

### **Invertebrate Sandwich Placement:**

Bristol Zoo Gardens' invertebrate collection consists of three key areas: *Dryococelus australis* (The Lord Howe island stick insect), we are the only zoo outside of Australia to hold this species, they are a reservoir population and we are working to understand more about their life-history. The Madeiran islands: holding *Hogna ingens* (The Desertas wolf spider) and several Madeiran Snail species, working with teams in Madeira to understand their breeding. Finally, the *Partula* Snails: Holding 6 different species all of which are classed as Extinct in the Wild by the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™.

Our invertebrate team are lucky enough to work with and be responsible for one of the rarest collections of invertebrates, being one of only a handful of collections to care for and research the species held here. We also have strong links with in-situ and ex-situ conservation programmes including the long standing *Partula* snail project, but we are also involved in the establishment of newer projects and programmes, including *Hogna ingens* (The Desertas wolf spider) and *Dryococelus australis* (The Lord Howe island stick insect). We will be expanding our collection to include more critically endangered species including native species. We are also privileged to hold three of the five European invertebrate studbooks at Bristol Zoo Gardens! This is a fantastic opportunity to be involved with one of the leading invertebrate collections in Europe, gaining ever expanding knowledge and skills associated with these challenging and admirable animals. As a sandwich placement student, you would be fully integrated into the daily routines and procedures of the section, learning the fundamentals of our husbandry and life support systems.

### **Summary:**

To assist the team with all necessary tasks; including animal husbandry, display development, breeding and rearing and general maintenance. You would have the opportunity to use your time here to focus on a specific area of research relevant to your chosen degree course, although that may depend on sectional requirements at the time.

### **Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:**

- Daily maintenance of the displays/animals (such as: water parameter monitoring, water changes, life support care, feeding) as well as helping ensure the cleanliness of public areas.
- Live food culturing.
- Long term display enhancement and developments to keep high standards of health and welfare.
- Welfare audits and research.

### **Skills/qualifications**

- You must be a biology, zoology or related discipline honours degree student, between their 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years of university.
- You will have a strong interest in invertebrates, a thirst for knowledge and dedication.



### **Term commitment**

This sandwich placement will begin in September 2026. It is expected that the student will remain in post for at least nine months.

**If you are interested, please complete the application form below and send this, along with a CV, to [research@bzsociety.org.uk](mailto:research@bzsociety.org.uk). Please put 'Invertebrate Section Placement' along with your full name in the title of the email. The application deadline is Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025 with interviews occurring in the subsequent weeks.**

Please note that as we are a charity, we cannot offer paid placements or accommodation. Please ensure that you are able to fund yourself during this period.

**Work Experience / Student Placement Application Form**

Personal Details	
<b>Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Telephone number</b>	
<b>School / College</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Emergency Contact &amp; Relationship</b>	
<b>Telephone number</b>	

**Application Questions**

**Why would you like to complete a sandwich placement with Bristol Zoological Society?**

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**What learning objectives would you like to meet during your placement? How does this fit with your school / course requirements?**

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**Please describe a time when you have worked as part of a team. What did you enjoy about this?**

**What achievement are you most proud of and why?**

**Other Relevant Information**

**Please use this space to provide any further information in support of your application. (E.g. other relevant skills/experience/interests)**

**Signature**

**Date**