



Visitor Centre Helper Volunteer at South Walney Role Description

About the Cumbria Wildlife Trust

As one of 46 independent Wildlife Trusts, we are a local wildlife conservation charity. Cumbria Wildlife Trust cares passionately about wildlife and wild places – we're here to put wildlife back into our land and seascapes to make Cumbria a wilder county with more space for nature. We restore and connect wild places, work with nature to tackle the climate emergency and support people to take local action for wildlife.

We wouldn't be able to do what we do without the dedication and support from our community of 600 active volunteers, over 15000 members and supporters.

What is a Visitor Centre Helper Volunteer?

We are looking for volunteers who will be the first point of contact for all visitors to our South Walney nature reserve visitor centre.

You will join a friendly and dedicated team of volunteers and staff, meeting and greeting visitors to the reserve; providing information on the site's wildlife; promoting the work of the Cumbria Wildlife Trust in general and the South Walney nature reserve, in particular.

What's in it for you?

- Becoming part of a friendly and dedicated team of volunteers and staff, at South Walney
- Getting out and about in nature at one of Cumbria Wildlife Trust's most beautiful nature reserves
- Health and wellbeing benefits
- Passing on your coastal wildlife knowledge to other people and helping them get enjoyment through contact with nature
- Learning new conservation and people skills
- Having opportunities to learn how the nature reserve is managed and about the wildlife that is found at South Walney

What's involved?

- Greeting visitors on arrival in the visitor centre and assisting in the car park
- Providing leaflets and advice to visitors to ensure they enjoy their visit
- Spending time out and about on site, engaging with our visitors and ensuring they are keeping to footpaths
- Encouraging visitors to support Cumbria Wildlife Trust by becoming members and volunteers
- Providing assistance and encouragement to visitors bird and wildlife watching to discuss their sightings and share information
- Where appropriate and safe, dealing with any misuse of the site by providing guidance to visitors
- Assisting with the tidying, and opening up/closing of the visitor centre

Who would suit this role?

This role will suit anyone interested in volunteering with Cumbria Wildlife Trust, who loves coastal wildlife and is a people person. It would especially suit those who:

- Are aged 16 or over
- Have good communication skills and can greet visitors in a cheerful manner
- Have a natural enthusiasm for coastal wildlife of South Walney and want to help visitors get the most from their visit
- Enjoy working in an outdoor environment (in all weathers!)
- Enjoy walking and ideally have access to a car as the site is in a remote location

However, please note that you don't need to have all of these interests or skills to undertake this volunteering role.

Extra information

Your place	South Walney, Walney Island, Barrow in Furness, Cumbria, LA14 3YQ. what3words ///fewest.adverbs.scariest
Time commitment	We are looking for volunteer helpers who would be able to come down once a week for a half or full day
Volunteer Coordinator	Ruth Alcroft, Volunteer Coordinator volunteering@cumbriawildlifetrust.org.uk
Staff Contact (if different)	Paul Waterhouse

Training/Resources	Volunteer handbook and Trust induction. Health and safety training will be mandatory and provided for you. Volunteers are able to receive travel expenses of 0.45p per mile agreed in advanced with their staff contact.
Other Requirements	A site induction and orientation will be provided.

This role is purely voluntary and this arrangement is not meant to be a legally binding one or an employment contract