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NOV/DEC 2022

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There will be a new industry show to add to the diary next year.

Groundsfest will be a two-day exhibition, coming to Stoneleigh Warwickshire in September next year, for those working across sports turf, amenity and landscaping.

However, some may argue that with other trade shows already penciled in on our 2023 calendars, such as SALTEX which reported 15% more attendees this year since its post pandemic event in 2021, is this one show too many? Organiser and founder of Groundsfest, Chris Bassett of Purple Ash suggests there is room for another event. Having undertaken extensive research over the past six years, the Groundsfest team says there is support from those working across the industry sectors for an event that offers a mix both indoor exhibits with the chance to see live outdoor demonstrations while there. Find out more about this new event on page 8.

Whichever show you do choose to visit in 2023, there will doubtless be a common theme running through – the ongoing recruitment crisis the industry continues to witness. Apprenticeship schemes are slowing gaining momentum, but still there are not enough young people coming into industry. Are schools and colleges doing enough to encourage the next generation to consider the outdoor industries as a career path? What more can be

done to tempt career changers into landscaping? We'd love to hear and share the stories from anyone who has either moved into landscaping later in life or from businesses who have had success in recruiting and retaining staff.

Elsewhere in this issue we consider sustainability and biodiversity - another hot topic that will be on many agenda next year. A new trend report from Husqvarna has revealed that urban green spaces are expected to play a more important role in climate change and improving biodiversity - a full report is on page 22.

Finally there is a little festive cheer on page 32 with some gift ideas!

Wishing you all a happy festive season and looking forward to 2023.

Maggie

Maggie Walsh, Editor

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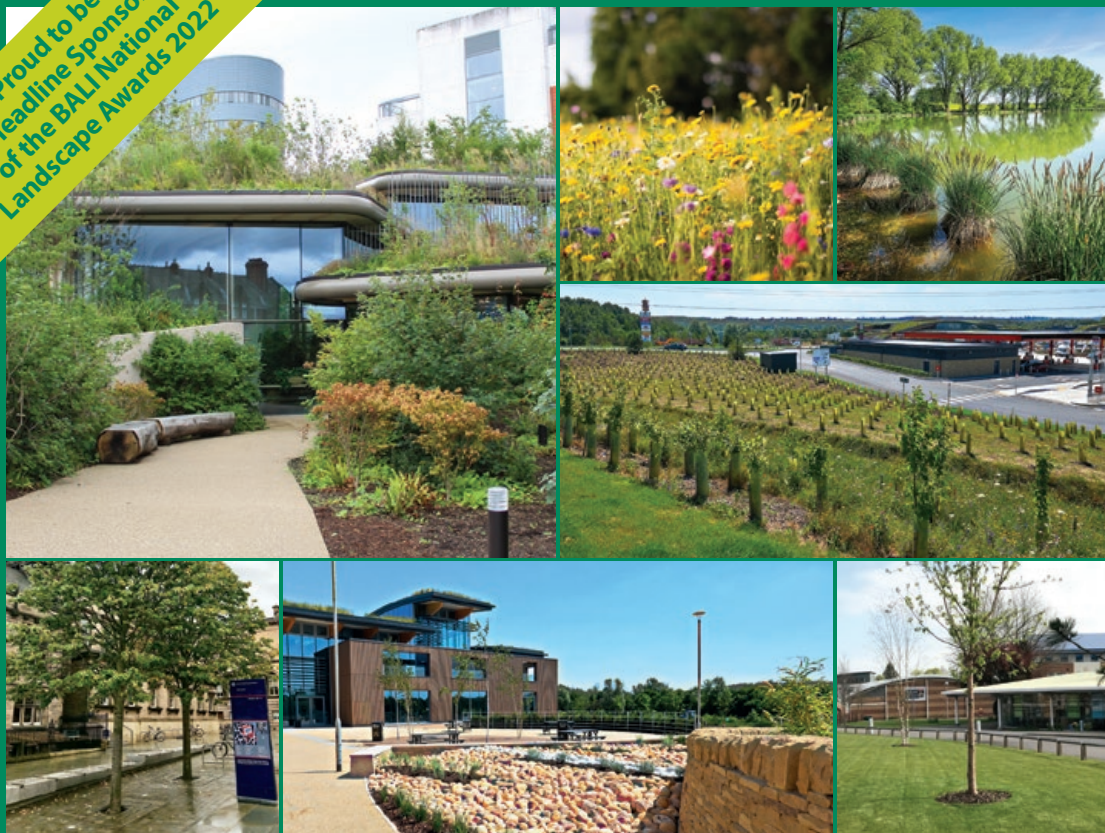
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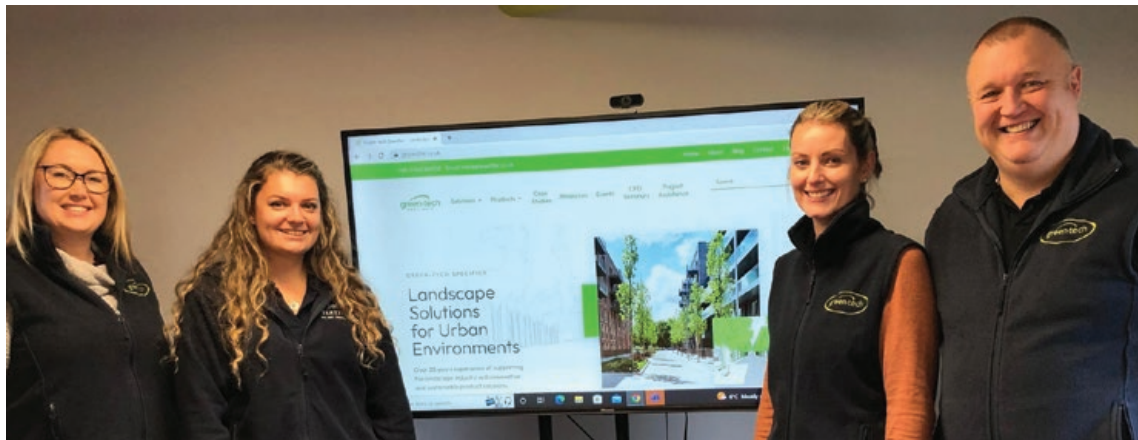
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Cover Story: Hartley Botanic's Victorian Villa Glasshouse (EPOA) is an ideal garden centerpiece, featuring a stylish central porch. It offers a fresh take on a classic Victorian aesthetic with a brick base providing a modern feel. Hartley Botanic is an English Greenhouse manufacturer founded in 1938, known for the enduring strength, quality and performance of its structures.

The advertisement features a large, stylized graphic of a white diagonal line across a dark background. On the left, a QR code is accompanied by the text 'SCAN TO JOIN THE CLUB'. The main text, 'YANMAR OPERATORS UNITED', is written in large, bold, red letters. Below this, 'EXCLUSIVE CONTENT' and 'SPECIAL OFFERS' are written in smaller red letters. In the foreground, two construction workers wearing white hard hats and red high-visibility vests are seen from behind. Their vests have a 'YOU CLUB' logo. The background shows a construction site with a yellow excavator. The Yanmar logo is in the top right corner. At the bottom, the text 'BUILDING WITH YOU' is written in bold red letters.

Green-tech Specifier launches new website



Green-tech Specifier has launched a new and improved website www.gtspecifier.co.uk

It will address the needs of landscape architects, contractors and garden designers and showcase the latest solutions and products for urban regeneration and landscaping projects. In addition will be a number of solutions to address climate control, flooding and biodiversity challenges.

Visitors will find a host of resources to help support landscape design projects, including: Resource library;

Product calculator; Event calendar; Project assistance; CPD Seminars; Past Webinars; News articles; Videos

Green-tech Specifier is a team of seven that has the product knowledge and technical expertise to provide advice, guidance, and recommendations for bringing landscape designs to fruition; and have the know-how to source the best solutions for a project, working within budget. The website brings together their collective knowledge and addresses most requested information.

Groundfest is coming

A new two-day event set to bring together those working across the sports turf, amenity and landscaping industry is coming to Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire next year.

Launching on 20 and 21 September 2023, it is being put together by events team Purple Ash. It is the same team who as Fusion Media, organised SALTEx in the past.

Combining indoor business opportunities, educational hubs alongside outdoor demonstrations, the event has been created based on extensive research and independent surveys over the past six years. The results show that September is the most favoured time of year and that a mix of both indoor space and outdoor demonstrations is the preferred format.

"We have dug deep into what the industry really wants," says Chris Bassett, organiser and general manager of the event. "With over 250 acres of outdoor space Groundfest will give people the opportunity to not only see a wide range of products but to get up close and personal."

As well as the outdoor demonstrations, there will be indoor zones, free education hubs, interactive workstations, machinery workshops, a wellbeing hub and to celebrate and to continue networking a live music festival into the evening.

For more information, please visit www.groundsfest.com or follow on social media @GroundsFest



Kubota expands with George Browns

Kubota (UK) Ltd has announced that George Browns Ltd has opened a new depot at Witney, West Oxfordshire. This new site creates a wider spread of dealership locations across its sales area, that better meets the needs of its customers.

Essentially a depot relocation, the opening of the Witney branch has seen George Browns' groundcare-only Haddenham depot close its doors to enable the development of this latest full-line tractor dealership in West Oxfordshire.

"Geographically, our new depot in West Oxfordshire puts George Browns and Kubota within easier reach for many more customers," explains Steve Brown, managing director of George Browns. "This is another strategic move for our long-term business partnership with Kubota, to grow the groundcare and agricultural machinery aspects of the business."

As a result of good infrastructure in west Oxfordshire, the new site offers easy access for customers and more usable space for the workshops - both internally and externally.



"It's great to be part of the local economy, by bringing business and job creation into the area," says George Browns' group sales manager for agriculture, James Gibbins. "And as a full-line depot, Witney will be providing sales, service, parts and support for the Kubota tractor and implement ranges, in addition to Kubota groundcare equipment."

Quartix team to grow international reseller network

Quartix, a leading international supplier of fleet telematics systems, has established a new sales partner acquisition team. The team, led by John Lilwall, will be tasked with expanding the business' distribution partnerships in the UK, USA, France, Spain and Germany. Kieran Beaton will lead the reseller programme for Quartix in the UK.

With over 300 resellers globally, Quartix has seen success by offering a well-priced telematics system to the commercial vehicle sector through a variety of authorised resellers. Since 2020, its global reseller

sales volumes increased significantly. The business has signed a further 75 resellers in France during the previous two years, and aims to expand this successful business model into more regions.

Kieran Beaton, Quartix UK Partner Acquisition Support, says, "It's an exciting time for resellers to partner with Quartix as the business is investing in this sales channel. I'm looking forward to exploring reseller opportunities in both the UK and US, and seeing how we can work together with a range of businesses to support their customers and drive commercial success."

John Lilwall, Partner Acquisition Manager at Quartix, says, "I am delighted to be working with such a great team and am excited by the opportunity to expand our partner network. We have a 'hard to beat' commercial reward, and fantastic customer support with over 350 customer reviews at an average rating of 4.8 out of 5. This is something really valued by sales partners who primarily may want to focus on sales rather than customer support."

Quartix's strategy is to partner with resellers of all sizes from any industry or background, from 1-person companies through to larger fleet businesses with a complete sales and marketing team in place. Support and onboarding are key factors in ensuring Quartix resellers achieve success.



Restorative gardens to take centre stage at the 2023 RHS Chelsea Flower Show

RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2023, sponsored by The Newt in Somerset, is set to shine a spotlight on the ways that gardening and gardens contribute positively to our health and wellbeing, as well as to help the environment.

Inclusive green spaces for socially deprived communities to connect with nature, and gardens for patient recovery in hospital make up some of the 12 Show Gardens recently announced today by the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS).

The Royal Entomological Society Garden designed by Chelsea gold medal winner Tom Massey is inspired by the rich biodiversity found on brownfield sites, areas of wasteland that are highly beneficial to insect life.

Horatio's Garden designed by Charlotte Harris and Hugo Bugg is a wheelchair accessible garden for patients recovering from spinal injury. The garden focuses on the evidence based needs of those in long term hospital care, providing a beautiful space away from clinical settings which supports their recovery.

Korean designer Jihae Hwang highlights how a rewilding project in her home country has helped prevent native plants from becoming extinct. The Hoban Cultural Foundation: Land of Healing, Korean Mountain Light garden promotes balanced ecosystems found around the Jiri Mountain region, which grows over 1,000 native medicinal plants.

Helena Pettit, RHS Director of Shows and Gardens, says: "It's no coincidence that the restorative power of gardens and gardening – both for people and the



Artists impression:
The Royal Entomological
Society Garden

environment – returns as the main theme for next year's RHS Chelsea Flower Show.

"So whether you're looking to create a wildlife haven on your doorstep, ideas to garden more sustainably or to brighten up your balcony, the 2023 show will be teeming with gardening inspiration to help you bring more plants into your home."

Other highlights include The Savills Garden by Mark Gregory, which champions how growing your own food can form the basis of a healthy lifestyle and The Nurture Landscapes Garden by Sarah Price, a low carbon garden that celebrates the art and craft of garden making.

RHS Chelsea Flower Show runs from 23 to 27 May 2023.
rhs.org.uk/chelsea

BALI Board welcomes Richard Gill



Richard Gill of Green-tech, the UK's largest supplier to the landscape industry, has been voted on to the British Association of Landscape Industries (BALI) board of Directors at the Association's National Annual General Meeting held on 15th September 2022.

Richard is the Sales Director of Green-tech, an Accredited Supplier of the Association and award-winning supplier to the industry with a product range of over 10,000 product lines covering tree planting, urban landscaping, soils, and wildflower seed. He has a wealth of experience and a genuine passion for the landscaping industry.

BALI's Chief Executive Wayne Grills comments: "I, the Board and the team at Landscape House look forward to working with Richard as a board member. He brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience of the industry, which will be vital as we move forward with the Association's new strategy."



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Social Therapeutic Horticulture

Thrive, the charity that helps people with their mental and physical health through gardening has teamed up with the Leisure & Outdoor Furniture Association, (LOFA) to help more people access their life changing gardening sessions through a process called Social Therapeutic Horticulture (STH).



Through STH, Thrive have proven that gardening can have a profound impact on physical and mental well-being. LOFA are committed to supporting their work by donating £5,000 each year.

Thrive delivers social and therapeutic horticulture programmes across the country that help people to improve their physical and mental health, communication and thinking skills. LOFA have made a commitment going forward to help charities that have a link to the industry

Thrive supports and works with those who have physical or learning disabilities; those requiring mental health support needs, such as anxiety attacks. The charity also reaches out to older adults affected by dementia-related problems including stroke survivors and diabetes sufferers among others – alongside young individuals struggling socially/emotionally or behavioural difficulties.

Green credentials for London council

Westminster City Council has banned glyphosate on all their managed outdoor space. This is one of several methods to improve green spaces and encourage native wildlife to flourish within the borough.

The toxic substance found in many commercial weedkillers and sprays has a significant environmental impact. Consequently, the ban incorporates all products containing glyphosate on all council managed outdoor spaces and housing estates and the council is encouraging all landowners in the borough to follow suit. This follows from the previous phasing out of the use of glyphosate in parks, play areas, streets, and open spaces in 2020.

The ban is just one of the initiatives taken on by the local authority to improve green spaces within Westminster. The Council's parks services now proudly hold 28 Green Flag Awards for their parks and outdoor spaces. The awards are a national scheme that recognise well-managed parks and green spaces. Westminster's outdoor spaces are now setting a benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces across the UK and further afield.

Additionally, the first section of the new green spine through North Westminster was unveiled in September, bringing more nature orientated spaces for residents to enjoy. The landscaped pedestrian route combines seating with opportunities for walking, play and exercise surrounded by flowerbeds and trees to encourage native wildlife and insects to flourish.

A drive to encourage more wildflower planting within Westminster also saw the installation of a bug hotel in Berkeley Square over the summer. Constructed by

students from Westminster College, Maida Vale, the structure offers sanctuary for insects and bees within built-up areas and is surrounded by wildflowers and pollinator friendly plants.

By focusing on bettering Westminster's outdoor spaces and encouraging more residents to take an interest in good biodiverse practice, it is hoped others will help combat the ecological emergency.

Cllr Ryan Jude, Deputy Cabinet Member for Climate Action and Biodiversity said:

"I am really pleased that we have delivered on our commitment to totally ban glyphosate in all areas of the city underlining our commitment to tackling the climate and ecological emergency.

"Our ambition is to maintain sustainable, green spaces in Westminster, which support health and wellbeing and increase the community's involvement in the creation of healthy, accessible spaces throughout our City."



Bug hotel in London Borough of Westminster

Isuzu Truck (UK) Ltd and Norfolk Trucks expand

Vehicle manufacturer Isuzu Truck (UK) Ltd has announced that its long-standing East Anglian dealer Norfolk Trucks has been appointed an official Isuzu Truck authorised repairer at its location in Felixstowe.

This latest appointment in Suffolk adds to Norfolk Trucks' existing portfolio of three full Isuzu Truck Dealerships in Norwich, Ipswich and Enfield, North London.

Announcing details of this dealer expansion agreement with Norfolk Trucks, ITUK's Managing Director Pete Murphy says: "Over the last two years, Norfolk Trucks has successfully expanded all of its Isuzu Dealerships and as a result, the vehicle parc in East Anglia has grown significantly. Felixstowe is such a key location for us, with its established port infrastructure, and the Norfolk Trucks dealer point here is ideally located to provide an excellent additional local service for new and existing customers in this region."

Norfolk Truck & Van Felixstowe operates a seven-bay workshop, with a full ATF Lane, full tacho facilities, two mobile service vans and daily parts support.

Robbie Pryke, Depot Manager at Norfolk Truck & Van



Felixstowe, adds: "As a group, Norfolk Trucks has really pushed hard with the Isuzu Truck marque in East Anglia and North London over the last few years, achieving significant sales in the region. Our service facility here in Felixstowe, which we acquired twelve-months ago, is perfectly located to provide a high level of experienced service support to this ever-growing number of Isuzu truck customers in the area."

Full details of the current ITUK dealer network can be viewed on the company's website on:

<https://www.isuzutruck.co.uk/dealers/>



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Lantra launches course for sprayer upkeep

Land-based awarding organisation Lantra has launched a short course to help heighten awareness of the key role that due care of knapsack sprayers plays in maximising lifetime and safety of the equipment.

Lantra added the knapsack and handheld sprayer maintenance course to its portfolio in October, before announcing it at Saltex in early November.

Adopting material supplied by professional knapsack sprayer manufacturer Hozelock-Exel, Lantra-accredited training providers Outlook Training, Greenscope Training and Harper Adams University collaborated to design the course, intended "to prolong equipment lifetime, ensure correct application of liquids and save time and money".

"The course is designed to develop the knowledge to maintain and service handheld pesticide, feeds and control products applicators," says David Fisher, Lantra Head of Industry Partnerships, "and is available for learners aged 16-plus who hold Safe Use of Pesticides and Handheld Application of Pesticides qualifications.

"For pesticides and general users, it is vital to ensure equipment is safe, fully calibrated and in good working order," he adds. "The outcome from taking the course is that operators can prolong the life of their sprayers, while



also helping the environment by using trusted equipment."

The new course, embracing theory and practice, will equip learners with the knowledge and understanding to strip down the knapsack; identify damaged or broken parts that need replacing; pursue safe working practices and personal safety; reduce risk of incorrect/off-target application; enable companies to ensure compliance with the Provision & Use of

Work Equipment Regulations 1998.

Operators can re-certify after five years, confirms Lantra, which says that after completing the course, operators will keep their knapsacks in good working condition for longer by identifying damaged or broken parts, then replacing them, rather than disposing of the whole unit, so boosting their cost-effectiveness.

Allan Wainwright, Hozelock-Exel sales manager for commercial spraying adds: "Raising awareness of the importance of knapsack maintenance has been a cornerstone of our strategy for some time. I'm delighted that the knowledge operators need to extend sprayer lifetime has been assembled into a certification of training by Lantra. This is a major advance for the sprayer sector." www.lantra.co.uk/course/knapsack-handheld-sprayer-maintenance

Perennial introduces 'nudge' to support financial wellbeing

Perennial, the charity helping people in horticulture, is introducing a new service called 'nudge' to support the financial wellbeing of people in the industry.

The free, personalised financial management tool equips business owners and sole traders with the skills and knowledge to take control of their money on a day-to-day basis. All those who work with plants, trees, grass or flowers can use it to help them navigate their everyday spending and future milestones.

Perennial's Health & Wellbeing Survey (2021) found that mental wellbeing and financial pressures are among the biggest perceived challenges for people working in horticulture. 26% of people's income didn't cover their daily living costs. 16% felt under financial pressure along with 36% of the UK population according to a recent MaPs survey.

Julia Hayne, Director of Services at Perennial, says: "We're pleased

to partner with nudge to support people in horticulture with their financial wellbeing. We want people to feel in control of their finances so that they can plan ahead. Using nudge can help people to feel confident in making good financial decisions, so they can make the most of their income. When people are in control of their money, they're in control of their lives making them happier, less anxious and more empowered. This is a good place to be."

Tim Perkins, Co-Founder of nudge, commented: "We are delighted to support Perennial. We are constantly striving to help everyone, in every industry, take control of their finances and build a brighter future. We look forward to seeing how this partnership develops and the impact on people in the horticultural industry."

For more details and advice visit perennial.org.uk/nudge



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Sustainability and recruitment is core to industry success

Words by **Maggie Walsh**



76 years of history repeated itself at SALTEX 2022 delivered again for the groundscape industry. Visitors and exhibitors joined together to see the latest technologies, products, innovations and learning opportunities that unites every corner of the industry and shape the landscape of groundscape for 2023.

Hundreds of exhibitors and thousands of visitors met, networked, sealed deals, and built knowledge at Europe's largest annual groundscape event. At the event was Allan Harvey from Ashlandscapes, who comments: "We've been coming to SALTEX for the last 20 years. We come to see what new products are coming out that could benefit our business, see old friends, and meet new people. SALTEX is a show which delivers what we want it to year after year."

The show spread over three halls and brought together the manufacturers and suppliers, visitors and speakers, governing bodies and associations who

impact the industry, help create and educate the next generation of groundstaff and provide the knowledge and technology to propel the groundscape industry into the future.

Talking about this year's event and its role in providing the industry with what it wants and needs, GMA CEO Geoff Webb said: "The continued participation be that as a speaker, exhibitor or a visitor creates a buzz unrivalled in our industry. Whether its networking, checking out the latest equipment and products, to catch up with friends or to learn from experts SALTEX has it all under one roof and yet again we have delivered. We look forward to welcoming the industry back in 2023."

The theme for this years' show was sustainability and that was evident across the whole event. An increased number of grounds personnel, greenkeepers, landscapers and contractors were

looking for products that deliver quality results but also reduce carbon footprints to the environment, and SALTEX delivered with the latest innovations and products, daily demonstrations of cutting-edge sustainable technology and advice on how green technology could benefit current working practices.

“The industry needs to promote diversity and provide more training opportunities to help with the recruitment crisis”

Leila Fuerst, sustainability advisor from idverdi, says: “My job is in sustainability so the fact that the theme of the show was sustainability was the draw to attend. It's an important and current industry topic which SALTEX is addressing. Almost all the Learning LIVE seminars touch on the subject and there are a couple of seminars

I'll be attending to hear different viewpoints.”

There was an all-encompassing Learning LIVE education programme with 35 free-to-attend seminars from expert speakers from the UK and abroad who focussed on the vital issues affecting the industry.

For one seminar the Grounds Management Association (GMA) and the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association (BIGGA) joined forces to comment on campaign on the ongoing recruitment and training crisis within the industry. GMA CEO Geoff Webb CEO addressed key issues within grounds care highlighting the recruitment crisis, suggesting that 3,220 grounds managers plan to retire in the next three years – approximately 1,073 greenkeepers and 2,147 sports ground managers. There are apprentices coming through but not enough. “We have a possible shortfall of around 650 apprentices/students per year,” says Geoff.

To encourage people into the industry there is a need, says the GMA, to provide more flexible training opportunities, develop market campaigns to promote diversity within the sector and monitor progress through annual surveys.

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News from SALTEX 2022

From all-electric tractors to robotics, sustainability to technology, new innovations to industry favourites, ground-breaking ideas to thought provoking debates, the show inspired those who attended and represented all that is current, relevant, and impactful about the groundscare industry. Here's some of what our suppliers and manufacturers brought to **SALTEX**.

New Partnership for PSD Groundscare

Just prior to SALTEX PSD Groundscare announced a new partnership with Canycom, the world-class Japanese manufacturer of brushcutting solutions, showcasing their new products at the show.

Founded in 1955, Chikusui Canycom Inc is renowned for the quality and excellence associated with Japanese manufacture. The company has progressed from a specialist in farm tools into a wide range of product categories-, from agriculture and forestry to brush mowing and construction-, supplying machinery to many different countries across the world.

CANYCOM Brushcutters are designed to work in the toughest conditions. These machines effectively clear long grass, bushes, weeds, bracken, and brambles in a variety of sites such as woodland trails and orchards



PSD Managing Director Chris Gibson & Canycom President Yoshimitsu Kaneyuki

Debut for Kubota

Versatility, manoeuvrability and precise cut quality are all assured with the introduction of the new Centre Collect Front Mower (CCFM) from Kubota, on show in the UK for the very first time this week at SALTEX. The CCFM is the inaugural unit from the Kubota Gianni Ferrari S.R.L division, created in July 2022 following the announcement of the incorporation of Officine BIEFFEBI (BFB), and its subsidiary Gianni Ferrari (GF), into Kubota Holdings B.V.



Kubota CCFM

At the heart of the CCFM is a powerful and economic 3-cylinder diesel engine and hydrostatic transmission, which guarantees excellent performance and control. The patented HTC™ hydrostatic traction control device minimises surface damage, eliminates skidding traditionally caused by the hauling effect and guarantees permanent 4-wheel traction, even when working on slopes or rough ground.

The 'floating' out-front mower deck conforms to undulations in the ground and features twin, retractable anti-collision blades to deliver a precision cut at all times. Available with 126 or 130cm cutting widths, the height of cut can be quickly and easily adjusted on the CCFM via

a spring lever located on the upper part of the deck. A high-capacity turbine then ensures efficient collection of the clippings into the 600 or 800L collector, which can in turn be emptied with ease thanks to the hydraulic high-tip function.

Ideally suited to landscapers, local authorities and parks & green space managers, the efficiency of the Kubota CCFM has not come at the cost of operator comfort. An easy-access platform, adjustable suspension seat and steering column, power steering and an easy-to-read dashboard enhance usability and performance, while LED front lights and guards come as standard for optimal safety.

Howardson acquires Lloyds Mowers and Hunter Grinders

Howardson Group, manufacturers of the Dennis and SISIS range of grounds maintenance equipment, announced the acquisition of Lloyds Mowers of Letchworth and Hunter Grinders at SALTEX this year.

This strategic alliance builds on the Dennis range of mowers with the addition of the Lloyds Paladin cylinder mower - renowned for cricket, bowls and golf along with the trailed Leda and Giant gangs, used extensively for wide area mowing.

Hunter Grinders is known worldwide in golf and stadia for their superior grinding performance on cutting cylinders and bottom blades.

"We see a lot of potential with both brands," Ian Howard MD of Howardson Group commented. "We have been in discussion with Lloyds for quite some time. We consider the brands much like our existing ones - well built, designed to do the job and with longevity."

Clive Nottingham, the well-known face of Lloyds and Hunters, will work closely with the Howardson senior management team as the two brands are embedded into the wider group of companies at Kirk Langley.

The brands will be showcased at BTME 2023 with their own dedicated stand.



Clive Nottingham (left) & Ian Howard

Double Toro Launch from Reesink

Reesink Turfcare launched two new products from Toro and the next big thing for sustainable machinery cleaning at SALTEX.

The new Toro ProCore 648s builds on the incredible legacy of the ProCore 648 and brings even more innovative features to the time-tested machine that changed the way customers aerate. Now, with all the primary controls at the operator's fingertips, this machine can be operated single-handedly. Hole spacing and true tine depth and hole spacing can be set and saved in the InfoCentre and there's a broader range of 5mm (0.25 inches) for the ultimate control.



Toro Pro Core

The new electronically controlled hydrostatic three-wheel drive ensures consistent hole spacing when aerifying up or down hill and the delay mode minimises disruption of the playing surface and guarantees maximum tine depth on the first entries into the soil. It allows operators to easily target where they want the coring head to drop or raise using the leading edge of the front tyre as a marker, making starting and ending passes or going over an in-ground hurdle like a sprinkler much easier.

Reesink Turfcare also unveiled the new Toro Workman UTX 4x4. Built to withstand all environments including ice and snow, this robust four-wheel drive, full-sized utility vehicle can handle curbs, inclines, hillsides, slopes and drops and has a high ground clearing (25.4cm/10ins).

With 25 percent more cargo capacity than that of others in its class and a towing capacity of up to 2000lbs it delivers the ultimate productivity. It's road-ready and comes with a proprietary speed control system to guarantee the right speed and power for the job at hand, meaning customers can choose between lower RPMs for lower fuel consumption and sound in sensitive areas, or higher RPMs for more power to haul a heavier load up hills and inclines.

Level playing field

The role of grounds staff is key to helping woman's football says **Hannah Buckley**

With 'no pitch no play' one of the biggest barriers to levelling the playing field between women and men's football, the success of the women's game depends largely on the involvement of the grounds industry.

Hannah Buckley, senior facilities and project manager for the women's professional game at The Football Association, spoke at this year's SALTEX to share why the importance of the pitch and ensuring the forward movement for the womens' and girls' sport is not lost because of poor playing conditions.

"When any new sport or technology comes along, some people will be reluctant to embrace it, others will do so wholeheartedly. We all saw this with those who hosted women's matches and practise for the Euros and those who didn't," says Hannah.



"It's important to remember the men's game is over 150 years old, women's is 50 and the young girls' pro game is only 11 years old. At the start of our journey, all the infrastructure was built around 150 years of the men's game.

"What's important going forward is to remove the unknown entities when it comes to additional female users of any pitch. Everything is the same with regards to the pitch and its set up, it's only the players who are different. Accommodating women's sport causes far less damage than the men's: the players weigh less, are smaller and therefore it is important to acknowledge different impacts against different users. Understanding differences provides opportunities for example professional training environments don't need as much space in a natural pitch training environment – and that reduces the initial budget outlay and ongoing maintenance costs.

"Several women's professional clubs have secured investment from the Premier League in the last three and a half years to improve pitch quality delivering new stitched and carpet hybrid products.

"Women's football is here to stay and we've got to focus on the pitches we've got. England has its infrastructure challenges. We're an island with limited land availability, with predominantly urban stadiums and training grounds. We are not going to start by building new pitches, so we need to understand the playing surface and the game and work with what we've got and make them work for the future of the sport. And all sports groundspeople have a role to play in this. The process starts in education settings, local authorities and clubs."

At Saltex this year, Hannah considered this very subject in her Learning Live talk and looked at the impact of Leigh Sports Village in Wigan. This example shows the impact a focus on grass roots can have at its finest. The venue had the biggest investment in public sports, recreational and educational facilities in Wigan borough for many years and has transformed Leigh into one of the best hubs of activity in the North West. Its multi-surfaces serve the whole community providing a range of activities for local people as well as hosting international sporting events. It attracts the next generation of sporting stars in the community but is also home to professional rugby league team Leigh Centurions and Manchester United's Women's, U23s and U19s teams.

"It's something we can all work together on too. And by that I don't just mean by looking at the way other sports are incorporating this requirement into their plans going forward or even other countries, but how grounds teams need more diversity – opportunities exist for women in helping prepare the surfaces for the women's sport, we need diversity to be reflected in that sector, there's a whole career pathway that could be incredibly rewarding for women.

"What really puts it into perspective is the moment when the Lionesses' won the Euros it was years in the making for those working in the womens' game – it was the moment we'd all been waiting for, and it came on home turf. That feeling was indescribable and something we want more and more people in the industry to be a part of, experience and celebrate. We now have the world's best sporting women's league and everything to play for in terms of continuing the momentum. We need others to join in with those who supported us then, to support us in the next chapter as we work towards the next international event."

Hannah was joined by Ted Mitchell of the Rugby Football Union, Iain James from the England and Wales Cricket Board and Ashleigh Seddon from the Rugby Football League at Saltex 2022 Learning Live.

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Re-thinking green spaces

Living City, an annual event hosted by **Husqvarna** this year brought together press and industry experts from across Europe to share knowledge and present ideas on the future of landscaping and technology within urban spaces. **Maggie Walsh** reports



Meadow walks at Queen Elizabeth Park. Credit London Legacy Development Corporation

A new trend report from Husqvarna has revealed that urban green spaces are expected to play a much more important role in mitigating climate change and boosting biodiversity. Following on from these findings, key voices from industry gathered together in October at the iconic Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, London to discuss why this sustainability focus needs to be addressed now.

The event – Re-thinking urban green spaces – from *Nice to Necessary*, saw experts, professionals and citizens from six European markets – Sweden, France, Germany, UK, Belgium and the Netherlands come together to discover what role urban green spaces will play in the future, and how this will impact the profession and technical tool development.

Findings outlined how green spaces are expected to evolve in the coming years, revealing that the new sustainability focus means that manufacturers of outdoor power tools need to speed up their journey to alternative power sources, with 44% of professionals expecting petrol-powered products to be banned by 2027.

“Urbanisation is ongoing and the role of green spaces in cities has evolved. At Husqvarna, we are determined to innovate towards independency from fossil fuels. And in the not-too-distant future, we expect our main business to consist of electric tools and autonomous solutions”, says Hannah Cooper, Professional Segment Manager at Husqvarna UK.

Trees key to tackling climate change

When asked about the future, 66% of green space professionals believe that more trees in urban areas will be one of the key changes to impact the industry over the coming ten years. Although it is a long-term commitment, the planting of new trees will be necessary for future cities, primarily serving the purposes of cooling the city and supporting an increasingly thriving ecosystem.

Trees do not only need to be planted but also cared for, as old trees are much more valuable both to fight climate change and to promote biodiversity than younger trees. This requires professionals to learn more about tree care, as well as how to create the best possible conditions for biodiversity to flourish in an urban green space. A third (60%) of professionals see a significantly greater focus on biodiversity in the near future.

One of the key speakers at the event Josephine Hedger of Arbor Venture Tree Care and Husqvarna ambassador agrees with these findings and notes: "In my work I've noticed a change in the past five years. People now care a lot more about trees now. Around 80% of my clients are now pro-trees and want to look after them and keep them.

"Before the pandemic it was all about people wanting to cut down their trees, to clear space and the hassle of leaf clearance. But now the tide is changing, it's as if people have started to notice wildlife in their trees and wanted to keep rather than chop them down."

Barriers and solutions

Staff shortage is also a big challenge that the industry faces today, cited by 37% of professionals as a critical barrier to developing urban green spaces in their city. This drives the need for robotic lawn mowers and other autonomous solutions to take care of the monotonous tasks, freeing up time for green space professionals to focus on more complex tasks.

"As so many green space professionals have difficulties finding qualified staff, it's clear that a complementary autonomous workforce is essential for the future. Autonomous solutions also help to address another two important challenges for the future – the need to reduce CO₂ and noise emissions. This will be positive for green space professionals, who will be able to focus on more valuable tasks and develop new skills, as well as having a more pleasant working environment", added Cooper.

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Husqvarna launches for 2023

Some tools of the trade from the **Husqvarna** stable to be released soon



Husqvarna CEORA™

Husqvarna has expanded its **CEORA™** robotic offering to help revolutionise fairway cutting. With a capacity of 20,000–25,000 m² per day, it can now be equipped with the new 43L cutting deck, which will be able to mow an area of up to three regular-sized fairways day and night. However, the new cutting deck is not limited to mowing fairways. With an electric cutting height adjustment system, the same robotic mower can operate fairways, semi-rough and rough, as well as other golf areas, at cutting heights from 10 to 60 mm. It will be on sale early 2023.



Automower® 550 EPOS

This virtual boundary robotic mower is an upgrade of the **Automower® 550 EPOS**. The new mower will be able to cut systematically rather than randomly unlike the previous model, resulting in twice the capacity of the original, making it the perfect solution for sports turf that requires a lot of playing time. It is equipped with a five-blade cutting disc with enhanced high-speed steel as standard and has an improved EPOS reference station coverage, simplifying installations in large areas such as golf courses.

Husqvarna Automower® 550 EPOS will be available in 2023 – reference station sold separately.



Climbing harness

Climbing gear to improve climbing and rigging, featuring a **climbing harness and ropes** designed in partnership with Teufelberger. The harness provides world-class mobility and comfort while helping reduce the risk of injuries and physical stress. A wide range of settings also allow climbers to customise the harness to different climbing styles and jobs.

To complement the harness are two sets of high-quality climbing ropes approved according to both CE and ANSI standards. Other additions to the range include a chainsaw strap with an anti-shock feature that reduces the impact if the chainsaw gets caught in a falling branch or on other objects and a new storage bag that makes it easy to organise and bring the equipment wherever it's needed.

Husqvarna has made it possible to operate a commercial front mower from a distance by adding a remote control to its new **P 524XR EFI mower**. The P 524XR EFI front mower solves any problem of tackling areas where safety might be compromised by allowing users to operate the front mower remotely from a safe ground. Users can still operate the front mower in a traditional way when they want, simply by switching between the two modes quickly and seamlessly.

Features include a 137 cm wide cutting deck, a digital user interface and built-in Husqvarna Fleet Services™ connectivity. The P 524XR EFI front mower also retains the proven quality and features of Husqvarna's other ride-on mowers, such as the articulated steering which makes it possible to operate in complex or narrow spaces where high maneuverability is required.

The three models in the P 524XR EFI series will go on sale in the second quarter of 2023.

- For full details and availability visit www.husqvarna.com



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All of a flutter

Butterflies and moths are finding some surprising new homes.

Expert **Simon Saville** takes wing

Remember the canary in the coal mine – the caged bird whose untimely death would warn of dangerous gases underground? When it comes to the natural world, threatened now as never before, butterflies and moths are the equivalent.

Without the right plants to provide nectar for adult butterflies and foliage for their caterpillars, there would be no butterflies at all. In turn, butterflies and moths (and their caterpillars) provide food for other insects, spiders, birds and bats. See lots of butterflies, therefore, and we can know that other wildlife is thriving too. Moreover, as these beautiful insects respond rapidly to changes in the climate and their environment, and are easily tracked, they are very good indicators indeed.

The UK is facing a combined biodiversity and climate crisis. Rising temperatures, heat waves, droughts, floods and storms, plus an alarming decline in wildlife: the evidence is all around. Look closely at changes in our local population of butterflies and moths, however, and a more complex story emerges: an intriguing tale of winners and losers.

The bad news

Today we see many fewer butterflies and moths than we used to. Data from Butterfly Conservation reveals that, since 1976, over three-quarters of UK species have declined in number or distribution – and the downward trend continues. Small tortoiseshell and peacock



butterflies once abounded in our gardens; now even an occasional visit is worthy of remark. Headlights and windscreens are no longer splattered with insects after an evening drive. And wildflower meadows teeming with insects have become a distant memory from childhood days long ago. Shockingly, half of Britain's butterfly species are listed as 'Threatened' or 'Near Threatened' on the latest Red List, published earlier this year by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). In Surrey alone, three species – the Duke of Burgundy, small pearl-bordered fritillary and pearl-bordered fritillary – have grown extinct during the past 25 years, victims of the loss and degradation of the special habitats they require in the countryside: chalk grassland and coppiced woodland. In turn, this costly erosion is driven by buildings alike – land use changes and the widespread use of pesticides, as intensive agriculture takes hold.

The better news

Despite this gloom, however, there are glimmers of hope. Some butterflies and moths are expanding their range, including into towns and even cities like London. In fact, as the countryside becomes less favourable for wildlife, urban centres are assuming even greater importance. Understanding why holds the key to change in the future.

First, our urban parks, cemeteries and other green spaces have protection in the planning system and are generally not being built upon, despite the accelerating





pace of development. Second, the use of pesticides and fertilisers is much lower in London than it is in the country. Some boroughs have actually gone pesticide free: Hammersmith and Fulham, back in 2016, and more recently Lambeth.

Third, there is far greater diversity in urban areas: no large fields of monoculture crops; a wider variety of plants; more scrubby areas of parks that act as hedgerows. Wildlife thrives on this diversity of habitat, and London is now one of the most biodiverse areas in the UK, with over 15,000 different species recorded. Places such as Barnes Common, Richmond Park, Tolworth Court Farm Fields and Wimbledon Common – to name but four of the hundreds of green spaces in our area – bear testament to this, and are wonderful places to see wildlife.

Some spaces, like Burgess Park in Southwark, near Elephant and Castle, have been transformed in recent years by improved wildlife management. More frequent view in this urban oasis, and its success has been replicated in many other parks across the city.

One winner is the comma, now one of our most frequently spotted spring butterflies. Its caterpillars used to feed only on hops and elms, but have now added nettles to their diet. No one knows for sure why they made this move, but doing so has turbocharged their ability to colonise new areas. As a result, they've been spreading north at the rate of roughly seven miles per year. In 2020 they even reached the north of Scotland. And it's the abundance of stinging nettles, tucked away in corners of parks and gardens, that has been key to this success.

Meanwhile the marbled white, traditionally seen in the wildflower meadows of southern England, has also been moving into the urban parks and gardens of the capital. Its caterpillars feed on various fine grasses, making them an obvious beneficiary of the phenomenon known as 'No Mow May', and of the creation of grassy wildflower areas in parks.

And then there is the stunning Jersey tiger, a moth often mistaken for a butterfly, that can now be seen flying across London and the South-East in late summer. Previously confined to the Channel Islands and South Devon, it suddenly popped up in Forest Hill back in 2004. The warmer climate now in England seems to suit it very well; and, as its caterpillars eat a wide range of plants, it has spread quickly.

How can we help?

One cheap, highly effective way of aiding wildlife is to transform amenity grassland into wildflower meadows.

PLANTS FOR CATERPILLARS

Caterpillars need specific food plants, but it's not a long list...

- Stinging nettles – for small tortoiseshell, peacock, comma
- Long grasses, like fescues and bents – for various browns
- Cuckooflower, garlic mustard and honesty – for the orange-tip and greenveined white
- Holly and ivy – for the holly blue
- Bird's-foot trefoil, lucerne and vetches – for the common blue
- Nasturtiums and brassicas – for cabbage whites
- Buckthorn trees – for brimstones
- Oaks and elms – for purple and white-letter hairstreaks

This locks in more CO₂, so it also helps to fight climate change. What's often misunderstood is that wildflower meadows thrive on low-fertility soils, where faster-growing plants like dock, nettles, coarse grasses and thistles can't compete. These thrive on rich, fertile soils. Dorset is one of the councils to have pioneered a cut-and-collect approach to mowing road verges. The grass



is allowed to grow tall and, when it's finally cut, all the arisings are removed.

This process is repeated several times, removing nutrients from the soil with each set of cuttings. The result? A lower fertility soil, which is good for fine grasses and wildflowers, but not for the lush growth that follows from simply allowing the grass to grow. In future it will need less cutting and will be home to many species of butterfly and other insects.

This transformation can be carried out in almost any park and give a major boost to biodiversity. Green spaces in our area could easily support 20 or more species of butterfly and become a haven for wildlife.

So let's manage our parks and road verges well and enjoy the myriad butterflies that appear, safe in the knowledge that a wealth of other wildlife will be flourishing too.

Visit: butterfly-conservation.org

Simon Saville is Chair of the SW London branch of Butterfly Conservation, the national charity dedicated to saving butterflies, moths and the habitats upon which they rely.

Garden favourites suffered this summer



Bedding display RHS Hyde Hall. Credit: RHS/Joanna Kossak

Results from the Royal Horticultural Society's (RHS) Extreme Heat Survey conducted in July after the record-breaking heatwave this summer (2022) show that plants across the country suffered damage.

Over 8,000 responses paint a clear picture that even established, formerly healthy plants could not cope with temperatures well above 30 degrees Celsius. Techniques that would usually protect plants and help them retain water, such as mulching, in some cases also proved ineffective against the prolonged heat and drought according to survey respondents.

The survey asked respondents questions about plants in their gardens that had suffered damage during the heatwave. Responses give the RHS a broad view of the immediate harm of high temperatures to garden plants and how this might be exacerbated as the climate continues to warm and extreme weather becomes increasingly frequent.

The top ten plant types reported to have suffered damage were: Hydrangea; Acer; Fuchsia; Astilbe; Rosa; Anemone; Ferns; Heuchera; Phlox; Crocosmia

Many of the plants in the top ten were expected, such as hydrangeas, Japanese maples (acers) and hardy fuchsia species, as they prefer cooler conditions with plenty of soil moisture. In addition these varieties are often planted in dry and exposed sites and this may have contributed to their vulnerability.

However, others such as roses were more of a surprise. Some saw flower damage in July and August but many have gone on to have an extended flowering season and are still producing flowers in late October.

Fans of the fiery-coloured crocosmia will be reassured that the damage to these plants is unlikely to affect them in the long-term. Although their leaves are easily scorched, the damage is expected to be superficial as they are drought-tolerant plants and are likely to re-emerge.

Magnolia, rhododendron and camellia do not appear in the top ten, despite drought resulting in leaf loss,

dieback and often death. Having already finished flowering by the summer, damage might have been less obvious. The RHS Garden Advice Service will be on the lookout for reports of damaged plants in the spring when these plants should be ready to bloom.

If we see similar temperatures next summer gardeners should resist the urge to prune plants that have lost a lot of leaves. Most plants will still have live buds on their stems and branches, and will leaf up again when the temperature is right and rain arrives, but pruning after heat and drought can put them under more stress. Come spring, woody plants will show where any dead wood is more clearly, ensuring you can prune the right parts of plants affected by the heat this summer.

Leigh Hunt, RHS Principal Horticultural Advisor, advises: "As temperatures become more extreme don't replace like for like – if a plant is struggling in your garden you can plant something better suited to the space. Dry gardens don't have to mean gravel-gardens, you can keep an English-style garden by swapping plants, for example exchange rhododendrons for geraniums."

"Timing is especially important in the garden, and gardening calendars aren't as reliable as your own green fingers as seasons become more variable. You can make good use of the longer seasons as many plants including asters and salvias are now providing a brilliant show well into November."

The results highlight the importance of planting in the right place at the right time and being water-wise all year round. Climate-resilient planting can help gardens cope with extremes of temperatures and moisture, as well as ensuring habitats and food for wildlife throughout the year.

While mulching alone does not seem to have protected some plants from such high temperatures, a combination of measures such as improving soil with home compost to ensure it holds more water and harvesting rainwater with water butts to keep plants that require it moist could help.

More information can be found at www.mains2rains.uk

A year in review

Paula Warman looks back at 2022 and assesses how changes can help a business grow



Looking back at 2022 with my landscaping and garden design business head on has been an interesting exercise. With the current economic and cost of living crisis, now is a good time to review the business and I thought I'd share my findings with you as they might not be as one would expect.

Firstly, I looked at the number of enquiries as this seems to be a major focus of the industry right now. Lots of landscapers and garden designers I speak to have noted a downturn in enquiries and sales which is leaving them nervous about the future.

In my own landscaping and design business I found that there was no significant difference between 2021 and 2022. I looked at the periods January to October and then a snapshot of a three-month period August to October. What was particularly interesting is that we had a total 146 enquiries 2021 and 131 in 2022 over a 10-month period. On average that is a difference of one enquiry a month. Then when I looked at the three month snapshot the average number of enquiries was 10 in 2021 and 11 in 2022!

This proves that what we think is happening and what is happening can be two different things.

Secondly, I looked at sales because that is what really matters. In 2021 my business converted 11 of those enquiries into landscaping projects (note that this doesn't include designs sold) and in 2022 we converted four into landscaping projects with a further five to be confirmed. So, a slight drop in sales but that doesn't take into consideration the size and value of the jobs or the design income.

This is a very broad overview that I would urge all landscaping and garden business owners to use. If you want to go into a greater depth of analysis, I will look at the value and size of the projects won, what location they are in and what marketing strategies brought in the most leads and what strategy was best for sales.

Although the task of an annual review appears daunting it can help to make necessary changes to develop, grow and improve the businesses. For myself,

we are looking to now improve the sales process and client contact.

With prices increasing across the board and the fear of customers not buying it is imperative that businesses look to review the figures, then do more of what works and less of what doesn't.

Consider these three 'M's to finish the year strong:

- 1. Mindset** – if you are acting from a place of fear and worry, then you will only bring more of this into your life. Simply put, you manifest your own reality, so spend time getting your mind in the game and check out the podcast episode 'Manifesting Magic' on The Limitless Landscaper's Podcast for more on this.
- 2. Marketing** – so many people acting from a place of fear cancels all their marketing strategies to save money. If you don't market your business, you won't get leads and therefore sales. Recommendations alone are not enough anymore.
- 3. Mentor/Coach** – again this can be one of the first things to go in times of struggle but I would argue that without the support of a coach and mentor you run the risk of having no-one to turn to, bounce ideas off or that outsider looking in invaluable advice. Yes, it is expensive but when you look at what you have achieved whilst working with your coach and mentor and how much return on investment (ROI) it has brought in you should probably pay the money and grow your business.

Don't forget that in times of recession there are huge opportunities to start and grow businesses, the fact is there are Fortune 500 companies that have been founded in a recession. Keep your mind in the game and look for the opportunities don't act from a place of fear as decisions tend to be irrational and unfounded.

Go review your business facts and figures, then look to the future and plan your best 2023 and beyond.

- Brand new FREE Masterclass 'Your 5 Step Plan to Build a Successful Landscape and Garden Design Business' now available just visit <https://thelandscaperscircle.co.uk/discover/>

The Landscaper's Circle is the only online platform exclusively for business owners in the landscaping industry to learn how to market and run their business better. Become part of the #TLCTribe today for training and support. If you need our help please email at

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MEDITE MDF brings innovation to garden buildings

Timber provides landscape architects and garden designers the freedom to design robust and imaginative structures. It is also an effective carbon store, which means users can contribute to their sustainability goals as well.

MEDITE SMARTPLY continuously develops innovative, versatile and sustainable products, which are suitable for bespoke creations, and showcase the company's ethos; from its sustainably managed forests through to its commitment to creating products that contribute to healthier buildings.

Garden building suppliers Timberbox Ltd most recent creation the 'PassiveBox', incorporates three MDF products.

"The 'PassiveBox' Collection is heavily focused on longevity and performance," says Arthur Moore, Director of Timberbox Ltd. "MEDITE TRICOYA EXTREME (MTX) provides us with an unrivalled exterior cladding option, for its excellent machinability, high quality finish and dimensional stability outside. MEDITE VENT is used as our structural sheathing board in our diffusion open wall system and MEDITE MR provides a fantastic internal decorative finish. It is often used for many other elements within our buildings, for example, bar and kitchen carcasses, cupboard doors and boxing in.

"By using a combination of MEDITE sheet materials in conjunction with other high specification building products, we are able to provide customers with a superb garden room package."

MTX panels boast outstanding durability and dimensional stability while still maintaining the versatility and excellent machining qualities of standard MDF panels. It is particularly beneficial in environments where humidity and the weather are usually concerns.

MEDITE MR is a moisture resistant MDF panel specially designed for use in interior humid conditions, such as kitchens and bathrooms.

"Since the inception of Timberbox two years ago, our end goal was to offer the ultimate performance garden building in terms of longevity and energy efficiency," adds Arthur.

MEDITE VENT is a breathable, external sheathing panel that is suitable for use in all types of timber frame structures. The panels combine high racking strength in excess of Category 1 requirements with excellent vapour permeability and high weather resistance.

"All of the MEDITE products used are fantastic in terms of their cutting and machining capabilities," Arthur concludes.

Further inspiration on the limitless design capabilities of MEDITE MDF can be found on the exclusive MEDITE MDF community site where those who join can share work and gain inspiration that will enable them to build bigger and better with MDF. Sign up and receive a free gift: www.meditemakesitreal.com.

www.mdfosb.com/en/



Surface cleaner exceeds expectations

Enclean is a unique sustainable biocide ideal for de-greening a wide range of surfaces in the amenity sector. It is a plant origin-based biocide from Certis Belchim, which is marketed and distributed by Origin Amenity Solutions (OAS).

It won a top innovation award at SALTEX 2021 and has had positive user feedback according to Peter Corbett of OAS, who says: "The successful launch of the product in 2020 has culminated in recent approval for use by Organic Farmers and Growers (OF&G) across all organic systems."

Having witnessed the development of Enclean from initial trials Peter is well placed to discuss the new biocide, now widely heralded as a 'game-changer' in the professional biocide market. Managing the chemical products portfolio for OAS he first saw the biocide in its development phase in 2017 and was impressed with both its speed of action in eradicating algae and its positive effect on dealing with other green deposits that built up on hard, porous and wooden surfaces.

Enclean can be applied at low water volumes

"From the outset when trials began on the active Nonanoic acid, from which Enclean is derived, I saw the potential for this unique biocide. As a company, we recognised that there was a gap in the biocide market for an efficacious, sustainable and easy to use product," says Peter.

Most de-greening surface cleaners are applied in large volumes of both active ingredients, which are based on chemically synthesised quaternary ammonia-based products (QAC's). These actives, despite being used for many years, are not registered under the latest GB biocide products registrations (BPR). Many experts and environmentalists are concerned about this group



Before and after using Enclean

due to the quantities being applied and the danger to the aquatic environment. Water authorities and the Environment Agency are picking up these actives in surface waters, so it is very possible that the use of these actives will be severely restricted in the future.

Enclean is different in that it can be applied at low water volumes. Compared to most traditional biocide products, only a fifth to a tenth of the spray volume needs to be applied. One litre of Enclean mixed with 14 litres of water will treat 555m².

"Enclean is plant derived, safe to use, and it has no environmental hazard classification. It is fast acting and, once applied, it quickly degrades into natural elements without leaving harmful residue. Using a red 80-degree nozzle and maintaining the correct speed of application, 555m² of coverage is readily achievable; this is especially important for sprayer contractors who need to limit down-time spent on refilling," confirms Peter.

Furthermore, Peter adds: "Many traditional biocides cannot be applied in frosty conditions, or within 24 hours of rain. But with Enclean the application window is much wider, and very good results can be achieved even when temperature and weather conditions are far from perfect. The most important factor is correct dilution and application of the product and a few hours for the spray solution to dry."

Peter's positive feedback on the new biocide is based on multiple customer testimonials, including Plymouth City Council.

Says David Houghton, Team Leader of Plymouth City Council: "Overall, and after a thorough test, we were very pleased with the results from the Enclean product. We have found a fast-acting biocide that is safe and easy to use. We are now using this product to de-green areas where residents are concerned about the visual appearance and safety of the hard surfaces."

For more information contact Origin Amenity Solutions on **0800 138 7222**.



Street furniture cleaned using Enclean

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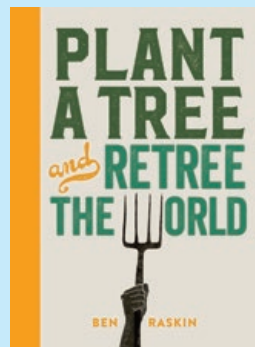
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Sustainable Garden by Marian Boswall. From harnessing natural energy to converting to peat-free compost there are plenty of tips to creating an eco-friendly garden.

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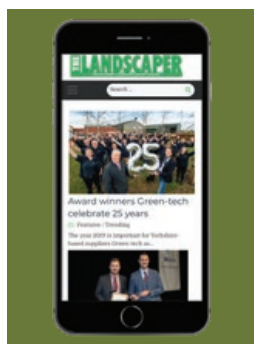
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