

# LANDSCAPE & URBAN DESIGN

64

Nov/Dec 2023

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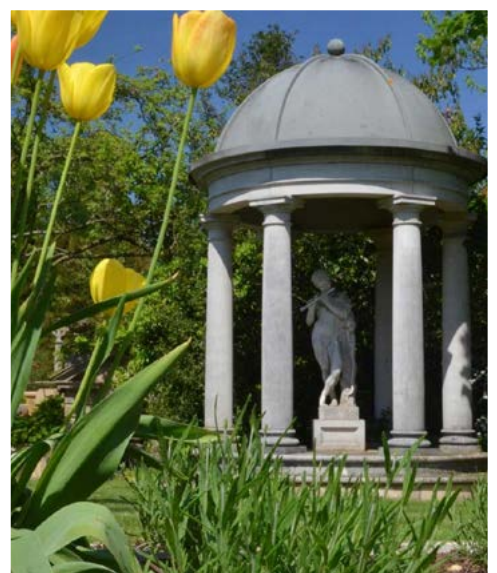
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Haddonstone answers ten top  
garden temple design questions





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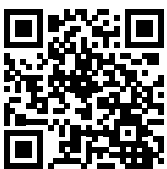
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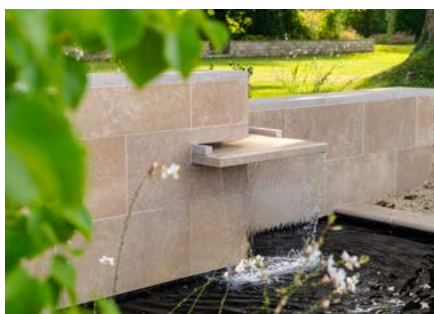
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# HADDONSTONE ANSWERS TOP TEN GARDEN TEMPLE DESIGN QUESTIONS

## **Toby Marlow, Haddonstone's Building and Construction Director**

Haddonstone is a trusted, established specialist, with an enviable heritage, in the design and manufacture of architectural and garden stonework. The ranges comprise cast stone architecture in traditional, classical and contemporary designs for residential and commercial projects, and beautiful formal and informal garden, home and landscape products. All products are made to order in Northamptonshire with UK-sourced materials and are available in both standard and bespoke

designs and colours. Stunning Show Gardens are located in East Haddon, near to the manufacturing facility.

Elegant and versatile, classical temples are charming stone structures that enhance a garden or landscape design scheme in luxury residential developments. They add effortless style and offer superb panoramic views of the surrounding landscape. They can even provide an exceptional seating area. Here Toby Marlow, Haddonstone's Building and Construction Director, answers ten common garden cast temple design questions.

### **1. What is a garden temple?**

Classical cast stone temples are charming garden buildings which give superb panoramic views of the surrounding countryside, lawn or garden. Inspired by the Ionic Roman temples of 750 BC, they are equally fitting in classical, traditional and even modern gardens and landscapes today. Chosen to enhance residential gardens and the landscapes of stately homes, hotels, spas and other commercial developments around the world, garden temples add an effortless, classical style. They can be incorporated into a design scheme to draw the eye towards a key focal



point, provide an elegant outside seating area, or even to showcase a treasured statue or water feature.

Classical temples can be created using a combination of architectural components including balustrading, columns, flooring and steps. Generally, these components are made from natural or cast stone materials, the latter offering lots of flexibility in terms of design, and affordability.

## 2. What are the benefits of a garden temple and how can it be used?

There are countless benefits to choosing a garden temple. Firstly, they offer an elegant, sheltered space to dine and entertain throughout the warmer months. When not being used during the winter, they make the ideal outside

structure to showcase a statement statue, a relaxing water feature, or even an elegant Christmas tree.

Garden temples also add structural beauty to gardens and landscapes of all sizes and are perfect for adding elegance to an outside space without the grandeur and investment of a larger orangery.

As garden cast temples are effectively 'open' on all sides without 'walls', thanks to them being constructed of columns, they provide unobstructed views of a landscape from any angle.

Moreover, garden temples are surprisingly affordable and as they are bespoke, can be made to order in a choice of sizes, colours and designs.



Haddonstone's Belvedere

## 3. How does a garden temple differ from other garden buildings?

There are many types of garden buildings to choose from, each with their own benefits.

Both equally impressive in design, garden temples and Belvederes are ideal for a simple, elegant and practical garden building design. A garden temple is usually round in design, constructed from four or more stone columns and will be crowned by a beautiful fibreglass or metal dome.

In contrast, a Belvedere is usually square in plan and constructed of balustrades, columns, architrave and cornice. Both designs are usually finished with elegant temple flooring.

Stone pavilions and orangeries are generally considered more 'imposing' than garden temples and Belvederes. They offer all the benefits of a garden temple or Belvederes, but with the added bonus of providing more shelter and aesthetic clout.

A stone pavilion is generally square or rectangular in plan, constructed with at least one wall (usually to the back of the design) and surmounted by a significant architrave.

Finally, a quality orangery is usually constructed of stone with glass panelling and a glazed roof and more often than not is used as traditional 'green houses', or as a continuation of the architecture of the home.







Haddonstone's Orangerie



Haddonstone's Pavilion



Haddonstone's Pavilion

**4. Is planning permission required for a garden temple?**

Planning permission is unlikely to be needed before installing a garden cast temple - but the advice is to check. Haddonstone garden temples are over 2.5 metres at their highest point and, as any buildings over this height cannot be positioned within two metres of a boundary, it is best to check before planning and starting installation.

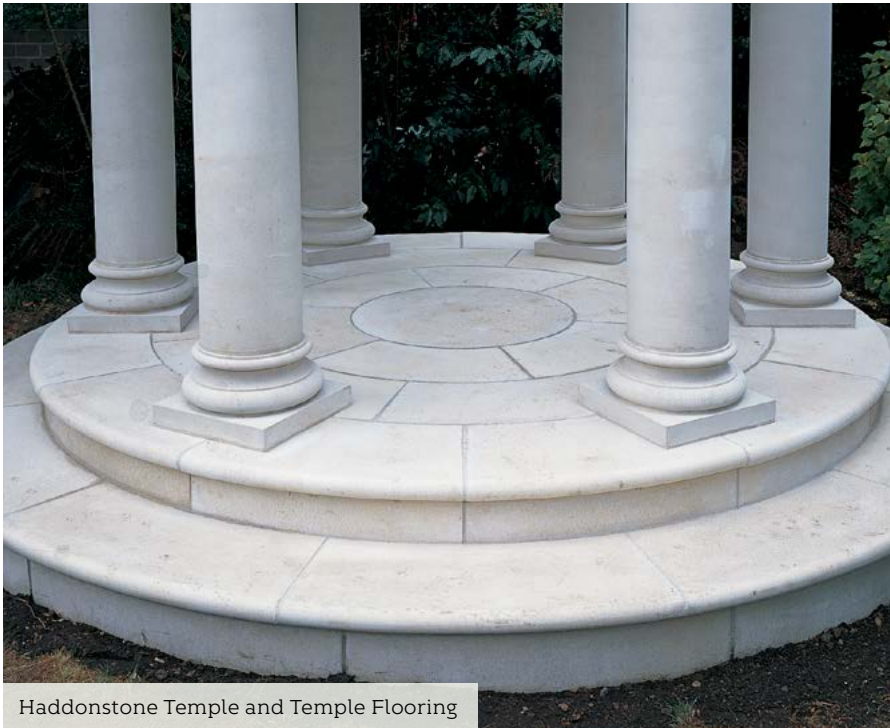
**5. What is the best flooring for a garden temple?**

As garden temples are open on all sides and likely to receive a lot of foot traffic, flooring should be hard-wearing and practical. It is inadvisable to use tiles, wood or vinyl flooring inside any garden building design as these will more than likely succumb to weathering over time.

A robust alternative is natural or cast stone temple flooring, both of which can easily be designed to fit any garden temple shape and size.

As well as being frost-proof, both natural and cast stone temple flooring can easily be cleaned to keep a brand new appearance for longer. Available in a range of colours to complement a garden temple, natural and cast stone





Haddonstone Temple and Temple Flooring

temple flooring can also be created with or without a step, offering versatility and choice.

**6. How much does a garden temple cost?**

This all depends on the size, scale, features and the design. As a bespoke garden building, the price of producing and installing a one-of-a-kind garden temple design is on application.

Haddonstone offers four beautiful garden temple design options, ranging from small, simple and stylish garden temples starting at just over £7,000 and available with or without balustrading, to a larger Classical temple available at just over £13,000. The fibreglass domes and flooring can be sold separately.

**7. Will a garden temple add value to a garden?**

Just like adding a high-quality orangery to your home, a garden temple can add value to a garden. Whilst the cost of adding a garden temple isn't cheap, it is a more affordable garden building and its practicality and long-term value of owning a garden temple will certainly outweigh the costs.

**8. How is a garden temple installed?**

An experienced garden temple manufacturer will advise on

all considerations including installation. A network of professional specialist installers is available UK-wide. Haddonstone's standard cast temples can be ordered with a lightweight glass fibre dome, available in a lead-effect finish. For ease of installation, these are supplied in sections for your installer to put together easily and without hassle.

**9. What are the top tips when considering adding a garden temple?**

As a significant project, choosing the right garden temple design is paramount. The style, size and scope of the garden or landscape scheme needs to be considered. A thoughtfully, well-designed garden temple should create an elegant and practical focal point that harmonises with the landscape, rather than overpower it. The perfect garden temple design should also provide enough space for relaxing and entertaining, without encroaching too much and therefore decreasing the size of the surroundings. Different balustrading, steps, flooring and dome designs can all be combined to achieve the perfect 'look'.

**10. How is personality added to a landscape or garden design?**

**1. Statues:** Showcase a statement statue or bust inside the cast

temple. For maximum impact, elevate on a complementary plinth or pedestal.

**2. Water features:** Create a relaxing sanctuary inside a garden temple by installing a self-contained water feature.

**3. Lighting:** Add ambience with thoughtfully-selected lanterns, candles and string lights.

**4. Seating:** Choose the perfect dining table and chairs or opt for relaxed seating designs.

**5. Planting:** Soften and enhance the temple by planting around its circumference, and by adding pots, planters and urns with a range of shrubs, bedding plants and even small trees.

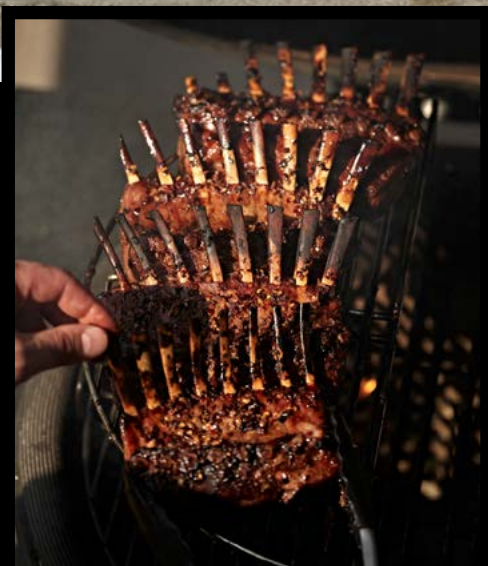


For further information, call 01604 770711 or visit [www.haddonstone.com/en-gb/](http://www.haddonstone.com/en-gb/)



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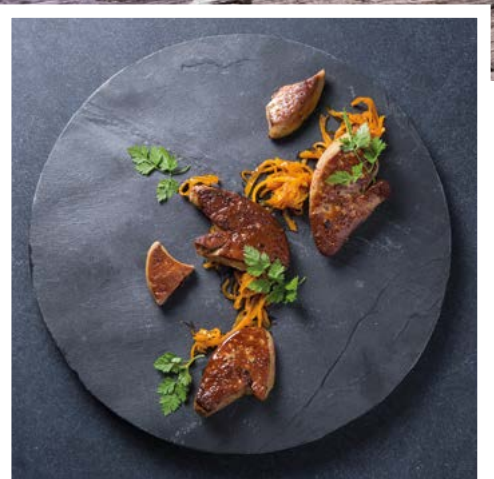
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# THE EASE AND ELEGANCE OF USING ALUMINIUM FRAME KITS TO BUILD OUTDOOR KITCHENS

## BABILONIA LAUNCHES ALUMINIUM FRAMES FOR BUILDING OUTDOOR KITCHENS

### Introduction

As winter nights draw in and we start to plan next year's garden projects, we explore aluminium outdoor kitchen frames.

The concept of outdoor kitchens has gained significant popularity in recent years, transforming the way we entertain and enjoy outdoor spaces. Aluminium frames offer an appealing combination of ease of construction, rust resistance, and the flexibility to create bespoke kitchens through modular designs. These attributes make them an ideal choice of DIYers and landscape professionals to use as their base for outdoor kitchen enthusiasts.

### Ease of Construction

There are a number of competing materials used as a base for building an outdoor kitchen, including galvanised steel frames (susceptible to rust), wooden frames (challenges with wood swelling/shrinking and rotting) and breeze-blocks or bricks (clunky and can be heavy and time-consuming to erect).

One of the primary advantages of using aluminium frame kits in outdoor kitchens is their ease of construction. Aluminium is known for its lightweight and strong properties, making it effortless to work with. This means that even those with limited DIY skills can build their outdoor kitchens, saving on installation costs. Babilonia's aluminium frames are prefabricated and very easy to assemble by one person using basic tools. The modules can be joined together to



create straight runs and corner units too, giving lots of choice for design and functionality.

### Rust Resistance

Outdoor kitchens are often exposed to the elements, including rain, humidity, and temperature fluctuations. Aluminium frames provide an effective solution, as aluminium is naturally corrosion resistant. It does not rust, even when exposed to moisture, ensuring that your outdoor kitchen frame lasts for years to come.

### Modularity for Bespoke Kitchen Designs

The versatility of aluminium frames allows for the creation of truly bespoke outdoor kitchens. Aluminium modules can be customized to fit the specific needs and preferences of homeowners. Whether you desire a simple grill station, a full-service kitchen, or an elaborate outdoor bar, aluminium frames can be configured to accommodate your requirements.

Moreover, these modules are adaptable, enabling you to expand or modify your outdoor kitchen in the future as your needs evolve. Aluminium modules also support the incorporation of various elements such as countertops, cabinets, and appliances. This flexibility enables you to personalise your outdoor kitchen with the features that matter most to you. The modularity of aluminium frames ensures that your outdoor kitchen not only meets your immediate needs but can adapt to your lifestyle over time.

### Babilonia ([babilonia.co.uk](http://babilonia.co.uk))

Babilonia has designed a selection of frames solutions for DIYers and landscape professionals. You choose; frames only, frames and substrate, or frames, substrate and finish. Babilonia also offers a range of high-quality appliances and cupboards to instal in their frames.

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





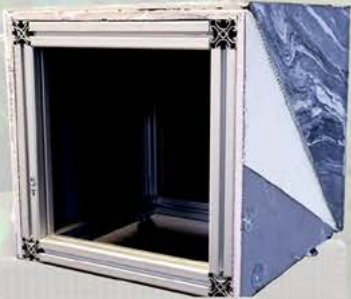
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# START PLANNING YOUR NEXT PROJECT WITH OASE

Adding water to a project can really make it come to life. We've shown you how easy it is to do, but do you know why OASE is the perfect partner for this?

## The Pump

The AquaMax Eco Expert 21000 is the heart of the watercourse system. If you're putting in a watercourse like the one pictured above, this is the pump you'll need. Designed to move 21,000 litres of water an hour, this pump will ensure the feature always looks at its best. Not only can it be controlled by the OASE Control app (additional purchase necessary) but it comes with patented Seasonal Flow Control. This makes it easier to adjust the flow rate during winter months saving up to 30% on running costs. The pump is also designed with safety in mind and

will automatically switch off if the course runs dry. With low wattage and energy efficiency front and centre, this pump gives everyone peace of mind.

## Pump Vault

The pump is a perfectly designed home for an OASE pump. The vault makes accessing the pump for maintenance easy. It is both strong and weatherproof, whilst also offering a further layer of protection to the pump itself.

## Spillway

The spillway is exceptionally strong and is cast as one piece. OASE has designed this product to be covered in decorative elements, such as heavy rocks and stones, camouflaging it and the liner into the local environment. The

spillway weir lip ensures a crisp and uniformed flow of water when running. The rear of the spillway also features easy access to connect the pump hose.

## Maxima Blocks

OASE Maxima blocks are incredibly strong and resilient. They can each hold up to 12.5T of weight whilst having 96% of free space for water. These are the perfect water storage system for a pond free feature. The blocks can be connected together to create any size watercourse.

---

**If you have any questions on adding water, contact us on [enquiries@oase.com](mailto:enquiries@oase.com) or please call 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.



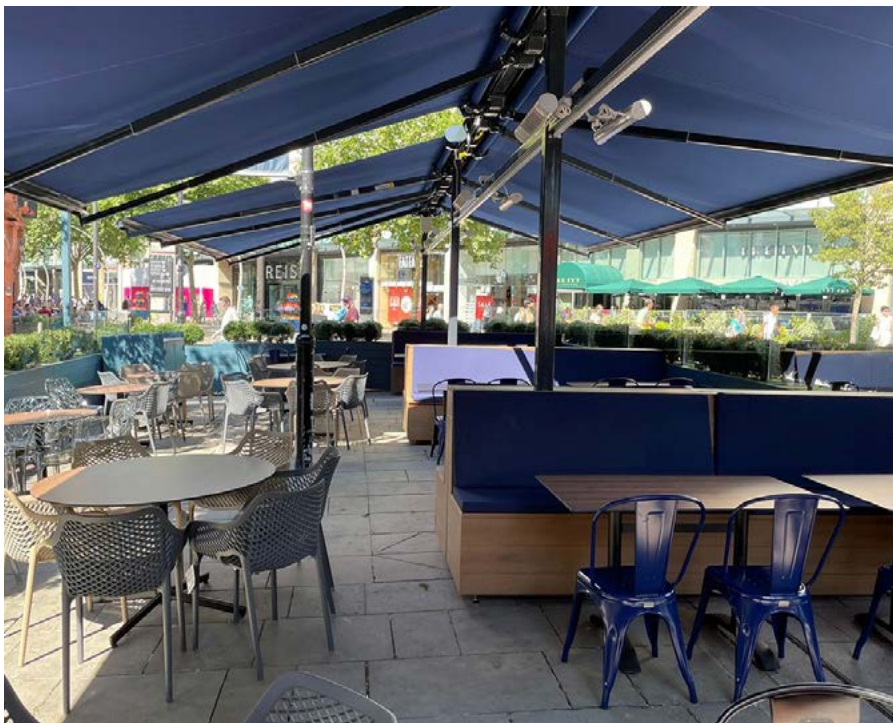
### Step 4:

The finished product: facing the spillway box.





# CREATING UNIQUE AND INSPIRING OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTS



We are the UK's leading manufacturer and supplier of innovative commercial furniture and structures for the alfresco, hospitality and leisure industries. If your business is looking to improve your outdoor dining experience, we have a range of shade & shelter, furniture, heating & lighting, and flooring & decking solutions to improve your outdoor environment.

Our elegant structures are manufactured using high-quality materials, made to virtually any size. Options include remote control, retractable, louvred or glass roofs and multiple features including heat and light.

These solutions assure all-weather trading and offer a great return on investment. Combined with our extensive furniture options, our design and bespoke build capabilities allow us to create something unique for your space and style.

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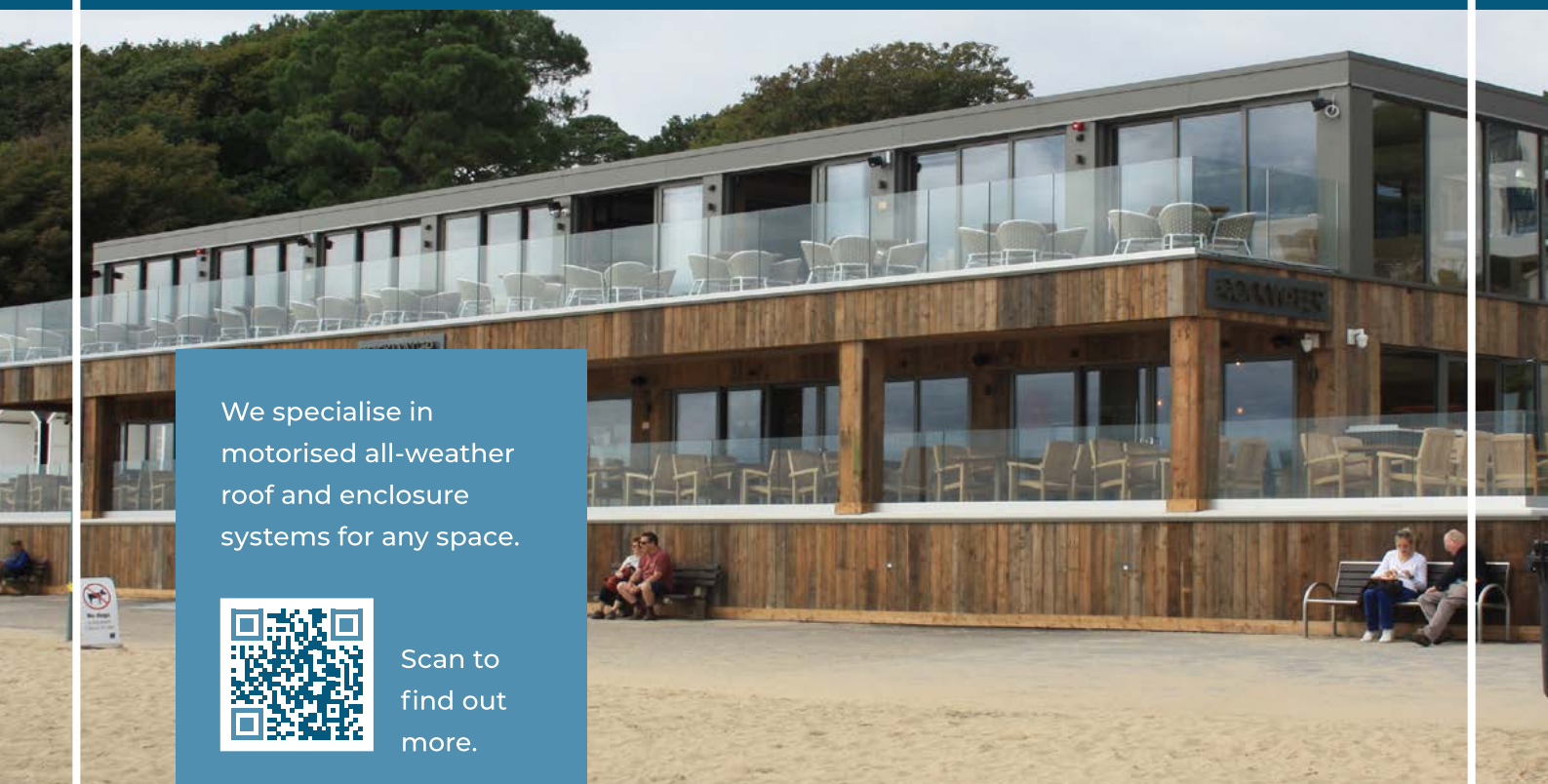
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# BIRKDALE PROVIDES THE TOTAL, EASY FIT SOLUTION FOR YORKSHIRE PROPERTY

A fencing system made up entirely from DuraPost® posts and Vento panels has recently been installed in a private garden at a property in North Yorkshire. The homeowner required an attractive fencing solution to border a new swimming pool - and one that would be able to resist the strong winds in the property's exposed location.

After building a new swimming pool as part of a retirement project, homeowner David Simms wanted to separate the area from the rest of his garden, so new fencing was required. Given the exposed location of his home - and the positioning of the

pool - the fencing solution needed to withstand both wind and sun exposure.

David selected a range of products from Birkdale to create the solution needed. He chose 'Hit and Miss' DuraPost® Vento fence panels in Natural to mimic timber aesthetics of Cedar. Vento panels are manufactured from a combination of materials, including rice husks - a natural bi-product from the rice industry - which accounts for 55% of the panel. Recycled HDPE (high-density polyethylene) is also incorporated into the design. These robust panels are incredibly strong

and have been tested to withstand high winds.

Along with the panels, DuraPost® powder-coated steel fence posts were selected in Anthracite Grey and offer strength and durability - as well as the benefit of being 80% lighter than concrete posts. David also opted for DuraPost® composite gravel boards in the same colour as well as Birkdale's Aluminium Gate to complete the system.

When it came to installation, David hired a professional landscaper to fix the posts but completed the rest of the project himself commenting:





"I'm not a professional or DIY expert but after looking at the products, I felt confident that I could do the job. Whenever I had a question, I would call the Birkdale team who were really helpful and approachable."

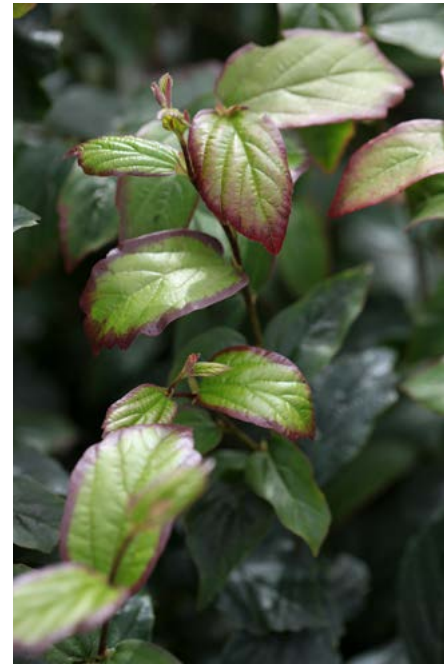
Vento is very easy to install - the three horizontal aluminium cross rails simply need to be fixed between the pre-installed DuraPost® posts and the composite boards are slotted into place. They are fixed using just six screws per panel for a quick and high-quality installation. The low weight of the system simplifies the installation process even further - a pack of eight boards weighs less than 25kg.



David concluded: "I'm really happy with the results. If I were to tackle another fencing project, a traditional concrete post and timber fence just wouldn't be as hard wearing or long-lasting in my view - and it just wouldn't look as nice. The solution I've gone for with Birkdale's product range is clean, slick and very high quality."

To find out more about the DuraPost® range and Vento fence panels from Birkdale, please visit: [www.birkdalesales.com/durapost](http://www.birkdalesales.com/durapost)





# WHEN SPACE IS LIMITED, YOUR CHOICE IS NOT

When wider trees are not an option in limited space, fastigate and columnar trees are the obvious solution.

Fastigate and columnar trees lend themselves perfectly to use to punctuate space, fill narrow spaces, to create instant impact, complement modern architecture and a great option for street trees too.

There is huge choice of ornamental fastigate trees for use in such situations with some popular new additions too. Here we highlight some of our popular favourites found at Provender Nurseries.

Liquidambar sty. 'Slender Silhouette' was originally found growing in the wild in Tennessee by a nursery man who realised it's value to the market. It has the same deeply lobed leaf as 'Worplesdon' with an extremely narrow form of 10 to 16m height and a mature spread of 3m. As with all Liquidambar, the autumn foliage colour is one of the best features. 'Slender Silhouette' is very tolerant of poor soils and drought tolerant once established.



Another chance discovery of a seedling in the 1990s led to the introduction of Amelanchier can. 'Rainbow Pillar'. 'Rainbow Pillar' forms a vase-shaped crown in maturity reaching 5m in height and 2.5m spread. It is resistant to powdery mildew, performs well on clay soils, is wind resistant and will still provide strong autumn colour of yellow, red and orange.

Acer cam. Green Column was introduced to the market in 1982 and is an ideal choice for street planting reaching 6-10m height and 4m spread with a strong columnar habit. The green-yellow flowers in May are high in pollen and nectar providing

valuable food for pollinators. A great tree for use where wind is an issue.

The stunning dark purple foliage of *Fagus syl.* 'Dawyck Purple' and the narrow, columnar shape and attractive golden autumn foliage make this a great tree choice for streets. Tolerant of a wide range of soils except clay, 'Dawyck Purple' will reach 17m height.

If you require something a little on the smaller side but about as tough as they come then *Parrotia persica* 'Persian Spire' is the tree for you. Reaching the dizzy heights of 3m and spread of 1m, this small, columnar Ironwood is a fantastic choice for mixed plantings in urban situations. The purple spring foliage turns to dark green with a purple edge in the summer, followed by yellow, red and orange autumn colour and small *Hamamelis* like flowers in the winter to spring adding to the mix.

Come along to Provender Nurseries for your tree choices. We can help on your selection and sourcing.

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



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# TREE RELOCATION: PRESERVING NATURE'S BEAUTY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS



Since 1963, Civic Trees have been at the forefront of tree relocation throughout the UK, from importing the very first Vermeer tree spade into Europe, to designing and constructing the Newman Frame which is now used worldwide.

Civic Trees are always looking to pioneer new techniques that aid the relocation of trees.

Tree relocation is a concept that involves uprooting trees from one location and transplanting them to another. With current events surrounding environmental issues, relocating trees is even more important now than ever before. By relocating trees instead of cutting them down, we can preserve nature's beauty while also promoting sustainability.

We are proud of our reputation for efficient, cost effective and reliable tree relocation throughout the UK. You can be confident that through our exemplary commitment to staff



training and development, our work meets the highest technical and safety standards.

We believe that a tree is only as good as the way it is handled, planted and maintained. Ground preparation and aftercare are crucial to the successful establishment of the tree.

Before we start the tree move process we arrange a site visit with our client and assess the tree's health, size, and root system. We also create a site specific risk assessment to ensure the whole operation is carried out safely.

Our team of experts use specialised equipment to excavate the tree with minimal damage to its root structure. The tree is then carefully transported to its new location,

where it is replanted and nurtured to ensure its successful adaptation.

Our experienced team will know and understand the benefits and methods of loading and unloading a tree using the correct lifting techniques in order not to stress the tree or root ball. This is imperative for the longevity of the tree's life.

In conclusion, tree relocation is an environmentally friendly method that allows us to preserve nature's beauty while supporting urban growth. By carefully uprooting and relocating trees, we can maintain the valuable benefits they provide to our communities.

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# PENNYHILL PARK HOTEL & SPA

## CARIBBEAN BLINDS' OUTDOOR LIVING POD™ CREATES A NEW DIMENSION AND SPA EXPERIENCE

**In June 2023, external shading company Caribbean Blinds delivered a highly effective and stylish outdoor shading solution in the form of 4 luxury louvered cabanas at Pennyhill Park Hotel & Spa in Surrey, resulting in the ultimate 'spa garden' experience for guests to enjoy - all year round.**

### The client

Set over 120 acres of beautiful Surrey woodland, Pennyhill Park is a 19th century country house presenting guests with the opportunity to indulge in the best, be at their best and realise their potential. With 124 luxurious bedrooms and suites, an

award-winning Michelin-starred restaurant and over 45,000 sq/ft of exceptional spa facilities offering 20 spa experiences, Pennyhill Park is Surrey's most luxurious hotel and spa retreat.

### The brief

The client required a premium space set within the luxurious spa grounds where guests could fully switch off from the world and experience the ultimate alfresco spa day. By incorporating the concept "a little bit extra" when creating the beautiful new spa garden at Pennyhill Park, it was concluded that a key part of the design would consist of 4 cabanas which would

provide guests with a private 'pad' for the day.

### The finished result

Our 'Deluxe' Outdoor Living Pod™ was selected by the project designer due to its flexibility - in particular the ability to incorporate additional uprights and a wall to the rear and part side where the padded bench, loungers, fridge and coffee machine are all incorporated. Each module, which measures 5m x 4m, provides ample space for the facilities within.

Designed to feel like a luxury hotel room that has been brought into the great outdoors, guests can enjoy a luxurious and private setting whilst



soaking up the sun and enjoying all the spa facilities, including the copper roll-top spa bath.

The motorised rotating louvered roofs allow guests to play with light and shade to create the perfect

ambience beneath the structure from sunrise to sunset, whilst the optional integrated screens on the open sides can be deployed as required to provide privacy, whilst also offering protection from the low sun and light breezes.

Close collaboration with the interior designer and facilities manager throughout ensured a smooth process, including the provision of fully detailed CAD drawings for a seamless incorporation of the structures into the overall scheme, which was particularly important for the positioning of foundations and services. From drawing and design sign-off through to installation was 12 weeks, with installation taking just 4 days to complete.

Graham Copeman, General Manager at Pennyhill Park, commented: "Our cabanas give guests the opportunity to indulge in the best, feel at their best and relax in style. The 'Deluxe' Outdoor Living Pod™ provides privacy and shade from above and on all sides with remote control blinds, whilst being beautifully adaptable, allowing us to build around the space to create the perfect indulgent haven. Our vision was to bring the luxury of a hotel room to the great outdoors, which Caribbean Blinds seamlessly helped us achieve."

### The Outdoor Living Pod™ explained...

Ingeniously designed for those who want to live life outdoors, the innovative rotating louvered roof offers an open-air alfresco feel when left fully open, and ensures a completely water, wind and even snow-tight roof when closed. Optional windproof screens, ambient LED perimeter lighting and instant infra-red heaters mean a cosy and pleasant environment can be achieved all year round. Built for durability and longevity, the low-maintenance Outdoor Living Pod™ is constructed from super-strong, corrosion-resistant, powder coated aluminium and adapts to any outdoor lounging or dining space.



**Client:** Exclusive Collection Hotels  
**Project:** Pennyhill Park  
**Architect:** SparcStudio  
**Main Contractor:** N/A  
**Products:** The Caribbean Blinds  
 Deluxe Outdoor Living Pod™



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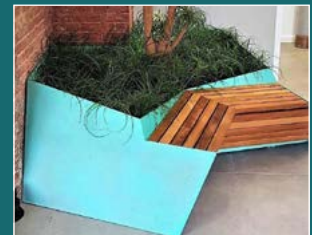
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With the recent establishment of their own timber structures range, 'Hall's Signature', they have seen an increase in demand from people within the trade who have used their products creatively for both personal and client projects.

Their best-selling structures include the Freestanding Moon Gate Arch and the Freestanding Flower Circle Arch (featured on ITV's 'Love Your Garden' and at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2023). The Moon Gate is part of a project created by Lee Harvey Design that has been shortlisted for a Pro Landscaper award, with the winner being announced later this year.

**GardenSite are looking to partner with more landscapers and contractors to further expand their network. Therefore, readers are invited to use promo code 'LANDSCAPE' at checkout. Alternatively, contact them directly for a personal quotation. Email: [customercare@gardensite.co.uk](mailto:customercare@gardensite.co.uk)**

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# CASE STUDY: LUXURY OUTDOOR SPACES WITH TREKKER AT ARMATHWAITE HALL

Nestled in the stunning Lake District, a stone's throw from the calming waters of Bassenthwaite Lake and overlooked by the dramatic Skiddaw Mountain, Armathwaite Hall Hotel is the perfect location for a luxurious getaway.

With outstanding views of the countryside and set within 400 acres of deer park, this stunning hotel was looking to create a luxurious and relaxing space for its guests to take in the surroundings.

In May 2023, the multi-award winning Armathwaite Hall Hotel & Spa unveiled the completion of its £1.5 million investment into its luxury offering and Trekker was delighted to

have its decking products specified as part of the project for the balconies and terrace areas.

Set in close proximity to the main house and boasting a substantial floor footage spanning an impressive 40-50sqm, the new Spa Garden Suites offer seamless access to the hotel's award-winning spa facilities. Guests can immerse themselves in an oasis of tranquillity as each suite integrates with the lush, verdant landscape just beyond its doors and accessible via a private patio.

With luxury and tranquillity at the heart of this regeneration project, it was important that this was reflected in the decking areas. The client

decided that the Trekker Anthracite Woodgrain Composite Decking would be the perfect fit for the luxurious yet traditional feel of the rooms. With an area of 214m2 to cover, this product provides not only a dramatic visual uplift but is easier to maintain than timber alternatives and is more hard wearing in a potentially highly trafficked area.

This decision wasn't just based on style, the practicality of the products used was equally important. With anti-slip properties, the Anthracite Woodgrain is an ideal choice for hotels and hospitality where the safety of guests is paramount - meaning the area can now be enjoyed all year round.

The design of the Spa Garden Suites takes inspiration from the hotel's natural environment and the Trekker woodgrain decking fits perfectly with its raw, natural, timber-inspired look and feel.



To find out more about how Trekker can enhance your next project, visit [www.trekkerglobal.com](http://www.trekkerglobal.com)  
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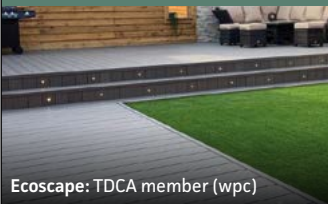
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## THINK YOU KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT COMPOSITE DECKING?

Many members of the Timber Decking & Cladding Association (TDCA) supply wooden deck components, independently verified under the DeckMark quality scheme. Several supply or manufacture wood plastic / polymer composite (wpc) products too - yet independently accredited products are rare.

The TDCA takes a closer look at this popular product: an alternative to natural timber?

Wpc boards are manufactured using a mixture of wood fibre, plastic and other additives - finely ground, mixed and made molten then extruded through an aperture plate to produce desired sizes and profiles. They are manufactured to individual formulas with varying percentages of timber content. This means quality will differ from product to product.

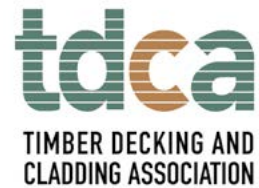


### Some differences between wpc and timber

Wpc is marketed on its durability (long life, rot resistance) and low maintenance - although all outdoor surfaces require basic cleaning routines to avoid build-up of algae and moss. Unlike timber, recycling composite products at the end of life is currently very limited. Relatively heavy wpc is generally not as strong as timber, so it's likely that deck substructure joists will need spacing closer together to provide adequate support. Wpc decking tends to expand along the length of the board so appropriate expansion gaps are required between abutting boards and adjacent surfaces. Specialist fixings are used with wpc deck products, particularly 'secret' fixings, clips and coloured trim fixings.

Many manufacturers offer long service life warranties - valid only if the product is installed to their exact instructions. **Make sure you ask about performance data and keep all records and receipts of purchase and installation.**

To find a TDCA approved supplier or installer of decking products or for further technical advice visit: [www.tdca.org.uk](http://www.tdca.org.uk)



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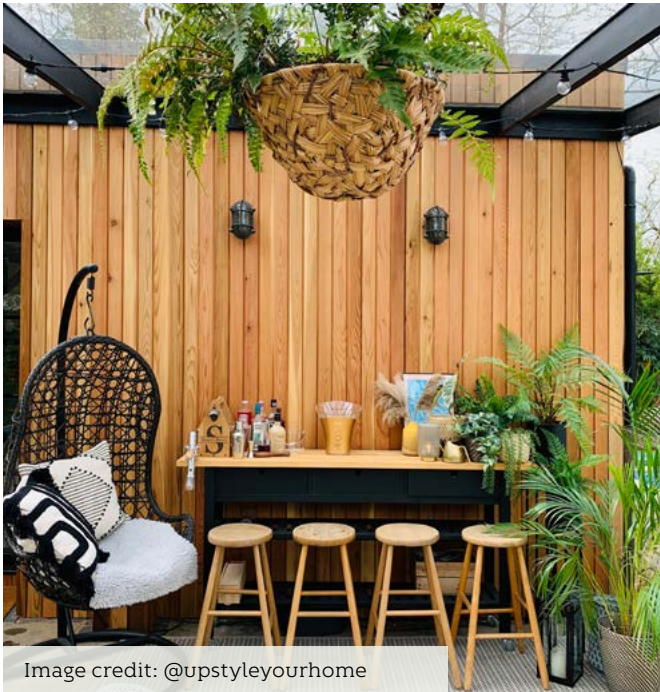


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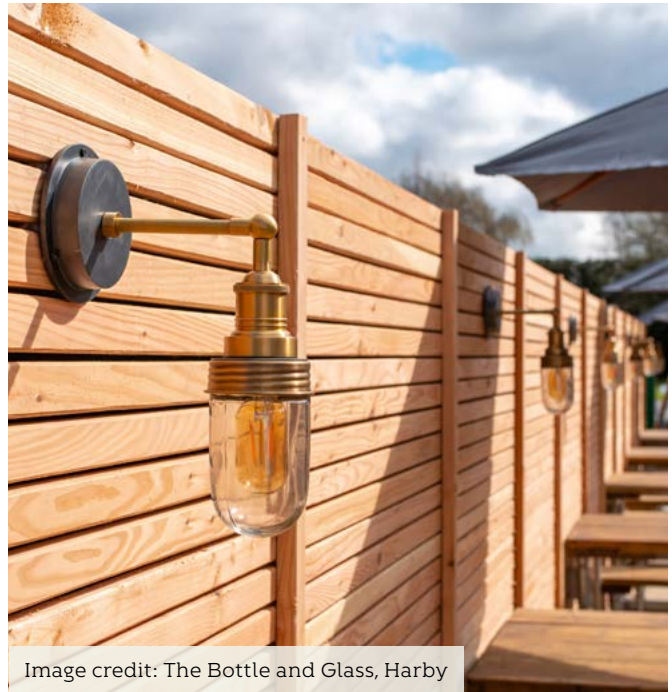


Image credit: The Bottle and Glass, Harby

# ENHANCING THE GUEST EXPERIENCE WITH CAREFULLY CONSIDERED OUTDOOR LIGHTING

**Mara Rypacek Miller, MD of Industville, appreciates that with careful thought and planning, outdoor lighting can have a huge impact on guest enjoyment in a hotel, restaurant or bar. Here, she discusses the principles of outdoor lighting to help hospitality businesses stand out amongst their competitors and deliver an unforgettable, immersive guest experience.**

Lighting is one of the most important aspects of any commercial space, both internally and externally. Handcrafted light fixtures give a warm, inviting ambiance as well as plenty of illumination for customers, while choosing quality materials like iron, brass and glass will add texture and visual interest to the overall look of the space. Consider using dimmer switch technology to adjust light

levels based on the time of day and the atmosphere you are trying to create.

Enhancing the customer experience through great exterior design is an important factor in running a successful business. Good design should be both aesthetically pleasing and practical, ensuring it has a positive impact on customers' satisfaction levels. There are several key elements to consider when designing outdoor lighting for a commercial space that will help to enhance customer experience.

## Consider Layered Lighting

Layered lighting refers to the art of combining multiple types of lighting to create an extra memorable atmosphere. Just like an interior designer layers a room, consider layering your outdoor space with light and shadows to create depth

and interest, captivating guests. Embrace a range of light sources from low-level fixtures to illuminate walkways, trees and gardens, to ambient lighting to create a comfortable level of practical illumination. Add in accent lighting to draw attention to decorative features such as architectural details, garden statues and art, which will create stylish focal points. The key is to provide just enough lighting without overpowering the natural environment.

## Aim to Create a Seamless Look from Inside to Out

Exteriors are now viewed as an extension of interiors and to create a seamless look from inside the building to out, it's important to make sure the outdoor lighting fixtures are just as stylish and polished as their indoor counterparts.



Think about material and colour; for example, if your interiors exhibit industrial accents, adding rustic sconces and wall fixtures outside will create a unified feel throughout the space. The indoor lighting should also reflect the personality of the brand and so ensuring the outdoor lighting complements this, will also ensure a cohesive feel.

**Use Lighting to Zone Seating Areas**

When creating outdoor lighting for hospitality venues, it's important to think about both design and function. Consider how different parts of your outside space should be lit differently, such as a well-lit patio that attracts guests for drinks, more formal dining areas which look great with statement pendants, or cosy, more intimate corners requiring softer atmospheric lighting. With the right setup, you can create zones for these different seating areas, with each one benefitting from the correct levels of illumination to create the perfect atmosphere. Experiment with different lighting temperatures to suit your theme, for example, warmer tones emit a cosier feel while cooler tones appear more contemporary.

Providing comfortable seating is so important in creating an enjoyable customer experience in any type of business setting. Investing in good-quality furnishings that are designed with comfort in mind can make customers more inclined to stay longer and revisit more often.



Image credit: The Stag at Stow

**Take Care to Illuminate the Walkways**

Lighting up pathways leading to and from the building will not only create a sense of safety for your guests, but also provide a feeling of grandeur by guiding them through well-lit pathways. Guests appreciate being able to walk comfortably in the evening without worries of hidden obstacles in front of them.

**Add to the Brand Value**

Installing outdoor lighting is also a great way to enhance curb appeal, ambiance, and aesthetics of commercial properties. It helps distinguish a business, so it gains an edge over similar companies in the neighbourhood. Outdoor lighting accentuates the most prominent features in the dark and helps catch eyes from far away on a busy street.

It also contributes to promoting a business even on closing days.

**Consider Sustainable and Energy-Saving Outdoor Lighting Options**

When designing lighting for outdoor spaces, consider the sustainability of any choices. Customers are increasingly looking for more sustainable options and the hospitality industry can benefit by aligning with the viewpoints of their customers. There are several energy-saving lighting solutions that can be explored when planning for outdoor areas;

- Utilise LED lighting. This is an efficient way to reduce electricity bills and maintenance costs, as it uses 75% less energy than traditional lighting sources.
- Choose quality fixtures. Opt for designs that are made to last and stand the test of time, ensuring they do not need replacing for many years.
- Install occupancy-based sensors. These detect movement and adjust lighting accordingly.

Taking advantage of these eco-friendly options can lead to significant cost savings in the long run.

Overall, thoughtful design that prioritises comfort, cosiness, and functionality will go a long way towards increasing customer satisfaction levels in your exterior business environment. By incorporating handcrafted lighting fixtures, quality materials like wood and stone, dimmer switch technology, vibrant colours, artwork that reinforces brand values, and comfortable furniture into your design concept, you can craft an atmosphere that will set your establishment apart from the competition, while providing guests with an enjoyable alfresco experience they'll want to repeat over and over again.



Photographer: Joanna Kossak, Designer: Chris Harrington



# GET THE FIRST GLIMPSE OF LUMENA'S INNOVATIVE OUTDOOR LIGHTING DESIGNS FOR 2023



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Panama solar bollard with PIR Motion Sensor

Lumena manufacture and supply innovative & professional, outdoor lighting and aim to impress and inspire this Autumn with revolutionary products launching at various trade shows: 'GroundsFest' (Stoneleigh Park, 20th - 21st Sept.) UKCW (NEC 3rd-5th Oct.) and Futurescape (Excel, 21st - 22nd Nov.)

## Must-see products that will be showcased include:

- One of the UK's only Timber Solar Bollard Lights - the Heavy Duty **RADIATA EDISOL**.

This ultra sustainable path light, combining timber and technology, launched last year and has already been installed within smart environmentally conscious developments such as those by Cadeby Homes. A smart solar head and toughened diffuser gives 360 light spread from the top of the pressure treated timber pine post mounted 400mm in-ground.

- The 240v **MARINA** is a super heavy-duty 2mm thick marine grade (316) stainless steel bollard which is extra robust and built to withstand harsher weather and busy environments. Aluminium louvres in the head ensure 'anti-glare'

illumination. '316' is the highest grade of stainless steel making the Marina ideal for use as amenity lighting for larger, commercial areas. A professional root mount version is available in the 1.0m height, as well as photocell and even PIR motion sensor options.

- The Solid Brass **HILOSPOT** in our beautiful, brushed rustic bronze finish, is a must for those looking to source high-end wall spotlights that will last for years! Following on from Lumena's popular twin spotlight range, the Brass Hilospot is available in 12v or 240v and is highly weatherproof.

- The **HELIOSOL** is the ultimate streamline Solar Floodlight. Compact and sturdy in design, it is made from durable die-cast aluminium with a solid steel bracket for extra sturdiness. The output is exceptionally bright; available in 200w, 300w and 400w, ranging between 2600 lumens and 4800 lumens. Each kit comprises of an LED floodlight, separate solar panel, 2m plug & play connector cable and a multi-function remote control for various time and brightness settings.

- Following the success of the Solar Bollard Range, three SOLAR PIR MOTION SENSOR BOLLARDS have been launched. These are the Panama, Olympia and Litecharge with PIR. They use the same high-capacity Lithium batteries to retain charge, but instead of gradual dimming sequences, they illuminate at a constant 50% until the sensor is triggered to give 100% brightness.

- More professional solar products have been added to the range including: the **'SOLDIAL'** IP67 walk-over solar in-ground light with 150mm stainless steel bezel (IK08); and the **'SIGNA'** high output, adjustable solar sign light / down light - both amazing lighting solutions!

If you plan to visit the shows, the Lumena team will be on hand to talk you through and demonstrate any of the products and discuss any upcoming projects you may have.

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## ELSTEAD LIGHTING LAUNCH THEIR 2024 EXTERIOR COLLECTION

Good and effective outdoor lighting plays a significant role in today's marketplace; accenting property appearance and assisting with safety and security. Elstead has recently launched 138 new exterior decorative lighting products which are available in a wide variety of styles and finishes, in their new 2024 Collection catalogue.

Featured are the Parkstone bollards which are constructed in a very heavy Basalt Stone with 316# marine grade Stainless Steel accents. The 6W integrated LED modules give out 650 lumens, the product is IP55 rated and comes with a 10-year anti-corrosion guarantee.



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With winter approaching, Bond It is reminding landscapers of its ability to help them complete hard landscaping projects even in subzero weather.

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This revolutionary jointing compound for pavers, cobbles, flags, slabs, and stone setts is available in an Original formulation, which can be used at temperatures as low as -5°C, and an All-Weather formulation that's suitable for use in all conditions - including the wet.

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In all environments, a good protection and maintenance regime is essential, in order to retain a tile's aesthetic and performance. In outdoor settings, this can be a particular challenge, especially with increasingly severe weather, greater footfall and the advent of heavily textured engineered tiles. In response, Mapei has developed the UltraCare range of cleaners and protectors. Formulated in the Mapei Research Laboratories, and designed for professional and end-user application, Mapei UltraCare provides a solution from installation right up to the protection and maintenance of surfaces in private and commercial settings. Treatments are formulated for all types of natural and engineered stone and tile finishes, from sandstone to external grade porcelain.

## Cleaning external paving

Mapei's UltraCare cleaners are tailored to a tile's finish and individual characteristics. Each formulation provides a safe and easy-to-use solution for the most diverse sites, from new installations, to the renovation of existing paths, patios, parking areas and outdoor swimming pools.

For acid-resistant natural stone and tiles, like sandstone and porcelain, Mapei UltraCare Acid Cleaner and Mapei UltraCare Keranet are ideal choices for a landscapers clean and stain removal. Both safely remove fixing residue - including cementitious grout, organic dirt, salt, limescale and efflorescence. The 'buffered' formulations do not emit fumes, so they are safe for the applicator and for the environment.

To deep clean unpolished natural stone and textured porcelain pavers, the range includes an alkaline solution - Mapei UltraCare HD Cleaner. Ideal for renovating hard landscaping, the cleaner removes residue and organic dirt, moss and algae, restoring a tile's slip rating as well as its aesthetic. For ongoing maintenance of all types of stone and tile, the range also includes Mapei UltraCare Multicleaner. A concentrated pH-neutral cleaner, Mapei UltraCare Multicleaner gives a thorough clean without rinsing. To deep clean and remove dirt and grout, a lower dilution can be used and the surface is rinsed after application.

## Protecting outdoor surfaces

Mapei's range of UltraCare protectors meet specific requirements - from colour

enhancing and providing water and oil-repellent protection, to protection prior to grouting. All treatments are supplied ready to use and the water-based treatments can be applied directly onto dry/ slightly damp, clean materials.

For paths, patios and other areas of paving, the range includes a number of water-based products: Mapei UltraCare Stain Protector W and Stain Protector W Plus both provide protection from water, oil and grease, with a natural effect; the added product feature of Stain Protector W Plus is that it can also be applied onto polished natural stone and polished porcelain. The treatments can be used on all types of natural, unpolished stone driveways and brickwork.

Mapei UltraCare Intensifier W protects and enhances medium-high porosity natural stone in a single product application. Mapei UltraCare Grout Release protects porous natural stone from grout ingress and staining and, on textured porcelain, it acts as a sacrificial surface protector that promotes quick and easy removal of grout and installation residues.

If installing external porcelain and grouting with a cementitious grout, then Mapei UltraCare Grout Protector can be applied to protect joints from staining.

**For expert advice on cleaning regimes and more information about the Mapei UltraCare range, please contact: [technical-uk@mapei.co.uk](mailto:technical-uk@mapei.co.uk)**



**TAKING PROJECTS FROM CONCEPT TO CREATION**

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# LANDSCAPE SURFACE CARE COVERED WITH ECOPROTEC®



Developed for the landscape and contract sectors, the ECOPROTEC® range includes sustainable surface care products for all types of natural and engineered stone, from limestone to external porcelain. All treatments are made in the UK and the sealing products benefit from the most advanced research in water-based technology - combining high performance with low odour and low VOC formulations.

## The latest innovations

New treatments include ECOPROTEC® Black Spot & Algae Remover and Iron Stain Away. Black Spot & Algae Remover targets organic residues, including black spot, lichen, moss and algae, restoring natural stone, concrete, brick and porcelain in as little as two hours. The second product, Iron Stain Away, is a professional treatment that safely removes rust outbreaks from ferrous hard stones, including sandstone, slate and granite, as well as cement and mortar stains.

## Protecting external stone & paving

To protect tiles and stone laid outside, the range includes three sealers, a pre-grout protector for matt porcelain and a restoration treatment for faded dark pavers.

The three ECOPROTEC® external sealers include Ultimate Sealer, Patio Sealer and Colour Enhancing Sealer. All three are designed to protect all types of natural and engineered stone in outdoor settings, including smooth, honed, rough cut and polished surfaces. They each have a water-based impregnating formulation that strongly repels water, oil, dirt and grease, helps reduce efflorescence and allows the surface to breathe. The difference is in the finish; Ultimate Sealer leaves the surface virtually unchanged in appearance; Patio Sealer provides a delicately enhanced natural finish and Colour Enhancing Sealer creates a more pronounced enhancement, bringing out the natural warmth, tone and colour pigment of the stone.

Unlike film-forming or topical sealers which sit on the tile surface, impregnating sealers penetrate, react and line the open pores. They create a hydrophobic and oleophobic barrier that helps to prevent deep staining and facilitates future cleaning and aftercare. Once cured, water vapour permeability remains, allowing transition of microscopic

droplets of moisture. This helps to keep any rising salts down and allows any residual moisture to escape.

## Protecting textured matt porcelain

Developed for use externally and internally, ECOPROTEC® Pre-Grout Protection is a water-based 'pre-and-post-grout' treatment designed for unpolished, textured porcelain. This solution is specifically designed to protect tiles from staining and it allows easy removal of residues of cement-based grouts and two-part resin based jointing compounds, as well as stubborn organic matter. Creating a barrier, without forming a film or altering appearance, it helps to improve and increase the working time of grouts and jointing compounds - and greatly reduces the risk of cement and resin staining. It also helps assist with future cleaning and aftercare.

## Restoring colour to faded pavers

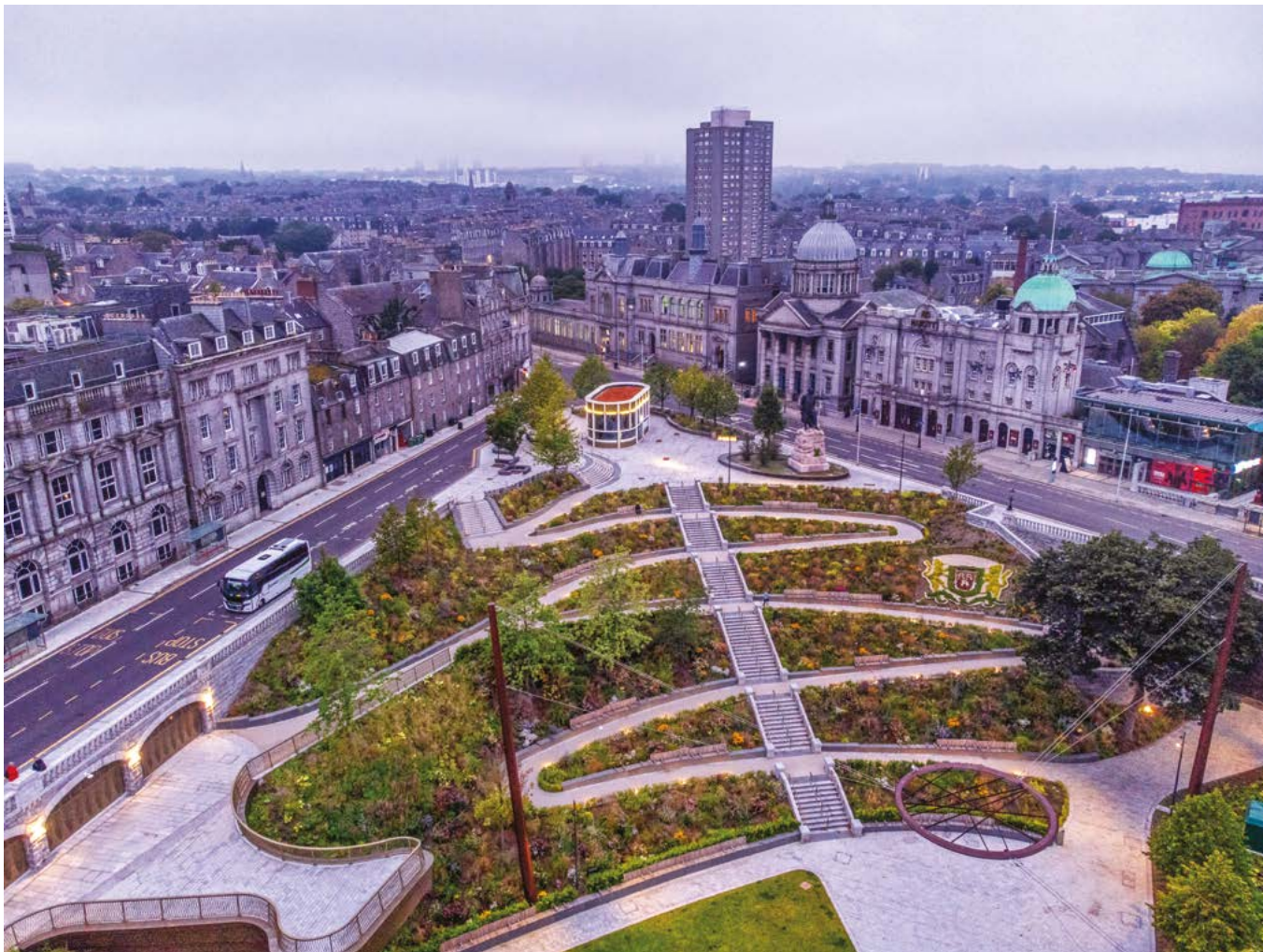
Outdoor sealer and restorer, ECOPROTEC® Black Stone Colour Restorer is a water-based impregnator designed for dark natural stone and artificial stone surfaces. Fast and safe to use, it is formulated to restore the appearance of faded limestone, marble, slate and concrete and to provide protection against the elements and staining. During application, the treatment is applied in multiple coats until the desired colour effect is achieved - from grey to ebony. Once dried the sealer is then 'cut back' to remove excess, ensuring the surface is safe to walk on.



ECOPROTEC LANDSCAPE RANGE

To find out more about ECOPROTEC® treatments and to request free samples, please call 01823 666213, email [technical@ecoprotec.co.uk](mailto:technical@ecoprotec.co.uk) or visit the new website at [www.ecoprotec.co.uk](http://www.ecoprotec.co.uk)





# GRANITE CITY GARDENS

## UNION TERRACE GARDENS, ABERDEEN

### Historical significance

The refurbishment of Union Terrace Gardens in Aberdeen, Scotland, represents a significant restoration and enhancement of a historical public park.

The project began with a proposed masterplan by LDA Design (Glasgow) in 2016. The primary goal was to refurbish the Union Terrace Gardens while protecting its historical elements. The restoration project

involved close collaboration with Historic Environment Scotland to ensure the protection and preservation of historical elements, including statues of Robert Burns and Edward VII.

The project included the refurbishment of Victorian toilets and the Arcade Arches, preserving their historical character. This restoration work aimed to maintain the park's heritage.

One of the notable improvements was enhanced ramped access to make the gardens more inclusive and accessible to all visitors.

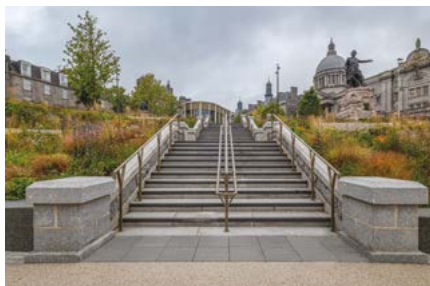
New amenities were added, including a play area for children, toilets, and cafés. These additions aimed to enhance the visitor experience. The project featured improved lighting throughout the gardens, making them safer for nighttime use.







The restoration work aimed to restore civic pride by reinstating the grand staircase and introducing new features like an informal amphitheatre and viewing platforms. The addition of a pavilion within Rosemount Plaza aimed to foster a sense of community and provide a gathering space.



pandemic as to ensure that the project was successfully delivered.

Hardscape were proud to supply a mixture of European granite paving, setts, steps and walling with combinations of Portuguese Silva Vilar, Cinza Ariz and Cinza Braga materials.

The design proposals received a high public approval rating (91%), and Aberdeen City Council unanimously approved the planning application.



**Transformation**

The rejuvenation of Union Terrace Gardens has resulted in it regaining its place as the civic heart within the city. The Gardens are now an inclusive and dynamic space that will serve generations to come. Their restoration delivers on a city centre masterplan which is designed to invigorate the immediate area, providing a safe a sociable all-year-round destination with broad appeal, encouraging more walking and cycling.

**Stone Selection**

There were many factors considered with regard to the selection of materials for Union Terrace Gardens, including current and future stone availability, sustainability & durability, budgetary constraints and of course aesthetic qualities of the stone.

Given the Gardens location and prominence within the ‘Granite City’, a key consideration was the selection of stone which sympathetically complimented the local granites historically used within Aberdeen.

resulted in an extensive sample panel being constructed offsite to allow for the final finishes of the stone to be agreed. The variation in stone finishes has brought a subtle distinction in the tones and textures of the granites further adding to the qualities of the ultimate scheme design.

The selection of granite has resulted in the creation of a simple, elegant and robust ground plane which creates a background allowing key heritage and contemporary features shine brightly within the Gardens.

Overall, the project aimed to combine historical preservation with contemporary enhancements, creating a vibrant and inviting public space for the community to enjoy. The choice of stone materials played a significant role in maintaining the park’s historical character while ensuring its durability and aesthetic appeal for the future.

LDA Design worked closely with Hardscape to develop a longlist of potential granites for use within the Gardens. Through an extensive dialogue with Aberdeen City Council planning and heritage departments, and Historic Environment Scotland, this list was whittled down to the ultimately selected mix of European granites.

Hardscape’s skill and expertise have proven to be invaluable within this project, resulting in the selection of stone which successfully marries the past with the future, whilst complimenting the city as a whole. Hardscape worked collaboratively with the design team and contractor during the challenges of the

The sensitivities around the selection of stone materials,

**For further information on our hard landscaping products, telephone: 01204 565 500, email: [enq@hardscape.co.uk](mailto:enq@hardscape.co.uk) or visit [hardscape.co.uk](http://hardscape.co.uk)**



# HIGH-QUALITY LIMESTONE

Cotswold Hill Stone and Masonry based near Cheltenham in Gloucestershire is well known for their Guiting form of limestone - extracted at their Cotswold Hill Quarry and is sought after by numerous different client sectors.

Their high-quality limestone features a fine texture in a pleasing creamy white or honey coloured appearance and is regularly used to produce or repair architectural features such as mullion windows or door surrounds, as well as supply building and walling stone to serve the new homes, commercial, restoration and refurbishment market.



They also boast a team of skilled stonemasons who work closely alongside their clients to bring their ideas to life whilst providing expert guidance.

Cotswold Hill Stone and Masonry also produce a Pennant sandstone from their Birch Hill Quarry, based in the Forest of Dean. The alluring blue and grey colour of Pennant Sandstone is popular among those seeking a more modern aesthetic as it can be used in all manner of applications, including construction, landscaping, revetment work and civil engineering. It is highly weather resistant and maintains its striking colours and

appearance generation after generation. It makes an eye-catching decorative feature, be it weathered or newly-quarried. One of its frequent uses is for the restoration or replacement of Regency building features such as steps and memorials. Birch Hill also produces an attractive cropped building, walling and paving stone regularly favoured by architects and planners.

**To view their products visit their website [www.stonequarries.co.uk](http://www.stonequarries.co.uk), or to chat call 01386 584384.**



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Union Terrace Gardens, Aberdeen





# STRATUM PLANTER WALLING – EDGBASTON

In 2023, Street Design were specified to manufacture and supply the raised planter walling and seating for a new residential development in Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Working with Winvic, the contractor and Fira, the project landscape architects, Street Design developed the manufacture details for the aluminium raised planter walling.

## Podium raised planter walling

A first floor podium formed the main part of the project with 3 large, shaped, raised planting areas with porcelain paving and aluminium deck areas between the planters.

The podium build up consisted of; a plastic egg crate drainage layer with a geotextile membrane on top, allowing the planter walling panels to be assembled, creating the raised planting areas. Aluminium ground plates and cross brace straps ensured the walling remained vertical during the build and fill procedures. The planter walling was manufactured in sections and bolted together on site.

As part of the landscape design, the raised planting areas included rounded corners and changing wall heights. The radius corners were manufactured with an external radius of 1500mm and the heights

varied from 351mm up to 771mm, above the drainage layer level. The paving and decking areas were laid on an aluminium framework with riser supports.

Street Design worked closely with Deckbuilders Limited, who were appointed to install the podium garden area and a smaller roof garden on level 8. The installation of the raised walling quickly formed the raised areas and created the flooring spaces for the paving, decking and grass zones.

The scheme included seating, lighting and steps leading up to the raised grass sections.



There were 2 types of seating included; low level, timber slatted, linear, informal seating that defined the steps and grass areas and more formal, recessed timber slatted benches, set into the raised walling. The FSC-Certified seating slats were manufactured from 95x45mm section, pressure treated redwood.

The planter walling sections were manufactured from 4mm thick aluminium sheet and was polyester powder coated RAL 8014. The sections included end and intermediate slotted flanges that allowed the panels to be bolted together and be strengthened with the ground plates and cross brace straps. When fully assembled the raised areas were filled with sub-soil and an additional layer of topsoil. When the area was completed, the soft landscaping was planted with shrub planting and specimen trees.

The project included lighting in the form of uplighters, recessed side lighting to the raised planter walling and perimeter LED strip plinth lighting at the bottom of the planter.

**Roof garden raised planter walling**

The project also included a roof garden on the 8th floor and comprised of a much smaller area of raised planter walling. This area was included to provide easy access to an outdoor garden space for the residents, living in that part of the development.

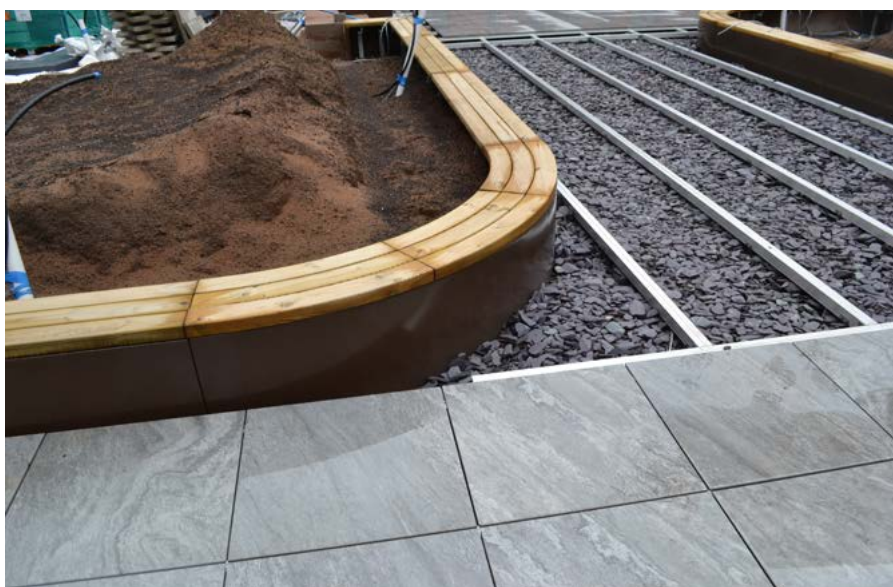
The roof garden build up consisted of the same plastic egg crate drainage layer with a geotextile membrane on top, allowing the planter walling panels to be assembled, creating the raised planting area.

The roof garden landscape design incorporated raised planting areas included rounded corners and changing wall heights. The paving and decking areas were laid on an aluminium framework with riser supports. The garden featured an artificial grass area.

The roof garden included lighting in the form of uplighters, recessed side lighting to the raised planter walling and perimeter LED strip plinth lighting at the bottom of the planter.

Outdoor dining tables and chairs, as well as movable 'allotment' planters were provided for use by the residents. The movable planters were manufactured in powder coated aluminium to match the raised planter walling and included lockable castors.

Street Design manufacture and supply several raised planter walling options, in FSC-Certified pressure treated redwood, FSC-Certified hardwood and polyester powder coated aluminium. Planter walling can be specified to create straight and curved sided shapes and can include a few planter accessories, including seating, screening and pergola shade structures.



**For information on our Planter Walling and other products, contact: Street Design Limited on 01509 815335 or email [sdl@street-design.com](mailto:sdl@street-design.com)**



# FRAMING

## THE VIEW

75 years is just the beginning... At HAGS, the emphasis on sustainability has guided our efforts over the last 75 years.

Even though the concept of "sustainability" might not have been as prevalent in the past, our genuine concern for both the environment and people has always been a driving force.

As a company, we hold the responsibility of ensuring that our operations remain sustainable from economic, social, and ecological standpoints.

We have teamed up with some of the most renowned Scandinavian designers to develop a range of park and Urban Furniture products encouraging the local community to socialise and enjoy spending time outdoors.





Boasting a timeless aesthetic and improved usability, our park and urban furniture range will cope with heavy use and age beautifully over the years. Suitable for all weather conditions and environments, it has added value to many outdoor recreational spaces across the world.

As a global pioneer in designing outdoor recreational equipment, we specialize in crafting innovative park furnishings that transform areas into vibrant outdoor havens.

Embark on a journey where innovation meets purpose, and every structure tells a story of community, fun, and fitness.

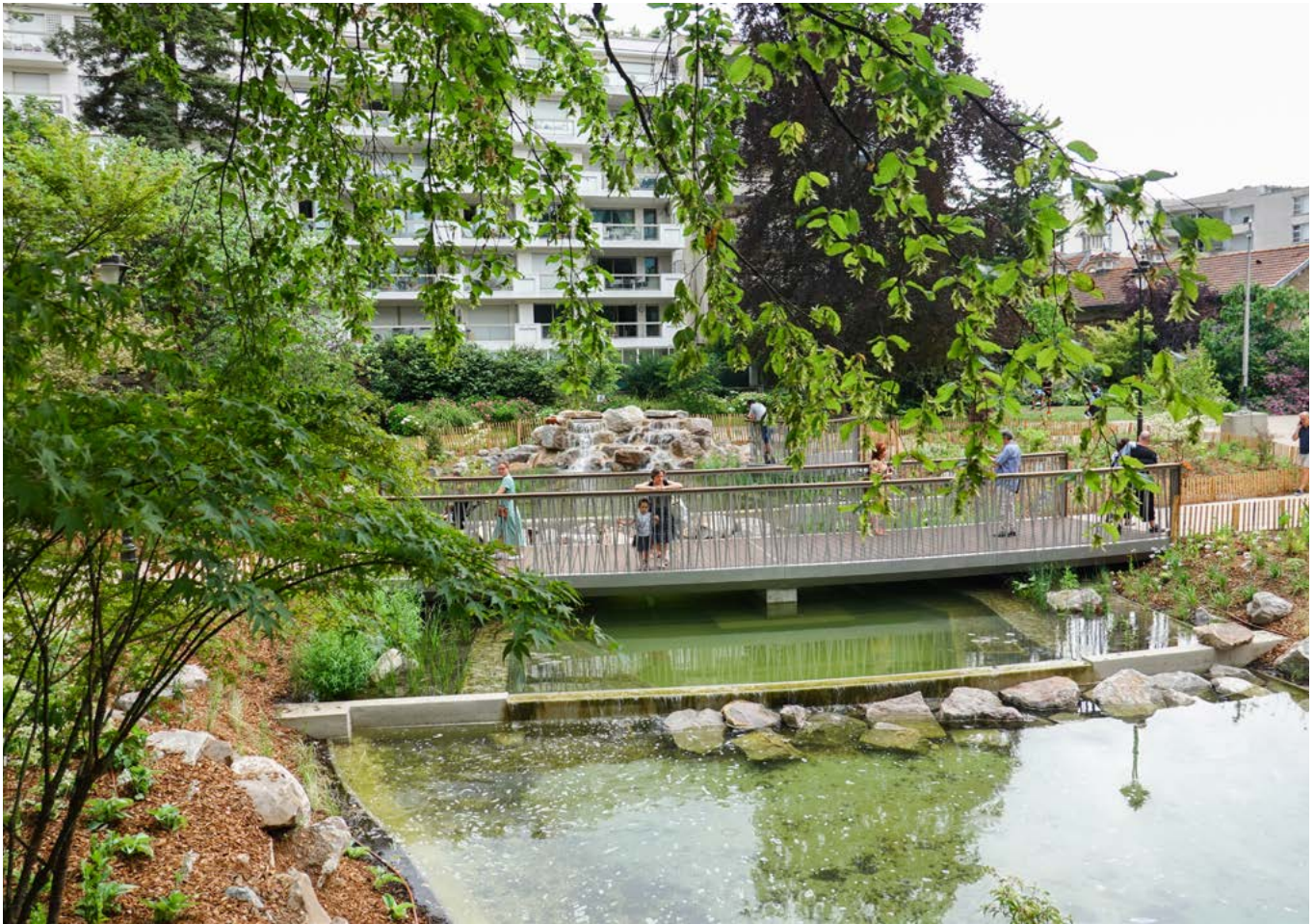
Whether you're on the lookout for the perfect accent for your project or require guidance to embark on a new initiative, explore our 'Crafting Outdoor Spaces' section for a roadmap into the world of HAGS equipment. From designing your own seating area HAGS have you covered. Discover more <https://hags.co.uk/en-gb/furniture>



OUTDOOR PARK AND  
URBAN FURNITURE







# A BRIDGE TO NATURE AND WELL-BEING

In Levallois-Perret, on the outskirts of Paris, Parc de la Planchette is a sensory delight. Biodiversity has been boosted and the visitor experience has improved due to the renovation of the park's pond. Flora and fauna now thrive, and people benefit from being closer to nature.

The 3.5-hectare Parc de la Planchette has been open to the public since 1924. Located in the heart of the municipality, it is the area's largest park and plays a vital role in the densely built-up district. The aim was to have a larger water feature in the park that would serve to reduce heat stress in the locality. So, after

various discussions within the local authority, a nature-inclusive pond was approved and went ahead with the help of regional funding. Today, it teems with flora and fauna.

The renovation was designed by Land'Act, a renowned design firm with four offices in France





specialising in landscape architecture, urban planning and ecology. Its headquarters are just a ten-minute walk from the park. The ecological pond, with carefully chosen planting, is completely naturally filtered. The new footbridge and opposite observation platform now bring people closer to the water.

Streetlife's Bowie Serpentine Bridge follows the meandering line of the footpath, leading pedestrians naturally across the water. Visitors can hear the water falling on either side of the bridge. The high handrail invites passers-by to lean

for a moment and look out over the water and, depending on the season, observe the fish, waterbirds and skaters. The observation platform, across the water, was designed in the same style as the bridge to create coherence. The bridge's criss-crossed, stainless-steel bars are reminiscent of the grasses along the shore.

For the handrail, the municipality opted for the highly sustainable material Bamboo Brown. Compressing the long bamboo fibres under high temperature and pressure gives the material a deep brown colour. Over time, Bamboo

Brown ages through exposure to the outdoors, taking on a beautiful grey hue similar to wood. The visible fibres afford a smooth surface variation in colour and texture. Bamboo Brown is carbon neutral and can be recycled. At dusk, the fencing takes on a truly enchanting appearance thanks to the LED lighting under the handrail.

Streetlife designs its bridges in-house and delivers them prefabricated. This allowed contractor Val d'Oise Paysage to install the bridge and platform in just one day. The curved bridge could be transported to Levallois-Perret efficiently as it had been constructed in two sections.

Land'Act's design represents an investment in not only biodiversity but also people and is a tremendous improvement. Experiencing the return of butterflies, lizards, amphibians, birds and lush planting has resulted in bringing visitors closer to nature and improving their well-being.





# THE SECRET TO AWARD-WINNING GREEN-BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS: A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE

Green-blue infrastructure projects have become the hallmark of sustainable urban development. These projects not only beautify our towns and cities but also contribute to environmental conservation and resilience against climate change.

But what is the secret behind award-winning green-blue infrastructure projects that stand out from the rest? The answer lies in a combination of carefully selected products. In this comprehensive guide, we will unravel the key components that make up these successful projects and how they contribute to their overall success.

## Tree Planting Products: The Foundation of Urban Greenery

Trees provide numerous benefits, from enhancing air quality to reducing the urban heat island effect. However, successful tree planting requires more than just digging a hole and placing a sapling. It involves the use of specialised products. The ArborSystem brings together the key elements of successful tree pit design, simplifying the installation process for installers.

## Irrigation and Aeration Systems: Keeping Urban Greenery Thriving

Water and Air are the lifeblood of any green-blue infrastructure project. Correct irrigation and aeration systems such as the RootRain range are essential to maintaining the health and vitality of planted trees and vegetation. By facilitating high volumes of water and nutrients directly to the rooting zone and allowing toxic gases to escape.

## Guying Methods: Stabilising Young Trees

Young trees are vulnerable to harsh weather conditions and strong winds. The ArborGuy anchoring system, plays a pivotal role in ensuring their stability and preventing wind damage. These methods are crucial during the early stages of tree growth and help young trees establish strong root systems.

## Root Management: Mitigating Conflicts with Infrastructure

One of the challenges in urban tree planting is managing root growth to avoid conflicts with pavements, roads, and utilities. ReRoot management solutions, create a barrier that guides roots away from potential conflicts, ensuring the safety and longevity of both the infrastructure and the trees. Tree Grilles and Guards: These protect trees (root ball and trunk) from foot traffic to prevent soil compaction and protects against physical damage ensuring healthy root growth. GreenBlue's highly designed solutions are durable and robust under harsh urban environments.

Soil is of paramount importance for healthy trees, as it provides the essential nutrients, support, and environmental conditions necessary for their growth and well-being. With extensive research, GreenBlue have developed unique blends dependant on tree planting scenario.



## Soil Cells: The Invisible Heroes of Green-Blue Projects

Soil cells such as the StrataCell and RootSpace are the unsung heroes of green-blue infrastructure. These underground systems improve soil quality, promote root health, and provide structural support for urban trees. By enabling trees to thrive in challenging urban environments, soil cells enhance the overall aesthetics and environmental benefits of green-blue projects. Soil cells improve tree resilience to drought and flooding, making the project more adaptable to changing climate conditions.

The secret to award-winning green-blue infrastructure projects lies in the thoughtful integration of key components such as tree planting products, irrigation systems, guying methods, root management, and soil cells. These elements work in harmony to create urban environments that are not only aesthetically pleasing but also environmentally sustainable and resilient.

By investing in the right components and techniques, cities can unlock the full potential of green-blue infrastructure and build a greener and healthier future for their communities.





Green



Blue



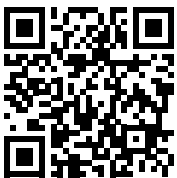
Smart Space



Air



At GreenBlue Urban, our heritage is deeply rooted in the urban forest, and our expertise in urban greening extends far beyond **trees**. With a track record of **successful solutions**, we encompass green walls, rain gardens, and play a pivotal role in designing and implementing greener, healthier urban spaces for all!



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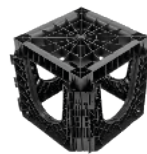
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Creating healthier urban spaces in harmony with nature



# TURNING GREY TO GREEN: GREEN-TECH PROVIDE THE PRODUCTS FOR CHILDREN TO PLAY AND LEARN IN NEWLY CREATED GREEN SPACES



Ysgol Ffordd Dyffryn (YFD) is a primary school in Llandudno, Wales that is working hard to offer its young pupils a green space in which to play and learn.

In partnership with Conwy Borough County Council and Wild Elements, a not-for-profit social enterprise, the school wanted to create green spaces for the children of YFD to immerse themselves in natural materials and greenery. The site was selected due to its severely grey infrastructure and lack of green space.

Wild Elements is dedicated to getting people in North Wales outdoors and connecting them to nature, improving their lives, opportunities, and aspirations.

The school received a recommendation from another Local Nature Partnership Coordinator in Cardiff and after seeing the successes of their project they felt it was the best way forward to source the green infrastructure for the school site. Gareth Lloyd - head teacher of YFD comments "we felt the products offered by Green-tech were one of the few that we were satisfied to have green

infrastructure installed on a Centre Based Child Care education estate."

Green-tech supplied everything but the trees for this project which included 45 Hedera Helix Woerner Living Ivy Green Screens and 45 bespoke Planters in 3 different colours.

The living Green Screens provide instant and effective screening and are perfect for projects where an instant privacy green fence is required. They provide rigid, secure and evergreen barriers which are low maintenance and easy to install. As well as being much more attractive than traditional fencing, they are an environmentally conscious choice that support an array of wildlife and help absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere to provide cleaner air.

To ensure the green screens stay hydrated a Mona irrigation watering system was supplied for each screen. The Mona System is a 100% water efficient, subterranean plant irrigation system and provides cost effective tree and planter irrigation. The system acts as a reservoir to hold water and distribute to the plant's roots as and when required

to ensure they remain healthy and grow.

Green-tech supplied 12 bespoke planters for trees in 3 different colours and 12 containerised anchor systems to secure each tree discreetly without impacting on the overall design. In addition, 16 bulk bags of Green-tree topsoil which is manufactured using organic compost and overburdened sand from quarries and perfect for projects focused on environmental sustainability and green credentials, was supplied.

Julieanne Quinlan, Local Nature Partnership Coordinator for Conwy adds, "the experience with Green-tech has been a wonderful one. James, their Sales Advisor, has been incredibly helpful and patient throughout the entirety of the project. We cannot thank Green-tech enough for making this project come to fruition. It has been a big hit with the school and the children, and we have great hopes for the future pupils of Ysgol Ffordd Dyffryn. Diolch yn fawr (thank you very much).

[www.green-tech.co.uk](http://www.green-tech.co.uk)





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# RHS ANNOUNCES UK OVERALL WINNER OF THE PRESTIGIOUS BRITAIN IN BLOOM COMPETITION 2023

Newcastle-under Lyme has been awarded RHS gold and the accolade of Overall Winner in the UK finals of the Royal Horticultural Society's Britain in Bloom competition - the UK's biggest community gardening competition.

44 community gardening groups, who had all impressed their local judges the year before, were nominated to represent their region or nation in the UK Finals 2023. Newcastle-under-Lyme achieved a gold award in the Small City Category as well as Overall Winner. The 12 category winners (listed in full below), from 44 villages, towns and cities, were: Aberdeen; Better Bankside; Brandon; Churchtown; Darlington; East Haven;

Kinnesswood; Lytham; Newcastle-under-Lyme; Oswestry; Redbourn and St Saviour. Britain in Bloom involves over 3,000 community groups and hundreds of thousands of local volunteers who work year-round to keep their neighbourhoods green and thriving.

Amongst its many gardening initiatives, Newcastle-under-Lyme, in Staffordshire, was recognised for its contribution to helping the town to become carbon neutral through planting a commemorative forest of 850 lime trees as well as other native broadleaf trees. The group also impressed the judges with the innovative and creative ways they worked with local groups, residents and school children to plant

trees across the borough - with a 'treetotalizer' keeping a tally of 9,995 trees planted to date.

Darren Share, Chair of the RHS Britain in Bloom judges, said: "Newcastle-under-Lyme showed great vision and purpose. Concern for the environment and encouraging wildlife is at the heart of everything they do. We judge groups according to horticulture, environmental and community engagement criteria and the town of Newcastle-under-Lyme scored highly across all three areas"

In addition to being awarded a gold, silver gilt, silver or bronze medal, groups compete in categories including town, village and Business





Improvement District, to be named overall category winners, and can be nominated for a series of discretionary awards by a panel of judges.

Darren Share, Chair of the RHS Britain in Bloom judges, added: "Our congratulations go to all the RHS Britain in Bloom finalists for their incredible commitment and the difference their hard work makes to their communities. Groups were

passionate and innovative, they showed how important it is for green space and environmental projects to be at the heart of community life."

**Other notable awards include:**

- **Kinnesswood in Bloom**, Scotland, recognised as the winner of the Discretionary Award for Children and Young People's Participation. They impressed the judges with their partnership with Portmoak Primary School including their

recent projects creating a school pond, wooden wigwams, willow tunnel and planting 135 fruit trees.

- **Abergavenny**, Wales won the Sustainable Gardening Award. All the groups demonstrated plant friendly gardening, but Abergavenny really stood out with their holistic approach, which included inter-generational projects to get everyone in the community involved, citizen science, and sharing their learning and skills.



Rachel de Thame, gardener and broadcaster, presenting the awards, commented: "Britain in Bloom gardening groups give selflessly of their time and energy to make their communities better for everyone to enjoy. From engaging with young people, helping to grow food for those in need or providing plant displays to inspire a sense of pride. These groups are the heroes of our villages, towns and cities and keep our country blooming."



Groups were presented with certificates and trophies at the RHS Britain in Bloom 2023 awards ceremony, held in London, and unveiled to the public on BBC's The One Show.

Full results of the RHS Britain in Bloom 2023 UK Finals can be found at [www.rhs.org.uk/get-involved/community-gardening/news/articles/bloom-awards-results](http://www.rhs.org.uk/get-involved/community-gardening/news/articles/bloom-awards-results)

Photo credits: Jon Parker Lee (RHS / Jon Parker Lee)



# SHINING A LIGHT ON PICTORIAL MEADOWS' BESTSELLERS

Pictorial Meadows™ provides solutions to many of the challenges professional gardeners face today and here we share with you some of the country's favourite pictorial perennial and turf meadows.

Professionals across the built environment are increasingly being asked to provide resilient and adaptive urban landscapes. The proposed introduction of Schedule 3 of the Water Management Act 2010 for 2024 making the inclusion of Sustainable Urban Drainage Schemes in new developments mandatory, the emerging interest in Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), and increased interest in woodlands, provide designers with numerous design questions to answer.

Visitor attractions, stately homes, and gardens as well as large private landowners looking for that instant wow at entrances and gateways, or a way to reduce maintenance costs as well as supplementing biodiversity; look increasingly for landscape lead solutions to maximise benefit for the property and for local wildlife.

## Pictorial Meadows™ Perennial Seed Mixes

Pictorial Meadows™ has a range of eight different perennial seed mixes. Each is designed around a colour theme or tailored to a specific site requirement. Pictorial Meadows™ perennial mixes have at least 23 different species within each mix. They are very carefully formulated to include the species diversity within a m<sup>2</sup> and do not contain any grasses. In year one while the perennials are establishing a small selection of annual species are included in the mixes to add some colour and interest to the display. From year two onwards, the perennials will fill the space and become more established.



## Perennial Mix Best Sellers in 2023

- Woodland Edge
- Native Meadow
- Moody Blues
- Turkish Delight

One of our Landscape Sales Assistants, Lizzie commented "Customers really like the look and overall effect of Waters Edge, however those seeking a romantic and old-fashioned feel, tend towards Cottage Garden. The variety in heights with the taller pink Alcea, creates a very encompassing feel and wild look."

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Pictorial Meadows™ Turf was designed as an instant impact perennial meadow. All the establishment operations have been completed in the field by our growing teams, meaning that you and your client get a fully established perennial meadow delivered straight to your site.

The designed meadow turf in the Adaptive and Resilient Range are unlike any other landscape products, giving you a range of landscape solutions that combine flexibility, cost saving and ease of installation along with especially unique combinations of beautiful and resilient plants.

## Turf Mix Best Sellers in 2023

- Woodland Fringe
- Treasure Chest
- Purple Haze
- Pollinator Verge

Pictorial Meadows™ Turf maximises adaptation and resilience to future climate changes by including a range of plants from a wide geographical area. There is little need for irrigation following establishment and we have seen the meadows survive in varying climatic conditions.

Sam, another Landscape Sales Assistant said "Customers are often looking for a solution to a problem. The Woodland Fringe Turf provides the answer for the more shady sites...."

Sam added "Customers often choose Patchwork Quilt, as it has greater variety and forms to the mix giving it a better structure".

**For any queries about your project plus which turf or perennial seed mix to use, please contact our friendly sales team by calling 0114 267 7635 or via our website: [www.pictorialmeadows.co.uk](http://www.pictorialmeadows.co.uk)**





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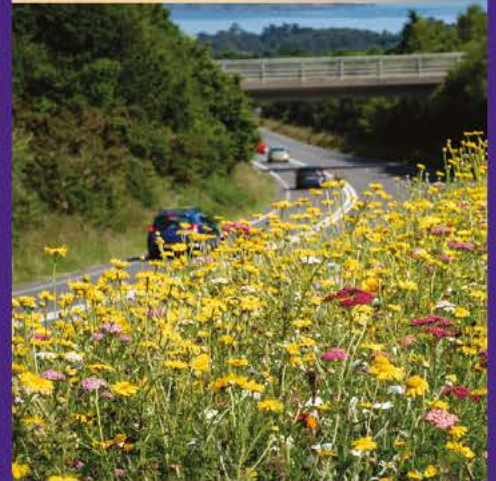
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- Meadow maintenance
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# LIMITED NUMBER OF TICKETS LEFT FOR THIS YEAR'S NATIONAL LANDSCAPE AWARDS!



As usual, the demand for tickets to this year's ceremony has been high and there is now only a limited number of tickets remaining.

As always, this event brings together the whole industry, providing unmissable networking opportunities, and the chance to celebrate with your team and clients.

Don't just take our word for it, hear what past guests have said...

"The BALI National Landscape Awards truly is the industry event of the year! The annual ceremony provides the opportunity to celebrate the outstanding achievements and inspirational landscaping projects our industry delivers, not only in the UK but worldwide!" Frankie Patman, Maylim

"A truly spectacular event, celebrating the diversity, creativity, hard work, and dedication that goes in to our wonderful industry." Lynne Taylor, The Landscape Academy

The 47th National Landscape Awards will once again be held at the iconic JW Marriott Grosvenor House Hotel, Park Lane, London on Friday 1 December 2023 and this year hosted by comedian, business leader, entrepreneur, podcaster, writer and keynote speaker Cally Beaton.

Join us to celebrate this year's National Award winners and be among the first to find out who goes on to win the Principal Award in each category, Special Awards and of course, the coveted Grand Award.



Visit [baliawards.co.uk](http://baliawards.co.uk) to confirm your place at the largest landscape Awards in Europe.

#### TICKET INFORMATION

Individual Place - £225.00  
Table of 10 - £2,100.00  
Table of 12 - £2,520.00

#### TIMINGS

Reception: 11am  
Luncheon and Awards: 12pm  
Close: 4:30pm  
Dress code: Business attire

**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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**11am - 4:30pm**

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Email: [emily.feeney@bali.org.uk](mailto:emily.feeney@bali.org.uk)

For sponsorship opportunities,  
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**Excellent hedge plants** *'Very pleased with these very good quality plants, in excellent condition with very good root system. They were very well packed and protected for their journey. Excellent value and prompt delivery. We would definitely order from Hedges Direct again.'*

(Feefo review, August 2023)

**First Class** *'Yet again, first class service and great quality plants. Totally reliable!'* (Feefo review, August 2023)

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# BIGGEST EVER GATHERING OF LANDSCAPERS IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE



**A Buckinghamshire business hosted the biggest ever gathering of landscapers in the Midlands to promote “unspoken about” industry challenges and hot topics.**

George Davies Turf welcomed over one hundred gardening and landscaping professionals to its site in Milton Keynes as part of the British Association Landscape Industries’ (BALI) regional event, ‘Riding the Waves of Business’.

The day included a line-up of presentations, inspirational

speakers within the sector and Q&As covering mental health challenges in the industry, environmental changes, business recruitment, staff retention, personal development and more.

George Davies, founder and managing director of George Davies Turf said: “There’s no question our industry is shifting due to a number of external challenges such as climate change, recruitment and skills shortages and even mental health, so we were blown away by the success of this event which was

all about these usually unspoken about topics.

“We don’t just provide a great product and first-class turf as a business, we want to educate and inspire our customers too, so we were thrilled to be able to run the event on behalf and in partnership with BALI. It was very thought-provoking and many people took away ideas, tips and actions which they can put in place in their businesses.”

Ben Parkinson, director of The Garden Project Co and BALI Midlands Regional Chair added: “The day was insightful, informative and inspiring, and a great opportunity to network and build deeper relationships with others in the industry. A massive thank you to George Davies Turf for hosting- they had the perfect site to be able to deliver our biggest ever regional event and the feedback from attendees was fantastic.”

The event was capped at one hundred attendees due to capacity on the George Davies Turf farm, so organisers were thrilled with the unprecedented turnout.

Francesca Bienek, BALI Regional Support Officer and Richard Kay, BALI National Chair 2020-2022 and BALI Chalk Fund Trustee Chair also delivered talks and presentations.



**For more information on George Davies Turf visit [www.georgedaviesturf.co.uk](http://www.georgedaviesturf.co.uk). For more information on BALI visit [www.bali.org.uk](http://www.bali.org.uk)**



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# GREENWOOD PLANTS NAMED PEAT FREE GROWER AT HTA AWARDS

**Greenwood Plants has been named 'Peat Free Grower' at the 2023 Horticultural Trades Association Grower of the Year awards, held at the ICC in Birmingham on 5th October.**

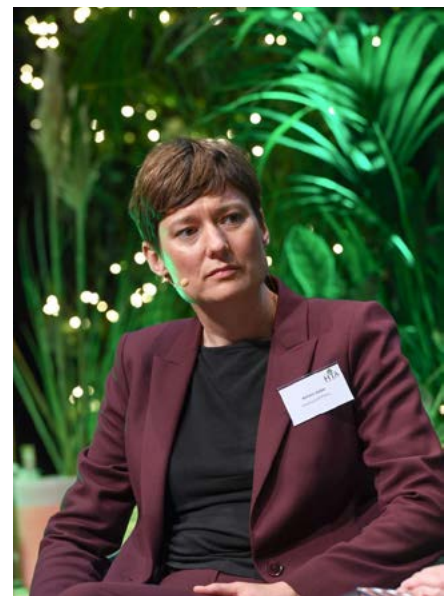
The 'Peat Free Grower' award recognises Greenwood's commitment to achieving its sustainability goals and championing the use of peat-free growing media within the horticultural industry. The ornamental grower has demonstrated that it is possible to grow peat-free on a commercial scale and has established pioneering sustainability practices across its business, investing in innovative processes to minimise its imprint on the planet.

The wholesale nursery committed to transitioning to peat-free growing media in early 2022 and is pleased to now be growing peat-free on all six of its nursery sites in the UK, in advance of anticipated industry regulation to prohibit the use of peat for commercial growers. Last

year, Greenwood hosted a peat-free open day and created educational content on the problem with peat, and it is an active participant in round table industry discussions.

"I'm so proud that Greenwood has won this award. It is testament to the dedication of our nursery teams that have made the transition to peat-free a success", says Managing Director, Melanie Asker. "Eliminating peat from our nurseries has enabled us to grow more sustainably and will contribute to our long-term goal of reaching Net Zero." Melanie was at HTA: The Conference, where the award was announced, to talk as part of a panel of guests discussing sustainability for businesses within the horticultural industry.

The HTA's Grower of the Year Awards demonstrate the high calibre of UK nurseries who lead the way in quality, levels of service, innovation and peat-free production. The Peat Free Grower category acknowledges the huge contribution that the horticultural industry is making towards the UK's



environmental targets. Greenwood Plants, and the other category winners, will now be entered into AIPH International Grower Of The Year Award.

**If you'd like to find out more about Greenwood's peat-free journey, visit [www.greenwoodplants.co.uk/peat-free-growing/](http://www.greenwoodplants.co.uk/peat-free-growing/).**



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**Tamar Nurseries has been established since 1979 and is a UK based company that is an affiliate member of BALI, and we hold our Royal Warrant which we are proud to display.**

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- All stock grown at Tamar is grown Peat Free
- We are not only self-sufficient business on energy created by solar panels and stored in a large battery, but also on water as all rainfall and irrigation run off is collected and stored in huge tanks. Plants are grown in recycled pots and despatched in recycled cardboard boxes.

**Services we offer over our large and expanding business are:**

- Contract Growing, we are proud not only with the quality of plants we supply but service to all new and existing customers.
- Despatch and Delivery services across the UK. We just took delivery of a new lorry running on recycled vegetable oil (HVO).

Tamar Nurseries Ltd strive to be a leader in environmental sustainability and we believe that a successful future for our business, staff and customers depends on the sustainability of the environment all around us, no matter where we are.

As a responsible company we have a duty to consider the impacts of our actions, how we operate, and indirectly through our supply lines as well as any opportunity we come across.

We are committed to minimize the impact of our operation on the environment and demonstrate leadership by integrating environmental considerations into all our business practises.

We continually promote environmental awareness, responsibility, and best practise to support the environmental sustainability culture of our company through in-house.



Working with Nature

**Tamar continually reports our transparency and our environmental achievements and invite you to look at our web site at [www.tamarnurseries.co.uk](http://www.tamarnurseries.co.uk)**



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# WEST LANCASHIRE COUNCIL BRIGHTEN UP TOWN ROADSIDE WITH EUROFLOR FLOWER SEED



West Lancashire Council wanted to brighten up the area for their residents with some instant colour and provide pollinators with natural habitat, they decided to trial Euroflor flower seed from Origin Amenity Solutions (OAS) on one of their major routes into the town of Skelmersdale.

Heading up this project was Stephen Bissette, Clean and Green Operations Manager at West Lancashire Borough Council. He explains, "Windmill Island in Skelmersdale is a roundabout on a major route into Skelmersdale. It is just off J5 of the M58. The council wanted to trial a wildflower area and following a meeting on flower seed in general with Gary Brindle from OAS, we sought Gary's advice on the best way to do this and what seeds to use".

West Lancashire Borough Council commissioned OAS to complete the trial project on their behalf which they did working alongside one of their trusted contractor partners. For speed, ease and fast results Flora Fleece was used - a weed suppressant made from recycled

fabric composed of 50% jute, 25% cotton, 25% brown wool, with a hessian scrim. The matting is made of natural fibres, which will break down through the growing season in 5-8 months.

On 10th May 2023 the team laid the fleece on both sides of the roundabout. Stephen comments, "A 100m2 of the Flora Fleece was used. It was quicker than weedkilling and rotavating the soil and gave the best chance of inhibiting weed ingress; it also supports seed establishment. It was easy to use. It is delivered in a roll which you unroll where you want your wildflower patch to be. And that's it, ready for the soil. Could not be easier"

Four tonnes of Green-tree topsoil were delivered by OAS and spread evenly on top of the Flora Fleece, in preparation for seeding. This is an environmentally friendly sustainable soil that is manufactured using organic compost and overburdened sand from quarries; products that would otherwise end up in landfill.

400gram of Euroflor Rainbow Annuals were sown onto the topsoil and then raked over. A firm favourite because of its rapid establishment and long flowering period starting 50-60 days after sowing right through to the first frosts. Euroflor Rainbow displays a wide range of colours from early season - Eschscholtzias and Iberis, to mid-season Poppies, Cornflowers and Flax, giving way to Marigolds and Cosmos at the end of the season. The striking mix of bright colours red, orange, yellow, blue, and white successfully combines native flora with garden favourites.

Stephen concludes, "We had flowers in bloom on the 3rd of August, a beautiful showing which really did brighten up the approach to the roundabout. It was incredibly simple to install, required no maintenance and looked nice. I am delighted with the results and will look at other areas for 2024"

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# USING GREEN LAWNNGER FOR TURF COLOUR CONSISTENCY

A superintendent at a historic, Limerick golf club has been using Green Lawnnger for vibrant and healthy greens on the course which was voted as 'Best Hidden Gem in Ireland' in the Golfers Guide to Ireland Awards, 2013.

Brian Dunne, Golf Course Superintendent at Adare Manor Old Golf Course, has been using BASF's Green Lawnnger for over two years alongside a topical fungicide or liquid feed for optimal lawn health and colour.

The club's history dates to the late 1890s when the 4th Earl of Dunraven employed Scottish professional, Ben Sayers to design

a 9-hole golf course on the estate in Adare, the club went on to many successes including winning the All-Ireland Final of the Pierce Purcell shield in 1985 and producing one of the most accomplished Irish amateur golfers, Jackie Harrington. In 1992, the club reopened as an 18-hole course, designed by Eddie Hackett and went on to celebrate its centenary year in 2000, but still boasts relics of its original layout.

The remains of Desmond Castle (1200AD) create a magnificent backdrop for golfers, as well as the ruins of the Franciscan Abbey (1464AD) which dominates the centre of the challenging, but scenic course. The quality and vibrancy

of the turf compliments the historic parkland course, so colour management and upkeep are vital.

Brian said: "I apply Green Lawnnger to the course twice a month, either alongside a fungicide or a liquid feed to maintain the colour and quality of the course. The turf pigment contains a high concentration of pigments based on turfgrass colourants, as well as Colourlock technology to ensure a long-lasting effect.

Brian believes that his use of Green Lawnnger at Adare Manor Golf Course has vastly improved the appearance of the course, saying: "Opposed to other dyes I have tried,





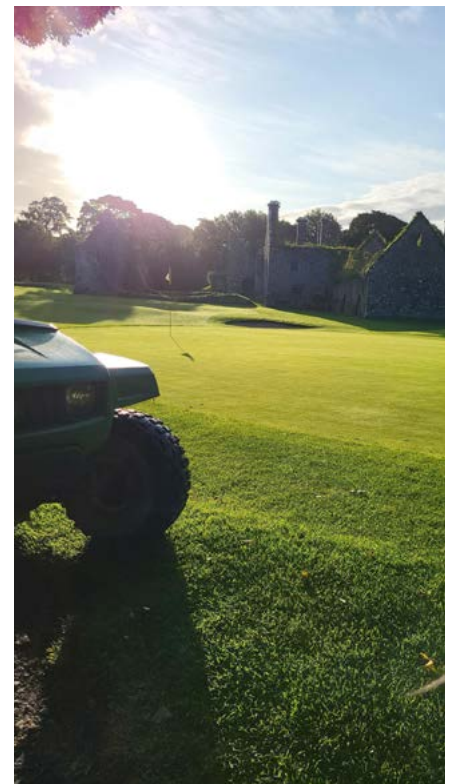
Green Lawnger holds the colour for a long time after application and the greens look fantastic afterwards. I have also found it aids recovery from disease.”

Green Lawnger contains agronomic colourants to improve the quality of the turf as well as a resin technology to ensure strong leaf adhesion, meaning each application sticks directly to the leaf and is not transferred to skin or clothing, ensuring an even and vibrant green coverage.

The additional benefits of Green Lawnger include an instant green up, a flexible rate to achieve the required colour and a long-lasting effect. Green Lawnger can be used on any type of turfgrass and as a divot mix or sand colourant. It is the only choice turf colourant for use on stadia sports turf or for areas of use where an instant green up is required, and impact sports are played.

Brian concluded: “Green Lawnger is an effective and great product for turf colour and longevity, I highly

recommend it to everyone within turf management for effective and long-lasting results.”



To find out more about Green Lawnger or to view the wider range of turf colourants, please visit: [www.pestcontrol.basf.co.uk/en/Products/Overview/Turf-Colourant/index.html](http://www.pestcontrol.basf.co.uk/en/Products/Overview/Turf-Colourant/index.html)



# STIGA - PRESENTING ITS FIRST EVER BATTERY-POWERED PRUNER!



STIGA one of the world's leading manufacturers and distributors of gardening machinery and equipment, announces its first-ever battery-powered pruner, the SC 100e. This is now available from the STIGA website.

### Easy and efficient

The ergonomic design of the new

STIGA SC 100e makes this battery pruner both functional and comfortable to use allowing you to work efficiently and quickly. Solid, well-balanced and equipped with a non-slip handle, this latest generation pruner offers high safety security thanks to a button with an easy lock-off system and standby/lock-off software.

### Innovation at its best

The SC 100e's exceptional performance pruning capability adapts to the operator's needs and to the task at hand. With an option to select from three blade opening settings, this allows the cutting and trimming of branches up to 3.0 cm in diameter. Its high-quality carbon steel blades are extremely sharp, and capable of making a clean and precise cut.

### For every pruning need

The new STIGA battery-powered pruner is the ideal companion for a variety of pruning needs, for example, hedges, flowerbeds, and bushes, thanks to the STIGA ePower 20V 2 Ah battery. This battery ensures intelligent energy management and autonomy of up to over 2,000 cuts on a single charge.

### Shareable batteries

Designed to meet various needs and simplify different gardening activities, the STIGA ePower 20V batteries can also be shared among a series of lightweight and easy-to-use tools. With the 20V system, the "intelligent" battery recognizes the product in which it is used and sets the appropriate working parameters autonomously. It adapts by optimising the operating range for each product, thus maximising battery life.

### Listen to the silence!

Powerful, yet quiet thanks to STIGA ePower; the SC 100e pruner also features a 500W brushless motor that offers enhanced performance, greater efficiency, and durability than a traditional brushed motor.

The STIGA SC-100e is available to purchase now from [www.stiga.com/uk/](http://www.stiga.com/uk/)





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# AUTUMN RENOVATIONS MADE EASY

## GET AHEAD ON AERATION AND LEAF CLEARANCE WITH TORO AND AGRIMETAL



Autumn renovations are par for the course and Reesink Turfcare provides the chance to get ahead in the game with Toro and AgriMetal bringing the perfect solution with state-of-the-art aeration and leaf clearance equipment.

Renovation is an essential part of course maintenance; repairing damage from the summer, bolstering surfaces for the winter and keeping the course clear of leaves and debris is a demanding job, but it can be made easier with the right machinery.

Here's where Reesink Turfcare steps in with a selection of machinery from some of the brands it distributes, as David Timms, national accounts manager,

explains: "Autumn is crucial for repairing the damage done during summer, preparing the course so it can get through the winter without too much damage and is ready to go in the spring. We have what greenkeeping teams need to do that."

Aeration work will be key. Relieving some of the compaction in the top surface and removing thatch, allowing the land to drain better and encouraging seed germination and grass growth, and as David says: "the best partner for that work is the Toro ProCore 648s, also widely known to be the most efficient pedestrian aerator on the market."

It's not only a fast worker with a 122cm aeration swath that lets

it aerate up to 18 greens in seven hours, but its unique design with the wheel located in front of the aeration heads means operators can make pass after pass without running over cores or freshly aerated turf, preventing damage and making cleanup easier.

With aeration work taken care of, it's vital to make sure falling leaves don't undo all the good work. As the old grass recovers from summer and the seeded areas begin to get their roots down, don't risk leaves smothering the grass, allowing moss to take over and thatch to form, as well as creating the perfect micro-environment that is conducive to disease occurrence.





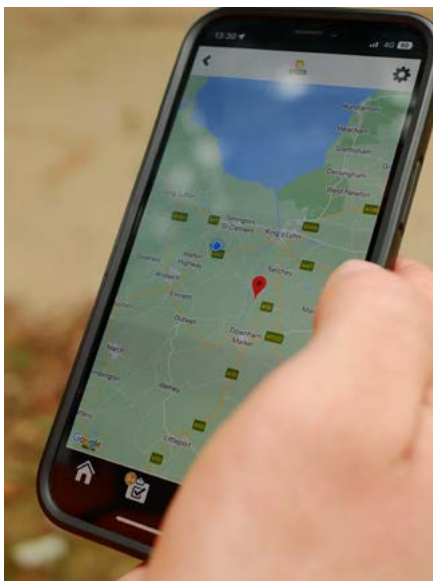
Toro's ProLine H800 is productivity and efficiency personified. It clears leaves and other organic debris from the tees, greens and fairways quickly into a 810 Litre capacity system in one pass. Meanwhile Toro's Pro Force debris blower clears grass clippings, leaves, chaff, and other debris from fairways, clubhouse grounds, fence lines, paths, and other paved areas farther and faster – in little time.

AgriMetal's lightweight PTO driven blowers are a great option for shifting large quantities of debris. There are three attachments of varying horsepower that can be attached to the back of a tractor and can work in the worst of conditions without marking or compacting the turf. All models benefit from the lighter weight impeller increasing air flow output whilst reducing load on their drive belts. Quieter, more powerful and kinder to the tractor.

David concludes: "Getting the turf in the best possible position now ready for spring is the best time spent this season. And with the right equipment there's no reason for this to be difficult, stressful or time-consuming."

To learn more about how Toro and AgriMetal can help you to get ahead of the game with your renovation plans this autumn, visit the website [reesinkturfcare.co.uk](http://reesinkturfcare.co.uk), call 01480 226800 or email [info@reesinkturfcare.co.uk](mailto:info@reesinkturfcare.co.uk)





# ERADICATE SILOED SYSTEMS WITH A DIGITAL SOLUTION

Landscaping companies often face the challenge of managing multiple siloed systems. This can lead to inefficiencies, data inconsistencies, and limited visibility across departments, often impacting productivity.

With field management software, like Re-flow, businesses can break down barriers between siloed systems and be free of the limitations posed by traditional workflows.

When there's limited visibility across an organisation, members of different teams can end up doing the same work in parallel. Field management software eliminates these issues by providing a centralised system where all data is entered, stored and automatically updated.

Reviewing data and creating reports is important to understand the overall health of an organisation. With Re-flow's dashboard you can extract crucial insights by running reports on job progress, sales statistics, equipment, servicing and

more. There is even ability to set timeframes and data types or create custom reports.

Communication is another major pain point. Utilising Re-flow's app, you can push messages to individual operatives or bulk send to entire teams. With in-app replies, Re-flow users benefit from two-way communication. Operatives can send a response to messages, and a log of replies will be kept should they need to be referred to in the future.

Visibility is one of the main issues with siloed systems. With Re-flow's scheduling tool businesses have an instant, detailed overview of work being carried out and employees, vehicles, plant, and equipment assigned to tasks. This prevents conflicts with holidays and training, double bookings, assigning defective equipment, those lacking the correct qualifications and even fatigue, ensuring everything goes to plan.

Inventory management - keeping track of equipment, plant, vehicles - can become extremely difficult

with siloed systems. With Re-flow, businesses can easily track equipment and report issues through digital forms. Equipment and vehicles cannot be assigned to jobs if they are defective or in use, so this means more efficient resource allocation.

Siloed systems may lack proper controls and processes to ensure compliance with industry regulations and standards. Re-flow can incorporate compliance features, reducing risks and facilitating audits and reporting.

Businesses including Tony Benger Landscaping, Golden Tree Surgeons and Shines Environmental are already utilising Re-flow to digitally transform their operational processes, eliminating data inconsistency, enhancing visibility and reporting, efficient inventory management, and reducing compliance risks.

[www.re-flow.co.uk](http://www.re-flow.co.uk)



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# SCAG HAVE INTRODUCED THEIR FIRST ELECTRIC RIDE-ON – THE EVZ

- Power is provided by the Vanguard 48V 5kWh Lithium-Ion commercial battery pack. 48V 5kWh\*
- Estimated productivity of up to 5 acres per charge, though this depends entirely on cut height, terrain and conditions.
- The required Vanguard 1050W battery charger is included with each mower
- Estimated charging time: 5 hours = full charge / 3 hours = 80% charge

Elsewhere, leaf and debris clearance is still high on the agenda this time of year, and the STM / SCAG range of equipment has proved as popular as ever - with impressive sales in 2022 for the SCAG Windstorm. And impressive is the right word to describe the specification of the machine as well: this is a stand-on unit, placing the operator on a stand at the back with a knee-pad in front, giving an excellent all-round view for the user. The format is based on the SCAG V-Ride mower but, as opposed to a cutting deck, it has a massive cyclone blower on the front, capable of 6000 cfm output. The power unit is a 37HP Briggs Vanguard engine and the operator drives the machine with twin hand levers to twin rear drive wheels to give zero-turn manoeuvrability. Adjustable nozzle direction for the output completes the picture of a well-designed and highly effective leaf and debris clearance machine.

The machines are available through the STM dealership network. To find your nearest dealer ring 01789 488450, email [info@st-mach.com](mailto:info@st-mach.com) or look at our website [www.st-mach.com](http://www.st-mach.com)



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# USING ATTRAXOR FOR CONSISTENCY AND EASE OF MAINTENANCE



A Golf Course Manager from a deluxe golf and spa resort nestled in the scenic Cheshire countryside explains why they use Attraxor to keep their turf green, clear of *Poa annua*, and easily maintainable.

Golf course manager John Quinn, based at The Mere Golf Resort and Spa near Knutsford, has been using Attraxor for three seasons and has shared the benefits he's seen on the golf course.

The Mere offers a deluxe four-star hotel experience with a spa and a scenic 18-hole lakeside Championship Golf Course, encompassed by mature trees and extensive vegetation. The 81-room hotel is a popular retreat for avid golfers, with many posting their experience on Trip Advisor complimenting the greens as being "smooth, fabulous, and well kept."

John discussed the reasons he began to use Attraxor at The Mere: "After hearing lots of good stories

about Attraxor, I decided to try it with the hope it would make the greens growth consistent and reduce clippings. We also wanted to suppress the growth of *Poa annua* seedheads to keep the greens smooth."

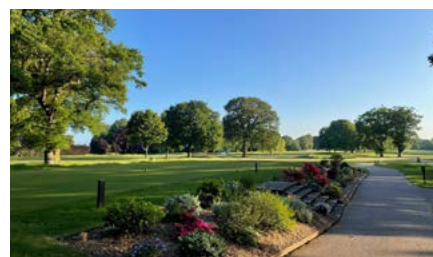
Attraxor has been proven to regulate growth effectively as part of a well-managed turf strategy, meaning the hard work put into the upkeep of the grounds lasts longer. The active product within Attraxor is Prohexadione-calcium, which inhibits the gibberellic acid pathway, resulting in reduction of turf height and biomass. Root growth is promoted through Attraxor to aid strength, whilst turf colour and quality are maintained.

John said: "I use Attraxor every 21 days on our greens and it has lowered the mowing maintenance of the greens and complemented our existing efforts of greens upkeep. During periods of high growth, we alternate days mowing and rolling

to reduce plant stress. Attraxor gives me better control of growth rates. Throughout the 21-day period, a more uniform sward is possible each week. I've found that the *Poa annua* seedhead suppression qualities are superior to Trinexapac-ethyl products. If any seedheads do pop up, they are remarkably smaller and leave a much finer putting surface."

John also discussed the improvement of quality he is seeing within the grass, saying: "We have been overseeding with creeping bentgrass for three years now, and in conjunction with our use of Attraxor, we have seen a much better uptake from our overseeding work!"

"Introducing Attraxor to our maintenance regime has meant we spend less time mowing the greens. Having such good control over the growth rates means the option is always there to give the greens a break for a day without any mechanical input if we feel it would benefit. Attraxor has given me so much control over the golf course, it has allowed for consistent and quality greens coverage with minimal growth which is smooth and develops at the same pace as all the other greens."



To find out more about Attraxor, visit [www.pestcontrol.basf.co.uk/en/Products/Overview/Growth-Regulator/Attraxor.html#section-benefits](http://www.pestcontrol.basf.co.uk/en/Products/Overview/Growth-Regulator/Attraxor.html#section-benefits)



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Eco Clipper offers large area mowers that help field managers minimize mowing costs while producing a professional finish. The Eco Clipper mowing system was originally developed to replace the cylinder mower in turfgrass production. The aim was to retain the cutting performance of a well-tuned cylinder mower, but not the high maintenance requirements and sensitivity to mowing conditions, such as wet grass and weeds.

Users report high productivity gains and appreciate the low maintenance requirements and the ability to schedule mowing even under less favourable mowing conditions, such as early morning dew and wet autumn, which can often prevent removal of grass clippings.

For more information, contact: [info@vanmac.co.uk](mailto:info@vanmac.co.uk)  
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Their extensive range of timber playground equipment now includes the popular rot resistant hardwood Robinia and has products suitable for every age and setting, including safety and all-weather surfacing. Their bespoke designs and robust high-quality installations are suitable for schools, nurseries, parks and commercial outdoor play areas.

Playspaces know just how important outdoor play is for children's development and enjoyment and strive to supply the best equipment to facilitate their physical play, learning and fun. Their play schemes comply with the most stringent safety standards and all Playspaces manufactured products come with full installation instructions, with each component part simple to identify.

From trim trails and towers to climbing frames, swings, slides and more, Playspaces will work with you from initial site visits and design discussions, through manufacturing to installation as well as taking care of your subsequent safety and maintenance inspections and repairs.

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