

Retraining for Horticulturists in Hardship

This important fund assists in the training or re-training of long term career horticulturists looking to regain suitable employment within the industry or to pursue alternatives following adverse circumstances such as an accident or ill health.

A gardener who had worked all her life in horticulture found in her early 40s that she was unable to continue with the physical work as she had early onset rheumatoid arthritis. Grants from this fund enabled her to retrain and she started her new career teaching others horticulture.



Image posed by model



© John Whitaker



© Jacqui Hurst

When the head of a family run nursery became too ill to continue it was feared the business would close. However, Perennial granted a Sons and Daughters Bursary to their eldest daughter which covered fees and accommodation costs, resulting in her being able to train at a recognised horticultural college and keep the family business going.

How to Apply

Bursary application forms, including full details of qualifying criteria, are available on request from:

**Services Department
Perennial
115/117 Kingston Road
Leatherhead
Surrey
KT22 7SU**

Telephone | **0800 093 8543**

Email | **training@perennial.org.uk**

Download the form at **www.perennial.org.uk/training**

Hardship Bursary applicants will also be required to submit an accompanying letter from an independent professional source confirming their circumstances and may be visited by a member of our professional casework team.

For placements, please apply directly to the appropriate garden which is providing the training.

Enquiry Line | **0800 093 8510**
Casework Advice Line | **0800 093 8543**
Debt Advice Line | **0800 093 8546**
Twitter | **@PerennialGRBS**
Facebook | **PerennialGRBS**
Website | **www.perennial.org.uk**



www.perennial.org.uk



Please scan code to visit our website

The Lironi Training Fund

Bursaries for horticultural students and horticulturists



www.perennial.org.uk

Perennial, 115-117 Kingston Road, Leatherhead, Surrey, KT22 7SU

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Perennial's Lironi Training Fund was established in 2009 with the support of a generous legacy from the late Miss Joan Lironi.

Recognising the need to encourage and retain horticultural excellence, the charity is making a long-term contribution to the horticultural sector through the funding of a number of training initiatives.

In keeping with the charity's aims the initiatives are available to students, and in some cases those working in horticulture, who for whatever reason, are in need of financial support for training that is not available from any statutory source.

Placement scheme

In a bid to encourage young talent in horticulture we have established a fund that will give horticultural students access to a fully funded work placement scheme.

Working in partnership with gardens renowned for their horticultural excellence, Perennial funds a number of one- or two-year traineeships which provide hands-on work experience together with horticultural qualifications which together will enhance their career prospects.

The trainees are employed and therefore earn while they learn. Examples of placements include Cambridge University and Bristol University Botanic Gardens.



© Marcus Harpur



Matthew Bufton (pictured above) of Bristol Zoo Gardens was granted an award to attend the World Association of Zoological Horticulture Conference in Florida.



George Fisk, first apprentice at Fullers Mill Garden.

Traineeships offered at both York Gate and Fullers Mill Gardens

Currently Perennial offers apprenticeships at both York Gate and Fullers Mill Gardens. The practical training lasts approximately eighteen months and leads to a horticultural qualification. It is an ideal opportunity for a young person wishing to work in the historic and/or conservation gardening sector.

York Gate Garden in Adel on the outskirts of Leeds is regarded as one of the world's best small gardens and has recently undergone extensive improvement works to its facilities.

Fullers Mill Garden, situated on the banks of the River Lark near Bury St Edmunds, is a horticulturally distinguished woodland garden gifted to Perennial in 2013 by its owner Bernard Tickner.

Grant Awards for Short Courses

Administered by the Professional Gardeners' Guild Trust, applications are invited from those who require additional qualifications or training in order to progress their career.

Horticulturists seeking funding, for example to gain a chainsaw licence or a pesticide certificate or to attend a specialist seminar or conference, can find more information about this newly established fund by emailing: training@perennial.org.uk.

Sons & Daughters Bursaries

These Bursaries are available to full-time horticultural students who are themselves the sons or daughters of working or retired horticulturists.

The ethos behind the Bursaries is that, because they work in a low-paid industry, horticulturists often find it difficult to fully support their children's training.

For current information on the size of bursary that is available please look at the training pages on our website.

Applicant Criteria

- Under 40 years of age
- Undertaking a full-time horticultural course at a recognised institution
- Demonstrates a genuine commitment to horticulture
- One or both parents employed in horticulture for 15+ years at commencement date of course (22.5 years if retired)
- Parents or applicant (if no longer dependent upon parents) meet financial criteria.

Hardship Bursaries

These Bursaries were established to help existing horticulture students whose ability to continue with their studies has been jeopardised by the effects that death, disease or disaster have had on them or their families.

Where a Hardship Bursary is approved, assistance will normally be provided in the form of a one-off grant.

Please note that these Bursaries are available only to students experiencing exceptional, unforeseen hardship, and not to those who simply have insufficient means to continue with their studies.

Applicant Criteria

- Undertaking a full-time or substantial part-time horticulture course of at least one year's duration at a recognised institution
- Income restricted to student loan, student type earnings and/or parental subsidy
- No parent or partner in a position to offer alternative financial help
- Financial need must be related to some adverse event beyond the applicant's control
- This event must not have been foreseeable prior to commencement of the course
- Preference given to those students supplying evidence of a genuine commitment to horticulture.