



# Connecting Threads

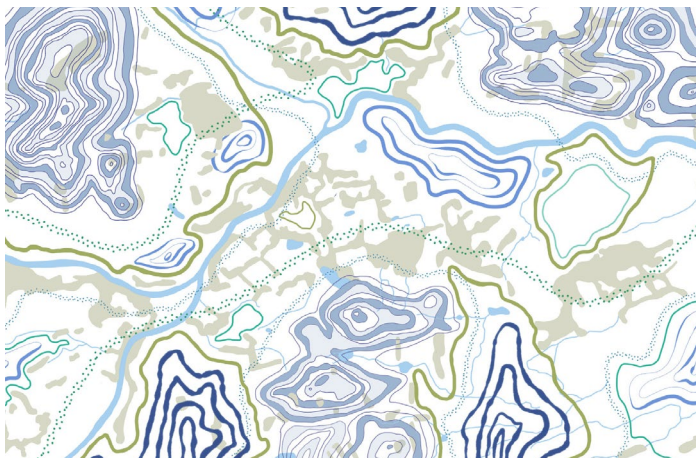
## An ambitious cultural vision for the River Tweed

### River Messenger p/t (0.6)

We are looking for an experienced and enthusiastic individual, with a background in visual communication, to deliver this post. The River Messenger will be part of a creative team working, alongside and in collaboration with the River Culture Curator and three River Culture Animateurs to share, communicate, promote and record the Connecting Threads project and its activities. The project is currently funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Creative Scotland, the Hugh Fraser Foundation and the Fallago Environment Fund.

#### Introduction

Connecting Threads is the cultural strand of Destination Tweed, a landscape-scale project that aims to conserve and celebrate the River Tweed from source to sea. Destination Tweed promotes the role of culture in imagining and creating a more positive future. Weaving cultural activity through the Destination Tweed project, Connecting Threads is supporting engagement with and awareness of our



environment and heritage through access to the arts. Focussing on the Tweed as a cultural landscape, Connecting Threads' programme of activities is shaped by the river habitat itself. Our project is led by the seasons and the human and more-than-human communities which inhabit the river corridor. Working in partnership with local communities and cultural, educational and environmental organisations, Connecting Threads will bring different knowledges and creative practices together in experiential ways to support a culture of stewardship and collaboration.

The cultural events, artworks and activities generated by Connecting Threads will invite local people and visitors to make deeper connections to the river, stimulate new relationships, strengthen cultural leadership and contribute to sustainable places. The long-term aim is to create a legacy of collaborative projects and well-integrated partnerships between cultural and environmental organisations to support the ongoing sustainable development of the Tweed.

**The Southern Uplands Partnership (SUP)** is a rural development charity, with over 20 years of experience of developing and delivering projects across the South of Scotland. The partnership represents everyone with an interest in the sustainable development of the region. More details of the Southern Uplands Partnership can be found at: [www.sup.org.uk](http://www.sup.org.uk)

More details about Connecting Threads can be found in the accompanying handbook which can be downloaded here: <https://sup.org.uk/projects/connecting-threads-tweed-river-culture/>

More details about the Destination Tweed project can be found at: [www.tweedforum.org](http://www.tweedforum.org)

Connecting Threads is a Southern Uplands Partnership project in partnership with Tweed Forum. This role is supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Creative Scotland.



## Job Description

<b>Post Title:</b>	River Messenger
<b>Base:</b>	Studio 2, Lindean Mill, Galashiels, TD1 3PE
<b>Responsible to:</b>	Southern Uplands Partnership Manager
<b>Salary:</b>	£22,000 pa fte (pro rata £13,200 pa)
<b>Pension contribution:</b>	Employer contribution currently 8% of salary Employee contribution currently 5% of salary
<b>Contract period:</b>	Four years, subject to funding
<b>Contract hours:</b>	Part-time (0.6 fte) 3 days or 22.5 hours per week. Hours of work will be arranged by agreement and can be flexible. Weekend or evening working may be required from time to time, for which you will receive time off in lieu (no overtime is payable). SUP supports hybrid working.
<b>Probationary period:</b>	Three months
<b>Notice period:</b>	Minimum of one month's notice. This will increase by one week's notice per full year worked after four years' service.
<b>Leave:</b>	36 days per annum and 4 public holidays fte (pro rata 24 days)
<b>Expenses:</b>	Travel costs incurred in the course of work will be reimbursed monthly in arrears, currently at a rate of £0.45/mile.

## Job Purpose

The focus of the delivery phase for Connecting Threads is to engage with communities of interest (cultural, heritage, environmental and educational organisations) and communities of place, to implement a four-year multi-stranded cultural programme along the length of the Tweed Trail within the Scottish Borders, north Northumberland and Dumfries and Galloway. The River Messenger (p/t 0.6) will work alongside and in collaboration with the River Culture Curator and River Culture Animateurs to communicate, visually and in writing, all aspects of the project to a broad audience including participants, stakeholders, members of the public and the wider cultural community.

Regular liaison and close collaboration will be required between the River Culture Curator, the River Culture Animateurs, and River Messenger, and Destination Tweed project partners and representatives of Tweed Forum, in particular the Destination Tweed Project Management team.

The whole Connecting Threads team will be expected to demonstrate a commitment to best practice around equalities, diversities, and addressing under-representation, and will work with an awareness of climate change and biodiversity loss within the project generally and in the design of activities.

## Responsibilities

### Share and promote the Connecting Threads project:

- Design and produce printed and digital publicity materials including posters, booklets and catalogues.
- Produce illustrated monthly newsletters.
- Create drawings, diagrams and visuals to communicate the project to stakeholders and funders.
- Build a strong social media presence and following (primarily through Instagram and Facebook), using these platforms as an active tool for sharing, exchange and collaboration.
- Assist River Culture Animateurs with the recruitment of interns and volunteers.

### Document the Connecting Threads project:

- Document cultural activity through photography, illustration, video and written records.
- Collate activity evaluation and feedback in written and visual formats.
- Lead on the creation and maintenance of an image library and activity archive.

No Job Description can be entirely comprehensive and the post holder will be expected to carry out other duties from time to time that are commensurate with the above responsibilities and determined by the Partnership Manager or Project Management Team.

## Skills and Experience

### Essential

- A minimum of one year of professional experience of working in the cultural, arts, design or heritage sector and/or a degree in a related field (visual communication, graphic design, illustration etc.)
- Strong graphic design, composition, layout and drawing skills, with excellent attention to detail.
- Good knowledge of Adobe Creative Suite (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign) and Microsoft Office.
- Strong inter-personal and written communication skills.
- Ability to work on own initiative, operate as part of a team and work in collaboration with others.
- Strong organisational, administrative and time management skills.
- Flexible approach to working.
- PVG Disclosure Scotland Certificate.

### Desirable

- Photography and videography skills.
- Knowledge of the arts, cultural and/or environmental sector in the Scottish Borders.
- Knowledge of the communities and landscapes of the River Tweed.
- Experience of contributing to public activities and events.
- Understanding of cultural placemaking practices.
- Current UK Driving License and access to a vehicle.

## Application Process

To apply for this post, please complete the Job Application form, which is available to download from the [open-access Google Drive](#). You can also access the application form from the Southern Uplands Partnership website at: [www.sup.org.uk](http://www.sup.org.uk)

Please submit your application form and supporting images by email to [rachel@sup.org.uk](mailto:rachel@sup.org.uk) by 9am on Monday 6th March. Interviews will be held on Tuesday 21st March.

Informal enquiries about the post can be made to Rachel Hunter, River Culture Curator, at: [rachel@sup.org.uk](mailto:rachel@sup.org.uk).

We are able to accept applications in alternative formats. If you have any form of access needs please do not hesitate to contact Rachel to discuss your requirements.

