Staff profile: Reiss Jones, Digital Communications Executive

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Reiss is based in our Nottingham office. He has been with the Heritage Fund since 2014, starting out as an Apprentice Team Assistant, progressing to a Business Support Manager for the Midlands & East area, before taking up his current role.

What does your role involve?

All things social media and digital communications – from sharing our latest funding news on LinkedIn, to creating Instagram Reels showing the heritage we support. I work across all our social media channels to share the impact of our funding and reach new applicants. As well as developing social content, I support the Social Media Manager with campaign planning and support the wider Marketing and Communications team with video editing, creating graphics and writing website stories.

I am also a Culture Champion for the department, which means I am an ambassador for and help to embed our <u>values and behaviours</u>. This also allows me to work closely with colleagues around the organisation and with senior leadership.

What do you enjoy about working here?

The people. Your colleagues really do make a difference to your working day, and my colleagues at the Heritage Fund are very supportive. The Marketing and Communications team are based across the UK, so we get creative with virtual social activities as a way of keeping in touch.

I also value the opportunity to explore and learn about heritage that I've not visited before, and to capture content for our social channels.

What motivates you at work?

The ever-changing landscape of social media. There's always something new to learn or new trends to jump on. And through all the heritage projects we fund, I'm always discovering new stories and heritage. It's great to be able to share those stories and the impact our funding has.

What's the highlight of your time at the Heritage Fund?

I've really enjoyed working on our social media campaigns, such as #HeritageIsOpen. It's a campaign we run each summer to highlight the openings that have been made possible with our funding. It's also allowed me to explore new places. Last year I went to the <u>Black Country Living Museum</u> and <u>National Galleries</u>
Scotland to capture content – it was my first time to both, and I recommend a visit.

What's your favourite type of heritage?

That's a tough one, but I do love our natural heritage and value having parks we've supported close by. When I worked in the Midlands & East team, I got to work with a project called Pollinating the Peak, which was reviving the numbers of bumblebees in the Peak District as well as raising awareness of their importance. The project went on to win National Lottery Project of the Year.