



Crofton Families & Learning Volunteer

We are inviting expressions of interest for a new volunteer role in family and formal learning at Crofton Beam Engines.

Crofton is an internationally significant site for the history of engineering, having the oldest working beam engines in the world, still capable of carrying out their original job.

The Boulton and Watt engine of 1812, and the 1846 Harvey's of Hayle engine power pumps which send water from the nearby reservoir at Wilton Water into the Kennet and Avon Canal over 200 years ago and brought the beginnings of the industrial revolution to the Wiltshire countryside. Schools visit our site to learn about the science behind the engines, the social history of the families who once lived here, the canal and habitat and to explore the arts and other subjects through creative play and role-play. They work on Learning Outcomes for Maths, Literacy, Science, Geography, History and Art.

Thanks to a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, we are now in the process of designing new learning sessions for our school visits offer and would love to bring on board a new volunteer with a background in delivering or supporting learning sessions to primary school children in an informal setting. We also welcome applications from those with a keen interest in history, or who hold an heritage qualification. The role would particularly suit someone seeking work experience as an entry into the museum and heritage sector, and we would support the development of your professional skills through networking and inclusion in professional development events where possible. Applications also welcome from those with experience in education delivery or support.

The role requires some flexibility and would involve supporting and leading sessions plus assisting with resourcing them, as well as planning content on occasion. In return, you would develop experience in planning learning sessions and meeting schools' needs in terms of links to the curriculum. Delivery of sessions may be up to three days per month, and content planning a further 2 – 3 days. However, we are flexible regarding your commitment.

You would be working closely with the Development Officer for the first 18 months, with potential to lead on the schools programme delivery from spring 2020.

Specific tasks:

- To lead and support formal school visits to Crofton Beam Engines.
- To support family and public learning workshops at informal outreach events at Crofton and off site – in schools, other heritage sites and community fairs etc
- To become familiar with the history of Crofton and confidently lead tours of the site, with age-appropriate delivery.

- To bring a positive and 'can do' attitude to complex workshop delivery, seeking to bring fun and engagement to the audience of pupils.
- To help plan the delivery of sessions through co-ordinating availability of learning resources in support of the Development Officer.
- To work with the Development Officer to make small adjustments to workshop formats so that they will fit individual school needs where possible.
- To assist in the clear, tidy and clean-up of learning spaces, and the clearing away of temporary work areas.
- To be prepared to attend training courses chosen by the Crofton team to enhance education staff and volunteer delivery and planning skills.

Crofton Beam Engines is owned and managed by the Kennet and Avon Canal Trust.

Crofton Beam Engines holds the Queens Award for Voluntary Service.

For further information and a discussion, please contact the Elizabeth Roper, Development Officer: elizabethroper74@gmail.com Anyone wishing to have a tour of the site and informal talk before completing an application form may liaise with Mrs Roper to arrange a site visit.



**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**

The MBE for volunteer groups