

Worker's Project Information Sheet

The Thames Tunnel is the world's oldest underwater tunnel. Once called 'the eighth wonder of the world', its construction revolutionised engineering and its legacies continue to play out in tunnel building today.

The Brunel Museum are seeking people with experience of construction work to help us tell the story of the workers who built the Thames Tunnel in our new permanent exhibition launching in Summer 2025.

About The Brunel Museum

Based in Rotherhithe, The Brunel Museum is an educational charity that tells the story of one of the world's great engineering dynasties. Our mission is to preserve and share widely the ground-breaking stories of the Thames Tunnel project and the outstanding achievements of the Brunel family and their relevance to our lives today. We inspire communities through exploration, learning and performance.

The museum is currently in the middle of a £2.2 million redevelopment project, including a generous £1.85m grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF), that will transform the Brunel Museum's visitor experience through the creation of a brand-new welcome pavilion, new exhibition spaces and improvements to facilities, as well as an ambitious and engaging activity programme for residents, families and schools.

About the Project

The Brunel Museum are looking for people with experience of construction work to take part in a collaborative exhibition project exploring the lives and legacies to the workers who built the Thames Tunnel. While hundreds of workers in a variety of different roles were involved in the building of the Thames Tunnel, it is the stories of engineers, such as Marc Brunel, that have been documented and celebrated today. The Brunel Museum is committed to platforming previously neglected working-class histories and would like to collaborate with present-day construction workers to help us tell these stories.

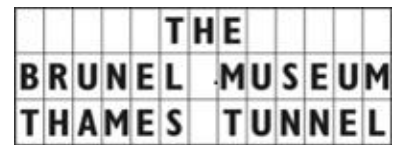
The project will consist of **8, 3-hour sessions from June- December** at dates and times to be agreed with participants. Sessions will be a **mix of online and in person**. In person sessions will take place at **The Brunel Museum in Rotherhithe** or at a location nearby.

Participants will be **paid a participation fee at London Living Wage of £13.11 per hour + a £10 travel stipend** for each in person session.

In these sessions, participants will collaborate with museum staff and volunteers to do the following:

- Use existing research to explore the stories of workers of the Thames Tunnel
- Explore connections and resonances between the experiences of Thames Tunnel workers and the experiences of construction workers today including the differences and similarities in working conditions.





- Decide on how best to present the Thames Tunnel workers stories in the exhibition, including choosing the right objects, stories, details and language to convey the reality of workers' lives.

We are particularly interested to hear from any construction workers who have experience working in the roles below that have equivalent roles in the Thames Tunnel project:

- Tunnellers
- Bricklayers
- Blacksmiths
- Riggers
- Millwrights
- Sawyers

If you have construction experience that is not on this list but are still interested in being part of our project, then please do still apply.

Project Timeline

Throughout May and June construction workers and accompanying friends and family can claim free entry to the Brunel Museum (for groups of up to 5 people). Please email hello@thebrunelmuseum.com to claim your discount code.

- **May-June 2024:** Project opens for expressions of interest. Construction workers can claim free museum entry.
- **Sunday 26th May 2024:** Information Day for construction workers
- **30th June 2024:** Applications for the project close
- **July 2024:** 2 Initial project sessions (dates TBC)
- **August 2024:** Summer break
- **September- December 2024:** 6 project sessions (dates TBC)
- **Summer 2025:** Exhibition launch

How to Apply

If you are interested in being part of this project, please fill in an [online expression of interest form](#).

If you would prefer to speak to someone in person, please come visit during our [opening times](#) or you can call or message us on 07547 026503. If you have any questions about the project, please contact this number or get in touch via email hello@thebrunelmuseum.com

Please note, we regrettably won't be able to work with everyone who applies for the project. We will be in touch with successful applicants by 30th June 2024.

