

Nurture Theatre

10:00 – 10:45

Protect and Secure: Embracing Biosecurity and Plant Health

With biosecurity threats grabbing the horticultural headlines, this discussion will get to the very roots of the current situation – the rules, Defra's approach, and support available. A palette of panellists will share their expertise in pursuing plant health, their thoughts on how their own nurseries are meeting the challenges, and how the Plant Healthy Initiative might help.

Lewis Normand | Richard McKenna | John Marsden | Keith Sacre | Dr Kelvin Hughes | Robin Wallis

11:00 – 11:45

Managing Trees: Brace yourselves – are you really ready?

The impact of larger trees on a landscape scheme is huge, and not only in their majesty and visual appeal in show gardens, domestic and commercial landscapes. The panel of tree growers and designers will outline how specifying and buying large trees should put proper handling, securing and planting conditions at the top of the agenda.

Lewis Normand | Steve McCurdy | Tom Owen | Ruth Willmott | Michael Buck

12:00 – 13:00

Keynote speaker

Alistair is responsible for managing the RHS's team of scientists and sits on the RHS executive board. He leads a highly skilled team of scientists focused on assimilating, evaluating and sharing the most current scientific knowledge and undertaking scientific research to provide high-quality, evidence-based solutions to address horticultural challenges. Alistair is responsible for ensuring that the RHS charity remains at the forefront of horticulture science.

Alistair Griffiths

14:00 – 14:45

Circular Thinking: Influencing client choice for reusing materials

Recycling. Repurposing. Reusing. Is the client leading the way in sustainability practices or are you driving this forward? Either way, our panel consider the key elements of the specification and use of reusing materials and the potential pitfalls of choosing a sustainable approach.

Ben West | Jake Catling | Darryl Moore | Sarah Eberle | Kristina Clode | Mark Laurence

15:00 – 15:45

Perpetuating successful landscapes: The power of proper aftercare

You design and create beautiful gardens and outdoor living spaces. But what happens next? The initial investment needs upkeep – so how does the designer and contractor relationship extend into aftercare? Posing questions to a panel of maintenance specialists, this debate considers the challenges beyond the finished landscape.

Nina Mason | Chris Stone | Alan Sargent | Charles Blumlein | Naomi Ferrett-Cohen

Business Theatre Sponsored by CTD Tiles

10:00 – 10:45

Taking the Next Step: Expand your business professionally and profitably

Your business is growing in more ways than one. Taking the leap and expanding your business will take planning but it need not be daunting. The expert panel will draw on their own experiences here. Lessons learned, tried and tested methods, helpful advice and hurdles overcome in hiring new staff, payroll, training and marketing once you are on your way.

Jim Wilkinson | Ben Stein | Tessa Johnstone | Marian Barker | Nick Ruddle

11:00 – 11:45

Understanding branding & displaying your work effectively online

This seminar will focus on helping businesses improve through branding and digital marketing, providing insight into the importance of branding and the best ways of displaying your work for engagement and lead generation. From web design and online presence to video content and portfolios, the Adtrak team will impart their digital marketing knowledge, as well as take questions in a Q&A.

Caroline Hill | John Cutts | Ben Shaw

13:00 – 13:20

Demonstration: SYSTEMology

The purpose of SYSTEMology is to free business owners from the daily stresses of running their business whilst working less hours and making more money. Nick will take you through the 'Four Stages of Business Systemisation' and you can decide what stage you're currently at, where you want to get to and what you need to do to get you there.

13:20 – 13:40

Demonstration: Vectorworks

Vectorworks Landmark offers industry-leading tools that streamline landscape and garden design workflows. Whether you're transitioning from hand drawing or a general CAD application to a landscape-specific design solution, Landmark lets you maintain your signature style while helping your clients visualise your plans. Join Katarina Ollikainen at 1.20pm to discover Vectorworks Landmark.

13:40 – 14:00

Demonstration: Tilers Tools

Tilers Tools is demonstrating how to cut through 20mm porcelain with ease. Its wet saws are used extensively in the landscaping industry and the demonstration will show how simple it is to cut through various materials if you have the correct equipment and you maintain your blades.

14:00 – 14:45

No more skirting the issue: Women in the Landscape

Champions of industry, our panel will be broaching working elements that affect women in the landscape. Expect the discussions to tackle how issues like menopause and childcare are considered within the sector and how the landscape is levelling up in more ways than one.

Kate Cooney | Holly Youde | Anita Bates | Nicola Lovett | Mandy Steed

15:00 – 15:45

Quest for the Best: The Great Paving Debate

The products that pave the way in the UK are often sourced globally across thousands of miles. Raising questions of ethical sourcing, availability and the impact on carbon footprint – is there a better way? From the popularity of porcelain to best practice installation methods, tools and materials, the panel will tackle the biggest issues in paving.

Jim Wilkinson | Gareth Wilson | Steven Walley | Giles Heap

RHS Show Garden Theatre

10:00 – 10:45

Right Plant, Right Place – Show Garden Planting

Join us for this informative session and discussion about what makes show garden planting unique. From achieving that natural and authentic look, to how to use the judging criteria as a helpful tool when planning your scheme.

Marie-Louise Agius | Humaira Ikram | Pollyanna Wilkinson

11:00 – 11:45

My Show Garden Experience – Q&A

Get your questions at the ready and find out from some familiar faces what makes show gardens such an addictive and exciting field of design and build to be in.

Freddie Strickland | Marie-Louise Agius | Pollyanna Wilkinson

14:00 – 14:45

A Lighter Footprint – Building Greener Show Gardens

Join us in the open discussion about how we can work more cleverly to achieve beautiful gardens but with a lighter footprint through the use of material choice, techniques and planned after life.

Paul Cowell | Hugo Bugg | Mark Gregory

15:00 – 15:45

Funding your Show Garden

It's never too soon to start seeking sponsorship or funding for your show garden. Find out how you can help fund your idea through this informative session covering topics such as 'making the first approach, to sponsor management and funding avenues.