

Volunteer gardener wins NTS award

The National Trust for Scotland have honoured a volunteer in the gardens department with a Volunteer of the Year award at a ceremony in Edinburgh.



Lesley Cumming from Edinburgh contributes to the conservation charity through her archives and cataloguing role in the department, based at the Trust's Edinburgh office. Her work has led to the Trust developing a greater understanding of its heritage gardens, by cataloguing papers from storage and ensuring that the information held in these is accessible to future researchers.

Lesley's enthusiasm and hard work were recognised in her nomination, which noted: "Lesley has donated hundreds of hours to the Trust and her continued contribution to the Gardens and Designed Landscapes Service enables staff to carry out their work more efficiently, complete projects which enhance information and deliver a higher quality service to gardens."

Volunteer of the Year Awards were presented in categories including gardens, groups, support, outdoor conservation and properties, representing the breadth of volunteer work for the National Trust for Scotland across the country, in conserving and promoting Scotland's heritage.

The award was presented by National Trust for Scotland Chief Executive Simon Skinner at a special event in October.

Mr Skinner said: "Volunteers are a vital force in protecting Scotland's heritage, devoting their time and talent to our charity and the wonderful places in our care. I want to say

thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers who play such an important role in our support services and at every National Trust for Scotland site across the country.”

The National Trust for Scotland has around 4000 volunteers who play a key role in keeping Scotland’s heritage alive. For more information about volunteering opportunities visit: <http://www.nts.org.uk/Volunteering/>.