



Volunteer with us

- Would you like to get more involved in the local community?
- Learn more about the Union Canal and its surrounding Greenspace?
- Meet new people?
- Learn new skills?

We would like to invite you to join us as a volunteer!

About us

FCCT is a Scottish charity that seeks to engage with and support the local Fountainbridge community around the eastern end of the Union Canal.

We take part in 'off-water' activities and 'on-water' activities with our canal boat the Lochrin Belle.

Printed by the Fountainbridge Canalside Community Trust
c/o Scottish Canals Office, 23 Lower Gilmore Place, Edinburgh EH3 9NY
a charity registered in Scotland: SC035342 a registered company, number: 265866

We are always looking

for new volunteers

FCCT supports and encourages communities to engage positively with the Union Canal and its surrounding areas - and we always need volunteers to help us to do it.

We have a growing range of volunteering opportunities - on the water focused on our boat the Lochrin Belle and off the water with our new health-walk project and our green-space activity.

The Lochrin Belle offers volunteers the chance to crew on trips, learn new boat skills and understand boat maintenance.

You could train with us to become a health-walk leader or build your horticulture knowledge.

For more information on volunteering with us contact Robert Locke our Volunteer Development Officer:

Email rob@fcct.scot
Mobile: 07394027456

VOLUNTEER





Volunteer Roles.... where do you fit in?

Crewing

- Main roles:
- Being the public face of Re-Union
 - Welcoming the group onboard
 - Dealing with the needs of the group
 - Knowing what to do in the event of an emergency
 - Preparing the boat for the next trip
 - Noting any maintenance required

Maintenance and finishing the boat

- Main roles:
- Ensuring the boat is fully stocked
 - Keeping the boat sound and afloat
 - Keeping the boat systems operational
 - Improving the facilities aboard the boat
 - Filling in the maintenance log book

On the management committee (the Board)

- Main roles:
- Overseeing the work of Re-Union
 - Managing core staff
 - Funding applications
 - Keepers of Re-Union flame



Volunteer role description

Volunteer role

Volunteer crew member

Why do we need you?

Re-Union needs crew members to assist in the running of our community canal boat

What will you be doing?

Ensuring the safety of all passengers and crew
Assisting the skipper in basic boat handling
Welcoming the group aboard
Assisting the group and leaders in familiarising themselves with the boat
Assisting the group leader to manage the group and be aware of their needs
Being the public face of Re-Union Canal Boats
Preparing the boat for trips and cleaning at the end
Noting and undertaking any maintenance requirements
Assisting with the required catering function

What we're looking for – skills, qualities, experience

Reliability
Practical skills (e.g. boat management, maintenance, DIY skills)
Ability to learn and demonstrate basic boat handling
Ability to interact well with passengers/clients and to assist with their practical needs when required (hospitality, people skills)



Where will the volunteering take place?

Volunteering are based on the Re-Union boat at Edinburgh Quay. Volunteering opportunities will be available throughout the year, primarily crewing the boat on trips, but other opportunities will arise from time to time. As Re-Union looks to become part of the Fountainbridge Canalside Community Trust, there will be other opportunities for volunteering around the canal basin and for participating in off-water activities. Specific maintenance days will be take place throughout the year.

Is there any training or support?

Regular crew training sessions take place on the Lochrin Belle, these sessions ensure a good grounding in all aspects of crewing our community hire boats and enable volunteers to potentially proceed to the Inland Waterways Helmsman Certificate. Other training opportunities are available in areas such as First Aid, Hospitality, Food Hygiene etc. Training is on-going to ensure crew are competent and confident. Training will focus on the changing needs of the organisation and groups, and the specific requirements and interests of individual crew and new legislation. Volunteers are supported by Re-Union's Volunteer Development Officer. We always foster a sense of peer support and encouragement.



Frequently Asked Questions

- **What should I wear for training?**

We recommend clothing that you feel comfortable in, along with supportive footwear (no heels!). Always be prepared for cold, wet weather, bringing along warm clothing and waterproofs. In sunny weather, remember to wear sunscreen. If joining us on a canal clean-up, please wear clothes that you don't mind getting dirty!

- **Can I claim any travel expenses?**

Yes, please speak to a Re-Union member of staff if you think you will need help with travel expenses for attending volunteer sessions or boat trips. We can reimburse expenses, agreed in advance, for bus, train, cycle or car travel.

- **Do you provide lunch?**

If you volunteer with Re-Union for a full day (e.g. all-day canal clean-ups, canal festival) then we will provide a lunch. We may ask you to provide your own lunch if we are on a social outing.

- **When crewing for a commercial trip, what time should I arrive at the boat and expect to leave?**

We ask all volunteer crew to be at the boat 1 hour before the trip starts, e.g. if the trip list says 10.00-13.00, please be at the boat and ready for 9am. We aim to get all customers off the boat at the finish time. However, groups can take longer to get away, so please be prepared to be at the boat for an additional 30 mins after a trip, to help clear the boat for the following trip.

Contact person:

Robert Locke – Volunteer Development Officer

Mobile: 07394927456

Office: 07716 745978

rob@fct.scot

Fountainbridge Canalside Community Trust, c/o Scottish Canals Office,
23 Lower Gilmore Place, Edinburgh EH3 9NY

www.fct.scot