

**Archaeology Collections volunteer**

**Volunteer role description**

The Horniman Museum and Gardens has been open since 1901 when the tea trader and philanthropist, Frederick Horniman, first opened his house and extraordinary collection of objects to the local community. Since then, the Museum has grown significantly and includes internationally important collections of Anthropology and musical instruments, as well as an Aquarium, a Butterfly House and Natural History Gallery – all surrounded by 16 acres of beautiful Gardens.

**Main purpose**

The Horniman has a significant archaeological collection of objects including around 6000 lithic tools. The collection of stone tools spans from the Paleolithic to the Neolithic and from sites across the world. Including assemblages from prominent sites such as like Grimes Graves in Norfolk or Mount Carmel in Israel. The project is not completed limited to lithic tools with a selection of other archaeological material ranging from pot sherds from Neolithic Egypt to Swiss Bronze Age rings.

In recent years the Museum has been working towards auditing and repacking its collections of lithics and other archaeological assemblages. This will insure better access and preservation for this collection. This volunteer will be responsible for accessing carefully unpacking, auditing the contents of the storage containers and repacking this collection to modern standards.

Tasks include:

* Accessing, unpacking and packing items at the Horniman museum stores
* updating object locations on the Museum’s collection database, MIMSY
* Auditing the contents of container boxes to insure they match mimsy records
* Object packing for long term storage, to modern museum standards

Training in object handling and the use of the MIMSY database will be provided.

**Level of commitment**

This is a fixed-term placement volunteering one day a week for three months, starting in late October.

This opportunity is available on Fridays.

**Location, Requirements and other Details**

* The venue for volunteering would be at our stores in North Greenwich not at the museum in Forest Hill.
* The role is subject to a basic DBS check and that volunteers need to be 18 or over due to the nature of the tasks and level of supervision available.
* We are looking to recruit two volunteers to collaborate on the project.

**This role would suit someone who:**

* Is interested in developing first hand collection management skills
* Has an interest in archaeology

**The museum offers volunteers:**

* A supportive, learning environment and the opportunity to gain valuable experience behind the scenes at a museum.
* Reimbursement of travel expenses within Greater London; lunch expenses if volunteering a full day
* Free entry to paid areas of the Horniman Museum and Gardens

**To apply**

Please complete the online application form or email [volunteering@horniman.ac.uk](mailto:volunteering@horniman.ac.uk) for an application form in Word format

**Closing date for applications**: 13 October 2024

**Interviews held on:** 18 October 2024

Role approved by the Volunteering Manager Sept 2024