

## Exhibitions Volunteer

### Role Description

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The Tank Museum brings the story of tanks and their crews to life, with the world's best collection of tanks in modern, awe-inspiring exhibitions.

The museum houses some 300 vehicles, representing every major conflict since the First World War. Our moving exhibitions tell the story of this British invention; from the mud of the Somme to the beaches of Normandy and the deserts of Iraq – featuring powerful stories from the soldiers that fought in them.

Around 200,000 people visit Dorset's largest indoor attraction each year, with the annual TANKFEST event drawing visitors from across the globe. The Tank Museum has a global online reach, with a large supporter base and following on a range of social media platforms.

This is underpinned by the outstanding national importance of The Tank Museum's collections and the expertise of those who care for them. Alongside vehicles, the collections include medals, images, documents, personal papers, books, weapons, and memorabilia.

The museum is situated in Bovington which is regarded as the 'home of the tank', as it was here that some of the first tank crews were trained during the First World War. It remains home to the Royal Armoured Corps today. The museum was founded in 1923 as a teaching resource for the Tank Corps. Over the past decade, the museum has transformed itself into a leading 21st century military museum.

As museum of the Royal Tank Regiment and Royal Armoured Corps, The Tank Museum is a registered charity.

### Our Values

The values of The Tank Museum underpin the work of our team. Whilst there are a great variety of roles, specialisms, and professions across the organisation, we all share a common approach in our mission to tell the story of the tank and the people that serve in them.

- **We are PASSIONATE.** We are authoritative and driven and we display this daily with our enthusiastic and rigorous approach to work.
- **We are AMBITIOUS.** Driven by an aspiration to be the best, we strive to be better. We channel our creativity and competitiveness to make us innovative, forward thinking and flexible to challenges.
- **We CARE.** We work hard because we believe in the cause of the organisation. We are welcoming and friendly to all our visitors. We are inclusive, fair and considerate of each other, showing great respect for our collections and for the stories we tell.

- **We display INTEGRITY.** We are knowledgeable about our subject and professional in the way in which we conduct our business. We act responsibly and embrace responsibility. Our ethical grounding guides us to do the right thing by our audiences, our supporters, our collections and by each other.

## **Exhibitions and Galleries**

The Tank Museum has ten major exhibitions covering a range of topics from the first crews in action, to modern conflicts in the Gulf and Afghanistan and - most recently - the tank in popular culture. All the displays feature multiple armoured vehicles, supporting artefacts and extensive archival imagery. Personal stories, through first handwritten and spoken accounts, have increasingly formed a key part of the narrative across the galleries.

The exhibitions are created as a result of consultation with visitors with the aim of appealing to a wide audience base. New displays are delivered every two years with general gallery upgrades taking place during the intervening period.

## Role Profile

<b>Role Title</b>	Exhibitions Volunteer
<b>Department</b>	Exhibitions
<b>Key Relationships</b>	Exhibitions Manager, Exhibitions Assistant Manager, Exhibitions Officer
<b>Overall Role Purpose</b>	To assist the department in the maintenance of the permanent galleries and to carry out various tasks linked to exhibition research, content generation and evaluation.
<b>Expectations</b>	<p>Our volunteer team are at the very heart of the Museum and an integral part of our workforce, working alongside employees of the Tank Museum in a wide variety of roles.</p> <p><b>What will you be doing?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- With the Exhibitions Officer, carry out gallery checks and low-level repairs to graphics, interactives, audio visuals and showcase displays</li> <li>- Using archival resources, conduct research linked to a redisplay of the First and Second World War medal collection</li> <li>- Assist with exhibition evaluation work, i.e. on-gallery questionnaires and focus groups</li> <li>- Assist with showcase refreshment projects linked to new object acquisitions and key anniversaries</li> <li>- Transcribe oral history interviews and proofread text panels</li> <li>- Attach digital exhibition panels to the Collections Management database 'Tracer'</li> <li>- Interior showcase cleaning</li> </ul> <p><b>What will the Museum expect from me?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To act in way that delivers the core values of The Tank Museum with <b><i>Integrity, Care, Ambition and Passion</i></b></li> <li>• To be comfortable using computers and willing to learn new software</li> <li>• To be interested in learning new skills and open to instruction</li> <li>• Have good attention to detail and a desire to do things right</li> <li>• Maintain good working relationships with employees, other volunteers, and visitors</li> <li>• Assist with the training of new volunteers</li> <li>• Undertake appropriate training and attend department meetings</li> <li>• To abide by the Museum's policy and procedures</li> <li>• To abide by the Museum's expected conducts and standards</li> </ul> <p><b>What can I expect from the Museum?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A welcoming and enjoyable experience</li> <li>• The opportunity to learn and develop new skills and experience</li> <li>• To be treated fairly and with respect</li> <li>• The opportunity to meet people from all walks of life and make new friends</li> <li>• Free entry for you and a guest to the Museum; discount in our Restaurant and Shop</li> <li>• Reimbursement of travel expenses (currently up to £16.50 per day)</li> <li>• Free parking when carrying out volunteering duties</li> </ul>

<p><b>Who would this suit?</b></p>	<p>This role would suit someone with an interest in museum interpretation who enjoys varied work from hands-on gallery tasks to desk-based research. Good written, IT and organisational skills, plus some knowledge of 20<sup>th</sup> century military history would be an advantage. No experience or qualifications are required.</p> <p>The Exhibitions Team works Monday to Friday and is therefore interested in hearing from people who are able to give their time during the week.</p> <p>All volunteers will receive a welcome training session which includes an introductory tour of the Museum. New volunteers will receive the appropriate training. You will also be 'buddied' with a member of staff who will provide further training and support.</p>
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