**Garden Volunteer – Holmwood House, Glasgow**

**Volunteer Role Description**

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| **Directorate**:  South and West |  |
| **Volunteer Manager**:  Juliet Turner, Gardener |
| **Suggested Time Commitment**:  Flexible, Mon/Tues 10-2, by prior arrangement |
| **Type of role:**  Ongoing |

**Why do you need me?**

Holmwood House was designed by Alexander ‘Greek’ Thomson and is an internationally important example of a neo-classical domestic villa, acquired by the National Trust Scotland in 1994. It sits in almost five acres of grounds which consist of a heritage vegetable and herb walled garden, woodlands and lawn, a mixed tree avenue and an open grass area known as ‘Sunnyside’. We are looking for volunteers to help maintain these attractive grounds.

**What’s included in the role?**

* Weeding, lawn and path maintenance, plant and tree care, all depending on the season and the weather
* You may be approached by visitors, so we ask that you provide them with a friendly welcome and ensure they have a pleasant and informative experience

**Why should I volunteer in this role?**

* Trust volunteers can attend special events such as training sessions and are recognised for their work through our national ‘thank you’ programmes.
* Opportunity to be outside and get some fresh air and exercise
* Relaxed, friendly environment and an opportunity to meet other people
* Learn and practice gardening skills

**Who will I be working with?**

Generally, you’ll be working with a team of other volunteers and your volunteer manager, who will provide any assistance you need. Tools, gloves and safety clothing and equipment will also be provided when needed.

**Do I need any previous experience for this role?**

In general, you don’t need any specific experience or qualifications to volunteer with us. For this role, we’re looking for someone who is enthusiastic about the work of the Trust, passionate about its values and objectives, and happy to engage with people of all ages and backgrounds. You’ll be able to provide clear and helpful information to our visitors and ensure they all have a great experience. Some knowledge and experience of gardening will be useful but is not essential. We’ll provide an induction and training for you (all about the Trust, its values and your role) to get started, and we’ll help you keep learning while you’re volunteering with us. This includes free access to all of the courses in our online e-learning system.

**Who can volunteer with the Trust?**

We have an Equality and Diversity policy, and our volunteering opportunities are open to anyone to apply. After you apply, we’ll get in touch to arrange an informal chat with you, to help you understand a bit more about the role and see if it’s right for you.

**What if I need some extra help to volunteer?**

Most of our volunteer roles are flexible and can be tailored to meet your needs. Our volunteer managers will be happy to discuss any help that you might need to volunteer, including adapting the role or assisting with volunteer expenses, when you first meet up. The walled garden has a sloping and stepped layout and gravel pathways that unfortunately means that not all of the space is accessible by wheelchair.

**Will you carry out any checks before I can start this role?**

For this role, we don’t carry out reference checks, and you won’t be required to have a criminal record check. If there’s any information you’d like to share with us, you will have the opportunity to do this when completing your application / registration form.

**What’s the next step?**

You can apply online now for this role by completing the note of interest form on our website <https://www.nts.org.uk/volunteering-jobs/find-a-volunteering-opportunity/volunteer-opportunities>. If you would like some extra information before applying, you can contact Rachel Campbell [rcampbell@nts.org.uk](mailto:rcampbell@nts.org.uk).

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