

# LANDSCAPE & URBAN DESIGN

56

Jul/Aug 2022

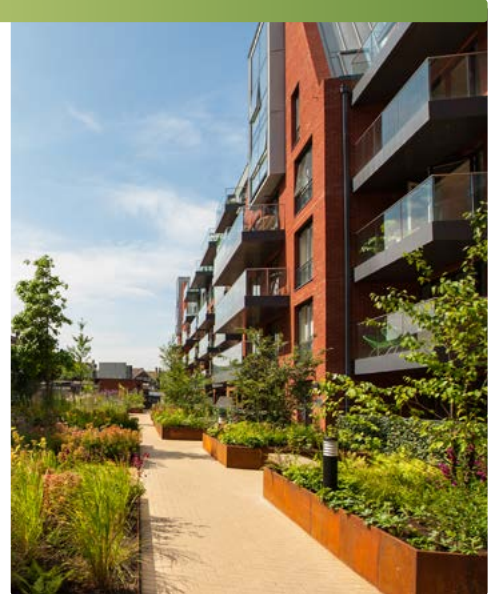
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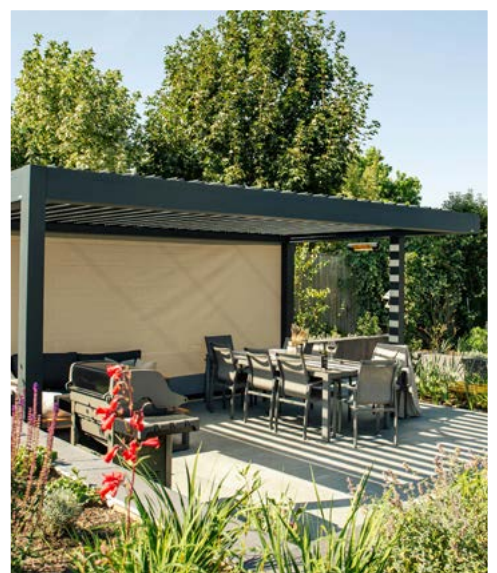
## The Perennial 'With Love' garden by Richard Miers

The garden's main avenue appearance is a first for both the 183-year old charity and the designer



## Flourishing green spaces

Green spaces in both Residential  
and Commercial projects



## A beginner's guide to landscaping

What to consider when designing  
your garden





HD Deck® 3D shown in Weathered Oak

HD Deck® 3D is double-sided  
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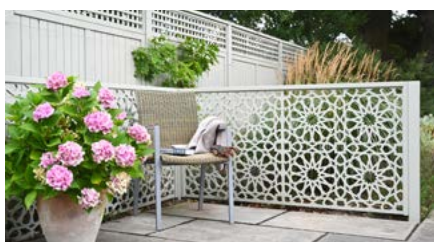


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Award (Show  
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MEDITE® SMARTPLY® showcased its sustainable and innovative product range in the 'Building the Future' garden at the Chelsea Flower Show 2022. Partnering with acclaimed garden designer Sarah Eberle, the garden won two prestigious awards: Gold and Best Construction Award (Show Garden). The garden was themed around sustainability and the multiple applications and versatility of MEDITE® SMARTPLY® products. MEDITE® SMARTPLY® is committed to manufacturing products that contribute to sustainable building.

The revolutionary MEDITE® TRICOYA® EXTREME (MTX) was the centrepiece of the garden structure. MTX is an innovative panel that has taken the construction, landscaping and design world by storm. Guaranteed for up to 50 years in the face of the elements and 25 years below ground, this high performance wood-based panel is incredibly versatile and can be used for planters, garden rooms, sculptures, playgrounds, building façades, furniture; your imagination is the only limit!

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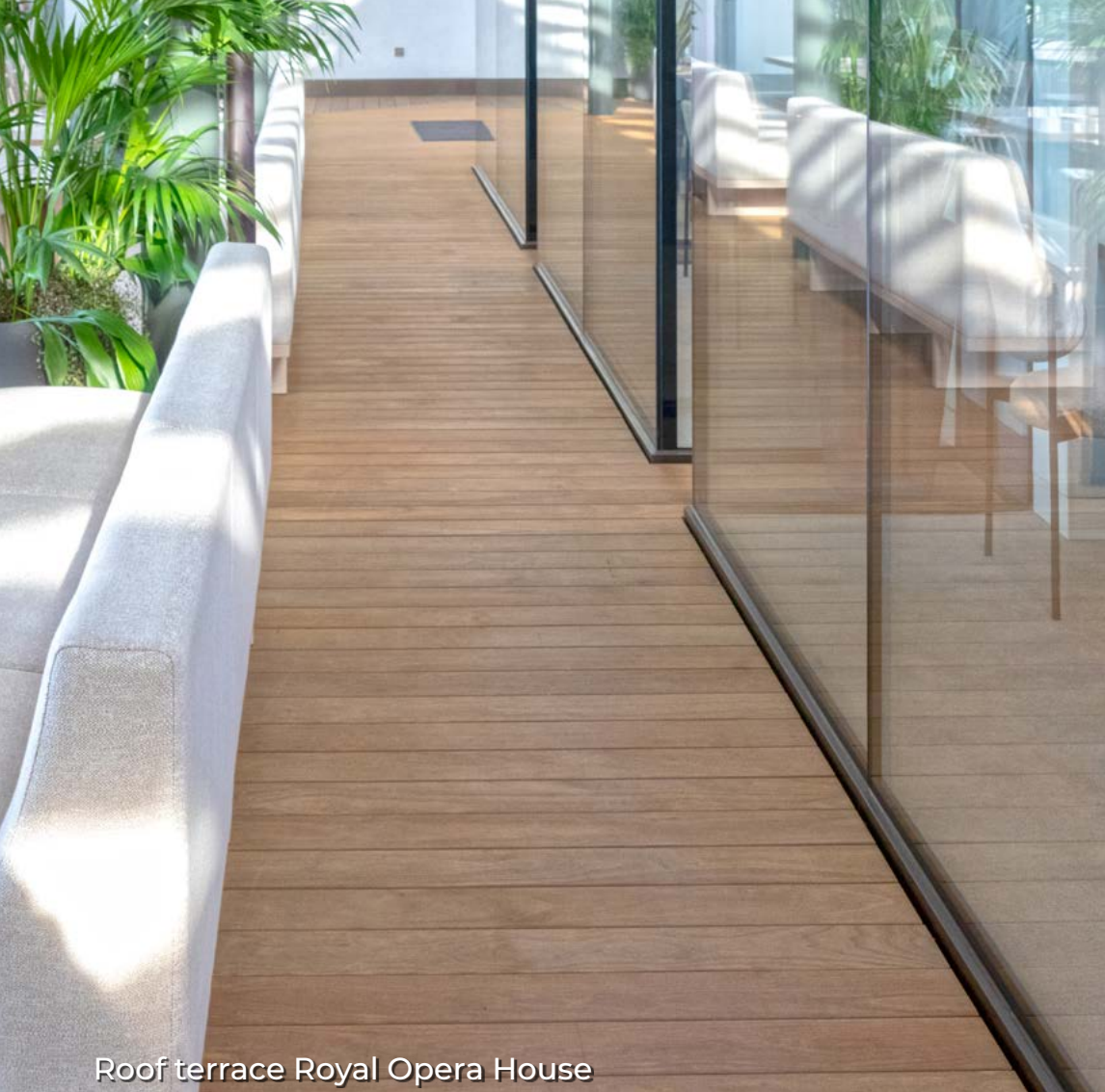


To find out more about the MEDITE SMARTPLY Building the Future garden and the products used, please visit: [mdfosb.com/garden](https://mdfosb.com/garden)

**Dreamers welcome!**

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Roof terrace Royal Opera House



# INVISIBLE-FIX DECKING FOR RAPID INSTALLATION AND AN EXCEPTIONAL FINISH

**Leaders in the supply and installation of external decking, The Outdoor Deck Company, presents Grad® - an invisible-fix clip-based system for the rapid installation of flawless, 'hidden-fix', screw-free decking.**

Great to look at and easy to work with, Grad® is an efficient and economical choice for decked areas of any size, from domestic to large commercial and residential installations.

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The uniqueness of Grad® derives from its patented clip system, which allows decks to be installed up to 50% faster than traditional installation methods. Despite resisting 300Kgs of

uplift, individual boards can be easily removed without damage to itself or surrounding boards.

## **Board options to suit every project**

The Outdoor Deck Company supplies a wide range of compatible boards including Thermoash, Bamboo and a Class B fire-rated composite. Pre-mounted clips ensure perfect alignment, and along with other components, boast firm eco-credentials consisting of 100% recycled and recyclable material.

## **See Grad® in action**

Grad® can be seen in various commercial settings, including Battersea Power Station and the

Royal Opera House, demonstrating the versatility of this innovative system.

Already taking the industry by storm, Grad® is set to become one of the most sought-after decking products in the external flooring space - as designers and architects continue to look for ways to deliver exceptional results, in a fraction of the time.

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Millboard's Weathered Oak Embered

# PATHS ARE A KEY ELEMENT OF EXCELLENT DESIGN

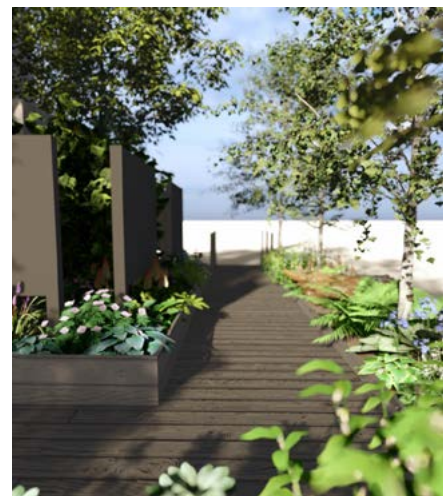
Pathways are one of the key elements of a garden so it's important to get the design, choice of materials and installation right. A path needs to be functional but is also an essential design element that can enhance a garden space. The rise of garden design shows and TV programmes has led to homeowners increasingly seeing their gardens as experiences and spaces to be explored, and the path is an integral part of that.

## The shape of the path

The shape of a path is often dictated by its purpose and the style and size of garden. At RHS Chelsea this year,

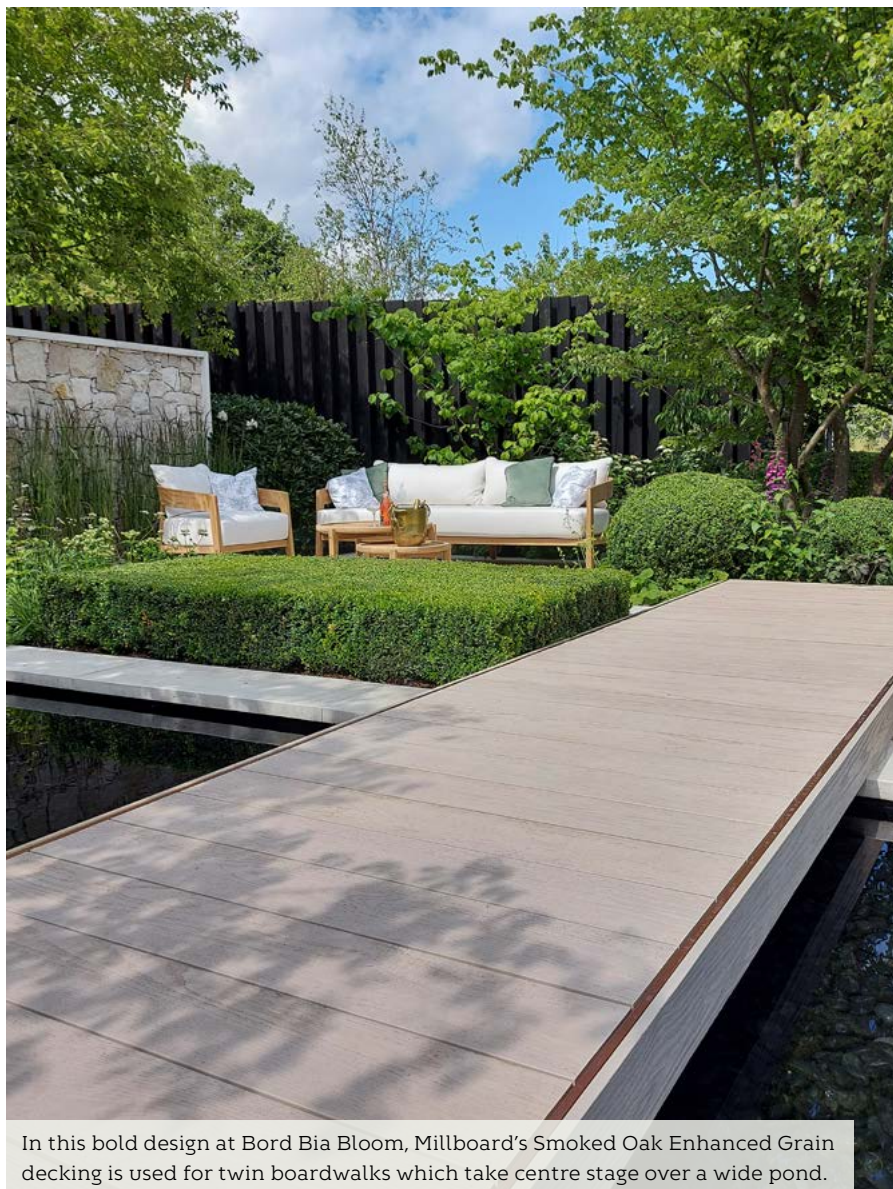
there was a definite trend towards the wild and the natural with organic curving pathways edged with native plants. Millboard's Weathered Oak Embered was chosen by landscape architect Dave Green for his Platinum Jubilee tribute to The Queen. The accessible deck walkway flowed around his woodland themed garden, the dark shades of the Embered boards perfectly complementing the deep glossy greens of the shady planting.

A sharp contrast was provided at the Bord Bia Bloom festival in Ireland. Here, the category winner for large gardens, 'Hit Pause', designed by Andrew Christopher Dunne, used



Millboard's Weathered Oak Embered set amongst a woodland inspired planting scheme at RHS Chelsea





In this bold design at Bord Bia Bloom, Millboard's Smoked Oak Enhanced Grain decking is used for twin boardwalks which take centre stage over a wide pond.

and warps far less than natural timber, while still providing a totally authentic wood look. Maintenance-wise, all it requires is an occasional brush and wash with soapy water to keep it looking good, rather than the regular sanding and oiling that timber requires.

The amazing likeness to real wood is achieved through the boards being created in a range of different moulds taken from carefully selected timbers and then hand coloured.

**The elements**

Just as important, though, are practical aspects such as safety in all weather conditions, especially if the path is likely to get heavy use. Millboard is highly slip resistant and is often used in public spaces with heavy footfall because of this.

When Kew Gardens needed a low-maintenance, high contact surface for the extensive walkways in its children's garden, they chose Millboard's Weathered Oak Embered and Enhanced Grain Burnt Cedar because of its durability and slip resistant properties, as well as its natural aesthetic.

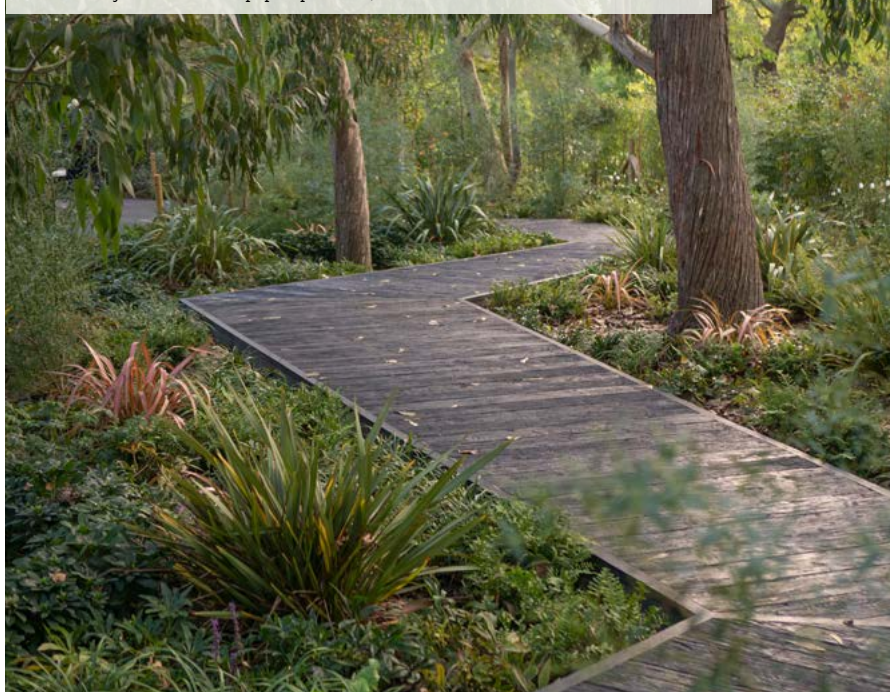
twin dead-straight boardwalks in the pale tones of Millboard's Smoked Oak Enhanced Grain to take the visitor over a wide pond. The clean lines used helped to create a sense of drama.

Even though the shapes of the paths in each case are very different, the over-arching feeling achieved by both gardens is calmness and tranquillity.

**Materials matter**

Whether it's the crunch of gravel, solidity of paving stones or the springy firmness of a decking board underfoot, it's important that the materials used fit with the style of house and garden. Composite decking such as Millboard's is becoming increasingly popular because it is rot-resistant and fades

Kew Gardens chose Millboard's Weathered Oak Embered its durability and anti-slip properties, as well as its natural aesthetic.







The pale tones of Millboard's Enhanced Grain Limed Oak are perfect for the surrounds of a pool - paler colours are cooler underfoot on warm days.

### Paths around water

A path that will stand the test of time is near the top of most people's priorities, whether it is a residential or commercial project. Therefore, paths around water need particular consideration because of the effect water can have on the material used - tiles or pavers can be slippery when wet, for example, and timber can rot over time. Paths around swimming pools need to perform well with constant exposure to water. Millboard is a good choice because, unlike other composite

decking, it contains no wood - its polymer resin construction means that it doesn't rot, splinter or warp. For paths that actually extend over water, the material used for the supporting structure is as important as that used for the path itself. Here Millboard's Plas Pro is ideal; being made of recycled plastic, it provides a stable support that is impervious to water damage.

### Power of the path

Paths play a central role in determining how all the other

elements of a garden are enjoyed and are used over and over again, so getting them right is important. A combination of good looks, durability and slip resistance in all weathers is the aim; get this right and a garden's appeal will be immeasurably enhanced. Never underestimate the power of the path!

[millboard.co.uk](http://millboard.co.uk)





# Nature enhanced, for unreal results.

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# TWO SIMPLE SOLUTIONS FOR WATERPROOFING GARDEN DECKING PROJECTS

The last two years have had a huge impact on how homeowners relate to, interact with, and utilise every space of their homes - including their gardens. As consumers everywhere continue to re-evaluate where and how they spend their time, outdoor living has never had a brighter moment in the spotlight.

Creating gardens that are an extension of the home, multifunctional and easy to maintain is one of the best investments you can make in a property. This is where having a great deck comes in.

Whether you build with timber or with one of today's high-performance composite deck boards, such as Trex®, it's important to properly protect the decking substructure to ensure it stays structurally sound. In most cases, foundational posts and bearers are made of timber and, therefore, highly susceptible to moisture penetration and deterioration over time. In fact, research has shown that timber can show signs of splitting, rotting or decay in as little as eight years.\*

Fortunately, there is a simple and affordable solution for protecting your work and your clients' garden investments. Using a good deck flashing tape is an easy and cost-effective way to build a quality deck that is guaranteed to last for decades.



There are two primary options for protective flashing tapes - asphalt-based and butyl tapes. Although asphalt-based tape is generally less expensive, it tends to dry out more quickly and can curl up and hold water. It can also take up to 72 hours to fully bond. Since acrylic tapes don't withstand water as well, they typically come with short-term warranties or no warranty at all. Acrylic tape can also be slippery, whereas butyl tape, such as Trex® Protect™ Joist, Bearer & Rim Tape, is skid-proof and offers better protection from slips and falls during installation. Butyl tape also applies faster because its sealant secures immediately.





Designed specifically for use on decks, Trex Protect works as a waterproof barrier to effectively shield the tops of joists, rim joists, bearers and the ledger board from moisture that can lead to the development of rot and timber decay. Available in three widths - 50 mm x 20 m for joists, 100 mm x 20 m for bearers and 279.4mm x 15.24m for rim joists - it works on horizontal and vertical surfaces and is applied as a 'cap' (vs. wrapping) directly on top of joists and bearers, which allows the timber to breathe.

The peel-and-stick application is simple and requires almost no trimming. Furthermore, the butyl adhesive is super sticky, yet pliable, which allows it to create a tight seal around fasteners to prevent water from infiltrating screw holes and defend against splitting that can result from seasonal freezing and thawing. It doesn't dry out or curl up like other construction tapes and performs extremely well in a wide range of temperatures. Plus, it comes with a 20-year warranty.

"Moisture is any deck's worst enemy, making it critical to educate homeowners about the importance of protecting their deck's substructure at the outset of a build—something they may not always think about since the substructure isn't the focal point of a deck," said Dave Kile, National Sales Manager for Trex Protect. "By recommending and using protective flashing tape on all of your deck builds, you're not only helping to ensure the quality and long-term safety of your projects, but you're







also protecting your customers' investments by ensuring they won't have to worry about premature wood rot, decay, or deck failure."

For more comprehensive waterproofing, consider installing Trex RainEscape®, a deck drainage system designed for use on elevated decks. Applied above the joists during a deck build, this system uses a flexible membrane material to create a network of troughs and downspouts that captures and diverts water away from a deck to protect the substructure from

moisture and create dry, usable space beneath a deck. The system acts like shingles on a roof to shield the wooden foundation from moisture penetration and damage and can extend the life of a deck and its framing for decades.

Once protected, the area below the deck surface can be used like any room inside a house. Homeowners can add electricity, water and gas lines, as well as furniture, lighting, ceiling fans and entertainment components to create additional outdoor living space. This area also is

ideal for use as bonus storage space for stowing anything from lawn and garden equipment, pool supplies, and off-season patio furniture to bicycles, boats and ATVs. With a deck drainage system in place, the possibilities are limitless for how the space below a deck can be used.

"Happy customers give referrals that can lead to more business, so it's important to provide a quality end product and service they will rave about to their friends and family," noted Kile. "Protecting the substructure with flashing tape or a full deck drainage system exponentially improves the structural integrity and longevity of a deck to ensure customer satisfaction and peace of mind for many years to come."



For more information about Trex Protect deck flashing tape, visit [trexprotect.com/uk/](http://trexprotect.com/uk/). To learn more about the Trex RainEscape system, go to [trexrainscape.com](http://trexrainscape.com).





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# GARDEN DESIGN

Any landscaping project, including creating a new deck, needs careful planning but upgrading your garden can seriously enhance your lifestyle. Creating a level space in your garden for seating and outdoor dining, for example, could give you more opportunities to spend quality time outside with friends and family. Installing a deck is usually the cheapest and most cost-effective way to achieve this.

## Get practical

Once you have decided what you want out of your space and the look and feel you're aiming to achieve, you'll need to nail down the details. Redesigning your garden will involve a number of practical considerations. Here are three of the most important:

### 1. Set your budget

While you might be brimming with ideas and full of inspiration, your garden redesign is likely to be decided partly on your budget. The cost will vary hugely depending on how ambitious your project is and whether or not you hire a professional designer and landscaper or do all the work yourself.

To avoid nasty surprises further down the line, be thorough when researching prices. Always include a contingency budget for any unexpected costs that might arise when you're partway through your project.

### 2. DIY or professional?

When it comes to redesigning your garden, you might decide to invest in a garden designer.

You will also need to consider whether or not you need to hire in landscapers or builders to carry out some of the work, such as installing a deck. A timber deck can completely transform any outdoor space. If you want a really simple way to install a garden deck, Gripsure's decking kits give you everything you need.

### 3. Planning permission

If you are making major changes to your landscaping or adding a garden building, first check with your local council if you need planning permission.

Many of our customers want to know if they'll need planning permission for a new deck. The short answer is "it depends." Generally, if your decking is more than 300mm above ground level or if you are



planning a very large deck, you will need planning permission. However, rules vary across the country - and are subject to change - so check with your local authority.

Whether or not you need planning permission, it is courteous to notify neighbours before any major work begins.

Redesigning your garden is exciting but it can be daunting. Take your time, do your research and think about what you want to get out of your outdoor space. It's important to get it right and make the choices that work for you and your family. Transforming your garden can transform your life too.







# STEVE'S GARDEN OFFICE

The BBC<sup>1</sup> stated that 87% of businesses in the UK have adapted to hybrid working. Inspired by the 'new normal' of home and flexible working, many Brits are looking at ways to expand their homes and create unique and functional outdoor working spaces.

## Key trends

The pandemic drove homeowners to reevaluate their homes and existing space, many viewing gardens as a genuine extension of the home and making outdoor living a reality. In 2020, Brits spent more than £16 billion<sup>2</sup> renovating their outdoor areas. Two years on, many homeowners now depend on these

outdoor areas to provide additional living space, a peaceful escape, and a connection to the outdoors that their homes might otherwise lack.

## Outdoor living

Outdoor living is a key trend for 2022 and research has shown that the inside-outside trend has featured in 11% of the top images under the #gardeninspiration hashtag in the last 12 months.

Outdoor living not only creates unique and beautiful spaces but effectively allows homeowners to increase their existing space as they bring the inside out. The garden should feel like an extension of the

home and naturally progress into the other, with interior and exterior decor working together in harmony.

Traditionally designers viewed the garden and home as separate, over the past years the value of outdoor spaces has increased and it has become much more important that the garden is treated like any living space. Research has shown that many people are using outdoor spaces for restoration of the body and mind<sup>3</sup> and to create a more tranquil living space.

Graphic designer Steven Haygarth shares his transformed south-facing garden, which he has turned into a home-working haven. The beautiful





While they live in a three bedroom bungalow, the garden room creates a perfect extension of the home and provides the family with extra functional space.

Steve's office space creates an eco-friendly and cost effective extension, Composite Prime is also slip free and splinter free, creating the perfect outdoor flooring for family homes.

**Sustainable living**

Every year more attention is being placed on eco conscious design. Making sustainable choices when it comes to developing and designing gardens is crucial to combat the growing crisis around waste products.

Environmentally-friendly garden design is growing in popularity, with consumers opting for composite decking as a more durable, low maintenance and sustainable alternative to traditional timbers. Designers are now taking additional steps to make outdoor spaces friendlier for the environment.

Steve's unique office shows how homeowners can effectively invest in and extend their homes. Choosing sustainable and durable materials to create an eco friendly and long term extension of the home. Constructed using Composite Prime's sustainable HD Clad® Pro cladding system, Steven's new office shed is made from FSC® 100% hardwood flour and recycled plastic, which combines to produce a durable, natural-looking cladding product that outperforms traditional treated timber.

5m x 3m garden office can now be used year-round to provide extra space for Steven and his family. The space includes a corner sofa, shelving units and a small box room that has the potential to be converted into further functional space. The outdoor living space created using Composite Prime HD Deck® Dual decking features LED lighting which illuminates the whole garden and creates a cosy and relaxing ambience, the perfect extension of the home and functional working space.

Extending the home outdoors creates harmonious and peaceful spaces for home owners who have limited space and are adapting to working from home. Steven primarily used the garden building as an office space but it also has other uses for the whole family.







Each square metre of Composite Prime's composite cladding and decking contains the equivalent of more than 3,000 plastic bottle caps or 280 plastic bottles. In the six years of operation the brand has saved the equivalent of 151 million plastic milk bottles from landfill.

As the inside-outside trend persists during summer 2022 we will see homeowners continue to renovate their outdoor spaces. Outdoor living shows increasingly to be a cost effective, aesthetic and space efficient way to extend the traditional home.

Making small sustainable changes in the home can have a significant impact on the world around us, and whilst it can sometimes seem difficult to see the effect of individual action, change really does begin at home.

**To find out more about how to create a garden office space with composite cladding, please visit: [www.composite-prime.com](http://www.composite-prime.com)**



# 'MUST HAVE' NEW TIMBER DECKING RESOURCE

The Timber Decking and Cladding Association (TDCA) in collaboration with the Timber Trade Federation (TTF) have jointly published a new resource - the Timber Decking Handbook.

Produced with support from the Wood Protection Association (WPA) and Wood Campus, the Handbook is aimed at specifiers, buyers and installers of timber decking.

### A go-to reference

The 52 page book provides clear, relevant and up to date information covering decking design, installation, material choice and UK building and planning regulations. The Handbook references the existing TRADA Timber Decking manual - the two documents will complement each other - the Handbook acting as a summarised and illustrative guidance with TRADA's being more detailed and of particular interest to the architect and structural engineer.

### Partnership Agreement

The Decking Handbook has been produced as part of the TDCA/TTF partnership agreement - and on the back of the publication of the Timber Cladding Handbook last year, will help strengthen the market for both timber cladding and decking.



This is all in addition to the TDCA's existing work within the timber cladding and timber decking industries. The organisation operates the DeckMark and CladMark quality schemes, which verify the quality of the materials that have been approved, or the high standards of the installer that has been accredited.

Both the DeckMark and CladMark schemes require a full audit and assessment of the business in question, prior to any accreditation being awarded followed by annual surveillance audits thereafter.

**The handbook will be freely available as a pdf download from the TDCA website at: [www.tdca.org.uk/publications](http://www.tdca.org.uk/publications) with printed versions costing £15 each including P&P.**



## For independent guidance on your next project



Ensure your timber decking or cladding is fit for purpose through **design, specification, material choice and installation.**

Whatever the size of your project, TDCA can offer:

- an accredited **materials, supplier and installer** database
- impartial and expert help by phone or email
- inspiration through galleries and case studies
- inspection & expert witness services
- free downloadable resources including **Decking and Cladding Handbooks, Codes of Practice and Technical Bulletins**

email: [info@tdca.org.uk](mailto:info@tdca.org.uk)  
 visit: [www.tdca.org.uk](http://www.tdca.org.uk)

The Timber Decking and Cladding Association is an independent, not-for-profit technical and advisory body. It was established to promote the materials, design and installation practices required to create good quality decks, associated landscape structures and cladding on buildings.







# A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO LANDSCAPING: WHAT TO CONSIDER WHEN DESIGNING YOUR GARDEN

Since 'lock down', gardens have increasingly become an 'outdoor room' that can be specifically designed to suit your lifestyle, whether for sunbathing, entertaining friends or even cooking!

Although there are multiple elements to consider including seating, plants, shade/shelter and any structural features, gardens should reflect your personality, cater to your needs and importantly, fully utilise the potential of the space.

With this in mind, here are a few main points to remember when landscaping and designing a garden:

## Blend & balance

One of the main principles of garden design is being able to blend and balance your needs and wants with the space you've got. Regardless of the size of your garden, you need to consider how the space will be used, when and who it will be used by.

Each area should be specifically designed to fulfil its dedicated purpose. Whether it's an outdoor kitchen, hot tub or decking area, it needs to incorporate the right elements at the right scale to work effectively, including the use of plants, paving or a structural feature such as a pergola.

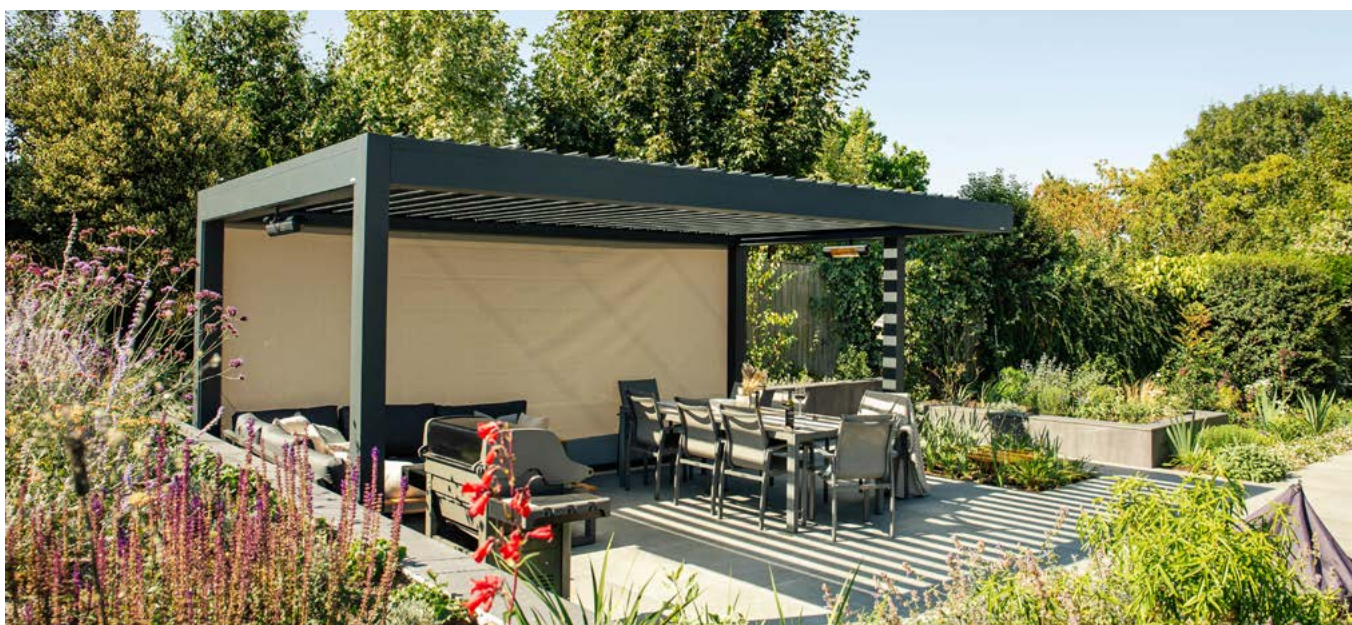
## Form follows function

Initial focus should be on creating a practical 'outline' of the garden, ensuring each area or zone is accessible and interlinked with good circulation.

Assess where the sunny/shaded areas are, which areas are open to any prevailing winds and which areas are more sheltered etc. in order to fully understand your outdoor space and what it's like at all times of the day, and throughout the seasons.

This will determine factors such as what views can be captured





and what shading and screening is required, in turn dictating the ideal placement of patios, paths and seating areas, as well as any vistas and focal points.

### Mass & voids

When designing the outline of a garden, be sure to allow enough room for both the 'mass' (planting) and 'voids' (patios/lawns). If a patio or lawn is the main focus of the garden design, it should blend seamlessly with the property and incorporate comfortable outdoor seating, as well as a view to enjoy.

Adding plants and materials through specific structural elements such as screens, frames, pivot points or anchors will add colour and texture, resulting in a cohesive, harmonious effect throughout the garden. Borders should be as wide as possible, so plants are able to develop and thrive in their natural habitat without the need for constant pruning.

### Engagement & personality

A focal point is a great way to create engagement within a garden. The addition of a quirky water feature or large tree can add personality to the space, whereas a statement bench can help define the purpose of the space whilst framing the view and helping focus the eye.

A structural feature such as a pergola will instantly add a strong and striking architectural element, effectively creating height and a 'frame' around a particular view. By incorporating comfortable seating, not only are you adding a practical element to the space but providing a sense of purpose and arrival.

Suited to both a classic or contemporary garden design, a bioclimatic pergola extends the use of any outdoor space by providing instant shelter, whilst permitting you to play with light and shade (if using a rotating louvered roof).

The addition of side screens, LED lighting and infra-red heating will allow you to make the most of the indoor/outdoor living space at all times of the day (or night) and in any weather.

To summarise, through combining your preferred style with the constraints and possibilities of your outdoor space, its location and environment, you can successfully create a unified area that makes sense in its setting.

Once your garden design has been implemented, turn your attention to the finishing touches such as styling, using materials and features that are in keeping with the overall theme of the garden and property.

**Stuart Dantzie**  
**Managing Director, Caribbean Blinds**  
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# ADDING AN OASE WATERCOURSE TO YOUR PROJECT

Watercourses provide the beauty of a natural river whilst simultaneously being completely controlled.

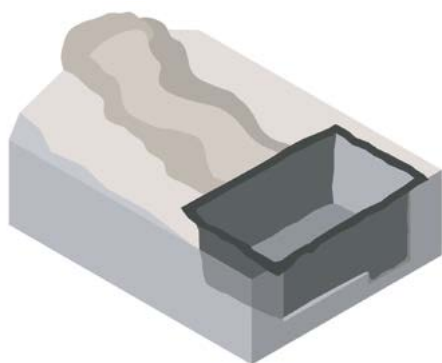
This water landscaping feature is incredibly dynamic as it can be made to fit into almost any project and any space. OASE's watercourse set contains all the products required to create a stress-free installation.

## Preparation

Once the location is chosen you can define the size and shape of the watercourse. The longer and wider the watercourse - the bigger the pump needed.

## Construction

The channel then needs digging out. This channel connects the spillway at the top where the water cascades from and the buried reservoir and pump vault at the bottom. This channel needs to be lined with pond fleece and liner.



At the top of the watercourse place an OASE spillway. The spillway block allows you to create a waterfall without a header pool. This ultra-strong box is designed with a raised lip that prevents debris falling into the water, and it can be hidden with cobbles and stones. The spillway box will evenly disperse the water flowing from it - creating a uniformed cascade effect.

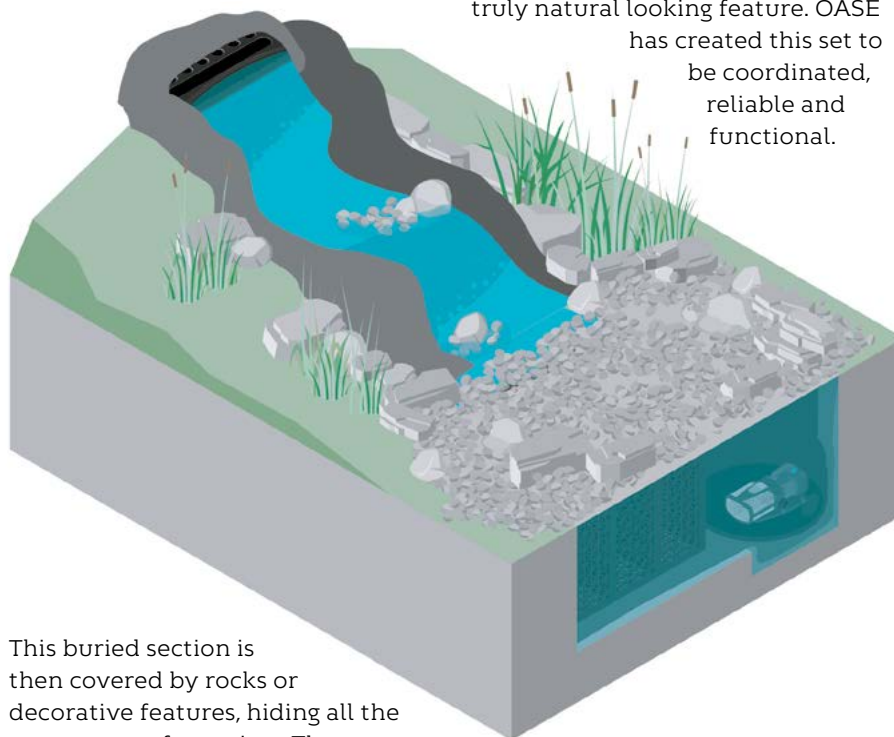


At the bottom of the course a hole is dug which will house the Maxima blocks (the reservoir system) and a pump vault. Maxima blocks are extremely durable and are perfect for creating hidden underground reservoirs. 96% of each Maxima block is able to be used for water storage and they can take over 10,000kg of weight.



This creates the self-contained cyclical system. The most suitable pump depends on size of the course and the amount of water that needs to be pumped back up to the spillway box.

None of the watercourse set elements can be seen in the completed course, which ensures a truly natural looking feature. OASE has created this set to be coordinated, reliable and functional.



This buried section is then covered by rocks or decorative features, hiding all the components from view. The water trickles through the rocks and into the Maxima block reservoir. The pump then takes the water from the reservoir and up to the spillway

Speak to OASE about adding a watercourse to your project today.  
[enquiries@oase.com](mailto:enquiries@oase.com) | 01256 896886



## A simple guide to watercourses

OASE has created a modular set of products that will help install a functioning watercourse quickly and with ease. A watercourse embodies flowing water, the beauty of a river, and is able to be made into any shape and size - all without the need for a pond!

OASE's expertise and knowledge in water gardening has been at the forefront in designing all the individual products that make up the watercourse set. The watercourse set is your way of ensuring that your design will work and look good. The set features: protective pond fleece, PVC-pond liner, a spillway box, Maxima reservoir-elements, a pump vault as well as an optimally suited pond pump and necessary accessories.

### Step 1:

The course has been dug out and lined.



### Step 2:

Spillway box is placed at the top of the course.



### Step 3:

Maxima blocks, pump vault and liner all buried at the bottom.



### Step 4:

The finished product: facing the spillway box.





# HARROGATE GARDEN DESIGNER WINS SILVER AT BBC GARDENER'S WORLD LIVE AND DONATES WINNING GARDEN TO HARROGATE HOSPITAL



Charlotte Jones from Grant Horticulture and The Northern School of Gardening won a Silver Merit at last week's BBC Gardener's World Live at the NEC in Birmingham. Her award-winning Beautiful Border was designed under the theme 'Wildlife' which was interpreted by the young designer as a reflection of someone who has lived a 'wild life', full of frivolity, fun and joie de vivre.

This is the first show garden for garden designer Charlotte Jones, who at twenty-one is currently studying for her Masters in Landscape Architecture at Sheffield University and is working her year-in-industry with Grant Horticulture and The Northern School of Gardening.

"Garden design is at the very heart of our business. With the pandemic behind us what better way to showcase our talents, in particular our young designer Charlotte Jones, than with a show garden at BBC Gardener's World Live," commented Dean Bolton-Grant, Managing Director of Grant Horticulture and founder of The Northern School of Gardening.

"We worked closely with Johnsons of Whixley who kindly donated the plants for our Beautiful Border garden, affording us the opportunity to support Harrogate Hospital with the gift of the plants which we hope will bring patients and staff a little joie de vivre during their day," explained Bolton-Grant.





"Congratulations to The Northern School of Gardening and Grant Horticulture on their Silver Merit award at BBC Gardeners World Live. We were delighted to sponsor the garden with plants to the value of almost £2,000 and are glad to be donating the plants to our local hospital, Harrogate. We look forward to seeing the plants in the ground and hope they bring joy to staff, patients and visitors for many years to come," said Eleanor Richardson, Marketing Manager at Johnsons of Whixley.

Over three-hundred plants were delivered by Grant Horticulture to Harrogate hospital on Monday. Amongst the delivery was an apple tree, lavender, strawberry plants, purple basil and the extremely popular *Astrantia* 'Star of Love', *Ammi majus*, *Salvia viridis* 'Pink

*Clary*', *Lupinus* 'Blue Javelin', *Achillea* 'Desert Eve Red' and *Digiplexis* plants 'Berry Canary'. Yvonne Campbell, Head of Charity and Business Development Project Manager at Harrogate hospital said, "On behalf of Harrogate Hospital & Community Charity I would like to say thank you to Johnsons of Whixley for this amazing donation and the opportunity to enhance our hospital grounds. The donated plants have been distributed across the hospital to fill our staff and visitor areas with a touch of colour.

"I would also like to congratulate Charlotte Jones and the team at The Northern School of Gardening and Grant Horticulture for winning a Silver Merit for their border design, a huge well done and thank you to everyone involved."

Grant Horticulture is a garden design company based in Harrogate. The business has grown over the past fourteen years to include an online retail business where gardeners can source sustainably made and built to last gardening products. The Northern School of Gardening was founded by Dean Bolton-Grant in June 2021 to offer gardeners one-day gardening courses based at The Yorke Arms in the heart of Nidderdale.

[granthorticulture.com](http://granthorticulture.com)  
[thenortherschoolofgardening.com](http://thenortherschoolofgardening.com)



# MEDITE SMARTPLY

## BUILDING THE FUTURE GARDEN TO BE DONATED TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHARITY



Image by Ollie Dixon

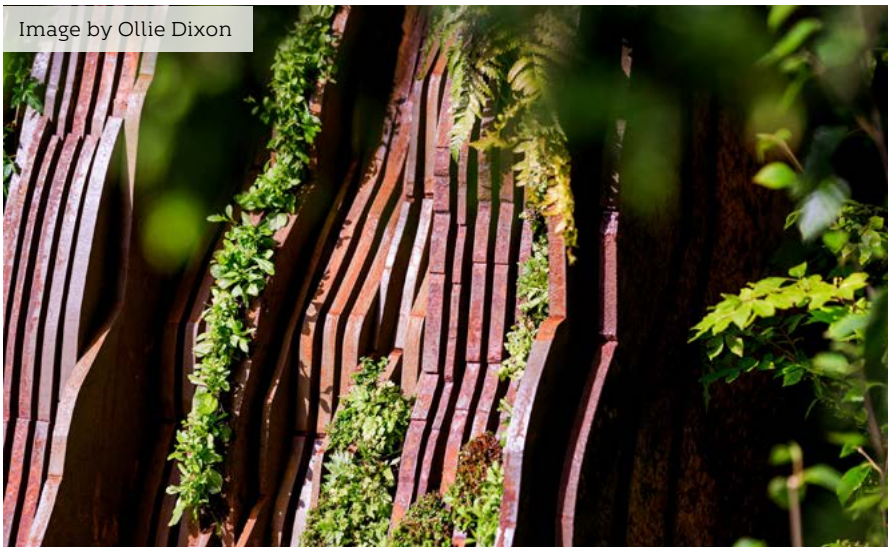


Image by Ollie Dixon

After the hugely successful RHS Chelsea Flower Show event, the entirety of the award-winning MEDITE SMARTPLY Building the Future garden will be reused, with a large part being donated to Andover Trees United, a volunteer-led environmental charity which works closely with schools and local authorities.

The charity's evolving woodland site 'Harmony Woods' represents a 10-year planting project, which gives children and young people in local communities the chance to help turn 12 acres of farmland

to the north of Andover into a natural urban woodland, increasing biodiversity and providing a wealth of opportunities for learning in and about the environment.

The impressive garden structure, made with MDF panel MEDITE TRICOYA EXTREME will be relocated to a local school in Andover, who Andover Trees United work closely with. The buttresses and turf will also be relocated to the community school, in addition to the self-binding gravel featured in the garden.

"We are extremely delighted to be donating this astonishing garden to benefit local school children and students," commented Chris King, Managing Director - Commercial at MEDITE SMARTPLY. "To be able to contribute back to the community and educate people from a young age about the importance of trees and how they contribute positively to the climate change emergency is an incredible opportunity. The garden name 'Building the Future' really does encompass the ethos of the garden and its longevity. As a company, we are very proud to be taking a steer on this.

"The construction industry needs to do more to avert the climate crisis. We need to embrace the concept of a circular economy; to reuse, recycle and refurbish existing materials to reduce waste and be more sustainable. Our engineered wood panels are an example of just what can be achieved."

In addition, half of the trees used in the garden will be donated to Andover Trees United to be replanted in Harmony Woods as part of their 10-year planting project. The remaining trees will be reused by the multi-award-winning garden designer herself Sarah Eberle, in her other garden design projects.

Regarding the furniture used on the garden, artists Alex and Emma Devereux will be returning them to their site in Slough to be used. Even the fencing around the garden is to be reused. Landform Consultants, who are constructing the garden, will keep the 38 sheets of SITEPROTECT PLUS panels used in the boundary of the garden to reuse them in site hoarding of future projects.

To find out more about  
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Seamless results





# GONE GREEN RANGE

In early 2021, the Going Green range was launched as a new initiative at Provender Nurseries.

This may seem like old news, but the enquiries for greener products continue to pour in on a weekly basis. The need to source and use products that have a leaning to the green side is important for the environment that we as an industry strive to create.

The Going Green range was collated from our present stock range in direct response to customer requests for environmentally friendly products. Our sundries team researched into and grouped together all shop products that have the following attributes; organic, wildlife friendly, child and pet friendly or have natural ingredients as their main components to create the Going Green range.

The Going Green range encompasses a wide range of goods and landscape supplies including lawn feeds, plant fertilisers, soils, mulches, insecticides, natural pest and disease control, fungicides, soil improvers, wild flower seeds, mycorrhizal fungi, living walls made from 100%

recycled plastic and even an option to control Box Tree Caterpillar with Box Tree Moth traps.

With the proliferation of interest in wild flower meadows recently, the Pro Flora wild flower mixes specific to soil conditions or environmental situations are proving particularly popular this year specially since the Chelsea Flower Show in May.

Mycorrhizal Fungi / Rootgrow is the most popular line in the Growing Green range as there is a product for almost every situation or plant type. We recommend this to every customer when purchasing shrubs, trees, hedging, topiary and all higher value stock. When applied to the roots at planting Mycorrhizal fungi increases the root surface area allowing the plant to establish quicker and to take up a larger amount of water and nutrients back to the roots themselves. Using mycorrhizal fungi products increase yield by up to 20% and with the different options can be used when planting, after planting and also an ericaceous plant option. (See [Factsheet 8](#)). THE product when planting shrubs, trees, hedging and all high value stock.

Box Tree Moth traps provide all season long biological control for the Boxwood Moth. The trap is baited with pheromones attracting the male moths and thus breaking the life cycle preventing the reproductive process taking place. Each trap is reusable and is effective for 180 square meters.

Included within the Going Green options are our range of peat free composts, soils and top soils many of which are available at reduced prices if purchased by the pallet.

With more of a leaning towards the green things in life and creating healthier habitats for us all and wildlife to live in, our Going Green range is a moveable feast with new products creating a broader range being actively sourced and added to on a constant basis.

Keep on asking and we'll keep on looking at products to add to our Going Green range.





enough small things  
make a difference



Our specially collated range of organic,  
wildlife-friendly or predominantly natural products ...

GOING  
GREEN





# THE GARDEN TRELLIS CO CELEBRATE 30 YEARS OF HAND-CRAFTED JOINERY



Established in the summer of 1992, Essex-based the Garden Trellis Co have been designing, crafting, building & installing high quality bespoke garden joinery schemes for 30 years. At the outset, founder Julian Furness' simple idea behind the company was to manufacture quality trellis panels that would enhance the gardens and outdoor spaces of people who appreciate attention to detail and excellent customer service.

Today the business has grown to offer an even wider range of wooden garden products from affordable ready-made and ready to assemble products to the most desirable and bespoke custom-made garden joinery. From the most ornamental, decorative trellis and contemporary

slatted panels in courtyard gardens, to individually designed gazebos and summerhouses or bespoke planters and obelisks, the team of creative designers and experienced craftspeople at Garden Trellis Co take pride in producing a quality finish every time.

The Garden Trellis Co have always prioritised their sustainable practises and in their 30th year they have decided they want to do even more. "We want to put back more than we take and ensure that there is plenty of timber in the world for the future," explains director Julian Furness, "We have therefore committed to plant one tree for every order that is placed across our online shop and our bespoke service."



The Garden Trellis Co will be implementing this with the help of Ecologi, a platform for real climate action. Ecologi facilitate the funding of carbon offset projects and tree planting around the world. Their mission is to reduce 50% of global CO2 emissions by 2040 and responsibly plant billions of trees every year. The Garden Trellis Co are also encouraging their customers and clients to plant more trees on their behalf by topping up the trees to offset the rest of their garden projects or even buy them as birthday gift!



### 30th Anniversary Messages from the industry:

"Congratulations Julian, Becky and the team on such a momentous occasion for GTC !! I hope the next 30 years will be just as brilliant!"

- Ula Maria

"The RHS wishes everyone at The Garden Trellis Company huge congratulations on celebrating your 30th Anniversary in 2022. We are delighted to endorse your UK-made Prestige range of trellis, fencing and gates."

- Liz Judson, Royal Horticultural Society

"Dear Julian, Becky and team, Congratulations on reaching your 30th anniversary! Your continued success is due to your unwavering commitment to delivering beautiful products to designers and clients. So many of your stunning trellis products have featured in my gardens from the bold and contemporary to the understated traditional. I know when I specify your ranges, I will receive excellent quality and look forward to working with you all on many more future projects. Have a fantastic anniversary year."

- Joanna Archer Garden Design

The run up to the 30th Anniversary year also saw the launch of the Vista Range of decorative screens. Made from WPC, they are highly durable and come in several stunning designs. The Garden Trellis Co have added their usual high quality finish options to these panels which can be cut down, painted and framed.

The company will be celebrating its 30th Anniversary further this month with a sale on the high quality RHS Prestige Range of Trellis, Fencing & Gates. This range is hand-made in the workshop in Essex and endorsed by the Royal Horticultural Society. Keep an eye out for further celebrations throughout the year including news of their new show room.

[www.gardentrellis.co.uk](http://www.gardentrellis.co.uk)



## CIVIC TREES: OVER 50 YEARS EXPERIENCE!

Founded in 1963, Civic Trees has become one of the market leaders in the supply, planting and relocating of mature and semi-mature trees. We can offer soft landscaping packages and have a dedicated team delivering projects throughout the UK.

We are proud of our reputation for efficient, cost effective and reliable tree management. You can be confident that through our exemplary commitment to staff training and development, our work meets the highest technical and safety standards.

Working on prestigious UK and European landscape developments such as screening the Berlin Wall, emphasising the approaches to Disneyland Paris and re-developing London's Trafalgar Square, Civic Trees has been involved in several remarkable projects.

Our customers range from local authorities seeking a partnership solution for the management of their trees and vegetation in parks, gardens, highways and developments: to commercial and domestic clients requiring tree care, vegetation management or landscape establishment.

We build close professional relationships to ensure we understand and meet the needs of our individual clients. We are proud that our clients are happy to recommend us and keep using our services.



We employ professionally trained and certified personnel. Our policy of continuing professional development ensures that all personnel receive ongoing training and education.

Our experts can offer advice on species selection, form and size. We supply trees from a wide range of leading growers in the UK and Europe and find the trees that you want, not sell you trees that we have.

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Our huge range of stock includes olives and palms in pots from 1litre up to 1,000 litres available all year round. Four Oaks has an extensive product line of over 1,500 lines of trees and shrubs on display from starter plants to specimen sizes

We have recently added garden furniture to our portfolio and increased our already extensive pot range from 2" to 500 Litre pots including terracotta, glazed and genuine half whiskey barrels.

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## ALL-YEAR ROUND OUTDOOR LIVING WITH CRL GLASS ROOMS

As the weather improves, spending time outside is good for our health and wellbeing. But with the Great British weather not always complying, creating an all-weather outdoor space with CRL Glass Rooms is a perfect, simple to install solution.

Featuring an intelligent modular design, the aluminium structure means very few supports are needed even over large areas. The innovative connectors give a high degree of flexibility with many variations possible, while optional extras including sliding doors, vertical blinds and ceiling blinds makes it simple to create a unique space that can be enjoyed throughout the seasons.



The system's modular design enables the Glass Room to be configured to suit any space, from simple rectangles to more complex L shape designs. The drainage is cleverly integrated into the post, with rainwater channelled through the gutter into the drain pipe. The front profile of the post can be easily removed using a clip system to allow easy access to the drain.

All rafters come with integrated channels for fitting lighting and attaching motorised awnings. Available in a Range of Standard RAL Colours CRL Glass Rooms have a maximum projection length of 6m.

The sleek, lightweight look of the aluminium, combined with the stability, robustness and longevity of the material make CRL Glass Rooms the perfect way to add an attractive shelter to a garden on any style of property.

For further information call 01706 863600,  
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# TOP 5 BENEFITS OF RATTAN GARDEN FURNITURE

When it comes to fixing up your garden with new furniture, rattan is always mentioned as a possibility. Rattan garden furniture's popularity continues to grow as designs, styles and colours continue to innovate.

The aesthetics of rattan garden furniture is its biggest draw, but you may not know the other wonderful benefits that rattan furniture has to offer.

Let's dive into the top 5 benefits of rattan garden furniture to help you make an informed purchase decision and get that garden space you've always dreamed of.





### Luxurious Comfort

Whether you're after a sunlounger, garden armchair or a complete sofa set, rattan garden furniture is incredibly comfortable. Often your chosen piece will come with deeply padded washable cushions that not only add a splash of colour to your garden but provide you with great comfort.

The tight weave creates a strong and durable framework while also providing enough give in the seat and back to ensure you're not just sitting on top of the rattan, but in it.

### Lightweight and Durable

To take advantage of as much sunshine as possible, people tend to move their garden furniture around quite a lot. This ordeal can be stressful and hard work with more traditional pieces of garden

furniture - but rattan furniture is extremely lightweight.

Many rattan furniture sets feature a rigid aluminium frame to ensure it lasts for years to come. But the lightweight weave ensures you'll have no problem moving single-seat chairs by yourself. Rattan sofa sets will require two people due to their sheer size of them, but their weight will still be considerably lighter than many other traditional pieces of garden furniture.







### Weatherproof

As we all know, living in the UK, our weather can be somewhat unpredictable. One day will be blazing sun and the next we'll see a downpour of rain.

Some traditional garden furniture will require you to move it inside or it will break down quickly as it cannot withstand the weather elements very well. But with rattan, you can leave it outside in the sun or rain and you'll have very little maintenance to perform to keep it in top condition.

The synthetic weave will repel water and will not fade easily under heavy

UV rays. This durability will ensure your rattan furniture will last for years to come.

### Low Maintenance

As with anything that sits out in the garden all year round, you'll need a little bit of maintenance to keep it in tip-top condition. The handy thing about rattan furniture is that you can easily spray it down with a hose or get a bucket of soap and water and wipe it down with a cloth.

This could be done only a few times a year to give your furniture extra longevity. On top of that, covering your rattan furniture when not in use during the colder months will

help keep dirt and grime off.

### Versatile Style

Rattan furniture can suit a variety of styles. Whether you're after a contemporary and sophisticated style, a minimalist uncluttered style or a boho free-spirited aesthetic that mixes different cultures, you can dress your rattan furniture to suit anything.

With a few blankets, cushions and even a small lick of paint can dramatically alter the style of your rattan furniture to suit your current vision of your garden.



## tiger up!

tiger up! is a revolutionary range of products upcycled from plastic and other materials.

tiger up! products are not only made from 100% recycled materials but are also fully recyclable at the end of their own life, creating a complete circle of environmentally aware product use.

All our products have been developed to provide innovative, sustainable solutions for several industry issues, including drainage, flooring, timber replacement and ground stabilisation.

Developed, innovated and manufactured by our in-house research and development team based in Kidderminster, tiger up! products use sustainable feedstock and environmentally friendly manufacturing processes providing suitable alternatives to traditionally used timber and concrete products.

tiger up! products can also be made from end-of-life artificial grass, creating a solution to a mounting issue within the landscape sector. Since launching a recycling co-operative with Sportex Group in June 2022, the companies have facilitated the UK's first closed loop recycling facility for end-of-life synthetic turf.



This exciting development combines the unique technology of both companies to bring together a fully traceable and compliant recycling solution to ensure that all components from a synthetic turf pitch can be separated, thoroughly cleaned, and most importantly processed



into a condition to be re-used within the sports facility construction, landscaping, and general construction industries.

To find out more, please visit [tigerup.co.uk](https://tigerup.co.uk) or contact us on 01299 253 966 or [info@tigerup.co.uk](mailto:info@tigerup.co.uk).



# RECYCLED

# WHAT? tiger up!

**ECO-CONCIOUS PRODUCTS MADE FROM 100% RECYCLED PLASTIC WASTE**

tiger up! products provide sustainable solutions for the construction, landscape and sports construction sectors. Made from 100% recycled plastic waste, including end of life artificial grass and other plastics considered 'un-recyclable'. tiger up! products upcycle materials that would otherwise end up in landfill.

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// DRAINAGE  
// EQUESTRIAN FLOORING & FENCING  
// GROUND STABILISATION  
// EDGINGS

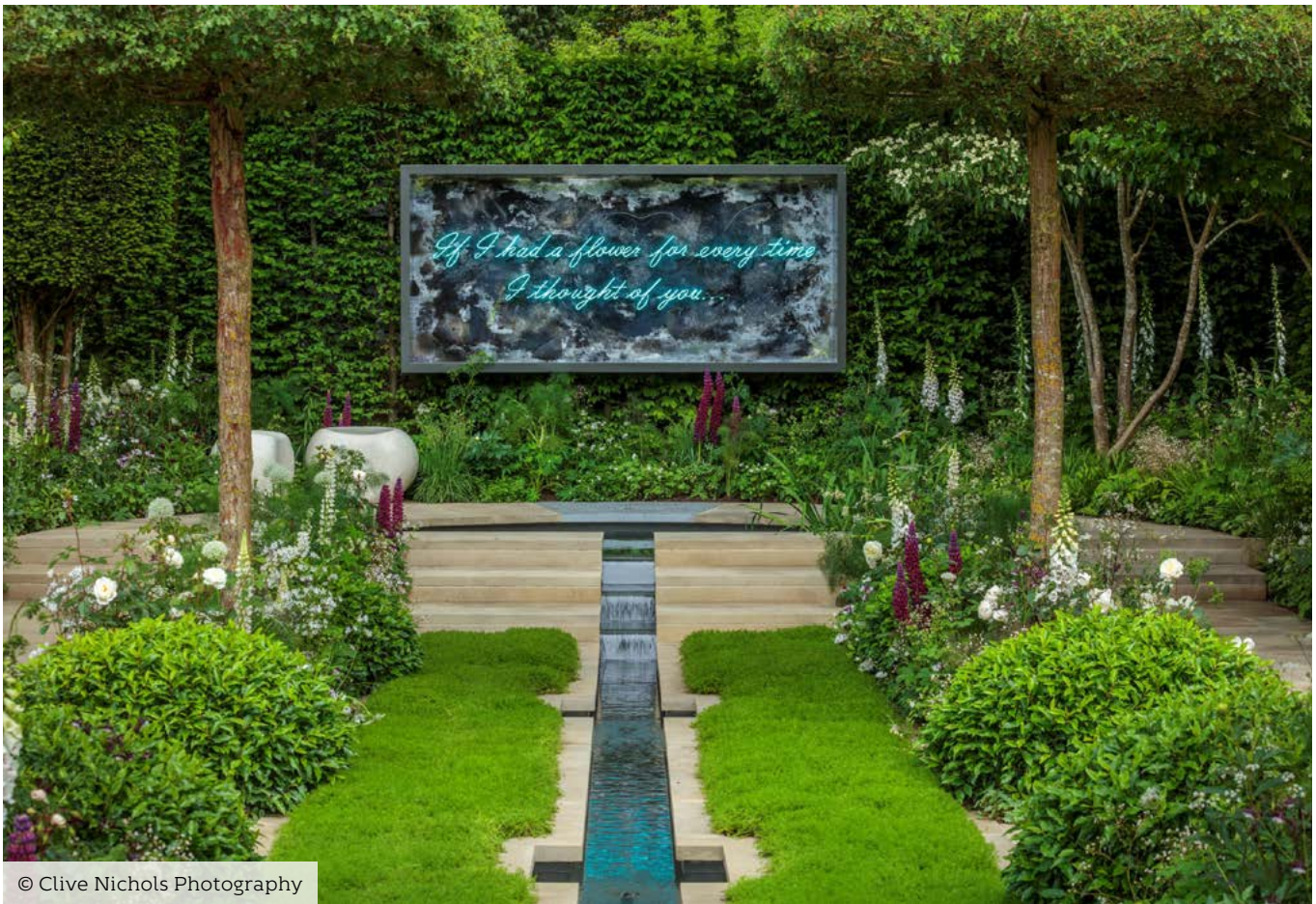
// PLANTERS  
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© Clive Nichols Photography

# THE PERENNIAL GARDEN

## 'WITH LOVE', BY RICHARD MIERS



© Martin Pope

Four funky fellas simultaneously playing one electric cello will fill the Perennial 'With Love' garden by Richard Miers with music and comedy. Perennial's president, Alan Titchmarsh will introduce the world's most entertaining electric quartet, Stringfever as they open with Bolero or Fandango.

Think Cirque du Soleil on strings and anticipate a fun-filled musical tribute to everyone who works with plants, trees, flowers or grass and all those who love gardens.

Stringfever, three Broadbent brothers and a cousin, will certainly help the 'With Love' garden hit a high note. And help raise awareness of the only UK charity supporting people in horticulture through tough times.

### Garden details:

Carrying a 'With Love' message to the horticulture industry, the garden's main avenue appearance is a first for both the 183-year old charity and the designer. They hope it will raise awareness of, and support for, the free information, advice and support Perennial provides people in horticulture and their families.

Packed into the allocated 22 metre by 10 metre space are all the hallmarks of a Richard Miers' garden. Structured, classically contemporary and elegant, with a green palette of soft white and

plum undertones. Trees and shrubs include flat-topped hawthorns, multi-stemmed *Parrotia persica*, domes of *Taxus baccata* and *Prunus lusitanica*, with Hornbeam hedging.

Sculptures are by Tom Stogden and Jack Eagan, bespoke benches are from Hylton Hugo of Torc Pots and the quote is by sign makers Goodwin & Goodwin. A central rill is by Water Artisans and Rand & Asquith provided the paving. The contractor is Stewart Landscapes, plants are from Form Plants and Rachel Sampson heads up the planting team which included two days of help from four Perennial trainee gardeners.

The Perennial Garden 'With Love' has also led to three fundraising product collaborations - a first for Perennial and the British based designers. A Blackbird Sang, Charlotte Hogg studio and Jack Eagan.





© Clive Nichols Photography



© Clive Nichols Photography

From bags and greeting cards to beautiful garden metal ware and limited edition 'Dancers' sculptures.

Peter Newman, Perennial's chief executive says: "this beautiful garden represents the very best of horticulture - art, craft, skill, collaboration and love are all present in abundance. We are very excited about how powerfully it will reach those who need our help. A show garden at the world's greatest flower show is also a unique way for us to reach an audience of supporters who understand the importance of building better futures for those who work in the industry.

### About Perennial

Perennial, formally the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society, has supported people who work in horticulture, and their families, since 1839. Today the charity has a network of caseworkers and debt advisers across the UK providing information, advice and support to those who work with plants, grass, trees and flowers.

### About Richard Miers

Richard's 26-year career has translated into gardens for a villa in Sardinia, a property in Norfolk, a newly-built Palladian mansion in Surrey and countless town and roof gardens in London. A Country & Townhouse Magazine top 20 Garden Designer, Richard has been invited to design a show and a feature garden for The Daily Telegraph/ House and Garden Fair, and was chosen to represent the UK at the Gardening World Cup in Nagasaki. Today, his busy and expanding London practice continues to attract a stream of high-profile projects.

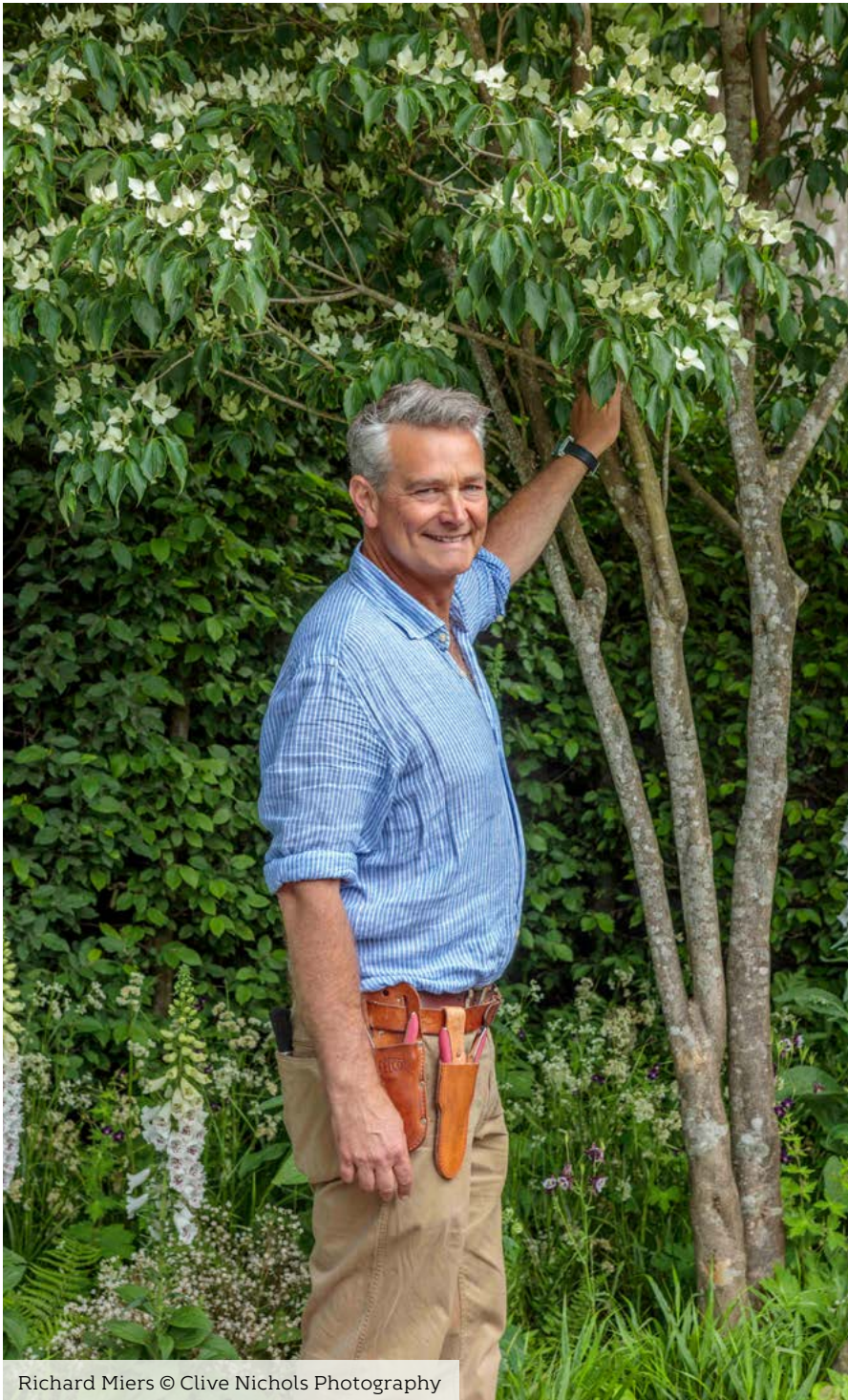


© Perennial



Richard Miers © Martin Pope





Richard Miers © Clive Nichols Photography

**Medal response**

**Peter Newman, Perennial Chief Executive**

Responding to the news, Peter Newman, Perennial's chief executive said, "We are thrilled with the award of a silver medal that recognises, in Richard's garden, the very best of horticulture - design, art, craft, skill, and collaboration. His stunning creation eloquently expresses Perennial's message of love and support for the people in our industry and we couldn't be happier that the judges have recognised just how extraordinary it is."

**Richard Miers, Designer of the Perennial Garden 'With Love'**

Responding to the news, Richard Miers, designer of the Perennial Garden 'With Love' said, "I've always wanted to do the RHS Chelsea Flower Show. It's a bit like Everest for a garden designer, always there as the ultimate challenge. And although I've been in the industry for twenty years, as a first-timer here it feels like a huge success to gain a medal. But most of all, it has been a privilege to work alongside such a skilled and hard-working team - they are the ones who have made The Perennial Garden 'With Love' such a success. And of course, the better the garden performs here the more I can help Perennial, the charity supporting everyone lucky enough to be working with plants, trees, flowers and grass. This really has been an incredible journey."



© Clive Nichols Photography



Tom Stodgden Sculpture © Martin Pope

For more information visit [perennial.org.uk/home/about-us/](http://perennial.org.uk/home/about-us/)

@richardmiers



# PROTECTING CUMBRIA'S DARK SKIES

## A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN THORN LIGHTING AND CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL



Vulcan Park, Workington - Thorn Lighting



Cliff Terrace, Kendal - Thorn Lighting

Cumbria, located in the north west of England and bordering Scotland, is a county known globally for its spectacular Lakes. The Lake District - now a UNESCO World Heritage Site - attracts millions of tourists each year. But Cumbria is also home to many rural villages, seaside communities and bustling towns. And what these places all share is the desire to protect their dark skies.

Cumbria County Council's lighting team have worked hard to achieve this over many years, forming strong relationships with organisations such as Friends of the Lake District. For decades, Cumbria County Council have also worked with manufacturer Thorn Lighting to provide solutions and luminaires across the county, including road and street lighting, urban lighting for parks and architectural lighting for landmarks and architectural buildings.

But most recently, Cumbria County Council has teamed up with Thorn Lighting to install innovative technologies and solutions that reduce light pollution and help to protect the nocturnal environment.

Lining the pavement of the historic Cliff Terrace in Kendal, restored cast

iron columns have been fitted with Thorn's EPI45 post-top lanterns providing an energy efficient solution. This change has improved the quality of lighting for residents in the vicinity.

As part of a pilot project which is now being rolled out further, Cumbria County Council have also installed Plurio post top luminaires equipped with NightTune technology. NightTune is a system which automatically adjusts the level of light emitted by a luminaire, and its colour temperature, to suit the exact time of night and level of traffic. There are a multitude of benefits for using this technology, such as the warmer colour temperatures being less harmful to wildlife, and minimised light spill and reduced sky glow.

Plurio luminaires with NightTune have been installed in a small residential cul-de-sac in Glenridding, as well as a popular park in the heart of Workington. Their installation in Castle Park in Whitehaven was supported by funding from the Home Office's Safer Streets initiative, and the new lighting has created a more welcoming environment in the hours of darkness.

Ian Harker, Cumbria County Council's Lighting Manager said, "Cumbria has some of the darkest skies in Great Britain, and we are custodians of both the night sky and the world class environment here. So, we realise that in the work we do, we need to be careful and mindful that we don't have a negative impact. We have a strong relationship with Friends of the Lake District, and after discussions with the team at Thorn Lighting were confident that these innovative technologies and solutions were fitting for our county. We've had a lot of positive feedback from residents, including reports of returning nocturnal wildlife, including larger bats feeding in Kendal's Cliff Terrace."

To protect dark skies, Thorn is also collaborating with the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA), to make sure that inherent in Thorn's brand DNA are all the attributes that need to be followed to meet the regulations to limit light pollution, in the form of light spill, sky glow and light trespass.

Thorn's Head of Application for Urban Life & Architectural, Eliot Horsman said, "We approach dark sky sensitive solutions not just from a post-top luminaire point of view, but also from wider luminaire families, appropriate for building surrounds as well."

**To find out more about this project in Cumbria, watch the video here:**  
<https://youtu.be/Vbgdytscg7A>

**For more information on our lighting solutions for outdoor spaces, visit**  
<https://www.thornlighting.com/en/products/outdoor-lighting>



The Terrace © Harewood House Trust and Lee Beal



# PRESTIGIOUS GARDEN DESIGN SCHOOL TO OPEN IN NORTH YORKSHIRE

A Yorkshire-based garden designer with a world-class portfolio, is launching a new school specifically to train designers for northern landscapes.

Alistair Baldwin, who launched his landscape and architectural design consultancy AWB Associates over 15 years ago in Richmond, North Yorkshire, says it's time for a school which teaches budding new designers of the future how to work in the beautiful terrain of the north.

The Yorkshire School of Garden Design opens its doors in August with a range of short courses throughout the year - designed for garden design enthusiasts and those wanting to learn more about all aspects of the art, from landscaping

to planting. Its flagship professional Diploma in Garden Design delivered over an academic year, begins in September.

The school will be based at Harewood House near Leeds - one of the UK's Treasure Houses, which has over 100 acres of parkland designed by eminent 18th century landscape architect Sir Lancelot Capability Brown and also showcases inspirational gardens including the Himalayan Garden, the walled garden and an Italianate style terrace.

"The Yorkshire School of Garden Design was born out of my passion for this great art, combined with a deep-seated belief that the north of England is crying out for such

a school," said its founder Alistair Baldwin.

"For too long the budding designers of the north have had little local choice when looking for a learning experience to broaden their skills and launch them into the profession.

"More often than not, students have had to make the journey to London to find the right course and I thought that needed to change.

"I have lived and worked in North Yorkshire for over three decades and have developed an acute understanding of how the terrain, geology, even climate and the way of working is very different in this part of the UK.



"The process within which gardens are designed and built in this magnificent landscape is very different to the south of England - so I want to share everything I have learned over the last 35 years and inspire a new generation."

London-born Alistair, trained in garden design in Leeds and since graduating has never left the county - working and building his award-winning landscape design practice in North Yorkshire, which delivers high-spec public and private gardens throughout the UK as well as internationally.

Having spent 12 years teaching landscape and garden design at Leeds Beckett University, while also running his practice - Alistair has a wealth of experience in nurturing the next generation of garden design talent.



"Building a garden design school which uses practising designers and professionals to deliver its courses was an incredibly important part of the process for me," Alistair said.

"I am delighted to announce that I will be joined by an eminent team of world class design consultants who will work with me to deliver the professional diploma course and a range of short courses to those interested in either building a professional career in garden design, or enthusiasts who just want to learn a little more about the art.

"Having a team of practising garden designers in the YSGD family, all of whom have experience in creating rich and well-crafted gardens, means that students will get essential practical advice and insight, straight from the horse's mouth, into how to design, communicate and deliver amazing gardens" said Alistair.

Trevor Nicholson, head gardener at Harewood House said, "We are absolutely delighted that the Yorkshire School of Garden design will have its base at Harewood House - which we think is a fitting and inspirational venue for a school, which hopes to train the design professionals of the future.

"Harewood House has a history of nurturing classical landscapers and garden designers with its parklands and gardens, and I incredibly excited to welcome guests and inspire them with Harewood's beautiful landscapes."



Alistair Baldwin © Eva Nemeth

For further information on the Yorkshire School of Garden Design and all its courses visit <https://ysgd.co.uk/>





# GREENBLUE URBAN – CELEBRATES 30 YEARS!

The last 30 years have been an astonishing journey - from a small one-man business operating from a domestic garage to today's highly organised efficient operation, centred near Hastings and distributing to over 30 different countries. This growth has been driven by a desire to improve the quality of life for urban users globally by revolutionising the design and implementation of urban green infrastructure.

Trees and the urban environment have always been at the heart of what we do. Far too many trees die prematurely in our heavily engineered towns and cities. Overcoming the many constraints for tree establishment is our expertise.



Included in our passion for green within our grey spaces is a firm committal to reduce waste material being discarded into landfill or burnt in incinerators.

Every year GreenBlue Urban repurposes millions of tonnes of waste plastic by turning this end-of-life polymer into products which support healthy tree growth and assist with storm water management. This refusal to use virgin material costs GreenBlue Urban more - but confirms our dedication to the environment and to the reduction of our carbon footprint.

Importantly, we manufacture in Britain, for the European market. This is unique in this sector, GreenBlue Urban has recently purchased the manufacturing company that make our products, bringing in-house so that we have full control of our material sourcing and quality control.

Working closely with BBA, GreenBlue Urban have achieved a BBA certificate for the RootSpace soil cell system - a first in the world. Testing continues to upgrade this certificate to gain a higher rating; again, this has not been achieved by any other soil cell. In the meantime, we are about to launch the EPD for the system - an Environmental Product Declaration, which can help achieve a better BREAAAM rating on new buildings.

Moving our brand towards; Green, Blue, Smart Space and Air, innovation and product development continues for the long term, look out for celebratory events in Manchester and London and the launch of Edition 10 our NEW Urban Design Guide!

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Creating healthier spaces in harmony with nature





# URBAN VALLEY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

This project has been positioned, upon entrustment, to create a public commercial district that is different from the traditional fully-enclosed community. As planned, the commercial district will connect the Jiangpu Park in the south and the riverside greenbelt in the east to create an urban valley with infinite possibilities for residents here and nearby to explore, with retreated boundary walls. The landscape design has inherited the design language that is consistent with the architectural design.

On that basis, scaling and gradient changes are conducted on the landscape design to build a connection between the interior and exterior, and to form a spatial layout which has the square externally and the courtyard internally,

through refinement and modern interpretations of natural spaces, such as woodlands, mountain streams, and valleys, to achieve immersive commercial space experience that is both unique and natural.

## Project exposition

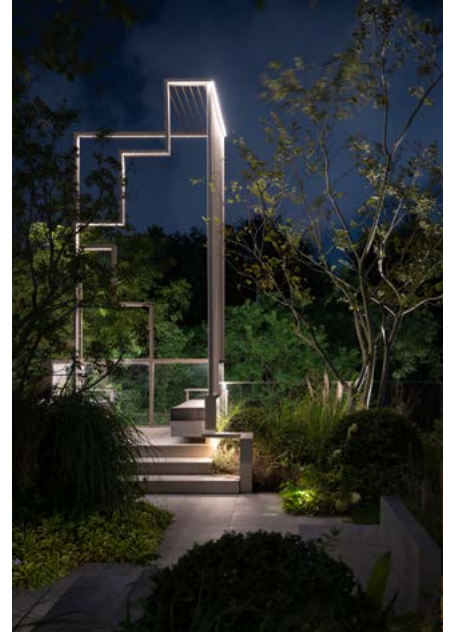
The project consists of the exhibition center and the water bar along the street. The architectural design itself has included a great variety of vigorous spaces, but due to the complexity of functional demands, how the landscape should integrate the staggering spaces together in accordance with all functional requirements has become the focus of this project.

## Woodland

Since the woodland is next to the

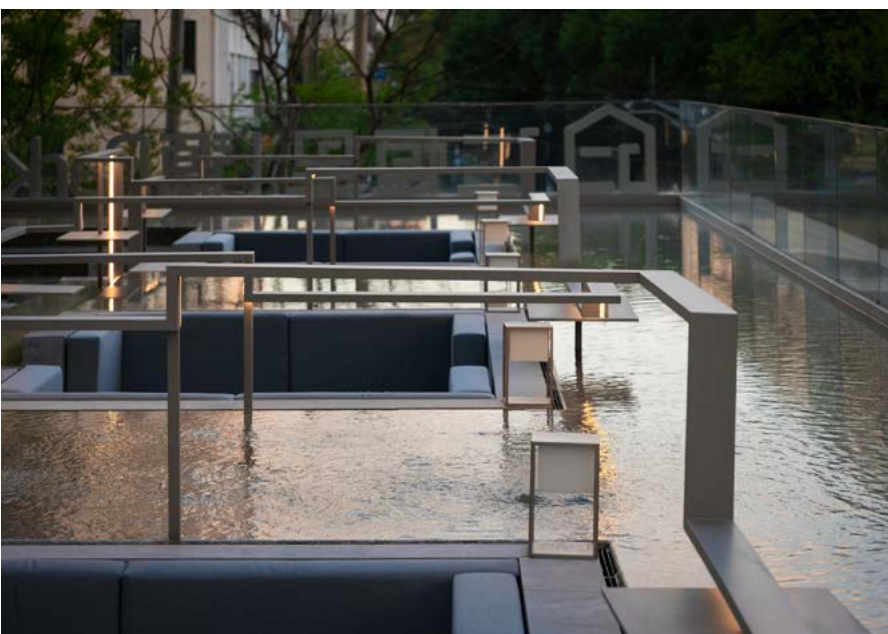
park, this design attempts to extend the urban park to the site to form a multilayered three-dimensional urban valley. The firefighting access which previously went through the site directly is adjusted to be a curve, thus enabling the site leads up to woodland from different angles. Two types of urban furniture are revolving around the linear square settings. The level differences have formed the visual interaction as well as an interesting correlation between the sight and the viewers. The second floor is a garden shared by district residents. On the other side of the garden is a private garden that allows residents to enjoy close interaction with the natural world. Residents can experience the charm of seasonal plants here to alleviate their stress in city life.





**Brook**

The brook is the main entrance for the commercial district. The scale is purposefully narrowed down to form the alley space of the old Shanghai. We abstractly extract the natural element of “stream flowing in the valley” to design the encircling cascade water flowing device. The cascade planting of the waterfall and cantilever forms an artistic installation for the main entrance. The falling angles can satisfy appreciation demands from four directions. This can not only highlight the recognizability of the project but also improve the artistic perception of the whole district. An art exhibition hall full of business vigor is created on the front part of this project.



**Mountain**

A tropical rainforest is adopted to form the view of the main flow line. The population flow is guided to the right. The stepping stones floating on the water surface of the tropical rainforest are reserved for visitors to experience going through the mountain. The mountain features small space

**Architects TROP : Terrains + Open  
Space - Landscape Architects  
Photography: Holi**



# EMILY CROWLEY-WROE WINS BEST SHOW GARDEN AT RHS MALVERN SPRING FESTIVAL WITH THE PLATIPUS G-WALL®



Credit: Three Counties

The Hide Garden, created by Award Winning Garden Designer Emily Crowley-Wroe from April House Garden Design, celebrates nature on the doorstep. It represents a private nature retreat transporting the owner to a favourite place by the river.

shallows of the River Eye the seating area invites reflection and connection with nature. Playful stepping boulders create movement and allow closer inspection of plants and their wildlife visitors. Willow hurdles enclose the garden, play on the structure of a nature hide and create natural enclosures and habitats.



A garden room leads out onto a 6 x 6m garden. The angled deck area made from composite decking features sculptural carved benches crafted from recycled wood. Facing onto a pebble pond recalling the



Credit: Cwaynex

A living roof and the Platipus G-WALL® soften and blend the building within the landscape and garden while offering creative planting ideas including combining flowers and edibles, contrasting colours and plants for different aspects. Inspired by a local nature reserve the garden taps into its archetypal layers and forms in the planting as an emotive connection to place.



G-WALL® is available at the Platipus Direct website or through a growing network of resellers and distributors in the UK. **You can also see G-WALL® at this year's RHS Hampton Court Palace Garden Festival (4 - 9 July) STAND HC363**

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[info@platipusdirect.co.uk](mailto:info@platipusdirect.co.uk)  
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# GAME OF THRONES LOCATION OPTS FOR WEBWALL RETAINING WALL SYSTEM



ABG's vegetated Webwall system was chosen as a faster construction that minimises the number of carbon intensive deliveries associated with using hard landscaping materials. The flexible HPDE geocellular panels are a natural green colour at the front cells of the panels to blend in with the woodland setting and they are easy to unfold, expand and pin into position to suit the curved footprint of the site. The first layer of panels are stretched out and pinned into position into an excavated footing before backfilling with site won fill. The fill is compacted in tiers and the process is repeated until the full height of the wall has been constructed. The easy to handle and flexible nature of the Webwall panels enables a fast installation, completed in just 4 days compared to the additional time and cost (from both a financial and carbon point of view) associated with building an equivalent stone structure.

[www.abgltd.com](http://www.abgltd.com)

Doune Castle is a medieval stronghold near Stirling in central Scotland, originally dating back to the thirteenth century. The castle was used as the main filming location for the Winterfell Kingdom in the Game of Thrones TV series and as a backdrop for various scenes in the Monty Python and the Holy Grail film.

As part of a maintenance programme to upgrade access routes to and around the castle, a new stepped ramp and wider section of road from the main entrance was designed. The change in elevation from the road to the top of the footpath required a new retaining structure to secure the cut slope.

## Sustainable Drainage Systems

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Visit [abg-geosynthetics.com](http://abg-geosynthetics.com) to find out more.



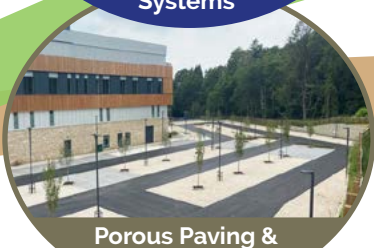
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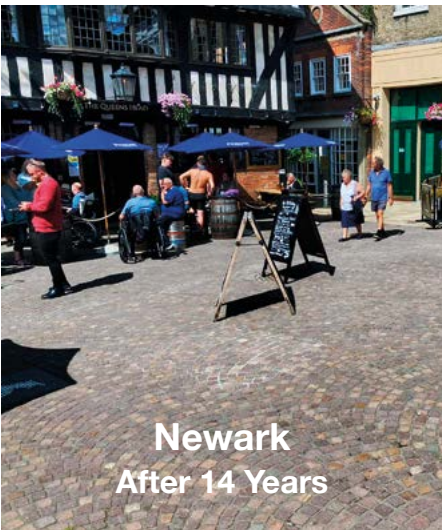


# Repointing Urban Paving is a Tough Job!

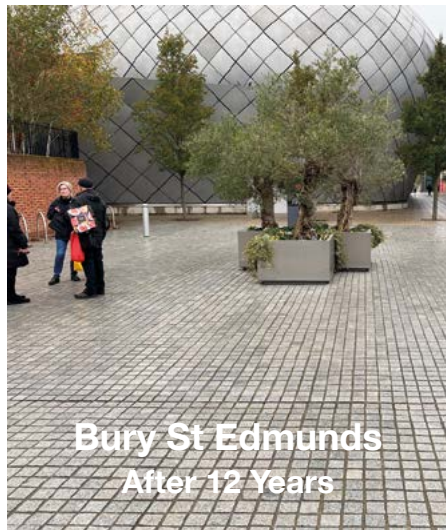
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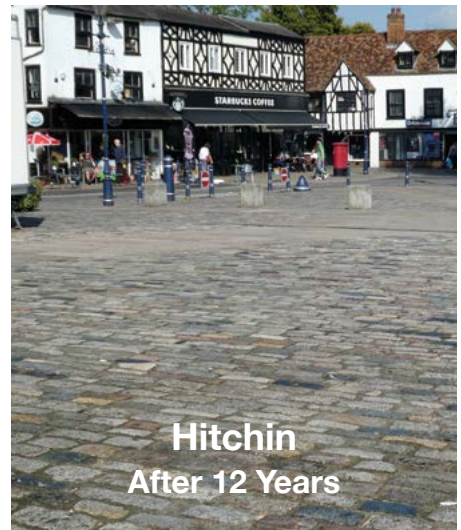
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# URBAN PAVING REPOINTING - FOR THE LONG-TERM! PART 2

## 'Larger Format' paving

Larger format paving is generally used to mean slabs / flags larger than 400 x 400mm, such as the traditional 2' x 2' (600 x 600mm) and 3' x 2' (900 x 600mm) in classic Yorkstone (a durable naturally dense sandstone quarried in Yorkshire), and then more recently, the 20th Century 'classic' precast concrete flags that have been and are widely used for pedestrian pavements in urban areas all over the UK.

With larger format paving slabs or flags (basically the same thing - depending on where you live in the UK), the need to ensure a uniform bed is clear, as any voids or high-points would lead to poor levels and trip hazards, as well as voids resulting in serious damage in service. Urban paving slabs / flags were and are generally 2" (50mm) thick, rather than the 20-25mm now

typical for domestic paving, and the joints are typically specified at a nominal 5 to 12mm wide. Whilst paving jointing is always important for many reasons, for larger format paving, the ratio of joint surface area and volume to the paving elements surface is very low; any lateral movement or stress on the joints, including overall thermal movement, will also be limited for the same reason. Therefore larger format paving should not generally be used for heavy vehicular trafficked areas without special measures, e.g. using thicker slabs and wider joints.

## 'Smaller Format' paving

Smaller format paving means paving units or blocks, such as cut natural stone setts, which are less than 400 x 400mm, typically these are the traditional 4" x 4" (100 x 100mm) and 8" x 4" (100 x 200mm). This type of smaller format paving also

has different names, they can be called known as setts or cobbles in different regions of the UK. Natural stone paving purists may regard stone setts as being 'quarried and cut' natural stone with 6-defined sides. Whereas they would consider cobbles to be naturally occurring, water or otherwise eroded over time, and therefore these are generally round edged, more variably dimensioned, natural stone elements, e.g., taken from natural sources at the bottom of glaciers, rivers, and beaches - Although these are also now being manufactured mechanically. However, to be correct and in accordance with BS EN 1342:2001: "...a sett is a dressed block of stone having plan dimensions that are 50-300mm in length, and a thickness of at least 50mm. The length and/or width should not usually be greater than twice the thickness."





not so relevant as the static load is taken by the stone on to the bedding and substructure.

A useful personification to help understand the need to always fully consider the jointing requirements, and take the right decisions to select, specify and install the most appropriate joint pointing materials, and especially for repointing, can be:

The natural stone setts used in the UK were and are predominantly granite, as well as other hard types of stone, including slate, basalt, gneiss, quartzite, and limestone. Historically these have long been used for paved highways, public and commercial areas, where they provide the top wearing course throughout our town centres, and this has been the case since before Roman times. The other key difference other than plan from larger format paving, is their much greater thickness, with the traditional stone sett thicknesses used in the UK's town centres and market squares being from minimum 100mm, up to more than 200mm deep, according to area, exposure, and local conditions, as well as availability and cost of course. Stone sett paved surfacing was very successful for hundreds of years, with pointing and any repointing being done with lime mortars, when weather conditions allowed, pitch and bitumen could also be used for more watertightness where required.

However, this was all before the arrival of the motor car and heavier delivery vehicles, which combined with increased time pressures on any area closures or waiting times in paving works, soon led to the demise of lime mortars for paving, and the widespread adoption of cement mortars based on OPC (Ordinary Portland Cement) as the new wonder material for pointing and repointing. This change was made to try and meet increasingly onerous installation time pressures, plus

service demands with increasingly aggressive exposure conditions throughout the 20th Century. Today in the 21st Century the demands are even higher, which is due to the increased frequency of traffic, plus larger and heavier cars with power-steering, especially new EV's, the trend to more stress-inducing SUV style with 4 x 4 / AWD family cars, plus the increases in commercial vehicle size and capacity up to 40-tonne articulated delivery trucks in the modern world. today's far higher traffic loads and other exposures, which are all much greater than ever before.

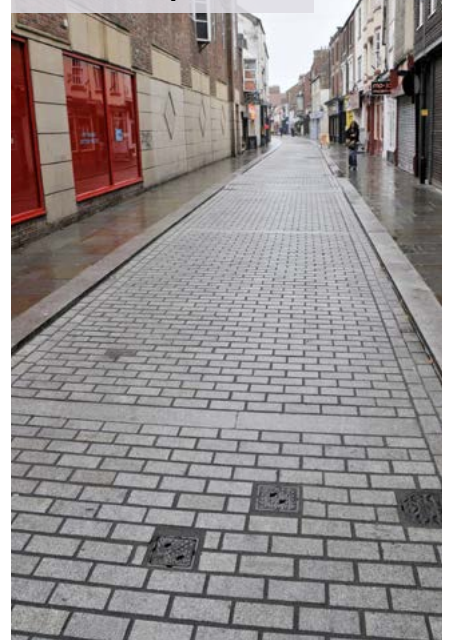
It is important to ensure the right substructure and level of structural support for the intended loading in accordance with BS 5750, plus the right bedding and bonding materials, as well as the right jointing materials to provide an attractive, serviceable, and durable finish. It is also important to consider that because of the size differences, larger format paving can be said to be more 'Bedding Dependent', and smaller format paving can be regarded as more 'Joint Dependent', which is quite logical if you think about it. This means that the pointing material in the joints is important and integral to allowing and accommodating lateral movement and stress transfer to the substrate with small format paving. This is also why the tensile / flexural strengths and elastic e-modulus of the jointing material is more important than just the compressive strength, which is

Larger Format Paving Is More Bedding Dependent



**BUT**

Smaller Format Paving Is More Joint Dependent







# LTP LAUNCHES NEW ECOPROTEC® SEALER FOR HARD LANDSCAPING

LTP has introduced a new water-based impregnating sealer for outdoor paving. Developed for the landscape and contract market - and manufactured in the UK - ECOPROTEC® External Paving & Stone Sealer is designed to protect all types of natural stone and concrete in outdoor settings. Like all ECOPROTEC® treatments, it benefits from the most advanced research in water-based technology and combines high performance with low odour and low VOC formulations.

New ECOPROTEC® External Paving & Stone Sealer is suitable for smooth, honed, rough cut and polished paving. It's applied to clean, dry surfaces - using a light pressure sprayer, foam roller or paint brush - and the finish created is natural, breathable and subtly enhances the

colour of the paving. Treatment provides protection against staining and strongly repels water, oil and grease. When applied before grouting, it also protects against fixing residues and promotes easy cleaning.

Other new protection treatments include ECOPROTEC® Porcelain Tile Protector - a water-based barrier for unpolished, textured surfaces - and ECOPROTEC® Blackstone Sealer & Restorer. ECOPROTEC® Porcelain Tile Protector is designed to protect tiles from staining and it allows easy removal of residues from cement and resin-based jointing compounds, as well as stubborn organic matter. It also improves and increases the working time of grouts and jointing compounds - and a further coat after installation helps promote easy cleaning.

Meanwhile, ECOPROTEC® Blackstone Sealer & Restorer is a water-based impregnating treatment that restores the appearance of faded limestone, marble, slate and concrete. Ideal for paths, terraces and external cladding.

Applied in 1-3 coats, until the desired depth of colour is achieved, Blackstone creates a permanent finish and provides protection against the elements.

---

**For more information on the new treatments, please visit <https://ecoprotec.co.uk> or contact LTP on tel. 01823 666213 and email [technical@ecoprotec.co.uk](mailto:technical@ecoprotec.co.uk)**



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With their ability to transform external spaces into something special and provide an 'extra room' outside of the home, it's no surprise there's such demand for outdoor porcelain.

To coincide with summer garden scaping projects, Verona has launched a series of new additions to its Al Fresco porcelain tile collection including new extra-large formats, neutral colours and eye-catching patterns.



**Sherborne Victorian Graphite** brings bold, monochrome geometrics to courtyards and gardens. Influenced by Victorian hallways, these tiles are available in a 600x600x20mm format with a coordinating plain design. **Sherborne Graphite**, which also now comes in a larger 600x900x20mm size, ideal for creating zoned areas.

**NATIONAL TRUST HIDCOTE PAVING**

Westminster Stone's beautiful Hidcote Paving is part of their best-selling Cotswold Manor range, from the National Trust Paving Collection. It's so beautiful in fact that it was chosen by renowned renovators Dick and Angel Strawbridge for Channel 4s Escape to the Chateau.

Hidcote flagstones are based on sourced originals from the National Trust's Hidcote Manor in the Cotswolds and replicates old Cotswold stone paving with meticulous detail so that the colour, texture and range of sizes creates paving full of character, with soft beige, buff and honey hues so reminiscent of the region.

Adding instant maturity to any setting, Hidcote paving can be used for patio's, paths and steps or as indoor flooring for kitchens, hallways and sitting rooms.

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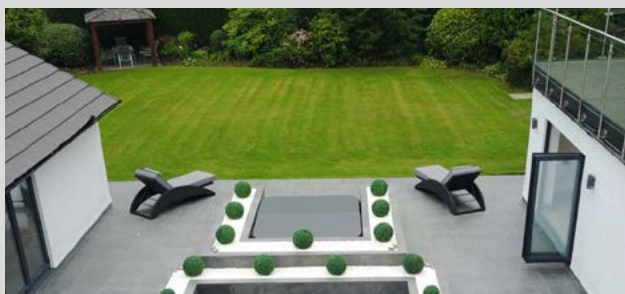
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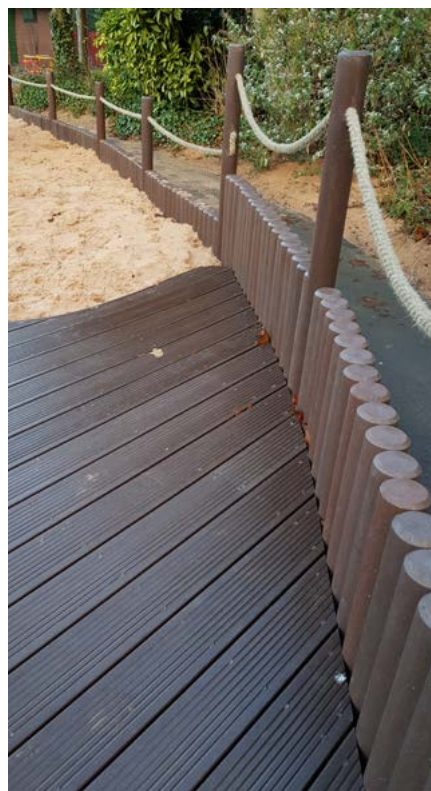


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# SEATING, PLANTERS AND PEDESTRIANISATION AT THE STRAND, ALDWYCH



## Project details:

The Strand Aldwych is a busy public area well-known as a procession route between Westminster Abbey and St Paul's Cathedral. The area was historically plagued by traffic and pollution, so people were reluctant to dwell for long periods of time.

A series of ambitious plans by Westminster Council had been designed to transform this previously isolated area into a thriving, traffic-free public space and provide a boost to the local economy. The project, with a particular focus on pedestrianisation, aims to transform parts of Aldwych and the Strand to create a harmonious public realm space.

## Project challenges:

The newly pedestrianised area with stone walls already in place needed public seating outside St Clement Danes Church. Coordinating the wall shape with the stone underneath was imperative, and access was needed to the lighting drivers through the platforms since the stone underneath is illuminated with LEDs. Furnitubes' design team worked collaboratively to develop a custom version of their popular, modular RailRoad seating range. A RailRoad wall-top solution was created with a custom curve to match the stone walls, and the platforms featured removable hatches for access when needed.



## Project Solution:

The RailRoad seating range is manufactured from triple processed recycled steel (their recommended finish system for steel products) and powder coated in a distinct metallic copper finish - while the iroko timbers were coated with UV protective finish in teak to maintain their natural look. This project focused on improving air quality, and the AKRI retaining planters were ideal for bringing green into the space. Their flexibility also allowed for matching the geometry of the adjacent stone benches and roads. In order to prevent damage, welded anti skates were incorporated into the solution.

The project not only provides health and well-being benefits with the new public landscaped areas, it will preserve the historic character and for the first time allow people to appreciate the nearby listed buildings.

**For more information on the product used in this project please visit:**  
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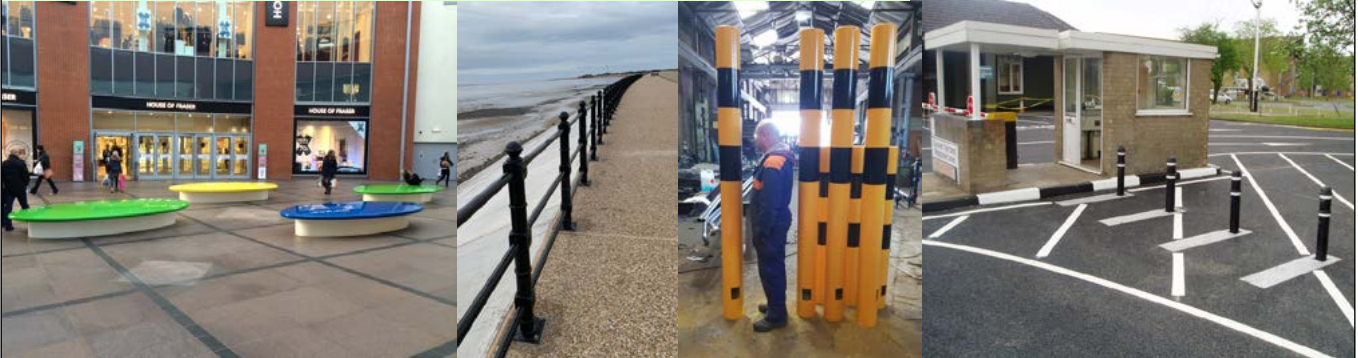






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Circular Swithland planters



## SIT IS ALL ABOUT URBAN DESIGN

SIT loves the urban space and has been dedicated for over 15 years to the development of design pieces for people to enjoy outdoor leisure. It currently has a wide collection of urban furniture. All pieces have simple and minimalist design, developed to invite gathering in public and private spaces. They bet a lot on concrete for its beauty and timelessness but also provide solutions in other materials. High resistance with low maintenance is their goal everytime a new project comes out to create city spaces for people.



The modular equipment will go ready for the site, via land or sea. It's possible to transport 3 modules in each 40' sea container. All solutions are totally removable and without ground fixation. They have unique features for coffee and bar projects, bungalows or any kind of services. It is possible to make combinations with various modules.

Later this year the brand will present a new project in the home design area to bring concrete inside the house, maintaining design and functionality always in harmony for different environments.

**Be aware and subscribe the newsletter to receive the news at [www.aboutsit.com](http://www.aboutsit.com).**







# PUBLIC REALM REGENERATION WITH PERMEABLE PAVING

A new case study explores recent urban realm regeneration projects in Tottenham, London exemplifying the synergy of concrete block permeable paving and street trees to address climate change while delivering SuDS. It demonstrates important new techniques with permeable surfaces applicable to all urban areas.

Completed in 2018, the regeneration of White Hart Lane in north Tottenham, by muf architecture/art, was a pilot designed using 'Healthy Streets' principles. These aim to create: 'streets that feel pleasant, safe and attractive. Streets where noise, air pollution, accessibility and lack of seating and shelter are not barriers ... streets with seating, shade and greenery, and reduced dominance of vehicles by designing for slower vehicle speeds.'

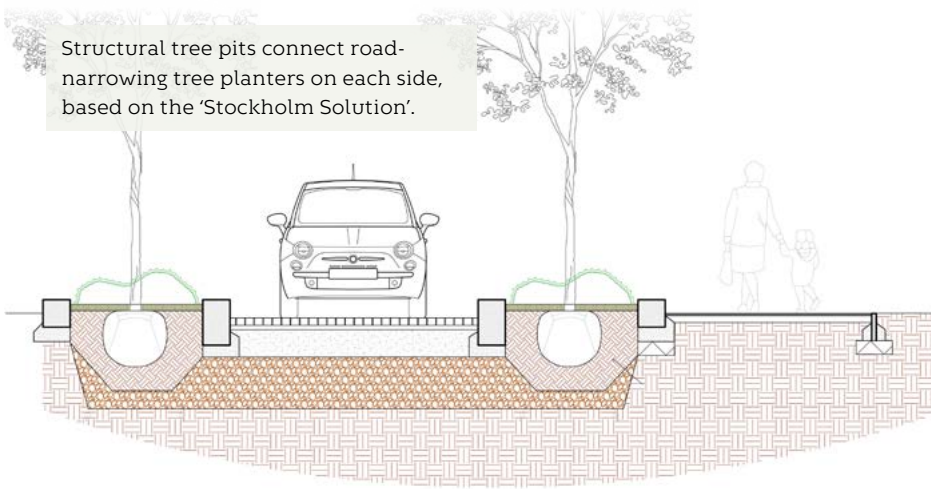
The project delivers these aspirations and was one of the first to use the 'Healthy Streets' indicator as a metric.



## Multifunctional Permeable Paving

But it also applies innovative sustainable drainage (SuDS) techniques introduced by design collaborators Robert Bray Associates. This approach reduces flooding and pollution of the hidden Moselle River through the integration of bioretention raingardens to collect and treat polluted road runoff. In addition, extensive concrete block permeable paving (CBPP) surfaces not only act as SuDS elements - attenuating and treating rainwater runoff - but also enable essential air/CO2 exchange and optimised water supply for tree roots, using a range of techniques. A focal point of the scheme is a new Pocket Park, enabled by relocation of a bus stop and removal of extensive asphalt paving. The park is separated from the road





Structural tree pits connect road-narrowing tree planters on each side, based on the 'Stockholm Solution'.

by bioretention raingardens, intercepting runoff from the whole width of the 'side-hung' carriageway which acts as a catchment. It also includes long planters to accommodate mature and new trees, and other green infrastructure, incorporating seating. This also enabled de-paving around a mature but suffocated and asphalt-locked Plane tree.

Love Lane, which runs perpendicular to White Hart Lane in front of the new landmark Underground station, is now a concrete block permeable paved, adopted highway. CBPP can also accept runoff from White Hart Lane and other impermeable surfaces. At two points, structural tree pits span the full width below the road surface connecting road-narrowing tree planters on each side, in readiness for future planting. Based on the 'Stockholm Solution' for urban tree planting, the deep structural soil zones form sumps which are hydraulically connected to the coarse graded aggregate sub-base of the permeable paving.

### Healthier Resilient Street Trees

This means that in heavy or prolonged rain, once percolated runoff begins to move laterally along the interface between the sub-base and subgrade, it moves toward the structural tree pits where it begins to be attenuated. Once the pits fill to the level of the base of the road sub-base, the attenuation and infiltration spread out over the whole road zone.

This pattern of flow and attenuation means that trees benefit from rainwater collected from an extended catchment, making them healthier and more resilient to drought. Although initially unfamiliar with the structural tree pits, with support and advice the installation contractors soon became comfortable and are now installing them elsewhere.

At the renovation of Broad Lane Square in south Tottenham, the same designers take forward these principles with further innovations.

In particular, 'inverted raingardens' protect existing trees and new green infrastructure, supplied with a gradual supply of clean water from extensive CBPP catchments.

### Permeable Paving in Harmony with Trees

Concrete block permeable paving and street trees have been proven to work together in synergy. CBPP - whether full-construction with sub-base or applied as an overlay on an existing impermeable road base - can collect rainfall away from the canopy and convey it to the tree. It can then simply discharge horizontally into a raingarden, with overflow into existing adapted gulleys. The raingarden stores water during heavy rain for SuDS, retains soil moisture during dry weather and provides additional water quality 'polishing', as well as irrigation.

Alternatively, CBPP can be used over standard tree pits, proprietary tree planters, Stockholm System or other structural soil installations, enabling irrigation and simple air/carbon dioxide exchange essential to trees - without additional reservoirs or pipes. CBPP also avoids tree root disruption common with other paved surfaces. Concrete block permeable paving technology will prove invaluable in delivering the street trees now demanded by planning policies for new developments as well as regeneration.



More information and case studies are available via: [www.paving.org.uk](http://www.paving.org.uk)

Images courtesy of Robert Bray Associates



## PICTORIAL MEADOWS HELPS CELEBRATE THE PLATINUM JUBILEE

Pictorial Meadows, as part of the not-for-profit Green Estate CIC, are thrilled to have been selected to supply wildflower seeds for the Platinum Jubilee 'Superbloom' at the Tower of London.

The project has been conceived by Historic Royal Palaces (HRP) - the charity that cares for the Tower of London - and planned for several years. HRP have worked with University of Sheffield Professor of Planting Design and Urban Horticulture, Nigel Dunnett, to bring the project to life. Their design will bring both the stunning beauty of naturalistic designed meadows to the Tower, as well as providing a significant new resource for pollinators and seed eating birds right in the centre of London.

Pictorial Meadows is renowned for its work on prestigious meadow landscapes and visitor attractions across the UK and beyond. This innovative meadow seed and turf company first shot to prominence after the public fell in love with their meadows surrounding the Olympic Stadium in 2012. Since then, they have continued to develop a range of meadows that offer astounding colour and reliability, well suited to urban environments, and helping to support local biodiversity.



The company will also be providing bespoke meadow seed mixes to schools across the UK as school children are invited to take part in a major school's initiative, growing their own meadow displays to bloom alongside the one at the Tower.

Alongside the Tower of London, you'll be able to find Pictorial Meadows supplied celebratory floral displays at Hampton Court Palace, Kensington Palace, and Hillsborough Castle.

To find out more about Pictorial Meadows, visit them online at [www.PictorialMeadows.co.uk](http://www.PictorialMeadows.co.uk).

## THERE'S MORE TO MEADOWS



Pictorial Meadows have become known across the landscaping industry for the truly exceptional quality of their meadow seed and turf products. With research sites across Europe, a partnership with the University of Sheffield, and a dedication to producing the most floriferous, biodiversity-supporting meadow mixes possible, it's no surprise that their products have become the preferred choice for specifiers and landscapers creating meadows all over the UK.

The Pictorial research and development team spend a minimum of 3 years developing each meadow mix, working to understand how each of the species selected for the mix interacts with one another, how the meadow reacts to different environmental conditions, and how the meadow develops over a longer period.



This dedication to quality does not stop at the seed mixes and meadow turfs but can be experienced through their outstanding customer service and expert advice. Audrey R. had this to say 'Pictorial Meadows are a wonderful company to deal with, especially Lian; she is fabulous! She kept in touch with me every step of the way through the process, and nothing was too much trouble'.

Whether specifying for a prestige public space or creating a small garden meadow, Pictorial Meadows are there to support you with advice, services, and products. If you like wildflower meadows, you're going to love Pictorial Meadows.

Find out more at [www.PictorialMeadows.co.uk](http://www.PictorialMeadows.co.uk).



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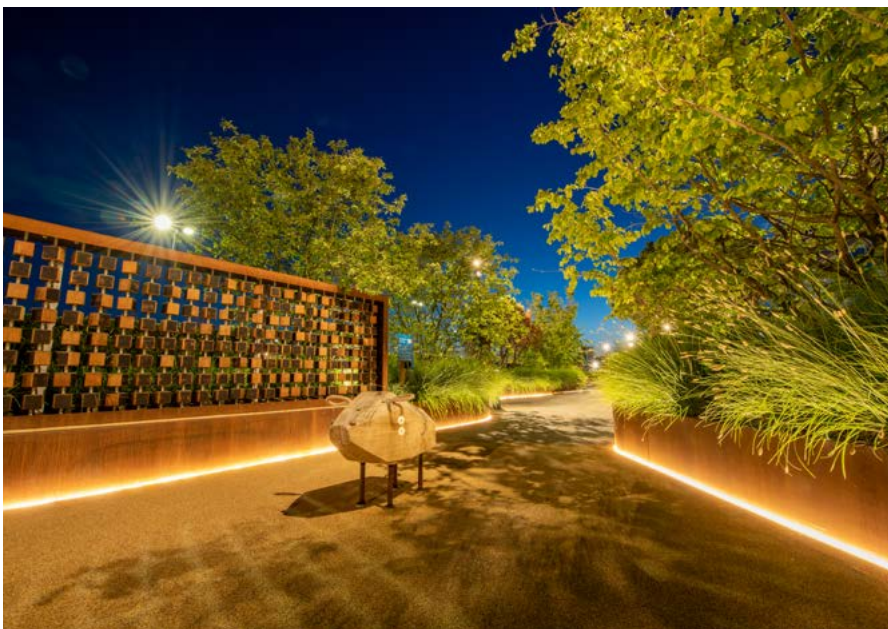


# SUPPORT THE LARGEST LANDSCAPING AWARDS IN EUROPE



This year's National Landscape Awards are in full swing with first deadline entries for Accredited Contractor, Group and Designer members having closed on the 1 June and final deadline entries for the International, Supplier Exceptional Service and Employer Excellence categories having closed on the 6 July.

Winners will be announced at the start of September where promotion of winners and sponsors will be taking place through multiple industry publications, social media and via Winners themselves. This is why there is no better time to support the Awards through the many sponsorship opportunities available.



Sponsoring the largest landscaping Awards in Europe, which welcomes over 1,000 guests annually, promises to elevate your business with brand awareness and generating new business. It reinforces client confidence in your brand, builds trust, significantly expands your reach and positions your company as an integral part of the landscaping industry - don't just take our word for it.

"The BALI Awards is a magnificent showcase for the landscape Industry, showcasing projects that the Industry can be proud of. Johnsons of Whixley are proud to sponsor the Awards for over 20 years and support BALI in its endeavours to promote professional landscapers and landscape suppliers, in what is an environmentally driven industry."

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Limited sponsorship opportunities remain available, for further details contact Diane McCulloch via telephone at +44(0)24 7518 5614 or via email at [diane.mcculloch@bali.org.uk](mailto:diane.mcculloch@bali.org.uk).

Tickets for this year's ceremony will be going on sale in August so follow the National Landscape Awards on social media for the latest updates.

For general enquiries contact Emily Feeney via telephone at +44(0)24 7518 5613 or via email at [emily.feeney@bali.org.uk](mailto:emily.feeney@bali.org.uk).





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# WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF ARTIFICIAL GRASS?



- No cutting, so you don't need to own a lawnmower.
- No need to deal with weeds or buy pesticides and fertiliser for your artificial grass. This saves an unbelievable amount of time and money in the long term!
- No dead or discoloured patches of grass (With real grass, those usually take tons of feeding, watering, nurturing, talking to, and then still have to be replaced...)

This is all great for the environment too!

## Artificial Grass Is Pet Friendly

Do your dogs and cats love the garden?

Do they dig huge holes in the lawn and track muddy footprints into the house?

Do they eat grass and make you worry about what pesticides, bugs and other strange things they have consumed in the process?

Pets love playing and basking in the sun on artificial grass, and they don't even think about all the other trouble they would be causing with the real stuff because the scent is completely different. Artificial grass is safe if they do eat a blade or two by mistake, and so easy to clean if they use it as a litter tray.

## Artificial Grass Is Stylish

We love artificial grass because it looks great from every angle, every day of the year. It will be the exact shape you want it to be, and will never grow over edges or under paving.

You don't have to worry about your lawn getting the right amount of sun or too much frost, and you can leave it for days, weeks or months and know it will still look great on your return - even during a brutal UK winter.

With summer approaching it's time to start thinking about spending time in the garden. But before you can relax and enjoy the sunshine, we're pretty sure you'll have some lawn maintenance to attend to first.

If you are fed up with regularly mowing your lawn, edging the grass and removing moss and weeds from it, then it could be time to consider making the switch to artificial grass.

## But isn't a natural lawn better?

We so often hear that 'natural is better', but is that always the case? Artificial grass is surprisingly friendly to the environment and to your pocket - not to mention saving countless hours of hard work.

It's also a fantastic option for small balconies, roof terraces, school play areas, concrete yards, and community gardens.

Is artificial grass or 'real' grass the best option for you? The longer we work with it, the more advantages to artificial grass we find! Here are the factors we think are most important when making your choice...



## Artificial Grass Is Easy To Maintain

After working hard all week, the last thing any of us wants to spend our evenings and weekends on is mowing the lawn or pulling out weeds. Not having to do this at all, ever, is possibly the greatest benefit of artificial grass.

Second to that is the cleanliness. Rinsing with water is generally all your artificial grass really needs. Alright, maybe use a pressure hose and mild detergent if there have been parties and pets involved, but you'll soon find one of the many advantages of artificial lawn is that it will be gleaming green again in no time.

## The hassle-free happiness doesn't end there:

- You don't need to water it, aside from occasional cleaning, so you save time and water.



Today's artificial grass ranges offer a variety of colours, textures and lengths, so you can choose the look that works best with your home, or that best fills its functionality, such as coverings for sports pitches or roof terraces.

**Not sure which type of artificial grass is best for you? Talk to our expert team!**

**Easily Fit Artificial Grass**

DIY artificial grass installation is a relatively simple, straightforward task, and if it's done right can last for up to 15 years.

- If the existing surface includes soil, grass or plants, it's important to cover the surface with a solid base (eg gravel or granite) before laying artificial grass. This does add to the initial work involved, but it will last many years and save endless hours in the long run!
- Installing over concrete or decking is fine, but make sure there is good drainage and secure cover with a base membrane.
- Clear the area with a broom, brush or air blower - quick and easy!

- Install a base membrane to assist with drainage and control weeds.
- Then install the artificial grass, using adhesive, fixing pins, edging and joining tape where necessary.

Now you have years of gorgeous garden surroundings to enjoy, and all that extra time on your hands, why not fix up those flower beds and special features, or try a new DIY project - build a pergola or a swing set for the kids?

But of course, the most important part is to enjoy the gloriously green, year-round benefits of artificial grass and real relaxation!



**Want to find out more about the advantages of artificial grass for your garden?**

**Give us a call on 01604 581444 or visit [harlestonesupplies.co.uk/artificial-grass](http://harlestonesupplies.co.uk/artificial-grass) for friendly, helpful advice**



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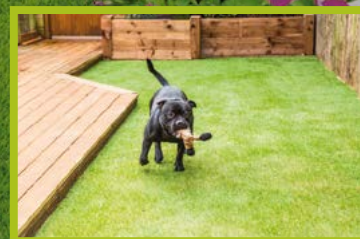
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## CHARACTERFUL PENNANT SANDSTONE

Outdoor space took on a whole new meaning recently, when we were all asked to work from home if we could. Landscapers leapt at the opportunity to provide many of us with a dramatic new look for that previously ignored space that suddenly we had so much time to study. Seating areas, patios, water features, firepits all started popping up, and it would appear even now, that the whole country is still just as keen - to keep up that momentum.

The characterful pennant sandstone, robust in its nature but diverse in its application from drystone walling, to building and paving stone, has been a very popular choice with both the client and the landscaper. Pennant Sandstone, available from Birch Hill Quarry in the Forest of Dean has a multitude of uses. Most recently the quarry has begun producing a coursed building stone, sawn top and bottom, cropped and then tumbled through a huge rolling drum to smooth the edges, making the building stone easy to lay and quick to form a uniform walling. In contrast the 'random cropped' walling produces a more natural, rugged finish, a well-liked product especially when mixed with a sawn coping to create that striking contrast, yet by using the same pennant sandstone complimenting.

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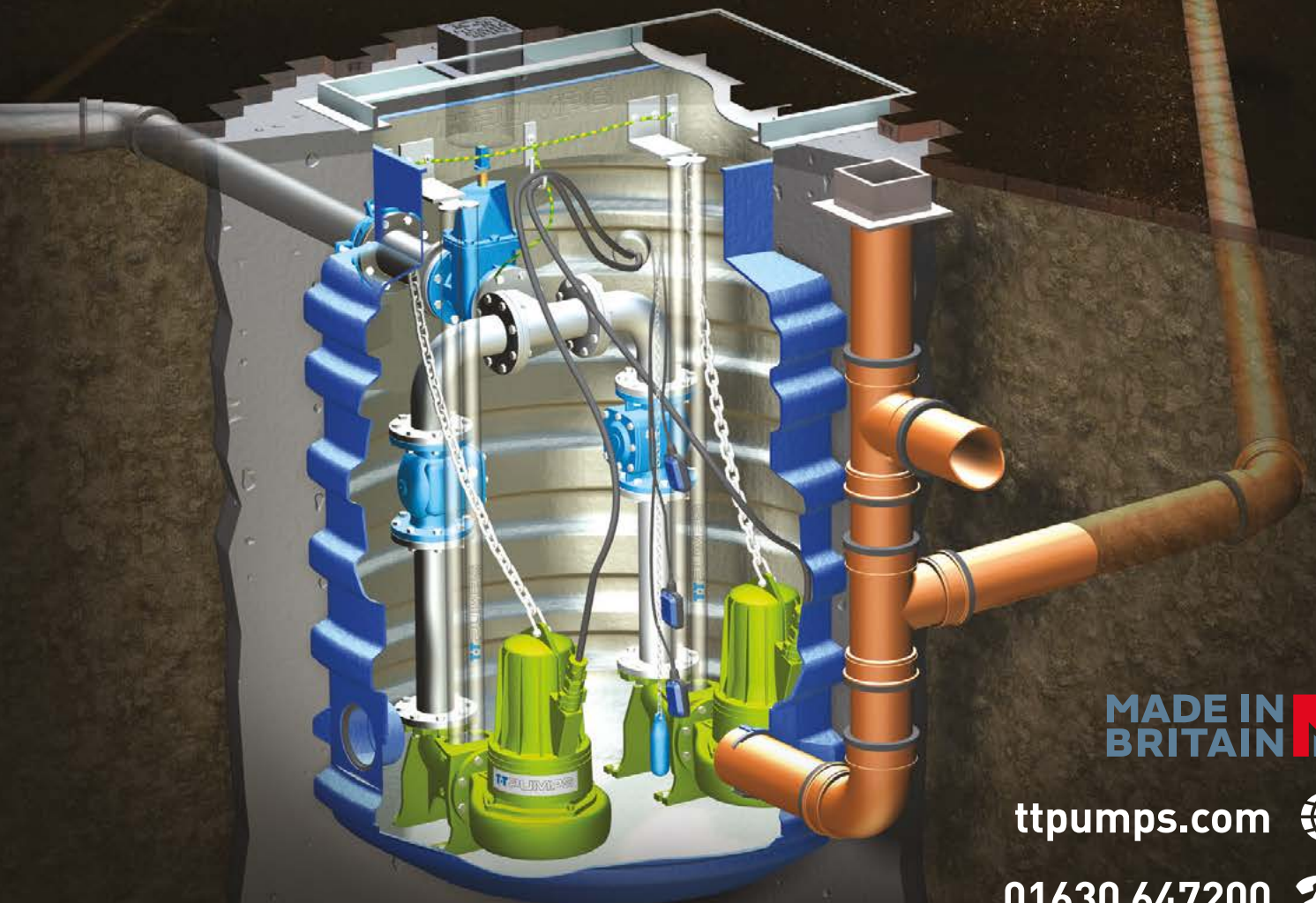




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EverEdge's bestselling edging product to the landscape trade is the Titan range of heavy duty steel edging. EverEdge Titan is available in a range of thicknesses from 2.5mm up to 6.0mm and depths of 100mm up to 300mm. Deeper and thicker edges can be specified. EverEdge Titan is used in both soft and hard landscaping projects on lawns, driveways and pathways and offers a more durable edge which is especially useful in public projects.

EverEdge Planters can be specified to virtually any shape, size and finish. CorTen is often specified in urban design projects due its durability and the fact that it is low maintenance.

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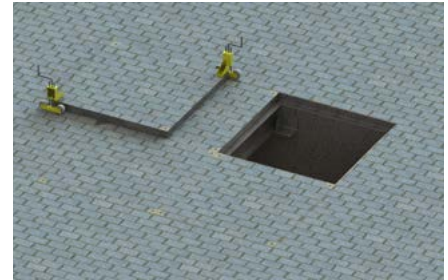


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# HOWE GREEN LAUNCHES NEW LANDSCAPE 1000 SERIES



As part of its commitment to providing landscaping professionals with high performance access solutions, Howe Green has launched its new Landscape 1000 Series Floor Access Covers, which combine first class functionality with attractive affordability.

Suitable for hard landscaping applications, the latest range is available in galvanised steel or stainless steel options, providing safe and secure access to under-floor services, without compromising the overall visual appeal.

Galvanised to BS EN ISO 1461, the single, galvanised steel, unsecured access covers are available in standard sizes directly from stock to support landscaping professionals in completing urgent projects.

Single, duct or multipart configurations in bespoke sizes and shapes with optional secured designs can also be made to order at Howe Green's UK headquarters to meet each project's unique floor access requirements.

Each model within the range has a FACTA A - B rating, and load ratings are achieved without the need for structural infill. Howe Green's inhouse design and manufacturing experts are able to manufacture higher FACTA ratings on request.

Each access cover has a maximum stone or concrete depth of 85mm, making it suitable for installation with a diverse range of hard flooring finishes for quick and easy installation. Deeper recesses are available on request through additional reinforcement in the support structure.

To ensure the highest standards of safety when accessing under-floor services via the cover, lifting points are located within triangular corner plates. Optional threaded inserts are also available to enable the use of Howe Green's unique Cover Skate lifting device, in addition to UKPN lifting keyholes.

Chris George, Business Development Manager for Howe Green, said: "The launch of our new Landscape

1000 Series provides landscaping professionals with cost effective yet high quality access solutions that are suitable for a diverse range of hard landscaping projects.

"At Howe Green, we are committed to continuously investing in the design and manufacture of access solutions that provide professionals with first class performance and functionality, available in the shortest possible lead times, and our new 1000 Series is a reflection of this continued dedication."

The 1000 Series offers a maximum clear opening of 900 x 900mm, with a minimum clear opening of 450 x 450mm and an outer frame maximum of 1100 x 1100mm as standard. However, larger or smaller sizes are available on request.

**For further information on Howe Green's complete range of floor access solutions, visit [www.howegreen.com](http://www.howegreen.com) or call 01920 463230.**





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## New LANDSCAPE 1000 Series floor access covers with first-class performance with affordability

Our new commercial landscaping floor access covers provide safe and easy access to external under-floor services. Available in galvanised or stainless steel options they combine first-class performance with attractive affordability.

From stock we offer single, galvanised steel, unsecured access covers in standard sizes. Bespoke sizes and shapes in single, duct or multipart configurations with optional secured lifting points can be manufactured to meet your specific project requirements. Given the choice, why would you specify anything less?





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# CORK, THE GREEN SOLUTION FOR PLAYGROUNDS

## Contributing to the goal of carbon neutrality in the cities

Architects and designers increasingly seek eco-efficient materials and solutions that ensure quality and comfort without harming the environment. Combining ecology and performance, cork is one such product and has tremendous potential in the fields of urban construction, rehabilitation and outdoor areas.

All over the world, a growing proportion of people lives in cities. Big or small, old or new, cities are becoming our natural environment. According to the United Nations, about 55% of the world's population

currently lives in urban areas, and it is estimated that this percentage will rise to 68% over the coming decades\*. By 2050, two thirds of the world population will live in urban areas.

## Cork and the green cities of tomorrow

In this context, it is imperative to increase the quality of life in urban centers, both in terms of comfort and in terms of environmentally friendly solutions in new buildings, rehabilitations, and outdoor spaces.

Cork, as a renewable natural raw material that plays an important role in the reduction of greenhouse gases, is gaining momentum in

the area of sustainable and eco-efficient construction, mainly due to its thermal insulation properties and acoustic and vibration control capacities.

## Everything begins in Nature

Cork is a natural, 100% recyclable, renewable raw material obtained from the cork oak tree (*Quercus Suber L.*). This oak species whose bark (cork) regenerates itself is mainly found in Southern Mediterranean countries and North Africa, and has an average lifetime of 200 years. Portugal is the leading cork-producing country, responsible for over 50% of total European cork production.





It is lightweight, with high flexibility and compressibility, resistant to moisture, friction and abrasion, and has thermal, acoustic and vibration insulation capacities.

### Safer and more accessible playgrounds - Corkeen by Amorim

Given its positive contribution to outdoor and leisure areas, urban parks and playgrounds, cork can be used as a safe, stable and sustainable surface, due to its main characteristics: lower surface temperature, impact absorption, odorless, drainage capacity, lightweight, fire-retardant and hypoallergenic.

Additionally, its resilience creates a cushioning effect, which makes floors extremely comfortable for walking and standing. But, more than comfortable, playgrounds made by cork need to be safe.

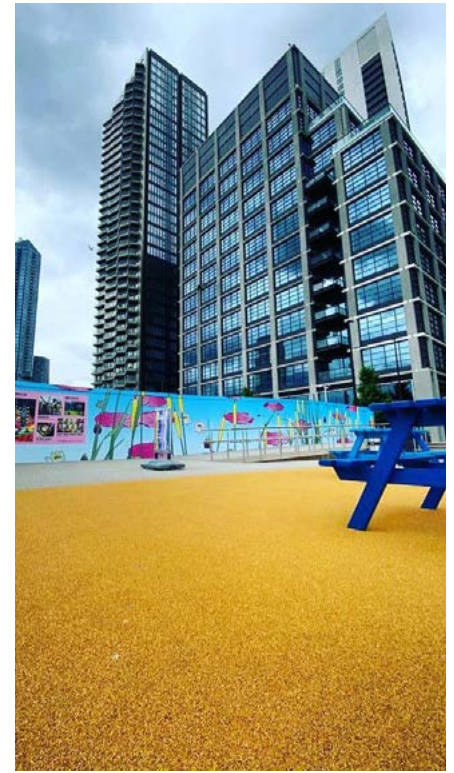
The playground industry in Europe has defined children's safety as one of the top priorities. To reduce the risk of severe injuries, EN1176 & EN1177 has been introduced to the market. EN1176 is the European Standard for play equipment and surfacing. It regulates criterias within the playing area. One of these requirements is the need for safety surfacing below playground equipment.

Studies indicate that for each ton of cork produced, the cork oak forest can sequester up to 73 tons of CO<sub>2</sub>\*\*, and thus helps to reduce the Global Warming potential and contributing to the goal of carbon neutrality in the cities.

### Cork's Natural Born Technology

Cork consists of a honeycomb structure, including thousands of microscopic cells, filled by an air-like gas and coated primarily by suberin and lignin. Suberin is the element that makes cork impermeable to liquids and gases, allowing it to age without deteriorating.

In addition to its insulation capacity, cork has a series of other characteristics that enable a broad range of applications in building construction.



That's why Corkeen is the revolutionary surfacing system for playgrounds. As a safe and stable surface, it complies with EN1176 and EN1177. Corkeen system has been tested by Labosport in France according to EN1177 and has passed those tests, receiving certificates on system thicknesses from 40-135 mm. The use of playgrounds encourages the construction of social and intellectual skills through increased interaction. It enhances group dynamics among children, in a learning and recreational environment, including, in many cases, the involvement of the family. These surfaces are typically installed in schools or outdoor parks and must incorporate the natural world around them, fitting into their environment.

The green space is vital for the activity and elements such as water or cork provide children with a dynamic environment, which gives the space characteristics that they see, sound and feel as interesting. Corkeen responds to this need, combining safety and sustainability, satisfying the most demanding requirements of any project. It is also an inclusive system, providing full accessibility, even in a wheelchair or using other mobility equipment.





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### A waste-free future: embracing the circular economy

To protect the future, we need to rethink the way we approach waste. The Corkeen vision is committed to developing a circular future, turning what once was seen as waste into new creative opportunities. Reusing and recycling as much as possible, extending the life of products and regenerating our natural ecosystems are all part of the solution. When the take-make-dispose model is no longer viable, the need for a paradigm shift arises.

To produce Corkeen, PlaySmart guarantee full utilization of harvested material, ensuring that, just as in nature nothing is lost and everything is transformed. Even the smallest cork granules are used as a valuable energy source. Over 60% of their energy needs are met through the use of biomass (cork dust), thereby minimising greenhouse gases and reducing their carbon footprint.

### PlaySmart's commitment to sustainability goes a long way

Using a 100% natural and renewable material is only the beginning.

In PlaySmart's operations, they use biomass as an energy source, and value the byproducts resulting from the production of cork stoppers. They give a new life to cork stoppers at the end of their life cycle, by making cork granules that reenter the production process, and are used in new products. In fact, at the end of the Corkeen system's life cycle, all materials are reusable, giving life to new products.

In this way, the end becomes the beginning, and the wheel keeps turning.

### Corkeen has a negative carbon balance

The carbon balance of the Corkeen system is -102kg CO<sub>2</sub> eq/m<sup>2</sup>. This means that the Corkeen system



promotes carbon sequestration in the cork oak forest that exceeds the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from its production.

The Environmental Footprint study conducted by EY, according to a Life Cycle assessment, which also considers the carbon sequestration of the cork oak forest, was based on the cradle-to-gate approach, that contemplates the environmental impacts of all activities, from the extraction of raw material, through the production of all components to the factory gate. It also included the transportation stages and on-site installation of the system.

The analysis considered the fact that the Corkeen system is installed in situ, as a two-layer system (the bottom layer at the base, for impact absorption, complemented by a wear-proof top layer).

For more information please visit our website [www.playsmartuk.co.uk](http://www.playsmartuk.co.uk) or contact us on [info@playsmartuk.co.uk](mailto:info@playsmartuk.co.uk) or 01564 742 811





# PlaySmart UK

PlaySmart UK has spent almost 20 years operating as the leading innovator in surfacing for play, leisure, and recreation

If you are planning a public, community or school play area, a landscaped space or even a roof top garden with a surfacing element then PlaySmart can support you. All solutions have been tested, where appropriate, to BS EN177 and BS EN 7188 and come with our no quibble guarantee.



We have a range like no other provider in the UK featuring a **100% sustainable** solution in Corkeen. Produced with cork, a raw material of natural origin, reusable and recyclable the Corkeen system is the sustainable, ecological, and safe solution the world of play and landscaping has been waiting for. Corkeen can be installed into play areas, pathways and public spaces and can also achieve a Fall Height of up to 2.7m.

PlaySmart also offer a **natural** solution in **Nordic Lawn Hybrid Grass**. Nordic Lawn protects and stabilises natural grass and the open mesh structure allows the natural grass to grow through. This solution is safe, soft, easy to install with minimal ground preparation required. It is perfect for worn grassed areas, parks, public spaces or slopes. When combined with **SmartPlay**, our patented shock pad, Nordic Lawn achieves 2.7m high fall height in a play area.

More traditional surfacing solutions are also available from PlaySmart;

**Green Frog** Artificial Grass, **RubbaSmart** EPDM, **JungleMulch** bonded mulch & **EcoSmart** grass mats.  
We also offer fire retardant grass mats in **FireSmart** which complies with BS7044.

For more information please visit our website

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# ENHANCED PLAY FACILITIES FOR CHILDREN IS OPEN IN JUBILEE GARDENS BY THE LONDON EYE

Reopened playground overlooking the London Eye offers new nautical Thames themed play equipment for younger children and for those with differing abilities as well as more sensory sound vision and touch experiences.

Local MP Florence Eshalomi and Cllr Claire Holland, the Leader of Lambeth Council, joined local councillors and Jubilee Gardens Trust Members along with children from Oasis Academy Johanna and

Coin Street Nursery on Thursday May 26 to celebrate the reopening of the new and enhanced playground at Jubilee Gardens on Belvedere Road, SE1.

The design of the playground, by Timberplay, caters for all children from toddlers to age 11 by offering enough risk that users with high physical ability have opportunities to push themselves while also ensuring there are numerous accessible opportunities for play

for those with disabilities to engage with and join in with other children.

The works have been funded by Lambeth Council using developer contributions towards improvements for the local area. The new large Play Ship, by Richter Spielgeräte, is ideal for younger children providing unlimited opportunities for adventure from climbing and a double slide to imaginative play as ship's captain on the bridge! New sensory





and accessible items such as Conferences, talking tubes installed along the perimeter of the fence including some at seated height, help to create safe spaces which are accessible and enjoyable for many people that are neurodivergent. Wheelchair users and those in prams have been considered in the design with a Rocking Plate located near to the entrance, a bespoke Pairs Game, including icons associated with London and the South Bank and a Stroking Stone Seal a friendly creature to touch, sit and play on. The smooth shapes of the concrete form provide a different tactile experience for all users. For children with limited mobility a Sea-Roarer can be tilted and rolled by shifting their weight on the large steel disc creating crashing wave sounds of a rolling ocean.

Unusually, for a prime Central London open space, Jubilee Gardens is managed by a small locally based charitable trust, comprising representatives of local residents, businesses and adjacent landowners.

Ted Inman, Chair of the Jubilee Gardens Trust which manages the gardens, said: "Over 8m people visited Jubilee Gardens every year prior to the pandemic and the playground is a much-loved essential play space for local children and visitors to enjoy. As a charity we rely on grants to keep Jubilee Gardens safe and beautiful. We are grateful for the s106 funding from Southbank Place provided through Lambeth Council which enabled us to make this much needed upgrade to the playground."

Cllr Holland said "Playgrounds and greenspaces like Jubilee Gardens are essential for children's wellbeing, particularly for the 70 per cent of local residents who don't have access to a garden. The reopening of this playground is great news for local children who have a safe, challenging and fun environment in which to enjoy being outdoors and with their peers. It is particularly important that the playground caters for all children and is genuinely inclusive to their needs."

Managing Director Paul Collings of Timberplay who created the playground, said "Jubilee gardens is an exceptional play space used by thousands of people each day, the design we created ensures its longevity for years to come."







Play is key in the development of children on every level and Jubilee Gardens plays a major role in this within central London and is a project we are extremely proud to be involved with."

"Sustainable management of the Jubilee Gardens refurbishment was considered during the design process. We identified where we could re-use timbers from the playground to ensure as little waste as possible and we have also re-used safety surfacing where possible making only repairs around the new play pieces"

Jubilee Gardens next to the London Eye were created in 1977 for the Queen's Silver Jubilee. They were re-landscaped in 2012 for the Diamond Jubilee and visited by The Queen in that Jubilee year. The playground reopens in time for the 2022 Jubilee Gardens to celebrate its 10th anniversary and for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations.

[www.timberplay.com](http://www.timberplay.com)



## INTRODUCING EIBE'S 2022 NEW EXCLUSIVE BRAND – TOUGH TRAIL

Motivating young people to exercise?  
More important than ever in the digital age.

Exercise hardly ever takes place in the regular everyday lives of children and young people. Sitting in class for long periods of time, doing homework at their desks and spending their free time on computers, game consoles, smartphones, etc.: gaming, streaming, surfing, chatting.

Nowadays, inactive habits also shape the lives of our children and young people. Action packed activities take place on the screen at best, while movement plays an ever-smaller role in the real world of kids. The lack of sport and the refusal to exercise are a serious problem of our sedentary times. While exercise still plays a relatively important role in childhood, the lack of exercise increases significantly from the age of 11. We at eibe wanted to do something about this unhealthy trend. We took a close look at the situation, needs and wishes of our kids. What does it take to get them off the couch, away from digital and social media and instead outdoors, moving around, having huge fun that also makes them want to do more?

**Challenge accepted: the eibe tough trail.**



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# COSMIC ISEKI STARS AT PORTRACK HOUSE

A range of ISEKI machines are helping to maintain the Garden of Cosmic Speculation - an incredible 30-acre sculpture garden located at Portrack House, near Dumfries in South West Scotland.

Forty major areas, gardens, bridges, landforms, sculptures, terraces, fences and architectural works, the Garden of Cosmic Speculation is a sight to behold. The masterpiece features landscape work based on the Big Bang, geometric fractals, twisting DNA helixes, and black holes.

Groundcare Manager at Portrack House, Ben Wakefield, admits that he is fortunate to work at such a magical site, but it is safe to say he has his work cut out. In maintaining the vast area, Ben claims he needs every machine to be a 'workhorse' and it is for this reason that there was only one brand he considered when he needed a new tractor.

"We already had a ride-on mower and a tractor from ISEKI, and we wanted to extend our fleet," said Ben. "The machinery we have had from ISEKI in the past has covered all the bases. We have found them to

be reliable, trustworthy, strong and they have taken literally everything we have thrown at them... and even a little bit more."

Ben recently added the ISEKI TXGS24 compact tractor to his fleet. Used in a huge range of applications where a small multi-use sub compact tractor is required, the TXGS24 is the ultimate compact multi-purpose tractor. With 3-point linkage, mid and rear PTOs, optional mower decks and front loader the uses for the TXGS24 tractor are limitless.



"We use it for everything," said Ben. "It has the digger bucket on it, so we use it for excavating and landscaping purposes. It also has a trailer attachment, so we use it a lot for collecting grass and leaves. We can run the PTO's and systems off one tractor and can unload into a trailer attached to another tractor. It is our general-purpose machine - basically if we can attach something to it, then we can use it."

Ben also has the ISEKI TXG237 compact tractor, the previous model, to assist him, as well as the ISEKI SXG323 ride-on mower. The SXG Range is the ultimate in cut and collection mowers, with the ability to perform exceptionally even in the wet conditions. Its large capacity, low revving 1123cc, 19hp, engine creates very little vibration and wear and tear on the engine itself, whilst also being very fuel efficient and powerful.

"We predominantly use this mower on all our flat areas, around our mounds, and riverbanks," said Ben. "It is a very good bit of machinery, and it has a leaf collector and a grass collector on the back which certainly makes life a lot easier."

To make disposing of grass cuttings easy, the SXG323 has a hydraulically operated high or low tip collection system which can lift up to a height of 1.97m - something Ben is particularly impressed with.

"The high tipper is very useful because it allows us to drop grass off in certain areas that may not be accessible by reversing trailers in," he continued.



"It is easy to pile it up, is a lot neater, and it saves multiple people leaf blowing or collecting it by hand."

"The adjustment in cutting height is a very good feature. There is also the hydraulic lifting which lifts the deck up and down, so when you are going over bumpy or rough terrain, you can easily adjust the height so that you get a nice and even cut the whole way through."

While Ben and his team are surrounded by a garden inspired by modern cosmology, he admits that he has his very own set of stars.

"Quite simply, ISEKI has a range of machinery that caters exactly for what we need. We enjoy using them and they are comfortable and safe to use. I would recommend these machines to absolutely anyone."



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# MADE FOR EVERY SLOPE... ZERO-TURNS FROM CUB CADET

Cub Cadet, the proven innovator of zero-turn technology, has created the industry's strongest line up of zero-turn riders - whether you are a landscape professional looking for a machine that can handle any terrain or a small business owner looking for a machine for your customers large lawn maintenance.

You can book a demo of our machines by finding your nearest dealer at [www.cubcadet.co.uk](http://www.cubcadet.co.uk) or contact Cub Cadet on 01869 363677.

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## Z9 - Top of the range professional zero-turn

The NEW top of the range Z9 183id zero-turn, proven by landscape professionals, will fulfil all your commercial requirements.

With extremely wide double wheels, the Z9 has been developed to effortlessly tackle even the steepest slopes up to 25° / 46%.

The ability to control all four wheels with a steering wheel and steerable front wheels, an exclusive offering by Cub Cadet in

the commercial sector, minimises the turf being churned up by the wheels. The patented SyncroSteer® technology means that even the less experienced operators can benefit from the ease of use and amazing manoeuvrability of this machine.

The Z9 reduces mowing time by up to 10% compared to lap bar mowers, provides greater hillside stability, enhanced traction on uneven terrain as well as mowing in straighter lines.



**XZ7 - Designed for every challenge**

The Award-winning design of the XZ7 L152i from Cub Cadet redefines the zero-turn mowing experience - with enhanced strength, re-imagined comfort and a best-in-class cut.

The latest steering lever lap bar technology combined with the extremely robust construction of heavy-duty components and high-performance engines makes the machine the ideal professional machines for large lawn maintenance.

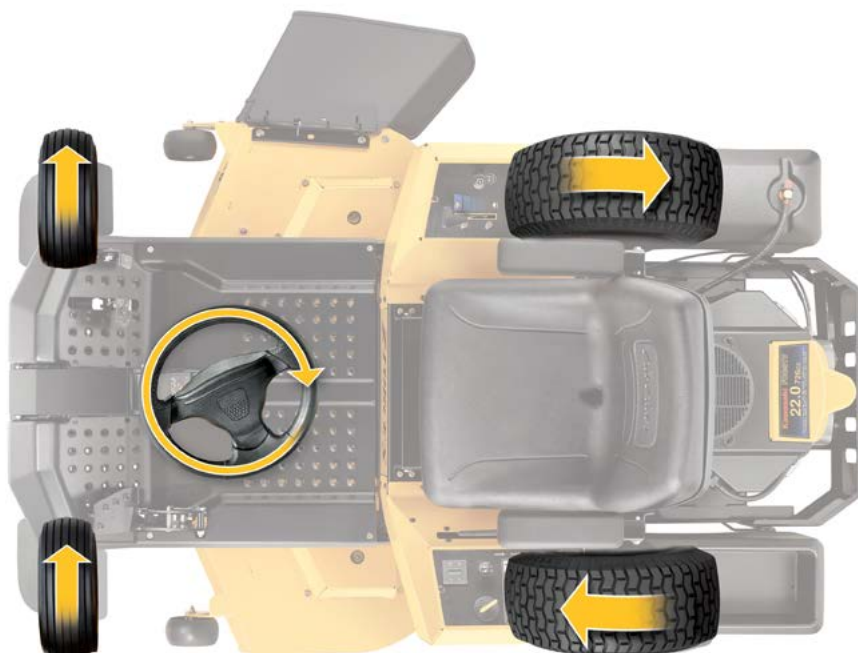
The open continuous tubular lightweight steel frame is designed for strength and durability. The hinged/removable floor pan allows quick and easy access to the welded, all round reinforced AeroForce Max™ mowing deck and engine for ease of maintenance.



A powerful Kohler EFI V-Twin dual cylinder engine gives the machine the power to mow up to 15,000 m<sup>2</sup>h.

With a large cutting width of 60"/152cm, the machine puts owner/operator comfort at the forefront of its design with a premium high-back seat with armrests and adjustable suspension for fatigue-free working.

The XZ7 L152i is ideal for mowing rolling hills, with its outstanding stability on slopes, and around obstacles, with its effortless manoeuvrability. Even on the most difficult lawns the spring-mounted suspension on the front wheels ensure a smooth ride with less vibration.

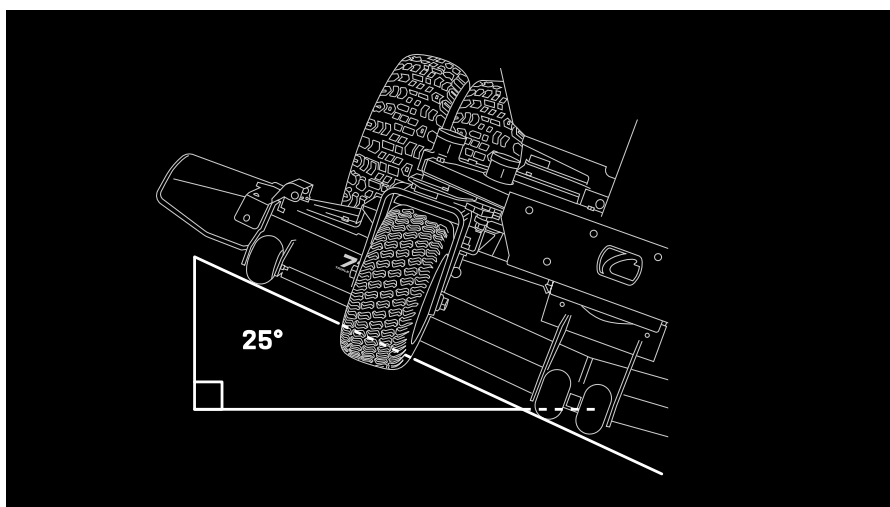


It powers through the thickest grass in one pass at maximum speeds of up to 12mph meaning you can do the job quicker. The high lift Marbain blades with a blade tip speed up to 18,500 fpm and the 3" total blade overlap will ensure that you always get a tight consistent cut. The frame and axle on the Z9 floats as the machine moves, allowing the multi-reinforced steel deck to follow the shape of the terrain and avoid scalping. The cutting deck can be adjusted at the touch of a button.

The Kawasaki EFI engine provides the consistent power you need to get the job done and maximise your work-day - reducing the downtime which could cost you both time and money. The petrol engine benefits from having reduced fuel usage, while the 2 x 34 litre tanks gives you ability to operate all day.

Comfort is at the forefront of the machine's design. Your operators can experience a smooth ride all day long thanks to the exclusive air-ride seat and isolated dampening system on the Z9 - meaning they are working in vibration-controlled comfort, lessening downtime for your business. Angled back adjustments, padded armrest and lumbar support give added protection.

Ideal for commercial users, the Z9 has everything and more that you would expect from a quality professional machine - ultimate performance, comfort and durability that delivers a fast, premium cut time and time again. You'll also benefit from a warranty of 3 year or up to 1000 hours (whichever comes first) for commercial and private use.







At Cub Cadet we trust our new XZ7 L152i to perform with maximum durability and robustness and offer a warranty of 3 years or up to 500 working hours (whichever comes first) - for commercial or private use as well as offering a dealership service that delivers true advantages to you and your business.

The XZ7 L152i from Cub Cadet. Professional grade power for your business and your lawns.

**XZ6 - NEW steering wheel range**

The new models in the XZ6 range, due to launch in May 2022, will give you unmatched steering capabilities in challenging terrains. The industry-leading SyncroSteer® technology for full control of the front wheels, combined with powerful Cub Cadet

and Kawasaki engines makes the XZ6 series the ideal machines for large lawn maintenance if you prefer the ease of a steering wheel.

With 3 cutting widths available from 107cm / 42" through to 127cm / 50" and a maximum mowing area of 11,500 m<sup>2</sup>h and speed of 7 mph these machines will provide the ideal solution for your large mowing jobs. You'll be able to mow in comfort for hours due to the high back premium seat and mow slopes up to 20° / 36%.

The award winning continuous lightweight tubular steel frame is designed for strength and durability. A fabricated mowing deck ensures unsurpassed mowing performance. Our unique zero-turn riders with a traditional steering wheel provide

you with amazing manoeuvrability and full control of the front wheels.

The new XZ6 range will be steering you forward during 2022.

Our large range means that both professionals and business owner alike can find their ideal zero-turn machine; whether they are looking for a serious bit of kit to mow steep slopes or to mow their customers large lawns... Cub Cadet have got you covered this year and every year going forward.

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**For more information and to book a demo go to [www.cubcadet.co.uk](http://www.cubcadet.co.uk) or contact Cub Cadet on 01869 363677.**



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# SPRAYING IN THE COMFORT ZONE

Head groundsman Jason O’Keefe and his six-strong Epsom College team are all dab hands with knapsack sprayers.

“Everyone has their PA6 certificate so they can use them whenever we need to weed and feed,” says Jason.

The team manage an 85-acre estate, 12 hectares devoted to sport, including five cricket squares, 12 turf pitches, two synthetics and plenty of planted-up borders lining college staff and pupil accommodation at the 1,200-head co-educational independent school, so there’s plenty of opportunity for them to hone their spray skills.

Part of Commercial Groundscare Services’ team of professionals who tend school sports facilities throughout Surrey, the Epsom College contingent are based on site.

The sporting calendar is vast. “We can have as many as 10 cricket fixtures here on a Saturday for example,” he adds, “while local and league football clubs also train here,” says Jason, who delivers across football, rugby, hockey, tennis and athletics.

“I vary team members’ jobs as that creates more interest so we all take a hand at knapsack spraying. I wanted a couple more so we could speed up the efficiency of our spraying programme.

“I trialled the 16l capacity Berthoud Vermorel Pro Comfort 2000, liked it, and have just bought another one. What impressed me were the chest and back strap supports. Ergonomically designed, they make spraying comfortable - important if you are out there for a day non stop.

“The zip bag of spare nozzles and accessories is handy and the extendable lance lets us reach into corners and the back of borders.”

Jason keeps weed and feed programmes separate, using each Vermorel for discrete duties. “In spring and summer we’re out every fortnight for a couple of days, applying liquid iron across the ornamental lawns with one of the knapsacks while using a mix of systemic herbicide and liquid nitrogen with the other.



“Growth retardant applied to banks reduces the need for strimming, and we can use it in the same knapsack as that for feed.” Winter sees the team applying moss and algae treatment liquid monthly to the two synthetic pitches.

The team runs pre-start checks before every outing. “I haven’t replaced anything yet. They are certainly robust and the piston and pump operation work really well, delivering a consistent, continuous spray.”

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