

022 - Gardens Illustrated Readers Day Saturday 24th April 2010

2020 Vision: Planting for a new age

Discover how to make your planting schemes thrive in the next decade at this special Gardens Illustrated event.

What will be the shape of things in 2020? As we move into a new decade the pressures on our spaces and especially our gardens continue to grow. Technologies, environmental decay, sustainability, climate change, waste and population growth are just some of the issues affecting garden designers and garden owners alike.

Come to this special day to discover how you can create successful, thriving planting schemes that look amazing and are sustainable.

We have got together some of the UK's leading future thinkers to give you the knowledge to create great planting in the coming decade. We'll also forecast where gardens are heading and how we can all be ready for the enormous changes already taking place. We'll examine:

- The role that your garden design can play in carbon sequestration, creation of wildlife corridors and conservation of endangered varieties.
- How you can design long term sustainable planting.
- The way that climate change can revolutionise the way we all garden.
- The future of plants and especially what trees you should be planting for the long term so that your planting thrives.

Our Speakers

Professor James Hitchmough, Department of Landscape, University of Sheffield

Professor James Hitchmough of the Department of Landscape, University of Sheffield is renowned for the creation of naturalistic herbaceous vegetation for use in urban parks and greenspace. These vegetation types are based on semi-natural plant communities but involve both native and exotic species and James will show us how you can create visually dramatic, yet highly sustainable designed plantings that are managed mainly through the application of nature conservation techniques such as cutting and burning.

James will be talking about the future of planting design and will also chair our day.

Tony Kirkham, Head of the Arboretum at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

Tony is Head of the Arboretum at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, where he has worked since 1978. Since the destruction of many of Kew's oldest trees in the Great Storm of 1987 he has spearheaded the restocking of the collection. In some instance using specimens collected on collecting trips to the Far East. Countries visited include: China, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, the Russian, the Far East and Sakalin Island.

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He has an infectious enthusiasm for his subject and is best known for his appearances in the BBC series 'A Year at Kew' and 'The Trees That Made Britain'. For this day Tony will be talking about the challenges facing us over the coming decade and showing us the trees we should be planting now so that our tree planting is sustainable.

Peter Harper, founder member of the Centre for Alternative Technology

In 1972 Peter Harper coined the term 'alternative technology' to describe new attitudes to working with nature. Shortly after, a derelict slate quarry in mid-Wales was colonised by a group of young idealists looking to test the different technologies and ways of living they believed might avert imminent ecological breakdown. Thirty years on, the Centre for Alternative Technology is a world-renowned educational and demonstration centre - many of the original group's ideas, once thought radical, are now mainstream accepted practice.

Peter will show us what low-carbon garden design, minimising emissions through correct choices of materials, organic waste processing, and carbon sequestration really means. And he will help us see how, as gardeners, we can seek 'niche roles' for example, as parts of wildlife corridors, or conservation of endangered varieties.

Mark Diacono, Gardening and Climate Change Expert

Mark runs Otter Farm, the UK's only Climate Change Farm, home to orchards of 'foreign' foods including almonds, pecans, persimmons and apricots – as well as the olive grove. He's hoping to take advantage of global warming to grow these crops and sustainably add them to the British larder, in so doing making these foods available to a local market without the heavy carbon load/food miles normally associated with them – a beautifully virtuous circle of working with climate change in a way that helps arrest its acceleration.

Mark is currently writing *Kitchen Garden: River Cottage Handbook No.4* as part of the River Cottage Handbook series. He is also working closely with a consortium of international organisations with a view to developing exchange and information programmes for climate change adaptation globally. Mark will be talking about his experiences with the climate change garden and will help us understand what we should expect in the future for sustainable food production.

Tickets

Date	Saturday 24 th April 2010 9.30am – 4.30pm
Cost	£95 including all refreshments and a buffet lunch.
Location	Regents College, Inner Circle, Regents Park, Central London For directions and transport links please visit our website www.lcgd.org.uk

To reserve a place for this day please visit our website www.lcgd.org.uk and click on "Gardens Illustrated" or call 01483 762955

To be placed on our mailing list for more information about our courses as they become available please email info@lcmd.org.uk or call 01483 762955

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