

Horticultural Qualifications

Below is a selection of recent comments made by recipients of PGT Awards:

RHS Level 2:

Adrian Wort - "In my opinion any knowledge gained within any field of work will only add to a person's ability to grow and give a better level of service, and although the RHS course that I completed is a theory course I still feel that this is the case. The course covers four different areas from soil structure through to pests and diseases and on to propagation of plants. These areas have given me a better understanding of the background to plants and how they can be looked after in my customer's gardens, and I would recommend this course to anyone working in horticulture".

Jenni Quinlan – "The course was challenging at times, especially when trying to juggle it with working full time. However, as a whole it was fun, informative and extremely useful. It helped to increase my plant knowledge and understanding of working practices and I now no longer feel lost in the undergrowth within my professional working life. It has also helped to establish me in a career that I enjoy but I recognise that I have much more to learn and I intend to continue to do so whether that be at the zoo or another horticulture position. I would like to thank the PG Trust for their support in aiding me to achieve my goals in this new career".

Violet Gibbs – "I am thankful to The Professional Gardeners trust and to Perennial Lironi Training Fund for funding my course-as a young person that had very few great opportunities, I can honestly say this course has improved my life and my training has improved my career opportunities".

Nathan Foulds – "Overall the course has made me a far better experienced gardener practically and I am now able to perform tasks I was able to do previously with more confidence and professionalism. It has built upon knowledge I already had but also taught me valuable new skills which will benefit my career in the future".

RHS Level 3:

Nathan Foulds – "I believe that the overall affect this training has had on my gardening practice has been to make me a better gardener because I now have a better understanding of the different horticultural practices as well as a broader knowledge regarding plants. I am now able to deliver a higher standard of service at work and from this I have gained a lot of pleasure".

Ian Davies - "...I have now transferred from volunteering to paid horticulture work. I have a seasonal position at a new garden near Blandford Forum in Dorset called Keyneston Mill.... it's a very good opportunity to be involved with the creation of a new botanical garden. I also have an interview for the WRAGS scheme to be a paid trainee at Abbotsbury Sub Tropical Garden for when my current job finishes in October. I am confident that I can obtain extra private work as well and I aim to specialise in organic and wildlife gardening. So, yes, opportunities are definitely opening up for me".

Helen Whitehead – "The course has provided a valuable resource of knowledge as well as practical learning that I have directly used in my work"..... " I found that meeting a professional network of gardeners and garden designers who are already working in the field was also really beneficial and a great source of knowledge and insight".

RHS Masters in Horticulture:

Helen Robinson - "I really appreciate the opportunity that I have been given with the Bursary from the Professional Gardeners Trust and the Worshipful Company of Gardeners. I feel that all of the study has been thoroughly worthwhile and has defiantly made me the gardeners that I am today! I'm looking now forward to the next challenge"!