



Image courtesy of Willetby Landscapes

BOUGHTON AT RHS CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW



Earlier this year Boughton was proud to play its part at the world's most renowned and prestigious gardening event - the RHS Chelsea Flower Show.

Having been contacted by award-winning garden designer and 2022 RHS Chelsea judge, Manoj Malde, on behalf of the Society of Garden Designers, we were only too happy to supply the SGD trade stand with our BLS Plus topsoil. This repurposed, single sourced, screened, natural topsoil, usually of medium clay loam classification, is boosted with organic matter content, has excellent moisture and nutrient retention capabilities. Perfect for large scale, ground level planting projects, BLS Plus was also able to help the blooms on the SGD stand stay looking fresh throughout the event.

Talking about choosing Boughton, Rosemary Coldstream said: "The SGD chose Boughton Soils for the planters on the stand as we wanted to promote good natural peat free soils for use in line with our sustainability ethos."

Following RHS Chelsea, Boughton is proud to confirm that it is now one of the first Approved Associate Members of the Society of Garden Designers.

NEW DEPOT & PRODUCTION SITE EXPANDS BOUGHTON CAPABILITIES

We've got some big plans for expansion, with a five-year plan currently keeping us on track to bigger, better things. One of the first steps within this plan was the expansion of our depot and production facilities; expansion which will offer our customers greater choice, access to more product and confidence in our ability to deliver what is needed, all at the right time.

Joining the line-up is a new depot in Hinckley, South-West Leicestershire, which is set to improve service to customers in Birmingham Leicestershire, Warwickshire and Derbyshire, creating new opportunities for the supplier. To bring the new project to fruition, Boughton partnered with Powners Farm in Hinckley to make use of some of its land and resources, including staff, a telehandler, and a drying shed.

Elsewhere, a new production facility has been added to the Kettering site, opening up more scope for production of our full range of natural and sustainable landscaping products.



FIVE MINUTES WITH...

Simon Hedley - Managing Director

How long have you been at Boughton?
25 years!

Key issues shaping your sector?

There is no question that the world has a greater awareness of the acute need to reduce our negative effects on the environment, with products across the board being assessed for their provenance, sustainable impact, and environmental longevity. At Boughton we are proud to lead the charge on this, with strict and evolving policies for using natural and sustainable materials wherever possible

What are you most excited about Boughton and the landscape sector?

Presently, the growth of Boughton is the most exciting element for me. We're witnessing rapid growth as specifiers, landscape architects, garden designers and contractors come to realise that Boughton and its products offer some real alternatives that align with their sustainability and protection of the environment priorities.

simon.hedley@boughton.co.uk





BOUGHTON PLAYS A PART IN HISTORY AT THE ICONIC BATTERSEA POWER STATION REDEVELOPMENT

Situated in the heart of London sits the iconic 39-acre, Grade II* listed Battersea Power Station, which has been subject to an incredible £9billion redevelopment project – one of the biggest schemes of this type anywhere in Europe. One brand that is proud to have played a part within this ground-breaking project is Boughton, suppliers of stunning green roof substrates for the Power Station's 'Garden of the Elements' project.

Positioned between the four chimneys that have become synonymous with the Battersea development are three unique gardens that together make up the 'Garden of Elements', designed by Andy Sturgeon and brought to life by six-times BALI Grand award-winners, Willerby Landscapes. Each garden is inspired by fire, water or air, harking back to the Power Station's previous life. It is within these gardens, including the notable main podium garden 'Boiler House Square' that saw Boughton's IN1 Intensive and Lightweight Green Roof Substrates, and Rootzone come into their own.

These garden spaces, full of cloud-like planting schemes are set within raised beds and tall grasses with vegetation designed to offer year-round interest with a mix of evergreens, Mediterranean and more exotic species. Boughton's IN1 substrate was selected to support this scheme thanks to its ability to support larger plants and to be installed at depths from 100 – 500cm, thanks to its sandy texture. Additionally, Boughton's IN1 substrate offers significant moisture retention qualities, making it the perfect choice when so many plants are vying for attention within this three-hectare site. IN1 from Boughton continues to meet and exceed all G.R.O guidelines.

Elsewhere Boughton's Lightweight Substrate was used to provide growing media where weight loading for the green roof needed to be lighter than traditional green roof schemes. Finally, Rootzone completed the offering. Supplied as a ready-mixed solution, Rootzone provided better planting conditions throughout the scheme.

Product was supplied in both bulk bags and 25L bags, meaning the Boughton team had to go above and beyond to tackle the logistical challenges that delivering to a central location presented. Representative of one of the biggest projects Boughton has ever been involved in, it was vital that the team got it right. Boughton Managing Director, Simon Hedley, said: "Being able to contribute to the development of the Battersea Power Station and play a small part in the history of this London landmark has been an honour and one that we are proud to share with our customers and the wider community. We have no doubt that our green roof substrate will help the planting at 'Boiler House Square' to thrive both now and long into the future, making this incredible garden space a truly iconic part of London's green roof story."

Talking during the construction of the horticulturally rich roof garden, Willerby Landscapes said: "Boughton were a pleasure to work with, being able to safely deliver the material to site despite the many logistical challenges that this prestigious, central London project posed. They supplied us with top quality substrates specifically approved by Tim O'Hare, as well as a service that's hard to beat".

Boughton IN1 Green Roof Substrate – key information:

- Bulk density oven dried (g cm-3) 1.07
- Bulk density at 10% VMC (g cm-3) 1.33
- Bulk density at field capacity (g cm-3) 1.46
- Field Capacity (% v/v) 53.9
- Particle Density (g cm-3) 2.18
- Total Porosity (%) 48.9
- Porosity at Field Capacity (%) 57.5
- Effective Porosity (%) 0.0
- Saturated Hydraulic Conductivity (mm min-1) 18





FULHAM RIVERSIDE

Adding another London landmark to our portfolio, we have proudly provided material to the development of the Fulham riverside. Working with the team at Riverside – developers of Riverside Fulham – and RHS Chelsea Flower Show award-winning garden designer, Andy Sturgeon, Boughton has helped to bring to life the landscaped areas at Fulham Riverside. Featuring a series of connected green promenades, filled with colourful, textural and scented plants, these spaces are designed to be enjoyed all year round, including an abundant herb garden offering the opportunity to nurture fresh produce.

To date, Boughton has supplied four of our leading products to the project: BLS2 - a repurposed, single source, screened, natural topsoil with good levels of natural retained organic matter content, offering excellent moisture and nutrient retention capabilities; Podium 2 Turf substrate - has been designed with a higher sand content making it perfect for podiums that are to be grassed and traffic; as well as subsoil and our Lightweight Intensive green roof substrate IN1, also recently used extensively at Battersea Power Station.

Talking about the project, Boughton's Business Development Manager, Jason Lock said: "We were delighted to be specified on this project, with a wide range of Boughton's specialist products meeting the needs of the Landscape Architects, Fabrik Landscape and the demands of the project."

WHAT IS 'NATURAL SOIL'?

You've probably heard the term 'natural topsoil', 'as dug' or 'single source' hundreds of times but do you really know what it means?

Put simply, topsoil is the upper, outermost layer of soil, usually the top 5–10 inches (13–25 cm). It has the highest concentration of organic matter and microorganisms and is where most of the Earth's biological soil activity occurs. There is generally a high concentration of roots in topsoil, as this is where plants obtain most of their vital nutrients.

To get the best from your topsoil it is essential you are using 'natural' or 'as dug' topsoil, in that it all comes from the same single source and its provenance is fully recorded for complete accountability. This not only also ensures consistency of supply, but it ensures maximum performance every single time. In recent tests our BLS Plus premium soil showed an increase of between 260-280% in Organism Biomass when compared with a leading blended natural topsoil, boosting Biodiversity Net Gain, naturally. This is the Boughton difference.

Many other suppliers actually source their topsoil from multiple locations, including some that utilise waste, and mix together these different varieties to present a 'topsoil'. Though what these suppliers won't tell you is that this 'manufactured' topsoil will be lacking in essential nutrients and the composition to support roots and plant growth.

With topsoil playing such an essential – in fact, vital – role in the development of any green scheme, can you really afford to be using a topsoil that potentially lacks in performance?

Talk to Boughton to find out more about the composition of our natural topsoil and how it offers unrivalled value for general landscaping, landscape renovation and construction projects including use for hardy nursery stock and amenity grasslands.

FIVE MINUTES WITH...

Jason Lock - Business Development Manager

How long have you been at Boughton?
15 months

Favourite thing about Boughton/product offering?

Boughton is unique in that they are offering a range of 'single source, as dug, natural soil' products to the landscape sector, they are environmentally sustainable, responsible and ethically sound in its offering with a developing Organism Biomass to boost plant growth and development.

Key issues shaping your sector?

Natural soils for years have been neglected by all sectors of land-based industries, there is now a movement that is gaining traction to champion the urgent need to protect our soils and the benefits that brings; Boughton for the last 30 years has been quietly championing this movement by utilising this precious commodity that is often inappropriately used or not at all. With new technology and testing, we are constantly developing our soils to be enriched and to offer the best possible natural growing medium to the landscape industry.

What are you most excited about Boughton and the landscape sector?

The growing interest in biodiversity and the importance of soil health to the future of our industry to the benefit of all those who work and enjoy it and how Boughton is part of that journey.

jason.lock@boughton.co.uk