

## Report for Professional Gardeners Trust

I applied to the PGT for assistance with travel costs to college in Cambourne, whilst studying for a Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) level 3 qualification. A sum of £380 was awarded to me and the original source of the funding was the Finnis Scott Foundation. I have now completed the course at the Duchy of Cornwall College, Rosewarne campus, and I sat the final exams in September 2020. The results are expected in December 2020.

I am a self-employed gardener, working in the St. Austell area in beautiful Cornwall. I work in small private gardens carrying out a variety of tasks which includes pruning, mowing, the designing, and planting of herbaceous borders, growing vegetables and general garden maintenance. I also work 2 days a week at the Pengelly Garden Centre, Hewas Water, St. Austell. The RHS Level 3 course has increased my plant knowledge to a level where I can confidently advise customers on plant choices, plant care and how to manage pests and diseases.

I am a mature student and gardening is a career change for me. I have loved gardening since childhood and when I was made redundant from a career in banking, I decided it was time for a change and an opportunity to do something I loved. I started to study for an RHS qualification in 2018 and gained a level 2 Diploma, I then decided to carry on, to study at level 3.

The RHS level 3 courses have added to my knowledge and confidence, and my clients and employers love that I have the qualification. I am now hoping to study for a teaching qualification which will enable me to pass on my knowledge to other students at level 1.

Thank you for supporting me.

Su Appleton

All About the Garden

04 October 2020