



URBAN planters®
for greener interiors

NEWSLETTER

URBAN update

ISSUE 23

WELCOME

to our Urban Update. As we all start preparing for the onset of Autumn and Winter, there is no better time to plan ahead to help reduce sickness and absenteeism in the workplace due to colds and flu-like symptoms. One solution you may have not considered is adding plants and, as it has already been proven that plants can help reduce absenteeism by up to a third, plants should be a serious consideration.

NEWS IN BRIEF

North

Edinburgh: Amazon re-kindles their relationship with us for their new office fit out.

York: Winifred Holtby and Tweendykes School learn of the health benefits of plants with their new large indoor trees.

Midlands

Nottinghamshire: Incorporating plants adds up for Ikano Financial Services.

Northampton: Elton John becomes starry-eyed about dressing-room plants.

South

South West: Says "Many Tanks" to Plymouth's National Marine Aquarium for their contract renewal.

Reading: Comptel call upon us for new indoor plant displays.

National Sales

Serve up slices of greenery for Zizzi Ristorante across various sites.

Cisco Systems add Urban Planters to their network across eight sites.

A RACE AGAINST THE CLOCK FOR LAND ROVER SHOWROOM

Armstrong Massey, the York dealership for Land Rover/Range Rover, has opted for local expertise over approved suppliers in selecting Urban Planters York to supply a new planting scheme for its refurbished showrooms.

However, time was tight: the plant displays needed to be in situ within a couple of weeks, ready for the opening of the new showroom. The resulting scheme was created on schedule and features a range of lifelike replica plants all in stainless steel containers, in keeping with the dealership's style guide.



PLANTS A NATURAL CHOICE FOR AVEDA

When global plant-based beauty company Aveda launched its new Chelsea salon, it called on Urban Planters to create a garden at the front of the salon, a nod to the Chelsea Flower Show which was taking place just around the corner at the same time.



The result was a lush green space, with living walls and artificial, but lifelike, grass. A range of flowering plants was also positioned inside the salon in yellow and white containers for further impact.

Our range of living walls was also on display in our Feature Garden and stand earlier this year at the Landscape Show in Olympia, London.



MANN ISLAND, LIVERPOOL

A new chapter in Liverpool's history is unfolding at its historic waterfront: Mann Island is a dramatic new development which will radically enhance its famous skyline.

The Mann Island site is designed to complement and enhance existing and planned attractions on the Liverpool historic waterfront. It will form a pivotal point between the Three Graces and the Albert Dock, with the geometry of the new buildings reflecting this transition. It will also create a destination in its own right and form a key link between the city centre, the riverfront and Albert Dock.



This client is at the forefront of design in Liverpool and wanted planting to match its desirable location and to enhance the fresh look of the design. We suggested smart new contemporary lime green containers with block planting of lush Zamia for the interior and of course, the classic Buxus sempervirens at the building's external entrance.



NEW PLANTS FOR £MULTI-MILLION UNIVERSITY CENTRE



Plants have been proven to make people more alert and therefore work more efficiently, and a planting scheme for a new 'hub' at the University of York, will hopefully do just that.

The Ron Cooke Hub forms part of a £750 million expansion at its Heslington East campus and aims to encourage innovation by bringing people together from different disciplines.

Urban Planters York was asked by the university to provide plant displays at short notice for the building's Lakehouse Room in time for a big meeting.

The university was so impressed with the quality of plants supplied in such a short time frame that they asked Urban to design a scheme for the hub's three-storey atrium, including a striking five-metre-high replica bamboo display and a range of other specimens to create a relaxed space where businesses and academia can meet in relaxed surroundings.



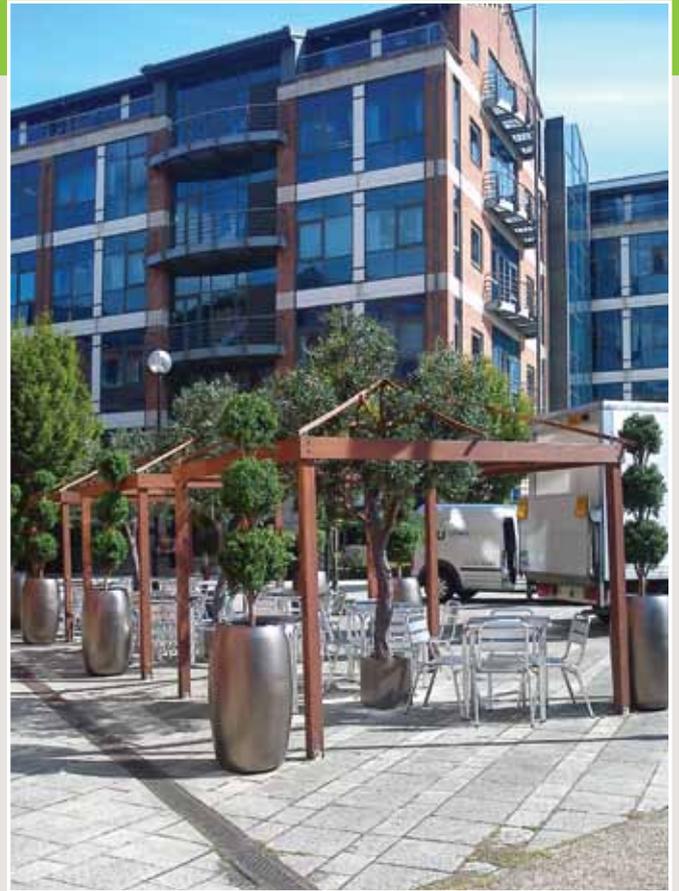
BRINGING THE MEDITERRANEAN TO CENTRAL LEEDS

Urban Planters has created a planting scheme for French restaurant chain Brasserie Blanc's Leeds branch which transforms the outdoor seating area into a Mediterranean terrace with a practical twist.



Replica olive trees soften the terrace and provide an aesthetically pleasing sunshade, while tea trees have been planted in containers on wheels, so that they can be moved indoors at night to protect them from vandalism. The specimens selected are able to withstand being moved inside and outside repeatedly.

This latest scheme builds on Urban Planters' national contract with Brasserie Blanc, which currently includes planting schemes at four sites.



'BARCODE THEME' PLANTING ENHANCES NEW WESTFIELD SHOPPING CENTRE

Urban Planters are proud to continue their existing relationship with Westfield Shopping Towns Limited with our recent supply of planting to the new shopping centre in Stratford, London.

We were heavily involved in designing how planting could be incorporated into the new centre, which led to a final planting scheme to both the internal and external areas of the centre. One of the concepts we developed and introduced was a 'barcode theme' to the large external planted beds.

The main circulation areas and the Stratford International Train Station were also softened with one-metre square containers and similar sized Portuguese laurels, creating two-metre high displays.



The opening of the centre was also supported by the installation of 50 live orchid displays, which were distributed throughout the common areas.



WALL YOU CAN EAT AT EVERSHEDS

Employees at Nottingham-based international law firm Eversheds can now literally eat the wall in the building's courtyard, thanks to an innovative sustainable project by Urban Planters.

The wall is made up of a range of herbs, selected in consultation with and used by the company's on-site restaurant, and is watered using a rooftop irrigation system which harvests rainwater.



As the highest-ranking law firm on this year's Sunday Times' Best Green Companies List, Eversheds takes its environmental credentials seriously and it has been working with Urban Planters for some time to explore ways of using plants to help it to run its offices more sustainably.



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FOUR-STAR PLANTS FOR STRATFORD HOTEL

The Holiday Inn in Stratford-upon-Avon recently upgraded its planting scheme to match its four-star status after enlisting the services of Urban Planters Leicestershire.

The smart, modern scheme includes live plant displays inside and out, hanging baskets, containers in both subtle tones and bold colours to suit their position and a range of wall art to complete the look.



Urban Planters also convinced the hotel to change its live floral displays in reception and elsewhere to bespoke, high quality replica flower arrangements, which are changed on a quarterly basis. The hotel's manager was initially uncertain about using replica flowers, but positive feedback from staff and clients about the striking displays, plus the many aesthetic and commercial benefits convinced him to make the change.



BESPOKE SOLUTION FOR SHEFFIELD DESIGN TEAM



Urban Planters South Yorkshire has come up with an unusual solution for a Sheffield manufacturer which was looking to create a natural screen between workstations in its design department.

Loadhog's offices are set in a converted mill in the city centre and its design team work in a large, open plan space. The company wanted to incorporate 'architectural' plants on the top of the very large central, oak desk where most people worked, creating a softer, more natural barrier, allowing colleagues to see and chat to each other.

Urban Planters' solution was to design four bespoke, one-metre troughs, sunk into the desk, containing Sansevieria 'Mikado' plants. The overall design was finished off by the customer, who suspended brightly-coloured 'Space Hoppers' from the ceiling.

