

February 2025

# Brunel Museum New Volunteer Recruitment



# Contents



Welcome ..... 3

About the Museum ..... 4

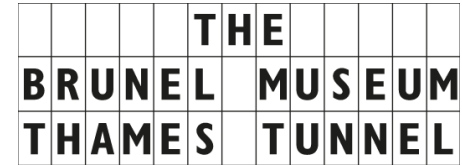
About the Team ..... 6

About the Role ..... 8

Application Process ..... 11



# Welcome



Thank you for your interest in becoming a Volunteer of the Brunel Museum. We've currently got around 30 volunteers, carrying out a range of work. They are vital to our success.

This is an exciting time to be joining the Museum, with redevelopment via the Brunel Reinvented Project about to get underway, and a number of new programmes being implemented.

We're really keen to hear from people from all walks of life, with varied experience – whether professional, academic, or personal – who can bring new skills, energy, and interests to the team.

You do not need to have previous experience as a volunteer, nor do you need to be an engineer or history buff who already knows everything there is to know! Ultimately, we're looking for people who will bring passion, fun, and enjoyment to the museum.

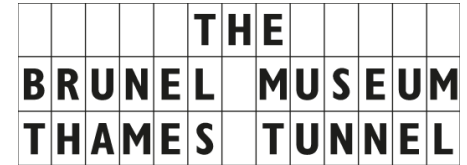
Please take a look at this pack which contains further information on volunteering for the Museum.

If you have further questions or would like to have a chat about the role, please get in touch with us at [hello@thebrunelmuseum.com](mailto:hello@thebrunelmuseum.com)



Katherine McAlpine  
Director  
Brunel Museum

# About the Museum



## OUR MISSION

To preserve and share widely the ground-breaking stories of the Thames Tunnel, the outstanding achievements of the Brunels, and their relevance to our lives today. We inspire communities through exploration, learning, and performance.

## WHAT WE DO

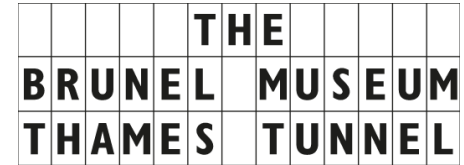
The Brunel Museum showcases the local story of the Brunel engineering family and how they changed the world. It is on the site of the world's first tunnel under a navigable river which opened in 1843.

The Tunnel was built using the tunnelling shield invented by Isambard Kingdom Brunel's father, Marc Brunel. Today it is still in operation as part of the London Overground railway network.

Located in Rotherhithe, the Museum is an educational charity. Trustees, staff, and volunteers are committed to widening community involvement with the Museum and to inspire people to explore, learn, share and enjoy our story of innovation and perseverance.



# About the Team



## DIRECTOR

Director Katherine McAlpine, leads the team of dedicated staff and volunteers.

## STAFF

Our team of eight fantastic staff run the Museum's day-to-day activities. They include staff overseeing: the Reinvented Project; Learning; Collections; Operations; Volunteers; and Venue Hire.

## VOLUNTEERS

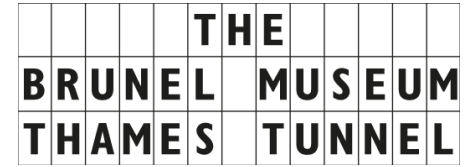
Volunteers are at the core of what we do here at the Brunel Museum. Our dedicated volunteer team serve as expert Thames Tunnel tour guides, manage the Museum shop and facilities, help oversee school visits and Museum events, and much more!



More information on the team and volunteers is here: <https://thebrunelmuseum.com/about/>

# About the role

## Responsibilities



### RESPONSIBILITIES

Volunteers are welcome to get involved in as many of the Museum's activities as they wish. These include:

- Welcoming visitors and providing assistance, information, and Front of House services
- Leading tours of the Museum and its collections
- Assisting in the delivery of Learning programmes for schools
- Assisting in the delivery of private events such as monthly concerts
- Collections and Curatorial work, e.g. documentation or collections care

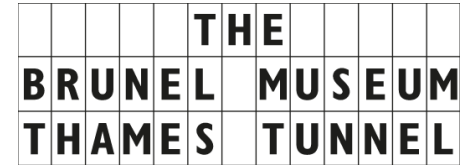
### TIME COMMITMENT

- Volunteers are asked to be able to commit to at least one day per month. Note that the Museum is open to the public Fri-Mon each week.
- We ask that volunteers arrange their shifts in advance, to help with operational planning



# About the role

## Skills & Qualifications



We don't require any specific skills or qualifications to volunteer with us.

However, think about what skills or qualifications you do have: almost anything could be useful for the varied programmes and activities we run!

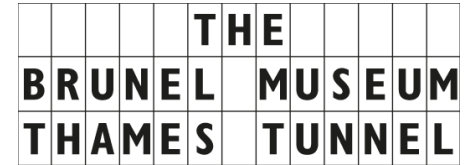
These may include:

- Front of House skills
- Historical knowledge
- IT skills
- Marketing
- Knowledge of accessibility best practice

We're really keen to hear from a wide range of applicants from a wide range of backgrounds. If you're not sure whether your skills, qualifications, or experience would be useful – get in touch to discuss!



# Volunteering



Our volunteers have gone on to do a range of different activities:

- Writing historical fiction
- Learning a range of new skills useful for personal projects
- Engaging in archival research and publishing academic work
- Getting jobs using newly acquired skills

A core part of our volunteer programme involves training in various skills.

We require all volunteers to undertake training in key areas e.g. fire safety; safeguarding.

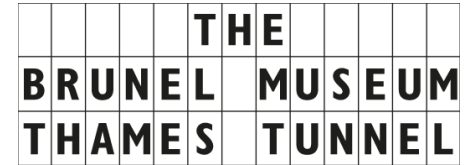
Training in other areas may be provided, including:

- Social media
- Object handling and collections care
- First Aid





# Application Process



## HOW TO APPLY

Please apply by sending a CV and a short cover letter explaining why you're interested in volunteering at the Museum to:

[hello@thebrunelmuseum.com](mailto:hello@thebrunelmuseum.com)

## TO FIND OUT MORE

If there is anything we can do to make the recruitment process more accessible and inclusive for you, if you would like support in communicating your skills, experience or enthusiasm, or if you would like to find out more about the role, please contact [hello@thebrunelmuseum.com](mailto:hello@thebrunelmuseum.com) for an informal chat with the staff member responsible for volunteers.

## INTERVIEWS

All those whose applications look promising will be invited for an informal interview with the staff member responsible for volunteers. This is not intended to be a formal or scary interview process. There is no need to wear businesswear or formal clothing (unless you want to!).

