

Volunteer role: Researcher

Working with the Museum of Liverpool, we're exploring the history of The Old Library on Lister Drive, which is currently being renovated into a community hub by Lister Steps with support from Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). We aim to investigate the site on which The Old Library was built and research links between the library and those who used it. This will inform the archaeological dig taking place in the grounds in March 2019 and the heritage interpretation that will go on display in the finished building.

Key information:

The project will run from December 2018 to March 2019, with two training days at the start of the project. On Thursday 13th December 10.30am – 1.30pm, volunteers are invited to Lister Steps for an introduction to the project, site tour & mapping workshop. On Friday 14th December 10.30am – 2.30pm, volunteers are invited on a tour of Central Library & the new Galkoff's exhibition at the Museum of Liverpool. We will also arrange a mid-way meeting for volunteers halfway through the project. Research can be carried out at home, in volunteers' own time with the opportunity to extend the project if there is interest.

What's involved?

- Work as part of a team to explore the history of The Old Library through the 19th & 20th centuries
- Undertake research, particularly focusing on people who used the library & the development of the area surrounding it
- Produce short written reports and, where possible, provide scans/images of archive material discovered as part of the research
- Investigate archive sources (including the 'Readers' Proposal Book', 'Statistics' book of lending figures and visitors book), photographic archives, Maritime Archives, business archives, church records, etc.

What skills and experience do I need?

- Interest in historical research
- Adaptable and dedicated
- Good attention to detail
- Interest in sharing existing skills to benefit local heritage
- Able to manage own time and work independently

What could I get out of being a volunteer Researcher?

- Discover more about local history and heritage whilst learning practical and transferable research skills
- Introductory training in archive research at the Museum of Liverpool & Liverpool Record Office
- Free tour of Central Library and the Galkoff's exhibition at Museum of Liverpool
- Gain valuable work experience with a national museum service and receive support from Research Leads
- Make a vital and lasting contribution to a community project by helping us communicate the history of the building and the local area to people using the renovated building