



Heritage Volunteering Conference 2021

Recognise, Reconnect, Reimagine

Tuesday 6th & Wednesday 7th July, 10am – 2.30pm

Online

#HeritageVolunteering2021

Day 1: Tuesday 6th July - Workshops

Number	Activity
<p>Workshop 1</p>	<p>Host: Oxford University Gardens, Libraries and Museums (GLAM). Title: From Quarantine to Quaranzine: keeping connected creatively. Name: Hayleigh Jutson, Caroline Moreau, Joy Todd</p> <p>When sites closed and volunteering came to a sudden halt, many volunteers expressed a strong desire to stay connected to our organisations, to each other, and to their identity as volunteers. This desire has remained strong for many throughout the time of Covid. During the year GLAM Volunteer Service has undertaken a range of measures to provide a sense of community and support the wellbeing of volunteers, including those who are shielding. This has included creating new digital volunteering roles and running online, interactive social events such as sharing knowledge, baking, sketching, making models, bingo, games and quizzes. We also started a volunteer-led 'Zine' full of tips, articles and inspiring photos of the wonderful things volunteers have been doing whilst volunteering has been on hold. These activities have led us to get to know some of our volunteers as never before, and has impacted our own wellbeing as much as anyone's.</p> <p>This workshop will focus on the positive side of being volunteer managers and leaders during this time,</p>
<p>Workshop 2</p>	<p>Host: Churches Conservation Trust. Title: Adapting to change during a challenging year. Name: Judith Patrick Role: Head of North region and National lead for community engagement and volunteering</p> <p>The Churches Conservation Trust (CCT) works across England with 356 historic churches. Volunteers and community members are key to the churches being open and welcoming for visitors and events. We have a team of 15 Local Community Officers who work with a portfolio of churches but this can still be over quite a large geographic area.</p> <p>AT CCT we have used a number of different approaches across the organisation to Recognise, Reconnect and Reimagine volunteering in our sites. It has been a challenging year for us all and like many in the sector, we lost significant income during the main visitor season, but we appreciate that we are lucky to have maintained our staffing levels. We feel through adaptation we have retained our core volunteers but also attracted new volunteers to some new and exciting roles. During the workshop we will showcase few of our achievements for 2020/21.</p>

<p>Workshop 3</p>	<p>Host: Vindolanda Trust and Newcastle University. Title: Creating a Manifesto of Volunteering in Heritage: the Participatory approach. Name: Marta Alberti Role: Site archaeologist at the Vindolanda Trust, supervising volunteer excavations for the last 6 years/ PhD candidate at Newcastle University, researching volunteer participation on Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site.</p> <p>In this workshop, based on Participatory Action Research techniques, Marta Alberti- Site Archaeologist at the Vindolanda Trust on Hadrian's Wall and PhD candidate at Newcastle University- will facilitate a discussion about what motivates volunteers to give their time and skills to heritage organisations. We will also explore how such motivations may or may not match the desires and expectations of heritage professionals. The aim of the workshop is to choose a method to co-create a Manifesto of Volunteering in Heritage, and to offer both volunteers and heritage professionals in attendance the tools to conduct a successful workshop within their own organisation. There has never been a better time than now, as we re-open and re-adapt to life after a pandemic, to truly listen to each other and construct a happier, more productive heritage volunteering environment.</p>
<p>Workshop 4</p>	<p>Host: Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales Title: The challenges and questions we posed to ourselves during lockdown and how they changed over the course of the year. Name: Ffion Davies Role: Volunteer and Placement Manager</p> <p>Our engagement with our approximately 500 volunteers during lockdown went through three distinct phases:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) regular contact to provide support and checking people were ok; 2) plus measures to mitigate loss of volunteers & increase recognition and rewards; 3) plus moving from mainly social contact to more meaningful engagement including producing material (virtual and physical), volunteer training, and creating and recruiting to new roles including a new project to engage with carers.

Day 2: Wednesday 7th July

Number	Activity
Workshop 1	<p>Host: Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences (Oxford University Centre for Evidence Based Medicine), Title: How volunteering affects wellbeing and its role in social prescribing. Name: Stephanie Tierney, Amadea Turk Role: Researcher</p> <p>Social prescribing is being rolled out in the NHS to address social, environmental and economic problems that affect people's well-being (e.g. loneliness, low mood, concerns about money or housing issues). It does this by linking them to local groups or organisations. This can include supporting people to find and engage with volunteering opportunities. We are a team at the University of Oxford interested in social prescribing and how it can help different groups of people. We have completed a study on how volunteering can affect the well-being of volunteers. It included a review of qualitative literature and interviews with volunteers from Oxford Gardens, Museums and Libraries. In this workshop we would like to share a summary of what we found from this research. We will tailor this workshop to the heritage audience and it will draw upon experience gained in our longer online end of study workshop with those involved in the project (such as our colleague Joy Todd from Oxford University GLAM), local community volunteer coordinators and other researchers.</p>
Workshop 2	<p>Host: South East Museum Development (SEMD). Title: Reimagining volunteering and recruiting for the future. Name: Katrina Burton Role: Museum Development Officer</p> <p>This workshop will draw out practical tips from the experiences of 9 different museums across the south east who took in our South East Museum Development funded <i>Growing Volunteering</i> project over 2020-21. This project focused on supporting museums to recruit new volunteers, retain existing volunteers and rethink their volunteering model, in order to adapt to the challenges of the pandemic. Through a series of workshops, supported action planning and a small grant programme, we enabled these 9 museums to think about their volunteer offer, adapt their volunteering models and to actively work towards a more diverse volunteer base.</p>
Workshop3	<p>Host: English Heritage. Title: Reimagining volunteering in the face of Covid. Name: Jemma Braidwood Lewis & Mirabai Ruskin Role: Volunteering and Participation Adviser</p> <p>This workshop will explore how we adapted and developed in responsive to the impact of Covid19 in terms of our volunteer offer. How we developed new roles as well as adapted others, how we launched a national engagement online programme of events to ensure connection was maintained with volunteers as well as continuing to show appreciation and recognition. We'll also look at how we significantly improved our communications introducing new platforms and improving the consistency and quality on forms already in place.</p>

Workshop 4	<p>HVG EDI Working Group. Title: Reimagining Inclusion Name: Tamsin Russell Role: Workforce Development Officer, Museums Association</p> <p>In this interactive workshop we will explore the opportunities and challenges when creating an inclusive volunteering experience.</p> <p>From looking at the legislative to ethical basis for inclusion, equality analysis, current thinking, and good practice within and outside of the sector this workshop will provide you with food for thought and tangible actions to take back to your workplace.</p> <p>Please reflect on what you feel you need to address the challenges you face in advance of the workshop; it can also be helpful to think about a specific problem or situation you have experienced.</p>
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