



# Aquatic & Garden Solutions for Herts, Beds & Bucks from IMAS

## Three Sides To **imas** Aquatic and Garden Services

If I have sent you this news letter it is because at some point you have employed or at the very least considered employing the services of Imas (pronounced i-mas) Aquatic and Garden Services. The reason for our correspondence is usually formed through a specific situation or problem and I often wonder if we sell ourselves well enough and let you know about the complete range of services we provide.

### Ponds



When the business was in its inception, nearly nine years ago, I was committed to providing a specialist independent aquatic service, after all I had been working with ponds and stuff pretty much for the previous twelve years. We went ahead with it, building ponds, cleaning filters, treating fish, mending liners in fact if it was to do with a pond or a water feature we did it, and still do

### Landscaping



Now we soon got to realize that the construction of a pond, a good pond anyway required the varied skills required to undertake any landscape project within the garden. If you think about it, there is the ground work, the setting out, the levels, the consideration of sub bases, slabbing, wall building etc etc. We built great ponds and more and more people were asking us to quote for other garden work. So we did more garden work until landscape tasks became a complimentary and regular part of our working life. I think diversity was the key, because to be honest I don't think at that stage we would have survived with just ponds!

### Garden Maintenance

Moving on to 2004, the need for us to consider more soft landscaping tasks became apparent and with the insertion of Craig (master gardener), we started to offer a garden maintenance service. Although Craig moved on to pastures new in 2006, John Harvey took up the reigns and traveling for up to half an hour from Stotfold still caters for over thirty clients on a regular basis.



Many of our customers have been loyal for many years. But I always figure you would only usually know me (Ian) or John and not very often both. So felt that if you have taken the time to read this you now know a little more about what we do.

Ian Menzies

# imas

Imas Aquatic and Garden Services

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# Highlights of 2008

May – September

## Re-instatement of Preston village pond



After its infill some fifty years ago, Preston Parish Council set about the village pond's re-instatement. For many years the village pond provided water for animals and a soaking point for the passing wooden cart wheels. After many meetings, much planning and a great deal of fund raising, all systems were eventually go.

We were delighted to win the tender and were appointed as the main contractor to undertake the job. The pond will I am sure start to prove a delightful spot for walkers and visitors alike. The pond is positioned directly opposite the Red Lion pub in Preston (just south of Hitchin)



*The fire brigade kindly came down and provided the first fill.*

April – September

## 6000 gallon Koi pond, a stainless steel pergola water feature and a complete garden construction!



We were again fortunate enough to secure the complete garden refurbishment works to this handsomely set detached house in the wealthy climbs of Totteridge, North London.

An exciting project to do, there were sixteen different major tasks to undertake, some ran concurrently and others in order. We needed to be organized and proactive, as to ensure the process went smoothly causing the least amount of disruption to the homeowners.



Spanning from the complete undoing of a very established garden, to the introduction and leveling of a hundred and twenty tonnes of top soil, to the preparation and installation of 150 sq metres of paving, 90 metres fencing and 100 sq metres of new lawn.

***This project really pulled from all areas of our skill base.***

And most excitingly the manufacture and installation of a glorious stainless steel pergola (that allows water to return to the pond via the chains!) and a six thousand gallon koi pond.

October

## Re-commissioning the full pumping system of the pond configuration at Caldecotte Lake business Park, Milton Keynes



This whole pond configuration (*highlighted above*) covered an enormous quarter of a mile. The pumping system hadn't worked for some months and nobody on site had any real idea about how the system had previously operated.

So we carried out a full investigation, provided a detailed report and then set about the task of getting the system operating once again, which I can report we successfully did. To give you an idea of scale to re-prime the system it took three days of continued pumping from the adjacent lake. That's not to fill it, just to get it working.

The main submersible pump we installed operated a maximum flow rate of 600 litres per minute and was capable of pushing water to a head of sixteen metres!



# Improvement for 2009

Over the past two years the amount of interest we have received has increased dramatically. Along with the repeat business we have been lucky enough to enjoy from our existing customers. It is our objective to continue to provide a service that we can be proud of.



## SAVE TREES

We are encouraging everybody to give us their email address, if you have one. We want to make all correspondences by email if we can. Invoices, quotes etc. Not only is it super efficient there is No more paper use, SAVE THE TREES!!  
Details to:  
[info@imas-services.co.uk](mailto:info@imas-services.co.uk)

# New People, More Organisation and a Better Service.

**New team member:** Chris a formally trained and experienced fish and pond specialist will hopefully be joining the team in the spring. Chris will be working with Ian, but will also be able to work independently. This will enable Ian to invest more effectively in the business side of things, providing estimates, visiting people, being available for you and hopefully enabling us to respond more efficiently to your needs.

**Administration:** An organised office is the desire; we are working incredibly hard to get organised for the new season. Susie has taken over the office and is oiling the wheels as we speak. The objective, to ensure we do more than a good job for you. We want every part of the service we provide to be considered, organized and cause you the minimum of fuss.

**Web Site:** As well as our portfolio going on line, we will be telling of all the services we provide in detail and providing you practical solutions to pond and garden problems.



# New and Improved Services

**Fish Health:** Fish Health: We are now able to inspect your fish for any ailments. We can take a scrape from the fish's mucus layer and inspect the contents under a microscope. We can then advise clearly of any concerns and prescribe the best course of action for any given situation.



Remember most infections can't be seen by the naked eye

**Block Driveway Re-furbishment.** We have available a super duper industrial type pressure washing system that make light work of your soiled blocks. We clean, we compact and then we re-sand. We can also get rid of stubborn stains! Hey presto, you have a new drive! (well it looks like new anyway). And because it's so effective it doesn't cost as much as you may think. *Discounts available on group bookings (in the immediate area).*  
*Call or email for a quote.*

**Block driveway Repair.** Has an area of your drive collapsed, if so it may well be possible for us to lift that area and improve it for you. Often it is possible to just lift a relatively small area. However I would recommend a site visit to clearly understand what's required, no obligation of course.



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