



September 2023

Heritage Harbour Development Officer Post

Background to the Heritage Harbour

The Heritage Harbour designation for Exeter Canal and Basin came as a result of conversations between the Friends of Exeter Ship Canal and the Maritime Heritage Trust, who, together with National Historic Ships UK, initiated the national Heritage Harbour concept.

Following this, Exeter Heritage Harbour Group was formed that included representatives from Exeter City Council, Exeter Canal & Quay Trust and The Friends of Exeter Ship Canal.

This group commissioned in 2022 an examination of the potential for the quay and canal area undertaken by Greenwood Projects which resulted in a document: *Exeter Heritage Harbour Route Map*.

A key feature of the Rout Map's recommendations for the area is a commitment to the long-term evolution of a busy working harbour-side for the city that embraces and builds on its historic built environment. A specific recommendation was for the appointment of a part-time post to initiate activities which support that ambition.

Supporters of maritime heritage and owners of historic and traditional vessels, who were contacted through National Historic Ships and Maritime Heritage Trust, have already shown considerable enthusiasm for the physical, cultural and operational advantages of Exeter Ship Canal and Basin.

The area already benefits from:

Accessible and secure sites for restorations and re-fits, and calm moorings

Recognition of the potential for bringing new life to the harbour-side and maintaining the operational capacities of the canal

Generally well-cared for stock of historic waterside buildings, although predominantly in non-maritime use

Infrastructure such as locks and banks in generally good condition

Multiple committed stakeholders including users, businesses, water sports and residents, who care deeply for the future of the area and activity on the water.

But to secure the potential for the future and make the most of maritime revival, these advantages will have to be improved, diversified and promoted collectively.

Drawing on similar initiatives in Europe, we seek to recognise the potential of taking forward the Heritage Harbour concept within Exeter.

Heritage Harbour Development Officer

The post will be based on 15 hours per week but on annualised hours, on a self-employed contractual basis for a fixed term period of 2 years. Your contract will be with Exeter Canal & Quay Trust.

The post holder will have access to office space at the Custom House and at the Harbour Office - it is expected that the role will be a combination of home and on site working.

Role profile

The post will lead on the development of the Exeter Heritage Harbour concept by:

- Widely publicising the facilities within the harbour and canal available to boat owners
- Promoting the use of the harbour by boat owners, particularly owners of classic and traditional vessels.
- Assist in the development of strategies outlined in the [Heritage Harbour Route Map](#).
- Contributing to the development of a regular programme of events that celebrate the Heritage Harbour, in partnership with the Programme Co-ordinator and the Digital Media Support role at Exeter Canal & Quay Trust.

Person specification

It is anticipated that the successful candidate can evidence experience as follows:

- A thorough knowledge of maritime issues pertinent to the use of harbours, estuaries and canals.
- Experience of working with classic boat owners.
- Experience of organising public events
- Ability to initiate actions appropriate to the role.
- Good communicator and an ability to relate to a wide range of potential partners in particular stakeholders connected with the heritage harbour initiative
- Easy access to Exeter Quayside area
- Familiarity with grant funding, both management and seeking funds

Line Management and payment

The post-holder will be part of two teams.

- The Exeter Canal & Quay Trust team based at the Custom House
- The Canal and Harbours team under the direction of the Harbourmaster

This post will be line managed by the ECQT Project Co-ordinator assisted by members of the Heritage Harbour Group. Invoices will be submitted to Exeter Canal & Quay Trust on 1st of each month, payable within 14 days of receipt.

This post is offered on a daily rate of £200 to include travel and expenses unless agreed otherwise.

This is an exciting opportunity to work across a range of disciplines in order to further develop the concept of Exeter Heritage Harbour. If you would like an informal discussion, please contact anna@exetercustomhouse.co.uk - please note I work 2 days per week so there may be some delay in replying.

How to apply

Please send an up to date CV plus a covering letter, explaining why you are interested in the role and how your experience would enable you to best meet the above objectives. Applications should be sent to anna@exetercustomhouse.co.uk

Key dates

Closing date	-	Tuesday 31st October 2023, 5pm
Interviews	-	These will be held in person, in Exeter on Tuesday 7th November