

[M25 SpeedMeet](#)

November 2025

**Alison Mackenzie, Research Support Librarian, RHS Libraries**



- **Who are you, where are you based and what do you do?**

My name is Alison Mackenzie, Research Support Librarian at the RHS Libraries (Royal Horticultural Society). I am based at the RHS Library at Wisley Garden but also regularly visit and work with the Lindley Library team in London. I work with RHS students both those based at the RHS gardens and those that study remotely, RHS Staff and RHS Research in various Science departments and across the organization. I also work closely with our external researchers

- **What do you most enjoy about your job?**

I enjoy the fact that I can help people find the information they need – whether it is contemporary scientific or historical information from our collections. I like dealing with a range of people from research staff, students and RHS members as well as external researchers. I really enjoy delving into the RHS Heritage collection for my own research. I don't have a horticultural background, so every day is a learning day.

- **What motivates you in your work?**

I am motivated by continual learning, be it myself or colleagues or students. I come from a teaching setting and I think that old habits die hard!

- **How is the M25 Consortium supporting you in your career?**

It's fabulous being a part of the M25 Consortium. My favourite benefit is definitely the free CPD visits to other libraries – seeing how other organisations do things and having access to libraries that you never would as a member of the general public. This also allows for networking and getting to know staff from other libraries – often in different fields – is so valuable.

It was also great to have the opportunity to attend (and present a lightning talk) at the 'in-person' [M25 Consortium Annual Conference in June 2025](#) – such a worthwhile event.

- **What would it surprise people to know about you?**

I am a keen footballer and have been involved in the women's game for many years. My 'career' highlight would be representing Western Australia in the World Masters Competition in New Zealand in 2019. I currently play in the Thames Valley League for a Woking club – a slightly different pace!

- **Complete the sentence: If I wasn't working in a library I would be..... because .....**

If I wasn't working in a library, I would be travelling the world because what better way to spend time than seeing the world?