



THE ISLE OF GIGHA HERITAGE TRUST



JOB OPPORTUNITY – ACHAMORE GARDENS MODERN APPRENTICE

The Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust has an exciting opportunity available for a Modern Apprentice in horticulture at Achamore Gardens.

Much loved by both Island residents and visitors, Achamore Gardens are internationally renowned for the Rhododendron Collection and extensive gardens developed by Sir James Horlick in the middle of last century. Following many years of decline, Achamore is now undergoing a major, multi-year restoration project. As our apprentice you will be involved in every aspect of the restoration whilst learning all the skills necessary to work in a historic garden setting. You will be involved in plant propagation and care, learn about practical garden maintenance, develop skills in curating a historic garden, and gain industry recognised certification in pesticide use, chainsaw operations and first aid.

The Trust has partnered with Argyll College UHI (University of the Highlands and Islands) to deliver a 24-month Horticulture Modern Apprenticeship programme. As well as undertaking practical training you will be expected to achieve a level 5 SVQ in Horticulture and, depending on your progress, go on to achieve a level 6 SVQ in your second year. Throughout your training you will receive support, help and advice from both the Gardens staff and your assessor at Argyll College UHI. Full details of the programme is available at:

https://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/media/33365/horticulture_level_2_march14.pdf

If you are interested in gardening and plants, are hardworking, committed, and enthusiastic and happy to work outdoors in all weathers we would like to hear from you. In return for your hard work we offer a full time, paid apprenticeship with full training which could set you up for a lifetime's career in horticulture. Please send us your CV along with a max 200-word letter letting us know why you are interested in the job and what makes you our ideal candidate.

Applications should be made by **5pm on Friday 25th September 2020** by:

Email: jane@gigha.org.uk

or

Post: Jane Millar
Business Development Manager
Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust Office
Craft Workshop 1
Isle of Gigha
PA41 7AA



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JOB DESCRIPTION:

Job Title:	Achamore Gardens Modern Apprentice
Date:	August 2020
Reports to:	Achamore Gardens Head Gardener
Salary:	Dependant on age and experience
Hours:	Full time – 35 hours per week - Note some weekend working will be required
Location:	Achamore Gardens, Isle of Gigha
Job purpose: This is an opportunity to achieve a qualification in horticulture, while gaining practical experience alongside other horticulturists in a renowned Garden. Working to promote the development of this Garden, you will be helping it achieve high-class standards while developing your own career. Applicants must be aged 16 or over.	
Core Responsibilities: These are the core responsibilities for this role and is not an exhaustive list. The post holder will be required to undertake any other tasks as requested. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participate in practical training in all aspects of garden management and maintenance, including plant care, pruning and propagation, weeding, lawn care, composting, hard and soft landscaping, record keeping and much more.• Assist with grass cutting and other operations using a variety of machinery• Carry out day to day and routine maintenance of gardening equipment and machinery• Achieve First Aid certification and 2 other occupational courses• Undertake development in line with agreed training plan• Positive participation in monitoring and maintaining health, safety, and security• Attend meetings and demonstrate evidence of competence to trainers, assessors and verifiers as required• Attend college/off-the-job training as required• Develop a collection of evidence (portfolio) and retain ownership of this throughout your apprenticeship• Undertake regular plant ID learning and tests• Learn how to manage and improve your own performance in a business environment• Establish and maintain effective working relationships with others• Engage positively with the policies and procedures agreed by the Board• Constructive and supportive interaction with all Trust employees, members, and island residents	



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PERSON SPECIFICATION:

Person Specification: These are the skills, experience and qualifications required to undertake the role.	
Essential	Desirable
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keen and enthusiastic to learn about, and develop a career in gardening and horticulture• The motivation and ability to follow a work and study schedule to complete our 2-year apprenticeship and SVQ qualifications• Attend off site training and college as required• Ability to work effectively as an individual and co-operatively as a member of a team• Excellent interpersonal skills, both verbal and written• Able to work outdoors in all weather and the ability to undertake strenuous physical tasks• Competent in the use of IT and Microsoft Office packages (Word, PowerPoint, Outlook)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evidence of previous interest in, or experience of gardening and the outdoors• Training, educational or skills development achievements related to the post• Awareness of Health and Safety in a day-to-day context• Understanding of working with a small community• Ability to solve problems and effect solutions within a small team environment• Full clean UK driving licence