



Chetham's Library Committee Application 2024



Chetham's
LIBRARY



We're looking for people who can support us in progressing the strategic development of Chetham's Library, support its Librarian and staff, and raise the profile of the Library.

Current members bring a range of skills and experiences to the committee relating to libraries, archives and small museums. They have skills in other complementary areas, and we would like to strengthen our committee.

Committee members should:

Have the time to attend Library meetings (currently three times a year, although this frequency could be extended to quarterly meetings)

Be willing to contribute personal skills, experience and interests to the benefit of the Library, to further the strategic objectives of the Library and to support the Librarian

Have the commitment to attend some of the Library events

Your skills and interests may include:

An interest in rare books and literature in general

An interest in small museums

An interest in small charitable institutions

An interest in history

Knowledge of local communities, reflective of the diversity of communities in the Manchester city-region

Experience of leadership/management, especially in the Library and/or museum sectors

Knowledge/experience of managing/leading visitor attractions

Knowledge/understanding of the cultural leadership of Greater Manchester

Knowledge/experience of fundraising

Membership of Chetham's Library Committee will bring you exciting opportunities:

Benefits of membership

Work with a diverse group of people who can share their skills and experience

Help set the strategy of this unique and historic Library and museum

Learn about the challenges of running a small charity

Be part of the history and culture of Manchester

Engage with and influence the wider cultural and heritage sector, particularly in the North West

Chetham's Library

Chetham's Library has been inspiring the readers and thinkers of tomorrow for hundreds of years. It's the place where Marx and Engels came together to discuss their revolutionary ideas. The Grade 1 listed building itself dates from 1421 and the Library was founded in 1653, making it the oldest public library in the UK.

We care for an impressive collection of printed books, manuscripts and archives that are designated as having national and international importance and are still used today by readers and researchers from around the world. The Library is now an accredited museum enjoyed as a visitor attraction by local visitors and international tourists with a growing events programme celebrating the collections and historic buildings.

Chetham's Foundation

Chetham's is in the heart of Manchester and home to three extraordinary places - Chetham's School of Music, Chetham's Library and Stoller Hall – and we are united by one vision which is to bring people together. We are driven by our values to make education and music more accessible and to enrich lives and improve wellbeing in communities in Manchester and beyond.

The Library shares buildings and the campus with Chetham's School of Music and, in some circumstances, committee members may take on extra responsibilities, more frequent visits or commitments such as being a Feoffee (trustee). In those circumstances, full suitability checks including a Disclosure and Barring Service check will be required.

Equal opportunities

The Library is committed to promoting equal opportunities and inclusivity, and to ensure that the Library Committee is representative of the locality in which it stands. We encourage applications from people of the global majority, people with disabilities, and members of the LGBTQ+ community, as these communities are currently under-represented on the committee.

How to apply

Email an expression of interest and CV to librarian@chethams.org.uk **by Friday 9th August**. Once applications have been assessed we will arrange an informal opportunity to visit the library and invite suitable candidates for an interview (in person, or if not feasible, by video conference), likely to be on **Wednesday 28th August**.

We look forward to hearing from you.