



## Mary Rose Trust

### Role Profile – Curator

The Mary Rose Museum is large independent museum with an outstanding designated collection. The purpose-built, award-winning Museum straddles a dry-dock, itself a Grade 1 Listed Ancient Monument. Re-discovered in 1971, excavated and dramatically raised in 1982, the hull of Henry VIII's warship *Mary Rose* forms the centrepiece of the Museum, surrounded by galleries displaying some of the 19,000 artefacts recovered. The breadth and condition of the collection provide a unique and vivid impression of life at sea on July 19<sup>th</sup>, 1545.

This position offers a rare opportunity to acquire a deep knowledge of the collection and archive and to contribute to curation and exhibition development for the future.

<b>Job Title:</b>	Curator
<b>Salary:</b>	Circa £30k
<b>Reports to:</b>	Head of Research
<b>Key Relationships</b>	Deputy CEO, Head of Interpretation, Conservation Manager, Collections Manager, Head of Learning, Head of Guest Experience
<b>Location:</b>	Mary Rose Trust Offices, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard, UK
<b>Hours:</b>	37 hours per week, with some flexible working allowed and required



## Purpose of Role

To create and deliver high quality, engaging exhibitions, displays and public events. To ensure that exhibition development remains rooted in integrity, authenticity, sound research and compelling storytelling. To inspire others with the evolving Mary Rose story, from staff and volunteers to potential donors and external partners, whilst ensuring that Mary Rose's profile and reputation in the academic and specialist world remains high.

## Key Duties

- To develop a deep knowledge and understanding of the collection and archive.
- To develop themes that relate artefacts/stories to contemporary audiences as well as within the wider Tudor context.
- To originate content for new exhibitions and experiences.
- To keep abreast of latest creative interpretation and presentation techniques.
- To ensure that current and future exhibitions are accessible to all.
- To maintain high standards of presentation, refreshing aspects when necessary.
- To work with colleagues to select artefacts for conservation and display.
- To encourage and facilitate research into the collection, both internally and through fostering external partnerships.
- To collect, record and catalogue research information; ensuring that the knowledge is safeguarded.
- To strive to publish research within journals, exhibition catalogues, Mary Rose publications or online.
- To share knowledge with staff and volunteers through lectures and tours.
- To present at conferences and workshops.
- To ensure that Mary Rose maintains a strong public profile in academic areas of speciality, the museum sector and the wider public.



## Person Specification

You will have at least five years' experience of curating a collection, undertaking research, and delivering high quality exhibitions.

A team player with excellent communication and presentation skills, you will have an understanding of Tudor history, maritime history and archaeology. You will be a lateral thinker and have the determination to ensure that our stories are told in creative, innovative, and engaging ways. You will be self-aware and committed to ongoing personal development. You will build a rapport with external partners to deliver strong outcomes for the Mary Rose.

### **1. Qualifications**

#### *Essential*

- Relevant degree level qualification, or demonstrable equivalent experience.

#### *Desirable*

- Relevant postgraduate qualification.

### **2. Experience**

#### *Essential*

- Minimum of 5 years' experience of:
  - Curating a collection/archive.
  - Creating and delivering successful exhibitions.
  - Working with external partners to drive collections-based research.
- Experience in working effectively with multifunctional teams.
- Experience in representing a heritage organisation in specialist sectors and the media.
- Experience in working with multiple interpretation techniques.
- Experience in using a digital collections management system.
- Experience in project management.

#### *Desirable*

- Experience in using leading edge interpretation techniques.
- Experience in working with an archaeological collection.
- Experience of Maritime Archaeology

### **3. Skills**

#### *Essential*

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- The ability to identify stories/themes from collections/archive that resonate with contemporary audiences.



- The ability to originate and relate stories in an engaging and relevant way.
- The ability to juggle multiple priorities calmly and effectively and to work to deadlines.

#### **4. Knowledge**

##### *Essential*

- A clear understanding of what makes a world-class visitor experience.
- A good understanding of interpretation techniques and latest technologies.
- A good understanding of best practice in research techniques.

##### *Desirable*

- Knowledge of and passion for the Mary Rose collection.
- Understanding of the importance of the underwater cultural heritage.

Note: This role is subject to an enhanced level Disclosure and Barring Service check and Naval Base Security Clearance. Due to the nature of our location, it is a Ministry of Defence mandatory requirement in the interest of Dockyard security that anyone working with Portsmouth Naval Base must either be a UK resident or have had continuous residency in the UK for at least three years to be eligible to apply for a permanent site security pass. Please note that security checks for non-UK nationals can take up to six months.

This is a description of the job as it is presently constituted. Employees' job descriptions may be examined by management at any time to either ensure that they relate to the job currently being performed, or to incorporate proposed changes. Management reserves the right to change a job description after consultation with the employees concerned. The aim will be to reach agreement to reasonable changes consistent with the employee's band and status.

The deadline for applications is 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021 at 5pm.

This post has a minimum requirement of two references which must be your current or most recent employer.

For enquiries contact Eleanor Schofield at [e.schofield@maryrose.org](mailto:e.schofield@maryrose.org)