



Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust Community Ambassadors & Project Champions

Volunteer Role: Ambassador

We know that it is important for communities to understand more about their local built heritage and to encourage them to become actively involved in looking after what is important to them. Numerous national studies have evidenced the value of the historic built environment to people’s wellbeing and to the local economy.

Would you like to play a role in celebrating and protecting Derbyshire’s historic buildings?

Are you keen to share information about your local heritage assets and to use and develop your own community networks to help bring about change?

We’re looking for volunteers to join us and support Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust (DHBT) by representing your community and making sure DHBT are aware of issues relating to the built heritage in your area. As a DHBT Community Ambassador you will play an important role in supporting the protection of your local heritage.



What's involved?

At the DHBT, we want to recruit an enthusiastic group of people from across Derbyshire to join our new team of DHBT Community Ambassadors.

The role will involve:

- Proactively representing the aims and objectives of the DHBT in your local community including to societies, groups and individuals (as appropriate)
- Communicate with the DHBT (via the Portfolio Development Trustee) about relevant heritage matters, which could include events or proposals that may have an impact on built heritage assets or buildings that may be at risk of deterioration, demolition, or significant change
- Distributing leaflets, posters and other DHBT promotional material
- Promote opportunities that draw attention to the built historic environment in your local community
- Inspire others and generate awareness for the importance of Derbyshire's historic buildings within your local community.

As a team of Ambassadors, you'll meet at least twice a year and stay in touch digitally with one another and DHBT staff and trustees in between. We are seeking to work with a selection of volunteers from Derbyshire villages, towns, parishes, and the city of Derby. We are also actively seeking champions for our future projects.

What are the DHBT's aims and objectives?

1. Safeguarding the historic buildings we treasure
Ensuring Derbyshire's historic buildings are maintained in good condition for the benefit of current and future generations. Locating all 'buildings at risk' through a county-wide, community-led, survey.
2. Creatively reusing buildings no longer fit for purpose
Where necessary, intervening, with the support of the community, to rescue 'buildings at risk' by acting as a catalyst, enabler, partner or developer in order to restore them to a viable active use.
3. Helping people to live or work in their historic buildings
Encouraging every historic building owner in Derbyshire to be a good custodian of their heritage.
4. Increasing people's access to, and enjoyment of, their heritage

Increasing public awareness of our built heritage through community involvement, interpretation, education and training.

What skills and experience do I need?

- Have an interest in heritage and heritage related matters in your locality
- Be willing to share your ideas
- Be enthusiastic and enjoy talking to people
- If you're part of a community group or society, that's a bonus!

Relevant training will be offered, as required.

What could I get out of being an ambassador?

- Build a good understanding of the heritage sector
- Gain new experiences and meet new people
- Shape how DHBT operates across Derbyshire
- Use your influence for the benefit of the built historic environment
- Priority access to DHBT events and a regular e-newsletter

How to find out more:

We may not be able to offer an opportunity for everyone who applies, as we want to create a group that is balanced across the county. However, we can talk to you about other opportunities both current and in the future or put you in touch with heritage projects close to you.

In the first instance please contact Lucy Godfrey, Executive Officer, for further information:
lucy@derbyshirehistoricbuildingstrust.org.uk