



Idle Women Garden Caretaker

Freelance paid position

£18,000 for 3 days per week (including some weekends) for twelve months
Accrington & Nelson Lancashire

Application deadline: Monday 24 February 2020 12.00 midday.

Interviews: Thursday 27 Feb (with a practical facilitation exercise)

Start date: Monday 16th March (with reasonable flexibility)

Idle Women are recruiting a Garden Caretaker to join our small Accrington based team and establish a major new project.

We are seeking a woman who is a qualified, confident gardener, who has an informed interest in medicinal plants, is passionate about social justice, is women centred and is an enthusiastic, adaptable and responsive facilitator.

The Garden Caretaker will join us at an exciting time as we carry out a major womens landscaping project to create a canal side physic garden in Nelson, working with local women and contractors.

Joining us for an initial 12 month period the Garden Caretaker will be responsible for establishing the Medicine Nursery – a sister site based on a reasonably sized and equipped allotment in a green and picturesque part of Accrington.

The Medicine Nursery will serve as the industrial arm of the physic garden, growing medicinal plants to populate the garden, to use in workshops and for women to use and enjoy. The Medicine Nursery will be an inclusive education space for all women to access nature, be active, make friends, learn and grow together.

This role will involve devising, organising and facilitating a range of weekly opportunities for women to get involved, from volunteer sessions to specialist outreach workshops with women who face some of the most serious barriers to inclusion.

We especially welcome applications from women who are underrepresented.

This post will suit someone who is ambitious, who loves the outdoors and the challenge of off site-specific community projects. We are looking for someone with a sense of adventure who wants to join us to create wonderful spaces with and for women.

To apply please carefully read the job description and then complete the online form: <https://forms.gle/5PLg11exQNs2XWKf6>

JOB DESCRIPTION

- To plan and deliver seasonal opportunities for women to learn, and take part through volunteering, public workshops and specialist outreach workshops.
- To devise, organise and facilitate up to 4 weekly sessions for women to get involved.
- To take responsibility for establishing and managing the Medicine Nursery as a dynamic, purposeful and professional medicinal plant nursery.
- To manage a dedicated project budget and ensure the Medicine Nursery is supplied with the necessary materials and workshops are suitably resourced.
- To be based at the Medicine Nursery in Accrington and to work at the Physic Garden in Nelson.
- To work with principles of sustainability and environmental care and justice.
- To be part of the Idle Women Caretaker team and work together to ensure that all Idle Women projects are coherent, purposeful and inter-connected.
- To carry out relevant monitoring, evaluation, documentation and record keeping.
- To host and welcome visits from funders, other peers, and journalists.
- Coordinate access support – minibus, travel costs, language translation, refreshments and lunches as necessary
- Support women to attend groups regularly by maintaining good communication via phone, email and social media.
- Uphold best safeguarding practice at all times
- Ensure that activities are suitably risk assessed and safely managed and that appropriate procedures are in place for working with communities and public events
- Ensure that work is appropriately documented and profiled on website, social media and press
- Be an advocate for Idle Women and join the Idle Women community.
- Acting at all times within the context of Idle Women's policies and procedures.
- Other relevant tasks related to the role.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Ideal

- Women centered.
- Three years of professional or relevant gardening experience
- Gardening qualifications or training.
- Aspirations for excellence and can demonstrate criticality – strives towards high quality engagement and standard of delivery
- Interest in plant medicine, herbal medicine, garden design, horticulture and construction.
- Based in the North West with own transport

- Excellent demonstrable communication skills
- Can demonstrate experience of working within a small team and working independently.
- Can demonstrate skill and transferable/experience of outreach work with adults who have a diverse range of needs and expectations.
- Ability to work on your own initiative, maintain boundaries and self preserve.
- Can demonstrate adaptability and complex problem solving.
- Have integrity and ability to honor confidentiality
- A working practice of good risk management for issues of health and safety and when working with vulnerable adults and children.

Desired

- Experienced in the voluntary/women's sector
- Can demonstrate commitment to working with diverse communities
- Understanding and analysis of violence against women and girls and shares our passion to end it.
- Urdu/Punjabi/Gujarati/English speaker
- First Aid qualified

Access Notes

Idle Women are moving into a new office that is slightly off ground level with up to 3 steps. Once the landscaping of the Physic Garden is complete it will have accessible paths and toilet. Selina Cooper (narrow boat) involves a large step up and steps down to enter. The Nursery is flat on ground level and has a number of raised beds an accessible toilet and paths that could be improved for access, it includes uneven surfaces. All Idle Women locations have nearby parking.

Idle Women is an equal opportunities employer.

The above post is for female candidates only and exempt under the Equality Act 2010, Schedule 9, Part 1.

All posts are subject to satisfactory references and Enhanced DBS checks

About Idle Women

Idle Women is an arts and social justice project that creates vibrant and adventurous spaces with and for, all women to belong. We run a seasonal programme of free activities, workshops and events.

For further information about Idle Women and our activities and events, please see www.idlewomen.org



GROWING

EXPLORING

BUILDING

TRANSFORMING