Volunteering for English Heritage

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English Heritage
1. An overview of what English Heritage does

2. An overview of volunteering within the organisation
   - an explanation of what volunteers do,
   - how we recruit volunteers,
   - how we manage volunteers,
   - how we train our paid staff to manage volunteers

3. Future opportunities and challenges

4. Questions
Why does English Heritage exist?

We are the Government’s principal adviser on the historic environment and our role is to champion and care for the historic environment. We:

• maintain over 400 historic properties
• care for historic collections (500,000 objects)
• maintain the National Monuments Record archive
• improving understanding through research and study
• providing grants, advice and education services
• protect buildings and archaeological sites of national importance
Volunteer roles

• Archive
• Collections
• Education
• Steward/Guide
• Events
• Gardens
• Trustee
• Student placements
Education Volunteers 2006-07: Employment Status

- Employed: 40%
- Retired: 37%
- Career break: 21%
- Student: 2%

Legend:
- Employed
- Retired
- Career break
- Student
Volunteering: a step-by-step guide

1. Pre-recruitment planning
2. Recruitment Campaign
3. Volunteer application & selection
4. Placement
5. Supervision and support
6. Monitoring and evaluation
To summarise – our approach is to:

- Identify organisational need
- Plan for volunteer involvement
- Write a role description
- THEN start to recruit volunteers

PROACTIVE not REACTIVE
Barriers

- Time
- Lack of information
- Perception that a volunteering opportunity or organisation is ‘not for me’
- Cost
- Access to transport
- People think they do not have the right skills
- Onerous legal and bureaucratic requirements
Volunteer recruitment

Promotional materials
www.english-heritage.org.uk/volunteering

Facebook

Twitter

QR Code: Quick Response code for smart phones
Appreciation

“THANK YOU”
National volunteer survey looks at:

- Motivations for involvement
- Accessing the programme
- Experience of support received (inc training)
- The impacts of volunteering in the programme (positive and negative)
- Demographic profile
Summary

1. Pre-recruitment planning
   - be proactive not reactive

2. Recruitment Campaign
   - promote opportunities openly and answer enquiries quickly

3. Volunteer Registration & Selection
   - informal interview stage is very important

4. Placement
   - provide a warm welcome

5. Supervision and support
   - meet regularly with volunteers and say thank you

6. Monitoring and evaluation
   - make sure you monitor and evaluate your programme
Future opportunities & challenges

1. Increased awareness of volunteering amongst the public supported by the Big Society and the Olympic Games

2. Increased use of volunteering as a way to gain experience, access employment and develop skills

3. Increased competition amongst volunteer-involving organisation and increased professionalism of volunteer management

4. Changing needs of volunteers from different generations – especially Baby boomers
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