



HAWK AND OWL CENTRE VOLUNTEER INFORMATION PACK

Muncaster Castle is now recruiting more Volunteers to join its Hawk and Owl Centre Team in the forthcoming 2020 season.

Hawk and Owl Centre Volunteers play a very important role and we welcome volunteers who will help to make a memorable, inspiring experience for the many visitors to this beautiful Castle and Grounds, whilst themselves, learning new skills.

What is a Hawk and Owl Centre Volunteer?

A Hawk and Owl Volunteer helps the Falconry Team on a day to day basis. They assist with the daily running and maintenance of the Hawk and Owl Centre. They aid falconers to provide high impact flying demonstrations. They offer help and advice to visitors and answer or redirect any enquiries during their time with us.

They are sometimes the "First Face" of Muncaster Castle and help to maintain the warm friendly, family atmosphere whilst being polite, informative and enthusiastic.

What will I be doing?

- Keeping bird housing and living areas clean.
- Bird food preparation.
- General maintenance within the centre including weeding, painting, sweeping etc.
- Marshalling/ stewarding flying demonstrations.
- Interaction with general public during and outside of daily demonstrations. Directing questions to falconers is key.
- Selling charity wristbands for conservation projects.
- To be aware of where things are and what is happening on the rest of the Estate in order to ensure that visitors are well informed.

- To recognise and support the specific access needs of all our visitors
- To attend training and induction provided to reach the necessary level of knowledge required.
- To be aware of, and adhere to, all health and safety guidance in place for the benefit of yourself and visitors.

What attributes should I have?

- An interest in birds of prey, wildlife and their conservation.
- Good interpersonal skills.
- Friendly and outgoing.
- Willing to try new things!
- Of smart appearance.
- Health and safety aware.
- Be able to provide two references.

When can I help?

We would like our Volunteers to commit to a minimum of 1 day a week or more if they wish, between end March to end October. The rota works 4 weeks in advance to give you plenty of time to organise your availability and us plenty of time to cover events and personal holidays

What can I expect from volunteering with The Hawk and Owl Centre?

- The opportunity to volunteer in magical and beautiful surroundings
- Induction, training resources and the help of the falconry team until you are confident
- To learn about the needs of the different birds in our care
- To have support from an enthusiastic and friendly team
- To talk to people from all over the world and helping to make their visit special will give you great personal satisfaction
- You will experience many different situations which may make you discover new things about yourself
- Something different every day!

This role is purely voluntary and does not create a legally binding arrangement or employment contract.

For more information please contact:

Sharon Arrowsmith, Curator and Volunteer Co-Ordinator

curator@muncaster.co.uk

Volunteer Application Form



First Name: ----- Last Name: -----

Address: -----

-----Postcode: -----

Email: ----- Mobile No: -----

There are various volunteering opportunities available at Muncaster. Volunteers usually assist in the Castle, Gardens or Hawk & Owl Centre; other opportunities may be available such as assisting at special events or similar. Some volunteers help out in more than one department! Please indicate which would be your preferred area(s) of volunteering. You may circle more than one.

CASTLE GARDENS HAWK & OWL CENTRE OTHER – (Please say what/where).....

Please detail any previous experience you may have had working in or around Historic Houses, gardens or with birds, animals or wildlife depending in which area you wish to volunteer. Don't worry if you have no relevant experience as training will be given and enthusiasm is just as important. Also it will be useful if you can let us know of any positive qualities you feel you have to offer and why you would like to volunteer at Muncaster Castle. Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Please indicate how much time do you think you could commit to volunteering?

Do you have particular days of the week when you would like to volunteer?

Do you have any medical conditions of which we should be aware? If yes, please detail below. This information will be kept confidential.

Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offence which is not a spent conviction within the terms of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974? If yes, please give full details.

It is Muncaster Castle's policy to take up references for volunteers before we offer a role. We would be grateful if you would supply the names and contact details of two referees for us to contact. Please don't put relatives as referees as we cannot accept them. You can use, for example, an ex-employer, people you may have volunteered for in the past, a social worker or anyone you have a professional relationship with. One of your referees can be a friend, someone you have worked with, or a fellow volunteer.

Name:

Name:

Address:

Address:

Telephone No:

Telephone No:

My signature confirms that all the information given on this application form is true and complete. I understand that any falsification or deliberate omissions may disqualify my application or lead to my volunteering opportunities at Muncaster ceasing. I understand that my volunteering role at Muncaster is subject to the satisfaction of the Management of Muncaster Castle.

Signed:

Date:

Please return the completed form to:

By post:

Sharon Arrowsmith
Muncaster Castle
Ravenglass, Cumbria
CA18 1RQ

Or by email:

curator@muncaster.co.uk