

## Report

My name is Kate Slade and I live in South Somerset, I work in a team of gardeners in various manors and large gardens across South Somerset and Dorset. I was previously working in health and social care for eleven years and a jobcentre before that.

I have just finished RHS level 2 practical course and RHS level 2 theory at Kingston Maurwood College with your support of an award of £1000 (entire course fees were £1350) kindly donated by the NGS. One of my referees and clients is actually part of the NGS and has regular open gardens.

I extremely enjoyed my Practical course which included learning Latin every week and enjoyed the rotation of tutors every week too. I found the theory more difficult especially 'plant classification and structure' section but I think that may have had something to do with my theory tutor but feel confident waiting for exam results.

Rather than doing another level in theory I have decided to do level 3 RHS practical as I enjoyed it so much.

Since June and college I have received a pay rise at work, feel more confident and knowledgeable and am really enjoying myself.

However silly it sounds I never realised people actually had jobs they extremely enjoyed! I love being outdoors in beautiful gardens, being active, realising how the seasons effect the different gardening jobs that need doing and learning new skills and plants! I feel very lucky and thank yourselves and the NGS for your kind award.

Yours sincerely

Kate Slade