



CONSTRUCTION KING OF CHELSEA RETURNS TO HIS ROOTS TO BUILD THREE NEW GARDENS AT RHS WISLEY



Mark Gregory and an artist's impression of how the gardens and new centre will look

AWARD-WINNING landscape company, Landform Consultants has broken ground on a prestigious 15-month project delivering three gardens that will surround the UK's first dedicated scientific centre of excellence at RHS Garden Wisley; the National Centre for Horticultural Science and Learning.

Landform Consultants is working in collaboration with the RHS and designers, Ann-Marie Powell and Matt Keightley, to build three educational gardens that will encircle the new building.

Managing Director of Landform Consultants, Mark Gregory, said: "I started my horticultural journey at RHS Garden Wisley 40 years ago, so it is an absolute honour to return to this cathedral of horticultural excellence to deliver these three gardens by such renowned designers.

"I spent one of the best years of my life here and left feeling totally inspired by both the people and the place so I feel it is a privilege to be asked to return to play a part in this next phase in Wisley's history and be a part of its legacy for future generations."

Andy Jasper, Programme Director at RHS Garden Wisley, added: "It is a great pleasure to have Mark and his team working with us at Wisley on this landmark project. Mark was involved with the major restoration of one of the oldest garden areas when he was a student here, and for him to return and deliver the newest seems so fitting. We can't wait to see how this team – an unstoppable force of nature – bring these incredible new



gardens to life alongside two more superstar designers, Ann-Marie Powell and Matt Keightley.”

Work on the landscape started in earnest in February with Matt Keightley’s Wellbeing Garden being the first to take shape.

Matt has designed a series of ‘garden rooms’ which will entice visitors to explore the many ways in which gardens can be used for physical and psychological therapy, natural health care and relaxation.

The garden will demonstrate the importance of connecting with plants and teach a new generation the distinct link between gardens and good health.

Ann-Marie Powell’s Wildlife Garden will follow the Wellbeing Garden. It draws inspiration directly from the natural environments of the British Isles, demonstrating the association of nature and gardens, and the importance of including a range of plant diversity to support native British wildlife, especially the declining species.

It highlights the diversity of ecosystems, showcasing the roles that plants, trees and water have in mitigating extreme weather conditions.

Finally, the World Food Garden, also designed by Ann-Marie Powell will complete the project. She has designed a contemporary ‘plot to plate’ experience, inspired by the traditional large vegetable garden but using new innovations to invigorate and educate. An edible maze and outdoor demonstration kitchen will feature to encourage visitors to ‘grow their own’ at home.

The National Centre for Horticultural Science and Learning will house three purpose-built laboratories, a new Herbarium and digitisation suite. There will be two new learning studios with accompanying teaching garden, a new library, archive and the opportunity for previously unseen scientific work to be on show to visitors.

The Centre will play a key role in public engagement, inspiring everyone, from the youngest enthusiast through to committed gardeners, to choose a greener future for themselves and their communities.

For more information about Landform Consultants please visit www.landformconsultants.co.uk



For more information about the National Centre for Horticultural Science and Learning please visit <https://www.rhs.org.uk/gardens/wisley/garden-highlights/centre-for-horticultural-science-and-learning>

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Images: [HERE](#)

About Mark Gregory: Born and bred in West Cowick, East Yorkshire, Mark has been at the forefront of the horticultural and landscaping industry for more than 35 years after studying at Askham Bryan College and training at RHS Wisley.

Mark set up Landform Consultants in April 1988 and started work on his first Chelsea show garden two weeks later. An RHS Chelsea Flower Show stalwart, 2019 saw proud Yorkshireman Mark create his 99th garden in his 31st consecutive year at the show which scooped the BBC People's Choice Award. He has personally designed six show gardens, the last five of which all won gold medals. In 2018, alongside the gold medal, the garden took home the BBC People's Choice Award and the Best Construction Award.

About the RHS:

The Royal Horticultural Society, the world's leading gardening charity, was founded in 1804 by Sir Joseph Banks and John Wedgwood. Our vision is to enrich everyone's life through plants, and make the UK a greener and more beautiful place. This aspiration underpins all that we do, from inspirational gardens and shows, through our scientific research, to our education and community programmes such as Campaign for School Gardening and Britain in Bloom. We produce key publications, hold a world-class collection of horticultural books and botanical art, and sell the very best plants and gardening gifts.

The RHS is fundraising £40m to transform our gardens, outreach and education facilities, which includes redeveloping our flagship RHS Garden Wisley and opening a new garden, RHS Garden Bridgewater, in 2020. We are solely funded by our members, visitors and supporters. For more information visit www.rhs.org.uk.

RHS Registered Charity No. 222879/SC038262

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