

FIONA WOOD

fionauuood@gmail.com; 0044 7599441887; 0044 1297445490

Rhode Hill Gardens, Harcombe Road, Uplyme, Lyme Regis, Dorset, DT7 3UF, UK

EDUCATION

Bsc (Hons.) Environmental Sciences with a year in North America (First Class), University of East Anglia, Norwich with study at the University of Western Ontario, London (Canada); 2005-2009

Final year project on: Species Richness and Community Change during the Regeneration of Calcareous Grassland (Undercliffs National Nature Reserve, Devon)

International Baccalaureate Diploma (42pts.) Exeter College, Exeter; 2002-2004

Higher: Art, Geography, German (7,7,7); Standard: English Literature, Environmental Systems, Mathematical Studies (6,7,7). Received Exeter College's 'IB Student of the Year' award

10 GCSEs (4A*s, 6As), Colyton Grammar School; 1997-2002

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Ecology Centre Education Assistant, Holland Park Ecology Centre, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea; April 2014- May 2015. Led Forest School, environmental education and holiday activity sessions, birthday parties, and open afternoons at the Ecology Centre. Co-led Woodland Explorers Club for 5-10 year olds. Assisted with events run by external contractors. Was responsible for marketing of RBKC Ecology Service events, updating social media, live animal care, developing interpretation and displays for the centre, upkeep of fruit and vegetable garden, compiling programmes, preparing resources and developing new holiday activity sessions. Took bookings for school sessions, centre hire and other Ecology Service events.

Seasonal Education Officer, Holland Park Ecology Centre, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, London; April 2013- March 2014. Led primary school groups in ecological investigations and topics such as pond dipping, mini-beast hunts, learning about trees and nocturnal animals. Led and assisted with Forest School sessions and the holiday activity programme for children aged 5-12 on a variety of themes e.g. bees, trees, fish, amphibians, magpies, survival, natural art, tree trolls, shelter building, invertebrates, harmful and helpful plants. Planned for future holiday activities, cared for the animals, updated social media and other general tasks within the ecology centre. Compiled the 2014 events programme.

Temporary Library Assistant, freelance work for Nature Picture Library Ltd., Bristol; October-November 2012; January-March 2013. Compiled taxonomic hierarchies for plants, birds and Lepidoptera within Excel for a new system to catalogue nature photographs. Used internet taxonomic information systems to source information, identified species where necessary. Made corrections on the Image Management System.

Trainee Education Ranger, Ocombe Farm, Torbay Coast & Countryside Trust; April- October 2012. Planned, prepared and led environmental education activities for schoolchildren ranging from 3-15 years, as well as events for members of the public and a holiday club. Activities included ecological investigations, farm and garden related activities, orienteering, craft, survival skills and cookery. Office work included taking bookings, sending out risk assessments and information regarding visits, completing weekly record sheets, sending out follow-up emails and making interpretative signs. Other tasks included daily and weekly safety checks and caring for the animals.

Skyride Operator, Grouse Mountain Resorts, Vancouver (Canada); November 2010- April 2011. Operated cablecar, kept supervisor informed of weather conditions, schedule and matters regarding safe operation, scanned tickets, gave an informative speech about attractions, scenery, history, safety & weather conditions, answered questions from members of the public, housekeeping at base

Shop Assistant & Waitress, River Cottage Stores Ltd., Axminster, Devon; July 2009- June 2010; Summer 2008

VOLUNTARY WORK

Forest and Farm Volunteer, Bergwaldprojekt and WWOOF (Worldwide Opportunities on Organic Farms) Germany; August- October 2015. Planted over 1000 *Abies alba* trees in the Schwarzwald National Park bark beetle buffer zone together with other Bergwaldprojekt volunteers. Work also included meadow management and protecting trees from predation by deer. Worked as a WWOOFer at an apple orchard in

the Odenwald and a farm specialising in herb walks and donkey trekking in the Schwarzwald. Tasks included picking apples, animal care, gardening, sawing wood, mucking out and drying herbs.

Field Assistant, Institute of Science and Technology, Austria; June 2015- July 2015. Field assistant on a genetic study led by evolutionary biologist Nick Barton on the speciation of *Antirrhinum majus* in the Spanish Pyrenees. Part of a team that collected phenotypic data and samples for DNA analysis of 6000+ individual plants. Prepared field equipment, processed samples for analysis and undertook some community shrub and tree surveys.

Community Programmes Volunteer, Royal Botanical Gardens Kew, London; July 2013- May 2015. Assisted with children's activity programmes on topics such as fungi, edible plants, medicinal plants and field research. Explained hands-on fungi exhibits to both adults and children.

Greenpeace Volunteer, West London and Camden Local Greenpeace Groups, London; September 2013-May 2015. Attended meetings and events as a member of these two Greenpeace groups. Wrote transcripts of interviews with one of the Arctic 30 and Greenpeace's lead lawyer.

Assistant Brownie Leader and Young Leader, Paignton, Uplyme, Norwich and London (Canada); April-October 2012; 2003-2009. Planned and carried out a varied weekly programme for the girls in co-operation with other leaders, as well as assisting on pack holidays.

Work on Organic Farms and at Cathedral Lakes Lodge, B.C. (Canada) & Everglades Hostel and Tours, Florida (U.S.A.); July-November 2011; January 2012. 4-7 hours a day as a WWOOFer or helpxer (www.helpx.net). Carried out a variety of practical tasks such as fruit & vegetable picking, weeding, watering, preparing vegetables for sale, processing food, moving firewood, caring for animals, housekeeping, baking.

Volunteer, Churchill Northern Studies Centre, Manitoba (Canada); April-July 2011. Cleaned drywall dust from the newly built subarctic environmental/ecological studies centre, washed dishes, helped with the move and housekeeping, provided some assistance to researchers.

Garden Volunteer, Magdalen Project, Winsham, Somerset; January-June 2010. Alongside a team of regular volunteers completed tasks in the garden including weeding, planting out, sowing, tree planting, fence building, picking (weekly).

Education Ranger, Plantlife International, UK; Spring 2010. Ran and organised plant reminiscence sessions for elderly people (weekly), carried out a plant ID session for school children.

Kitchen Volunteer, The Greenhouse Trust, Norwich; 2005-2007; 2008-2009 (term-time). Cooked, baked, prepped, cleaned, washed dishes and waitressed at this environmental charity run café selling local and organic food (weekly).

Naturalist and Guide, Bristol Bioblitz, Bristol; June 2009. Took groups of school children and members of the public around and helped them to identify wild plants.

INTERESTS

Conserving, experiencing and photographing nature and the outdoors (was a member of London Natural History Society and UEA Conservation and Wildlife Society), long distance hiking, experiencing different cultures, ways of life and environments, slow travel- completed a journey around the world without flying (July 2010- February 2012), environment and sustainability issues, campaigning, baking, gardening, craft, learning languages, playing musical instruments, attending lectures and reading (on environment and ecology).

SKILLS/OTHER

- Attended 'Phase 1 Habitat Survey Course' and 'Ecological Survey Techniques', Acorn Ecology
- Attended many ecology and environmental education related courses in London including 'Bryophyte ID', 'Bee ID', 'Working with School Groups', 'Knowing Native Trees and Shrubs'
- Work well in a team, although able to work well independently and organise own tasks
- Hardworking, enthusiastic, reliable, conscientious, good organisational skills
- Competent in computer use
- BTEC Level 3 Advanced Award in Forest School Leadership, Level 2 Work-based Diploma in Environmental Conservation
- First Aid at Work Certificate valid until September 2017