

The National Gas Museum Trust
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# LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE VOLUNTEER, GAS MUSEUM, LEICESTER

The National Gas Museum is a little museum with a big collection. It holds the national object collection of the UK gas industry. This tells the story of gas from its earliest days to the present. Gas made from coal started as the brightest light of the 19th century. Now, natural gas is an essential part of our energy mix, heating nearly every home and generating up to 40% of our electricity.

As well as a large library of specialist books and magazines, the collection includes a fabulous selection of nostalgic cookers, heaters and gas lights, as well as gas engines, gas fridges and even a gas hair-dryer.

The museum has been closed for some months for refurbishment after the retirement of the previous curator. We are now beginning the task of getting the museum up and running again. There are plenty of opportunities for volunteers to play valued and significant roles.

For an informal discussion about this role, email your phone number, CV and a photo to the curator John Beckerson at <a href="mailto:nationalgasmuseum@gmail.com">nationalgasmuseum@gmail.com</a> and you'll get a call back as we are waiting for a new phone line.

# **Role details**

This opportunity is ideal for a practical person with a love of creating orderly and efficient libraries, enthusiasm for research, an eye for a great photo and a hands-on self-motivated working style. Overseen by the Curator, you will be responsible for helping to return the neglected but fascinating library to good order and scanning images to use in exhibitions or online.

#### **Deliverables**

- Undertake a one-off full clean and de-junking of the library and store
- List and arrange books and periodicals
- Keep library clean tidy and dusted
- Scan images for use by museum

#### You will need:

Knowledge of how to catalogue books and periodicals

- A laptop would be helpful, if you have one
- A practical, independent working style
- To accept you will get dirty and dusty sometimes
- Ability to work in a very small team
- Good computer skills
- Good spoken English language skills
- Library or similar experience that you can tell us about
- The physical ability to move stacks of books around a large storage site
- A car could be helpful to occasionally move books from warehouse to museum (1/4 mile) but is not essential.

## **Work location**

195 Aylestone Rd, Leicester, LE2 7QH – the brick building with the clock tower.

### Hours of work

Hours are flexible but you need to be able to commit to a regular time of at least 2 hours each week. Your usual work day could be each Wednesday, Thursday or Friday to suit you.

# Clothing

Everyday tidy clothing suitable for occasionally dusty work in storage areas will be needed for some tasks. At other times, smart casual.