



# Visitor Welcome Volunteer (REAPER)

## Role description

**Volunteer role:** Visitor Welcome Volunteer

We are looking for friendly and enthusiastic people to help us welcome visitors onboard our flagship, REAPER F958, during the 2025 summer season.

**Location:** The Scottish Fisheries Museum / Anstruther Harbour

**Supervisor / Key Contact:** Lizzie Hazlehurst, Fleet and Volunteer Co-Ordinator

### About REAPER:

Built in 1902, REAPER FR958 is a Fife Sailing Herring Drifter and member of the National Historic Fleet. REAPER is crewed and maintained by volunteers at the Scottish Fisheries Museum. During the summer months, REAPER visits events and festivals around the coast of Scotland and Northern England as well as hosting school groups and open days for members of the public in Anstruther. Thousands of visitors are welcomed aboard REAPER every year and a busy schedule of maintenance and preparation is followed, enabling this to happen.

### About the museum:

Founded in the old fishing town of Anstruther, Fife, the Scottish Fisheries Museum Trust first opened on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1969. This area has long been associated with the fishing industry, and the Museum explores the history and heritage of the boats, the fish, and the folk. The Recognised Collections explain the development and variety of vessels and fishing methods used for different species of fish throughout history around the coast and islands of Scotland. The displays also illustrate the working and domestic lives of the fishermen, women, and children who all contributed to the fishing industry.

### About the role:

We are looking for enthusiastic people who will assist our current volunteers to provide a warm welcome for visitors of all ages to REAPER FR 958 while the boat is moored outside the Scottish Fisheries Museum at Anstruther Harbour. You will help to ensure that members of the public have a safe and enjoyable visit to the boat while encouraging them to find out more at the Scottish Fisheries Museum. This role would suit people with an interest in museums, historic fishing boats or local history. It offers a fantastic opportunity to develop visitor services skills and meet new people in a friendly and supportive setting.

**The key tasks will include:**

- Welcoming the public onboard, explaining that REAPER is open and free to visit.
- Explaining basic safety procedures to visitors such as how to access the boat from the pontoon and navigate ladders to and from the cabin.
- Learning more about REAPER and historic fishing boats by chatting to experienced volunteers. Passing this knowledge on to visitors as you gain confidence.
- Encouraging people to also visit the museum.
- Help to record visitor numbers.

**Hours and timeframe:**

- This is a temporary volunteering opportunity with availability for June, July and August 2025. We plan to open REAPER to the public on set Thursdays and Saturdays during this period.
- Please note that you don't have to commit to all these dates and if you are interested in getting involved but can't manage Thursdays or Saturdays, we would still love to hear from you so we can discuss similar opportunities.

**The role requires:**

- An interest in meeting new people.
- Excellent communication skills or a desire to develop these in a supportive setting.
- An interest in learning about REAPER FR 958 and the Scottish Fisheries Museum.
- A desire to help us promote all aspects of the Scottish Fisheries Museum.
- A willingness to undertake training as required.
- A willingness to follow health and safety procedures, maintaining a safe environment for all volunteers and visitors to the pontoon and boat.

This role may require a Disclosure check depending on the type of engagement volunteers wish to deliver. This is confidential and previous convictions may not be a barrier to someone volunteering. Information will be kept confidential. The Scottish Fisheries Museum Team will support volunteers in completing applications. Volunteers will not have to cover the cost of this.

**Volunteer Benefits**

Volunteers will be part of the friendly team, develop skills and gain experience in a museum. After three months volunteers can ask for a reference. Most importantly we will provide plenty of tea and coffee.



## **Travel Information**

A bus stop is directly outside the museum. Buses to and from Anstruther are operated by Stagecoach including X60 service between Edinburgh and St. Andrews and 95 service between St Andrews and Leven. Both buses run hourly.

There are two public pay and display car parks in 150 yards of the museum with 4 disabled bays. Both car parks are pay and display from April to September and are free during the rest of the year. There is no charge for blue badge holders.

The Museum will reimburse pre-approved travel or out-of-pocket expenses incurred for the purpose of volunteering.

## **Support/training:**

Volunteers will be given an induction and training for all aspects of the role by the Scottish Fisheries Museum Team. They will be supported in their role by the Fleet & Volunteer Co-ordinator as their supervisor and key point of contact.

## **Accessibility:**

We welcome volunteers from all backgrounds, including those facing barriers to volunteering, people living with disabilities and with additional support needs, people from ethnic minority backgrounds, refugees, and those who identify as LGBTQI+.

The museum is wheelchair accessible with ramp access to every gallery space except from the Fisherman's Cottage. A disabled toilet is situated at the main entrance and is accessed via the museum shop. Seating is available throughout the museum. An 'Access Guide' and 'Visual Story' can be downloaded from the museum website at <https://bit.ly/3Om8uBh>.

Access to Reaper's cabin is via a ladder but tasks can be adapted. We are happy to chat with volunteers about their needs and adapt tasks to suit them.

## **Application process:**

There are multiple ways you can contact us if you would like to apply to volunteer – phone call, email or in person followed by an informal chat with our Fleet & Volunteer Co-ordinator. Anybody interested in volunteering will need to complete our Volunteer Application Form (we will send you this once you have been in touch). We can support those who need help completing the form by chatting through it either by telephone, a Zoom call or in-person.

For further information about this role or volunteering at the museum generally please contact Lizzie Hazlehurst, Fleet & Volunteer Co-Ordinator on 01333 310628 or email [lizzie@scotfishmuseum.org](mailto:lizzie@scotfishmuseum.org).