

THE Dreamland TRUST

DREAMLAND MARGATE JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Project Archivist

Line Manager: Project Director

Reporting to: Dreamland Trustees

Overall Objective: To research, collate and disseminate historical information relating to the Dreamland site, amusement parks in general and seaside culture, specifically in Margate, as part of the development of the Dreamland project.

Job Purpose:

Dreamland at Margate in Kent has pivotal connections with the history of popular culture dating back to the 1870s. The site is also connected with many key figures involved in the development of the circus, amusement parks and cinema, especially the Sanger family who used this seafront location as their permanent base.

There is known to be extensive archival material relating to the site in several locations, little of which is catalogued or publicly accessible. Amongst these sources are Margate Library, Margate Museum, East Kent Archives, Blackpool Pleasure Beach and Sheffield University. There is also material held by local historians and enthusiasts, as well as an unknown quantity of archive in the ownership of the current owners of the site.

The purpose of this post is to catalogue and electronically record material relating to Dreamland and the history of popular culture in Margate and to make this material available to both the Audience Development Officer of the Dreamland project and the wider public.

Principal Duties:

- Seek out relevant historical information at the sources mentioned above, as well as at other locations that arise through ongoing research or as directed.
- Collate, catalogue and record material which will be published on the project website.

- Liaise with the Audience Development Officer and provide material for exhibitions, as well as receiving and seeking out information from the public relating to the site. The latter will include both donated physical items and recorded personal reminiscences.
- Assist external researchers and other interested parties.
- It will be necessary for the post holder to undertake long-distance travel, including overnight stays.

Skills and Experience Required:

- A self-starter able to work with minimal supervision.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Ability and enthusiasm to convey the key elements of a range of archive collections to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- Ability to interface with members of the public.
- A demonstrable ability to produce high-quality work to meet agreed deadlines and targets.
- Experience of using archival software.
- Experience of archival descriptive standards.
- Membership of the Society of Archivists is desirable.
- An interest in seaside culture and amusement park history.



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