

**What is a Conservation Volunteer?**

Conservation volunteers help to care for No.1 Royal Crescent’s varied collection and keep up presentation standards in the house. Working with the museum staff, you will learn how to protect historic items so that our visitors can enjoy them for as long as possible.

**What’s in it for you?**

* Gain valuable experience in the heritage sector, acquiring an understanding of conservation standards
* Support varied projects - helping out on conservation projects that will leave a lasting legacy at No.1 Royal Crescent
* Gain some practical experience in aspects of collections management, documentation and preventative conservation
* You may receive training on in-house cataloguing procedures according to national museum standards if required
* Becoming part of a friendly and dedicated team
* Meeting people from all walks of life and making new friends
* Improving your communication skills
* Enjoying new experiences and learning something new every day

**What’s involved?**

This is an exciting time for No.1 as we look to develop our documentation and collections care standards – from inventory to checking light and humidity levels, there are a range of different projects to develop and work on:

* Helping with ‘putting the house to bed’ (covering, wrapping and packing the contents to protect them)
* Helping to clean each room from top to bottom, treating each object individually; dusting, cleaning or polishing
* Helping to clean and record any items in storage
* Working room by room, you will trace and check that the collection records are accurate and up to date
* Access our Collections Management System to update and add to existing records
* Manage and carry out weekly light, relative humidity and temperature checks
* Carry out monthly pest checks and assist the museum team in treating any infestations
* Checking the condition of items and compiling accurate condition care forms for each one
* Handling, lifting and carrying historic objects
* Occasional use of ladders
* Working in pairs or in a small team
* Getting to know the history and significance of the property
* Alerting the house team to any items that are missing, damaged, deteriorating or in need of specialist attention: updating condition and inventory records
* You are important in ensuring things run as smoothly and safely as possible – including being familiar with and following the health and safety and evacuation procedures at all times
* Adhering to Bath Preservation Trust’s Values and Behaviours at all times
* There may be other activities where we could use your help

**This role will suit people who…**

* Passionate about care of collections, want to gain experience in the heritage sector, studying for a postgraduate qualification in a relevant subject or for your own personal enjoyment!
* Happy and able to follow detailed instructions / processes, Patient, with good dexterity, spatial awareness and excellent hand/eye co-ordination,
* Able use your own initiative and judge when to seek support, with an ability to work as part of a team
* Have excellent, clear and concise written communication skills with a strong attention to detail
* Have good organisation and planning skills
* Have good interpersonal skills and a friendly and helpful nature
* Able to work in quite dusty conditions at times
* Are able to work in quite cold conditions at times with a reasonable level of physical fitness (due to several flights of stairs)

**Extra information**

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| **Your place** | No. 1 Royal Crescent |
| **Time commitment** | Flexible |
| **Volunteer Manager** | Charlotte Tyler |
| **Expenses** | Out-of-pocket travel costs between home and volunteering place will be paid, and other reasonable expenses agreed in advance |

**About Bath Preservation Trust**

Bath Preservation Trust was founded in 1934 as a small pressure group, with the object of protecting the city’s unique architectural heritage. Its first action was to fight plans to pull down parts of the picturesque Georgian city of Bath, England, to make way for a new road. The road was never built. Since this victory, the Trust has saved hundreds more listed buildings from demolition, and has successfully confronted many similar threats to the city. Today the Trust has approximately 1,400 subscribing members from the UK and overseas supporting its work.

The Trust exists **“to preserve for the benefit of the public the historic character and amenities of the City of Bath and its surroundings”.**  In a City with such a wealth of heritage there are inevitably difficult challenges to be faced in reconciling the demands of a modern thriving City alongside the exceptional level of conservation care demanded in a World Heritage Site. The 21st Century has brought with it the added pressures of encroachment to the City’s green belt setting. The role and influence of the Trust is needed as much now as ever before.

The Trust is also a major provider in the tourist economy as it owns and runs museums and educational activities at No. 1 Royal Crescent, The Countess of Huntingdon’s Chapel, Beckford’s Tower and the Herschel Museum of Astronomy, all of which have been restored by the Trust and provide a valuable resource for the city and its visitors.

The Bath Preservation Trust is an independent charity, registered with the Charity Commission of England & Wales, and is a company limited by guarantee. It has a voluntary Chairman and board of Trustees, approximately ten permanent staff and 1,400 subscribing members. With prudent management the Trust is financially self-sufficient and independent of any controlling agency; a unique position for a heritage organization to hold within the UK.

**Find out more**

Contact [no1royalcrescent@bptrust.org.uk](mailto:no1royalcrescent@bptrust.org.uk) or call 01225 428126 and ask for Lizzie or Charlotte

**This is a voluntary role, so it isn't legally binding or a contract**