

David

Recreation and Volunteer Engagement Coordinator

Joined The Parks Trust: 2023



What do you do?

I have 2 main parts to my job - one is to ensure we have lots of opportunity to be active in the parks. The other is to engage with all of our volunteers to ensure we're supporting them, and providing a fun and positive experience. As my role is quite varied and each day can feel quite different. I might be out in the parks delivering an event, providing training for a group of volunteers, organising recreational activities like runs and walks, or office-based work like writing documents or updating our website.

What did you do when you left school?

I finished A-levels and went straight to University to study Sports Science, and Chemistry. I left Uni early and worked in logistics and then took a trainee role in an IT company.

Why did you want to work for The Parks Trust?

I started with the Trust as a volunteer - and it's values and mine align very closely. I love Milton Keynes and feel we are so lucky to have a brilliant place to live with an organisation that's unique like ours to look after all of the green spaces. When a role became available I was very excited to join.

Describe your career journey so far

After leaving University I worked for an accountancy firm working with their IT providers for many years, this led into my next role with an IT hardware company where I eventually ended up running 2 datacentres for large corporate and government clients. Alongside this I continued my education, and volunteered with organisations that shared my interests and beliefs. This enabled me to change field from IT to Public Health for Local Government at MK City Council, and now in this role at The Parks Trust.

What skills or qualities do you need to be successful in your role?

The main thing you need is motivation - everything else stems from that. As the role is diverse so are the skills, but you have to have great people skills, collaborating when you can, resolving conflict at times, project management, time management, local knowledge, working independently, and practical skills like driving and putting up gazebos!

My words of wisdom...

If you can find a
role that you love,
work never feels
like work.

