

Thank you for providing me with £650 for a two day tractor course. I have learnt how to operate trailers, front end loaders, PTO drives, and attaching implements with a 3-point linkage. I know the basic operations and its routine maintenance. The instructor was very knowledgeable, and I learnt a lot. I will use this knowledge at the garden at which I work at Cliveden, when we use our tractors for collecting grass cuttings, fallen leaves, and herbaceous material from the borders. I will be able to do loading and composting more efficiently, and I hope to be trained on the flail mower in due course.

The course was called "Tractor Driving", is a Lantra Awards course, and was administered by the Surrey Horticultural Training Group. I will attach a photograph of me doing the course, and a photocopy of the certificate I have just received.

Using small horticultural tractors is an essential skill for estate gardeners, and if I were to leave Cliveden, it would be highly useful for my future employer if they had tractors at that particular garden.

I have only worked in Horticulture since I left college at 19, having worked as an Assistant Gardener at the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, a Maintenance gardener at Pro Gardens Limited, and finally as a Gardener at Cliveden, National Trust in Berkshire.

My work at Cliveden is varied. I have worked in the plant borders, use pedestrian mowers, hedgecutters, leaf blowers, strimmers, spray plants, deadhead and prune roses, propagation in the nursery, planting bedding, weeding, bed clearance, driving tractors with green waste in the trailers, loading mulch, and composting.

This funding came from the Molly Sailsbury bequest, who kindly gave me this money of £650 to help advance my career. I am most grateful. Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,

Theodore Carpenter  
Gardener

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# Certificate of Competence

Theodore Carpenter

has successfully completed training and assessment in

**Tractor Driving**

**Module(s) Achieved**

Loader  
Mounted Implements  
Power Take Off  
Safe Tractor Operation  
Trailed Implements

Refresher training is recommended within 5 years to keep your skills current

