

URBANISE

Supported By

Guildford High School

PRESS RELEASE



**Ian
Rothead's
Gardening Services**

Silver Medallist
RHS Chelsea Flower Show 2006
Small Garden Category

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

YOUNG SURREY DESIGNER AT THE RHS HAMPTON COURT PALACE FLOWER SHOW 2009

From Tuesday 7th to Sunday 12th July 2009, Ian Rothead, a professional gardener and garden designer from Woking, Surrey will be exhibiting his second show garden, named URBANISE – supported by Guildford High School - in the small garden category at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show 2009.

Now 23 years old, Ian was awarded a coveted RHS Silver medal for his small garden, The City Worker's Retreat, when he became one of the youngest independent gardeners ever to create a garden at the prestigious RHS Chelsea Flower show in 2006. Prior to that achievement Ian had spent three years studying his trade at Merrist Wood college (now Guildford College) before establishing his own gardening business in Surrey.

Ian has now designed URBANISE. It is garden designed for a young couple who have just moved from rural surroundings into a more urban lifestyle. The garden fits around their busy lifestyle with soft, subtle, summer-flowering, low maintenance planting and room to dine alfresco on a warm summer's evening. Most importantly, it provides a space that is enjoyable, functional and practical for their lifestyle whilst eradicating the ambiance of the urban environment.

The garden's central feature is a raised deck area in which all the visible sides are covered with vertical planting. This connects the area to the surrounding planting and cleverly conceals a compartment to store gardening equipment. When entering the garden, the eye is first drawn to a display of three cascading waterfalls. This creates a focal point and also helps to tune the ear into more soothing sounds than that of the passing traffic, as well as offering movement and with it a welcome distraction.

To reach the raised deck area you walk around it and enter at the rear of the garden using three counter levered oak steps. On your journey you first pass a raised flowerbed, clad with hardwood, containing a beautiful multi-stemmed tree which is under planted with shade loving perennials and shrubs.

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As your journey continues, you pass areas of soft summer planting and your eye is drawn to the rear of the garden where, in front of a two metre high crimson coloured rendered wall, are two magnificent beech columns and a row of five standard trees. The trees introduce height, dappled shade and provide seclusion from neighbouring buildings. Passing a flowerbed which contains both perennials and shrubs suited for shade, you can run your fingertips through the lush planting of the vertical wall. Finally you climb the steps to the raised deck area, sit down with your evening coffee, pick up a newspaper, relax and feel totally URBANISED.

Ian Rothead's creation of URBANISE at the RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show is being supported by Guildford High School. Mrs Fiona Boulton, Headmistress of Guildford High School, explains, "Ian tends and maintains the grounds of our school and his dedication and professionalism are outstanding. It is a real achievement for an independent garden designer to have secured the opportunity to create his second show garden. Accomplishing this at such young age is a great example of what hard work and commitment can deliver and we are very pleased to be able to support Ian in this exciting opportunity."

Follow Ian's preparation and construction of the garden in the weeks leading up to the show by visiting his website, www.ianrothead.co.uk, and clicking on the Blog tab.

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For further information please contact Ian Rothead directly on the numbers below or via GHS:

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RHS SHOW INFORMATION

RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show 2009: 7th to 12th July 2009 (7th and 8th RHS members' days)

Ticket Hotline: 0844 209 1810 Website: www.rhs.org.uk/whatson/events/hampton2009