survey with all of our volunteers, including the leaders of these groups. We got a brilliant response of 1,240, 49% of our active volunteers. This was
generally really positive, with 96% recommending the Trust as a place to donate time, 92% proud to volunteer for us, and 94% intending to continue volunteering. But there were some concerns, too: only 68% felt they had the resources needed, 51% felt safety suggestions were acted upon, and 56% that they were listened to and valued.

What are we doing to tackle these concerns, and build on the successes to date? A purely reactive approach, taking action when the clamour gets loud enough or the resources become available, can be popular but is rarely cost/effort effective, and is unlikely to tackle any systemic problems. Our response is to pull together a ‘Volunteer Journey’: a plan to develop the best possible experience for our volunteers while they’re giving us their time, while making the most of the benefits for the Canal & River Trust. Within the plan there are 4 key outcomes:

Structure - Volunteering offers are structured, resourced effectively and consistently delivered
Communications – Effective Communication between us, our people and volunteers ensuring messaging is accurate, timely and relevant to support local and national decision making
Planning - Volunteering opportunities are effectively planned for and delivered at a local and national level
Processes – Working processes and practices are consistent, high quality and accessible

We’ve already started work in these areas. First up, on structure: we’re more closely defining our volunteer manager roles and responsibilities more clearly with our staff teams; investing in training and development for our volunteering specialists; recruiting more volunteers to lead volunteers; and setting up a more consistent model for how we support groups ‘adopting’ a stretch of canal.

Second, communications: making it easier to access opportunities on our website; setting up an annual volunteering conference; running regular newsletters for both our own volunteers and partner groups; and getting more interactive on social media. Third, planning: pulling together training packages for our key volunteers; approving them to do skilled tasks such as boat helming and machinery operation; and building them into our works planning. Finally, process: simplifying our safety paperwork, especially for partner groups; improving our induction sessions, especially for our more informal volunteers.

There’s lots more to do – we want to get better at providing feedback on ideas and complaints, get more consistent in how we use and support our volunteers, and crucially deliver on some of the projects we’re now developing. But we’re getting there, and it’s in no small part to the support of our volunteers. The Canal & River Trust simply couldn’t continue to make sure that everyone has an opportunity to escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life, on Britain’s canals and rivers, without the extraordinary commitment of our thousands of volunteers. That’s enough to make everyone happy.

To find out more about volunteering at the Canal & River Trust, go to www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/volunteer

Tom Freeland, Canal & River Trust

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**South West:**

REF 458-FOCUSR-OK8
JOB CONSERVATION VOLUNTEER
BE4 Ongoing
LOC PLYMOUTH & SURROUNDING AREA
PAY Training
FOR PLYMOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION (PEA)

We carry out a variety of projects including: tree planting; beach cleans; species & habitat surveys; wildlife pond creation; hedgelaying; invasive plant species management (e.g. rhododendron, parrotfeather, Himalayan balsam etc.); coppicing (a traditional woodland management technique); dry stone walling, to name but a few! Events each weekend, but no requirement to commit to a certain number of days. You will gain valuable nature conservation skills in countryside management, such as how to create & restore important habitats for wildlife & people. You will also gain other key skills such as communication, team working & leadership. If you are really keen you may want to progress to become a Volunteer Project Officer (VPO) & get more involved ‘behind the scenes’ planning & leading practical projects & social events. You don’t need to have any skills, experience or abilities to join as a volunteer; all you need is a love of the outdoors & be a good team player. Find out more from Chris Bond, plymouthenvironmentalaction@hotmail.co.uk www.pea-volunteering.co.uk
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REF</th>
<th>BE4</th>
<th>PAY</th>
<th>JOB</th>
<th>LOC</th>
<th>FOR</th>
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<tr>
<td>459-FOCUS-OK8</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Training</td>
<td>VOLUNTEER</td>
<td>WILD FUTURES THE MONKEY SANCTUARY</td>
<td>FYNE COURT</td>
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<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>EAST DEVON DISTRICT COUNCIL</td>
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<td>LANHYDROCK, BODMIN, CORNWALL</td>
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<td>30-37 hpw</td>
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<td>TORBAY, DEVON</td>
<td>TORBAY COAST AND COUNTRYSIDE TRUST</td>
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<td>31</td>
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<td>HOLNICOTE ESTATE, EXMOOR</td>
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<td>NATIONAL TRUST</td>
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**Fyne Court**

- **Volunteer**
  - Minimum of 2 weeks & maximum 3 months.
  - Help clean the monkey enclosures, prepare their food & enrichment. Help with children's workshops & in the cafe, gardening & help in the day to day running of the sanctuary.
  - No qual or experience required, just a willingness to be involved. More details from Antony Williams will@wildfutures.org

**Seaton Wetlands**

- **Discovery Hut Wardens**
  - Be the public face of Seaton Wetlands, welcome people, serve refreshments, answer questions about the site & share any knowledge on wildlife & birds seen in the area. In the Discovery Hut there is a nature table which the Wardens can show to children. Make tea & coffee, hire out the off-road mobility scooter (Tramper) & pond dipping equipment. This is a fun & varied role on Saturday, Sundays or Mondays. Training sessions are run for Wardens on the Tramper & First Aid. Also social events. Volunteers must enjoy meeting people & have great communication skills. Find out more from the Countryside Team 01395 517557 countryside@eastdevon.gov.uk

**Magdalen Farm**

- **Residential Volunteer**
  - A 132 acre organic educational & therapeutic centre that welcomes c. 4,500 visitors of all ages & abilities in a residential & day visit capacity. For the last 25 years we have engaged with & educated visitors using nature & the farming environment as our resource; it is fun, inspirational & innovative. Most of the help required is horticultural. There is also animal care which involves feeding up & putting our lovely poultry to bed! We always have the need for help with conservation & construction such as building wooden bridges. Time: 3 weeks to 2 months. We teach volunteers basic animal care, seasonal horticultural skills & organic vegetable growing. Join different lessons on the farm, such as hands on farming, survival in the wild & river dipping, in order to get an overview of the outdoor education programme.
  - Experience not essential as we can teach you. As we are in a rural setting & not a community you will need to be fairly self-sufficient & being sociable is really important too. Self-motivated, enthusiastic, committed & willing to get involved. Contact rebecca@magdalenfarm.org.uk to request a volunteer application pack.

**Torbay**

- **Wildlife Survey Volunteer**
  - Once a week in spring and summer. Do you have a passion for plants or wildlife? Could you share your knowledge to help survey and monitor flora and fauna around Lanhydrock estate to create valuable online records that help the Ranger Team with conservation management of the estate? By getting involved, you could: use/improve your wildlife ID skills and knowledge; see how ecological surveys help with conservation management decisions; become part of a friendly and dedicated countryside team; improve your communication skills. You will: help with surveys for a variety of species groups; record and provide data to the Ranger Team within the specified timescales; learn more about Lanhydrock, its history, landscape and nature; let staff know of any issues with fences, footpaths, etc.; maintain good relationships with people who share the land; become familiar with and follow the National Trust H&S Policy at all times; work outdoors in all weather conditions & get involved with other activities that are of interest to you, that we could use your help with us. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/find-an-opportunity

- **Trainee Countryside Education Officer**
  - 30-37 hpw. You will assist the Education Officers on planning, delivery & evaluation of events, educational visits, & activities across Trust sites. Provide support to the Trust's education team working with schools & colleges on site to increase understanding of the natural environment & support staff in running cookery school workshops. You will help run volunteer days, encouraging volunteers & seeking volunteer opportunities within animal management, gardening & engagement. Provide information to the public about the environment of Torbay through public engagement events, visitor centre & exhibitions when required. For further information and to apply visit our website http://c-js.co.uk/2sprA6V

- **Exmoor Volunteer Ranger**
  - Minimum 6 months, maximum 12 months. As a member of the ranger team on the stunning 12,500 acre Holnicote Estate you will gain experience in a huge variety of practical conservation skills, assist with the co-ordination & management of local volunteers, help deliver events & wildlife surveys. Core hours are 4 days per week 8.30 – 16.30. Some weekend & bank holiday working will also be required April to September to fit in with the current ranger working pattern. Training includes: chainsaw felling & cross cutting, brush cutter, emergency first aid, off road driving course, e-modules for manual handling, fire awareness & risk assessments. Email robert.manicom@nationaltrust.org.uk for role description & application form.
Every Thursday Dry Stone Walling Work Party
Durlston Country Park, Swanage organized by Dorset County Council. Contact: 01929 424443 info@durlston.co.uk
http://www.durlston.co.uk
Meet at the Learning Centre at 10am. Session runs till 13:00. Join us for a session of dry stone walling at Durlston Country Park NNR. No experience necessary. Wear suitable work clothing and sturdy footwear. Tools, training and hot drinks provided. Suitable for a variety of ages and ability levels.

Join the Ranger team on group conservation days. Try volunteering in the countryside and get hands-on with the great outdoors. 3rd March - Help to preserve the archaeological sites at Lanhydrock. 5th May - Help us to carry out maintenance works on one of our cycle trails. Contact Laurence Harvey 01208 265965 laurence.harvey@nationaltrust.org.uk
Every Wednesday throughout the year. EuCAN Dorset Mid-week Volunteers
Minibus (if spare seats) from Weymouth and Dorchester, or meet at destination, organised by EuCAN Dorset Mid-Week Volunteers. Contact: 07763 923545 eucan.dmv@gmail.com http://c-js.co.uk/2r1fFPD
10:00 - 15:30. A variety of tasks (including hedgelaying, drystone walling, Fencing, heathland restoration, habitat management and invasive species) on NNRs and SSSI's within Dorset's AONB, and occasionally just beyond. Operated by volunteers for volunteers, we fund brushcutter, chainsaw, and other courses where possible. Copy and follow https://tinyurl.com/hfxv9nm for detailed worksite information.

Every Wednesday Practical Conservation Work Party
Durlston Country Park, Swanage organized by Dorset County Council. Contact: 01929 424443 info@durlston.co.uk http://www.durlston.co.uk
Meet at the Learning Centre at 10am. Session runs till 13:00. Join us for all kinds of outdoor conservation work around Durlston Country Park NNR. Wear suitable work clothing and sturdy footwear. All tools, training and hot drinks provided. Suitable for a variety of ages and ability levels.

National:

Snakes in the Heather – helping Britain's rarest reptile
Amphibian & Reptile Conservation (ARC) are leading a brand-new project to conserve our rarest reptile – the smooth snake. “Snakes in the Heather” aims to conserve this secretive creature throughout its range in Britain.
Please complete our Community Survey to help us safeguard the smooth snake for the future - there are over £250 worth of prizes up for grabs! www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Snakes-in-the-Heather
You can also support smooth snake conservation by making a donation: www.arc-trust.org/appeal/sponsor-smooth-snakes

Snakes in the Heather - helping Britain's rarest reptile
Community Survey

REF 472-FOCUSR-OK5
BE4 Ongoing
PAY Training
JOB COUNTY DRAGONFLY RECORDER X3
LOC CHESHIRE, MONMOUTHSHIRE AND CHANNEL ISLES (HOME BASED)
FOR BRITISH DRAGONFLY SOCIETY

Long term, time commitment dependent on volunteers’ availability. You will upload records, sent to you by volunteer recorders, onto iRecord and validate and verify records on iRecord. Act as a central point of contact for local volunteer recorders, and enquires from organisations/groups (e.g. local wildlife groups) and members of the public, regarding information/advice on Dragonflies and recording in the area. You will also produce a short annual update article for our Darter newsletter. Additional activities vary depending on the volunteers’ skills and interests e.g. leading field workshops and talks, attending events, and setting up a local group. Contact David Hepper, BDS Records Officer, records@british-dragonflies.org.uk or 01252 721053

REF 473-FOCUSR-OK9
BE4 Ongoing
PAY Survey pack*
JOB WOOD PASTURE AND PARKLAND VOLUNTEER SURVEYOR
LOC COUNTRYWIDE
FOR PTES

Characterised by big old trees growing in open pasture-land. Wood Pasture often contains some of the oldest living trees in our country, providing a direct link with bygone landscapes and homes to many rare and threatened species. This survey is relatively simple to do but tells us so much about the structure, condition and management. You will be required to do a structured walk around a site, counting and estimating things like trees, canopy cover and scrub, whilst looking out for a few key species such as hawthorn, elder and bramble. All the data we get helps us build a better picture of the conservation task we have ahead of ourselves in order to preserve this precious habitat and the rare species to which it is home.” Surveyor will receive a survey pack with all the instructions, maps and guides. They can contact the project organiser for any additional help needed. Each survey should take a couple of hours, plus a bit of prep time. Contact megan.gimber@ptes.org or go to www.ptes.org/wpp for more information.

REF HOL-DIRECT-30/11
DATE Throughout the year
COST £70
TITLE CANAL RESTORATION VOLUNTEER – CANAL CAMPS
BASE VARIOUS
WITH WATERWAY RECOVERY GROUP

Waterway Recovery Group’s week long residential volunteering holidays are the perfect opportunity for anyone looking to learn new skills, meet a wide range of different people, give something back or just have a fun filled week making amazing memories. Each Canal Camp costs only £70 for the whole week and is run by volunteers for volunteers – providing all the training, food and banter needed to fully immerse yourself in the world of Canal Restoration. Accommodation and travel to and from site is also included during the week. Our volunteering holidays act as a catalyst to canal restoration projects giving a much needed boost to local restoration groups making significant progress in just one week. It’s easy to find out more about our canal camps – to get involved, just visit: www.wrg.org.uk or contact us on 01494 783 453 ext 610.
What effect has recent weather had on wildlife? Does climate change affect timings in nature? Join Nature's Calendar and help scientists discover answers to these questions. From leaf buds bursting to blackberries ripening, let us know what's happening near you. https://naturescalendar.woodlandtrust.org.uk/
The Association of Countryside Volunteers

It is with deep regret on the one hand and an element of pride as to all the Association has achieved in its fifty year existence on the other that Roger Higgs informs us of the fact that the Association of Countryside Volunteers has now ceased to exist. This is due to lack of new and active members. Roger says: “Whilst putting together the Association’s last Magazine, it suddenly struck me that when the Association was first established, way back in October 1967, at Grasmere in the Lake District, the founding fathers, one of whom, Trevor Hardy and his wife Dorothy, have remained active throughout the life of the Association, were at the time young people, one in their late twenties and others early forties. I believe I'm right in saying now that currently, few members are younger than sixty, many somewhat older. Younger people now seem to have very busy lives and despite there being many thousands of countryside volunteers across the UK, of all ages, working for a myriad of organisations, time is precious and understandably your local patch comes first.” If anyone wants to contact Roger he can be emailed on rogerhiggs@hotmail.co.uk

International:


Community-based sea turtle conservation on the Pacific Coast of Guatemala. Join the Indigo Sea Turtle Initiative! Experience in field surveying, or other conservation projects, would be beneficial, but no specialist experience of sea turtles is required. More important is a willingness to learn! Contact info@explorewithindigo.com or see http://explorewithindigo.com/indigo-sea-turtle-initiative/ for more info. Internships are available for those with experience of sea turtle conservation.

REF F116-FOCUS-29/6 BE4 30/6/18 PAY Accommodation JOB VOLUNTEER AT MOUNTAIN GORILLA CAMP FOR VOLUNTEER 4 AFRICA LOC UGANDA

This locally owned and operated camp, close to Bwindi Impenetrable National Park in Uganda, offers accommodation for international gorilla trekkers. The mountain gorilla camp is looking for volunteers to help local staff with operational tasks, including taking reservations, meeting and briefing guests on arrival. Volunteers receive free accommodation and contribute US$15 per day for food. 1 month minimum. Exceptional opportunity to work at a World Heritage site & encounter families of mountain gorillas. Please visit https://www.volunteer4africa.org/ for full project details and application instructions.

REF F478-FOCUS-OK8 BE4 Ongoing PAY Accomm & other benefits JOB VOLUNTEER AT WILDLIFE SANCTUARY FOR VOLUNTEER LATIN AMERICA LOC COSTA RICA

1 month min. The sanctuary is looking for volunteer help year round with animal care, construction & gardening work. Volunteer activities range from daily leaf collection for howler monkeys to planting saplings. Caring, positive attitude & cheery. Details on www.volunteerlatinamerica.com/ info@volunteerlatinamerica.com

REF F479-FOCUS-OK7 BE4 Ongoing PAY Free accommodation and food JOB JAGUAR CARE & MAINTENANCE FOR VOLUNTEER LATIN AMERICA LOC ARGENTINA

3 months minimum. This wildlife reintroduction project is looking for volunteers to help take care of jaguars at a breeding centre and maintain the facilities. This a good opportunity to work in a remote and natural setting with an endangered species. The project provides free accommodation and food. You can view further information on the VLA website. www.volunteerlatinamerica.com

Please check the main text to ensure that you have all of the required qualifications / experience before you apply. Contact ONLY the person, email, number or address given use links to a job description / more information, if an SAE is required double check you use the correct stamps. If you're sending a CV by email name the file with YOUR name not just CV.doc

This CJS Focus was published on 12/2/18.

The CJS Team would like to thank everyone who has contributed adverts, articles and information for this CJS Focus publication.

Next edition will feature Greenspace, published 21/5/18

A4 sides this CJS Focus: 35 Adverts: 131 Details believed correct but given without prejudice, Ends.