

**JOB DESCRIPTION: Outreach & Education Officer**  
*Bazalgette & the Great Stink of London*



**Submission deadline:** 11:59pm, Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**Interview:** 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**Start Date:** Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2025 (or as close as possible)

**Habitats & Heritage**

Habitats & Heritage is a local charity that acts for the natural and historic environment in south and west London. We take care of our local landscape; its wildlife, ecosystems and heritage by:

- Using our local knowledge and experience to lead the way in protecting and creating a better and more sustainable environment for everyone.
- Working in partnership with others to raise awareness and address local environmental and heritage issues.
- Bringing people together to better understand, learn and connect with and enjoy their local environment and heritage.
- Empowering and mobilising communities to enhance and maintain the spaces they care about.
- Building better quality habitats and ecosystems for nature and wildlife to thrive.
- Encouraging accessibility and involvement to ensure everyone enjoys and experiences the positive health and wellbeing benefits from spending time in our natural and historic environment.

**Job Description**

**Hours:** 21 hours per week (Fixed term contract 3 days per week – contract until March 2027)

**Annual Salary:** £30,113 pro-rata, or £18,067 per annum

**Reports to:** Heritage Projects Manager

**Location:** Habitats & Heritage Office, ETNA, 13 Rosslyn Road, Twickenham TW1 2AR

On-site and opportunities for remote working available

**Overview**

Habitats & Heritage is seeking an Outreach & Education Officer for our National Lottery Heritage Fund project, *Sir Joseph Bazalgette & the Great Stink of London*, which centres around the Grade II listed mausoleum of nineteenth-century civil engineer, Sir Joseph Bazalgette and his family. This is an exciting and varied role which will help to secure the future of an historic building and will play a key role in increasing the number of people participating in local heritage.

We are looking for an individual to develop an outreach programme that will provide opportunities for active engagement with the story of Bazalgette across all demographics with a geographical area covering the whole of London and along the course of the River Thames. The role will consider Bazalgette's masterminding of the London sewer system and the contribution his civil engineering projects have had on the modern metropolis. The project will compare 19<sup>th</sup> century pollution in London's water courses and relate that to the modern issues of sewage discharge and micro-plastic pollution in water courses. The research compiled and programme established will allow

us to educate about the importance of better water resource management and a fuller understanding of a nationally important Grade II mausoleum and a noteworthy civil engineer.

The project will also address the social histories of the other people who rest in the Bazalgette tomb including Sir Joseph's wife, Maria and five of the eleven children. The role will also address the presence of John Anthony Rucker, an 18<sup>th</sup> century slave owner who originally had the mausoleum constructed and who also remains inside.

The post holder will produce information and educational resources, overseeing the production of interpretation and teaching resources tailored for Key Stages 3, 4 and 5. You will devise an education programme and host lessons that allow people to engage with and experience the project, working alongside local community groups and civic societies. You will recruit, manage, and oversee volunteers who will collaborate with outreach and research.

*Sir Joseph Bazalgette & the Great Stink of London* will also include the conservation of the Bazalgette mausoleum and a project to improve the accessibility and sustainability of the heritage structure and its context. The post holder will be expected to liaise closely with the charity's Heritage Projects Manager and Officer.

The project will centre around London and the course of the River Thames but may feature travel to other parts of the UK for research and engagement. This is a unique opportunity to help with the conservation of a listed structure and to offer a better understanding of the effects that Victorian civil engineering had for the health of the River Thames and the people of London. This story will be relatable to present issues faced by the London of today.

### **Key Responsibilities and Tasks**

1. Carry out and oversee research, develop and produce educational material related to project;
2. Lead an education programme compatible with the UK national curriculum, for Key Stage 3, 4 & 5;
3. Lead assessment of Sir Joseph Bazalgette and Victorian engineering projects, with consideration of legacy and influence on modern day London;
4. Engage with stakeholders such as Thames Water, the London Museum, Crossness Engines Trust and local communities;
5. Recruit, train and manage volunteers;
6. Oversee the production of interpretation material about the site and project narrative;
7. Address and discuss the presence of John Anthony Rucker, an 18<sup>th</sup> century slave owner who occupies a space inside the mausoleum;
8. Devise opportunities for engagement with the project;
9. Complete monitoring report forms, volunteer records and other administrative tasks;
10. Develop local knowledge of the historic environment, civic societies and community groups;
11. Contribute to ongoing fundraising, through trusts, foundations, events and donations;
12. Work closely with the Heritage Projects Manager and Officer to deliver NLHF project plan;
13. Undertake training where appropriate.

The role requires an individual with experience in education, an understanding of industrial heritage, eligibility for a DBS check and good interpersonal skills.

The role will occasionally require working during evenings or weekends.

The role will require occasional travel to the mausoleum in Wimbledon, the Habitats & Heritage offices in Twickenham and regular travel to schools and other venues.

## **Person Specification**

### **Interpersonal skills**

- Excellent team-working and leadership skills with people of diverse backgrounds and levels of knowledge
- Excellent oral communication skills including ability to adapt communication styles to a variety of circumstances
- Ability to work independently and be self-motivated
- Ability to train and direct volunteers
- Highly motivated with a passion for heritage and education

### **Training & experience**

- A degree or equivalent in a relevant discipline (desirable)
- Experience of managing volunteers and conducting work plans (desirable)
- Experience of working in education (essential)
- Experience of working in STEM (desirable)
- Understanding of industrial history (desirable)
- Experience of working within the heritage sector (desirable)
- Experience of organising events (desirable)
- Experience of outreach (desirable)

### **Knowledge & skills**

- Interest in heritage and education
- Ability to conduct historical research
- Ability to create and plan lessons
- Ability to communicate to people of all age groups
- Computer and social media literate

## **Application Process**

Please submit your CV and a covering letter of no more than two pages to the Heritage Projects Manager, Stephen Fielding, by **11:59pm Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April**. Interviews: 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> April.  
[stephen.fielding@habitatsandheritage.org.uk](mailto:stephen.fielding@habitatsandheritage.org.uk).

Applications will be assessed against the following key criteria:

- 1) Understanding of 19<sup>th</sup> century industrial history
- 2) Experience of delivering outreach programmes within heritage or museum sector

- 3) Experience in teaching or delivery of education programmes
- 4) Ability to inspire and educate diverse groups of people, including students
- 5) Understanding of how to effectively work as part of a diverse team

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact Stephen Fielding by email:

[stephen.fielding@habitatsandheritage.org.uk](mailto:stephen.fielding@habitatsandheritage.org.uk).

This post is supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

