

MARCH 2023 | VOLUME 4 ISSUE 9

# INDUSTRY WEEKLY DIGEST

YOUR WEEKLY DIGEST OF CONTEMPORARY INDUSTRY TRENDS

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## CHEF, HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

In February 2022 the Lakeside Restaurant, SHTM's restaurant training facility, vowed to start growing its own. One year on, vertical farming has taken off and we are now ready to strive to new heights and embark on phase two of the project.

In this week's Industry Digest, Lauren Haffenden, Assistant Manager and Development Lead at Lakeside, charts progress and encourages the University community to come and try for themselves!

Have a great weekend!



## VERTICAL FARMING AT LAKESIDE: PHASE TWO

Lauren Haffenden

Vertical farming in small spaces has started to gain traction in hospitality venues across the UK. At Lakeside, two aeroponic towers stand proudly in the restaurant's entrance and have proven to not only be worth their weight in produce, but have also been a fantastic point of interest for our students and guests alike.

So far, Lakeside's two towers have produced copious leaves, plentiful herbs, strawberries, chillies and even Brussel sprouts!

Keen to move towards supplying even more of our restaurant's menu in house, 12 new towers are joining the team in the next few weeks. These towers will be external and will enable us to add a whole host of new items to our growing repertoire, from tomatoes and garlic bulbs to yet more strawberries.

Excitingly, the latter will enable us to produce all of the strawberries we need for the University's upcoming Graduation season. Alongside these produce towers, wild towers will be left to flourish, ensuring our local bees are being fed just as well as our diners.

We are extremely proud of our vertical farm and what it has achieved for the restaurant so far. The proof is in the tasting however. We look forwards to seeing them grow from strength to strength and sharing our produce with our guests very soon!

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*Come and try for yourself! The Lakeside restaurant opens Monday-Friday with tables between 12pm-1.30pm. Please email [lakeside@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:lakeside@surrey.ac.uk) for reservations.*