

# G club

The G Club magazine from greenwood

JANUARY 2023

## BUSINESS UPDATES

**Local MP visits  
Fresh Acres to  
learn about  
peat-free  
growing**

## SUSTAINABILITY

**Our journey to  
Net Zero**

**Keep calm &  
contract  
grow!**

## PLANT FOCUS

***Ilex***

**Biological  
pest  
control**

## NURSERY FOCUS

**Greenwood  
Holland**

**GREENWOOD COMMUNITY  
St Wilfrid's Hospice**



# greenwood Choice

**Our new trade sales centre is open for business, six days a week.**

Come and browse our extensive selection of plants and sundries, ready to take away today. We stock a range of specimen shrubs, herbaceous perennials, topiary, grasses, and more.

For more information or to check availability, call Kevin on 01243 939551 or email [kevin@greenwoodplants.co.uk](mailto:kevin@greenwoodplants.co.uk).

**Opening hours:**  
Monday to Friday 7am – 4pm  
Saturday 7am – 10am

**Address:**  
Greenwood Choice  
Fresh Acres Nurseries  
Yapton Lane  
Walberton  
BN18 0AS

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Local MP visits  
Fresh Acres to  
learn about  
peat-free  
growing



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overseas nursery,  
based in Holland



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trade sales centre  
- a showcase for  
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# The benefits of Gclub



We are pleased to highlight the benefits of G Club, our client loyalty programme that recognises and rewards our clients.

The table below details the exclusive Gold, Silver and Bronze tier benefits - including bonus credits, complimentary and enhanced delivery service, and for some clients, a complimentary trip to Greenwood Holland.

On top of the G Club rewards, you will benefit from excellent service from the dedicated G Team; access to our innovative tools, like the Tender Tool; private tours of Fresh Acres HQ on request; and opportunities for continued professional development through the Greenwood Academy.

	<div> </div>	<div> </div>	<div> </div>
Credit bonus based on quarterly spend	<div> 3%                     Credit bonus                 </div>	<div> 2%                     Credit bonus                 </div>	<div> 1%                     Credit bonus                 </div>
Complimentary delivery	all orders over £500	all orders over £750	all orders over £1000
Hiab, Moffett, FORS, and split deliveries (chargeable)	•	•	•
Dedicated G Team	•	•	•
Access to Tender Tool	•	•	•
Fresh Acres HQ tour	•	•	•
Consultation and advice	•	•	•
Greenwood Academy CPD	•	•	•
Bespoke photography (on request)	•	•	×
Complimentary trip to Holland (two people, once a year)	•	×	×
Sustainability and community partnering	•	×	×
Annual Business Planning Session	•	×	×

## Business Updates

### Local MP visits Fresh Acres to learn about peat-free growing



Andrew Griffith, MP for Arundel and South Downs, visited Greenwood Plants in Walberton in November. Greenwood came to Mr Griffith's attention when we were recently named 'Sustainable Business of the Year' at the 2022 Central South Business Awards. As a former UK Net Zero Business Champion for the government, he was interested in our sustainability strategy and how we are transitioning to peat-free growing media. We invited Mr Griffith for a tour of Fresh Acres to view our growing facilities and hear more about our sustainability initiatives.

An initiative that will have a major impact on Greenwood's net zero target is committing to being fully peat-free by the end of 2023, years ahead of anticipated industry regulation. The nurseries are currently carrying out extensive trials with alternative growing media to support its annual production of more than six million plants. The composition of the growing media is analysed to get the pH, nutrient levels and structure just right to ensure that all plant varieties can successfully transition into peat-free compost.

Mr Griffith said, "It was a pleasure to visit Greenwood and see its production operation and sustainability strategy in action. I was interested to hear about the company's plans for improving biodiversity and its expansion into automation".

If you'd like to find out more about Greenwood's sustainability efforts, such as switching to electric vehicles, reducing waste, recycling water and wooden crates, and supplying biodegradable sundries, visit [www.greenwoodplants.co.uk/sustainability](http://www.greenwoodplants.co.uk/sustainability).

### G Team Focus: Taryn Baker

This is Taryn, one of our Internal Sales Coordinators, who has worked at Greenwood for over seven years and is based at our head office, Fresh Acres nursery. Many of you will already know how committed she is to outstanding client service and providing a fast turnaround on client orders, whilst mentoring our growing sales team. Taryn recently visited Greenwood Holland to meet our Dutch team and tour the nurseries to check the tree stock ahead of our busiest ever season. Taryn also attended the Groot Groen trade fair to meet suppliers and report back on the latest innovations.

Do get in touch if she can assist you with your orders – [sales@greenwoodplants.co.uk](mailto:sales@greenwoodplants.co.uk).



### Get involved in our new client photo competition!

We know we have some keen amateur photographers amongst our clients so we thought we would launch a photo competition. Send us a photo and be in with a chance of winning a £50 shopping voucher! We are looking for photos of your favourite building projects, seasonal plants, interesting landscapes or local wildlife. Please submit your entries by emailing [marketing@greenwoodplants.co.uk](mailto:marketing@greenwoodplants.co.uk) – the deadline is Friday 10th March.

### Case studies

We are always keen to showcase our clients' projects where Greenwood has provided support on the soft landscaping. If you have a special project that would make a good case study then do please talk to your client support manager or email [marketing@greenwoodplants.co.uk](mailto:marketing@greenwoodplants.co.uk). We would be happy to share any professional photos that we take and mention your company on social media posts.

## Nursery Focus Greenwood Holland

Greenwood Holland is our nursery based in the Netherlands and has been part of the Greenwood family since September 2021. At the start, the operation at Greenwood Holland looked very different to how it does today. My team and I were loading trees directly from growers' yards, and shrubs were collected and loaded at Zundert—a town in Holland. In October 2021, Jos joined us and Greenwood Holland moved to its own yard in Dodewaard. However, having extra inspection points for plants, in both Dodewaard and Zundert, brought many obstacles and we were keen to simplify this process.

To mitigate these obstacles, Greenwood Holland moved to a new yard in Tree Centre Opheusden in October 2022. With metal frames—for tree storage and organisation—set up and ready for use, this new yard and office helped to streamline processes. Suppliers each have



their own batch in the yard to deliver trees and shrubs. As a result of the move, we have enhanced control over plant quality and deliveries are more economical; more plants can be loaded each time.

Inspections are now more efficient than ever before, as all plants are inspected in one place, at our own quality control check point, prior to being loaded onto our trucks. Inspections form part of our biosecurity measures to ensure we are minimising risk and preventing harmful pests and diseases from being introduced to the UK and allowed to spread.

The loading process at Greenwood Holland is very well organised and managed by Piet, who joined the



team this year and handles quality control and logistics. We have a loading bay in the warehouse where trucks are quickly and proficiently loaded with plants; each tree takes around 45 seconds! The truck then leaves Holland and can arrive in the UK the very next day. In addition to Piet, Ida also joined our team this year; she liaises with suppliers, books in orders and manages office administration.

We are a small but strong team of five and enjoying the busy season. Being situated in the middle of Tree Centre Opheusden gives us excellent supplier connections and allows us to deliver trees quickly and efficiently. We thank Greenwood UK for the opportunity and we are excited to build a strong and successful company in Holland.

**- Jaap Huisman**  
Director of Greenwood Holland

*Did you know?*

Tree Centre Opheusden sits between the Rhine and the Waal; Its fertile, fluvial clay provides an optimal source of nutrients, which make the location perfect for growing premium quality trees.





## Welcoming clients to our trade sales centre

Last summer, we opened the doors to Greenwood Choice—our new trade sales centre at Fresh Acres nursery. Open six days a week, Greenwood Choice showcases a wide range of plants and sundries for clients to purchase and take away. It offers a convenient solution for landscapers who need to provide instant impact on fast turnaround projects. Greenwood Choice is located in greenhouse 3 and also utilises the area immediately outside, where larger stock is displayed. The aim of Greenwood Choice is to increase sales to existing clients, whilst also attracting new local

clients to browse, by promoting an extensive range of “looking good” plants and a variety of planting sundries.

As well as being a trade sales centre, Greenwood Choice is also a showcase for Greenwood Plants. A large percentage of the plants in Greenwood Choice are grown on our nurseries and it's a great opportunity for clients to see our full range of high quality, own grown plants. In addition to our own grown, our Buying Team, alongside our colleagues at Greenwood Holland, source plants for

Greenwood Choice from other growers across the UK and Europe.

Greenwood Choice is divided into specific areas to help clients find what they are looking for, whilst also simplifying processes for the G Team—such as restocking and picking orders. Near to the greenhouse entrance, an area has been dedicated to the best looking plants. These are updated on a regular basis to ensure it includes plants in flower, colourful foliage and additional varieties, plus our



*Nandina domestica*



*Picea pungens* 'Blue Diamond'

peat-free offering. Photographs of these plants are sent out through social media and on a dedicated page on our website, to give clients inspiration for their current planting projects.

A number of clients have approached us for last minute planting projects, show home orders or domestic landscaping projects. We have recently helped a number of clients with set budgets for show home planting, and we have delivered with a bespoke range of trees, shrubs and perennials which offer instant impact, as well as suitable plants from our looking good area.

I like to visit our nurseries regularly to discover which plants are looking good and those suitable for Greenwood Choice stock. My role, as manager of Greenwood Choice, is to ensure the centre is kept well stocked with plants that clients would expect to find, as well as an interesting mix of plants to provide variety. Some examples include shrubs, roses, grasses, ferns and topiary, as well as specialist plants, including banana trees, bamboos and fruit trees.

We have had a very successful first six months since we opened the doors to Greenwood Choice in July, and are excited to see what 2023 has in store for us. Thank you to both our clients and the G Team for their support.

**- Kevin Merritt**

*Greenwood Choice Manager*



Bees around a *Mahonia media* 'Charity'





## Keep calm & contract grow!



Contract growing is becoming increasingly popular, as a low-risk solution for large-scale planting projects that helps manage availability and costs in times of increasing uncertainty. Contract growing is a service that enables landscape architects, garden designers and landscapers to reserve plants months, or even years, in advance. Having a contract provides the ultimate peace of mind because prices are locked in and plant species will be true to type, as specified on the planting plan, avoiding the requirement for last-minute substitutes.

Sourcing plants from one supplier means that the product will be of a consistent standard, and it

allows the grower enough time to propagate and nurture the highest quality plants. A single point of contact also reduces the time that the client spends coordinating deliveries and installation.

Greenwood's contract growing service, "Watch It Grow", lets you plan with confidence. You can pre-select the plants you need, to a certain specification, within the timeframe required. The process involves working back from your anticipated project delivery date and creating a production plan and comprehensive project schedule, working with our plants and seasonal constraints, to ensure we deliver to your timescale.

"Greenwood's contract growing service, 'Watch It Grow', lets you plan with confidence. You can pre-select the plants you need, to a certain specification, within the timeframe required. "



The service also includes regular photographic updates of the plants through our revolutionary Tender Tool app. This feature gives you the visual assurance needed and lets you see how your plants are progressing.

Greenwood is an industry leader in sustainable growing and offers its Watch It Grow service with the option of peat-free growing medium. Using peat-free compost will improve the green credentials of the whole supply chain – the environmental benefits can be passed on to landscaping companies, housebuilders and homeowners, ensuring that the whole supply chain's carbon footprint is reduced.

Whilst peat is an excellent growing medium, its harvesting process from peatlands is damaging to our planet. Peatlands are incredibly carbon-rich; they are able to sequester a staggering 33% of our global CO<sub>2</sub>. When peatlands are damaged, they release

carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, which has an adverse effect on greenhouse gas levels and significantly contributes to climate change. Scientists also see the importance and fragility of peatland ecosystems to be equal to that of rainforests. Transitioning to peat-free is a huge undertaking, but Greenwood has risen to the challenge and is aiming to be growing 100% peat-free by the end of 2023.



If you would like to find out more about our Watch It Grow service, visit [www.greenwoodplants.co.uk](http://www.greenwoodplants.co.uk). We are happy to arrange private tours of our propagation and contract growing facilities - email [hello@greenwoodplants.co.uk](mailto:hello@greenwoodplants.co.uk).







## Plant Focus Ilex

A festive favourite for all seasons, *Ilex* (holly) is a genus of the *Aquifoliaceae* family of plants. Native to tropical, subtropical and temperate regions, *Ilex* can be found in many parts of the world, but thankfully, most species are fully hardy in the UK. *Ilex* is a very versatile, ornamental plant for landscapes, ranging from small trees to various sized shrubs.

Classic holly varieties have lustrous, green foliage with serrated or spiny edges; these can be cut to make lovely festive decorations. Whereas other species have smaller, softer foliage—ideal for topiary. The majority of *Ilex* species have dark green leaves, but some varieties can have a purple hue or be variegated.

Most *Ilex* species are dioecious, so individual plants produce either female or male reproductive structures. To produce berries on female plants, a male plant will need to be close by to allow insects to cross-pollinate between the nectar-rich flowers. Berries will usually emerge in autumn on female plants and colours vary between red, black, white and yellow. *Ilex* provides fantastic benefits for wildlife; its flowers are great for attracting bees; its berries provide birds with an excellent late food source; its dense cover provides birds with shelter, habitat and nesting opportunities; and small mammals appreciate the leaf litter for their hibernation period.

*Ilex aquifolium* (English holly) is a slow-growing, evergreen species that usually has spiny, green foliage; delicate, white flowers in spring and summer; and red berries throughout autumn and winter. Growing taller than 12m with a bushy habit, *Ilex aquifolium* is excellent when grown as a specimen tree, clipped bush or hedging. This is a particularly popular holly species for festive floral arrangements. 'Argentea Marginata' is one of our favourite female English hollies for its dark green foliage with striking, silver margins, alongside beautiful, red berries. When it comes to male *Ilex* varieties, 'Silver Queen' is a firm favourite as its young, spiny foliage has a pink hue, until it matures to green with distinctive, silver margins. 'Silver Queen' is a male holly; this means it does not produce berries, but its white flowers in spring are great for pollinating female holly varieties, when positioned in a nearby spot.

### Fun Fact

The mistle thrush is extremely territorial and will guard the berries of holly during the winter. This is known as resource guarding, and they will often guard in pairs.



*Ilex crenata*  
'Carolina Upright'

Native to Japan, China and Korea, *Ilex crenata* (Japanese holly) is an evergreen holly species with a compact, dense habit. *Ilex crenata* is ideal for topiary as its small, green leaves offer a similar look to *Buxus sempervirens* (common box) and its slow growth rate helps it to stay in shape, with little effort.

In addition, *Ilex crenata* is resistant to box blight and isn't prone to leaf scorch after pruning. *Ilex crenata* is also a great option for low hedging along a border or path, and our favourite varieties include 'Green Hedge' and 'Stokes'. 'Green Hedge' is a compact shrub that's ideal for compact hedging and larger topiary shapes, with its oval-shaped foliage, white flowers in summer and black berries in autumn. 'Stokes' is a fantastic male holly for topiary globes, ground cover or low hedging, as it grows up to 1m in height and has dark green, small, oval-shaped foliage. 'Stokes' has delicate, white flowers which emerge in May and attract plenty of bees and butterflies. 'Carolina Upright' is another male variety with a dense, upright habit that grows up to 2.5m. It's great when grown as a specimen shrub in containers or borders. 'Carolina Upright' has small, ovate, dark green leaves, with delicate, white flowers in spring and summer.

Early spring and autumn are ideal seasons to plant *Ilex*, but it can do well when planted at any point in the year. *Ilex* can be planted in most light levels, from partial shade to full sun. However, keep in mind that female plants will produce more berries when positioned in full sun. An advantage of *Ilex* is its tolerance of pollution and salt-laden air—making it ideal for coastal and urban locations. *Ilex* will thrive in most moist, well-drained soils.

Being low maintenance, *Ilex* doesn't require much effort to help it thrive. Whilst it's establishing, regular watering is essential to keep the soil moist. Plant feed generally isn't required for *Ilex*; however, you can feed it once a year in spring, followed by a biodegradable mulch. If *Ilex* is container grown, it should be fed twice a year with a slow-release plant feed.

*Ilex* responds well to pruning; once per year in late winter or early spring is ideal. Encourage new growth by removing any misplaced, damaged or diseased branches. If further shaping is required later in the year, ensure this is carried out no later than July, to avoid frost damage to any new shoots. *Ilex crenata* in particular tolerates heavy pruning—great for keeping topiary styles neat and tidy throughout the year.

*Ilex* can suffer with various pests and diseases, such as aphids, scale insects, holly leaf miner and holly leaf blight. Holly leaf miner causes yellow-white or yellow-purple blotches on mature foliage; however, it has very little impact on the health of the plant. Holly leaf blight is a fungal disease that causes black or purple blotches on leaves and dieback of stems. It usually occurs in the colder months and after particularly cool, wet weather. If you spot any signs of holly leaf blight, remove infected parts of the plant and any dead stems.

Overall, *Ilex* will provide fantastic colour throughout the year with its multiple seasons of interest, and is an excellent, low maintenance planting option. It's clear to see why *Ilex* is so regularly used in planting plans today.

- Lara Matthams  
Content Marketing Executive

*Ilex aquifolium* 'Silver Queen'





## Sustainability: Our journey to Net Zero

In 2022 we made many changes and introduced new sustainable practices, which will each play their part towards our long-term goal of reaching Net Zero. This includes using resources efficiently, reducing our waste, encouraging biodiversity, and improving our carbon footprint.



Month to month, our peat-free trials are building, and we are now at a stage where one in four plants are potted in peat-free growing media, across our nurseries. Our trials involve exploring new types of growing media to support our annual production of more than six million plants. The trials allow the production team to tweak the composition to get the pH and nutrient levels and structure right, as well as alter the irrigation programmes.

Peat is an excellent growing medium; however, its harvesting process releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, which has an

adverse effect on greenhouse gas levels and contributes to climate change. Our aim is to be 100% peat-free by the end of 2023; it's a huge challenge for us but it's vital that we make this change. As part of our peat-free goal, we now also offer our new contract growing programme 'Watch It Grow' in peat-free, and display our peat-free plants in Greenwood Choice—our trade sales centre.

Throughout the year, as part of our Greenwood Community scheme, we have donated plants to a number of schools, colleges and local charities, to help with their landscaping and gardening projects. We recently donated a selection of plants to St Wilfrid's Hospice in Bosham, Chichester, for its dedicated volunteers to plant within its beautiful gardens. St Wilfrid's Hospice has been working tirelessly on its gardens over the past three years; they have been designed to be enjoyed by all residents, regardless of their mobility.

Many internal changes have been made across our nurseries to reduce waste. These include recycling bins, eco-friendly cleaning products in bulk, chilled drinking water facilities and



reusable water bottles for our G Team. New trolley jackets have also been introduced to reduce the amount of single-use packing materials, which is needed for transportation. In Greenwood Choice, we have green waste bins throughout the greenhouse to ensure any weeds are disposed of correctly and composted.

Our journey to becoming fully electric at our Head Office, Fresh Acres nursery, is making great progress; we are pleased to share that another new electric forklift has arrived at our nursery. Electric vehicles provide excellent benefits, such as having the potential to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, and can provide a quieter environment. We have also invested in two new



lower emissions trucks to reduce the footprint of the fleet out on the road. In addition, our new 'engine-off when idling' policy for all drivers will also help to lower our emissions.

In September, we celebrated our "Sustainable Business of the Year Award" at the 2022 Central South Business Awards. This award recognises the pioneering sustainability practices that we have established across the business, exercising responsible planetary stewardship, and demonstrating sustainability leadership by applying innovative processes and techniques to minimise our imprint on the planet. Sustainability is one of our brand values and the G Team have embraced their role in contributing to our sustainability goals. We are incredibly proud of what we have

achieved so far and this award is great recognition of an excellent team effort across the business.

This year, we hope to increase our sustainability efforts further by installing solar panels, investing in more water storage tanks and introducing bee hives to our nurseries. We will continue keep you updated on our progress and new initiatives!





## Biological Pest Control: An environmentally friendly approach to pest control across our nurseries

Biological pest control is the use of living organisms to suppress or eradicate pest populations. With records dating back around 4,000 years—such as the control of rodents in Egypt—the practice of biological pest control has been carried out in various ways around the world. The specific strategy of biological pest control is an excellent, environmentally friendly alternative to using chemicals, such as pesticides, insecticides and fungicides. Chemical methods can lead to health issues, have a harmful effect on wildlife and biodiversity, and cause unintentional damage to plants.

Chemicals are widely known to be damaging towards our environment and biodiversity, whilst biological pest control methods have many benefits. Biological pest controls are either low or non-toxic, so the safety of both workers and consumers is not compromised. Chemicals often leave residues on plants and cause damage. Whereas, biological methods are natural and degrade quickly, without leaving residues.

Resistance is a big problem in chemical control, as pests have adapted to many well-known pesticides and fungicides over the years. A benefit of biological control is the slowing down of resistance, due to the combination of multiple methods, which requires the pest to find new ways to fight back; the pest is continuously kept on its toes. Sustainability is a further benefit of biological pest control methods. Once natural enemies are introduced to the environment, they are able to multiply and control the pest population with minimal further action.

Biological methods are either predators, parasitoids or pathogens, and are based on naturally occurring organisms, which only cause harm to the pest concerned. Otherwise known as “natural enemies”, these biological control methods are introduced to greenhouses to breed and reduce pests to controlled levels. Predators, including ground beetles, lady

### Prevent

Preventing pests where possible with a variety of hygiene methods, using pest resistant plants, and rotating their position.

and reduce pests to controlled levels.

Predators, including ground beetles, lady

### Action

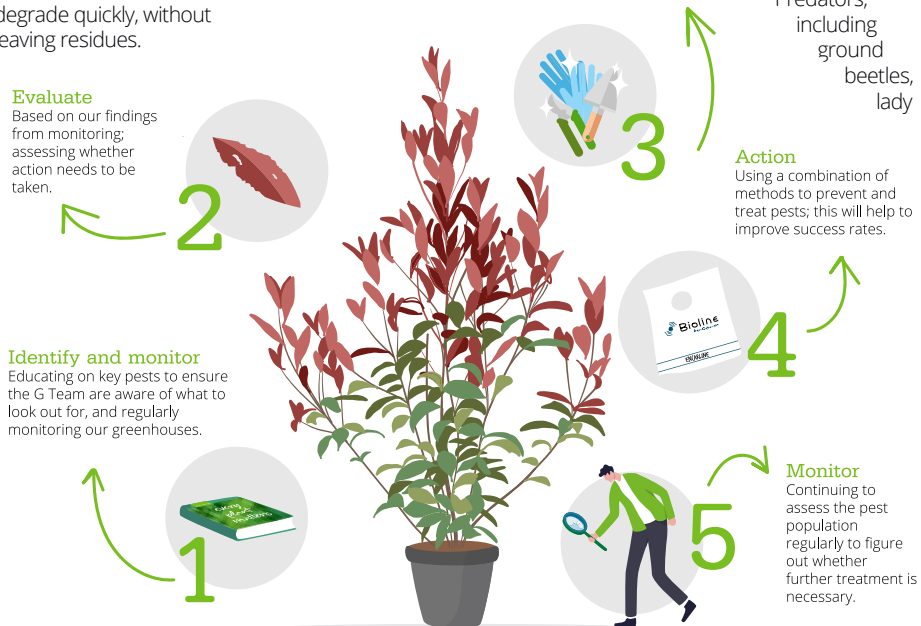
Using a combination of methods to prevent and treat pests; this will help to improve success rates.

### Evaluate

Based on our findings from monitoring; assessing whether action needs to be taken.

### Identify and monitor

Educating on key pests to ensure the G Team are aware of what to look out for, and regularly monitoring our greenhouses.



Encarine F (*Encarsia formosa*)

birds and mites, reduce prey population growth through consumption—a method known as top-down control. Parasitoids include a variety of flies and wasps which, in their larval stage, feed on the insect host and this action eventually leads to its death. Pathogens are disease-causing organisms—such as nematodes, fungi, viruses and bacteria—which infect and kill their host. Pests—such as aphid, whitefly and vine weevil—can cause a great deal of physical and aesthetic damage to plants. Pests eat foliage and burrow holes in stems, roots or fruit, and more devastatingly, they have the capacity to transmit infections to plants. With this in mind, it's essential to stay vigilant and actively keep them at bay, whilst taking our environment into consideration.

We are currently trialling a range of different biological pest control methods throughout the nurseries to tackle pests such as spider mite, vine weevil and whitefly. **Phytoline P** has been introduced to actively hunt and attack all stages of various spider mites—such as the glasshouse spider mite, red spider mite and two spotted spider mite. Phytoline P is a small orange-red predatory mite that feeds on all stages of the spider mite life cycle. Another predator we have introduced to tackle spider mite within our greenhouses is **Anderline AA**. It works by releasing predatory mites over a period of six weeks and is able to establish with little or no spider mites present. Vine weevil is found to be one of the most serious pests within ornamental greenhouses, so we have recently introduced a pathogenic nematode known as **Nemasys L** to our nurseries, to hunt out vine weevil larvae within compost, as well as weevil grubs, which are



Anderline AA (*Amblyseius andersoni*)

easier to spot. The nematode enters the weevil larvae and releases a lethal bacteria, resulting in the death of the host within just a few days. Lastly, **Encarine F** is one of the earliest forms of biological control and is introduced as pupae on cards which are hung within the greenhouse. Encarine F is a parasitic wasp that lays eggs inside the whitefly larvae—leading to the whitefly's death. Once eggs have been laid inside the whitefly larvae, the parasitic wasp will grow inside the larvae and gradually eat its way out, before searching for more whitefly, using its efficient flying pattern.

Biological pest control methods are a great technique as part of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach—a planned strategy to detect and prevent pests. An IPM strategy involves identifying and monitoring our greenhouses regularly; evaluating the situation to see whether we need to act; prevention by using pest resistant plants and hygiene methods; actioning with a variety of methods, such as biological controls; and continuing to regularly monitor the pest population, to see if further action is needed.

As part of our sustainability goals, we aim to continually increase our biological control methods, whilst reducing chemical methods across our nurseries. We are trialling different products regularly and reviewing our results in depth to evaluate success, to help us to reach our goal of reducing our pesticide use by 50%.

- **Lara Matthams**  
Content Marketing Executive





In 2022, we donated plants to a number of community projects, including schools, colleges and local charities. Our aim is to share the vast benefits, which plants provide, with our local community. A recent donation was made to St Wilfrid's Hospice in Bosham, Chichester—a local hospice that strives to care for all local people who have life limiting illnesses, or are in the last phase of their lives.

St Wilfrid's Hospice has been working tirelessly on its gardens over the past three years. It has a great deal of outside space that is split into three wings. These have been designed to be enjoyed by all residents, regardless of their mobility. Its gardens are run by a small group of dedicated volunteers, who make a real difference to the residents of St Wilfrid's and ensure the gardens are kept in great shape, all year round.

The gardens include a beautiful wildflower meadow which is home to a bug hotel. There's a pergola area with seating, as well as a courtyard—quiet spots where residents can sit and enjoy the view and spend time in nature. With over 100 plant varieties in its gardens, St Wilfrid's has gone above and beyond to provide a space of peace and tranquility for its residents. There's a variety of foliage and flower colours, textures and plants flowering at different times of the year, to ensure it can be enjoyed throughout every season. With this in mind, we donated

a range of shrubs and herbaceous perennials to further enhance the gardens' flower beds. Plant varieties we donated included *Convolvulus cneorum* (silverbush), *Elaeagnus pungens* 'Maculata' (oleaster 'Maculata'), *Hydrangea arborescens* 'Annabelle' (Hydrangea 'Annabelle') and *Photinia × fraseri* 'Magical Volcano' (Christmas berry 'Magical Volcano'). *Convolvulus cneorum* adds year-round colour with its stunning, silver foliage and white flowers with yellow centers, throughout spring and summer. Adding year-round height, colour and structure to the flower beds, *Elaeagnus pungens* 'Maculata' has bright yellow foliage with dark green margins. *Hydrangea arborescens* 'Annabelle' is a bushy, deciduous shrub that will bring showstopping, white, spherical blooms in summer. Lastly, *Photinia × fraseri* 'Magical Volcano' is a fantastic addition to St Wilfrid's gardens with its young, toothed, bright red-purple foliage in spring and summer, that later turn green as they mature. This variety blooms white flowers in summer and red berries in autumn to provide multiple seasons of interest.

Helping our local communities is a priority for us; we are proud of the vast number of projects we contributed to throughout 2022 and look forward to helping many more in 2023.

- Kevin Merritt  
Greenwood Choice Manager

# Plan your planting scheme with confidence

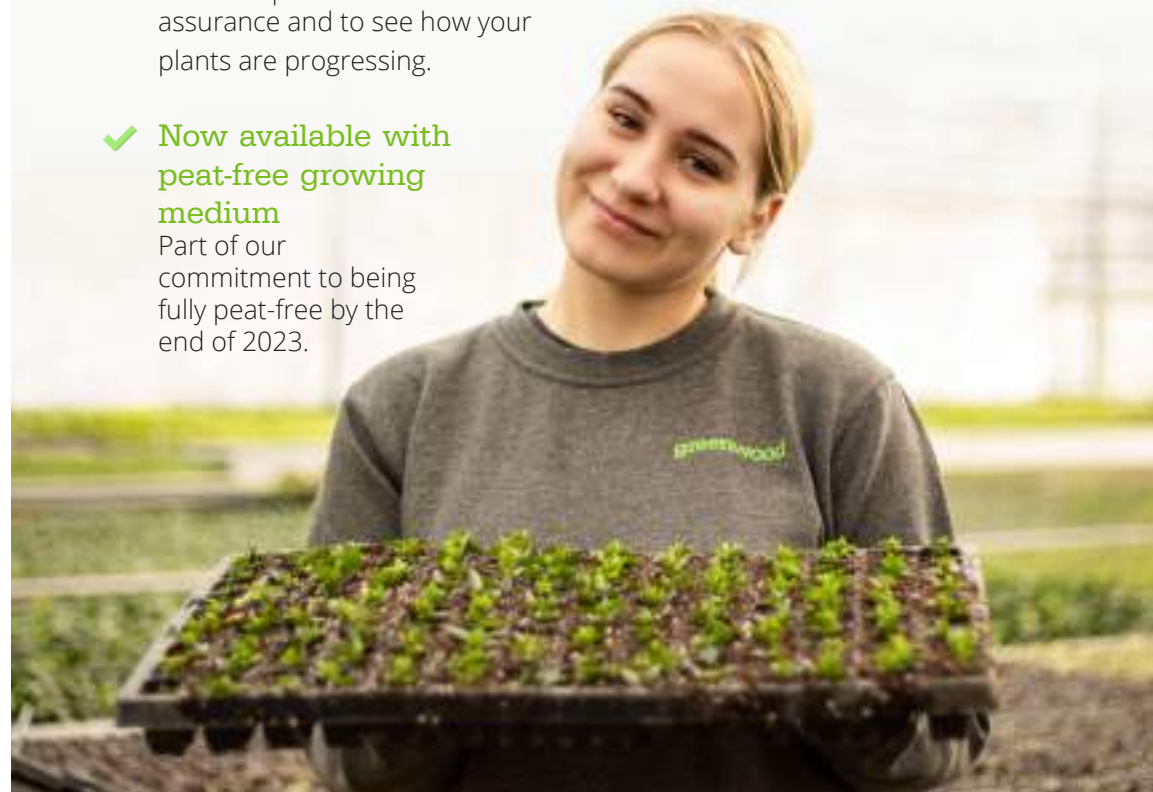
With **Watch It Grow**, you can pre-select the plants you need, to your specification, in your designated time frame.

### ✓ Regular photographic updates

Receive updates for visual assurance and to see how your plants are progressing.

### ✓ Now available with peat-free growing medium

Part of our commitment to being fully peat-free by the end of 2023.



Contact us today to see how we can support your project requirements with our Watch It Grow offering.





G Team's Photo Competition December 2022

**1<sup>st</sup> position:**  
***James McManus***  
***Client Support Manager***



**2<sup>nd</sup> position:**  
***Wesley Elkins***  
***Client Development Manager***



**3<sup>rd</sup> position:**  
***Daniel Low***  
***Nursery Assistant***

**greenwood**

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