# **Volunteer at Underfall Yard: Site & Maintenance Support Volunteer**

Underfall Yard is a historic, working boatyard that welcomes visitors. It is not a museum, but a working environment that is still used by Bristol City Council as a base for the Harbour Master’s Office and Docks Engineers. The yard is managed by Underfall Yard Trust, providing workspace to local maritime businesses and a welcoming environment for members of the public who pass through or visit the Visitor Centre and Café.

In May 2023, there was a devastating fire at Underfall Yard. Although no one was hurt, several historic workshops were lost and there is now a major project underway to reinstate them. Underfall Yard Trust is a small charity and, as this major project proceeds, volunteer support makes an enormous difference when it comes to maintaining the site, enhancing visitor experience and engaging the local community.

**Purpose of Role**

* Support the Site and Maintenance Coordinator by carrying out maintenance tasks of the historic boatyard, to conserve the site for future generations and keep it in good condition for its users, tenants and visitors.
* Document the progress of the tasks 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**

This would be a flexible role with shifts assigned on an ad-hoc basis. Shift patterns can be tailored to meet the individual. Sessions last approximately 3 hours and take place between 9am and 4pm. Availability on Mondays is preferred but not essential.

**Main Activities or Duties**

Undertake cleaning and maintenance work across the site. This may include:

* Re-painting interior and exterior walls
* Woodwork-based tasks, such as repairing and varnishing furniture
* Preventative maintenance work such as weeding and damp control
* Deep cleaning public-facing areas such as the Visitor Centre and its exhibits
* Removing graffiti
* Repairing and painting café furniture
* General site tidying & litter picking
* Installation and get out for events – erecting gazebos, putting up bunting, lights etc.

Work in a manner that respects the safety of all people on site and the preservation of historic materials

**What we are looking for**

Enjoyment of hands-on tasks and outdoor activities

Experience or interest in construction or manual labour

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 site-specific activities

Ongoing support from the Volunteer Manager and the Site and Maintenance Coordinator

**Benefits**

Hands-on opportunity to support the Yard

Expand knowledge of conservation techniques and codes of practice

Flexible shift timings that can be tailored to an existing routine

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**

Site and Maintenance Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age.