

# **HILL CLOSE GARDENS, WARWICK**

## **HEAD GARDENER**

### **HILL CLOSE GARDENS TRUST**

Hill Close Gardens are listed as Grade II\* by English Heritage and their restoration was supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund, Warwick District Council and other charities. These Victorian gardens are of national historic importance. There are 16 gardens, some with listed brick summerhouses, within the approximately one hectare site. Each garden is being developed to show its historic individuality, much of the work being done by volunteers.

### **JOB PROFILE**

The Head Gardener will be an employee of Hill Close Gardens Trust Limited and will be responsible to the Chairman of the Gardens Team, or such other persons as the Trustees may appoint, and will liaise directly with the garden volunteers. He/she will work a basic 37-hour week, with some flexibility in the hours and days worked. The Head Gardener will organise and carry out the day-to-day running of the gardens in liaison with the Gardens Team.

Duties will include:

1. Ensuring that all the gardens, including nursery and glasshouse, are developed and maintained to a high horticultural standard, working with volunteers
2. Ensuring compliance on site with the Health and Safety at Work Act and ALL relevant legislation
3. Ensuring that the volunteers are adequately trained for the tasks they are asked to perform
4. Advising the Gardens Team of any major works which can be foreseen
5. Conducting specialist tours of the gardens
6. Managing the production of plants for sale and for use in the gardens
7. Maintaining security of the site, materials and equipment and keeping stock lists of same
8. Preparing planting plans for the next season
9. Managing the maintenance budgets of the gardens within the framework laid down by the Gardens Team
10. Liaising with outside organisations
11. Assisting in Trust events
12. Performing such other duties as may be required from time to time

### **PERSON PROFILE**

#### **Qualifications**

Relevant qualifications in horticulture (preferably at HNC level or higher), with appropriate work experience in amenity horticulture, preferably in an historic garden context.

### **Desirable Qualifications**

- “ First aid certification
- “ Membership of professional bodies
- FEPA certification (Use of Pesticides PA1 and PA6)

### **Essential Qualities**

- “ Practical experience and a good knowledge of plants and horticultural techniques, machinery and equipment
- “ Ability to make decisions and sound judgements
- “ Able to lead and motivate others, working with volunteers
- “ Good communication skills
- “ Friendly and outgoing
- “ Self-motivated
- “ Computer literate
- “ Flexible approach to work

### **Desirable Qualities**

- “ Desire to improve own knowledge and skills
- “ Interest in historic gardens
- “ Knowledge and experience of the care of fruit trees

### **Training**

The Trustees will support appropriate training.

## **HEAD GARDENER**

Salary range £24,500 - 28,500 per annum

Send full CV, stating present salary and two referees, to:

Rosemary Mitchell

21 Queen Street, Cubbington

Leamington Spa. CV32 7NB

Or: [rmitchellcubbington@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rmitchellcubbington@yahoo.co.uk)

Closing date: 3 March 2019

Interviews: Friday 15 March 2019

30 January 2019.