

STEAM - Museum of the Great Western Railway

Title of role	Meet the Railway Workers Volunteer
Purpose of Role	STEAM tells the story of the men and women who built, operated and travelled on the Great Western Railway. Meet the Railways is a twice monthly event where volunteers play an important role in assisting both children and adults to learn about life in the Works and on the GWR. Our volunteers interact directly with visitors providing additional learning experiences.
Main Activities or Duties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Talking to the general public in an informal manner, imparting knowledge in a friendly and interactive way. • Helping visitors to discover more by answering questions and suggesting 'don't miss' items • Conducting handling sessions with museum objects, archive material and photographs • Developing and maintaining good relationships with visitors • Answering questions on the facilities available in the museum and local area.
Requirements	This role would suit someone who has a self-sufficient, enthusiastic and friendly manner and a love of history and learning (although you don't need to be a specialist in the GWR). You must enjoy meeting people, and operating as part of a team.
Benefits	There are lots of personal benefits to volunteering at the museum, whatever your motivation or long term goals. Benefits to you include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Becoming part of a friendly and dedicated team • Gaining new skills • Improving your communication skills • Meeting people from all walks of life and making new friends • Finding out more about Swindon's history • Improving your CV • Enjoying new experiences and learning something new every day • Knowing you have made a difference to someone's day out
Training	Volunteers will receive an induction to the building, training in their task and access to any other training required to carry out the role. Volunteers can complete training through Swindon Borough Council and the South West Federation of Museums if it is useful to their role.
Time commitment requested	Meet the Railway Workers currently runs every other Saturday. Ideally you would be able to commit to one event a month, but this can be flexible. There may also be opportunities for a similar role in other busy periods such as school holidays.