

Role Description

Wardrobe Assistant volunteers

Could this be you?

Can you help us maintain our beautifully crafted costumes for our 'Reading Royalty'?
Could you help dress our Queen Elizabeth I or Jane Austen?

Why we want you

As a Wardrobe Assistant Volunteer, you will be working alongside our volunteer costumed interpreters to create a stunning experience of Reading's past.

Our small team of costumed interpreters will be dressed in replica period costume to interact with visitors and deliver tours about the lives and stories of people involved in the Reading Abbey Quarter's long history.

What is a wardrobe assistant volunteer?

The role of the wardrobe assistant volunteer will be vital for the smooth running of our costumed interpretation.

In this role, you will ensure that our costumed interpreters are dressed accurately and on time.

Our costumes will be used over the summer by our volunteers and we are looking for a small group of wardrobe assistants who are keen to maintain our costumes and support this group of volunteers.

Why are we doing this?

We are offering costumed interpretation as part of our exciting programme of events and new volunteer opportunities for the *Reading Abbey Revealed* project.



Funded jointly by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Reading Borough Council, the project started in January 2017 with the conservation works to protect the Reading Abbey Ruins.

What will you be doing?

- Helping our costumed interpreter volunteers to dress and change into replica period costumes
- Maintain costumes by washing, ironing and steaming in preparation for events and tours
- Being able to make quick repairs or alterations to costume if necessary
- Returning costumes to protective covering and storage in the museum.

This role will suit you if you are:

- A people person
- Enthusiastic, outgoing and friendly - willing to engage with visitors
- Able to work as a team member
- Have excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Able to follow instructions regarding the maintenance of materials and costume
- Keen to learn about period costume and methods of dressing
- Able to sew, although this is not essential.

What will you get out of it?

- Be part of a friendly team and make new friends
- New skills and experiences - this will really stand out on your CV!
- Meet people from all walks of life
- Develop your communication skills
- Above all, this role will be a lot of fun!

How much time will you need to give?

We will be running costumed interpretation sessions and tours around once a month over the summer mainly on Saturdays.

You will receive training and onsite mentoring to help you learn how to maintain and dress in period costume.

To apply

Read through our volunteer policy (found under 'Get Involved' at www.readingmuseum.org.uk) and complete the volunteer registration form.

Email your form to curator@readingmuseum.org.uk

If we think you are suitable for this role, we will invite you to Reading Museum for a brief chat.