



Volunteer to support the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site Discovery Days Festival

Role Purpose

Since the inscription of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS) a festival has taken place in October half-term break to engage visitors and residents in activities through the DVMWHS called 'Discovery Days'.

The Discovery Days Festival is a valued event and its continuation will help build towards a number of key celebration events in 2021 and further to 2025, which has been provisionally identified by the Culture, Heritage and Tourism Board as the year that Derby and Derbyshire will bid to become the UK's City and County of Culture.

2020 will also mark the end of the DVMWHS Great Place Scheme, which aims to engage residents and visitors with the stories of the WHS by celebrating its heritage through arts. This also provides a notable stepping stone to 2021 and onto 2025.

Additional, targeted, volunteer resource would help develop the Discovery Days Festival. We need support with the planning and delivery of Discovery Days as we are changing the format to three days in 2020 – 9th to 11th October. This will be a different way to deliver the festival and also needs to have at least one flagship event each day. Organisations across the WHS will be taking part and it will involve liaising with them and coordinating the hubs to have a range of events taking place on each day. The festival will aim to raise the profile of the DVMWHS so people will either come to find out about the WHS then or at another time of year.

Key Tasks

2020 Festival – help with planning the festival in the new format, focusing on bringing organisations and groups together to come up with ideas to promote the DVMWHS on the three days.

During the Festival – introduce yourself to organisers of events, see if they need any assistance, promote Discovery Days to the public to attend events, and take photographs (with permissions).

Key Skills Qualities Required

- Enthusiastic, confident and self-motivated
- Proactive in talking to people
- Able to work on your own and in a team
- Able to stay focused and self-reliant during busy and quiet times
- Friendly and enjoy talking to people of all ages
- Enjoy working in a variety of places, especially the outdoors
- Good organisational skills
- Take pride and enjoy welcoming and delivering great experiences to all

What you will get out of it

- Becoming part of a friendly and dedicated team
- Getting out and about and meeting different people
- Using your communication skills
- Gain experience for your CV or personal development

How much time it will take

- The time is difficult to predict as it will be more at some times than others. If you can spare one or two days per fortnight.

Other information

- This role will be based with the DVMWHS Coordination Team in their office at County Hall, Matlock.