



Volunteer Role Description: Gardening, Care and Maintenance Volunteer

About the Trust:

The Robert Burns Ellisland Trust has been formed to hold the lands and farm of Ellisland, and such other funds and assets as may from time to time be comprised in the Trust Property, in trust for the following purposes:

- the advancement of education
- the advancement of the arts, heritage and culture
- the promotion of the life and works of Robert Burns
- to maintain a museum and collections for the benefit of the public

The Trust is committed to conserving and promoting the site as one of the most significant locations in the life of Robert Burns. The Trust is ambitious to increase understanding of Ellisland as central to Burns's artistic development, where he composed Auld Lang Syne and Tam O'Shanter. It will enhance awareness of its environmental importance as the best place to see the natural world through the poet's eyes and increase appreciation of Ellisland as Robert Burns's first marital home with Jean Armour and the foundational site for European Romantic song.

Who are we looking for:

The Trust is seeking motivated, friendly and energetic Gardening, Care and Maintenance volunteers with an interest in gardening, DIY and a passion for the life and works of Robert Burns to help us with the maintenance of the grounds. This volunteer role would best suit someone who enjoys being outside, working in the garden and doing odd jobs of mending and wakening leaves etc.

The gardening, care and maintenance volunteer role is key to helping keep the grounds and buildings of Ellisland looking neat and tidy all year round. You should also be happy chatting with the general public, as from time to time we have visitors walk through the site who are interested in the history of the place. Your key tasks will be:

- Helping to work through the task list of garden jobs (trimming hedges, cutting grass, weeding, tending the paths, putting up signs etc)
- Being friendly and welcoming to all visitors

In advance of commencing their role, volunteers will receive a full induction to Ellisland and training in the history of the site and Robert Burns's time there from the Volunteer Coordinator. Volunteers will also receive a copy of the Volunteer handbook, Ellislands Health and Safety Policy, a copy of their role description along with other year-round benefits that are described in the Volunteer Handbook.

Time Investment

The Gardening team currently meet twice a week in the high season (March through to September) and once a week in low season (October - February). Work is undertaken on Mondays and Wednesdays, between 10am – 2pm. Volunteers would be required to be available for at least 2 of the gardening dates in each month, and one each month in the off season.

There will be a half hour lunch break and travel expenses will be reimbursed upon agreement. If you are interested in volunteering with the Robert Burns Ellisland Trust, please contact info@ellislandfarm.co.uk.