

# National Waterways Museum

## MUSEUM GUIDES

Acting as a Guide on site is an interesting and rewarding area to work in.

The site has a unique history and contains many important historical objects. Visitors come from many varied organisations and groups to be taken around the site. Local W.I. groups could be here on one day, on another a coach trip of foreign students travelling around Britain studying the heritage and culture of the UK.

Most visitors simply want to hear interesting stories about the boats and the people who worked on them. Getting to grips with the knowledge to be a site guide is a worthwhile activity in itself and something many people enjoy in its own right.

The history of waterways is fascinating and covers a wide expanse of history incorporating aspects of the industrial revolution through to the history of the town of Ellesmere Port.

Another role of site guides is to crew and deliver commentary aboard the trip boat. The trips last on average 45 minutes and take the visitors out of the museum along the canal towards Chester.

The visitor's experience can be enriched if the site guides play the role in character and costume, although this is not a compulsory element of the task.

**To find out more or to register interest call the Museum on 0151 355 5017 or email [volunteers@boatmuseumsociety.org.uk](mailto:volunteers@boatmuseumsociety.org.uk)**

“Pitching my talk to the audience is the secret - sometimes it's more about the history of the boats and other times about the site, but we always come back to talking about the people, the ordinary folks who worked on the boats or on the wharves. That's what really interests most people.”

(Norman, volunteer guide for 16 years)