

Role Profile / Role Description

| Details | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Role | Freelance Oral Historian |
| Reports to | Heritage Manager |
| Location | Remote / In person |
| Fee | £2250 (incl. VAT) |

About

To link the past with the present and keep alive the history of the specialty through education and information and preserving our heritage.

Museum Vision

The Anaesthesia Museum grew out of A. Charles King's private collection of historic anaesthetic apparatus, which he donated to the Association of Anaesthetists in 1953. The collection has since grown to include nearly 5,000 objects, 1,000 archive documents and 7,000 library items. Objects span the entire history of the profession, and tell the story of modern anaesthesia from its earliest beginnings in the 1840s, to technological advancements, and its use in war and childbirth. The collection also contains a oral history archive of interviews with eminent anaesthetists. More recently, one of the museums volunteers conducted interviews with frontline anaesthetists working during Covid-19.

The museum is housed in the Association's offices at 21 Portland Place, where it has a purpose built exhibition gallery that tells the story of the history of anaesthesia.

Role Purpose

The Anaesthesia Museum is embarking on a journey to readdress the balance of the stories it tells and the events they deliver. A journey which is needed and we're eager to begin.

This project, *Lost in the ether: Missing perspectives within anaesthesia* has been made possible by a grant from the Association of Independent Museums *Tackling Inequality Grant Award* supported by Arts Council England. The project aims to confront attitudes towards race, gender and disability within anaesthesia.

The collection is not as comprehensive and representative of the anaesthesia specialty as it should be, there are gaps within the collection with regards to race, gender, sexual orientation and abilities. This project will begin to address this by diversifying the stories we tell beyond the white male perspective through collecting oral histories from female anaesthetists, those from ethnically diverse communities, the LGBTQ+ community, and those living with disabilities.

Responsibilities

- Identify candidates for interviewing with assistance from the Heritage Team and affiliated organisations (for example, Royal College of Anaesthetists, British Medical Association, British Association of Indian Anaesthetists).
- In collaboration with the Heritage team, develop a discussion guide for identified individuals.
- Arrange and conduct interviews (the freelancer can use museum equipment or their own) with individuals chosen or agreed by the Heritage team.
- Ensure all consent forms and documentation are completed.
- Post interview editing, transcription and summary.

Person Specification

This table lists the essential and desirable requirements of the role.

| Requirements | | Essential (E) Desirable (D) |
|---|--|--------------------------------|
| Knowledge, Skills & Experience | Excellent interpersonal skills. | E |
| | Excellent communication skills. | E |
| | Excellent attention to detail (grammar and spelling). | E |
| | Self-motivated whilst working remotely, and able to work independently. | E |
| | Experience of oral history interviewing with a broad range of people. | E |
| | Experience of using recording equipment to capture a high quality interview. | E |
| | Experience of using editing software and ability to edit recording without changing the meaning of the interview. | E |
| | Good listener and questioner - interested in capturing people's stories regardless of age, gender, race, class or abilities. | E |
| | Ability to seek clarification where necessary and move the interview on as necessary. | E |
| Other | Friendly, welcoming, respectful, polite and tolerant. | E |
| | Patient and able to deal sensitively with stressful or moving stories. | E |
| | Interest in medical history. | D |



Other Information

Commitment

The role will commence from June 2021, all work must be completed by February 2022.

Expenses/Benefits

The fee is inclusive of all travel and other expenses incurred.

Work location

Ideally the interviews would be conducted in person, but this will be dependent Covid-19 restrictions, otherwise these can be conducted over Zoom using the Association's account.

Further information

[Heritage Centre](#)

[Oral History Project](#)

[Covid-19 Contemporary Collecting Oral Histories](#)

How to apply

Please apply with a CV and covering letter to Caroline Hamson, Heritage Manager at carolinehamson@anaesthetists.org. The deadline for applications is 07 May 2021.

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|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Application deadline | 9 May 2021 (5pm) |
| Applications review | 10 May 2021 |
| Date of interviews | w/k 24 May 2021 |
| Appointment | End of May 2021 |
| Project delivery | June/July 2021 - February 2022 |