

### **About the Lancashire Wildlife Trust**

We are part of the Wildlife Trusts movement, the UK's leading conservation charity dedicated to all wildlife. We are your local charity, working hard to improve your local area for wildlife and for you. The Trust manages over 2,000 acres of some of the region's most precious wild places in the form of 37 nature reserves and 20 Local Nature Reserves. These provide places where wildlife can thrive and people can relax and enjoy the wealth of our natural heritage.

### **About the Project**

Moss Bank Park and in particular The Hive, is a magical escape for families. Together a series of unique gardens, outdoor spaces, park features and café set in 84 acres of green space, makes the park one of the best in Bolton. We are able to encourage further visitors thanks to a funding bid supporting wider volunteer participation. Whilst pram walks can be found elsewhere, there is currently nothing of this kind in this area.

### **What is a Pram Walk Volunteer?**

Volunteers help us to deliver the Pram Walk at Moss Bank Park on a Wednesday morning. These walks encourage our youngest visitors to connect with nature and often, families start a lifelong connection with the outdoors. This encourages involvement in other areas of the Wildlife Trust and potentially developing our conservationists of the future, wanting to protect wild places. You will be an ambassador for walking, making sure everyone is safe and happy, having an awareness of health, safety and risks and able to research/plan your own park walks.

### **What's in it for you?**

- Be part of a brilliant team and gain experience at one of Bolton's flagship parks, whilst developing your leadership skills.
- This is an opportunity to get out and about whilst connecting with others-
- Be active spending time doing something you enjoy, with others who enjoy the same.
- Share knowledge, learn or have a go at something new/take part in training.
- Feel good factor from giving your time/being involved.
- An opportunity to stop and take notice of what's around you.
- In addition, you will gain experience that can support you in other areas of life, such as staying healthier (mind and body), combatting loneliness, future career.
- An opportunity to attend seasonal volunteer gatherings and 20% discount at Cotswold.

### **What's involved?**

- It is anticipated you would give a weekly commitment and take turns to be the leader or back marker.
- Be welcoming and friendly to those who attend, helping visitors to have a positive experience.
- Do an initial assessment of attendees to make sure people can manage the walk and are dressed appropriately.
- Select your route in advance, wear logoed clothing, make sure to sign people in,

keeping track of numbers of attendees and be in fairly regular contact with the Volunteer Co-ordinator to pass this information on.

- Make sure the walk starts and finishes at the advertised times.
- Address the group formally at the start of the walk, introducing yourselves and the and explain a little about how the walk will work e.g. timings, route, conditions.
- Set a gentle 'warm up' pace for around 15 minutes, 'brisk' pace for around 30 minutes and a 15 minute 'warm down' phase.
- Chat to participants as you walk.
- Adapt the route taken to take weather and ground conditions into account or as a result of an issue, i.e. fallen tree. Cut the walk short if for e.g. extreme weather.
- Should anyone ask, inform people of ways they can be involved in the Wildlife Trust.
- Formally end the walk, by thanking participants for attending, encouraging them to stay for a coffee and to socialise with others.
- Actively engaging with visitors to the park, sharing your enthusiasm for the outdoors.

### **This role will suit people who;**

- Are friendly and approachable, enjoy being around others and are confident at speaking to small to medium sized groups.
- Have good general knowledge of the local area or are keen to learn.
- Are passionate about being active, recognise the benefits of walking, have bags of enthusiasm and a love of spending time in the great outdoors.
- Are assertive individuals, able to take control and be observant to other peoples' needs, yet reliable with good time-keeping and planning skills.

### **Extra information**

<b>Your place</b>	Moss Bank Park, Bolton
<b>Time commitment</b>	One morning each week, preferably a Wednesday
<b>Volunteer Co-ordinator</b>	Charlotte Yates, cyates@lancswt.org.uk 07596 888335
<b>Training/Resources</b>	LWT Volunteer Induction Risk Assessment and Walk Leader Training Access to LWT Training Calendar and Volunteer Conference After induction eligible to apply for internal vacancies
<b>Expenses</b>	Out-of-pocket travel costs between home and volunteering place will be paid up to a maximum of £5 per day
<b>Requirements</b>	Completion of Volunteer Registration Form Informal Interview, Two references Complete relevant initial induction and training

**This role is purely voluntary and this arrangement is not meant to be a legally binding one or an employment contract**