



## Volunteer at Underfall Yard: Workshop Volunteer

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Underfall Yard was built in the 1880s as a purpose-built docks maintenance facility. The 1884 workshops are a shared space with Bristol City Council and are still in regular use by the **Docks Engineer's team and the Harbour Master's team for essential Harbour maintenance**. Underfall Yard is not a museum. It is a working environment and the Trust intends to conserve, restore and maintain the historic machines to a working standard.

### Purpose of Role

- To clean, conserve and where appropriate restore machines, hearths and other fixtures in the 1884 workshops and the 1907 Pump Room
- Carry out maintenance of machines to a working standard (i.e. the intention is for the machines to be operational)
- Document the progress of the conservation undertaken
- Oversee the health and safety of yourself and others through familiarity with the risks posed by being in a working environment and encouraging safe behaviour onsite

### Anticipated Time Contribution

Ideally volunteers would be able to commit to a minimum of two sessions a month. Sessions last approximately 3 hours.

### Main Activities or Duties

Follow method statements to undertake cleaning, conservation and restoration of historic machinery, which includes but is not limited to:

- **Blacksmith's hearths** – cleaning, freeing seized parts, replace corroded parts
- Punching & Shearing machine – cleaning, greasing, assess connections to the air compressor
- Line shafting – dismantle and assess wear, replace drive belts (please note that the intention is to motorise the line-shafting rather than restore the engine and boiler)
- Planing Machine – cleaning, greasing, freeing seized parts, assess for damage, it may be necessary to replace gears and belts
- Slotting Machine – cleaning, greasing, freeing seized parts, assess for damage, it may be necessary to replace gears and belts

Work in a manner that respects the safety of all people in the workshop and the preservation of historic machinery

Photograph and document the work undertaken

### What we are looking for

**Engineering, machinery and “hands-on” experience.** We are particularly interested in hearing from individuals with experience of working on historic machinery.

Good record keeping skills

Reliable and a good team member

Ability to consider and react to unforeseen events

### Training

Induction to the yard, including an overview of procedures and health and safety

On-the-job training on Workshop-specific activities

Ongoing support from the Workshop Manager

### Benefits

Expand knowledge of how Victorian machinery functions, conservation techniques and practical problem solving

Meet new people

Mileage allowance or travel expenses within agreed guidelines (as per volunteer handbook)

Opportunity to work as part of the team

Team events and trips

### Notes

Workshop Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age.