

Volunteer Role

Archaeology Volunteer



Volunteering with the Union Chain Bridge Project

Volunteers are an extremely important part of the Union Chain Bridge project. Our volunteers will be vital for several of our activities including uncovering detailed information through research. Volunteering is a great way to gain experience and develop skills in something you really enjoy, as well as to meet new people and learn about the history and heritage of the area. All our volunteers will be supported by the project team and training will be provided.

The Union Chain Bridge Project

Union Chain Bridge: Crossing Borders, Inspiring Communities is an ambitious project involving the conservation of the historically and internationally significant Union Chain Bridge, and an extensive programme of public engagement funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The project is a partnership between Northumberland County Council, Scottish Borders Council, Museums Northumberland and the Friends of the Union Chain Bridge. In this partnership, Museums Northumberland is responsible for the Volunteer Programme and the delivery of all heritage learning and engagement activities.

Roles purposes	<p>We are looking for volunteers who will support the UCB project team in uncovering new stories about the Union Chain Bridge through a variety of archaeological research and fieldwork activities.</p> <p>Alongside the findings from the archive research project, content will be used to inform project interpretation and learning materials as well as to update official historic environment records.</p>
What the role will involve	<p>The main focus of the role will involve:</p> <p>Undertaking archaeological research and fieldwork under the supervision of the Community Archaeology Consultant - using a variety of archaeological techniques including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interpreting historic maps, aerial photographs, scientific surveys and other resources.• Historic building and landscape recording and analysis.• On-site archaeological excavation.
When	Spring 2021 - April 2022.

	<p>Dates for workshops, research and fieldwork will be set by the project team and Community Archaeology consultant based on volunteer availability and ongoing Covid-19 guidance.</p>
Where	<p>Archaeological training and fieldwork will take place at Union Chain Bridge, the villages of Horncliffe and Paxton and other sites identified by the Community Archaeology Consultant.</p> <p>Further activities and research will flexible in that volunteers will be able to take part remotely but will be expected to keep in regular contact with the co-ordinators.</p> <p>Where possible, Berwick Museum and Art Gallery will be the main base for the project.</p>
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An interest in archaeology, history, and local culture • Ability to work on your own and in a team • Attendance at appropriate training to develop your skills
Our commitment To you	<p>Through this role you will gain:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working with maps, photographs, data and interpreting them. • The opportunity to develop your knowledge of archaeology, local history, geography, and culture with a focus on the Union Chain Bridge. • Experience of working independently, yet as part of a bigger team. <p>We will also reimburse reasonable out-of-pocket expenses for travel – further details can be found in the volunteer handbook.</p>
Training	<p>Volunteers will receive a mixture of internally and externally delivered training including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equality & Diversity • Interpretation of visual sources such as maps, photographs and Lidar. • Archaeological excavation techniques. • Historic building and landscape recording and analysis. • Osteology.
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