



Archaeology Volunteer Role Profile

What are we asking you to do?

Our aim is to uncover new information about the history and landscape development of the area through a programme of surveys, research, excavation, interpretation and conservation management works.

By volunteering with us you will work in the Rusland Horizons scheme area; develop an understanding of archaeology and historic environment; develop survey and archaeological practice skills; gain knowledge of conservation practices and gain knowledge and experience to help with achieving accredited qualifications if you so desire.

We need volunteers to help with a number of archaeology projects:

Woodland Surveys (April 2017 and 2018)

There is at least 1,217 hectares of woodland in the area that has not been surveyed. We are working with landowners and volunteers to identify and record the location and condition of archaeological features.

Barkhouse Bank (summer 2017)

We know that there are bloomeries on Barkhouse Bank which date back to the thirteenth century. Archaeologists and volunteers will survey and excavate the site to find out more about medieval iron smelting.

Survey of Bethocar Moor (2018)

Bethocar Moor is one of the few extensive areas of open fell in the southern Lake District that has not been subject to archaeological survey. We will carry out a Level 1 Survey to record all of the visible archaeological features on the Moor.

Key Tasks

Volunteer tasks will vary, depending on the project, site and season of the year and may include bracken clearing, strimming, land survey and monitoring, archaeological and conservation work.

Practicalities

- 1. Expenses:** Expenses are paid for travel costs only, incurred as a result of volunteering with us. The current rate is 29p per mile to a maximum of £10 per day.
- 2. Supervisors:** Depending on the project, these may be professional archaeologist contractors or experienced Archaeology Volunteer Supervisors.
- 3. Time commitment:** We will advertise the survey days for each project in advance, you can sign up for as many days as you wish. Days will normally run 10 – 4pm and will include tea and lunch breaks.
- 4. Training and support:** There will be a training day at the start of each project, as well as on-site briefings at the start of each day. Training may include archaeological sites recognition, survey techniques, photography, strimming, and other conservation practices depending on the project.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

You do not need any prior skills or experience in archaeology as training will be provided. We're looking for volunteers that have:

- experience of walking and basic navigation (map and compass) skills
- an interest in working in the historic environment of the Lake District;
- an interest in working outdoors;
- ability to work as part of a team;
- ability to undertake physical work for a period of time;
(for site-based activities a reasonable level of fitness is required)
- ability to communicate effectively with other members of the team;
- willingness to attend appropriate training and develop your skills.

This role is intended as a gift relationship between volunteers and the organisation, it is binding in honour and trust only and not intended to be legally binding.