



## Is for get involved

### Volunteering at Wicksteed Park

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at Wicksteed Park

Wicksteed Park Ltd is a wholly owned by the Wicksteed Charitable Trust which is currently celebrating the centenary of its formation and is reliant on help and support offered by volunteers. There are lots of ways in which you can support our work.

To give a few examples we have the following areas to get involved:

- Education and Learning with regular school visits and family days
- Community engagement through shows, events and activities
- Grounds maintenance, lots to do in 147 acres of beautiful parkland
- Wildlife and conservation from birds to bugs
- Heritage and Museum exhibitions and events
- Free Playground and other play areas
- Office/admin/website/social media
- Railway
- Park ambassadors to meet and greet visitors and provide information
- Archives and oral history

#### How Much Time Do I Give?

We value the time you can spend with us, this can be occasional or regular with anything from an hour a month. Much of our work is seasonal and we are at our busiest during the April to September or over Christmas. This is when we need the most help, particularly keeping the park welcoming, tidy and supporting events.

During the colder months, the park is still open to the public, but the fairground rides are closed. We use this time to give the park some TLC, with a lick of paint and doing any repairs or upgrades. This is also when much of the wildlife and conservation activities happen, such as tree planting.

How much time you spend here and when, is up to you, think about what sort of things interest you and get in touch.

#### How Old Do I Need to Be?

We are happy to encourage volunteering from the age of 14, however, we will need your parents' or guardians permission and there will be some things you may not be able to do

There is no upper age limit! If you're interested, we'll find you things to do....

### **I'm Part of a Group. Can We Volunteer?**

Yes! We welcome groups who'd like to lend a hand. We are happy to look at what projects or activities may be suitable. The types of things you could do without much notice and most of the year, could be:

- Weeding
- Scrub clearance
- Fundraising for Wicksteed Charitable Trust

At particular times there might also be:

- Fence or bench painting
- Build nests and bug boxes

### **How do I Get Started?**

You will be invited to meet our Community Link Manager, Tracey Clarke for an informal chat over a cuppa (and sometimes a biscuit!) to consider what you would like to do, what we have available at that point and come up with a timescale of when you can start.

We need to have you covered by our insurance, so we ask you to fill in a registration form. This also asks for an emergency contact name. All Volunteers at Wicksteed will become members of the Wicksteed Volunteer Network, this new network is supported by volunteers and will provide a range of information and opportunities to the group.

If you have an up to date DBS check, we'd like to take a photocopy of it for our records, so it's handy if you bring it along with you at that point. If you don't have one, it doesn't matter. If your role is to volunteer with children or vulnerable adults, we'll get one done for you.

We'll also give you a timesheet. This is to keep a log of how many hours you spend helping us. This is used for unlocking funding from the current Heritage Lottery Fund, or for us to apply to new sources of funding in the future.

### **Contact Us**

Community and Education Team

Community Link Manager: Tracey Clarke

[community@wicksteedpark.org](mailto:community@wicksteedpark.org) 01539 512 475 ext. 261

Our Thanks to...

Our volunteer programme is kindly supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. They have provided funding for the Community Link Manager post which is there to, amongst other things, provide opportunities for volunteers to get involved. They have also awarded Wicksteed Charitable Trust over £1million to restore and improve the main lake and the lakeside area.



