

# THE DIANA AITCHISON FUND

**The Diana Aitchison Fund provides grants to be awarded annually to assist in the education of young people who have an interest in alpine plants and who want to follow a career in horticulture.**

## **PURPOSE**

To permit or help young people who are looking to make a career in horticulture to further their knowledge of alpinism. Eligible expenses include: course fees and materials, living expenses, outlay in respect of placements at establishments of gardening excellence, such as botanic gardens, colleges or nurseries, in the UK or overseas.

- Priority will be given to applications from students following courses lasting one or more years. However, applications for placement periods, single events or short courses will also be considered;
- Particular attention will be paid to an applicant's knowledge of, and interest in, alpinism;
- Preference will be given to applicants with a UK element, e.g. a UK-based student, or a student attending a UK establishment;
- A personal contribution toward the cost of any course would be expected from any recipient.
- Funds will **not** be available for expeditions, botanical trips or tours, conferences or associated research.

Diana Aitchison was a keen gardener and plantswoman who set up and ran her own nursery at Spindleston, near Belford, Northumberland. She left a generous sum in her will to be used to help young people further their careers in gardening, particularly in respect of alpine plants. This resulted in the establishment of The Diana Aitchison Fund, to be maintained and administered by the Scottish Rock Garden Club. The reports submitted by recipients of grants to SRGC Council are greatly valued.

*As a guide to applicants, a list of the value of grants awarded from 2006 to 2009 and for what purpose is given on page 2 of this information sheet.*

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS See website : <http://www.srgc.net/site/index.php/extensions/grants>**

Further information and application form can be obtained from:  
**The Diana Aitchison Fund Administrator: Matthew Topsfield**

**12 Rhugashinish, Isle of South Uist HS8 5PE**

**Telephone: 07775 812036 Email: [mtopsfield@icloud.com](mailto:mtopsfield@icloud.com)**

Or

**The SRGC website: [www.srgc.net](http://www.srgc.net)**

## **THE SCOTTISH ROCK GARDEN CLUB**

REGISTERED CHARITY SCO 00942 VAT NO. 345067851

## **Grants awarded from 2006 to 2009 - shown as an example.**

### **2009**

Study at RBG and other Nurseries/gardens	£1,500
Study at RBG and other Nurseries/gardens	£1,500
Work Experience at Explorers, Pitcairn Alpines	£1,000
Fund books for College work	£2,000
Help with Expenses whilst getting work experience at RBG Kew Alpine Dept.	£800

### **2008**

Study at RBG and other Nurseries/gardens	£1,500
Study at RBG and other Nurseries/gardens	£1,500
Towards expenses whilst studying for RHS Advance Certificate	£600
Herbarium Training – Horticultural experience relating to Meconopsis at RBGE	£400
Work Experience at Explorers, Pitcairn Alpines and RBG Edinburgh	£1,500

### **2007**

Placement at Istanbul Botanic Garden	£650
Placement at Istanbul Botanic Garden	£650
Help with expenses whilst at Dunedin Botanic Garden, New Zealand for 1 yr	£1,750
Work experience at Kevock Gardens	£1,250

### **2006**

Towards Expenses whilst studying for RHS Certificate in Horticulture	£300
Higher HND in Plantsmanship – Meconopsis seed storage	£2,000
Work experience at Harlow Carr	£300
Study at RBG and other Nurseries/gardens	£1,000
Study at RBG and other Nurseries/gardens	£1,000