

## Building the Paper Garden Together...

Over the last few years over 3000 people have been involved in co-creating The Paper Garden. A large part of this community build process has been the construction of our community classroom. This report shows the story of how this amazing space has come together and the people who have helped out along the way!





## The Beginning...

In 2021 Global Generation took over this site within the Canada Water Masterplan. Originally an empty shed used to store paper from the Daily Mail printing offices.

Over the last two years, as part of the Canada Water Masterplan, we have been co-creating this space with the help of volunteers, community members and our project partners.

The photo on the right shows how we received the site in 2021.

The aim of the Paper Garden build has been to embody circular economy techniques. Reusing and reclaiming materials wherever possible.

Therefore, the project started by reusing the slab and structural frame of the original shed.

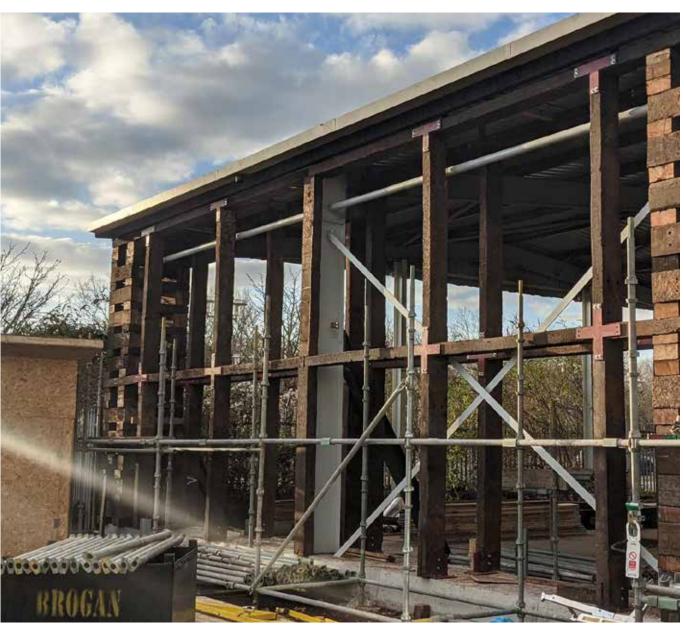


## Building the structure...

The first step to making our classroom space was to cast the concrete plinths and create the structure for the cordwood walls out of the railway sleepers donated from network rail sites. Here you can see the sleepers forming the framework and infilling the existing structure.







# Stripping the logs...



We then worked with a number of volunteers and our partner YES make to strip logs from felled timber donated from Epping Forest. This formed a key material to make the cordwood walls that would infill two sides of our classroom space.



#### **Building the Cordwood walls...**

The most time consuming element of the build was creating the two storey cordwood walls.

Together with local young people, volunteers and young apprentices we used this traditional technique to create the walls of our classroom.

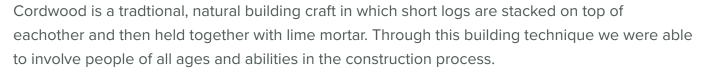
The Paper Garden classroom is now the first ever two story cordwood building in the United Kingdom.





## **Building the Cordwood Walls...**



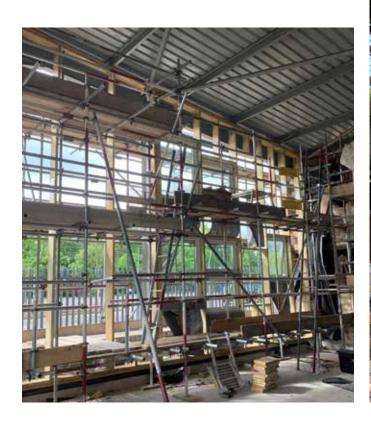






## Circular Economy Materials...

The other two walls of the classroom space are made from recycled windows kindly donated by NorDan. These were constructed with the help of a number of partners working on probono rates. Special thanks goes to Wates & Mace who have helped to manage the construction and have helped us partner with sub contractors for the more trickier elements of the build.

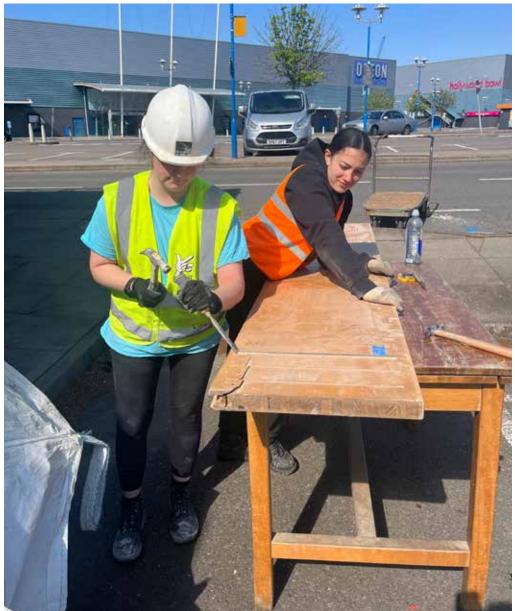




## Stripping the Reclaimed Doors...

Over the last few months we have been hosting regular volunteer days at the garden to help build the classroom. Key tasks have been stripping our reclaimed doors of all of their ironmongery ready to be installed as our classroom flooring. Together with volunteers we have prepped over 160 doors that will be used for flooring.



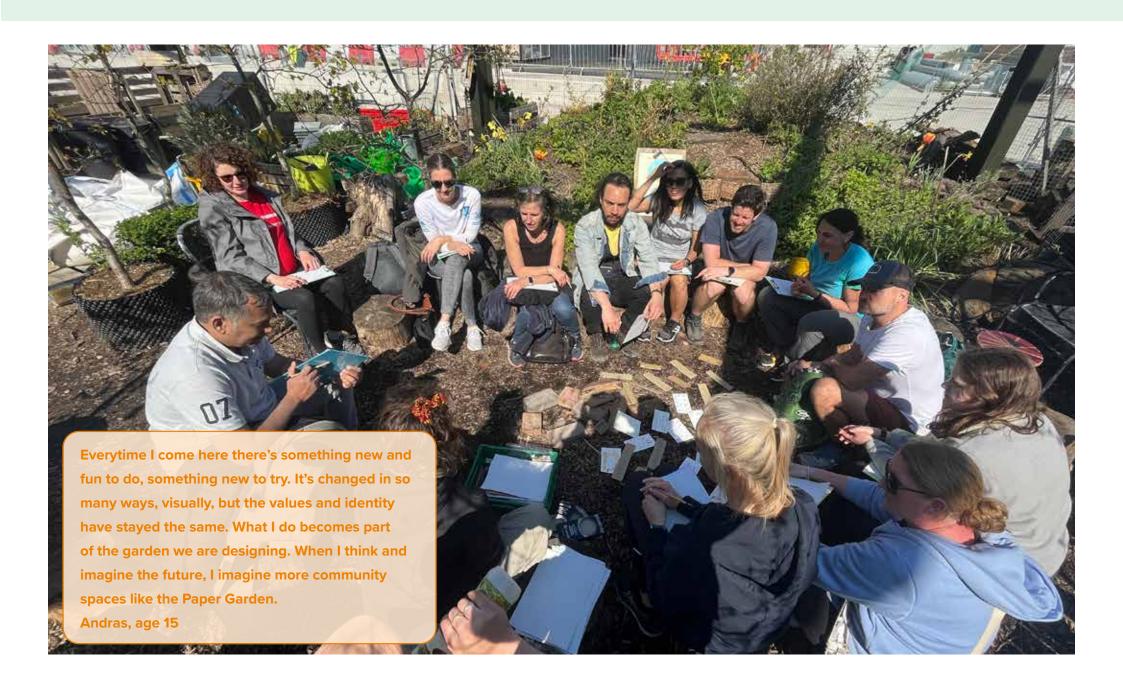


## Corporate Volunteer Days...



Our volunteers have enjoyed getting their hands dirty and were rewarded by some amazing lunches in the garden provided by our community chefs. Our volunteer days use reflective practice and here you can see volunteers writing letters to our Generators to tell them about their experience at The Paper Garden.





#### Interior works to the classroom...

In March - April 2023 the build has been helped by a number of subcontractors starting work on the classroom. In March, the ceiling went in and throughout April the mechanical engineering and joinery works to the mezanine have commenced. The classroom is really starting to take shape and we are excited to be open by the end of June.





#### Growing the garden...

As well as constructing our new classroom our garden team have been busy co-creating our new garden space, whilst the classroom is being built. We have co-created the garden space together with the help of our various youth programmes. So far we have;

- Created hugel mounds to create above ground soil structures and nutritious growing environments.
- Used recycled pavers from the Canada
   Water Masterplan to create a pond space in the garden.
- Built a 'Chicken Palace' in collaboration with YES make and corporate volunteers.
- Installed and fitted out our polytunnel with our various youth programmes and volunteers.
- Installation of pallet planters for community growing beds
- Built compost bays with corporate volunteers
- Installed a rainwater harvesting system with reclaimed IBC containers.







# We would like to thank all of our project partners...

British Land Mace Jan Kattein Waterman Aecom Wates
Architects













And a huge thank you to all of those who have supported the classroom being built...

G & T	T Clarkes	Diva Metalwork	O&B	Travis Perkins
DP9	AC1	Horohoe	Sunbelt	Jewsons
OFR	Lucas	Galldris	EPS Group	Capital Dry Wall
BRCS	NorDan	Benchmark	Alandale	<b>Epping Forest</b>
Sweco	KM Eco	Bridgegap	Parkrose	Rickabin
YES make	Network Rail	Brogan Group	Swift Group	SEC
Ecoright	Getjar	Atlantic Contracts	Leyton Group	GKR
Overbury	Trident	The Timber Group	Specialist Group	

