

Job Description: *Master Shipwright*

Job Title: Master Shipwright

Organisation: The Sutton Hoo Ship's Company (SHSC)

Location: Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Salary: £40,000 - £45,000 pro rata, dependent on experience.

Contract: Initial 6 months fixed term post 24 hpw/0.6FTE (development phase) with an extension for a further 24 months (delivery phase) based on a successful funding application.

Closing Date: 31 March 2019

Shortlisting: Week Commencing April 1st, 2019

Interviews: Week Commencing April 8th, 2019

Detailed Information

Background

SHSC is a registered charity with the principal objective of recreating the Sutton Hoo Ship that was used as a burial chamber in approximately 624 and excavated in 1939.

The Ship build is based on the archaeological data which has led to a computer-generated lines plan. Given the unusual circumstances that the ship was found in and the subsequent interpretation of data, there will be a requirement for the Shipwright to make decisions about how to proceed during the build process where problems surface in implementing the plan.

The build will take place in the purpose built Longshed located beside the River Deben in Woodbridge, which provides workshop facilities for heritage boat-building, restoration and craft-skills projects. Most of the physical work will be completed by volunteers, using traditional methods and hand tools where possible.

There will be input to the build process from experts across the world who will contribute to the ongoing research and methods used during construction.

People of all ages and abilities will have access to follow and view the project and there will be associated interactive and hands-on activities, creative workshops and regular public events. Additional online resources will be facilitated to extend the reach and potential for wider viewing and participation.

Activities will be planned and delivered in partnership with the Woodbridge Riverside Trust (WRT, who are lessees of the Longshed), the National Trust and other local organisations. For further information about The Sutton Hoo Ship's Company see www.saxonship.org

Description of role

The Shipwright is accountable for the delivery of the replica Mound 1 Sutton Hoo Ship.

In the first instance the Shipwright will be expected to read and understand the research information that has led to the digital plans.

The Shipwright will be expected to contribute to the initial planning process which will involve the recruitment and training of assistant shipwrights and suitable volunteers, making relevant information easily accessible to the public, managing logistics, equipment/relevant machinery and planning the pipeline of resources required.

The Shipwright will be expected to liaise with relevant expert consultants and researchers across the world to build a reconstruction of the Sutton Hoo Ship as opposed to a modern interpretation of the Sutton Hoo Ship.

Ultimately the Shipwright is responsible for overseeing the building project which will involve an initial modelling phase followed by the full-sized Sutton Hoo Ship.

The Shipwright will be expected to work closely with the Assistant Shipwright(s) and volunteers to ensure the smooth running of the build process.

Additional expectations of the role include:

- Plan and take part in the working of the green oak at the felling site
- Contribute to the movement of the oak to Woodbridge
- Supervise the storage of the green oak in the River Deben at Woodbridge
- Set up and deliver (with the help of others) a volunteer training programme in shipbuilding techniques
- Set up and deliver (with the help of others) demonstrations in riving, cleaving, side axing and forging (for example)
- To work with the 'Records and Documentation Assistant' to ensure that all aspects of the project are accurately documented
- Manage the use of the allocated Longshed space, taking account of the policies that are in place and working closely with the Longshed Manager to ensure things run smoothly and people are well informed
- To conform to any Health and Safety regulations
- Other ad hoc duties in relation to shipbuilding at the discretion of the SHSC board of directors.
- To attend management meetings and provide information about progress
- To be a self-employed contractor with relevant insurance

The Shipwright will report to the board of directors with direct line management to the Chair.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL

- To have undertaken relevant training in relation to this role
- Have demonstrable experience in large wooden boat building and the use of traditional materials
- Have familiarity with computerised boat/ship designs
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work effectively with the project team
- Ability to work to deadlines, manage budgets and write project reports
- Demonstrable organisational and administrative skills
- Self-motivated and ability to work independently in all aspects of the project
- Able to communicate effectively with the public, verbally and in writing
- Able to develop and maintain effective partnerships with other organisations
- Able to work flexibly, with some evenings and weekends as required
- At times the Shipwright will be expected to work at other nearby sites
- Ability to drive, preferably with own vehicle

DESIRABLE

- Knowledge and appreciation of and enthusiasm for local history and maritime heritage
- Knowledge of Saxon history and the Ship's story
- Knowledge and experience of heritage projects
- Experience of working with the public, with communities and with volunteers

Project Timetable

To be discussed at interview. Anticipated start date 22 April 2019.

Pay and conditions

Salary: £40,000 - £45,000 pro rata, dependent on experience. Hours will be flexible, and some work will be required in the evenings and weekends.

To apply: Email contact@saxonship.org for an application form, to be completed in English with relevant references and returned with a full CV providing details of projects and work previously undertaken. Deadline for applications is the 31st March 2019.

An informal discussion about the role can be arranged by emailing contact@saxonship.org or calling 07899 778995