



Volunteer Role Description Plant Curatorial Volunteer

About The Knoll Gardens Foundation (Registered Charity; 1159390)

For nearly 30 years Knoll Gardens has been developing and refining a naturalistic approach to the gardens design, plant choice and ongoing care. The charity was created in 2008 and is dedicated to achieving a better understanding of the balance between Knolls naturalistic ethos and the gardens wildlife.

As part of its work the charity undertakes regular surveys including butterflies, moths, dragonflies, birds, bumblebees, amphibians and reptiles. The charity also organises an effective and practical volunteer scheme that supports the gardens' care along with other roles such as contributing to educational activities and maintaining the charity website and social media presence.

What is a Plant Curatorial Volunteer?

Originally a private botanic garden Knoll has been keeping accessions and planting records since it began in the late 1960's. These records are paper based in various formats and require auditing and updating to a digital format with the ultimate aim of having a record of all living plants within the gardens. This work has been started by some of our existing volunteers, utilising an Excel spreadsheet, but requires a dedicated volunteer to continue it and ensure it remains up to date. There is still plenty of work to do! We would also like to use this information as a base for an online resource that would allow customers to locate and name plants within the gardens. Depending upon the interests/wishes of the chosen volunteer, contributing to the development of this resource could also form part of the role.

What's involved?

- Physical, accurate identification of plants within the gardens
- Cross referencing those plants with bed numbers and paper records.
- Adding plants to a database, creating a complete record of living plants in each numbered bed.
- Maintaining and updating the database as required by physical changes to the plants and or beds.

What's in it for you?

As well as making a difference to a local, nationally recognised Garden in beautiful surroundings, this is a great opportunity to meet people from a variety of

backgrounds and to work as part of a small friendly team. You will learn a lot about the way we garden, absorbing at first-hand the techniques we teach in our masterclasses, which are part of day-to-day life here at Knoll.

This role would suit people who...

have a good plant knowledge and understanding of record keeping and are looking for a worthwhile ongoing project with a demonstrable end result.

Extra Information

Your base Knoll Gardens, Hampreston, Wimborne, BH21 7ND

When Year round but with emphasis on February to December

Time commitment Flexible, but sufficient to fulfil the purpose of the role

Staff contact Neil Lucas

Notes Appropriate induction will be provided.
You will be covered by the Knoll Gardens insurance and health & safety requirements when on site.

For more information, please contact us at; foundation@knollgardens.co.uk

Applications forms are available to download at knollgardensfoundation.org

This role is purely voluntary and as such this arrangement is not meant to be legally binding or an employment contract.