

Why Does the Centre Need Volunteers?

The Heritage Centre is managed by a team of Trustees, who have been chosen for their knowledge and expertise in various fields ... financial, legal, business, publicity, tourism etc. For the day to day running of the Centre we rely on a team of dedicated volunteers. To keep the Centre open to visitors 5 days a week (6 in the summer) we need enough volunteers so that there can always be two on duty at any time.

What Do The Volunteers Do?

There are various roles that the volunteers fulfil, the primary one being to greet visitors to the Centre and help them feel welcome. The main entrance is also the Centre's shop, so serving customers is also part of this role.

Some volunteers have specific roles within the Centre, such as leading guided walks around the town, maintaining our courtyard gardens, producing leaflets and posters, overseeing the shop, helping with the archives etc.

Many visitors come specifically to see our famous Millennium Tapestry and they enjoy hearing about how it was created and how many thousands of local people were involved. Some of our volunteers were involved with the original stitching and give talks to visiting groups.

We try to forge links with schools and encourage the younger generation to become interested in their town and its Heritage.

What are the Benefits of Becoming a Volunteer ?

Our volunteers enjoy meeting each other and members of the public. Our visitors come from all over the world and invariably find Knutsford a fascinating place. It is rewarding to share our knowledge of the town with people here for the first time, as well as with locals, some of whom pop in regularly.

On the third Monday of each month there is a meeting for all volunteers to have a chance to catch up on what's going on at the Centre and

hear plans for the future followed by tea, coffee and cake and an opportunity get to know other volunteers.

How Much Time Do Volunteers Give?

The Centre is open from 11 am to 4 pm, Tuesday to Saturday, and 2pm - 5pm on Sunday in the summer. The day is split into two 2½ hour sessions and we need two volunteers on duty for each session. Some volunteers like to have a regular slot each week. Others come fortnightly, while others are available to slot in when there is a gap. You are asked to sign up on a rota each month.

What Do I Do Next if I'm Interested in Finding Out More?

To find out more please call in and speak to the volunteers on duty. They will be more than happy to talk to you about their role at the Centre and what it involves. If you think you may be the person we are looking for please fill in and return this form. You will be contacted by the Centre's co-ordinator to arrange a time for you to come along and have an informal interview and be shown around the site. Before you make a firm commitment you may wish to come along and try a couple of sessions first.

What if I've Never Done This Sort of Thing Before?

Don't worry about lack of experience as full training will be given. Initially you will always be paired up with a more experienced volunteer. If you need to brush up on Knutsford's history or learn about the tapestry there are plenty of reference books to help.

How Old Must I Be To Become a Volunteer?

We welcome volunteers of all ages and it is a pleasure to have sixth formers and university students on the team, even if only for the holidays or as a way of them gaining some work experience. If you are under 18 we may ask for a parental signature.

Yes, I would like to find out about becoming a volunteer!

Please complete this form and return it to the Heritage Centre. If you prefer to make contact by telephone or email initially then ring 01565 650506 during normal opening times (Tuesday - Saturday 11 am - 4pm) and leave your name & number. Or send an email to info@knutsfordheritage.co.uk giving your details.

NAME

PHONE NO

EMAIL

BEST TIME FOR US TO PHONE YOU:

.....

ANY PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE OR PARTICULAR INTEREST WHICH YOU FEEL WOULD BE OF BENEFIT

.....

.....

.....

.....

I AM OVER 18 (please tick) OR

IF UNDER 18 NAME AND SIGNATURE OF PARENT/ GUARDIAN

.....

.....