

CURRICULUM VITAE

PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: Geoff Hodge BSc (Hons), MI Hort
Date of Birth: November 9, 1958
Marital Status: Single
Health/Disabilities: Good/None
Address: 22 Mead Close, Walton, Peterborough PE4 6BS
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CAREER HISTORY

Education & Qualifications

Oct 77 - Jun 81 University of Reading
Degree Subject: Agricultural Botany.
Awarded Lower Second Class BSc (Hons).

Sep 70 - Jul 77 Cantonian High School, Cardiff
9 0 levels: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics,
English Language, English Literature, French, Latin,
Geography.
4 A levels: Biology (A), Chemistry (A),
Physics (C), Pure and Applied Mathematics (E).

Full-time Employment

Sep 2009 – present GardenForum Horticulture
Self-employed garden writer, broadcaster & PR

Apr 2001 – Sep 2009 Royal Horticultural Society
Web Editor of RHS Online (www.rhs.org.uk)

Apr 2000 - Apr 2001 EMAP, Peterborough
Online Editor of grogro.com; RHS e-commerce
website

Dec 99 - Apr 2000 EMAP, Peterborough
Gardening Editor of *Garden Answers*

Jun 98 - Dec 99 EMAP, Peterborough
Deputy Editor/Gardening Editor of *Garden News*

Dec 97 - Jun 98 EMAP, Peterborough
Acting Editor of *Garden News*

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| Apr 97 - Dec 97 | EMAP, Peterborough Deputy Editor/Gardening Editor of <i>Garden News</i> |
| Apr 94 - Apr 97 | EMAP, Peterborough Gardening Editor of <i>Garden News</i> |
| Nov 93 - Apr 94 | EMAP, Peterborough Technical Editor of <i>Garden News</i> |
| Oct 90 - Oct 93 | EMAP, Peterborough Technical Writer of <i>Garden Answers</i> magazine |
| Nov 84 - Sep 90 | Sussex Country Gardens, Kingston Near Lewes, East Sussex Manager of independent garden centre |
| Jan 84 - Oct 84 | Beacon Garden Centres Ltd, Maidenhead, Berks Plant Manager at Handcross Garden Centre |
| Sep 83 - Dec 83 | Beacon Garden Centres Ltd, Maidenhead, Berks Trainee Manager at Chichester Garden Centre |
| Jan 82 - Aug 83 | Self-employed gardener/grower |
| Oct 79 - Oct 80 | Agricultural Research Council's, Weed Research Organisation, Yarnton, Oxon Intercalated year working on my own research project, <i>Reseeding Gaps in Grassland Pasture</i> , and assisting with other research |
| Jul 78 - Oct 78 | Grassland Research Institute, Hurley, Berks Vacation assistant in the Botany Department helping with research projects |
| Dec 77 - Feb 78 | Case Bros (Florists), Cardiff Vacation job packing and delivering Christmas orders |
| Jul 77 - Sep 77 | Case Bros. (Florists), Cardiff Vacation job working on houseplant nursery and carrying out interior and exterior landscaping |

Freelance employment & other activities

I have had my own freelance company, GardenForum Horticulture, for more than 15 years. I provide writing, editing, authoring, newsletter and catalogue production, website set-up, production, writing and editing, video presenting, PR and other services to websites, magazines, newsletters and the commercial gardening trade.

I have written three books (*Practical Gardener Bulbs*, Collins; *Pruning*, Crowood Press; *RHS Allotment Handbook*, Mitchell Beazley due spring 2010), contributed to two books (*Flora*, Cassell; *Making Gardens*, Cassell) as well as being Technical Editor for Quantum Publishing on three book titles.

I write the technical hints & tips and am one of the experts for Garden Radio – the in-house, messaging and music system for garden centres.

I am one of the gardening correspondent for BBC Radio Cambridgeshire and I am a regular guest (monthly) on Radio Essex' *Gardening Plus* programme.

I present *Garden Bargains* on Ideal World TV. For six years I was one of the regular presenters on *Gardeners' Diary* TV programme, which was networked to ITV regions and Sky TV.

I am a Committee member of the Garden Media Guild and was the Chairman from 2000-2003. I am currently the Guild's Newsletter and Yearbook Production Editor and Web Editor (www.gardenmediaguild.co.uk).

I am a regular member of various gardening question times panels at large flower shows as well as smaller shows.

I give lectures to garden clubs and horticultural societies on a variety of subjects and am on the Royal Horticultural Society's Register of Speakers.

TRAINING

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| April 2008 | Adobe InDesign CS3 |
| March 2007 | Microsoft Content Management Server |
| April 2001 | Macromedia Dreamweaver 4.0 |
| February 2001 | Adobe Photoshop 6.0 |
| October 99 | etc: The Editor as People Manager |
| February 97 | KMP Training: Managing the Team |
| June 93 | Teeline Shorthand (60 words per minute) |
| February 92 | NCTJ: Writing for a Market |
| January 90 | ATB: Effective Management A |
| September 89 | ATB: Interviewing |
| July 89 | ATB: Effective Supervision B |
| November 88 | ATB: Staff Development & Training |
| October 88 | ATB: Leadership Skills |
| October 88 | ATB: Effective Supervision A |
| 1990 - 2000 | Various in-house EMAP training courses on all aspects of journalism – from news and feature writing to DTP and writing for the web. |