

Field Archaeology volunteer

Volunteer with us to help discover more about Redesdale's hidden past

Redesdale contains a rich diversity of historic remains, from Neolithic farming communities and Roman military occupation through to the Anglo-Scottish Border Wars, Border Reivers and 19th/20th Century reservoir construction. Despite this, Redesdale's historic landscape is poorly recorded and understood.

As a field archaeology volunteer, you will help us to better understand and tell the landscape story of Redesdale by assisting with archaeological investigations, including ground surveys, metal detecting and excavations, whilst gaining valuable skills and experience.

Reporting to

Heritage and Engagement Officer

Responsibilities

Under the direction of the Heritage and Engagement Officer and performed in groups:

- Complete necessary training in field archaeology methods
- Work closely with professional archaeologists and other volunteers to undertake archaeological surveys and excavations
- Adhere to health and safety requirements of the role

Existing skills and experience needed

Essential or desirable

Good communication skills	Essential
Good level of physical fitness	Essential
Able and willing to carry out field work in remote locations in varying weather	Essential
Have undergone risk assessment and health and safety training	Desirable
Driving Licence	Desirable

Skills development offered

- Training in appropriate archaeological investigation techniques
- Opportunity to discover previously unrecorded historical sites
- Opportunity to contribute to high-profile Battlefield research project
- Opportunity to attend volunteer training events offered by Revitalising Redesdale and partners
- Opportunity to build experience for career development
- Opportunity to work with different organisations e.g. Battlefields Trust, Northumberland National Park and with historians and archaeologists
- Training in relevant health and safety policies and codes of practice

Support available

- Vehicle mileage and public transport costs will be reimbursed
- Personal protective equipment will be supplied when needed
- Support and advice will always be available from the partnership organisations.

Time commitment needed

Flexible- no minimum commitment required

Any other relevant information

- All RR partners* operate a comprehensive Health and Safety policy that all volunteers are required to adhere to.

- Volunteers will be expected to comply with the Health and Safety regulations of the leading RR partner.
- The work involves some activities in remote and exposed locations.
- The activities usually continue in poor weather – please bring suitable clothing and footwear.
- There may be no toilet or food and drink facilities available; please bring a packed lunch and drinks where indicated.
- In the summer months, midges may be an issue so insect repellent is advised.

Contact for more information

Karen Collins, Heritage and Engagement Officer
07741 194309
karen.collins@nnpa.org.uk

*Revitalising Redesdale partners are: Natural England, Northumberland National Park Authority, Northumberland Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency, Forestry Commission, Ministry of Defence, The Battlefields Trust, Tyne Rivers Trust, Otterburn Parish Council, Elsdon Parish Council, Rochester with Byrness Parish Council, Corsenside Parish Council, Northumberland County Council, Kielder Water and Forest Development Trust, University of Newcastle Students' Union and The Redesdale Society.