

Volunteer Role Profile



Volunteer Role

Our Stories - Our Times Volunteer

Volunteer Manager

Volunteer Manager

Where you will be based

Home

Why we want you

We are building a network of 50 volunteers, self-motivated and personally curious, to enable the delivery of the “Our Stories - Our Times” project (OSOT).

The team of volunteers will be responsible for the collection of 100 oral testimonies which tell the story of the British Red Cross in Northern Ireland and Ireland: intended topics stretch from the Troubles through to the present day. As part of the project we are working with Queens’ University Belfast to provide training to develop heritage research skills and in the collection of oral histories through trauma informed interviewing (including the use of professional recording equipment). Additionally, we are working with National Museums Northern Ireland (the Ulster Museum) on the collection and display of objects donated in the course of the project.

Volunteers will have access to regular meetings and discussions about the project with the Project Manager to facilitate guidance; will meet with interviewees and conduct their own interviews after training; will partake in the project evaluation process through questionnaires and feedback sessions; and will be invited to important events including the launch of the project.

Made possible by the funding of the National Lottery Heritage Fund, OSOT will archive the unique history of the British Red Cross on the island of Ireland – not just within Northern Ireland. The project aims to connect with new audiences across the island of Ireland with our own narrative and encourage new forms of engagement with the organisation. The project is supported by an Advisory Panel and an independent Project Manager. The role sits with the Northern Ireland team but volunteers will be based locally throughout Northern Ireland.

Training will be held in September and may take one to two days. Thereafter, interviewers will be assigned interviewees when available. Volunteer would require no more than one to two days per month. The project concludes in April 2023.

What you will be doing

- Working alongside the Project Manager to conduct interviews.
- Travel to interviews on a regular basis.
- Following the ethical and informative requirements of interview practice throughout the entire process.

- Using digital equipment provided to record interviews.
- Creating a summary of the interview and audio file for the project manager.

The skills you need

- Effective spoken and written communication
- Self-motivated and outgoing
- Confidence to ask questions and talk about sensitive topics.
- Compassionate to support those sharing their story.
- Inquisitive and adaptable
- Willing to uphold our Fundamental Principles.

What's in it for you

- Relevant training from Queen's University Belfast
- The opportunity to meet people who have lived the history of the Red Cross in Northern Ireland
- Induction, support, and access to British Red Cross platforms and training
- Exposure to the work of the British Red Cross and the opportunity to develop existing skills and gain new ones