

Visit Trees and Design Action Group at stand G149, in the Critical Infrastructure Area

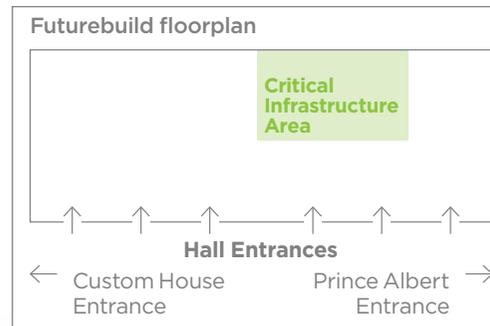
Urban Forest Pavilion Workshop Programme

Why are Urban Forests so Vital?

With the UK government's commitment to 100% net zero carbon and the declarations of climate and ecological emergencies by professional institutions, businesses and local authorities and the Committee on Climate Change report requiring the planting of large numbers of trees, it is clear that trees have a vital role to play in both our rural and urban environments. While protecting existing and planting more trees in rural areas as well as the reinstatement of hedgerows integrated with trees at scale are a key part of responding to the climate emergency - catchment area planting to reduce flooding, carbon sequestration etc, there is also an important role for urban trees as part of future urban resilience and liveability.

These interactive workshop sessions led by experts in their fields will look at a broad spectrum of issues relating to urban trees and invite you to put the questions and seek the guidance that will help you in your work.

This programme was organised by the Trees and Design Action Group (TDAG).



TDAG would like to thank the following organisations for supporting our stand at Futurebuild 2020



Tuesday 3rd March 2020

10.45-11.15

Green, Blue and Grey – Achieving Parity of Valuation by Interdisciplinary Collaboration

How best practice design collaboration including green infrastructure early in the process helps attain sustainable development for the long term, for all stakeholders.

— **Howard Gray**, PR & Specification Consultant, GreenBlue Urban

11.30-12.15

Tree Species Selection for Green Infrastructure – How to Use the TDAG Guide

How can we improve species selection with diverse and resilient palette of trees that are capable of thriving in challenging urban environments today and into the future? Tree Species Selection for Green Infrastructure: A Guide for Specifiers includes information for over 280 species on their use-potential, size and crown characteristics, natural habitat, environmental tolerance, ornamental qualities, potential issues to be aware of, and notable varieties.

— **Dr Andy Hirons**, Senior Lecturer in Arboriculture & Urban Forestry, Myerscough College

12.30-13.00

Tree Planting Strategies

This talk will look at how i-Tree and other spatial data can be used to prioritise tree planting to maximum effect. Directing resources to the areas that most need it and to maximise environmental benefits. Examples from Islington, Europe and the UK will be used to highlight this approach.

— **Kenton Rogers**, Co-founder, Treeconomics

13.15-14.00

Assessing Urban Forest Sustainability in a Changing Climate

i-Tree Eco will celebrate its 10th Birthday in the U.K. in 2020. Over this past decade, and through the implementation of Eco,

a completely new insight has been gained into the composition, structure and health of our urban forests. Drawing upon the international literature and this wealth of UK data, this talk will reflect on the status of our urban forests, and their sustainability in the light of the knowledge that our climate is changing.

— **Dr Kieron Doick**, Head of Urban Forest Research Group, Forest Research

14.15-14.45

Trees and Planning: Designing for Success

Providing an insight into the role of the arboricultural consultant as part of the design team. Exploring the importance of planning policy, landscape character, the individual and group values of trees within and adjacent to the site, and working to best practice. Gain an improved understanding of how to engage with the arboricultural consultant. Learn how the arboricultural consultant can be a key player in designing a scheme that secures planning consent and balances economic viability with the environmental requirements of planning law.

— **Chris Wright**, Senior Arboricultural Consultant, Tim Moya Associates

15.00-15.45

Achieving Best Practice and Professionalism in Arboriculture

In recent years trees have risen up the political and public agenda, but the importance of arboriculture as the technical specialism which is responsible for urban trees and their management is still not being fully recognised. If we want our society to enjoy the benefits that trees bring then we need to ensure that they are properly selected, located, sourced and maintained – the planting itself is just one part of the process. This presentation will outline some of the challenges that the industry faces in promoting itself as a specialist discipline, and some of the ways in which the Arboricultural Association and other groups are addressing these challenges.

— **John Parker**, Senior Technical Officer, Arboricultural Association

16.00-16.30

Green Streets – Learning from Leeds City Region

'Green Streets' is the name of one of the main projects being carried out throughout the Leeds City Region by the White Rose Forest. Initially the project set out to provide attractive green corridors connecting areas of deprivation to areas of job growth across West Yorkshire. More recently however, it has expanded its mission to plan, design, implement and manage a broader remit to bring green infrastructure, especially trees, into all parts of the Leeds Poly-Centric City Region. A quarter of all car trips in the UK are less than a mile in length (1600 m.), and thus it was deemed crucial to start replacing the vehicular dominance of our streets with a more viable pedestrian ambience, particularly as the benefits of re-establishing contact between trees and people have been conclusively proven, but in spite of this proof, the canopy cover of most of our towns and cities in the UK is still falling.

A wide group of stakeholders and professional disciplines ensure that the process of combined design results in a wider range of practical and evidence-based multiple benefits, with local support and buy-in being crucial. One of the key principles of Green Streets is the pursuit of high quality delivery by ensuring best practice from outset to aftercare – or even embarking on delivering 'next practice'.

— **Professor Alan Simson**, Professor of Landscape Architecture and Urban Forestry, Leeds Beckett University.

16.45-17.15

If Trees Could Tell Stories

Imagine if the mature trees across our cities and public spaces could tell their 'silent witness' stories. How their context, environments and immediate surroundings have developed and evolved over their lifespan.

'If trees could tell stories' is an educational framework raising environmental and social awareness, the importance of trees – learning through landscapes,

and investigating local history/heritage by envisaging the timeline of an area through the eyes of its mature trees.

— **Christina Gestra**, Chartered Landscape Architect & Associate Lecturer for the University of the Arts London

Wednesday 4th March 2020

10.45-11.15

What Makes a Successful Urban Tree Pit?

Discussing the many elements, variables and materials that create a successful urban tree pit.

— **Richard Wexham**, Product Specification Manager, Green-tech

11.30-12.15

Forest Bathing

Each day it seems that there are more reports and studies to show how being close to nature, and being amongst trees and woodlands in particular, is good for own wellbeing. With almost 80% of us now living in urban communities, and fewer households enjoying their own green spaces, our time among the trees is declining. How can we reconnect with nature in our urban towns and cities?

— **Clare Olver**, Programmes Manager, The Mersey Forest

12.30-13.00

Rethink Trees: Interesting Examples of Trees for SuDS

Trees being used as SuDS is nothing new, but what can be achieved by using trees for urban surface water management?

This presentation delves into the weirder and more wonderful installations of urban trees used for surface water management and highlights how some of the challenges were overcome to achieve the wider benefits that trees provide.

— **Dr Chris Newton**, DeepRoot Urban Solutions

13.15-14.00

**Trees, Planning and Development:
10 Tips to up Your Game**

Are you an architect, a landscape architect, an urban designer, a planner? Would you like to improve how you integrate trees in your projects and plans? Do you experience louder demands for tree-rich townscapes, but are unsure about how to respond in your day-to-day work? Drawing from three years of extensive research into contemporary best practice in the UK and abroad, the Trees and Design Action Group (www.tdag.org.uk) will share some of its top findings for ensuring trees are a valued and value-adding component of new developments. This session will build upon Chris Wright's 3rd March session about using arboricultural expertise for project success (3/03/20, 14.15-14.45, 'Trees and planning: designing for success') and consider wider parameters including emerging policy tools, latest approaches to design and technical solutions, as well as shifting cultures for project implementation and planning consent enforcement.

— **Anne Jaluzot**, Lead researcher for the Trees and Design Action Group (TDAG)

14.15-14.45

Collaboration in Multi-disciplinary Projects

In this presentation, the presenters will demonstrate the need for collaboration in multi-disciplinary projects. Stuart and Peter will champion the role of the professional arboriculturist and showcase the benefits the professional arboriculturist brings.

— **Stuart Glen**, Member Services Director, Institute of Chartered Foresters

— **Peter Wharton**, MICFor, Director of Wharton Natural Infrastructure Consultants

15.00-15.45

Encouraging Citizen Engagement

Wild Streets aims to empower citizens to help realise the green cities of the future by getting involved locally. By asking people what they really want and helping them to visualise it, Wild Streets provides a tool for developers, planners, and decision-makers for the realization of truly inclusive and sustainable green urban spaces. Wild Streets will also collect data to better inform the planning of urban green infrastructure. Involving local communities and connecting them with nature is a first, critical step.

— **Jai Sandhu**, Design Strategy, Wild Streets

16.00-16.30

An Emergency Tree Plan for the Climate & Biodiversity Crises... but Where will the Trees go and, Indeed, Where will they Come From?

The Committee on Climate Change has outlined the required uplift in tree cover as part of the plan to prevent catastrophic climate change. This isn't just an issue for rural areas - new development needs to play its part and have ambitious canopy targets. We also need to rapidly establish a UK & Ireland Sourced & Grown stock of saplings to meet the demand and prevent new tree pests and diseases undoing the good work.

— **Richard Barnes**, Conservation Adviser, The Woodland Trust

16.45-17.15

Killing Trees is as Easy as Planting Them

It is relatively easy to plant a tree but equally it is as easy to kill them. This session will examine some of the planting techniques and post planting management strategies, often overlooked, which can collectively enhance the chances of post planting survival, healthy growth and most importantly longevity in the landscape.

— **Keith Sacre**, Arboricultural and Urban Forest Director and immediate past chair of the Arboricultural Association

Thursday 5th March 2020

10.45-11.15

Introducing the Concept of Tiny Forest® for Climate Proof Cities

Tiny Forests® are fast-growing, highly dense, urban forests of the size of a tennis court. They provide services for flood mitigation, thermal comfort, carbon sequestering, habitat provision and air quality improvement. And they are implemented including an engagement programme to involve citizens, school children and employees.

— **Victor Beumer**, Senior Research Lead, Earthwatch Europe

11.30-12.15

Sii the Future - Making Sustainable Integrated Infrastructure (Sii) a Reality

This presentation emphasises the integral role that collaborative working plays in the successful delivery of sustainable urban infrastructure and demonstrates why early engagement between the multiple disciplines involved is critical to ensuring the full potential of a project is realised. It uses a recent rail improvement project in Gothenburg, which included the transplanting of some 300 mature trees, as an example of truly integrated infrastructure delivery. It will also consider how such delivery mechanisms might be better utilised here in the UK and what changes might have to be made in order to do so.

— **Martin Gammie**, Director, Consulting with Trees Ltd

12.30-13.00

Green Infrastructure for Roadside Air Quality: Introducing Free, Prototype Software to Predict the Site-specific Impacts of 'GI4RAQ'

Nationally, vegetation plays a valuable role in removing air pollution. Its main role at the scales of urban planting, however, is different: not removing pollution per se, but altering its distribution by changing patterns of air flow. We introduce here the first software to enable you to predict the highly-

localised impacts of green infrastructure on exposure to road transport pollution in the urban realm (subject to local conditions of wind and urban form): it will be freely available and open source.

— **Dr James Levine**, Senior Research Fellow, University of Birmingham (School of Geography, Earth Environmental Sciences), University of Birmingham

13.15-14.00

Humble Hedges - Multiple Urban Benefits

Urban hedges have been shown to provide a range of environmental benefits: acting as noise and pollution screens, habitat for small animals, reducing water runoff, to name just a few. The talk will shed light on what we know currently about the planting choices and combinations likely to bring us the most benefits.

— **Dr Tijana Blanusa**, Principal Horticultural Scientist, Royal Horticultural Society

14.15-15.00

Expanding the Urban Forest

Urban forests in the UK have never been more important or more under threat from a multitude of factors. Actually expanding them and increasing their canopy cover and active area of leaf volume will be one of the challenges facing policy makers and practitioners in the coming years. Find out what needs to be done and why.

— **Jim Smith**, National Urban Forestry Adviser, Forestry Commission

Join us in collaborating with individuals, professionals and organisations, in both the public and private sectors, to increase awareness of the role of trees in the built environment.

For further information visit:

www.tdag.org.uk

Working in collaboration for better places
