

Volunteer Role Description – Aviculture

Purpose

The key purpose of this role is to assist in the wellbeing of our captive and wild birds at Pensthorpe

Key Tasks

Under the guidance of the Aviculture Team, you will be involved in:

1. Cleaning of bird enclosures
2. Maintenance of bird enclosures
3. Bird feeding and handling (with full training and supervision)

You may also be involved in greeting visitors, answering questions they may have and assisting with presentations and walks and talks.

Together, all staff and volunteers are responsible for the health and safety of our visitors, which requires us to work using safe methods, maintaining legal compliance and best practice to our working environment, reporting anything that is unsafe to the Head of Species Management, and reporting any accidents or near misses.

Key knowledge/skills/qualities/experiences

1. A keen interest in Aviculture and an enjoyment of working outside, no matter the weather
2. A basic understanding of bird welfare and a willingness to learn more
3. Ability to follow instructions
4. Ability to work on own initiative when allocated a specific task and able to work as part of a team
5. Due to the physicality of the role, you need good overall health and mobility

Time and level of commitment required

You need to be able to commit to a minimum of half day on a reasonably regular basis from 9.30am to 3.30/4.00pm on Tuesdays and/or Thursdays.

Key working relationships

Head of Species Management, Aviculture team members, Reserve team members, HR team.

Training and support

All volunteers will undertake a basic induction course, which will include health and safety and manual handling essentials. The Head of Species Management will ensure you have appropriate training to undertake the tasks you are allocated. PPE and all required tools will be provided.

As you may expect, we like to give and receive feedback about our volunteer's experiences. All volunteers will have a "trial" day and after that, depending on the amount of time and frequency that you are able to volunteer, we will arrange periodic reviews.

Additional information

All volunteers will be provided with mid-morning and afternoon refreshments and a full lunch.

You need to ensure that you wear appropriate clothing to suit your key tasks, including appropriate footwear (stout boots or wellingtons, ideally steel toe capped) and wet weather gear. Please ensure in hot weather you wear a hat and regularly apply sunscreen and insect repellent as required.