GROUNDWORK
CHANGING PLACES
CHANGING LIVES

JOB DESCRIPTION

JOB TITLE:	Heritage Engagement Assistant
HOURS:	Part Time – 15 hours per week minimum Fixed Term until April 28
REPORTS TO:	Senior Heritage Officer
PRIORITY CONTACTS:	Land of Oak & Iron Landscape Partnership, Land of Oak & Iron Trust, Community Groups, Land of Oak & Iron Heritage Centre, Local Authorities, Volunteers, Schools
LOCATION:	Heritage Centre, Spa Well Rd, Winlaton Mill, Blaydon-on-Tyne, NE21 6RU

JOB SUMMARY

The Land of Oak & Iron covers 177 square kilometres of the beautiful and historic Derwent Valley and its surrounding areas, one of the North East's most rewarding and exciting places to explore. Once a cradle of the Industrial Revolution, the valley was home to a thriving iron and steel industry that flourished from the 1690s to the 1980s. You can still trace this legacy across the landscape through forges, furnaces and wagonways, and in local traditions such as rapper dancing and the writings of Tommy Armstrong, the pitman poet.

Today, the Land of Oak & Iron has a vibrant mix of industrial and cultural heritage, woodlands and iconic wildlife. Nature has reclaimed much of the valley, creating a rich patchwork of habitats supporting otters, kingfishers and red kites, all accessible via a network of paths and trails for walking, cycling and horse riding.

In partnership with Groundwork NE & Cumbria, the Land of Oak & Iron Trust has secured National Lottery Heritage funding to strengthen the heritage of the area. Our Heritage Engagement Assistant will

help deliver this exciting programme. Based at the Heritage Centre, working alongside a Senior Heritage Officer, you will help to capture, promote and preserve the rich industrial, natural and cultural history of the area. Key roles will include community engagement, event planning and delivery, working with schools, creating learning resources and recruiting and developing volunteers. Along with a passion for working with local communities, you'll bring an enthusiasm for heritage together with experience of developing groups and volunteers

Key Responsibilities

- Deliver a vibrant community engagement programme celebrating the Land of Oak & Iron Story across the project area.
- Support the design and delivery of resources that bring heritage to life across the Land of Oak & Iron area.
- Plan and deliver a series of heritage events and activities across the Land of Oak & Iron area.
- Facilitate group sessions at the Heritage Centre and other venues to capture and promote the area's rich heritage
- Deliver heritage engagement in schools and with young people
- Recruit, support and lead volunteering activities across the Land of Oak & Iron
- Build partnerships with local history groups, schools, community organisations and partners to sustain engagement.
- Support key partners, particularly the Land of Oak & Iron Trust, to leave a strong heritage legacy.
- Support all aspects of project delivery including project data collection, monitoring, reporting and evaluation.

Additional responsibilities

- Comply with all organisational policy, procedures and systems.
- Maintain the integrity of the Groundwork and Land of Oak & Iron brand in all internal and external communications
- To be aware of, and assume the appropriate level of responsibility for, safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and to report any concerns in accordance with the organisation's safeguarding policies.
- Have a flexible approach to working hours with an ability to work outside normal office hours, to include evenings and weekends as required by the business.
- Carry out any other duties commensurate with the level of the post.