**Calf of Man Volunteer Introductory Information**

Welcome to the Calf of Man! The Calf can be a challenging place to work at times, but we all work as a team to support one another, and it is an incredibly rewarding place to work. The more you put in, the more you will get out of your time here. If there is anything specific that you would like to do, don’t be afraid to chat to a warden – we will try to accommodate. Any other questions or concerns, again, please chat to a warden.

As a working observatory, we often have early morning starts and consequent early nights, and sometimes work through the night and sleep during the day. Please try to keep noise to a respectable level. Do not enter areas with mist nets when ringing is in progress, unless accompanied by a warden.

During the breeding seasons of birds and seals, be aware of the wildlife and keep your distance to avoid disturbance.

# Health and Safety

Volunteers have a responsibility to look after themselves and consider the safety of others, who may be affected by their actions or what they do not do.

Please ensure that you read and sign all the relevant risk assessments at the beginning of your stay. Bird ringers must sign the ringing protocol.

When you go out, you must take a radio and your mobile phone with you (these should be preset to channel 72). Also, write your name on the whiteboard and write down what you are doing, where you are going and when you expect to be back. Remember to rub yourself off the board and put the radio back on charge when you get back.

The terrain is very uneven, take care as you go and don’t forget to factor in the weather.

Limited PPE is available to borrow if required, please ask a warden.

A first aid box is located on the wall outside of the ringing room. All the wardens are trained First Aiders. All accidents and near misses must be reported in the accident book/near miss and incident report form.

# Cleaning

Cleaning of the Observatory is communal, you will be added onto the rota.

Fire escapes and corridors must be always kept clear.

You are responsible for sorting your own waste and recycling. Paper and card to go next to the fires, unless storage is already full, in which case they go in the ‘burnable’ 1-ton bag in the workshop. Glass, soft plastic (plastic bottles, etc) and tins and cans to be washed-out and placed in the appropriate metal bins by the workshop door. Plastic and tins/cans must be crushed.

# Electricity, Water and Wifi

The generator is generally run twice a day. Only essential low-power items can be run off the battery bank (phone and laptop chargers, etc.). The grey sockets are essential power, white sockets are generator power only.

Our water supply is rainwater and groundwater wells and as such is very reliant on the weather. Please limit your water usage as much as possible – wash up once per day, don’t leave taps running, etc.

The Wi-Fi password can be found on the bottom right of the whiteboard. The Wi-Fi does not reach the guest side; it is slow and unsuitable for live streaming, etc. Phone signal is patchy around the island.

# Bathroom

No toilet paper down the toilet – there is a grey bin beside the toilet. There is a separate bin for sanitary products.

The shower is only for wardens and volunteers who are here for longer than a week. Due to our limited water supply, showers are limited to once a week. Please rinse down the shower and glass after each use.

# Kitchen

The microwave in the guest kitchen only works when the generator is running. There is a microwave and toaster in the end kitchen that can be used out with generator running times (not for use by guests).

The oven and grill are gas. If the gas stops running, please inform a warden so they can change the gas canisters over.

Please be aware that you will be sharing a kitchen and that there is limited storage space, especially in the fridge/freezer.

# Bedroom

Bedrooms are dorm-style, and it is likely that you will be sharing. Each bed should have a mattress protector, a sheet, a pillow and pillowcase, and a blanket. Extra blankets are available.

Keeping the bedroom clean is your responsibility. When you leave, please strip the sheet and pillowcase from your bed and place it in the washing machine and return any extra blankets.

# In Case of Emergency

If you hear the fire alarm, please evacuate into the front courtyard. There is an upstairs emergency exit that goes through one of the warden’s bedrooms – so please only use in the even of an actual fire. Familiarise yourself with the locations of the fire extinguishers and fire blanket.

A defibrillator is located on the wall outside the ringing room. Instructions on how to radio a Mayday can be found above the radios in the corridor. A list of emergency contacts can be found… In the event of an emergency, dial 999 and ask for the Coastguard.

# Wood Burner

If it is cold, light the fire! Use common sense: don’t overfill the fire, don’t put flammables on top of or too close, etc.

# Boat

The supply boat generally comes in once a week – you will be expected to help unload if you are free.

For your departure, it is best to contact the boatman several days before to confirm times, depending on the weather.

A map of a island

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