

# ARCHAEOLOGY SCOTLAND

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## **First World War Internment Camps combined project**

**Job:** Digital Archivist - part-time 12 months

**Term:** Up to 12 month fixed-term appointment (22.5 hours per week, part-time, some evening and weekend work involved)

**Salary:** £24,000 p.a. pro rata

**Location:** The post will be based at Archaeology Scotland, Eskmills, Musselburgh EH21 7PB but home working will be considered.

### **The Collections**

Stobs Camp Project is a community project centring on the First World War Prisoner of War camp, just outside Hawick. The project has accumulated a wealth of digital (and some physical) images and artefacts that need catalogued and uploaded appropriately to the website [www.stobscamp.org](http://www.stobscamp.org), the local archive or donated to Hawick Museum. The project has been working closely with other projects such as Knockaloe Camp on the Isle of Man and an Aston University project, the German diaspora of the First World War – Remembering Internment Camps in Britain and the Commonwealth. This has combined work with Napier University to study materials produced by the prisoners at Stobs and recreate some of the entertainments the prisoners devised for their amusement.

The German Diaspora project will create an Internment Information and Research Centre at Hawick (IIRCH) that will have physical archive material added to the Heritage Hub (Scottish Borders Council Archive) and digital resources to a new website.

### **Duties:**

The project archivist will consolidate, sort, catalogue local and digital materials for both the HUBCAT online search catalogue at the Heritage Hub and Stobscamp.org website. The post holder will help to publicise the collection and help supervise volunteers that may assist with archiving. The successful candidate will also help promote awareness of the archive through events, the website and social media and take part in outreach and celebratory events for the project. The post holder will also provide administrative support for the events taking place during 2018-19 including theatre productions, an exhibition, armistice event and conference. They will also liaise with other bodies involved in the project such as Hawick Heritage Hub, Hawick Museum and the researchers at Aston and Napier Universities.

**The Person:**

Applicants must have strong organisational and communication skills with experience of working on cataloguing projects using recognised standards. Attention to detail is crucial as are digital IT skills mainly relating to input to websites. The post is the equivalent of 3 days per week but you should be flexible and self-motivated and possess the ability to manage your own workload.

Applicants will be required to travel to Hawick on a regular basis for which reasonable expenses will be paid.

**Essential Skills and Attributes:**

- Experience of digital and local archiving
- Experience of consolidating diverse materials
- Experience of cataloguing
- Ability to work to moderate timetables
- Ability to manage and work positively in a small team
- Ability to communicate effectively with a wide range of people and bodies
- Excellent ICT skills including database management

**Desirable Skills and Attributes:**

- Experience of administrative tasks related to events management
- Experience of using social media as a marketing tool
- A keen interest in history, heritage or archaeology
- Working knowledge of reading German texts
- Full, clean current driving licence

**Salary and working conditions:**

The post will be based at the Archaeology Scotland offices in Musselburgh although home-working with weekly visits to AS offices is also acceptable. This post is part-time, 22.5 hours per week for 12 months from induction. Applicants should be aware that some weekend working will be required.

The salary for this post is based on a full-time equivalent of £24,000 per annum. Holiday entitlement will be 20 days per annum plus 6 statutory public holidays pro rata. There will be a certain amount of travel associated with the post, for which expenses are provided.

To Apply: Please post a letter of application and current CV to: Dianne at the address above or email [development@archaeologyscotland.org.uk](mailto:development@archaeologyscotland.org.uk)

Closing date for applications: noon 18 March 2018

Interview date: 5 April 2018

For an informal discussion about this vacancy, please contact Dianne Swift, Stobs Camp Project Manager on 0300 012 9878

This post is supported by Heritage Lottery Fund Scotland, Scottish Borders LEADER and Arts & Humanities Research Council.

## **BACKGROUND**

Archaeology Scotland's mission is to inspire people to discover, explore, care for and enjoy Scotland's archaeological heritage as a leading independent Scottish charity. We were established over 70 years ago and have gained a wealth of experience in community engagement, volunteer management and professional best practice. Although we are primarily focused on archaeology, we apply this in the widest sense to include natural, built and cultural heritage.

Our main areas of activity include:

- The Adopt-a-Monument Scheme - encouraging communities to record, conserve, interpret and promote local archaeological sites
- Stobs Camp Project – local community led project exploring a Prisoner of War camp near Hawick in the Scottish Borders
- Our Learning programme– creating and providing resources and advice for educators and Continuing Professional Development sessions for teachers
- Our newly launched Heritage Hero Awards - encouraging young people to get involved in heritage
- Scottish Archaeology Month - coordinating an annual bonanza of archaeology events across Scotland in September as part of European Heritage Days
- Conferences and events – organising exciting and interesting archaeological and heritage conferences and seminars
- Cultural Heritage tourism events for members and the public such as our annual Summer School and occasional Time Tours
- Training- providing skills training for all including archival research, surveying, recording and other archaeological techniques

### **Stobs Camp Project**

The project has brought together interested parties from a number of national, international, local and community based organisations and Stobs' two landowners. This is led by Archaeology Scotland with support from Scottish Borders Council, Historic Environment Scotland, the Hawick Archaeology Society, Borders Family History Society, Berwickshire Archaeology Society, Hawick museums and local schools. The project aims to record, share understanding and the value of Stobs, to restore the cemetery, improve access and develop a conservation plan for the site.

Project volunteers have been tirelessly researching national archives, newspapers, internet, family histories and the local area gathering artefacts, images and oral histories. All this work will culminate in contributions to local, national and international research as described below. In addition much of material discovered will form a local resource with a focus on human interest.

### **German Diaspora Project**

After a century of mass emigration, Germans had settled as sizeable minority groups in all parts of the British Empire. Following the outbreak of war in 1914, many were classified as 'enemy aliens' and faced internment, together with military Prisoners of War. An extensive network of camps was set up throughout the Empire, including, for example, Knockaloe on the Isle of Man, Stobs near Hawick in the Scottish Borders, Pietermaritzburg in South Africa, Kapuskasing in Canada, Newcastle in Australia, and Ahmednagar in India. These camps and their inmates have been all but forgotten. They play no role in national commemoration and are only patchily remembered by communities as part of their local heritage.

The project aims to firmly embed commemoration of mass internment during the First World War at local, national and global levels. It will support communities in rediscovering their own tangible connection with the First World War, their archaeological heritage, and their historical connections with other communities around the world. In reaching out to European and Commonwealth partners the project works towards a globally shared - rather than nationally demarcated -

history of internment. The project has a clear strategy to reach as wide an audience as possible through innovative and creative forms of engagement which have not been applied in a British and Commonwealth context. Reconstructed theatre and music performances will provide a glimpse of cultural life in the camps. A travelling exhibition on the Imperial camp system will provide a broader and academically sound framework for local communities in the Commonwealth. Texts produced in the camps such as letters and camp newspapers will be translated from German into English. These give vivid descriptions of camp life but, so far, have not been accessible to the very communities who hosted the camps and therefore have a vital interest. These materials will also form part of educational activities with young people, as well as imprisoned offenders.

How did First World War prisoners perceive their captivity and its location? What did they long for, what depressed them, and what did they laugh about? What cultural, physical and professional activities did they pursue to avoid the depressive 'barbed wire disease'? These are some of the manifold pathways to arouse interest not just in local history, but in the global conflagration of the First World War. In order to guarantee sustainability of outcomes, the project will be institutionally embedded into the Heritage Hub in Hawick. This is the central archives service in the Scottish Borders and will host the new Internment Information and Research Centre at Hawick (IIRCH) which will be established as part of this proposal. This will be the only centre of its kind in mainland Britain and will be open to the general public and researchers from around the world. Its international advisory board will consist of scholars and public stakeholders and is indicative of the close cooperation between academia and the general public which is fostered by the project.

<http://gtr.rcuk.ac.uk/projects?ref=AH%2FR002649%2F1>