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| YWT Main Trust logo | |
| **Living Seas Ambassador** |  | |
| **Reserve, Project, Team or Area** | | |
| Yorkshire Wide (mainly East and North Yorkshire coast) - Liaising with the Living Seas team based at Flamborough | | |
| **Volunteer Manager** | | |
| Anthony Hurd – Living Seas Centre Manager | | |
| **Why do we need this volunteer?** | | |
| A healthy, wildlife-rich natural environment is not only valuable in its own right; it is fundamentally important for human health, wellbeing, and our prosperity. Around half our wildlife lives in the sea. Healthy seas mean more fish and more corals. It means species which have declined becoming common again. It means thriving fish stocks and healthy marine habitats. Productive, diverse and resilient marine ecosystems are the bedrock of a sustainable society and economy.  One of the key aims of our Living Seas Vision is that people are inspired by the sea and the many ways it supports our daily lives. Our Living Seas team is the voice for our seas and our vision. They work across the Yorkshire coast and from our gateway site, the Living Seas Centre in Flamborough. As a Living Seas Ambassador you would be assisting the team by talking to and inspiring visitors at outreach events across the Yorkshire coast region.  We’d like you to share your wildlife stories with people you meet, for example that could be your love of marine mammals and where people may expect to see them, or your knowledge about another particular species or habitat and how we can protect it. Whatever your wildlife passion, you will be helping to spread the word in your ambassadorial role by raising awareness of Yorkshire Wildlife Trust through telling stories that will inspire people to take action for wildlife.  We’d like to hear from you if: you enjoy being part of a team of passionate individuals; enjoy talking to people about the importance of nature conservation; would like telling our stories and be able to actively encourage people to join as members should the moment arise and you were happy to do so; promote the work of the Living Seas team and actively encourage people to visit us at the Living Seas Centre. The role will be based from Flamborough for training and your staff contact, however we want volunteers based across the East and North Yorkshire coast. | | |
| **What will you be doing?** | | |
| As a Living Seas Ambassador you will enjoy talking to people and sharing your passion for why we need to protect wildlife and our wild spaces in Yorkshire. You will assist the Living Seas team and Wildlife Supporter Officers (WSO’s) at large events to promote our Living Seas work and vision.  Tasks will include:   * Assisting Living Seas staff and WSO’s at large events to help us reach more people. * Providing the people you talk to with small/interactive table top activities such as colouring in or games with children or adult focussed activities. * Running information stalls at events to promote Yorkshire Wildlife Trust and help us engage with new audiences. * Proactively seeking and suggesting events close to your own home that we could attend. * Being ambassadors for Yorkshire Wildlife Trust to raise awareness of our organisation. * If comfortable, join up new members in a friendly and informative manner (this is not essential). * Engage with the public, communicating “onward messages” and how else they can get involved. * Liaising with volunteer manager regarding availability for events. | | |
| **Experience, knowledge and skills needed for this role** | | |
| On day one you’ll have:   * Ability to share knowledge clearly and inspire others (of all ages) * An infectious passion for nature and being outdoors * Willingness to have fun outdoors in all weathers * Capable of working on your own and with others * Reliable and punctual * Good communication skills * Awareness of yours and others safety   Desirable or a willingness to learn:   * Knowledge of the natural environment and North sea marine wildlife * Experience of presenting to a wide audience   **Does the volunteer need a driver’s license?** Ideally, as some sites are remote. However we may be able to organise lift shares with Living Seas team / WSO’s. | | |
| **What’s in it for the volunteer?** | | |
| * A chance to inspire others about the natural world * A chance to attend fun events such as food festivals and county shows * Development of communication skills * Development of engagement skills * Access to a free volunteer training programme. * Be part of a fun and inspiring team * A chance to learn more about Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, our many nature reserves and varied wildlife | | |
| **Where is the role based?** | | |
| Living Seas Centre in Flamborough as base. However, we would hope to attract volunteers from all over Yorkshire. | | |
| **Commitment** | | |
| Weekly/once a fortnight /once a month- the role can be flexible to suit volunteer / events the team are attending.  Volunteers will be emailed a diary with future event dates each month and then they can choose which dates to volunteer. They can also find and book events near to where they live. | | |
| **Duration** Ongoing | | |
| March to September are the busiest months, but we will need volunteers all year round. | | |
| **Does this role involve working with children or vulnerable adults?** | | |
| Families and children will be present at many events but you would not be working alone with children, young or vulnerable adults. | | |
| **Will the role involve any other sensitive tasks for which we may wish to check suitability via references or a criminal records check?** | | |
| Yes – membership forms will contain confidential bank and other details. Cash donations may be taken and also merchandise such as cuddly toys and books sold. We will require two references for the role. | | |