

Appley Tower Heritage Project Volunteer Researcher Brief

From Empire Builder to Globe Maker: Discovering the Heritage of Appley Tower

Background

The Appley Tower Heritage Project is being managed by Natural Enterprise, working in partnership with Ryde Town and Isle of Wight Councils. Funding has been secured from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to restore the historic tower to its former glory and create opportunities for the community to engage in the heritage of the building.

The first of these community engagement activities is an opportunity join a team of volunteer researchers to discover more of the history of the building, the people and the activities associated with the tower over its 150 years.

Research Project

The research will inform 3 exhibitions:

- 150-year history of the tower and people associated with it
- Tower postcards and what their messages and senders say about tourism on the Isle of Wight over the years
- 150 years of change on the Solent as seen from Appley Tower.

The research will also be used to create interpretation boards, mobile exhibits, speaker content and an informative map with four self-guided "Appley Walks".

Researchers must be available to attend three training workshops, which are to be delivered by Richard Smout, Isle of Wight Heritage Service Manager, Isle of Wight Council.

The research to be undertaken between May and August 2023.

Registration

Anyone interested in this volunteering opportunity should complete a registration form, available from rachael.ardley@naturalenterprise.co.uk .

Activity Timetable

Date	Activity	Lead contact	Details
Mid-March '23	Recruitment of research volunteers	Rachael Ardley	rachael.ardley@naturalenterprise.co.uk
7 th April '23	Closing date for volunteer registration	Rachael Ardley	
11 th April '23	Joining instructions sent out to volunteers	Rachael Ardley	
18 th April '23 (9.30am to 12.30pm)	Workshop 1	Richard Smout	At Appley Tower and Ryde Rowing Club, Appley Lane, Ryde PO33 1ND
25 th April '23 (9.30 to 12.30)	Workshop 2	Richard Smout	Ryde Rowing Club, Appley Lane, Ryde PO33 1ND
2 nd May '23 (9.30 to 12.30)	Workshop 3	Richard Smout	County Records Office 26 Hillside, Newport PO30 2EB
May-August '23	Research undertaken	Richard Smout	
Autumn '23	Written summary of research findings	Ken Dueck	The research report shall be written by Ken Dueck.
July '24	Exhibition 1		
October '24	Exhibition 2		
December '24	Exhibition 3		