

Local Studies Volunteer

Pictorial Survey Collection

Main purpose

Contribute to Bristol Library's ongoing project of cataloguing the Bristol Pictorial Survey - a collection of over 9000 items of local history

What would I be doing?

- List and describe old photographs, postcards, engravings and other illustrative materials
- Add information onto a spreadsheet
- Research key facts about each record and add further information
- There may be opportunities to help curate displays/exhibitions and social media campaigns to better promote the collection

When can I do my volunteering?

Flexible. The volunteer can set their own schedule.

Where will I be volunteering?

Bristol Central Library, Local Studies.

Who will be there with me?

Library staff will be on hand for support and in some cases other volunteers may be with you.

Support and review

Regular support and guidance will be given by the Heritage Development Librarian. There will be a trial period to ensure that all is going well – another volunteer opportunity may be suggested if the trial period has shown that this would be better for both parties.

Training, resources and information

A full volunteer library induction will be given. Instructions and further training will be offered by the Heritage Librarian.



Am I right for this opportunity?

This opportunity would suit someone who:

- Enjoys learning about Bristol's local history
- Has basic computer and internet knowledge and is comfortable using their own computer for the purposes of this project
- Enjoys research
- Is organised and pays attention to detail
- Has good level of English
- Has or wants to develop skills working with library records
- Is passionate about sharing local history projects and stories

What will I get from volunteering?

Benefits include:

- Share your knowledge and passion of Local History
- Develop local history research skills with cataloguing experience
- Access Bristol Library Records and work with interesting and unique collections
- Meet and socialise with other people with shared interests
- The opportunity to have a personal reference to go towards job applications
- A deeper understanding of the Library Service
- The fulfilment of giving back to your community

