



The National Gas Museum Trust

PO Box 28
195 Aylestone Road
Leicester
LE2 7QH

nationalgasmuseum@gmail.com

‘VISITOR WELCOME’ 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 to get the museum open again.

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

Role details

This opportunity is ideal for a friendly person with a liking for history and a hands-on self-motivated working style. Overseen by the Curator, you will be responsible for welcoming visitors to the museum, making them tea if required, and showing them around. If you wish, you can also create and deliver children's tours, based on worksheets that you create. In quiet periods, you can, if you wish, also undertake research using the museum's library to enhance the records of objects that interest you, and you will write this up for the catalogue. As you get to know the museum, you can discuss and propose other tasks suited to enhancing our front of house experience, and be responsible for making it happen. As we acquire period costumes, you may also have the opportunity to wear and source period clothes to add to live interpretation, if this interests you, but this is not essential.

Duties

- Give visitors a great welcome and a tour if desired
- Make tea/coffee for visitors

- Keep displays tidy and dusted
- Research objects that interest you and write up results if desired
- Create guided and children's tours if desired

You will need:

- A love of people and great communication skills
- A practical, independent working style
- Patience as the museum will take time to get busy again
- To accept you will get dirty and dusty sometimes
- Ability to work in a very small team
- Good essential computer skills
- Adequate spoken English language skills
- Good written English skills (we'd love to see something you have written)
- A laptop would be helpful 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 once each week. Work days could be on either on a Wednesday, Thursday or a Friday to suit you.

Clothing

Clothing suitable for meeting the public.