

Special Collection Sundays Volunteer

Main purpose

To support the running of a monthly exhibition at Central Library of historical books and Library Treasures.

What would I be doing?

At the event:

- Help to set up tables and assist in the displaying material from the library's collections
- Welcome the public into the Bristol Room, show them around the exhibit, provide basic information and answer simple questions
- Ensure that members of the public handle the items on display with care and adhere to the rules of the Library

Before the event:

- Become aware of the theme of the exhibit prior to the event, by reading through information provided by the Heritage Librarian
- Attend the brief of the day, 30min before the exhibition opens to the public

When and where can I do my volunteering?

Monthly sessions will be organised at Central Library, one Sunday a month. You will be required to be on site 1.30-4.30pm on the relevant days.

Who will be there with me?

The Heritage Librarian and other Library staff will be on hand for support and other volunteers may be with you.

Support and review

Support and guidance will be given by a named library contact. There will be an 8-week 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 induction will be given about the Library Service.

A short training session will be given in Bristol Central Library half an hour before the event begins.



You will be sent information about the theme of the exhibition a few days before the event, including captions for items which will be displayed.

Am I right for this opportunity?

This opportunity would suit someone who:

- Has a keen interest in history and books
- Has good communication skills, enjoys engaging with people and enjoys sharing information
- Has a curious mind and enjoys learning new things
- Feels they have the necessary level of skill and care to handle fragile items and to help us safely share them with the public for generations to come

What will I get from volunteering?

Benefits include:

- Meeting and socialising with other local people with shared interests
- Learning about the varied collections of the library
- The opportunity to have a personal reference to go towards higher education or job applications
- A deeper understanding of the Library Service
- The fulfilment of giving back to your community

