

Ref: Volunteer Miller Location: Lyme Regis Hours: Flexible

Summary:

The Town Mill, Lyme Regis are looking for volunteers to help run our working watermill. You will be joining a team of millers, making stoneground flour and offering informative tours of the mill to our visitors. Full milling training will be given.

About The Town Mill

Milling has taken place in Lyme Regis for almost a millennium. However, the present site dates back to at least 1340, when Edward III granted a licence to The Town Mill. During the English Civil War in 1644 the mill was severely damaged. It was rebuilt shortly after, and most of the buildings you see today date from this time.

Improved roller-milling technology and cheaper, imported grain put financial pressure on the Mill, and it eventually closed in 1926. It sadly lay derelict for over 60 years. Following the announcement of plans by the local district council to demolish the mill, local volunteers banded together to rescue the buildings and commence a restoration project. In 2001, The Town Mill reopened, milling its first flour in over 70 years.

Today, The Town Mill is the only volunteer-run mill that makes flour virtually every day of the year. The mill complex is a thriving arts hub, occasional entertainment venue, education and community space and home to a variety of creative small businesses. In 2017 we were declared Dorset's 'Small Visitor Attraction of the Year' and 'Guided Tour of the Year' by Dorset Tourism Awards. We are a registered charity, dedicated to securing the future of this very special place and keeping it open for everyone to enjoy.

Could You Be Our Next Volunteer?

You'll be part of a community of volunteers who all offer a great visitor experience to everyone who comes to the Mill. Working in flexible shifts, you'll pair up with a Mill Guide who welcomes our visitors and assists you while you run tours of the watermill, demonstrating how we make our flour following a traditional milling method.

You'll need to have:

- An interest in any of the following: the history of milling, engineering principles, flour and baking
- A sufficient level of physical fitness, as the role includes some manual handling
- Good people and communication skills, as you will need to establish a rapport with visiting tour groups
- Good attention to detail
- The ability to confidently work alone and as part of a team

For more information, please contact 01297 444042 or info@townmill.org.uk, or visit our website www.townmill.org.uk