

# The Thursford Collection

## Chair of the Trustees Job Role

The Thursford Collection is a company limited by guarantee (No. 1279056) and a registered charity (No. 272307).

Applicants for this position will be expected to have the skills, experience and qualifications to fulfil the responsibilities outlined below.

The post holder must be a member of The Thursford Collection (a charitable Trust) and applicants for the role must be eligible for membership.

### The Chair will lead the Board of Trustees

The overriding purpose of the role is to ensure the success of the Trust in the delivery of its charitable objectives:

- To preserve and augment for the benefit and education of the people of the County of Norfolk and of the nation at large the collection of organs and engines situate at Laurel Farm, Thursford, Norfolk and of national, historical and educational importance (“the Collection”); and
- To advance the arts for the benefit of the public, and in particular the arts of music and dance, by conducting musical and theatrical performances which may incorporate a display of parts of the Collection and thereby increase awareness of the Collection.

### Key Relationships:

**The Chief Executive.** John Cushing has held this position since the formation of the Trust in 1976 and is the entrepreneurial driving force behind Thursford.

**The Management Team.** Thursford has a small but very dedicated Management Team lead by the General Manager, Charlie Cushing, who is John’s son.

**The non-executive Chair of Thursford Enterprises Limited** (wholly owned subsidiary) who leads the Executive Board that operates the activities at Thursford.

### Overview of Responsibilities:

The Thursford Collection is seeking to appoint an individual as Chair for whom the continuation of the success of Thursford (in particular the Christmas Spectacular and the new Interactive Children’s Experience but in addition all other activities) will be paramount.

The successful candidate will have a demonstrable track record of achievement, ideally gained in a senior leadership role within an organisation with a comparable budget and size and someone who understands the complexity of a family managed organisation with independent Trustees.

- To provide **leadership** to the Board of Trustees and support for the Chief Executive whilst recognising the appropriate distinction between the responsibilities of non-executive and executive responsibilities.
- To demonstrate **commitment** to the role of Chair of the Trust; the estimated time commitment will be in the region of 2 days per month but the role necessarily requires flexibility depending on circumstances and needs.
- To ensure that the '**public face**' of Thursford remains the Cushing family.
- To be **approachable** to staff, other Trustees and directors of Thursford Enterprises Limited and ensure the provision of accurate, timely and clear information.
- To promote and support the development and implementation of a **strategy** for the new Interactive Children's Experience to contribute to the future success of The Thursford Collection.
- **Uphold and promote appropriate values** for The Thursford Collection and ensure that high standards of corporate and charity governance are maintained.
- To **act in accordance** with and fulfil those duties of the Chair as specified in:
  - The Thursford Collection's Articles of Association.
  - The Authority Levels and Policies of The Thursford Collection.
  - The Code of Conduct of Trustees as laid out by the Charity Commission.