

Butterfly house Volunteer

**Role description**

**Main purpose**

The Horniman butterfly house houses a range of tropical butterflies in a hot and humid environment. Our aim is to recreate their natural surroundings, not only to support the butterflies, but to inspire our visitors, helping them to learn about the insects, their lifecycle, habitats and how they feed. The volunteer would be helping the small team of four staff who care for the both the butterflies and the animals in the Animal Walk.

Tasks include:

* Engaging with our visitors - adults and children - to educate and inspire them.
* Protecting the butterflies/caterpillars from harm
* Removing spider webs
* Correctly picking up any butterflies/caterpillars that are on the ground
* Disposing of any deceased butterflies/caterpillars by placing them in the freezer
* Tidying up and sweeping

**Level of commitment**

We are looking for someone who can volunteer one afternoon a week (1 – 3.30pm), either on a Monday or on a Saturday. We ask for a minimum 3 months commitment. A 6 week review will be held to ensure that both the placement is going well.

**This role would suit someone who:**

* Has an interest in Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths)
* Is enthusiastic and eager to learn
* Is conscientious, follows procedures and has a keen eye for detail
* Is comfortable working in a hot and humid environment
* Enjoys engaging with visitors of all ages

**Please note**

Due to the nature of the tasks and the level of supervision available, this role is only available to those aged 18 and over

**The museum offers volunteers:**

* A supportive, learning environment and the opportunity to gain valuable experience in the care of a living collection
* Reimbursement of travel expenses within Greater London; lunch expenses are available if volunteering a full day
* Free entry to paid areas of the Horniman museum and a 20% discount at the café and shop
* A variety of social and learning opportunities

We are committed to diversity and inclusion and welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and circumstances. Adjustments are available to support your application and placement in this role. Please get in touch if you have any questions. You do not need to have experience in all areas to apply for the role.

**To apply**

Please complete the [application form](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=FFimgZcoukmo6OaUeUjjv_S5dDpIPgFGn_UX4ifdme9UNkxaTDQwNVczM0s2VkkxSTZXT0JCOUJWUS4u) here by Saturday 25th January. If shortlisted, you will be invited to an informal interview on Saturday 1st February. If you have any questions, please contact [volunteering@horniman.ac.uk](mailto:volunteering@horniman.ac.uk)

Role approved by Volunteering Manager November 2024