



Volunteer Role Description

Volunteer opportunity: Oral History Volunteer – *A Field of Faces* project

Service: Culture Team

Overseen by: Collections & Assets Manager

Summary:

Fruit picking by visiting workers has been a key feature of local farming for centuries. You will support an external specialist (oral historian/photographer) in recording personal perspectives on the Weald's unique picking industry heritage, exploring the questions:

- Who used to do it?
- Who's doing it now?
- Who'll do it in the future?

The project will collect photographic portraits and oral history interviews with 20 individuals who have worked or currently work as pickers in the Weald region from three groups: (1) local Traveller communities, (2) EU migrant and seasonal workers and (3) members of local families who traditionally worked as seasonal pickers in the area. Those interviewed may also include local farmers who employ pickers. The resulting material will be displayed on digital screens around The Amelia.

Following induction and training, it is hoped that this project will begin in autumn 2019.

Main Activities:

- Learning how to interview candidates identified by the Collections & Assets Manager and Research Curator and recording their memories using digital recording equipment.
- Transcribing recordings to form a text document of the interviews. Interviews can be transcribed at home.
- Opportunities to collaborate with staff at The Amelia to encourage more people to think about local history, the collections and our local archives.

NB Full support and training will be given. No previous oral history experience is necessary.

Made possible with the support of:



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

