



THE Hand Engravers Association of GREAT BRITAIN

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Hand Engravers Winter 2011

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

A Really Interesting Job

The Hand Engravers Association of Great Britain will be looking for a new Administrator. It is a busy two day a week position, coordinating and helping around a hundred talented engravers.

Our current administrator, Tamara Gomez, has done an outstanding job but will be resigning soon because her jewellery business needs her full time. There will, however, be a hand over period between her and the new administrator to explain all aspects of the job. There is also a part time Assistant Administrator who helps with the newsletter and the jobs as delegated by the Administrator.

The pay is about £10 per hour, which has worked out at £10,000 a year on average. Tamara's expertise from previous jobs has been invaluable, from having many connections in Hatton Garden, to running her own business as well as teaching.

So the person we need will have to have a track record in :

- Dealing tactfully with people in the crafts business
- Experience in administration
- An ability to look after The Association's accounts 'MyCake'
- Drawing up budgets and annual accounts
- Practical and confident experience using a computer
- Knowledge of updating websites
- Writing skills for the newsletter, money raising applications etc
- Is calm under pressure of too many things to do.

It is vital that any applicant can prove the above and can give references who will confirm the experience needed. References for shortlisted people will be taken up over the phone. No particular age will be considered but it is unlikely that candidates will have the necessary experience if they are too young. Much of the work will be done from home or your own workshop. (There is no Hand Engravers Association office.) However, the ability to get to London for Executive Committee meetings and meetings with other people is important.

The position is freelance and is fun and is challenging and we need someone really good to help us. To apply, please send your C.V. and a 200-400 word covering letter stating why you would be good for this position, along with 2 references. Deadline 31st December. All shortlisted candidates will be contacted by phone.

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Marsh Heritage Craft Award 2011

The Heritage Craft Association have received over 20 applications for the Marsh Heritage Award for trainers. Nominated from the Hand Engravers Association were George Lukes and Wayne Parrot. Winners will be announced in January, but we have just heard both have been shortlisted. Details about them in the next newsletter.

Heritage Lottery Project

After yet further discussions with the Heritage Lottery officials, Chris Rowley and Griselda Bear have at last sent in our formal proposal. Actually, it is now a three part proposal, costing £37,000 and lasting from April to November 2012.

The first part is from 2nd-14th July. Working with the cooperation of the excellent Craft Central Galleries in St John's Square, Clerkenwell, we will run a series of workshops, screenings, and talk-ins to art school heads and students to some local schools, for jewellers and associated trade and for a group of wheel chair learners. Much help will be needed from members.

The second, linked part is a history of 20th Century Hand Engraving where we will train a group of young volunteers to talk with various hand engravers and to research into the people that taught them - and if possible to learn about the great 1900-1930 engravers. The Heritage Lottery Fund are particularly keen on this aspect of the proposal. We will also be making a documentary about one aspect of the history.

Finally, in late Autumn, we will have an exhibition at the Guildhall when our growing paperweight collection will be installed at the Clockmakers splendid museum and all our historical research will be on display before going into the Guildhall Library for future generations to see. Quite a project - and we will need support from everyone! We hear whether we have got the grant in March.

National Skills Academy for Jewellery

Creative & Cultural Skills in partnership with the Jewellery & Allied Industries Training Council (JAITC), is undertaking the business planning of a National Skills Academy for Jewellery, which will encompass silversmithing and allied trades, including Hand Engraving. Peter Taylor has been working on the project for a good time and his huge efforts are paying off.

The aim will be to set up a National Skills Academy for Jewellery to promote and support training in this industry. They will aim to offer more apprenticeships in the Jewellery sector, to accredit courses and programmes that continue professional development and further careers resources by holding workplace career events and a careers website.

Creative and Cultural Skills (CCSKILLS) said in their proposal "[We] are incredibly excited about the potential of working with the Jewellery Sector and Allied Industries on this National Skills Academy extension. We believe that it offers real opportunities to promote closer links between training providers and the sector and most importantly will improve the employability of those wishing to or working within the sector."

Business Training for Craft Professionals

There is an opportunity to offer courses and training on business skills to professional craftsmen. This would a valuable opportunity to gain knowledge on various topics such as accounting, taxes, websites and marketing.

The Association would like to know if this is something members would be keen to attend and whether there are any particular skills that you want to learn.

Not a member yet? Join!

Name: _____
Work phone: _____
Home phone: _____
Fax: _____
E-mail: _____
Postal address: _____

Delete as appropriate: I enclose a cheque in the amount of £30 (for students, with proof of student status) / £60 (for other individuals) / £100 (for workshops) / £250 (for corporate memberships) made out to HEA-GB.

Please return to: The Hand Engravers Association, P.O. Box 60239, London, EC1P 1QQ.