Gilbert White youth award winner

George Garnett is 17 years old and has a real passion for plants. He lives on Guernsey, not the easiest of places for scientists around the world to get to, so he wants to get the Guernsey herbarium digitised so others can access it. He also has his own herbarium and is currently helping update the island checklists and curating the herbarium there. A feat for anyone, let alone a 17 year old.

He is a keen photographer and posts his plant photos on Flickr with GPS data so they can be used by generations to come.

In 2015 he took his skills overseas to volunteer with the Crees Foundation in Peru and photographed some plants rarely recorded there. His passion is infectious and he is always keen to share his knowledge. He encouraged his team mates in Peru to get into plant recording and he's going to now use his photos to make some ID cards for future field work out there so others can learn too.

He shares his knowledge and passion on Twitter and is always happy to help others with plant knowledge. He is clearly talented at identification, biological recording and outreach – the biological community is lucky to have him.

Gilbert White (1720 - 1793) is remembered in these awards because his name is synonymous with biological recording. He was one of the first English naturalists to make careful observations of his surroundings and record these observations in a systematic way. He transformed the way we look at the natural world and is recognised as one of the fathers of ecology.