

## Volunteering at the Sewerby Hall

### East Riding of Yorkshire Council

#### Information on the organisation, background, aims and objectives

East Riding of Yorkshire Council is the largest unitary authority in the country and was formed in 1996, following local government reorganisation. The council is the largest employer in the East Riding of Yorkshire with a workforce of around 10,000. The main offices are in Beverley, but the council also has staff in Bridlington, Goole and Skirlaugh. We pride ourselves on delivering the highest possible standards across the full range of council services.

#### Our Vision

The East Riding of Yorkshire Council will work to improve the quality of life for our community, earn the respect of the people we serve and build pride in belonging to the East Riding.

#### Our Community Aims

Improved health - improved quality of life  
Greater Prosperity - higher living standards  
Reduced crime - reduced fear of crime  
Lifelong learning - improved educational achievement  
A healthy environment - for future generations

#### Museums Service

The East Riding Museums Service is responsible for the Museum and collections at Sewerby Hall a Grade 1 listed country house. Our visitors include school groups, East Riding residents, families, special needs groups, day trippers and tourists. We are always working to develop new audiences, to increase our collections and to produce innovative exhibition programmes. The Museums Service is also responsible Skidby Windmill, Goole Museum, the Guildhall, Beverley, Beverley Art Gallery in the Treasure House Museum, Beverley.

Sewerby Hall has been lovingly restored to the appearance it would have had as a family home circa 1910. The displays are a mix of traditional, static displays of period rooms and more interactive rooms where visitors are invited to handle objects, sit on furniture, open draws and cupboards etc. In addition the Hall continues to display the Museum's important Amy Johnson collection.

## **Who is the volunteer programme for?**

The Volunteer opportunities at Sewerby Hall are for anyone who has an interest in meeting people and engaging with the public. It is also an opportunity for those people interested in history or who want to be involved with the display and interpretation of a country house and local museum, or who want to see Sewerby Hall continue and develop as a community resource.

## **What is the background to the volunteer programme?**

In 2014 Sewerby Hall reopened following a major restoration and redisplay to present the house as it was when a family home in circa 1910.

At that time a very successful project was initiated to develop a team of costumed volunteers to help interpret and provide access to the Hall and its handling collections for our visitors of all ages, as well as help groups and schools when they visit. A second volunteer team was also formed to create period costumes to aid the interpretation.

We are now planning to expand the original project and are seeking additional volunteers to help us do so. In 2017 we will be launching a second heritage interpretation day on a Friday and we are seeking volunteers to participate in the new sessions as well as create and provide the necessary costumes.

In addition, 2017 will see the launch of the “Sewerby Social”. This is intended to be an afternoon of music, board games and chat to be held every Monday afternoon in the Orangery. We hope to recruit Engagement Volunteers to help facilitate these sessions.

## **What kinds of opportunities are available?**

We are currently looking for

- Learning and Interpretation Volunteers
- Engagement Volunteers
- Costume Project Volunteer

## **What does it involve?**

Attending some informal training and giving your time – we can be flexible depending on what type of voluntary work you are interested in.

We will provide as much support as required to ensure that the volunteering experience will be both satisfying and enjoyable.

Our only requirement is that if you undertake to be involved in a particular project or event on a particular day, you will carry out the commitment or let us know if you are unable to do so.

### **What will I gain by volunteering / what's in it for me?**

This is a chance to learn about the fascinating history of Sewerby Hall, the estate and the gardens, contribute to people's engagement with the heritage of the area, and to be involved with the continued development of a local museum. There are opportunities to meet people, work in a team, gain new experiences, and learn about the museum environment. It is also an opportunity to use your own experience and skills to benefit the local community.

You will be part of an active and dedicated team of volunteers.

There will be opportunities for training.

There will be four volunteer meetings a year including our Christmas party.

You will be able to take advantage of the Northern Museums Volunteer Pass Scheme.

### **Will I be part of a team?**

Our volunteers are an important part of the Sewerby Hall and Gardens team. Your role will bring you into contact with the Curator and Education Officer and other staff and volunteers at Sewerby Hall.

### **What do I do next?**

You will need to fill in the application form and return it to us at the given address. We will then invite you to come along for an informal interview to discuss the opportunities and how you might like to contribute.

## **Sewerby Hall, Volunteer Learning Interpreters**

Sewerby Hall is a Grade 1 listed country house perched on the cliff tops near Bridlington. It was home to the Greame family from 1699 to 1934 when they sold it, along with its 411acre estate, to Bridlington Corporation for £45,000. The building has been open to the public ever since and is one of the treasures of the East Riding and the Yorkshire Coast. In 2012 Sewerby Hall received a Heritage Lottery Grant to refurbish the interiors and restore the lost Kitchen and Servants' Hall and to encourage public access through handling collections and interpretation. The project included the introduction of an educational programme, and the creation of a dedicated teaching and learning space in the Old Laundry Block. As a Volunteer Learning Interpreter, you will be part of the team making public access, interpretation and education a reality.

We are looking for enthusiastic people to join our education team as Volunteer Learning Interpreters. As a Learning Interpreter you will need to be friendly, personable, enjoy working in a team and be willing to participate in activities organised for the public, for schools and for families.

The role will involve costumed interpretation, inside Sewerby Hall, as well as the Park and Gardens, you will be meeting our visitors, and explaining about life in the Hall at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> and beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. You will have a good sense of humour and fun as well as an interest in the social history of the Victorian and Edwardian country house. Enthusiasm and excellent communication skills are essential, along with a desire to share this interest with our visitors, especially children and families.

In addition you will be supporting the delivery of a range of formal learning activities for groups of all ages and the role will also involve participating in school visits to the Hall.

It is your decision how much time you can give us, but our aim is to have two regular weekly interpretation days, Wednesdays and Fridays, during the summer period when the Hall is open to visitors. On these days volunteers from the Learning and Interpretation team will be on site to enrich the visitor experience of Sewerby Hall. We are particularly seeking volunteers for our Friday interpretation day.

It is hoped that the Learning Interpretation volunteer project will run for two years, when it will be reviewed.

No formal qualifications or previous experience is required as you will receive training on how to engage with visitors and school children.

All voluntary positions are subject to successful completion of the East Riding Yorkshire Council volunteer application form, and a short informal visit and discussion at Sewerby Hall.

## Learning and Interpretation Volunteer Summary

### Outline:

- In 2014 we instituted a regular weekly interpretation day. Dressed in appropriate period costume our volunteer team took on different roles in the Museum to help interpret the heritage to the visiting public. We are now embarking on a two year project to develop a second weekly costumed interpretation day on Fridays.
- The volunteers also facilitated and ran family activities across the year.
- The Learning and Interpretation Team also help groups and schools when they visit. We are hoping to expand the pool of people available to undertake such work.
- We are looking for enthusiastic and friendly people to join our museum team as Learning Interpreters to help us expand our interpretation days, help with groups and schools when they visit and facilitate family activities across the year.

### Opportunities:

- To learn about life in a Victorian and Edwardian country house.
- To research and develop your own understanding and interest in Country houses and the local area.
- To contribute to the understanding and enjoyment of visitors of all ages who come to Sewerby Hall.
- To have an input into the way that a Grade 1 listed building of national importance and one of the recognised treasures of the Yorkshire coast is interpreted.

### Aims / Outcomes:

- Our aim is to have a team of costumed Learning and Interpretation Volunteers on site two days a week when the Hall is open to visitors between Easter and the end of October.
- We are particularly seeking volunteers for Friday interpretation days.
- The role will involve costumed interpretation for the public, explaining about life in the Hall at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> and the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- To support the delivery of a range of formal learning activities for all ages and participating in school visits to the Hall.
- To support the Museum Team in the interpretation of all aspects of life in the Hall.

### Other Opportunities:

- You will receive training on how to engage with visitors and school children (this role will not require a DBS check).
- To contribute to a major, Lottery Fund supported, heritage project.

## **Sewerby Hall, Engagement Volunteer**

Sewerby Hall is a Grade 1 listed country house perched on the cliff tops near Bridlington. It was home to the Greame family from 1699 to 1934 when they sold it, along with its 411 acre estate, to Bridlington Corporation for £45,000. The building has been open to the public ever since and is one of the treasures of the East Riding and the Yorkshire Coast.

In April 2017 Sewerby Hall will be starting a new Monday games afternoon: the "Sewerby Social". In the classic surroundings of the Orangery visitors will be invited to join us for a relaxing afternoon of board games, music and chat. Tea, coffee and cakes will be available from the Orangery Kitchen and we hope to make the afternoon as relaxing and informal as possible.

We are looking for enthusiastic people for our Engagement Volunteer team who will help us make the "Sewerby Social" successful and enjoyable for all our visitors.

As an Engagement Volunteer you will need to be friendly, personable, enjoy working in a team, be willing to participate in activities and games and help facilitate participation by others.

The role will involve mixing with the public, encouraging conversation, making up the numbers for playing games etc. The role will also include helping our visitors access both physically and intellectually the heritage of Sewerby Hall and Gardens. This role will require the Engagement Volunteers to liaise closely with the Museum Team at the Hall to help interpret and improve access to the heritage, displays and the handling collections.

It is your decision how much time you can give us, but our aim is to run the Sewerby Social every Monday afternoon so we would like a commitment to some of those days.

It is currently proposed that this volunteer project will be reviewed after six months, and if successful will then run for an initial period of two years.

No formal qualifications or previous experience is required as you will receive training on how to engage with our visitors. This role will not require a DBS check.

All voluntary positions are subject to successful completion of the East Riding Yorkshire Council volunteer application form, and a short informal visit and discussion at Sewerby Hall.

## Engagement Volunteer Summary

### Outline:

- In April 2017 we are planning to launch “The Sewerby Social” a traditional games afternoon every Monday in the Orangery.
- Our Engagement volunteers will meet and greet our visitors for these sessions. They will facilitate and encourage them to participate in the events and activities on offer.
- Our Engagement volunteers will also liaise closely with our Museum Team, Curator and Education Officer, to ensure that our visitors access to the heritage of Sewerby Hall and Gardens is second to none.

### Opportunities:

- To learn more about life in a Victorian and Edwardian country house
- To meet different people from different sectors of the local community.
- To contribute to the understanding and enjoyment of visitors of all ages who come to Sewerby Hall.
- To have an input into the way that a Grade 1 listed building of national importance and one of the recognised treasures of the Yorkshire coast is interpreted.

### Aims / Outcomes:

- Our aim is to have a team of Engagement Volunteers on site every Monday to facilitate our games afternoons.
- The role will involve meeting and greeting our visitors and helping them access the different opportunities offered at the Hall.
- To support the delivery of the “Sewerby Social” Monday games afternoon.
- To support the Museum Team in the interpretation of all aspects of life in the Hall.

### Other Opportunities:

- You will receive training on how to engage with visitors (this role will not require a DBS check).
- To contribute to a major, Lottery Fund supported, heritage project.

## **Sewerby Hall, Costume Project Volunteer**

Sewerby Hall is a Grade 1 listed country house perched on the cliff tops near Bridlington. It was home to the Greame family from 1699 to 1934 when they sold it, along with its 411 acre estate, to Bridlington Corporation for £45,000. The building has been open to the public ever since and is one of the treasures of the East Riding and the Yorkshire Coast. In 2012 Sewerby Hall received a Heritage Lottery Grant to restore the interiors and recreate the lost Kitchen and Servants' Hall. As part of the new presentation of the hall there is an emphasis on interpretation and especially costumed interpretation. As a Costume volunteer, you will have a key role to play in bringing the Hall back to life.

Our aim is to run sewing and costume making sessions in the Orangery every Monday during the open season. This will be a front of house role where members of the public will be able to engage with the volunteers to find out more about costume and fashion at Sewerby Hall.

We are looking for someone enthusiastic, with a keen interest in costume and fashion. You will need to be friendly, personable and enjoy working as part of a team. Experience is not necessary, all abilities welcome, although a basic knowledge of sewing will be needed. It is hoped that the volunteer costume project will run for two years, after which it will be reviewed.

The role will involve:

- the care and maintenance of costumes used by volunteer interpreters and also as dressing-up props for the public,
- making new costumes in the Orangery for use at Sewerby Hall.

It is your decision how much time you can give us, but our aim is to have a costume making day every Monday.

No formal qualifications or experience are needed though basic sewing skills are required. Full induction training for the role will be given. This role does not require a DBS check.

All voluntary positions are subject to successful completion of the East Riding Yorkshire Council volunteer application form, and a short informal visit and discussion at Sewerby Hall.

## Costume Project Volunteer Summary

### Outline:

- In 2014 we instituted a regular Interpretation Day. Volunteers dressed in appropriate period costume our volunteer team took on different roles in the Museum to help interpret the heritage to the visiting public.
- We are now embarking on a two year project to develop a second costumed Interpretation Day.
- We are looking for enthusiastic and friendly people to join our volunteer team to create and maintain the costumes that will be needed to turn this second Interpretation day into a reality.

### Opportunities:

- To learn about life in a Victorian and Edwardian country house.
- To research and develop your own understanding and interest in Country houses and the local area.
- To contribute to the understanding and enjoyment of visitors of all ages who come to Sewerby Hall.
- To have an input into the way that a Grade 1 listed building of national importance and one of the recognised treasures of the Yorkshire coast is interpreted.
- To research and develop your own understanding and interest in fashion and costume.
- To handle and use items from Sewerby Hall's historic costume handling collection.

### Aims / Outcomes:

- Our aim is to have a team of costumed Learning and Interpretation Volunteers on site two days a week when the Hall is open to visitors, and an extensive collection of dressing up clothes for visitors to try on.
- The role of the Costume Volunteer will involve creating costumes for use at Sewerby Hall.
- To assist in the maintenance of the costumes at Sewerby Hall.
- To help interpret fashion and costume for the public at Sewerby Hall.

### Other Opportunities:

- To contribute to a major, Lottery Fund supported, heritage project