

Historical Researcher – Battle of Otterburn Project

Volunteer with us to help discover more about Redesdale's hidden past

What happened when Harry 'Hotspur' Percy and James Douglas met in battle on a moonlit evening in August 1388? Why were they at Otterburn and where did the battle take place? Are there any traces left today of this bloody conflict? These are just a few of the questions we will be seeking to answer over the next three years.

As a volunteer on the Conflict in a Landscape: Battle of Otterburn project, you will undertake exciting and rewarding research, directly contributing to our understanding of this unique and enigmatic battle, whilst developing valuable skills.

Reporting to

Project Manager (appointed by the Battlefields Trust)

Responsibilities

Under the direction of the Project Manager:

- Complete necessary training in historical document research methods
- Work closely with the Battlefields Trust to undertake research of historical documents, including archive and web-based documents, relating to the Battle of Otterburn
- Compile and share research with key contacts and other volunteers to aid investigations and help towards the development of engaging visitor interpretation

Existing skills and experience needed

Strong communication skills
Basic IT skills
Access to internet

Essential or desirable

Essential
Essential
Desirable

Skills development offered

- Training in appropriate research techniques
- Opportunity to contribute to high-profile Battlefield research project
- Opportunity to attend volunteer training events offered by Revitalising Redesdale and partners
- Opportunity to build experience for career development
- Opportunity to work with different organisations e.g. Battlefields Trust, Northumberland National Park and with historians and archaeologists
- Training in relevant health and safety policies and codes of practice

Support available

- Vehicle mileage and public transport costs will be reimbursed
- Agreed expenses incurred will be reimbursed
- Support and advice will always be available from the partnership organisations

Time commitment needed

Flexible- can fit around your job or other commitments

Any other relevant information

- All RR partners* operate a comprehensive Health and Safety policy that all volunteers are required to adhere to.
- Volunteers will be expected to comply with the Health and Safety regulations of the leading RR partner.

Contact for more information

Karen Collins, Heritage and Engagement Officer
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*Revitalising Redesdale partners are: Natural England, Northumberland National Park Authority, Northumberland Wildlife Trust, Environment Agency, Forestry Commission, Ministry of Defence, The Battlefields Trust, Tyne Rivers Trust, Otterburn Parish Council, Elsdon Parish Council, Rochester with Byrness Parish Council, Corsenside Parish Council, Northumberland County Council, Kielder Water and Forest Development Trust, University of Newcastle Students' Union and The Redesdale Society.