G club

The G Club magazine from greenwood

APRIL 2025

SUSTAINABILITY

Greenwood leads the way in sustainability

Our first calendar year of peat-free: What have we learnt?

CASE STUDY

Tower Bridge Court Skidmores of Hertford

Plant Focus: *Malus sylvestris*

PLANTING INSPIRATION

Perennial display garden

What is permaculture, and why is it sustainable?

G club
Client loyalty programme

G Club is better than ever, with enhanced benefits, and greater rewards. Benefits include luxury event hospitality, charity of choice donation, case study collaboration, and more.

To qualify for G Club benefits, all you need to do is remain within your payment terms each month of the quarter, and the level of benefits you will receive will increase in line with the value of your quarterly spend.

	G club GOLD TIER	G club SILVER TIER	G club BRONZE TIER
Credit bonus based on quarterly spend	3% Credit bonus	2% Credit bonus	1% Credit bonus
Complimentary delivery	all orders over £500	all orders over £750	all orders over £1000
Charity donation of your choice	£500 towards nominated charity	£250 towards nominated charity	£150 towards nominated charity
Fresh Acres HQ Tour	●	●	●
Greenwood Community Project Nomination	●	●	●
Case Study Collaboration	●	●	●
Complimentary copies of Greenwood Specification	●	●	●
Seasonal Hamper	●	●	●
Trip to Greenwood Holland (once a year)	●	×	×
Luxury Event Hospitality	●	×	×

Introduction

BY MANAGING DIRECTOR **MELANIE ASKER**

A warm welcome to the April edition of G Club.

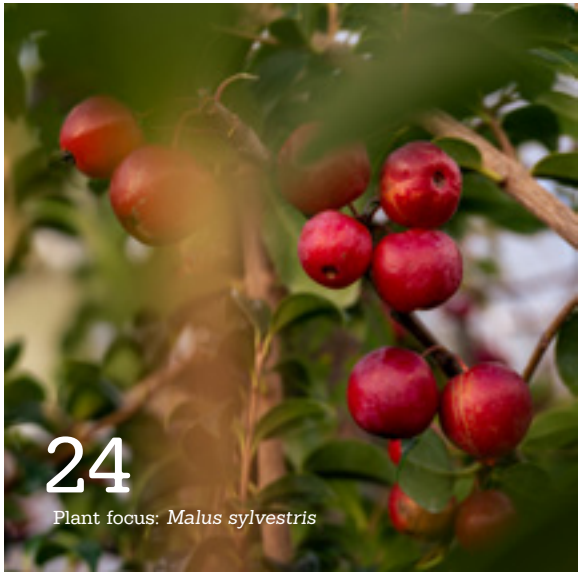
This year has been a busy start for Greenwood. As the bare root season draws to a close, the potting season has begun, with over 100,000 plants already potted.

In January, we kicked off our joint PhD with the RHS and Sheffield University, onboarding Louis Kosowicz to lead the research into examining the carbon budgets of nursery stock. We welcomed him to Fresh Acres, to have a tour of the site. The project is already underway, with the initial trees scheduled for planting by the end of March.

In February we partnered with an innovative electric vehicle company, to trial an all-electric delivery vehicle as part of our transport fleet. Our participating drivers, were trained to drive the vehicle, which features unique design elements such as its central driving position, to increase visibility and safety. The reaction we have received from our industry peers and stakeholders has been excellent, and the trial has offered us a great deal of insight, as we assess the role of electric vehicle powered deliveries within our long-term strategy.

As we move into Q2, we hope that the warmer weather brings with it new opportunities for the landscaping industry, and we look forward to continuing to work with you for the rest of 2025.

Melanie Asker
Managing Director



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On the cover: **Digitalis purpurea *'Dalmatian Purple'***.

LOUIS KOSOWICZ, DR JILL EDMONDSON AND DR MARK GUSH VISITING OUR FRESH ACRES HQ

greenwood

Business update

G Team supports client training day with plant talks

At the beginning of the year, we joined our longstanding clients, Archway Green, on their annual staff training day. Internal Sales Co-ordinator Nathan Page, as well as Sales and CPD Co-ordinator Garth Elkins attended the event, and gave talks to members of the team on tree sizing, plant identification, and common pests and diseases. Greenwood understands the importance of team knowledge, and we are always looking for ways in which to support our clients.

Greenwood provides plants to London Showroom

Greenwood is pleased to be partnering with innovative rooftop planter designers, Raaft Ltd, to provide plants for their new London Showroom. We designed a scheme for their rooftop planter systems, and installed it in late January. The showroom hosts hundreds of landscape architects per year, as well as regular events and CPD sessions. It was a privilege to be a part of this project.

RAAFT LTD'S NEW LONDON SHOWROOM

PhD Student visits Fresh Acres

Greenwood is partnering with the Royal Horticultural Society to joint-fund a PhD study into carbon budgeting of nursery grown plants and trees. In February, we welcomed Professor Jill Edmondson, specialist in Ecosystem Sustainability at the University of Sheffield, RHS Head of Environmental Horticulture Dr Mark Gush, and our new PhD student Louis Kosowicz, to our Fresh Acres HQ for a tour. We're looking forward to learning more about the ecosystem service potential of trees and plants as the study progresses.

Greenwood trials electric delivery vehicle

Throughout February, Greenwood worked with innovative electric vehicle company, Volta Trucks, trialling a fully electric HGV within our delivery network. The truck, which has been designed from the ground up to improve safety and reduce emissions, was used for a period of two weeks by longstanding Greenwood delivery drivers, Rolandas and Pawel, to understand the feasibility of using electric vehicles within our delivery fleet. Sustainability is one of our core values, and it has been exciting to take part in such an innovative project. You can read more about the trial on page 28.

G Team focus: Pawel Czyzykiewicz & Rolandas Slazikas

Pawel and Rolandas are two of our longest serving drivers (pictured below with Tony from Volta). Their job is to ensure the timely delivery and safe arrival of our plants to our clients' sites. As the final step in the client journey, our drivers are vital in ensuring an effortless client experience is delivered in full. Recently, Pawel and Rolandas were both chosen as the drivers to feature in our Volta Truck trial, representing the company in driving change through electric powered vehicles. The pair were trained in driving the innovative 'Volta Zero' truck, and as the most experienced drivers at Greenwood, their feedback was valuable to our overall insight we gained into using electric delivery vehicles within our transport fleet.

CASE STUDY:

Skidmores of Hertford
Tower Bridge Court, London

Greenwood provides plants to rooftop garden set against stunning backdrop of London

BY CHRIS WILLIAMS

Tower Bridge Court is a brand new office building development, located, as the name suggests, beside one of London's most iconic landmarks. The building claims to be one of London's first net zero workplaces, that actively enhances and improves its environment, designed with wellbeing at its core. Greenwood is pleased to have supplied plants to our longstanding clients, Skidmores of Hertford, for the development of the Tower Bridge Court's rooftop gardens, which boasts stunning views, not only of the iconic bridge itself, but of the entire central London skyline.

The project, which is a highly ambitious, contemporary, sustainable commercial development, required soft landscaping that matched its stature . The plants were required to be of the highest quality, as well as being suitable for long-term planting in an exposed urban setting. A mixture of grasses, herbaceous perennials, shrubs, and trees would bring structural interest, and year-round colour. Pollution-tolerant, full sun loving plants that thrive in warm urban environments are required to ensure the long-term success of the project.

The planting plan incorporated a variety of plants chosen for their aesthetic, sensory, and seasonal interest, ensuring year-round appeal. For height and structural interest, *Betula pendula* with its elegant, peeling bark and delicate foliage adds vertical contrast. *Parrotia persica* offers vibrant autumn colour, whilst *Olea europaea* brings a Mediterranean feel with its silvery evergreen leaves. Additionally, *Pinus mugo* provides year-round structure, and *Magnolia stellata* was also used, with its fragrant white flowers in early spring.

Ornamental grasses add movement and texture to the garden. *Carex oshimensis* 'Evergold' brings evergreen, arching foliage with striking gold and green variegation. *Miscanthus sinensis* 'Morning Light' features fine, silver-edged leaves and delicate plumes in late summer. *Stipa tenuissima* 'Ponytails' creates a soft, flowing effect, whilst *Sesleria autumnalis* features bright green foliage that turns golden in autumn.

For unique foliage, plants such as *Choisya ternata* provide glossy, aromatic leaves and occasional white flowers. *Pittosporum tenuifolium* 'Nanum' is a compact shrub with small, dark green leaves that add a neat, evergreen presence. *Stachys byzantina* 'Big Ears' has soft, silvery foliage, with striking vertical stalks of flowers that appear in summer. *Euphorbia amygdaloides* var. *robbiae* was used, which offers evergreen, deep green leaves and striking acid green flowers in spring.

Early spring colour is introduced through a selection of bulbs. *Allium* 'Purple Rain' provides striking purple flower heads in late spring. *Narcissus* 'Thalia' produces elegant, white, multi-headed blooms in mid-spring, whilst *Tulipa* 'Purple Flag' adds a vibrant splash of purple in late spring.

A number of aromatic plants were chosen to provide a sensory element to the garden. *Rosmarinus officinalis* 'Prostratus' was used in abundance, which releases a pleasant aroma when brushed against and offers delicate blue flowers. *Sarcococca confusa* provides highly fragrant winter flowers, adding year-round visual appeal. *Thymus vulgaris* and *Thymus* x *citriodorus* 'Silver Queen' contribute aromatic foliage, enhancing the sensory experience of the garden.

Overall, the project was a success, with the final result looking every bit as visually striking as the landscape in which it is located. The stunning combination of ornamental grasses, herbaceous perennials, shrubs, and trees brought a range of unique foliage, movement, year-round colour, and structural interest to the garden.

The project was not without its challenges, including delivering plants in large quantities to an inner city project, getting them to the rooftop location, whilst taking care to ensure the plants are kept safe during transit. Solving the challenges of plant selection for an exposed, urban environment was not easy, but with careful consideration, the scheme has been designed to thrive in the long-term. Kyle Gray, Commercial Manager at Skidmores of Hertford Ltd, said "We're extremely grateful to Greenwood for supplying such high quality plants and trees to the project. We're looking forward to working with them again soon".

Our first calendar year of peat-free: What have we learnt?

Reflecting on our peat-free journey

BY LARA MATTHAMS

In 2024, Greenwood completed its first full calendar year growing with 100% peat-free media. It has been a fascinating and challenging journey to reach this target. We set out to make this ambitious change following an assessment of our carbon footprint, which revealed that peat-based compost was responsible for a staggering 80% of our total carbon emissions for 2021. Our extensive trials commenced the following May, which involved planting a range of different species in peat-free growing media, and closely monitoring their growth. As peat-free growing media comes with additional challenges, such as different feeding and irrigation regimes, peat-free plants should be watched closely to check they are receiving the right volume and frequency of nutrients and water.

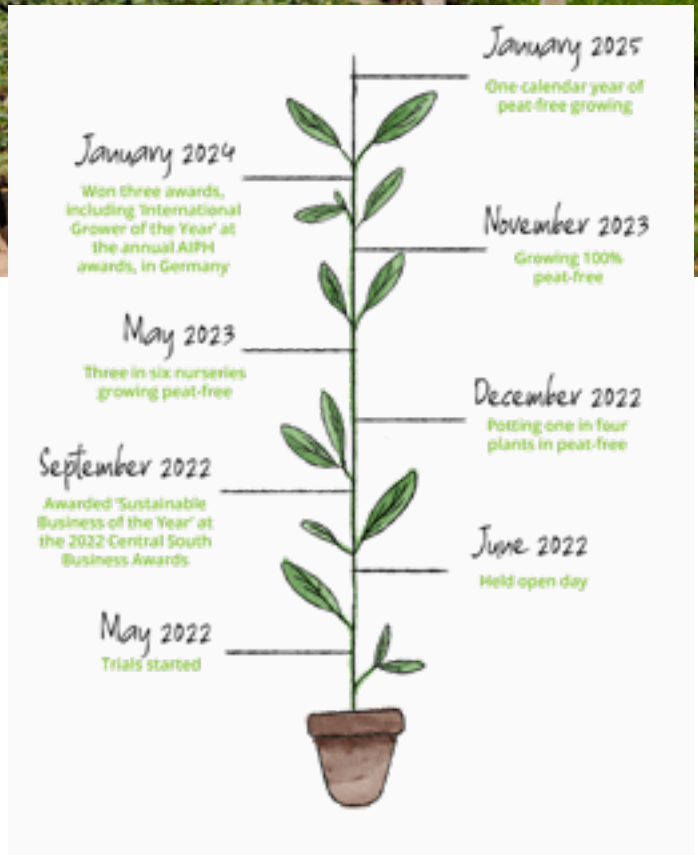
In June 2022, we held an open day to share our knowledge on how the horticulture industry can be more sustainable, and encourage stakeholders in the industry to move away from peat. In the following September, we were awarded 'Sustainable Business of the Year' at the Central South Business Awards, in recognition of our pioneering sustainability practices across the business. As we reached the end of the year, we were potting 1 in 4 plants in peat-free growing media.

We continued our extensive peat-free trials throughout 2023, and made excellent progress, as by May, three out of our six nurseries were growing peat-free. Towards the end of the year, we were awarded 'Peat Free Grower' at the Horticultural Trades Association Grower of the Year Awards, and we hit the exciting milestone of growing 100% peat-free before the end of the year.

Following this achievement, in early 2024 we won three awards, including overall 'International Grower of the Year' at the annual AIPH awards, held at the IPM Essen in Germany. We have now hit another milestone, having completed our first full calendar year of growing fully peat-free.

So, why did we set out to eradicate peat from our nurseries? Peat is partially composted organic matter and a fantastic growing medium, but it takes a significantly long time to grow, and is a finite resource. It takes around 1,000 years to form 1m of peat, and its annual commercial extraction removes a staggering five hundred years' worth of growth.

Peat is extracted from carbon-rich peatlands, which sequester around 33% of our global CO_2. The extraction of peat from peatlands emits significant levels of CO_2 into the atmosphere. This, in turn, has an adverse effect on greenhouse gas levels. Harvesting from peat bogs also has a damaging effect on our environment, by undermining the stability of our ecosystems and their biodiversity. This is why it's vital for us to use alternatives to peat.



We have learnt a great deal on our journey to peat-free growing. Many factors and routines we had in place needed to be adapted for successful peat-free growing, and there was a lot of trial and error involved along the way. It was not without its difficulties; we suffered many failures, particularly at the beginning of the journey, when our knowledge was limited, and we required many rounds of trial and error before we learnt the best methods and conditions to grow each plant.

→

Every plant is different

We faced many challenges in order to find the right solution for each plant on our nurseries. Whilst many plants take to peat-free media without concern, particular plants were adapted various times to find the mix that worked, and the perfect conditions to thrive. An example was *Lavandula*; this was a species that was particularly challenging for us when transitioning to peat-free, and required various combinations to find a successful mix.

A big test for us was the plant losses we had to sustain during trial periods, whilst still growing and operating at normal levels. This was an extremely challenging period, and costly, but the end result of being peat-free was well worth the hardship.

Adapting our growing methods

One of the main frustrations the team faced was the change in the way in which plants are grown. Many of our team felt as though they had to 're-learn' how to grow key plants, due to the differing ways in which they required to be grown in peat-free compost.

Peat-based compost provides good aeration and retains moisture effectively. As peat-free growing media tends to drain faster, we have had to ensure that our irrigation routines keep the soil at the optimal moisture level. To achieve this, our irrigation has been adapted to provide the same level of water in total, on a more frequent basis.

Our plant feeding routine has also seen changes since moving from peat-based growing media to peat-free, as peat-free plants need to be fed more regularly.

They are fed prior to potting, and plant feed is added to the mix used for the potting process. Plants are also fed roughly once a month, whilst in their growing stage, depending on their needs.

ROWS OF SKIMMIA 'RUBELLA' GROWN IN PEAT-FREE GROWING MEDIA, AT MAPLE TREE NURSERY

Different areas of our nurseries have different needs

Our propagation area was the final piece of the puzzle for our peat-free transitioning journey. As these plants are less established, it can be difficult to help them grow in less-than-ideal conditions for the species. Peat-free growing media may not have the same nutrient profile as those containing peat, and this can require careful management to ensure they receive essential nutrients to thrive. For young plants on our nursery, getting the ideal mix of substrate and optimal watering routine was the winning combination.

The main advantage of using peat-free growing media is environmental, rather than a benefit to plants, as it's supporting the preservation of peatlands. Growers will see a long term benefit by transitioning to peat-free, as this will reduce their carbon footprint, and provide more opportunity to work with larger companies and organisations who have sustainability objectives to meet. Developing and using peat-free growing media also encourages innovation, whilst improving resource efficiency within the business.

There's no denying that peat-based growing media is ideal for plant growth, and if it weren't for the negative environmental impacts associated with harvesting peat, it would be the preferable growing medium. The biggest hurdle of growing peat-free is the transition, and working out the optimal needs for each plant. Once this has been established, it's no different to caring for any other plant.

Although the process was extremely challenging, because we believe so passionately in being more sustainable, we persevered until we achieved our goal.

Now that we have overcome the challenge of transitioning to peat-free, we are focussing on our supply chain and encouraging them to make this positive change. We will continue to speak to colleagues in the industry and provide support to help them with their own peat-free journey.

For more information on our peat-free growing, head to our sustainability website page *greenwoodplants.co.uk/sustainability*.

EUPHORBIA CHARACIAS SUBSP. *WULFENNII*

PLANTING INSPIRATION:

Perennial display garden

BY ELLIE COUTTS

Public spaces play a vital role in urban and suburban landscapes, offering aesthetic appeal, environmental benefits, and areas for relaxation and recreation. Traditionally, many local authorities have relied on annual bedding plants to add seasonal colour to parks, streetscapes, and community gardens. However, the use of perennials instead of annuals is gaining popularity due to their numerous advantages, including sustainability, cost-effectiveness, and ecological benefits as well as offering a more modern aesthetic.

One of the primary advantages of perennials is their longevity. Unlike annual bedding plants, which complete their life cycle within a single growing season and must be replanted every year, perennials return year after year. This reduces the need for frequent replanting, minimising the environmental impact associated with soil disturbance, excessive water use, and the carbon footprint of transporting and replacing plants annually. Also, vulnerable young bedding plants are often grown using peat compost which contributes to the destruction of peatlands, some of our most effective carbon sinks.

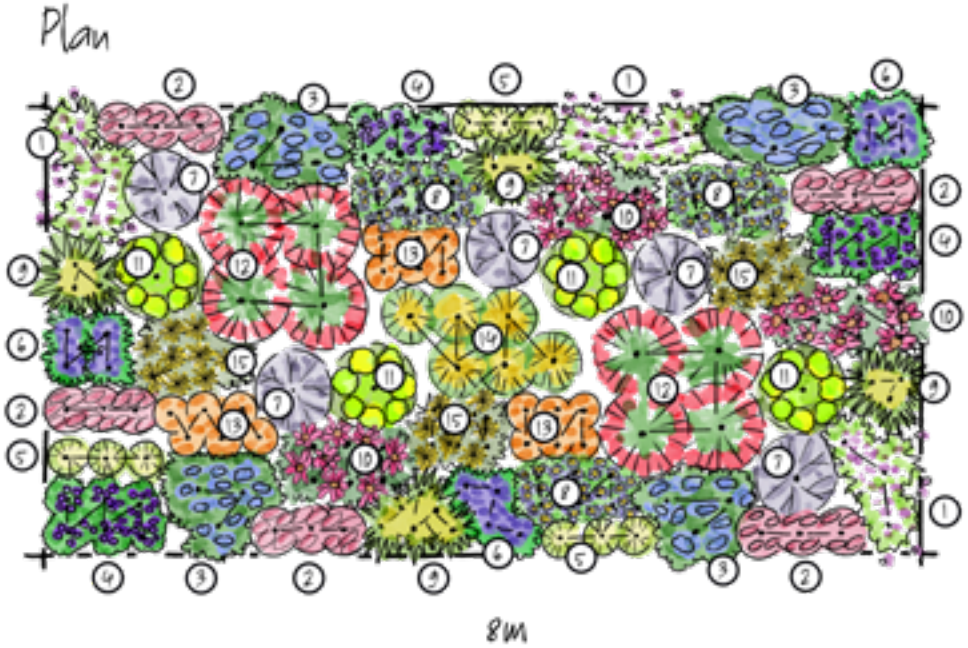
ASTER × *FRIKARTII* 'MÖNCH' AND *RUDBECKIA FULGIDA* VAR. *SULLIVANTII* 'GOLDSTURM'

Although perennials often have a higher initial purchase cost compared to annuals, they prove to be more economical in the long term. The reduced need for replanting, along with lower maintenance requirements, translates into significant savings on labour, materials, and resources. The organisations responsible for public spaces can allocate these savings to other community projects whilst still maintaining vibrant landscapes.

Annual bedding plants require regular maintenance, including watering, fertilising, deadheading, weeding and pest control. Perennials, once established, generally require less intensive care and fewer chemicals. Many species are drought-tolerant and adaptable to various soil conditions, making them a practical choice for large-scale public plantings where constant maintenance is not feasible.

Perennials contribute significantly to local ecosystems. Their deep root systems improve soil health, prevent erosion, and enhance water retention. Additionally, they provide long-term habitats and food sources for pollinators such as bees and butterflies, whereas bedding plants are usually bred to be sterile and do not produce pollen. Unlike many annuals, which may be chosen primarily for their ornamental value, many perennials are British native or well-adapted to local climates, boosting biodiversity, and reducing the need for chemical fertilisers and pesticides.

Whilst annuals provide instant bursts of colour, perennials offer seasonal variety and year-round interest. Many species bloom at different times of the year, ensuring continuous visual appeal. Moreover, perennials often have attractive foliage, seed heads, or structural elements that add texture and beauty even in the dormant seasons.



The shift from annual bedding plants to perennials in public spaces is a practical and environmentally responsible choice. With their longevity, cost-effectiveness, low maintenance requirements, and ecological benefits, perennials create modern, sustainable, and resilient displays that enhance public spaces for everyone to enjoy.

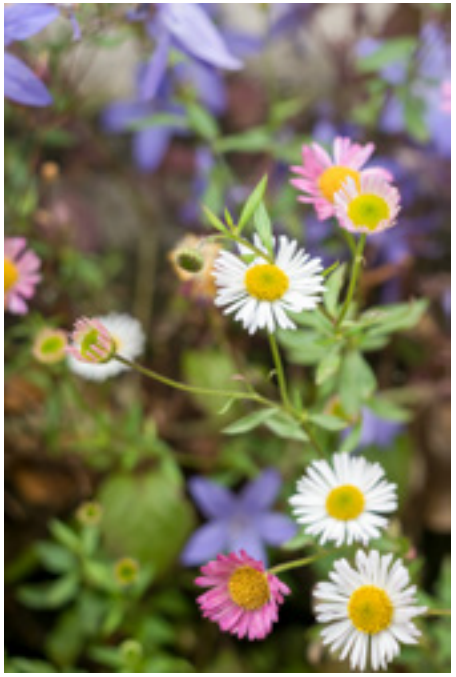
At the back of the plan, ***Erigeron karvinskianus*** **(1)** features as a useful, informal perennial that is great for softening the edges of borders and providing a very long flowering period.

Next, ***Hylotelephium*** **'Matrona' (2)**, a succulent with bronze leaves on purple stems, shows pink flowers that adds structure to the border edges. ***Geranium*** **'Rozanne' (3)** features alongside, which is a vigorous, spreading hardy perennial with lobed, marbled, mid-green foliage and striking, saucer-shaped, deep purple-blue flowers. ***Salvia nemorosa*** **'Caradonna' (4)** features around the edges of the border - a compact mound-forming perennial with grey-green leaves and dark stems bearing upright racemes of violet-blue flowers in summer.

PEROVSKIA 'BLUE SPIRE' AND *ECHINACEA* 'SUMMER COCKTAIL'

Stipa tenuissima **(5)**, an ornamental grass with green foliage and tall, feathery buff flowerheads, adds textural interest, whilst ***Nepeta racemosa*** **'Walker's Low' (6)**, an aromatic perennial that produces lilac-blue flowers above fragrant green foliage, provides a sensory element. ***Perovskia*** **'Blue Spire' (7)** is an erect, deciduous perennial with slender, white stems that bear aromatic, grey-green leaves and panicles of small, lavender-blue flowers that compliment the tall, ornamental grasses.

GERANIUM 'ROZANNE' AND *ACHILLIEA* 'TERRACOTTA'



ERIGERON KARVINSKIANUS

Alongside, ***Aster*** **×** ***frikartii*** **'Mönch' (8)** features dark green foliage, that produces purple daisy-like flowers with yellow centres. ***Sisyrinchium striatum*** **(9)** is a tall perennial with grey-green lance-shaped leaves and upright stems of pale yellow flowers in summer. ***Echinacea*** **'Summer Cocktail' (10)**, brings vibrant colour with its ovate, hairy foliage and large, daisy-like flowers with orange-brown centres. ***Euphorbia characias*** **subsp.** ***wulfenii*** **(11)**, an upright sub-shrub with heads of vibrant, lime green flowers, brings structure with its natural, rounded shape and architectural leaves. ***Miscanthus sinensis*** **'Malepartus' (12)** adds height, colour, and movement, with arching leaves that have a white stripe along the centre, with ***Achilliea*** **'Terracotta' (13)** features alongside, with striking green feathery foliage and flat-topped orange-peach flowers. ***Calamagrostis*** **×** ***acutiflora*** **'Karl Foerster' (14)**, a clump-forming, upright grass, is positioned centrally, with arching leaves which emerge in early spring and feathery plumes in summer, and lastly, ***Rudbeckia fulgida*** **var.** ***sullivantii*** **'Goldsturm' (15)** provides colour, with large, daisy-like, yellow flowers with black-brown centres from summer to autumn.

greenwood Community

Exciting progress and new achievements with our plant donations.

BY CHRIS WILLIAMS

Greenwood Community in 2025 has started strongly. Despite the fact that we are at the very beginning of the growing season, we've already managed to achieve an impressive ten donations to local organisations! In January of this year, we set an ambitious target of making 30 Greenwood Community donations in 2025, and we're pleased to already be a third of the way to this target. Below are the first of our donations this year, featuring many longstanding collaborators, as well as some new projects.

Littlehampton Community Orchard

The first donation of 2025 went to a new project for Greenwood Community. Littlehampton Community Orchard was set up by a local committee organised by the Town Council, with the aim of providing a place for residents to enjoy, as well as supporting the biodiversity of the area. Greenwood donated a number of fruit bearing trees for the committee to plant as part of the project. We look forward to seeing the orchard thrive as the project develops, as well as contributing further donations.

Yapton Eco Group

Longstanding Greenwood Community collaborators, Yapton Eco Group, collected their fourth donation from Greenwood in early February. The donation comprised a variety of native hedging plants to be used throughout various locations in the Yapton area. The group is volunteer-led, formed by Yapton Parish Council in 2022, with the aim of protecting, developing, and regenerating local wildlife habitats.

MARK ANDREWS OF YAPTON ECO GROUP COLLECTING A DONATION OF PLANTS

St Wilfrid's Hospice

Our third donation of the year went to another longstanding collaborator, St Wilfrid's Hospice in Chichester. In 2023, we made a donation of herbaceous perennials and shrubs for their gardens, to be enjoyed by residents at the hospice. This year, the donation consisted of a mix of shrubs, climbing plants, perennials, and grasses. Di Chute, from the gardening team, said "A huge thank you from the St. Wilfrid's Hospice gardening team for your very generous donation. The varied selection of plants is much appreciated".

Aldwick Green Conservation Society

In February, we made a donation to another new project for Greenwood Community. We donated a number of native woodland plants to the Aldwick Green Conservation Society. Founded in 1990, the society is dedicated to conserving Aldwick Green as an amenity for the benefit of residents and visitors, and to promote and encourage wildlife in the natural environment. The native woodland plants donated will help encourage wildlife to the area and boost the biodiversity of the green. Martin Breen of the society said "on behalf of the AGCS, we cannot thank you enough for the tree donation yesterday. It is truly fantastic!".

ALDWICK GREEN CONSERVATION SOCIETY COLLECTING A DONATION OF PLANTS

DI CHUTE OF ST WILFRID'S HOSPICE COLLECTING A DONATION OF PLANTS

DONATIONS BEING PLANTED AT ST WILFRID'S HOSPICE

SUSSEX GREEN LIVING DONATION TO ST PETER'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL IN COWFOLD

Sussex Green Living

One of the major successes of 2024 for Greenwood Community was forming a new partnership with Sussex Green Living. We're delighted that the partnership has continued into 2025 and already begun to flourish, with three projects completed already this year! A series of pollinator plants and bulbs were donated to create pollinator education stations at St Philip's Primary School in Uckfield and St Peter's Primary School in Cowfold, while Hurstpierpoint College received a donation of mixed plants for a larger planting project on the college grounds.

Upton Heath Allotment Club

We recently donated a number of trees to Upton Heath C of E School, based in Cheshire. The school is located near to our Willaston nursery site, and is the first of our community donations to be based in the north, as we look to expand our scheme to new areas. The school's allotment club received the donation of fruit trees, and planted them on the school grounds as part of an ongoing project, which will hopefully see future donations.

FRUIT TREES DONATED TO UPTON HEATH ALLOTMENT CLUB

ST PHILIP HOWARD CATHOLIC SCHOOL VISITING OUR FRESH ACRES NURSERY FOR A TOUR

Barnham Community Garden

February saw our third donation to the long-term Barnham Community Garden project, located near our Fresh Acres HQ. Work on the garden began in January 2024, as part of a larger regeneration project by the parish council, situated at the local Community Centre. Our latest donation comprises a mix of different plants, for use in the garden, as well as underplanting various signs around the village. We look forward to seeing the latest donated plants thrive.

St Philip Howard Catholic School

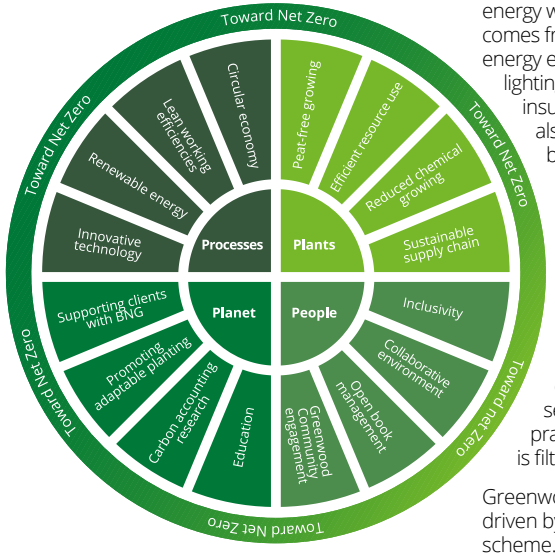
Our most recent community donation was to St Philip Howard Catholic School. The school has been frequent Greenwood Community collaborators over the past few years, and the latest donation will be its fourth overall. The plants are used by the school's gardening club, who plant the donations around the school site for the benefit of wildlife and other students. The most recent donation was combined with a tour of the school, with the pupils getting a behind the scenes look at our Fresh Acres facilities.

BARNHAM COMMUNITY GARDEN

Greenwood leads the way in sustainability

Driving environmental change in the horticultural industry

BY ELLIE COUTTS



Greenwood is taking bold steps towards a greener future as we publish the next phase of our ambitious sustainability strategy. As a leading grower in the horticultural industry, we are committed to reducing our environmental impact, enhancing biodiversity, and promoting sustainable practices across our nurseries. With a long-term goal of achieving net zero by 2030, Greenwood is making significant progress in areas such as carbon reduction, water conservation, waste management, and community engagement.

One of the key objectives of Greenwood's sustainability strategy is **reducing carbon emissions**. We are committed to growing 100% peat-free plants and we are encouraging our suppliers to transition to peat-free alternatives too.

Renewable energy is also a major focus, with intentions to power our operations through solar energy whilst ensuring all purchased electricity comes from renewable sources. To maximise energy efficiency, we plan to install more LED lighting, motion sensors, timers, and apply insulation techniques. Our employees are also encouraged to adopt energy-saving behaviours, such as switching off lighting and equipment when not in use. Additionally, Greenwood continues to invest in electric machinery and vehicles to minimise transportation emissions.

Water conservation is another priority, with Greenwood already investing in rainwater harvesting systems and increasing water storage capacity to ensure a steady supply throughout the dry season. Drip irrigation and best watering practices reduce wastage, whilst wastewater is filtered and reused whenever possible.

Greenwood's **waste management** efforts are driven by the success of G Cycle, our recycling scheme. This initiative has already prevented over 50,000 wooden crates and pallets going to landfill – that's over 1000 tonnes of wood saved.

By making the process effortless for clients, Greenwood has seen high levels of participation and is continuously working to increase uptake with a target of 95% of wooden packaging recovered. Our pot washing machine has enabled us to clean a staggering 960,000 pots so far, preventing a vast amount of plastic from going to waste. Our new plastic baling machine means we can efficiently crush and bale damaged pots and send them to be recycled.

Biodiversity protection remains a top priority for Greenwood. We actively promote the use of native plants that support British wildlife and we advise clients on planting for longevity. The **Greenwood Community** scheme has been expanded to involve schools, colleges, and youth groups, creating educational gardens that inspire future generations and support biodiversity. Supporting local, regional, and national projects is central to Greenwood's ethos. By donating plants and sundries to community green spaces and rewilding projects, we are contributing to conservation efforts and enhancing green spaces for local communities. Greenwood also collaborates with conservation organisations to support biodiversity initiatives on a wider scale.

Our clients are encouraged to take part in sustainability initiatives through the G Club loyalty programme, with potential to reward sustainable actions such as returning packaging materials, via G Cycle. Greenwood regularly hosts CPD workshops for clients on sustainable practices, peat-free growing, and optimising biodiversity.

Sustainable sourcing plays a crucial role in Greenwood's mission, with a strong commitment to ensuring that all plants, compost, and sundries come from ethical and sustainable suppliers.

Sustainable products and practices are being championed across the business, with a focus on reducing or eliminating chemical pesticides and fertilisers in favour of organic and biological alternatives. We promote peat-free composts and soil conditioners to clients, and continuously develop sustainable packaging options.

To ensure continuous improvement, Greenwood has set measurable goals for reducing emissions, water use, and waste production. We conduct regular audits to identify areas for enhancement, and supplier sustainability audits have been introduced to gather data on purchased goods and services. Our employees are actively involved in sustainability initiatives, with carbon literacy training and opportunities to contribute to new innovations.

By implementing this comprehensive strategy, Greenwood is reinforcing its position as an industry leader in sustainability. The company is not only reducing its environmental impact, but also empowering clients, suppliers, and communities to adopt greener practices. With key targets established, we are set to make a lasting positive impact on the environment and the horticultural sector.

By implementing these strategies, Greenwood will:

- Reduce our environmental impact and promote biodiversity.
- Empower our clients and suppliers to adopt sustainable practices.
- Strengthen our identity as a sustainability leader in horticulture.

We are working towards the following ambitious targets from 2025-2028:

80% of purchased plants peat-free

100% of Head Office powered by renewable energy

80% reduced chemical growing

95% G Cycle recycling rate

30 Greenwood Community projects per year

By embedding sustainability in everything we do, Greenwood is paving the way for a greener, more responsible future in horticulture.

Plant focus: *Malus sylvestris*

A species for breathtaking buds, striking blossoms, and showy autumn fruits

BY LARA MATTHAMS

Malus is a genus of deciduous trees or shrubs in the Rosaceae family of plants. These plants include *Malus sylvestris* (crab apple and European crab apple), *Malus domestica* (orchard apple), and *Malus baccata* (Siberian crab apple). Native to the temperate regions of the northern hemisphere, apple trees are usually around 4-12m in height, depending on the variety, and their crown is dense and twiggy.

Malus sylvestris is our native crab apple, and is an ancestor of cultivated apple trees, as well as a number of cultivated crab apple varieties. It's prized for its year-round interest with autumn foliage and attractive fruits and flowers. Many varieties of crab apple are compact in size, making them a popular choice in gardens and landscapes. Crab apples have the added benefit of being able to flower from their second or third year.

Malus sylvestris is a rounded deciduous tree with a spreading canopy. Growing to around 10m in height when mature, it has alternate, serrated foliage that emerge glossy green and transition to yellow during autumn. Its clusters of flowers are borne in corymbs, which have five petals in various colours, including pink, red, or white. These flowers often feature red stamens that produce plenty of pollen. Small fruits, in a range of colours, depending on the variety, follow in autumn. The RHS has awarded many crab apple varieties with its Award of Garden Merit (AGM), including *Malus* 'Evereste' and *Malus* 'Rudolph'. The AGM helps gardeners to select plants that have been tried and tested, and likely to perform.

MALUS 'EVERESTE'

The fruit on a *Malus* is a globose pome, which ranges in size. The fruit's centre contains five carpels, each of which contain one or two seeds. Whilst the apples on orchard apple varieties tend to fall when ripe, crab apples have persistent fruit, where they hold on for a longer period of time, which extends its period of interest. Its tiny fruits aren't edible in their raw form, but are useful for jellies and sauces. Some species, such as *Malus domestica*, need cross-pollination by insects to produce its fruit. However, crab apples are self-fertile, and do not require another tree in their vicinity to cross-pollinate.

Did you know?: *Malus sylvestris* are often planted within commercial orchards, as they provide a long period of pollination for cultivated apple species.

Malus sylvestris provides a wealth of benefits to biodiversity. Its leaves are a food source for the caterpillars of a range of moth species, and its flowers are a useful source of pollen and nectar for insects. Its fruit is eaten by birds, such as blackbirds and thrushes, as well as many mammals, including badgers and mice. Interestingly, birds tend to leave crab apples until last, as they become softer and sweeter as they ripen, and also provide a more energy-dense food source in the colder months. This is an ornamental benefit as the fruits provide an extended period of interest in green spaces.

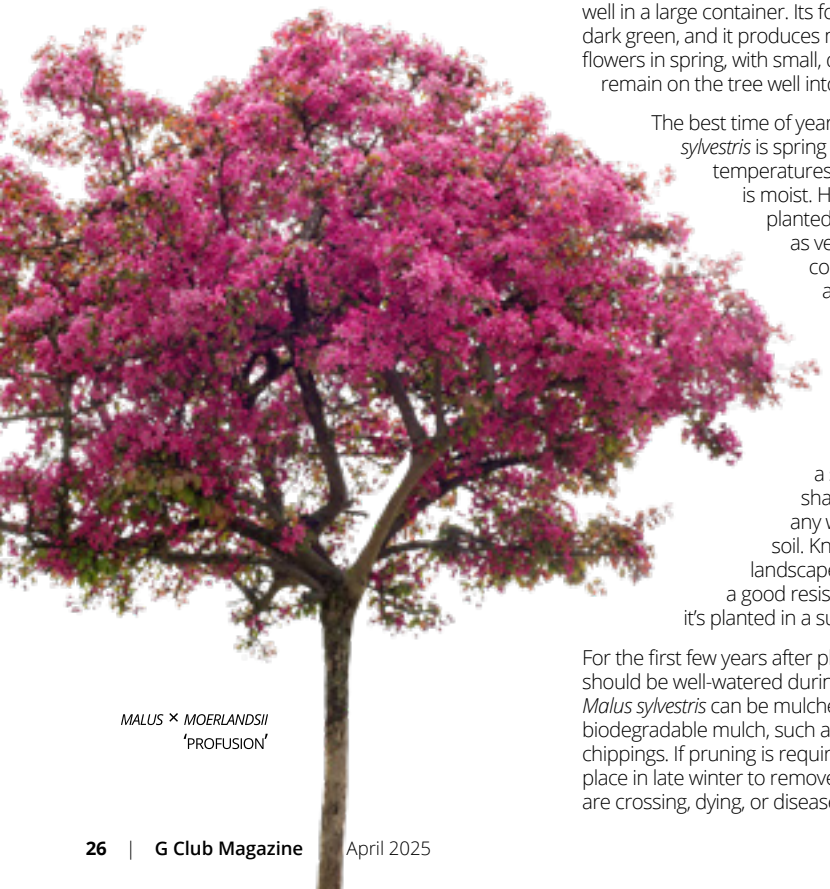
There are many beautiful crab apple species that we recommend, with various heights for green spaces, and numerous colours of blossom, fruits, and foliage.

Malus 'Butterball' is a small, wide-spreading crab apple with drooping branches and a height of around 4m. Its light grey foliage turns green in spring, and small pink-white blossom flowers appear, followed by large, yellow-orange crab apples. *Malus* 'Evereste' is a compact, conical deciduous tree with a height of around 7m and lobed, dark green foliage. Masses of white flowers open from red buds in spring, with yellow-orange fruits and yellow-bronze foliage in autumn. *Malus* × *zumi* 'Golden Hornet' is a small tree with a wide spreading growth habit. Produces pink buds that turn to pink-flushed, white flowers in spring, followed by large crops of deep yellow fruits in autumn, which persist into winter. Its green leaves transition to butter-yellow before they fall. A small, spreading variety of crab apple that grows to around 4m in height, *Malus* 'Indian Magic' boasts dark pink buds that open up to pink flowers in spring, followed by small, orange-red fruit in autumn, which persist into winter.

MALUS × *ZUMI* 'GOLDEN HORNET'

Malus 'John Downie' is a vigorous, spreading tree that can grow to around 12m in height. It blooms white flowers from pink buds in spring, with clusters of red and yellow fruits appearing in autumn. Its leaves transition from dark green to wonderful shades of orange and yellow before falling. A small variety of crab apple that grows to around 5m, *Malus* 'Pink Glow' has glossy dark green leaves that turn yellow during the autumn months, and a stunning display of single white blossom in spring. Its fruit is slightly larger than other varieties and is dark pink in colour. *Malus* 'Pink Perfection' is a small tree that produces fragrant pale pink blossoms from dark pink buds in mid-spring. Small red fruits appear from autumn. It grows to around 5m in height and is ideal for growing in a container.

An extremely colourful variety, *Malus* × *moerlandsii* 'Profusion' is a spreading deciduous tree to around 8m in height, with young purple leaves and red-purple flowers in spring, and deep purple fruits appearing in autumn. Perfect for providing a striking colour contrast to a planting scheme. *Malus* × *robusta* 'Red Sentinel is a small, upright tree that grows up to 7m in height.



MALUS × *MOERLANDSII* 'PROFUSION'

Its leaves are dark green when young, and transition to yellow before they fall. Produces pink-white flowers from spring, along with clusters of small, glossy, deep red fruits in autumn, which remain on the tree for longer than usual. A deciduous upright tree to around 7m, *Malus* 'Rudolph' has with ovate, toothed foliage that turns from red to green in summer, before it transitions to yellow in autumn. Rose coloured flowers bloom in late spring, with elongated, edible red fruits in autumn. A lovely variety that is highly resistant to pests and disease.

A particularly compact variety at 2.5m in height, *Malus toringo* 'Scarlett' is a small spreading tree with arching branches that bear fragrant pink flowers from mid-spring, and small, glossy, purple fruits in autumn. Its purple foliage turns green in summer, and transitions to red and yellow in the autumn months before falling. *Malus* 'White Star' is a small, upright crab apple that grows to around 6m in height. Its star-shaped white blossom appears in spring, with red-tinted, golden yellow fruits appearing in autumn, which last until winter. *Malus brevipes* 'Wedding Bouquet' is an upright crab apple that is ideal for small gardens and works well in a large container. Its foliage is toothed and dark green, and it produces masses of ivory-white flowers in spring, with small, dark red fruits that remain on the tree well into the winter months.

The best time of year for planting *Malus sylvestris* is spring or autumn, as the temperatures are cool and soil is moist. However, it can be planted at any point, as long as very high and freezing cold temperatures are avoided.

Crab apples are a robust species and can tolerate a range of soils. They grow best in moist, well-drained soil in a sunny or partially shaded position. Avoid any wet or waterlogged soil. Known as "jewels of the landscape", *Malus sylvestris* has a good resistance to disease when it's planted in a sunny position.

For the first few years after planting, *Malus sylvestris* should be well-watered during dry periods. *Malus sylvestris* can be mulched in spring with a biodegradable mulch, such as compost or wood chippings. If pruning is required, it should take place in late winter to remove any branches that are crossing, dying, or diseased.

MALUS 'WEDDING BOUQUET'

Malus sylvestris can be affected by a range of pests and diseases, including woolly aphid, fruit tree red spider mite, fireblight, apple scab, apple canker, and honey fungus.

Woolly aphids are a black aphid that affects *Malus sylvestris*; they suck sap from the woody stems of plants, which creates lumps. During warmer months of the year, colonies will appear in white fluff on trunks and branches. Populations of woolly aphid can be controlled by encouraging wildlife, such as lacewings, earwigs, and ladybirds, to your green space. They can also be controlled by removing them by hand.

Fruit tree red spider mites, or otherwise known as two-spotted spider mites, are sap-feeding mites that affect many garden and greenhouse plants. The main symptoms are early leaf fall and mottled foliage, and they are active from March to October. Predatory mites, such as Phytoseiulus persimilis and Amblyseius, can help to keep populations of fruit tree red spider mite under control.

Fireblight is a contagious disease of plants in the Rosaceae family. It is most active from late spring until autumn, and kills the shoots of ornamentals. It favours areas with high moisture, and the disease leads to wilted and dead flowers, shrivelled shoots that eventually die, and bark that develops a red-brown stain. If signs of fireblight are spotted, remove any infected parts of the plant, and reduce the spread of disease by thoroughly cleaning tools between cuts and before using on other plants.

Apple scab is a fungal disease that causes symptoms such as dark, scabby marks on foliage and fruits from mid-spring onwards. It spreads by airborne spores and lasts through the winter on leaves that have fallen. Keep apple scab under control by disposing of any fallen leaves and infected fruit, and pruning blistered twigs.

Apple canker is a fungal disease, caused by a fungus known as Neonectria ditissima. It presents as disfigured and sunken areas of dead bark on the branches of trees, such as apple trees. New cankers form in mid-spring, and usually begin at buds or wounds. If apple canker is present, cut out all affected smaller branches, as well as spurs. If branches are larger in size, cut out all infected material. It can then be painted with protective wound paints, to help prevent any reinfecting.

Honey fungus comprises of many species of the fungus Armillaria; it attacks and kills plant roots by spreading underground with the help of rhizomorphs. At ground level, you will spot white fungus in between the wood and bark, and from late summer to autumn, honey-coloured mushrooms may appear on plant stumps. Upper parts of the plant may die, and foliage may appear pale and smaller than usual. Below ground, roots will be dead or decayed. If honey fungus is discovered, all infected parts of the plant should be destroyed.

Contact our sales team if you're interested in adding *Malus sylvestris* to your planting project.

Driving change with Volta Trucks

Greenwood becomes the first horticultural business to partner with Volta Trucks

BY LARA MATTHAMS

Back in February, we partnered with Volta Trucks, an inspiring and innovative electric vehicle company, where we trialled an all-electric delivery vehicle. The trial lasted two weeks, and the aim was to learn about the functionality and feasibility of incorporating electric-powered HGVs into our transport fleet.

Our delivery fleet currently consists of ten low-emission diesel vehicles, but we are looking to achieve more sustainable transport for the future.

Electric vehicles offer a wide range of benefits to the environment and people. They produce zero tailpipe emissions, which leads to a reduction in air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Electric vehicles are also much quieter, resulting in less noise pollution than diesel-fuelled trucks. Although the initial cost for an electric truck may be greater, the minimised fuel and maintenance costs make them a cost-effective investment.

Whilst electric trucks come with a whole host of environmental benefits, there are drawbacks in current technology. Despite many fantastic technological advances, batteries remain heavy, and this impacts the cargo weight that can be transported at any one time. These large battery packs are essential to achieve the desired range for delivery trucks, and this is one of the most significant hurdles for transitioning to an electric delivery fleet. As a company offering a nationwide service, vehicle range is an incredibly important factor for us to take into consideration. Vehicle range is a challenge, as electric trucks currently have a shorter range than their diesel equivalents, and this can impact efficiency when frequently stopping to recharge. Charging infrastructure also needs to be improved, as there are fewer charging stations when comparing to fuel stations, and the process of charging an electric truck is significantly slower.

Founded in 2019, Volta Trucks aims to accelerate the transition to fully electric trucks, in order to make cities healthier, safer, and more sustainable.

The Volta Zero is Volta Trucks' flagship 16-tonne model that boasts significantly improved carbon emissions when compared to traditional trucks. It also features many safety-enhancing features for the driver and road-users. The Volta Zero is quiet when running, and has a range of up to 200km, as well as enhanced visibility with panoramic vision for the driver. This is achieved through its lower and central seating position.

We selected two of our longest standing drivers, Pawel Czyzykiewicz and Rolandas Slazikaz, to feature in the two-week trial. They were trained to drive the Volta Zero model, which was designed to reduce emissions and increase safety. The state-of-the-art vehicle is equipped with cameras to provide a 360-degree birds-eye view of other road users. Its central driving position provides optimum visibility, whilst its low entry cab improves ease and safety of access when entering and exiting. This thoughtful feature helps to make the vehicle more accessible to a wider user demographic. Volta Trucks vision involves improving inclusivity within the transport industry, by encouraging more women and a younger demographic to consider a career in transport.

The trial has given us invaluable insight into electric-powered HGVs, as we assess the role of electric vehicle powered deliveries within our long-term sustainability strategy. Sustainability is one of our core values, and we are excited about what this means for us as a business, and how this will play a part in our vision to reach net zero by 2030. As part of our sustainability strategy, we optimise delivery route efficiencies and will continue to invest in electric vehicles. We have introduced electric vehicles to our sales fleet, and where possible, actively encourage virtual meetings. We are also in the process of replacing utility vehicles on site to electric, and the next stage for us is revolutionising our transport fleet. All of these factors will help us to reduce our environmental impact.

Unfortunately, the transport industry greatly contributes towards the UK's carbon emissions, as traditional delivery methods are often reliant on fossil fuels. Traditional delivery methods contribute towards large quantities of carbon dioxide being emitted into the atmosphere, leading to air pollution and climate change. In the transport sector, the most significant air pollutants are nitrogen oxides and particulate matter, which negatively affect our air quality and pose risks to our health. It's clear that the transport industry needs to adapt and it's admirable to see Volta Trucks working towards an environmentally responsible future as a fully-electric commercial vehicle company.

We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to partner with Volta Trucks, and it has given us a great deal of knowledge to look to the future and assess our transport strategy. Find out more about the second phase of our sustainability strategy by reading our sustainability article on page 22.

What is permaculture, and why is it sustainable?

Promoting sustainable and resilient landscapes

BY LARA MATTHAMS

Permaculture is a method of sustainable land management that has been inspired by nature. It involves creating systems that work in harmony with nature, to ensure long-term sustainability. By taking care of the soil and the planet as a whole, we maintain healthy plants and ecosystems as a result. Part of this approach also involves looking after our communities. An important aspect of permaculture involves sharing surplus resources and limiting consumption, to ensure that everyone has sufficient supply. By adopting permaculture principles, we can create resilient landscapes, reduce waste, and build stronger communities.

Permaculture is a design approach that seeks to create sustainable and self-sufficient ecosystems, by mimicking the patterns and relationships found in nature.

Originally referred to as "permanent agriculture", the practice was pioneered by Bill Mollison, a senior lecturer in Environmental Psychology at the University of Tasmania, and David Holmgren, a graduate student at the Tasmanian College of Advanced Education. The term has since expanded to incorporate aspects of ecological building, community resilience, and sustainable living.

Did you know?: The original inspiration for the practices that define permaculture is drawn from Aboriginal Tasmanian belief systems, as well as other traditional cultures.

When applied to horticulture, permaculture focusses on creating diverse, resilient, and productive landscapes that require minimal external inputs. These permaculture principles are used to design gardens that work harmoniously with nature. This involves practices such as companion planting, where different plants are grown together to benefit each other.

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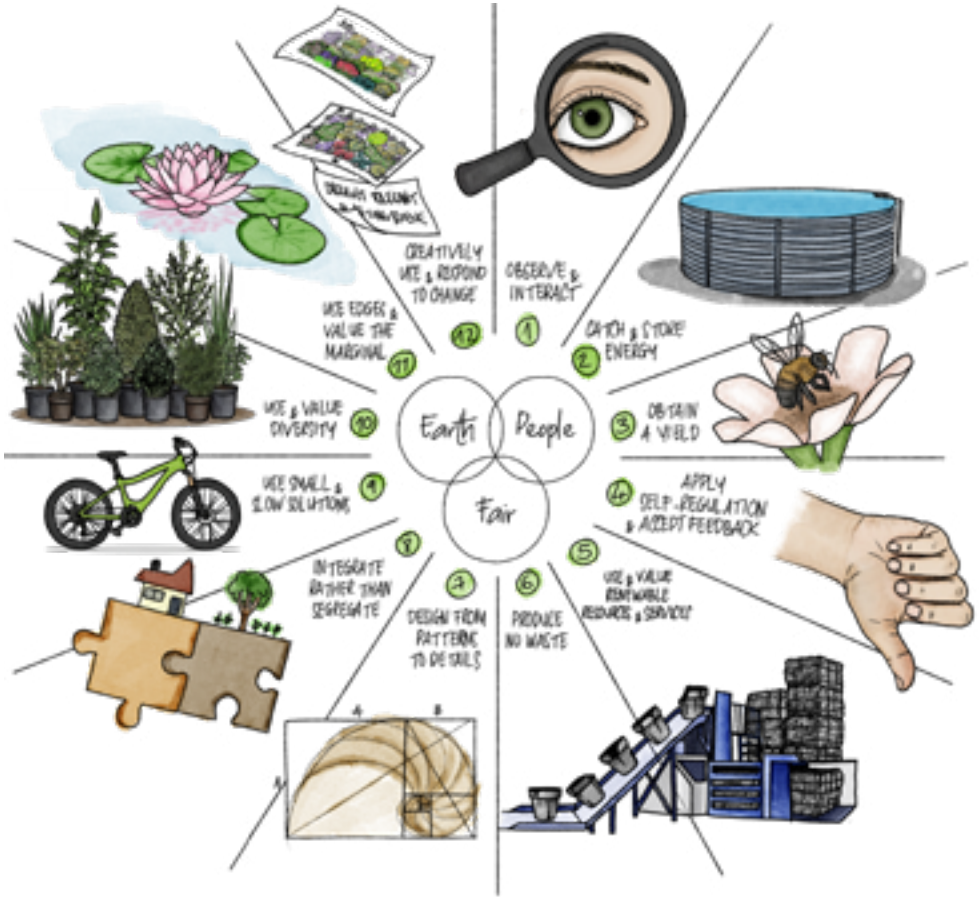
Permaculture also promotes the planting of perennials, which live for several years and reduce the need for replanting.

Water conservation is another key aspect of permaculture. Water conservation methods, such as rainwater harvesting and swales, are used to capture and store rainwater, reducing the need for irrigation. Mulching with organic materials, including wood chips or straw, can help to retain moisture in the soil and suppress weeds — further enhancing the garden's sustainability.

Permaculture gardens are designed to be self-sustaining and resilient. By incorporating a diverse range of plants and creating interconnected systems, these gardens can cope with environmental stresses, such as drought or pest infestations. Not only does this approach benefit the environment, but it also reduces maintenance and reliance on external resources, such as pesticides.

The 12 principles of permaculture were developed to provide a framework for designing sustainable systems. These principles are inspired by natural ecosystems and working with, rather than against, nature:

1. Observe and interact – Understand the environment before taking action. Careful observation allows us to design systems that work in harmony with its natural conditions, rather than against it. For example, observing where water tends to pool after a period of heavy rain, or spotting areas that receive full sun or shade.



2. Catch and store energy – Use and store natural energy sources, such as sunlight, wind, and water, to create a resilient landscape. Examples include installing solar panels, or collecting rainwater for irrigation.

3. Obtain a yield – Design systems that provide tangible benefits, including food, energy, or shelter, whilst maintaining long-term sustainability. Growing vegetables in a garden to feed a family and reduce food expenses is an example of this principle.

4. Apply self-regulation and accept feedback Continuously monitor and adjust the system to prevent overuse or depletion of resources. For example, if soil fertility is in decline, rotate crops and add compost to restore balance.

5. Use and value renewable resources and services – Prioritise natural, renewable resources over non-renewable ones to reduce environmental impact, such as wood from sustainably managed forests.

6. Produce no waste – Design systems where waste is minimised or repurposed into something useful. Composting is a great example; food scraps can be composted to create nutrient-rich soil, instead of sending them to landfill.

7. Design from patterns to details – Observe patterns in nature and society, then use them as a guide for designing sustainable systems. Patterns can include a spiral shape, to maximise growing space, as this is seen in natural ecosystems.

8. Integrate rather than segregate – Encourage beneficial relationships between elements of a system to increase efficiency and resilience. Planting companion crops together, such as tomatoes and basil, is an example of this, as they help each other thrive.

9. Use small and slow solutions – Smaller, gradual changes are often more sustainable and easier to manage than large-scale interventions. For instance, starting with a smaller space, instead of converting an entire farm at once.

10. Use and value diversity – Biodiversity strengthens resilience against pests, diseases, and environmental changes. Growing multiple crops, rather than a monoculture, to improve ecosystem health.

11. Use edges and value the marginal – The most productive and diverse spaces are often at the edges, where different systems meet. A pond's edge, with its aquatic plants, land plants, and mixture of wildlife, supports more biodiversity than deep water or dry land alone.

12. Creatively use and respond to change – Instead of resisting change, adapt and use it to improve the system. For example, if climate change leads to drought, switch to drought-tolerant plants instead of struggling with water-intensive crops.

Permaculture is guided by three core ethics, and these are the foundation for all its principles and practices. These consist of Earth Care, People Care, and Fair Share. They ensure that we regenerate natural resources, support human well-being, and share surplus fairly. By following these ethics, we can create communities and environments that thrive for generations to come.

Earth Care

This highlights the importance of maintaining the health of our planet, including all living and non-living components. It focusses on respecting and nurturing the Earth to ensure its health sustainability, by preserving natural resources and ecosystems for future generations. Restoring degraded land is a part of this, by revitalising any areas that have been affected by erosion, deforestation, or over-farming.

People Care

People Care involves supporting the well-being of individuals and communities. Human needs should be met whilst also taking care to promote resilience, collaboration, and equity. An example of People Care is creating a community garden where social bonds can be strengthened, fresh food can be grown, and the well-being needs of local residents can be ensured.

Fair Share

The third ethic encourages the distribution of excess resources, such as food, energy, or knowledge, to benefit the community and environment, whilst maintaining sustainability and balance. Fair Share also advocates for setting limits on consumption, so as not to overuse finite resources.

Greenwood is practising a number of permaculture methods across its nurseries, including water harvesting, supporting the community with its Greenwood Community scheme, and waste management with G Cycle. We have invested in rainwater harvesting systems and increased our capacity for water storage, as well as using drip irrigation and best watering practices across the nurseries.

Our Greenwood Community scheme supports local, regional, and national projects by donating plants and sundries to enhance green spaces and support biodiversity. Our industry-leading recycling scheme, G Cycle, has prevented over 50,000 wooden crates and pallets going to landfill, and our pot washing machine has enabled us to clean and reuse 960,000 pots.

There are a number of notable permaculture projects that demonstrate sustainable design and community engagement.

The Eden Project in Cornwall is one of the most famous tourist attractions in the UK. It's situated in a reclaimed clay pit, and features massive biomes housing diverse plant species and outdoor gardens designed using permaculture principles. It serves as both a horticultural attraction and an educational centre, showcasing the potential of large-scale sustainable design.

Located near Shoreham, the Quadrangle Forest Garden is a community-driven initiative that transformed a degraded field into a productive forest garden using permaculture principles. This project benefits soil microbiology, boosts biodiversity, and improves water retention, thereby reducing flood risks in the River Darent area. It serves as an educational and therapeutic resource for both the local community and visitors.

During the COVID-19 lockdowns, Anthony Ussher transformed the garden of James Brine House in East London into a communal space. Utilising fermentation composting, the project converts food waste into nutrient-rich soil, enhancing local biodiversity. Supported by Tower Hamlets Council, City Soil Lab aims to replicate this composting model across London, providing a sustainable waste management solution for urban areas.

EDEN PROJECT, CORNWALL

Martin Crawford's Forest Garden in Devon was established over 30 years ago on the Dartington Estate, and is a pioneering example of agroforestry, which integrates trees and various crops to create a self-sustaining ecosystem. Martin Crawford's work has significantly influenced sustainable agricultural practices worldwide.

Scotswood Garden is a thriving community garden that has been operating for over 30 years, serving as a hub for local engagement and education. It shows how permaculture principles can be applied in urban settings to create community spirit and promote environmental awareness.

Plant species for permaculture gardens

Achillea is a striking perennial with green feathery foliage and flat-topped flowers in colours including yellow, red, and white. Its flowers are ideal for attracting pollinators, including bees and butterflies, and its deep roots help to improve soil structure.

Lavandula is a vibrant and aromatic shrub, with linear, grey-green leaves and an abundance of flowers on upright stems in a range of colours, including purple, blue, and white. Its strong scent is ideal for repelling pests, such as aphids, but is also a pleasant addition to gardens.

Commonly known as garden mint, *Mentha spicata* is a perennial that forms clumps of bright green, sweetly-scented leaves which are widely used in teas and salads. Be mindful of its vigorous growth; for this reason it's best kept in containers or designated areas.

Rosmarinus officinalis is an aromatic evergreen shrub that has narrow green leaves with white undersides, and pretty light blue to white flowers in late spring. It thrives in dry climates and its foliage is widely used for culinary purposes. Its scent is great for deterring pests.

G cycle

At Greenwood Plants we care about sustainability.

Greenwood's aim is to provide an effortless experience for our clients. G Cycle is our innovative packaging recycling scheme, for increased sustainability and convenience.

We offer free collection and a full reimbursement of packaging costs on wooden crates and plastic pots.

G Cycle helps you save time and money whilst contributing to your sustainability goals.

Learn more by visiting our dedicated web-page: greenwoodplants.co.uk/g-cycle/