https://thesbr.org.uk/job/heritage-waterwheel-project-assistant-2/

Biodiversity and Habitat Monitoring Assistant

Hiring organization
The Sustainable Business Resource CIC

Working Hours
24–30 hours total (4–5 weeks × 1 day per week)

Duration of employment
Optional extension to 120 hours across the academic year

Experience
No Previous Experience Required

Date posted
November 4, 2026

Description

The Heritage Waterwheel Project Assistant supports the restoration, interpretation, and community engagement work surrounding the historic waterwheel at the Growforward site. This role blends practical heritage skills, environmental awareness, and gentle stewardship of a local landmark.

The student will contribute to documenting the waterwheel's condition, assisting with light restoration tasks (non-mechanical), researching its historical significance, and helping develop public-facing materials that explain its role in local heritage. The placement encourages curiosity, care for place, and hands-on learning within a supportive team.

Key Responsibilities

- Conduct observational surveys of the structure and surrounding environment
- Assist with non-technical restoration tasks under supervision (cleaning, debris removal, recording changes)
- Research the history, its engineering principles, and its role in local industry
- Create accessible interpretation materials (posters, short videos, digital content)
- Support planning for future community engagement events
- Maintain accurate logs of work completed and findings
- Uphold Growforward's values of gentleness, safety, and respect for heritage assets

Project Components

- Heritage surveying
- Light restoration
- Historical research
- Community interpretation
- Digital documentation
- Contribution to the "Village Concept" heritage narrative

Skills Gained

- Heritage conservation awareness
- Basic surveying and documentation
- Research and interpretation
- Communication and public-facing storytelling
- Teamwork and gentle leadership
- Understanding of local environmental history

Safeguarding & Safety Notes

- All practical tasks supervised
- No mechanical or high-risk engineering work
- Clear boundaries around tool use and site access
- Emphasis on emotional safety, confidence-building, and supported learning