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|  | Job Description | September 2021 |

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| **Role:** Brodick Country Park Fixed-term Ranger | **Business Function:** Operations Directorate |
| **Reports to:** Brodick Country Park Ranger | Pay Band/Starting Salary:  Band 2 Upper £19,889 pro-rata, per annum |
| **Location:** Brodick Country Park, Isle of Arran | **Type of Contract:**  Full time, fixed-term for 2 months (1 Nov 2021– 24 Dec 2021) |
| **Terms and conditions**  The post is subject to the standard terms and conditions.  *Accom­modation may be provided – a shared house, with a separate bedroom, but shared kitchen and living area, utilities included but with a charge of £25 per week.*  *Hours of work – 40 hours per week including some weekend work and some unsocial hours.*  *Holidays – 4.6 days paid leave, to be taken over the period of the contract.*  A Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme check will be required. | |

Purpose of the role - how it adds value

To contribute to the management of Brodick Country Park with some input into the management of Goatfell, in line with the Trust's objectives for conservation, access and enjoyment, and meeting health and safety and other policies and standards. To help deliver the targets in the countryside management operational plan. The post holder will help to protect and enhance the natural and cultural heritage whilst facilitating access by visitors.

**Brodick Castle, Gardens and Country Park and Goatfell.**

Brodick Castle, Country Park and Goatfell could be described as the archetypal Trust property exhibiting all the elements that the Trust aims to conserve, from the built and natural heritage to the collections, designed landscape and wild land.

Brodick Castle, with its magnificent gardens and policies, rises majestically above Brodick Bay on the Isle of Arran. Once owned and created by the Dukes of Hamilton, one of Scotland’s grandest aristocratic families, the property derives much of its significance from this association. The Castle is of national importance for its architectural and archaeological interest, and the gardens have three national collections of rhododendrons.

Brodick Country Park (72 ha) was designated the first island Country Park in Scotland in 1980. The Country Park forms part of the designed landscape surrounding Brodick Castle and with its mosaic of native woodland, gorges, ponds and mature parkland, is of considerable local natural heritage value. The Country Park supports a number of locally and nationally significant species such as red squirrel, barn owl, long-eared bats and a wide array of flowering plants, ferns and mosses.

The property is a well-used local recreational resource and is exceptionally important to the local economy being one of the most visited tourist attractions on the island (approx. 45,000 visitors in 2015). The diversity of the property and the opportunities it provides for recreation, education and enjoyment makes it of outstanding recreational value and an outstanding amenity resource for visitors and locals alike.

Goatfell is of local, national and international significance for the quality of its landscape, geology/geomorphology and the opportunities it provides for walking and mountaineering in a dramatic and challenging upland landscape. Its extensive tracts of moorland are recognised as having European importance and most of the Goatfell property is designated as a SSSI (for geological and ecological features) and SPA (for hen harrier and other upland bird species), as well as being part of the North Arran National Scenic Area.

Although most of the post holder’s work will be based at Brodick Country Park, as part of a small ranger team they will also assist with the management of Goatfell. The main purpose of the role is to support the ranger team in managing and conserving the rich natural and cultural heritage of the property and to facilitate access to enable visitors to enjoy and appreciate the value of these heritage features.

Key Responsibilities:

* To assist with practical conservation work and estate management.
* To work with and supervise volunteers undertaking practical conservation tasks.
* Work within the property’s ‘Safe System of Work’ (the system for managing Health & Safety)
* To assist with educational groups.

**Scope of Role:**

People Skills

* Work closely with other members of the Ranger team and with the wider property staff.
* Not a line manager but will supervise and work with volunteers.
* Provide excellent customer service when interacting with visitors, community and educational groups.
* Assist with educational groups and events.

Countryside & Property Management

* To carry out practical countryside management including trails maintenance, fencing, woodland management and tree planting.
* Contribute to the day-to-day maintenance and cleaning of the Ranger Centre, tools sheds and car park.

Financial Management

* Not a budget holder but will assist in making the best use of resources and ensuring best value.
* Contribute to the income of the Trust through recruiting new members.

**Skills and attributes required for the role:**

The Key Responsibilities above outline the core skills and experience the post-holder must have to fulfil the role. In addition, they should be able to demonstrate:

Essential

* Experience of practical countryside management, including fencing and trails maintenance
* Chainsaw Maintenance, Crosscutting & Felling Small Trees Certificates (NPTC units 201/202/203; formerly CS30 & CS31)
* Ability and willingness to undertake strenuous physical work outdoors in all weathers, including in an upland environment
* A full driving licence valid for driving in the UK
* Ability to work alone as well as part of a small team
* Good communication and interpersonal skills
* Competent user of Microsoft Office including Word, Excel and Outlook

Desirable

* NPTC brushcutter qualification
* First aid qualification
* Confident driver of an off-road vehicle
* Experience of working with and supervising volunteers
* Experience of leading and planning educational groups
* Sound natural history, nature conservation and countryside management knowledge and wildlife identification skills
* Experience using social media channels
* Good organisational, time-management and problem-solving skills with the ability to prioritise and re-prioritise workload to meet changing demands
* Ability to think and act quickly when confronted with emergencies

**Applications**

Interested applicants should email a completed application form to People Services, National Trust for Scotland via [workforus@nts.org.uk](mailto:workforus@nts.org.uk) by **Friday 8th October 2021**.

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