

Joseph Hooker appointed as new director!

Despite going through a hard time being unwealthy and being a surgeon in the Navy, he has come far way today as Joseph has been claimed as the new director of Kew!

He was only seven when Joseph started to realize he wanted to be a botanist. He was born-and-bred in Halesworth and he grew up and became a surgeon in the Navy, he still had a passion for plants; he went on several expeditions from the Antarctic to the Himalayas of India in 1839 to 1843. But he was imprisoned by the Rajah as he was going into parts of land where he should not have.

Having travelled the world, he was able to collect 7,000 plant species including 25 new rhododendron. Joseph Hooker discovered many different species of plants and flowers, such as: roses, as red as blood; daffodils, yellow like the sun; and daisies.

He went further than anyone had before, he was determined to find new species of plants. Joseph Hooker also illustrated the flowers in the book he wrote with George Bentham and it took 25 years to publish. In 1877 he covered 8,000 miles for an expedition.

Joseph Dalton Hooker is a great man and a pioneer for all. And he deserves to be known as illustrious. If you could find the time to visit Kew Gardens and possibly meet Joseph Hooker, please do.

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