

Become a Collections Project Volunteer

Get up-close and behind-the-scenes access to our collection stores!

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to support our Curatorial Team in documenting and caring for our internationally significant collection.

About the River & Rowing Museum

The River & Rowing Museum inspires escape and exploration, telling the many stories of the River Thames and celebrating the wildlife that calls it home. Beyond its beautiful riverside location in Henley on Thames and award-winning building, the Museum's doors open onto art, history, conservation, and the international sport of rowing. Find out more at **rrm.co.uk**

What's involved:

- Doing audits and inventories of archival material, artworks and 3D objects.
- Checking the condition of objects and that they are stored correctly in our collection stores.
- Recording objects in an Excel spreadsheet and the Vernon collections database. You will need basic IT skills, including Microsoft Word and Excel.
- The option to write blog posts and assist with hands-on tasks such as labelling and marking objects.

'Delighted to be involved in this project as I am excited to learn new skills and to gain an insight into how the museum works behind the scenes. I am looking forward to delving deeper into the museum's collection and maybe discovering some otherwise unseen hidden gems!' Collections Project Volunteer 2021

Volunteers will contribute and develop the following skills and knowledge:

- A high attention to detail.
- Good organisation skills, such as learning and following processes.
- Experience of using Microsoft Excel and a museum database.
- An enjoyment of working in a team.
- Experience of reliably handling a variety of valuable & fragile objects.

We strive to make our opportunities inclusive and accessible. Get in touch to discuss how we can support you to volunteer.





Training and equipment:

Training and equipment will be provided. Volunteers are required to provide face coverings in line with our Covid-19 procedures.

Required hours:

Volunteering sessions last for 3 hours, with regular breaks, and take place on weekday mornings and afternoons. Volunteers work in groups of a maximum of 5 people plus the Collections Project Curator. This is an 18 month long project with the opportunity for long-term or short-term volunteering on a regular or ad hoc basis.

The Museum is accessible by train, bus and car. Volunteers can use the Museum's car park during their sessions free of charge.

What you will get in return:

- Free admission to the Museum
- 10% discount on admission for up to two friends or family
- 10% discount on children's workshops and adult lectures
- 10% discount in the Museum shop and Café
- Biannual social events
- Invitation to Private Views
- Quarterly Volunteer Newsletter
- Travel expenses: limited to £7 for public transport and 10 miles per journey for travel by car. Other forms of transport such as taxis need to be agreed in advance in order to be claimed under travel expenses.

How to get involved:

Download the enquiry form at www.rrm.co.uk/about/volunteers/

Email your completed form to Juliet Harris, Volunteer Co-ordinator, at **volunteering@rrm.co.uk** or send it to:

Volunteering, The River & Rowing Museum, Mill Meadows, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon, RG9 1BF.

If you have any questions regarding volunteering with us please email **volunteering@rrm.co.uk** or call **01491 415 600**.

'The curatorial team are really friendly and provided very good training and they're always on hand if we have any questions. It's great to be getting hands on experience working with museum objects. The River & Rowing Museum is a treasure trove of fascinating objects, each with their own unique story – some of them are really quirky!'

Collections Project Volunteer 2021



'The joy of the collections project for me is that of the unknown and of handling (duly gloved up) the exhibits which are full of history!

The unknown is the frisson of excitement when opening up the box, wondering what will be included and what aspect of the museum it covers.'

Collections Project Volunteer 2021