

# AVIARY VOLUNTEER



## **A bit about the role:**

If you are happy to help keep our aviaries spotless and hygienic for the parrots, then we are looking for you! Parrots are messy and have little regard for the cleanliness of their own home - it is often a thankless task but you will feel the benefit knowing that you are providing a clean and healthy environment for our residential parrots, until the next day, when it all starts again! We have exacting standards, after all, these birds depend on us to provide them with the best care we can and you will be helping us maintain best practice. Experience with animal's required and it is especially helpful if you have worked in an aviary setting. If you have, you will understand the need for good hygiene, to prevent disease and the importance of realising that the parrots home should be the best that we can provide for them.

## **Location:**

On site in our Aviaries - Raystede Centre for Animal Welfare, Ringmer, East Sussex

## **Time commitment:**

- Flexible, any day or time. We are hoping for regular commitment, in order that other plans within the section can be made around that commitment.

## **What you can expect to be doing:**

- Cleaning duties within allocated aviaries (initially supervised) including use of animal safe disinfectant to scrub high perches and floors, sweep up, rake gravel, pick through bedding to remove soiled areas and turn over/replenish as required.
- Being aware of the birds, calmly interacting with them and keeping them safe within their home (initially supervised).
- Potentially leading to deeper cleaning roles, power washing, changing bedding, changing aviary set up, etc.
- Expansion into enrichment activities: further interaction, rope splicing, replacing branch work, creating foraging boxes and toy making. If you have imagination, the list could be endless, provided items are safe for the birds to enjoy.

## **This role will suit you if you:**

- Have experience with animals, in particular aviary birds or parrots
- Able to cope with a physical role involving some lifting, carrying, stooping and scrubbing
- Happy to work outdoors in all weather
- Can be the friendly face of Raystede, with an engaging manner and happy to talk to our visitors
- Are reliable in attendance and dependable
- Able to work effectively without supervision
- Able to safeguard confidential information about Raystede
- Have own transport to get to and from Raystede

**How you will make a difference:**

You will be a great help to the team who painstakingly keep the aviaries in tip top condition and you will help maintain those standards and ensure that the birds have the very best they can have in a captive situation. You will also be able to free up the team to get more involved in their important enrichment plans and engage with the parrots more fully, where they would not always have the time to do so effectively, which is vital to the bird's welfare.

**What we can offer you:**

- The opportunity to get to know individual birds, which is a privilege in itself!
- A welcoming and enjoyable experience and the chance to meet new, likeminded people
- Recognition and appreciation for your contribution
- Complimentary lunch and a hot drink whilst volunteering
- 50% Discount off food and drink in our Café whilst volunteering
- Uniform, induction and role specific training programme with ongoing support
- The option of reimbursement of local travel costs between home and volunteering location