Fixed Term Bird Team Member at the Hawk Conservancy Trust

An exciting fixed-term opportunity for a Bird Team Member to join our world-class team of bird staff and contribute to the success of this internationally renowned conservation charity and highly-rated visitor attraction. Your role will be to ensure the high standards of the Trust’s bird welfare and visitor experience is sustained. You will work as a valued member of the team and, in collaboration with staff across the organisation, ensure the smooth running of our visitor attraction.

Responsible to: Head of Living Collection
Responsible for: Bird welfare, visitor experience and liaising effectively with colleagues
Salary: Dependent on experience
Fixed term: To 31 October 2022 with the possibility of an extension to 30 September 2023
Hours: Full-time including weekends and school holidays. Flexibility in schedule may be needed. Some evening hours are required as events demand.

About the Hawk Conservancy Trust

The Hawk Conservancy Trust has enjoyed considerable success over the last 55+ years, as an award-winning visitor attraction and conservation charity dedicated to the conservation of birds of prey. We are fortunate to be situated on a stunning 22-acre park with a range of facilities, including three flying arenas. Our reputation for a warm welcome, passion for our birds and dedication to our visitors is central to our success and has led us to become highly ranked in England according to TripAdvisor.

Role purpose and objectives:

Promote and support the conservation mission of the Trust and its aims of being a leading UK attraction.

Contribute to and assist the Hawk Conservancy Trust’s bird staff team, ensuring that operations run smoothly and our birds are cared for to the highest standards.

Provide thrilling and educational experiences for our visitors and guests as part of the Hawk Conservancy Trust visitor centre. Maintain and further develop the Trust’s reputation for its exceptional displays, passion and enthusiasm, as reflected in the superb customer ratings and feedback.

Increase awareness of the Hawk Conservancy Trust’s conservation work, events, products and function capabilities.

Main duties and responsibilities:

- Ensuring high standards of the welfare of the livestock, undertaking the full range of general husbandry duties, including cleaning, maintenance and feeding
- Providing for the upkeep of the centre, taking pride in its appearance
Taking part in flying demonstrations – working with the birds in front of an audience and behind the scenes, and commentating as needed
Assisting members of the public with professionalism and courtesy
Participating with the morning routine of the park, prior to opening up to the public, assisting other members of the team on their sections if required
Supporting training of birds
Leading or supporting additional activities, such as experiences, evening events and private functions; giving welcome talks and guided tours to groups and schools
Keeping up to date with our work, including our conservation projects, events and activities at the Trust, and inform the public as relevant
Supervising work experience students and volunteers
Assisting with site development and construction projects if required
Participating in conservation and research projects as appropriate
Contributing to effective teamwork within the Hawk Conservancy Trust as a whole and in particular within the Bird and Park team.
Compliance with Health & Safety legislation at all times
Working to consistent professional standards in all aspects of the role
Any other relevant duties which are requested by the management

Essential experience, skills and attributes:
Knowledge of and passion for birds of prey and their conservation
Experience of handling, training and flying a range of birds is preferred
Determination and dedication to exemplary standards for husbandry and welfare
Tenacious, enthusiastic and committed to delivering consistently high standards for customers
Confident at delivering commentaries and talks, and speaking with individual visitors; outstanding communications and ambassadorial skills.
Flexibility and resilience to adapt to changing work requirements, cope with the unexpected and tolerate hard work; willingness to pitch in and help where necessary
Exceptional team player
Professional appearance and impression
Unimpeachable integrity and trustworthiness
Able to balance a warm reception with calm authority
Committed to equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practises
Practical skills would be advantageous

Training on Hawk Conservancy Trust methods will be given

APPLICATION
Submit with a CV and covering letter to hr@hawkconservancy.org or by post to Hawk Conservancy Trust, Sarson Lane, Weyhill, Andover, Hants SP11 8DY

Closing date: Applications will be considered on a rolling basis until 20 March 2022

Please Note: successful candidates will be subject to DBS and reference checks