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Ecosystem Gardening Trainer

Growing the Future at the National Botanic Garden of Wales

The Growing the Future (GTF) project at the National Botanic Garden of Wales will provide horticulture training and knowledge to individuals and groups from diverse audiences throughout Wales. It is a five year project funded through the Welsh Government Rural Communities-Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, which is funded by the Welsh Government and the European Union. The National Botanic Garden of Wales is an iconic and dynamic charity, dedicated to the research and conservation of biodiversity, sustainability, lifelong learning and the enjoyment of our visitors.

A wide range of horticulture courses and public engagement will be available for adults and children in the value of gardens for growing food, keeping fit and helping the environment. We will also be showcasing the diversity and quality of Welsh horticultural produce and helping save Wales' pollinators. Growing the Future will be based at the Botanic Garden and at a series of hubs throughout Wales.

The Role: Ecosystem Gardening Trainer

We are looking for someone who is enthusiastic, energetic and inspiring to provide advice and support, develop and deliver courses and public engagement on beekeeping and the incorporation of wildlife into gardens. The objective of the role is to engage people and provide training in the value of gardens for helping the environment. This is a fantastic opportunity for an experienced beekeeper with a good technical knowledge of wildlife gardening and proven experience in training. Fluency in written and spoken Welsh is highly desirable and an understanding and commitment to the mission of the National Botanic Garden of Wales is essential.

OUTLINE DETAILS OF APPOINTMENT

This is a full-time position starting from the soonest date which can be arranged. Hours of work are 37.5 per week in a year-round pattern, working five days out of seven. There is a requirement for travel within Wales to visit partner organisations. The salary is up to £21,000 per annum according to qualifications and experience. This is a 5-year fixed term contract.

Informal enquiries are welcome and should be directed to the Head of Science (Dr Natasha de Vere – natasha.devere@gardenofwales.org.uk)

Applications, in the form of a cover letter and CV clearly showing how you meet the criteria, together with full contact details of two referees, should be emailed to natasha.devere@gardenofwales.org.uk by 8th December 2017. Interviews are currently planned for January 2018.

Available in Welsh upon request

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BACKGROUND OUTLINE

Growing the Future is a £2.3 million project funded by the European Union and Welsh Government. It builds on the success of the Growing the Future pilot project which ran from 2012 – 2015 and engaged with over 5000 people throughout Wales. The Growing the Future project will employ seven full-time members of staff, along with support from the Botanic Garden's Science, Horticulture, Education, Marketing and Interpretation departments. There are three main areas of activity.

1. Gardens for health and wellbeing

Growing plants for food and fun can help keep us fit and improve mental and physical wellbeing. Gardens are also important wildlife habitats and provide vital ecosystem services, such as flood protection and pollination. We will provide training and engagement for adults and children in the value of gardens for growing food, keeping fit and helping the environment.

2. Celebrating Welsh horticulture

From specialist nurseries producing unique plants and flowers to commercial growers providing the finest fruit and vegetables. We will showcase the diversity and quality of Welsh horticultural produce with exciting festivals and events.

3. Horticulture for the future

For a sustainable, future-proof sector, Welsh horticulture needs to harness the latest scientific and technological advances. We will create networks between science and horticulture and use the Botanic Garden's cutting edge research on plants for pollinators to create a new market for sustainably produced pollinator-friendly plants.

The National Botanic Garden of Wales

The first botanic garden of the new millennium, the National Botanic Garden of Wales stretches over more than 568 acres within rural Carmarthenshire. It consists of the Botanic Garden and Waun Las National Nature Reserve, which is managed as an organic farm. In just 17 years, it has become a place of international significance dedicated to conservation, horticulture, science, education, leisure and the arts.

For more information visit: <https://botanicgarden.wales/>

NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDEN OF WALES
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Job Description

Post Title	Growing the Future Ecosystem Gardening Trainer
Department	Science
Reports to	Head of Science
Responsible for management of	Volunteers

Outline purpose of role: Ecosystem Gardening Trainer

The Ecosystem Gardening Trainer will provide advice and develop and deliver courses and public engagement on beekeeping and how gardening can support ecosystem services. They will also support the GTF Science Officer and Head of Science on developing the Plants for Pollinators assurance scheme.

Responsibilities

1. Develop and deliver training, provide support and practical advice on beekeeping and wildlife gardening at the Botanic Garden and with community groups and partners throughout Wales. Inform and inspire an appreciation of honeybees and wild pollinators, encouraging the development of both knowledge and practical skills.
2. Working with volunteers, manage and maintain the Botanic Gardens apiaries and develop further facilities as required.
3. Support the GTF Science Officer and Head of Science on the development and delivery of the Plants for Pollinators assurance scheme.
4. Create and implement an assessment and evaluation system for courses and events and use this in future delivery.
5. Assist with the planning and implementation of events and shows staged by the GTF project.
6. Collaborate with stakeholders, partners, participants, team members and senior management to build the positive profile and success of the project.
7. Contribute to any activities or duties that support and promote the Botanic Garden and its mission.
8. Any other reasonable duties.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

- Specified below are the criteria considered necessary to fulfil the role.
- This information is made openly available to applicants and will form the basis for the recruitment and selection process.
- Only those applicants who meet these criteria adequately will be considered.

	Essential Criteria
1	Educated to at least degree level in a STEM subject area.
2	Have at least 10 years experience in practical beekeeping.
3	Have at least two years' experience of developing, organising, delivering and evaluating training courses.
4	Excellent presentation skills, with the ability to tailor the delivery to a range of audiences.
5	Have a good level of IT literacy including competence in using Microsoft Office applications and virtual learning environments.
6	Show strong organisational skills including record keeping, planning and time management.
7	Experience in leading, organising and recruiting volunteers.
8	Competence in Health and Safety matters relevant to beekeeping, teaching and wildlife gardening.
9	Genuine passion for the mission and purpose of the Garden and enthusiasm for contributing to its success, team spirit, reputation, and ethos.
	Desirable Criteria
10	Fluency in written and spoken Welsh, as well as commitment to the people, language, and culture of Wales.
11	Interest in using new technology and media to facilitate and improve learning.