



**Are you interested in the life and times of the Ploughman Poet? Volunteer at Ellisland to help us keep telling his story!**

The Robert Burns Ellisland Trust has been newly formed to conserve and promote Ellisland as one of the most significant locations in the life of Robert Burns. We hope to increase understanding of the importance of Ellisland to Burns's artistic development, after all it is where he composed Auld Lang Syne and Tam O'Shanter. We want to make sure Ellisland is seen as the best place to see the natural world through the poet's eyes and share the stories of Robert Burns's first marital home with Jean Armour. Finally, we're looking for people to help us tell the story of the unique heritage of Ellisland and build it into a place which celebrates these stories with community events, music and art.

Volunteers have long been the lifeblood of Ellisland - from the welcoming faces telling stories of the Bard's time here to the dedicated gardening and maintenance team who have been keeping the grounds neat and tidy during the summer. We are seeking to build on what's been achieved and welcome new volunteers to help the Trust drive the development of the site and create a well-rounded offering to the public.

As we look to reopen the site to the public after closing in March due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we're seeking more volunteers to help us make our goals a reality.

**Who are we looking for:**

The Trust is seeking motivated, friendly and energetic volunteers with a passion for the life and works of Robert Burns to help us reopen the site to the public, maintain the grounds and promote the Ellisland offering to the local, national and international community. We have a number of volunteering opportunities available for a range of possible interests and time commitments and would love to hear more from interested individuals or groups. At present our current volunteering opportunities are:

- Front of House - Interacting with public, leading tours
- Gardening, Care and Maintenance
- Curatorial – Cataloguing Archive, data entry, administration

For more information on the specific requirements of each role, please see the role description included.

In advance of commencing their role, all volunteers will receive a full induction to Ellisland and training in the history of the site and Robert Burns' 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.

**What's in it for me?**

Volunteers are directly involved in the Trust's efforts to conserve the site and grounds of Ellisland, as well as telling its story. Volunteering at Ellisland will allow participants to work closely with the Project Officer/ Volunteer Coordinator, Trustees and visiting experts to preserve the grounds and artefacts at Ellisland. They will also be contributing to the development of the site as a leading centre for the advancement of Burns' legacy and as an asset to the local community.

In return for their time and dedication, Ellisland hopes to create a rich and thriving community for volunteers. Volunteers will receive:

- A warm welcome and will be treated with respect at all times, regardless of background.
- The opportunity to work with international experts on Robert Burns and learn more about his life, including insight into the stories of important historical artefacts kept at Ellisland.
- Access to support from the Project Officer/ Volunteer Coordinator in identifying areas in which they would like to develop skills and creating a workplan to fulfil development, to improve employment prospects
- Expenses reimbursed for costs incurred with volunteering.
- Invitations to social events for volunteers and their families, as a thank you for hard work
- Free membership to the Robert Burns Ellisland Trust, which includes members only events and discounts on Ellisland merchandise.