

Name: Tricia

Volunteer Role: Heritage Volunteer



Why did you become a heritage volunteer?

Becoming a heritage and education volunteer was an easy decision as I love working alongside children and adults. I believe strongly heritage is something to be treasured in general and whilst using this “treasure” as a source to educate others is something very special which is a privilege to be part of. The innate reward one feels when one is a volunteer is something that is immeasurable, especially with some of the encouraging comments we get from our visitors.

For example, on Kingston’s Thumbs up Thursdays we have been told this by a visitor, *“We come here first because there is always something different and interesting to do.”* and *“We like it here because we are not rushed to finish our work like we are at school”*.

What is your favourite part of volunteering at ASK?

Meeting and engaging with visitors to All Saints Church on the heritage side is very rewarding, particularly with the diversity of those who attend the children’s events. I have helped with school events and it is fun to include the teachers in the work as well as the children. I also volunteer with adults on a therapeutic beading course, which although the numbers who have attended has been small, it has been fun. I would certainly recommend heritage volunteering to others. The more volunteers there are the better the experience our visitors receive.

Favourite historical period?

Being a hobbyist historian mainly from the 15th century, I have had to quickly educate myself on the Anglo-Saxons to be of use to the HALO. Through volunteering I have a new dimension to my knowledge to impart to others through arts and crafts work and also a desire to obtain artefacts from the period, which our visitors can see and handle.